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TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR, NO. 48

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1986

40c

Helpline program underway

By MIKE TURKKI

A pilot program that would allow the elderly and infirm to remain in their homes longer, before entering a care institution, is well on its way to becoming established on Salt Spring Island.

HEALI Alert Line Society chairman Iola Brookbanks said recently the non-profit society is busy installing the system and hopes to have most of the components in local homes by the end of the year.

The help alert line system consists of a wireless transmitter worn by the homeowner, a small communications component attached to the homeowner's telephone, and a base unit set up in the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital extended care unit.

When a homeowner using the system requires assistance, he or she can activate the wireless unit, which in turn prompts the telephone component to contact the hospital base unit, which is monitored around the clock.

The hospital can then telephone the homeowner and deal with the situation. If additional action is required, neighbours can be notified or local emergency service crews dispatched to the scene.

"It's a life help system," Brookbanks explained. "There's no guarantee that it will save someone's life, but it will not only help these people — it will keep them out of an institution by allowing them to stay in their own homes for a few more years. So, yes, it will also save the taxpayer money."

Brookbanks said the alert line society — established by local Capital Regional District (CRD) director Dr. Hugh Borsman — has a committee that will decide who should receive the first help alert line units. The organization's first priority, she explained, is to ensure that people who receive the system are those who need it the most.

Home components cost \$400 each, while the base unit installed at the hospital cost \$3,000. Funding was provided by the CRD, the Rotary Club (which donated four home components), the Lions Club, and the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital auxiliary (which purchased the base unit).

Brookbanks said the society — which has 12 members, excluding co-ordinator Sue

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Committee to oversee Ganges

Representatives of 15 local organizations met Thursday and formed a committee that will advise the Islands Trust and Capital Regional District on issues affecting Ganges until a decision is made on how the community's affairs will be managed in the future.

The organization's nucleus or 'steering committee' will consist of representative from the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, the Ganges Centre Association, the Community Planning Association, local realtors and residents. Representation from other groups

Interest groups unite

may be added after it meets, elects a chairman and decides upon a name.

Islands Trust members Nick Gilbert and Pat Byrne will serve as ex officio members of the committee, along with ministry of highways roads foreman John Stepaniuk, CRD member Dr. Hugh Borsman, and federal government representative Jim Stuart.

The full committee will meet again early in the new year to discuss its progress. Borsman said he would approach the CRD to make funding available for secretarial help.

The committee will possess no authority to decide any of the issues affecting Ganges. It will, however, serve as a vehicle through which all local projects and concerns can be brought to the attention of Islands Trust members, the community and other levels of government that currently share responsibility for

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Driftwood photo by Duncan MacDonnell

Shelf space

As Salt Spring public library worker Doreen Braggins strains to

find room for books, help is on the way. Government grant has given

library \$100,000 for expansion. Story, Page 17.

Density transfer plan under consideration

The development potential of land in built-up areas of Salt Spring could be increased by the purchase of density values from rural or semi-rural properties, local Island Trust Committee member Nick Gilbert says in a discussion paper being circulated among trustees.

In outlining the concept, however, Gilbert points out that it is still at the exploratory stage. Questions yet to be answered include whether residents would favour density shifts and how the process could be linked to the community plan.

"We are not suggesting that it's 'all systems go' for the transfer system — there will still be problems to explore," Gilbert said.

A major factor to consider is public opinion. Gilbert said he and fellow trustee Pat Byrne have scheduled a public meeting for December 11 to discuss the concept before carrying it any further.

(A time and place for the meeting must still be finalized. However, it's likely it will be held at the high school band room, beginning at 7:30 pm.)

In an interview last week, Gilbert said the density transfer concept evolved from the Trust Committee's experience with Channel Ridge, and from discussions with MacMillan-Bloedel over the development potential of its 4,800 acres of land on Salt Spring.

Turn to Page 2

Carol sheets included with today's edition

This week's edition of *Driftwood* contains an early Christmas gift for our readers — a 12-page section of lyrics for traditional and old-time favourite Yule carols.

One copy of the lyric booklet has been included with each *Driftwood*. As well, enough additional copies have been printed to meet most bulk requests.

So ... if you plan to form a group to go out carolling, or just want three or four extras for a family sing-along, give us a call (537-9933), specify the number of booklets required and drop by our office to pick them up.

Better hurry, though — like Christmas, the bottom of our stack of lyric booklets is fast approaching.

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Advisory group to gather Ganges growth input

From Page 1

the management of Ganges. The committee, with assistance from all interested groups and organizations, will advise these government bodies on matters affecting the community. It will not be a permanent group, and is simply a 'stop-gap measure' until Ganges residents decide on whether they wish to incorporate the village or have its affairs managed in some other way.

Borsman, instrumental in establishing the committee, stressed both at Thursday's meeting and in an interview prior to it that the advisory group was in no way

taking a stand on the issue of incorporation.

"And it (the advisory committee) is only temporary, since it will probably be eight or 10 months before more is known about the developing communities concept, and the chamber of commerce's incorporation study will likely take that long, or at least six months," he explained.

Those who attended Thursday's organizational meeting were unanimously in favor of forming such a 'steering committee' to act as an advisory group on behalf of Ganges residents and groups.

Ian Fraser, representing the board of trustees for School District 64 (Gulf Islands), said he liked the idea. "I think we need a group of people to serve as a central clearing house for information," he said.

Islands Trust members Gilbert and Byrne also indicated they welcomed the formation of an organization that could advise the Trust on matters involving Ganges.

"As far as the Trust feeling threatened, we in no way feel threatened by an advisory group," Byrne said. "In fact, we're delighted."

Gilbert agreed, and added that he felt the purpose of the group was "to advise the Trust and regional district on issues, and pick up on anything that happens to fall between the cracks" in these groups' authority.

"I agree totally," said Pat James, who represented the chamber of commerce at the meeting. "We've got to have a forum here for input into decision-making."

Those in attendance also heard brief reports on the chamber of commerce's study into the possibility of incorporating Ganges as a municipality, and the provincial

government's proposed developing communities concept.

Borsman noted that according to provincial government officials, the developing communities concept would likely enable rural areas to obtain additional services and political representation. It will provide such areas with enhanced representation while capitalizing on the skill experience of regional districts in service delivery.

Very little is known about the proposal yet. Borsman said legislation dealing with the subject would probably not be introduced until spring.

Meeting set for December 11

Transfer concept up for discussion

From Page 1

The Channel Ridge development, now underway, will see residential lots clustered throughout the property, preserving the bulk of the land as watershed or forest. In its discussions with MacMillan-Bloedel, the Trust has advocated concentrating residential densities in areas suitable for housing, leaving environmentally-sensitive acreage untouched.

Gilbert's discussion paper takes the concept one step further. It calls for property owners in rural or semi-rural areas to be able to sell the development potential of their lands to property owners in areas identified as being capable of supporting higher populations.

The property owner who sells his development rights would then have his land 'frozen,' while the buyer would apply the purchased density to the development potential of his land.

The benefits of such a system, Gilbert says, include concentration of densities in the most appropriate settlement areas, tax breaks for the seller (since development potential ceases), and preservation of sensitive lands. He also noted that it would be a voluntary — not regulatory — form of land-use planning.

In explaining the concept, Gilbert stressed that it does not advocate raising the 15,000 'ceiling' the community plan ad-

vocates as the optimum population for Salt Spring. The number would remain the same, he said, but the housing locations would be different.

"We would still have the 15,000 but they would be shifted around," he said. "At the same time, more of our watershed, forested and recreational land would be left intact, and we would

'The key is there has to be a desire on the part of the community to want it to happen.'

have communities that would be potentially delightful places to live and shop."

He added: "This would allow population densities to be adjusted as we wished. I perceive it as being one way to achieve better long-range planning on Salt Spring."

Some difficulties must be overcome, however. Gilbert notes that the transfer system has been tried elsewhere in North America, and not always successfully.

"The main problem," Gilbert said, "is where do you transfer the densities to? The key is there has to be a desire on the part of the community to want it (higher densities in some areas) to hap-

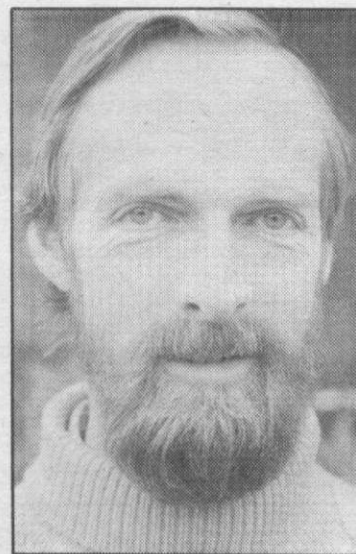
pen. The prospect of increased densities is threatening to some people."

The transfers, he said, would have to be to areas able to sustain higher populations — i.e., lots with acceptable water supplies, septic tank drainage fields, road access and other services.

"The obvious answer is Ganges, where there is a need for more multi-family development," Gilbert continued, "but it could just as easily be near Fernwood or Fulford, where small residential lots might be desirable."

However, Gilbert cautioned that it may be impossible to put the concept into practice. One stumbling block will be fitting the system into the community plan, since areas would first have to be identified as being suitable transfer destinations, and provisions would have to be built in to ensure that densities could not climb above community plan ceilings unless those densities had been transferred from elsewhere.

Also needed would be a system to measure the value of densities to be transferred, and in what terms.



Nick Gilbert

setting it straight

"You're awfully free with my money," Ganges pharmacy operator Les Ramsey told *Driftwood* last week.

Ramsey was referring to a glitch in an article about the Pharmacare program, carried in our November 19 edition.

One portion of the article said that "if a household spends more than \$200 a year on all supplies purchased on prescription, *Pharmasave* will pay 80 per cent of the costs beyond that first \$200."

The statement is incorrect. The agency paying the 80 per cent is *Pharmacare*, not *Pharmasave*.

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27	0125	7.8	1	0600	11.2
	0605	6.3		1005	9.9
TH	1255	10.8	MO	1420	11.2
	2000	4.4		2220	-.4
28	0255	8.7	2	0705	11.7
	0710	7.3		1110	10.3
FR	1315	10.8	TU	1450	11.3
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	0810	8.3		1215	10.5
SA	1335	10.9	WE	1545	11.2
	2100	1.6		2355	-.5

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to be frank . . .

. . . by Richards

Advertisements

As a car buff of long standing, I have always read classified advertisements for cars. Not only are these small ads informative but they offer some of the nation's finest fiction.

How else could I know that more than a quarter of used cars were driven exclusively by women? Or the story of the elderly car for sale with only 25,000 miles to its credit. And it comes complete with new radiator, brakes and transmission. Those were hard miles!

There are mystifications in reading ads. For example, the car offered in maroon paint with "matching black interior."

But there are few to equal the London-based Autocar's notice before the Second War. Seats were shaped to the previous owners and it had "oodles of doings on the dash."

But then and now, here and there, the constant honesty of the car dealer everywhere is as touching as the temerity of the purchaser who inspects a car that "can't last at this price!"

Just like horse-trading, isn't it?

Late autumn

So it didn't rain in October like it usually rains in October? It surely made up for any short change during November.

Not everyone who has a pool will cover it for the winter. The idea is to discourage the debris from the trees from entering the pool and lying on the bottom. By the time it has lain there for half a year, more or less, and the worms have nested in the vegetation you have an unsavory mess to clear up, come spring.

Having a cover invites the rain to fill it as it lies on the top of the water. So it's pumped out. There was a lot better than 1,000 gallons of water in just one of the pool covers already this month.

Prizes at stake

Merchants to 'light up the town'

Ganges businesses will be lighting up the town next week in preparation for the Christmas season, and competing for cash prizes at the same time.

Light-Up Day is scheduled this year for Saturday, December 6. Organized this year by *Driftwood*, the event was implemented in 1984 by the Ganges Centre Association.

Businesses located in Ganges

are invited to compete for \$350 in prizes: \$200 for first, \$100 for second and \$50 for third. Judges Kay Catlin and Margaret Cass of Fulford Harbour will be looking for the best overall impression created by a business's Christmas decorations, whether it is a window display or a decorated store interior.

Deadline for completing the decorating and for registration is

10 am on Friday, December 5. Participating businesses must register with the *Driftwood* office by phone, or in person, to enter the competition.

Light-Up Day will see musical entertainment provided by local students, theatrical shows by the Christmas Mummies, hay rides and, of course, a visit by Santa Claus. A detailed schedule will be published next week.

And winter

This is the year. For the first time in years I possess a roof over my water cistern. With walls, even! Now the cold wind of winter can no longer curl around the inlet and outlet pipes to freeze them solid. I can simply set up a heater at the base and fend off that big thawing job while Women's Lib stands at the kitchen door brandishing a frypan.

It's a job I'd been going to do for the past 10 years. If you look closely you can see my halo sprouting.

'Now the cold wind of winter can no longer curl around the inlet and outlet pipes to freeze them solid.'

Indirect speech

And another excellent sample of saying nothing was on a radio program. The speaker was a man of some accomplishment. His difficulties had been further emphasized when his preparations fell apart.

The real problem, he told the interviewer, lay in the logistics of reaching his objective.

"You mean you had trouble getting there," prompted the reporter.

"Yes."

Long trip

Hank Knutsen is only one of a fair number of ferry workers who are members of the Lions clubs on different islands. When Christmas looms in sight, Hank looks to the Salt Spring Lions to bolster the long list of donations to the British Columbia Ferries' Christmas sailing for handicapped children.

On tobacco

Petition urges ad ban

At least one group of local doctors has endorsed a British Columbia Medical Association (BCMA) campaign to ban the promotion and advertising of tobacco products.

The BCMA is circulating a petition requesting public support for a ban, and a copy has been posted in the Arbutus Clinic in Ganges.

Dr. Jerry Nestman, who works out of the Arbutus Clinic, said Thursday the BCMA petition there has already been signed by a number of individuals.

The petition reads: *We, the undersigned, find it unacceptable that 32,000 Canadians, including 2,800 British Columbians, will die this year from smoking-related illness, and petition Premier William Vander Zalm and federal Health Minister Jake Epp to bring forth legislation to ban all forms of advertising and promotion of tobacco products.*

Not all local doctors are promoting the campaign to ban advertising of tobacco products — at least not yet.

Dr. Roland Graham said that while he hasn't seen the BCMA petition, he is not in favour of smoking. He added, however, that even if the advertising of tobacco products was banned, many people would continue to smoke.

BCMA President Dr. John O'Brien-Bell said in a recent press release that although tobacco-related illnesses claim 10 people each day, "we as Canadians continue to permit the tobacco companies to advertise and promote their lethal product. And the tobacco industry would callously have the public — and especially their only new market, our young people — believe that it is socially acceptable, even desirable, to become hooked on a product that kills."



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Downed lines cause outages on Salt Spring

A downed tree was responsible for Thursday's brief electricity outage on portions of Salt Spring Island.

John Langston, B.C. Hydro's district manager for the Gulf Islands, said the outage — which left some Hydro customers without electricity for approximately 80 minutes — occurred when a tree fell across a powerline along the Beaver Point Road near Stowell Lake.

The power failure occurred at approximately 7:20 am, and Langston said all users "on that circuit right up to the substation in Ganges" were affected.

Service was restored at 8:40 am. "It was just a matter of getting out there and making the safe repairs," the district manager explained.

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Even in defeat, candidates served communities

"You are in the main responsible if the standards of our public life are high or low, for no river ever rose higher than its source, and you lie at the source of political representation."

— Mackenzie King

The former prime minister of Canada spoke those words in 1925, in Kitchener, but he could just as well have been on the podium in Lyall Harbour, Ganges or Pender Harbour last week.

The complete text of the speech King delivered in 1925 concerned citizenship and the duty Canadians have to take full part in the affairs of government. His point was that government is not confined to Ottawa or a provincial capital; its spiritual home is the community.

Having stated that belief, we believe King, if he were alive today, would have been first in line to shake the hands of Ben Manning, Charles Ilsley, Jon Guy, Rick Rockliffe and Susan Bradford.

The record will show that those five Gulf Islanders failed last week in their bids to gain local elected offices. The first four were left behind in races for Island Trust Committee posts; Bradford, the fifth, finished third in balloting for two Gulf Islands School Board seats.

While the candidates lost individually, however, it was in the name of the community winning as a whole. To underline King's point, the five challengers served all of us in their adherence to the spirit of good citizenship.

Jon Guy of Saturna best summed up that spirit

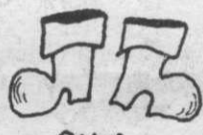
when he said, at an all-candidates meeting, that he entered the election because he did not wish to see seats filled by acclamation yet again. While he did not win office, he has already done immeasurable service to his community by forcing public scrutiny of issues and platforms; like the other four candidates who finished out of the running, he prodded the electorate into playing its role in the process, when the process itself might have been forgotten. Can we ask for anything else?

Which brings us to something else King said in that long-forgotten speech in Kitchener: "If in any particular (way) the standards of government which prevail are low or indifferent, remind yourself that in part the responsibility is your own."

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Parker

Pole relocation project deserving of applause

A long-overdue attempt to neutralize a Salt Spring Island road hazard is being undertaken by B.C. Tel crews. At the urging of the local highways ministry office, telephone poles at the so-called 'killer corner' on Lower Ganges Road are being relocated to the high side of the curve. The result is expected to be a less intimidating sweep in the road.

Four cheers, then, to the agencies that made the improvement possible: to B.C. Tel, for moving its lines; to the highways office, for initiating the action; to B.C. Hydro, whose poles on the high side of the road will now be shared with B.C. Tel; and, finally, to the Ganges RCMP detachment, which last spring searched its records for the statistical evidence that explained the corner's nickname.

Ah, yes, the RCMP study. It concluded that most accidents at the corner were caused by "excessive speed." We've moved the poles that were being struck; now, if we could only do something about the drivers ...

Random thoughts are best scattered to the wind

Hastily-scribbled notes, put down on torn scraps of paper, have a tendency to pile up in the Twilight Zone of my desk drawer. They linger there with faded newspaper clippings until I come across them while searching for something else.

By then, unfortunately, the notes and clippings are unconnected mysteries — their significance has been lost to the turning of calendar pages or a fading memory, or both.

It would be simple to toss them out like so many homeless waifs ... except another pile would begin one minute later and build up until it, too, demanded attention.

So we will have to exorcise these ghosts. We will cast samples from the latest collection into the wind, in hopes one or two might land on fertile ground and

serve the purpose I envisioned when the item was first clipped or scribbled.

So here goes:

- The *Independent*, which calls itself Canada's national community newspaper, recently published an article about the political left and right in Canada. In it, the newspaper said that "it is difficult to find a Conservative in power who actually believes in truly-Conservative policies of keeping government to a minimum, and creating an environment in which individuals can prosper on the strength of their own initiative."

- My radio tells me there is a new phrase to describe a segment of the social-climbing set. Move over, yuppies and all the rest — here comes Double Income, No Kids. I shouldn't have to spell it out.

my word

by
Duncan MacDonnell

- G. Gordon Liddy, the convicted Watergate burglar, in likening high-level politics in his country to armed combat, said recently: "In presidential politics, in the United States, whether we like it or not, the rules are not those which are assumed by the League of Women Voters. If you believe that, I'll tell you about the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy, nuclear winter and a host of other myths."
- From Australia comes word that

dwarf-tossing is passe. The smash hit pub game of 1984-85 has been replaced by dwarf bowling; you strap the dwarf to a skateboard and hurl both down an inclined sheet of plywood, into an arrangement of pins. Whatever happened to darts?

- Svend Robinson, the NDP MP, on the disappearance of 16 million tax returns and related privileged information from a Revenue Canada vault: "It was like everyone in the country lost his wallet for a few days."

- In Alberta, we hear, the bad taste award for 1986 has gone to a pub that held a Chernobyl Night. Patrons were invited to drop by dressed as their favourite mutant, and the top prize was a microwave oven.

- Ken Kesey on Ronald Reagan as the *miracle man*: "You know every time Reagan's

popularity begins to dip a little bit, somebody shoots him, or he falls down, or he develops cancer, and comes back from it ... as long as he keeps doing that, we will follow him right into the jaws of hell."

- A blind man recently convicted of impaired driving in New Jersey blamed the charge on his seeing-eye dog's failure to recognize a red traffic light the vehicle ran through, and said the two had a *red, one bark; green, two barks* system worked out. The clipping does not mention that dogs are colour blind.

- A New York City shop-keeper, asked to advertise in Rupert Murdoch's sleazy tabloid, *The Post*, declined by saying: "Your readers are not our shoppers. They are our shoplifters."

And that's it until the next time I take a peek in the bottom drawer of my desk.

Access

Sir,
Some of the residents of the Fulford and Burgoyne valley would like access to the west part of the island for boating recreation. However, this would mean building a boat ramp together with road parking area. Considering that the department does not own land access, could I perhaps suggest a much needed means of accessing this part of our world? With little objection from the fish and crabs, we could explore the use of two or more moorage ramps.
Comments gratefully received.
TREVOR BEYERS,
Fulford Harbour.

Evergreens

Sir,
This is to let all your readers know that the First Ganges Boy Scouts will be selling Christmas trees this year. Sales will be at Centennial Park on December 13 and 14; and December 20 and 21. Our bottle drive two Saturdays ago. We regret that, due to a shortage of drivers, several routes were missed. We apologize to all those whose bottles were left. There will be another drive on January 3, from noon to 5 pm.
Please save those bottles for us. If there are any inquiries please contact me at 537-9486.
PATRICK BAINES,
Troop Leader.

Audiences

Sir,
We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the wonderful audiences that filled the seats for our production of *The Day I Sat With Jesus ...* The show will be remounted in the near future for those who were unable to get tickets. We are planning a tour of the Outer Islands and new productions for 1987.
Thanks to Trish Nobile and the people at the Community Centre and thanks again to all of you who came out.
LAURIE CLARKE,
JEREMY DAVIS,
TOM GRAHAM,
LYNDA JENSEN,
for Active PASS.

Pledges

Sir,
Just a note to remind everyone of how easy it is to become a member of the Salt Spring Island Swimming Pool Society. All you

have to do is send your name, address and telephone number to Box 531, Ganges, along with either \$5 for a family membership or \$3 for an individual membership. If you wish a family membership, please also include the names of all family members.

As well, thank you to those people who have returned the membership forms from the Health Fair. The response is most heartening.

The Pool Society will be sending out the first newsletter to its members before Christmas, buttons will soon be available, and a book sale is being organized for the spring. So ... if you haven't already done so, join us and become one of the first 1,000 people to support the idea of a community pool.

WENDY VINE,
Ganges.

Proceeds

Sir,
Christmas came early to the Community Centre this year, in the form of a substantial addition to our funds from the proceeds of the Craft Faire.

On behalf of the board of directors, I wish to extend publicly our thanks to all those who helped to make the Faire such a success: to the committee which planned it; to co-ordinator Elizabeth Ward who once again ensured the smooth running of the event; to the volunteers from the society who helped in ways too numerous to list; to the crafts people, without whose talents the Faire would not exist; and, most especially, to all the island people who so generously dug into their pockets to support the centre's work.

SHIRLEY VIDA,
Salt Spring Island
Community Society.

Powerful

Sir,
We may be thankful for the efforts of Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev at the Iceland summit, and the ongoing endeavour of these and other representatives of the two superpowers to pull the world back from the brink of nuclear destruction.

However, if we think it is out

there, on the world stage (where the important people make their entrances and exits and render their performances), that the future of mankind is being decided, we have things backward. It is decided close to home, in the hearts and minds of ordinary people everywhere.

Whether that has been recognized as yet, an intensification is occurring in the experience of all people which says, in effect, "change your ways or perish."

There is no way to halt this intensification. It has its origin in life itself, in the cosmos itself, that greater whole of which human beings, and the planet we call earth, are a part. For as long as memory goes back, humans have taken the attitude that they are free agents and they can do precisely as they wish. It is time to face the fact that, in this you-can-have-it-all world, you can't.

The world is here to benefit human beings; technology is merely the genie-in-the-bottle which allows us to turn the earth to human use in increasingly efficient ways. Isn't it just possible that we are here for the purpose of enhancing the earth? If that is the case, then every technology we've invented is merely a new way of borrowing from nature with no intention of repayment — which is called stealing.

If we continue the active phase of fear, greed and condemnation, by the year 2000 we will have successfully destroyed nearly 20 per cent of the earth's remaining species; surely this ecological nightmare is the result of a fundamentally flawed relationship with nature.

Momentum is building downward toward the full exploitation of the new gene-splicing techniques: bioengineering, after all, promises enhanced health, the elimination of genetic defects, new food crops and re-designed, super-efficient domestic animals, just for openers. The computer has come along just in time to assist in the re-programming of genetic information.

But wait! Do we really know what we are doing? Our track record with previous technologies is dismal; even now the bill is coming due for the industrial era. We have demonstrated much know-how but little wisdom. All technologies confer power over the environment. We have never

bothered to ask ourselves, "how much power is enough?"

We seek power to gain security, but it is time to entertain this change of ways, to consider the idea of renouncing the use of power as a means of obtaining security. Security can come not by domination but from participation, belonging, mutual trust, a new way of being, of thinking, of relating to our worlds.

Jeremy Rifkin, in his book *Declaration of Heretic* says: "What a glorious day it would be if our generation were to announce its intentions to march back to the garden with a new mandate, a mandate to serve as stewards of the world, the caretakers of creation. Would not the gates of Paradise swing open to welcome these new visitors, these bearers of the gift of life, these souls who have consecrated their life to restoring the creation to its rightful place in the universe?"

It may appear on the surface as if Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev and others have the destiny of humankind upon their shoulders. Nor would I wish to downplay what they are doing. But the fact is we all bear that urgent responsibility, when such things as fear, greed and condemnation cease to govern my expression of life, and each one in honesty may likewise, there is room for the emergence of a new nature or character that reflects the elements

letters

of trustworthiness, wisdom and stability that are true of the universal whole.

GARY LUNDY,
Ganges.

Grateful

Sir,
As a retiring Islands Trustee, I would like to thank the Galiano community for the assistance and support I received during my term of office.

DIANNE CRAGG,
Galiano Island.

Needed

Sir,
Tools for Peace is this year concentrating on six main categories of basic needs for Nicaragua — blankets, rubber boots, hand tools, sanitary supplies for women, pencils and notebooks, and medical supplies such as gauze and adhesive. With their usual generosity, islanders are donating these.

We would like to also acknowledge the value of a contribution made by the administrator and board of Lady Minto Hospital. Recently collected, in excellent condition, are a wheelchair, an aluminum walker, some leg and ankle splints, a portable sterilizer, a blood pressure apparatus, and several pairs of crutches.

It is not difficult to imagine how quickly these will be put to use in today's Nicaragua.

ELIZABETH GIBSON,
Ganges.



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Sport

Sir,
My name is Luke Beyers and I am six years old. Let me tell you about my weekend. The Eagles lost again.

I write this not from concern for a beginners soccer team but from concern for our vision of the future: if providing discrimination, maldistribution of wealth and talent and a false sense of superiority is taught at the elementary social skill level, we will never see a world where all nations live peacefully together.

Surely, the aim of all amateur sport is to have fun as an individual and as a member of a team. We would like to feel good about ourselves and be able to say we have fought the good fight.

Unfortunately, as little people, children cannot always be responsible for directing, planning and maintaining such goals. Sadly, they are at the mercy and goodwill of the goal-oriented, self-seeking moral nature of adults who serve as the foundation and models for yet-to-be-acquired values.

Children, for instance, don't choose where they live or whether their parents can take an active part in their sporting careers. Some kids are unable to attend practice, not because they don't want to but because their parents work or because they live too far away, or ...

We're led to believe soccer is a sport that teaches lessons to the individual and the team, and that the aim of the game is not to win but to have fun, meet new friends and learn about life. As individuals, we improve our motor skills and take pride in doing so. Proceeding beyond that, we begin to appreciate a sense of identity within the group by being given a responsibility unique to a particular location on the field.

What fun. We don't hog the ball. It has to be shared, so we kick it among ourselves and we kick it to the other team. Actually, we'd like things to go all our way and win all the time, but if we played against an invisible team and each member of our team scored 10 goals ... well, there is no fun in shooting at an open goal. We need opponents to give us an identity, to be a mirror image and allow us to enjoy ourselves.

Naturally, it's a goal-oriented sport, one which provides direction within a given time frame. And each week, we can repeat this ritual of learning social skills and values.

However, when parents get upset because they don't want to share their strong players so every team has an opportunity to win or lose, I really don't know whether Salt Spring Island soccer is for me or my brothers.

(One of the parents said that their children had adopted a colour, it was difficult to change. Rings of racism, one-upmanship, this is the vision of the new tomorrow we are teaching our children?)

Perhaps these kids and their teams will grow up with the idea that they are the only ones with power, and that it belongs to them. At some stage, the losers will rise up and take what is theirs.

And what of our vision of tomorrow? Whatever game or ritual you teach us, whether it is soccer, hockey, rugby or tennis, teach us to share our wealth so that whether we win or lose, we will always have fun and never think ourselves any better or any worse than the other kids. We really appreciate all the soccer club is doing for us.

S: *A machine is a concrete thought.*

M: *When our thoughts are perfectly accurate, our machines will be perfectly efficient.*

P: *When our machines are perfect, our wealth will be infinite.*

Sir Edward replied at once: *"Yes, but who will own that wealth? The most bold and predatory, I daresay."*

— From *The Earth Will Shake*, by Robert Anton Wilson.

TREVOR BEYERS,
Fulford Harbour.

— for Luke and all children.

Cheque

Sir,
Signs of Christmas are appearing on Salt Spring and one of the best is our annual gift to the Mendies Home in Nepal. Thanks to those in our community who cooked and baked and served. Thanks also to those who made a luncheon date or sent a gift for the tree. We even received a cheque from Doris Anderson.

The orphanage in Katmandu will know Christmas is coming when they receive the \$3,200 sent from Salt Spring. Thanks to all.

ALICE ANDRESS,
for the Mendies Fund.

Request

Sir,
Help. If anyone out there can help us locate any pictures of Salt Spring Elementary School during the 1940s, 50s, or 60s, please contact Sheila Twa (537-9319) or Nicola Bell (537-5833). These pictures could deal with sports, any school activities or community activities and are for a school historical photo display.

S. TWA,
N. BELL,
Ganges.

Astronomical

Sir,
As you know, land surveys are oriented to astronomic north. It would be a simple matter for a surveyor to find north if there were stars fixed in position far away in space on the projections of the earth's axis.

In our hemisphere, the nearest bright star to the north celestial pole is Polaris, the "north star." During one day Polaris appears to rotate once around the north celestial pole in a small circle about a degree in diameter.

more letters

Other stars describe broader arcs. A surveyor can solve the spherical triangle to determine astronomic north by knowing, among other facts, the exact time, and the exact position of a star, or planet, or even the position of a comet.

During this last year, the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory in Saanich published exact positions for Comet Halley. Thanks to Embe Bakery's 4:30 am coffee, I was eventually able, after a week of being foiled by cloud banks, to make several observations on Comet Halley. The recent boundary survey of Grace Point, now registered at the Land Title Office in Victoria, is oriented according to these observations. My confidence in the results is highlighted by the knowledge that the survey cannot be proven wrong for 75 years.

PHILLIP SWIFT,
Ganges.

No nukes

Editor's note: The following is an open letter to Marcel Masse, the federal minister of energy, mines and resources, filed with this newspaper for publication.

Sir,
Thank you for your reply to my letter about my concern over the Chernobyl meltdown.

You said: "Nevertheless, the Chernobyl accident must be considered in the context of overall risks and benefits conferred by advanced technology."

I wish I could feel as assured about the safety of CANDU nuclear reactors as you are. Unfortunately, I cannot close my eyes to the reports of leaks and accidents in Canada or abroad.

My main concerns are that some radiation takes 2,000 years to become harmless (plutonium), and that radiation is harmful or deadly to people and animals.

Once a person has been contaminated the damage is done even if the contamination is removed.

There is no way to decontaminate our land or water when there has been a leak.

There is no safe way to store radioactive waste permanently, therefore it is a continual and expensive problem.

Last of all, Shirley Carr, president of the labour congress, says that the safety standards are not adequate for the workers at nuclear power plants in Canada and that it will take two or more

years for the government to examine the problems.

Regardless of economic impact, Canada must follow Sweden and the United States and start phasing out its nuclear reactors.

The risk is not acceptable when it involves the well-being of all the people on the earth, or even a single child.

J. WERNER,
Ganges.

Thanks

Sir,
I would like to thank Salt Spring Islanders very much for their support in the school board election. Also thank you to *Driftwood* for its good pre-election coverage of candidates.

As I start another term, communication is a major goal. As one of the Salt Spring trustees, I would like to encourage anyone with educationally-related concerns to give me a call at any time in the coming months.

Again, many thanks.
DAVID EYLES,
Fulford Harbour.


Writers

Sir,
The Gulf Islands Teacher-Librarians' Association appreciated *Driftwood's* fine coverage of the Young Author's Conference. Indeed, the event was a smashing success. However, that success would not have been possible without help from these people: Alison Jason, Georgette Pauker, Kevin Vine, Debbie Davies and Joy Brownsword, who gave up a Saturday to serve as group leaders; Roger Coster of *Volume II* for the discount coupons for the young authors; the *Salty Shop* for erasers and Dawn Luker of *et cetera* for pencils for the 50 workshop packages; Pam Edge and Angela Verriour for organizing and transporting the Outer Islands students; and Bob McWhirter, director of instruction, for aiding us financially.

Hopefully, this will be the first of many Young Authors Conferences to come.

CAROL EYLES,
DEBBIE NOSTDAL,
LINDA BUTKUS,
BILL UNDERWOOD,
SUSAN UNDERWOOD,
Gulf Islands Teacher-Librarians' Association.

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Ministers advised to meet deadlines

VICTORIA — When Premier Vander Zalm first promised more open and responsive government, I said I was convinced of his good intentions but would hold my applause until I saw some concrete evidence.

The first evidence is now in, and some applause is called for. I've watched politicians for a living for more than a quarter of a century, but never have I seen a premier or prime minister give his cabinet ministers public deadlines to deliver what they expect of them. Vander Zalm has done just that.

The premier unfolded the first chapter of his responsive government scheme the day his new cabinet was sworn in. Along with the list of new cabinet ministers, reporters got a 32-page document spelling out the various ministers' duties.

The document also contained a list of Vander Zalm's priorities for each minister, many of them with deadlines by which the premier expects results.

Attorney General Brian Smith has been given marching orders to establish new regulations and a commission to oversee public gaming. Vander Zalm also told him to get cracking on a new set of guidelines for conflict of interest. The latter goes with a deadline of December 31, 1986.

Stanley Hagen, minister of continuing education and job training, has to bring in recommendations giving students in

'Premier Vander Zalm expects results.'

remote regions of B.C. better access to education opportunities. Deadline: June 30, 1987. And by January 31, 1987, the premier expects a review of the student aid program from Hagen.

Grace McCarthy has been told to devise strategies to attract new investment, deal with freer trade issues and investigate provincial involvement in the operation of selected airports and seaports. The premier gave her no deadlines.

Education Minister Tony Brummet has been instructed to have a Royal Commission on education in place by June 30, 1987.

Energy Minister Jack Davis has his plate full. By January 31, 1987, the premier expects from him a task force to examine ways of revitalizing the province's mining industry. A report on energy to Vancouver Island for economic development is due October 31, 1987.

Environment Minister Stephen Rogers has been told to have recommendations ready by October next year on the Wilderness Advisory Committee's report.

capital comment

by
Hubert Beyer

Finance Minister Mel Couvelier also can't complain about a lack of things to do. New legislation governing financial institutions is to be ready by February next year. The same deadline applies to a review of liquor pricing policies. And by June next year, the premier expects an 'action plan' for the privatization of the liquor distribution branch.

Forest Minister Jack Kempf will have to deliver a detailed review of the effects of the U.S. countervailing duties on B.C.'s forest industry. Deadline: January 31, 1987.

Health Minister Peter Dueck has been instructed to prepare a complete review of the province's health care facilities and programs by July 31, 1987.

There's no deadline for Inter-governmental Relations Minister Bruce Strachan, who's been charged with native affairs matters, including negotiations with Ottawa on native land claims.

Labor Minister Lyall Hanson's orders include a review of the Labor Code and legislation by February 28, 1987, and a report by June 30, 1987, on liquor licensing policies.

Municipal Affairs Minister Rita Johnston is to report on the decentralization of certain government functions by December 31, 1987.

Provincial Secretary Elwood Veitch is expected to make recommendations on how government agents can improve their service to the communities in which they are stationed. Veitch has until March 31, 1987, to deliver.

Social Services and Housing Minister Claude Richmond's priority is to review all social programs, with particular emphasis on family and children's services. There's no deadline.

Tourism, Recreation and Culture Minister Bill Reid has until June 30, 1987, to bring in recommendations that would enhance the role of multi-cultural groups in B.C. A review of tourism promotion comes with no deadline attached.

Highways Minister Cliff Michael is expected to have final recommendations on the proposed Vancouver Island Highway by June 30, 1987.

If you've always wanted to keep track of what our politicians are doing, clip this column and keep it handy for future use. I'm betting that Vander Zalm will have his list within easy reach.

I'm also betting that any cabinet minister who fails to deliver on schedule will be in trouble.

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GENERAL MEETING

Monday, Dec. 1
8 pm

Ganges firehall site sold to protection district

The Ganges firehall site has been sold — to the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District.

On November 4, the district signed an agreement with the provincial government to purchase the downtown Ganges property for \$61,000.

About half of the purchase price will be covered by funds the district has in its bank account, while the balance will come from a bank loan.

Spencer Marr, secretary-treasurer of the protection district, said Monday the loan was taken out locally at an attractive rate. Plans are to repay the loan in three years, at about \$13,000 a year.

"It (repayment) will increase the budget in 1987, over 1986, by a little over four per cent," Marr said, "so it is not excessive."

For its money, the district will receive about one-quarter of an

Agreement with province 'gives value to community'

acre of prime Ganges property assessed at \$116,000. It already owns the fire hall building on the site.

Protection district chairman Dennis Andrews was pleased with the agreement, noting that a land purchase has been considered for several years.

"Initially, we thought we'd have to pay a lot more," Andrews said, calling the deal "a real bonus for the community."

He's not just talking about the money. A long-standing concern of district members has been that changes in downtown Ganges traffic patterns might force a relocation of the fire hall to ensure adequate response time to emergency calls. If that happened

and the district did not own the fire hall property, the cost of acquiring a new site and constructing a new hall could prove to be a heavy burden for taxpayers.

While it owns the fire hall, the district realized that it had "nothing to sell" to raise building funds if relocation became necessary, Andrews said.

Marr agreed: "What this has done is give the taxpayers some value," he said. "Before this, we would have had no value if we had been forced to move."

Andrews stressed that purchase of the fire hall property should not be interpreted as the first step in a relocation bid.

"A new location might be

needed but that could be five, 10, 15 or 20 years down the road — if at all," he said. "It depends on a lot of things, like what the traffic and development situation is going to be like."

In citing traffic, Andrews said firemen currently face no difficulties leaving downtown for the scene of a fire — the problem is getting volunteers into the core.

"There used to be a lot of volunteers right downtown, in Moutat's or at the Shell station," he said, "and they'd just run over when the alarm sounded. Now, a lot of them are away from the core and the problem is in them getting to the hall and getting away quickly."

Still, talk about a Ganges

bypass has already led the district to consider moving the hall out of the core if relocation would be beneficial. Again, such a move would depend on when and where a bypass might be constructed, and where a new hall would best be sited.

If and when a move becomes necessary, ownership of the Ganges property will ease the financial strain of relocation.

"With the property appraised at about \$100,000 and with the fire hall building, we could be talking, down the road, about a quarter of a million dollars," Andrews said. "If we need a new building somewhere else, we could pay for it with the sale of what's there now. That would be a real saving of taxpayers' dollars."

Marr noted that the sale agreement is due to be official on or about December 31.

Salmon Enhancement Society voices fish-farming concerns

Two members of the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society said Monday they oppose the establishment of large salmon farms in the Gulf Islands.

Society directors Jonathan Oldroyd and Kathy Reimer indicated the enhancement society — which operates a hatchery here and is dedicated to rejuvenating local salmon stocks — was "extremely concerned" about fish farming in the province, particularly in the Gulf Islands.

"We're not against fish farming in general, but we do oppose the creation of large fish farms in the Gulf Islands," said Reimer. "The water is too warm here, and this area is the rearing ground for Fraser River salmon. If there was an outbreak of disease, it could spread into that system."

Oldroyd added that the establishment of salmon farms could have an impact on recreation in the islands as well. He said that one large fish farm proposed for the Outer Islands could make navigation difficult for sailors tacking through the channel between Mayne and North Pender Islands (Navy Channel).

He also suggested that as more large fish farms were developed, the industry might become less interested in preserving natural rearing habitat. "They might

start saying: 'Don't bother about the rest of the environment, the creeks and rivers, we can do it all ourselves.'"

Both Oldroyd and Reimer stressed, however, that while the current enquiry into B.C.'s fledgling mariculture industry. Ac-Islands, it is not against smaller salmon farms such as the one operated at Yeo Point, on Salt Spring, by local resident Chris Hatfield.

"We're not against small operations like Chris Hatfield's," said Reimer. "He's doing research and is interested in salmon enhancement. But we do feel there should be a size limit."

"Norway has size limits, and does not allow any foreign ownership. Also, we need environmental controls."

"The fact is, federal fisheries is abandoning big hatcheries because they are so susceptible to disease spread," Oldroyd added. "It makes sense to do it on a small scale."

Oldroyd and Reimer also expressed concern over the short period of time allotted by the provincial government for its current enquiry into B.C.'s fledgling mariculture industry. According to the two directors, the provincial government is not even

waiting for the release of a federal fisheries report that outlines damage fish farms can do to the ocean bottom.

"It (the enquiry) is too short, too fast," said Reimer. "The commission has such short notice, I don't know if they will get to the bottom of it."

Oldroyd and Reimer suggested the enquiry should be given more time to consider the issue of mariculture and its possible impact on the environment.

The Gillespie enquiry into mariculture met Friday in Parksville and Monday in Campbell River. Additional meetings are scheduled in Sechart today (November 26) and Prince Rupert on Friday.

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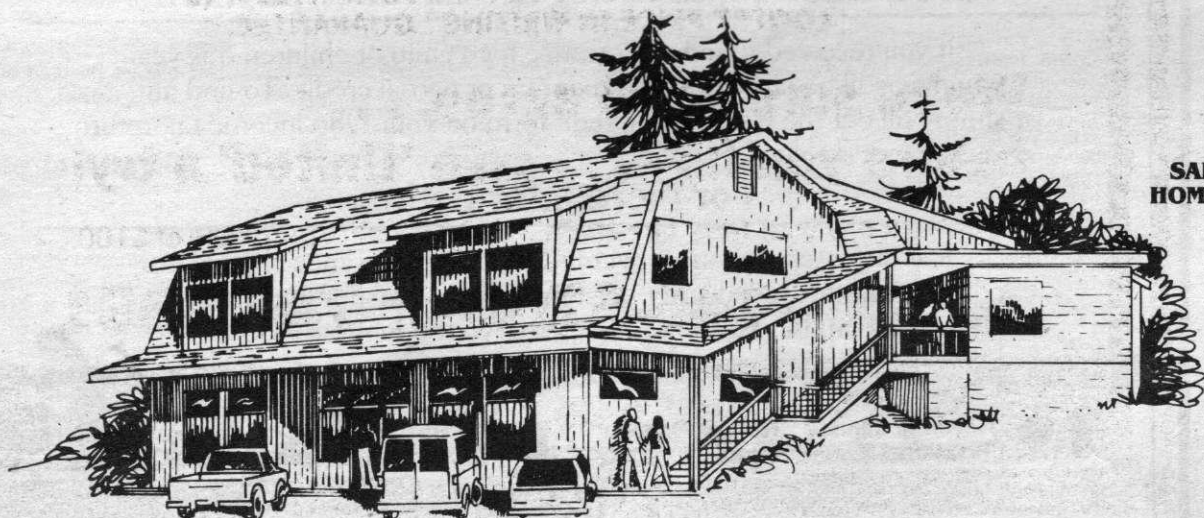
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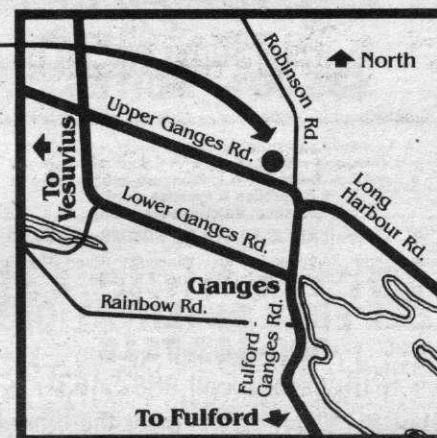
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Proposed patent law change opposed

A Fulford Harbour resident wants islanders to protest a proposed federal government bill that critics say will raise prescription drug prices.

Mary Davidson said last week a strong letter-writing campaign is needed to lobby opposition to the bill. Towards that end, she is offering her letter of protest to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney as a model for others.

"I know there are MPs fighting the bill in Ottawa, but we have to tell the government how we feel," she said in an interview last week. "If we don't get busy and do it ..."

The legislation Davidson and others are fighting is a bill, now before the House of Commons,

that would extend the time limit on a manufacturer's exclusive right to market a drug. If adopted it would mean cheaper, generic copies of the same drug would have to wait longer before entering the market.

The Conservative government has defended the legislation by saying it will create research and development jobs in Canada.

Davidson, who doesn't buy that argument, said several Salt Spring groups are urging their members to write letters protesting the legislation. However, she pointed out that some people may not write because they "might not know quite what to say, or they might have difficulty writing it out. I thought it might help

those people to have another work to copy."

Davidson's letter, addressed to Brian Mulroney, is as follows:

We sincerely oppose any government bill which gives long-term monopolies in drug manufacturing to the big multinational drug companies.

We believe that it is not in the best interest of Canadians to give such concessions to these drug companies because costs would escalate, making purchase difficult or impossible for many citizens. Even those of us on Pharmacare would pay extra through increased government costs.

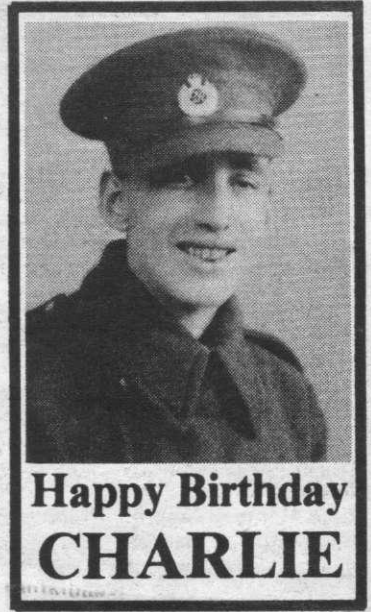
We believe that it is in the best

interest of Canadians that drug prices remain reasonable through the continued production of generic drugs in our country.

The government argument that this bill would create more jobs is, in fact, at the expense of the health of Canadians and cannot be accepted.

Please do not go on with your plans to introduce this dreadful, reactionary legislation.

Letters, she said, should be addressed to Brian Mulroney, Office of the Prime Minister, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2. Davidson reminds that letters to the federal government do not require postage.



Auction to raise money for Christmas hampers

Next week's benefit dinner and auction for the food bank will give local residents the opportunity to support a worthy cause while getting valuable goods and services at reasonable prices.

The event, to be held December 6 in Central Hall, is designed to raise money for the food bank's Christmas program. All proceeds will be used to purchase Christmas hamper items.

"If more money is raised than is needed by the food bank, it will go to the achievement centre and the teen program, both community centre programs," auction organizer Sue Bradford said last week.

The evening will begin at 6:30 pm with a dinner of roast chicken, creole sauce, rice pilaf, salad and buttered buns — all cooked by Jim Bradford. Advance tickets are available at *et cetera*, and because only 150 people can be accommodated, it is recommended that people interested in attending purchase their tickets soon.

The auction will get underway near the conclusion of dinner. Up for bids will be original works by island artists, pottery, hampers and a variety of baked goods.

Those who attend will also have the opportunity to bid on automotive repair services, portrait photography, and legal and dental work.

Mike Hayes has agreed to serve as auctioneer for the evening. "As anyone knows who has attended one of his auctions, that's as good as any floor show," said Bradford.

A number of door prizes will also be given away, including a five-foot tall, green plush leprechaun known as *Paddy O'*, which currently stands in *et cetera*. Bradford said he was "just the gift for your favorite youngster."

For those with more conventional tastes, there will also be door prizes of Christmas baking and hand-crafted sterling silver earrings.

People who feel possessed by the spirit of Christmas can do their part to bring joy to Salt Spring's less fortunate by pinning donations on the large Christmas stocking that will stand by the door.

"We are sure everyone will have a very entertaining and enjoyable evening," Bradford concluded.

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See the insert in your November Family Allowance cheque or contact your nearest district taxation office. (The number and address are in the government pages of your telephone book).

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Old heron topic of Gaetz book

By MIKE TURKKI

Several years ago, Dayle Gaetz's children built a raft in front of the family home along North Beach Road. One day, her husband Gary noticed a Great Blue Heron standing stiff-legged upon the raft, its wings hunched against the cold.

"We called him Grandfather Heron because he looked old," Dayle recalls. "He was all hunched up, and whenever another heron would come around, he'd flap his wings and make a fuss. Finally, one day we noticed there was another heron standing with him."

This small and seemingly insignificant incident planted the seed of inspiration in Dayle's mind. Over time, it grew into a children's story about an elderly bird who found friendship in another of his kind.

After shelving her manuscript for a time, Dayle submitted it to various publishing houses. Her efforts were rewarded when Press Porcepic of Victoria recognized the potential of her enchanting tale and published *Grandfather Heron Finds a Friend* — which despite its fall release has already sold at least 700 copies.

For Dayle, who moved to Salt Spring Island from Victoria with her family, it was something she'd long hoped for. "I always wanted to write," she says. "I took a children's literature course at university (the University of Victoria). I wrote one (a children's story) then, and got a good mark on it."

Dayle says she didn't really expect *Grandfather Heron Finds a Friend* to be published when she sent it away.

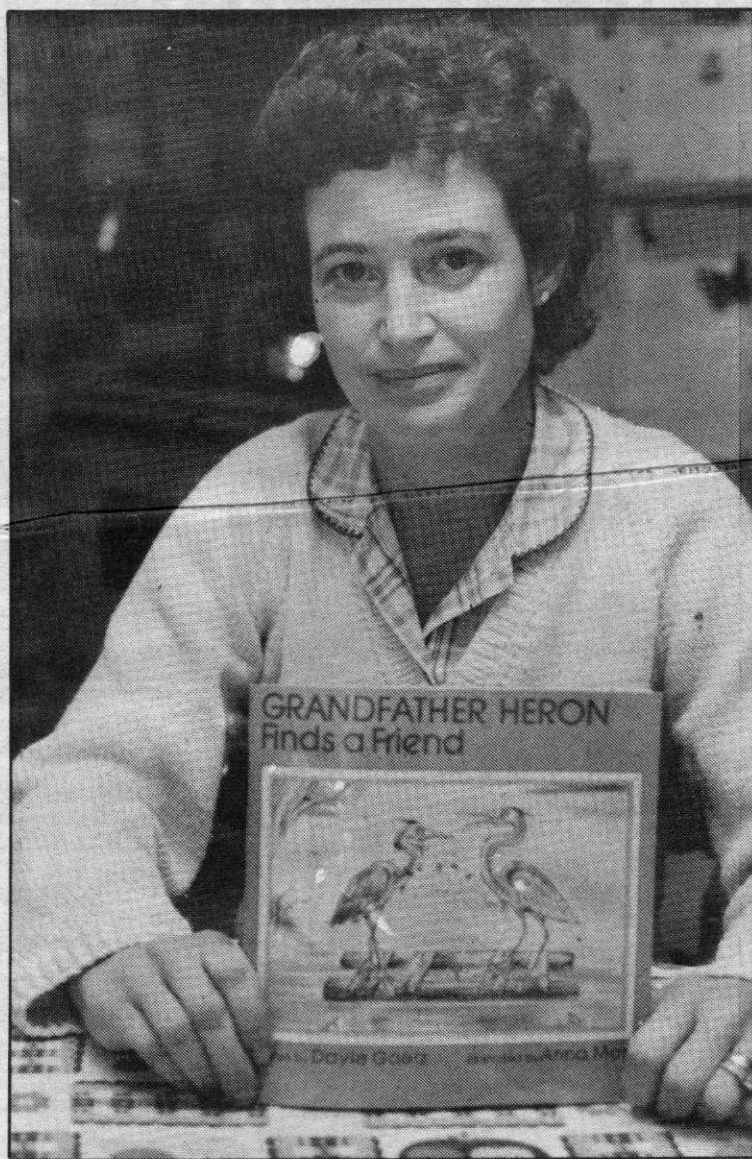
"I sent it to them (Press Porcepic) and they sent it back with a couple of changes," she recalled. "Then they phoned and said that if I was interested in working with them on it, they'd be interested in publishing it."

Dayle re-wrote the story two or three times, she said. However, it was eventually ready for print, and a Victoria artist named Anna Mah was chosen to illustrate the effort.

Dayle was pleased by the company's choice of an illustrator. "Her drawings went along really well with the story," Dayle said. "I remember as a child that I used to get so mad when I'd be reading a story and the pictures didn't seem to fit. But her's (Mah's) really do fit in well."

"She's really good," Dayle continued. "I remember that she erased one line on the crane, and it changed his whole expression."

Dayle said her children have



Driftwood photo by Mike Turkki

North Beach Road author Dayle Gaetz at home with her first book *Grandfather Heron Finds a*

Friend. The book, published by Press Porcepic, has already sold 700 copies.

enjoyed the book. "Brian read it three times," she said, laughing.

Encouraged by the response to her first book, the 39-year-old North Beach Road resident has already started work on a second. "This is a mystery for children between the ages of 10 and 12," she said.

Dayle has mothballed her old typewriter, and now does her writing on a modern Commodore word-processor. She tries to work "regular hours," but said it isn't always easy.

'Usually, I just get really rolling, and then the kids get home.'

"There are a lot of interruptions," she said. "I find that I have no trouble sitting down to write. I usually write without doing much editing one day. The next day I go over it, and by the time I've finished editing, I'm back in the mood. But usually, I just get really rolling, and then the kids get home."

Like most authors, Dayle draws the inspiration for her characters

from real life. None of the characters in her stories are people she knows, however; instead, they are 'make-believe' people and animals who bear some of the characteristics of individuals she has met.

"Andrea (Dayle's daughter) insists one of the characters in the story is a friend of hers," Dayle said.

Ideas for stories develop in Dayle's mind over time. An experience she has had may become the topic of a story years after it occurred. "Things people say and do will sit in the back of my mind, and then I'll write a story," she explained. "I'll write stories and then stash them away. Then, one day, I'll come across one, dig it out and start re-writing."

"This story (*Grandfather Heron*) was actually started when the children were still quite young. I put it away for a while after I wrote it."

Dayle hasn't any immediate plans to write books for adults. She says she enjoys writing children's stories, which is good — because, judging from the early success of *Grandfather Heron Finds a Friend*, her work could well be in demand for some time to come.

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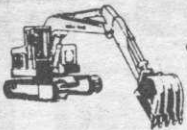
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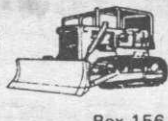
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Sidney group offers help to jobless

Unemployed workers hoping to learn new skills and businesses interested in training future employees can obtain assistance from the same organization.

Chris Brown, an employee of the Peninsula Community Association in Sidney, said last week the organization can assist "people who need special help finding work, and...businesses that would like to set up a training program."

Brown's job is to help unemployed workers link up with businesses willing to offer training, and get them working together.

"Basically, we try to help any person who has an employment deficit that needs to be addressed," Brown said. "Something is preventing them from obtaining employment. It can be anything from a low skill level, to low self-esteem. Sometimes it's an injury that they suffered that allows them to work, but not do the kinds of work they did before."

"Sometimes, they're an older worker who has been out of the work force for some time and is finding age a barrier."

'We recognize that small business training programs are expensive and risky....'

Brown can help these individuals by getting them in touch with businesses willing to take on 'green' employees and train them.

Yet as Brown noted, the organization doesn't limit its efforts strictly to assisting the unemployed. Businesses can also benefit from the Job Development Program and Brown's expertise.

Employers who feel they may be interested in establishing a training program can obtain help and some funding through Job Development, Brown noted.

"We recognize that small business training programs are expensive and risky, because the businessman doesn't know if the employee will work out."

"What I'll do is make a personal visit to the work site and give them the program information," he said. "I will help with setting up the training program. There is a wage subsidy available that helps off-set the costs of any training program and reduces the risk to small businesses."

"It (the program) can have a positive impact on the business,"

Businesses may also benefit under Job Development Program

Brown continued. "It can be good PR, because it shows a growthful business, a positive business."

Brown will prepare the contracts needed to establish a business' employee training program. Any such program must provide the trainee with at least 12 weeks of work, although it is hoped the employee will be kept on after the end of the training period.

"The big push on right now is to help people on income assistance," said Brown, who added

that he can help re-introduce these people to the work force. Individuals who have special needs that cannot be addressed by the Peninsula Community Association's worker can, he added, "be referred to appropriate agencies."

Brown noted that the Job Development Program is flexible, and all training projects can be tailored to suit the individual's needs and those of the employer.

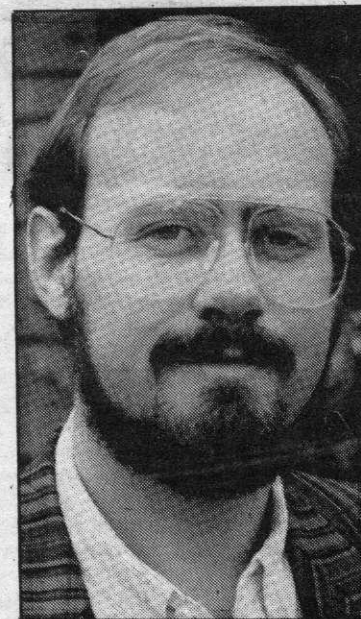
He added that many Gulf Islands residents have utilized the

program since it was initiated in September 1985. Brown said: "I'd say we have written between eight or 10 contracts since the program was introduced."

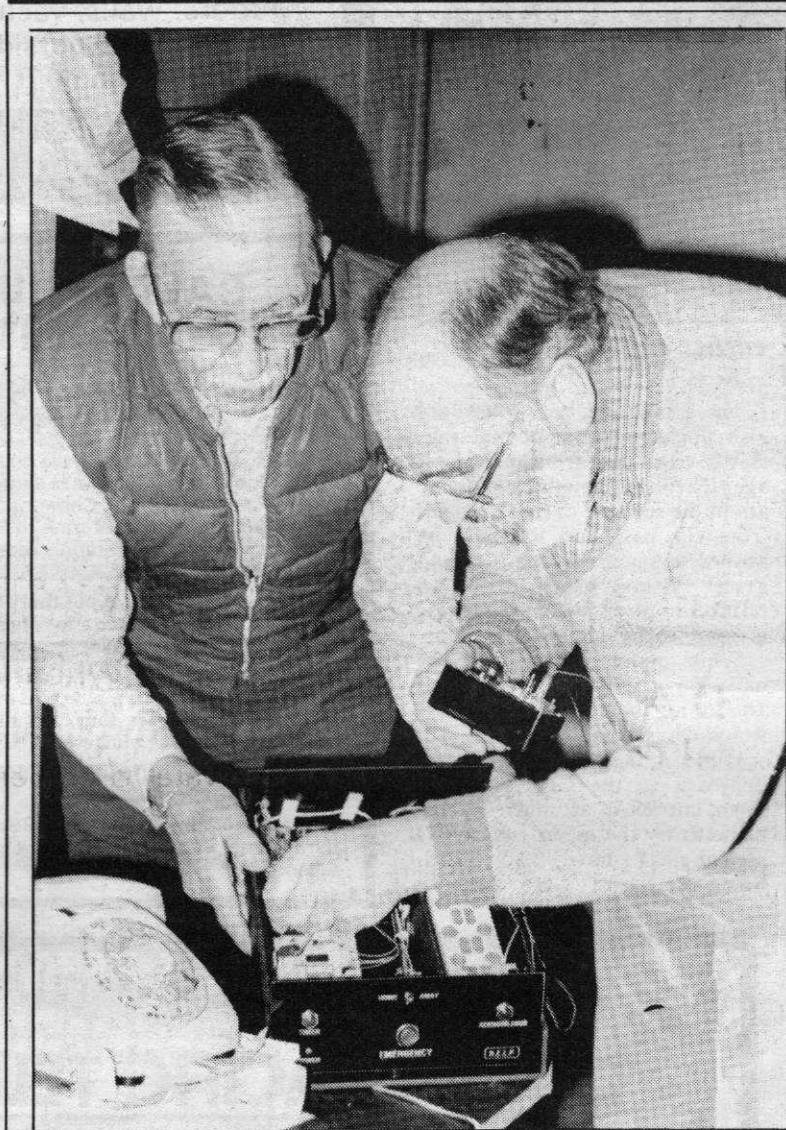
He hopes, Gulf Islanders will continue to take advantage of the services offered by the Peninsula Community Association. He can be reached by telephoning 656-0851.

"I'd like them to explore it," he said. "It's flexible, which is part of the whole Canadian Job Strategies Program. It provides work experience and job training. The hope is, of course, that they (the training programs) will lead to continuing employment."

"I feel good about working with this program," he concluded.



Chris Brown



Help alert line installers Ed Allan (left) and Ron Watson of Margaret Davidson. The unit is just part of the HEALI Alert Line Society's new system.

Driftwood photo by Mike Turkki

Help alert line allows elderly to stay at home

From Page 1

Ramsey — plans to charge service subscribers \$100 for the home components and a \$20-a-month fee.

She added that while some private companies offer similar services in B.C., the Salt Spring program marks the first time a volunteer organization has operated its own help alert line system. As a result, the local project is serving as a model for the rest of the province.

If the local volunteer group's efforts prove successful, Brookbanks said, the alert line program will be extended to Greater Victoria.

Salt Spring's pilot project will continue throughout the next year, and Brookbanks said she expects to see it serving as many as 50 people "after a year, or a year and a half."

The HEALI Alert Line Society ran into a few stumbling blocks in its campaign to establish the service here, making recent progress all that much more satisfying.

Initial difficulties were encountered in obtaining liability insurance, but those were overcome through the help of the CRD, Dr. Borsman noted.

Another problem surfaced in Canadian Radio-television

and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) regulations. The CRTC has indicated the society can install its alert line system only on single-party telephone lines and not on multi-party lines. That makes the system more costly to operate, the society says.

Borsman and Brookbanks explained the CRTC is concerned that the alert line system might interfere with party lines. "The CRTC's feeling," Brookbanks said, "is that they want nothing to interfere with party lines."

"But it would only interfere with party lines if something happened (to the homeowner using the alert line system)."

Free membership in the HEALI Alert Line Society is open to anyone interested in the organization's work.

The society's bylaws and constitution have been adopted, but Brookbanks said the group still finds itself short of funds.

The group is accepting donations and has applied to the federal government for a tax number so contributions will be tax deductible.

Anyone wishing to join the HEALI Alert Line Society — or make a donation — can contact the group at Post Office Box 1571, Ganges, B.C.

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Ancient buildings are major British attractions

By FRANK RICHARDS

They may look as if they were designed by a heavy drinker after the night before, but the ancient half-timbered buildings of old English towns have stood for many a year. One of the great attractions of the British scene in the tourists' eyes is the profusion of old buildings with their interesting design and their attractive finish.

The British were smart in the Middle Ages. They didn't always put a three-story building on each side of the narrow streets. And where they did just that, it's dark all day, summer or winter. The Tudor style of architecture placed the upper floors out beyond the floors below. At first glance they look like they are about to topple forward from the protruding upper works, but they haven't in centuries.

In fact, the most grievous problem facing many of those old structures is the battle with decay. The interesting Tudor mansion or farmhouse enjoys constant maintenance and careful attention. Such homes will stand for centuries more, their fabric sound and firm as the day they were built. The ancient building that serves as a hotel, an inn or any other commercial purpose is assured of constant attention when the structure is attacked by great age.

The decay of those buildings for which there is no longer a commercial purpose, and which are located where few people would be eager to live, is a milestone along the road to collapse.

The visitor to the small English towns usually sees large numbers of such structures, well-cared-for and attracting the eye at all times. Some of the famous hostleries and other buildings of 300 and 400 years ago draw visitors from thousands of miles away to enjoy the restful peace of an architectural masterpiece.

Shrewsbury, with its myriad of ancient timbered structures, well-maintained and attractive, is one such centre. Chester offers a townful of old buildings, as do many other towns and cities all over the islands.

One of those most profusely sprinkled with timber and thatch is the town of Tewkesbury, in Gloucestershire. Resting on the banks of the River Severn, Tewkesbury has a recorded history reaching back before the Norman Conquest and into the times of Arthur and legend.

The Abbey at Tewkesbury is living evidence of the antiquity of the town. It was built in the 11th or 12th century to serve the large



Buildings mark earlier times

community of Benedictine monks. The abbey church is the only part of that community left to posterity. When Henry VIII was dissolving monasteries all over the land, the normal procedure was to demolish the structures. In Tewkesbury, the townspeople appealed to Henry to spare their great church and he relented, selling the church to the parishioners for the sum of 400

'The town boasts hostleries and restaurants set in buildings that have pleased the patron for hundreds of years.'

pounds. The rest of the monastical buildings were destroyed and little remains to indicate where they stood.

The town boasts hostleries and restaurants set in buildings that have pleased the patron and the visitor for hundreds of years. While the Tudor style favoured the high gables and half-timbered walls, with ornamented chimneys and magnificent windows in the mansions of the era, the townhouses were more simply

Tewkesbury that I stayed at a hotel whose host was the most obnoxious innkeeper I have ever encountered. Before telling me of his warm disregard for overseas visitors, he was screaming his view of government departments into his telephone.

Another interesting aspect of Tewkesbury is the Telfer bridge. A century old, the structure was set up in cast iron and still stands to carry the highway over the Severn.

The last appeal of the town, for

me, was the small store near the Abbey, where old newspapers are on display and where a newspaper collectors' society has its headquarters. The members collect newspapers for their antiquity, geographic location or for any other reason that appeals.

Battlefield, market town and tourist centre, Tewkesbury has enjoyed a varied experience during the past 1,000 years. It is now in its tourist period: quiet, peaceful and eager to draw back the curtains on a storied stage.

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'Beyond War' to recognize world peace efforts

By **ANDREW GIBSON**

Beyond War is a five-year-old, rapidly growing non-political organization based in the USA, dedicated, in its own words "to the future of our planet," a future which, unless we find an alternative to atom-age war, could be, except for cockroaches, very short.

Beyond War believes that the technological revolution that made planet-wrecking feasible has also produced the communications advances that can save us. We now have a global village, in which understanding, dialogue and negotiation are possible as never before in our history of hostile tribalism.

This year the award goes to the Contadora nations — Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Columbia — which, since January 1983, have been working to find a resolution to the bloody conflicts in Central America. Time after time their efforts have seemed to be working, only to be dashed. Yet they have persevered.

The broad aims of the Contadora nations (with, since August, 1985, the backing of a support group consisting of Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay) are to bring peace to Central America by having its countries halt and reduce their arms build-ups and reduce their inventories; reduce, then

revolutionary movements, especially the Sandinistas, and on the other the USA and its client states of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and to a lesser extent, Costa Rica.

Whatever agreement will be signed by one side ends up being unacceptable to the other, so the funding of the mercenaries, the bombings, the disappearances and the torturing continue. These states have been or are virtually feudal, and reform will be fiercely resisted in any event.

But the process has been greatly complicated by the cold war. It almost seems that these unfortunate states are being sacrificed on the altar of great power rivalry, without regard for the welfare of the citizens, the concerns of their neighbours, and even the judgment of the World Court. Yet it is clear that the Contadora nations, flanking both sides of the conflicts, and with similar history, language, culture and problems, are far better equipped than are the cold war antagonists to find the solutions.

Each has awesome domestic problems of its own, compared with which our Canadian ones seem trivial. Yet each has found the time and the scarce funds with which to help its neighbours, while the great powers, oblivious to all but their ideological hobgoblins, ignore the exploitation, poverty

and desperation of Central Americans.

Therefore, for their patient, courageous efforts on behalf of all of us, Beyond War will this year honour the Contadora nations.

On Sunday, December 14, at 1:30 pm, islanders can see this ceremony by satellite TV at the Ungers' home on Salt Spring. It is off King Road, off Beaver Point Road. Signs will be put up to guide you. A donation is requested, to further Beyond War work.

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'Should a tribal bush fire go out of control, we face not gunpowder but Armageddon.'

Beyond War has listened to Einstein's warning: "The unleashed power of the atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking, and we thus drift toward unparalleled catastrophe."

The organization tries, by using modern communications as well as individual contact, to promote the resolution of differences by knowledge, and by concentrating on obsolescence. The stakes are on war's obsolescence. The stakes are high — should a tribal bushfire go out of control, we face not gunpowder but Armageddon.

An important part of this work is the annual Beyond War award, presented before a world-wide audience to individuals or organizations promoting this global understanding. They were: 1983, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, USA; 1984, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War; 1985, Five-continent Peace Initiative (India, Argentina, Greece, Sweden and Tanzania).

eliminate, the input from foreign 'advisors'; deny bases and assistance to those trying to destabilize; create mechanisms to resolve disputes; promote mutual reconciliation; and encourage democratic institutions and social and economic reforms.

Clearly, these aims are laudable, but they have repeatedly foundered on the tremendous hostility between, on the one side, the various Central American

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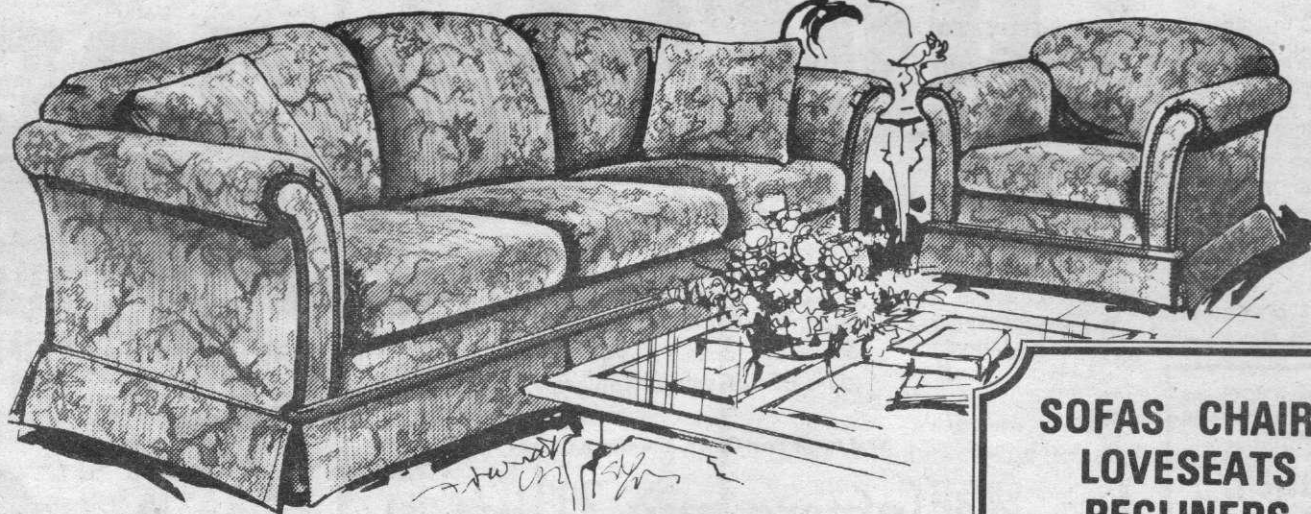
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Local school trustees attend session on education, values

Ethics, values and morality — and the role they can play in the public school system — were the topics of a seminar attended by five Gulf Islands school board members earlier this month.

School District 64 trustees Bert Beitel, Grace Byrne, Charles Hingston, Margaret Howell and Joy Ridley were among about 115 people to attend the two-day seminar held November 6 and 7 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Vancouver.

The seminar was designed, among other things, to provide those who attended with "a better understanding of the questions and problems underlying values, education and moral issues in schools." It also helped clarify "the responsibilities of school boards and employees regarding personal conduct in schools, and after hours," and provide them with "knowledge of the legal rights of parents, students and school districts in prescribing appropriate standards of conduct based on moral values."

The keynote speaker was Father Lucien Larre, a nationally-known educator, speaker and counsellor who founded the Bosco Home in Regina.

Larre — whose featured address at the seminar was entitled *The Invisible Curriculum* — counsels young people and families. He has received numerous awards for his work.

Local trustees were impressed with the seminar, and felt it was extremely worthwhile.

"In the time I've been involved (as a school trustee), this was the best conference I've attended," Beitel said last week.

Beitel said Larre was an entertaining as well as informative speaker. "He spoke for 70 minutes, and you could have listened to him for hours," the Salt Spring trustee said. "For me, he was the highlight of the seminar."

Beitel said Larre's address was "reality 1986. It wasn't in the clouds, and it wasn't 'head in the sand.'"



Bert Beitel

Beitel said the seminar didn't try to find a solution to the problem of declining morals and values, or indicate that increased religious instruction in public schools was the answer.

"What I got out of it was that it was a seed, a start to solving

these problems," he said. "It wasn't designed as a cure. But once we admit we have a heck of a problem, that's usually the first step. From there we can go on to try and solve it."

Many individuals feel that re-introduction of more religious instruction in public schools could help to instill morals and values in students. Beitel noted that it appears many members of the public apparently feel the same way.

"What is happening with schools is that public school enrolment is on a downward trend, while there are more independent schools," he explained. "And, of course, most of these independent schools are religious schools. Why do people want to send their children to these schools? Because of the values they feel they instill."

Beitel noted that not only school trustees attended the seminar. A number of parents, teachers and other members of the public also took it in.

"It's too bad more didn't attend this type of conference," he said.

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Salt Spring library receives expansion funding

An enlarged Salt Spring Island library should be ready for patrons before next winter.

The Salt Spring Island Public Library Association's application for \$40,000 from the Expo 86 Legacy Fund grant was approved last week, giving it \$100,000 to pay for expansion of the library building on McPhillips Avenue in Ganges.

"It was just what we asked for," association secretary Grace Byrne said of the grant total. "The Expo fund is set up on a 60-40 basis, and we were told we had better have the \$60,000 to go with the \$40,000 from the province."

The association's share, held in a special bank account, was built up over the years through gifts and legacies from island residents, Byrne added.

Expansion plans call for the project to begin in early April, 1986, and be completed by late October or early November of next year. However, the precise scale of the addition is still to be determined.

"The expansion will be to the library facility we have now," Byrne said. "It will be on the same site, but we don't know how far we can go yet."

The association's strategy is for architect Hank Schubart to design an addition that will take full advantage of site potential. Then, he will outline how much of that plan can be carried out for \$100,000.

If the association decides it would like to pursue the site's maximum potential, "we could be looking for more funds," Byrne said. She pointed out that the \$100,000 budget might not be directed entirely towards con-

struction of an addition — some may have to be spent on provision of washroom facilities, which are presently absent.

Keeping in mind that the scale of the expansion has yet to be decided, Byrne offered a rough guess that the project would increase current floor space by perhaps 30 per cent. And that, she said, would be a welcome addition.

The library association, which

operates independently and is not a member of any regional network, receives an \$18,000 book-buying grant from the provincial government each year. As its book purchases add up, pressure is applied to the already-limited premises.

"Right now, we're running out of space," Byrne said. "We are busy buying new books and, as more and more come in, we're constantly having to cull what we

have on hand. That's why we have two book sales each year."

Along with allowing the association to keep more of its current selection on hand, the building addition will allow subject categories to be expanded, Byrne said.

The McPhillips Avenue library building is of mixed age. Byrne said most of the structure is an older building that was moved to

the site, while the remainder is an addition that was built seven or eight years ago. The local library, she added, had its start about 20 years ago in the basement of Mouat's Mall.

The library is open from 11 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday, from 7 pm to 9 pm on Wednesdays, and from 10 am to 1 pm on Fridays. Membership fees are \$3 a year for adults and nothing for children up to the age of 14 years.

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Donated painting, sealed bids help light school

Fulford Elementary School students are seeing their studies in 'a whole new light' these days, thanks to the generosity and hard work of several local individuals.

The Fulford parents' advisory committee — with assistance from the Robert Bateman family and the Pegasus Gallery of Canadian Art — has been able to install full-spectrum lighting in all Fulford Elementary School classroom and hallways. The new lighting is also installed in half the gymnasium, but more of the new lights must be purchased before work in that section of the school can be completed.

The full-spectrum lighting system — which emits artificial light with all or nearly all the properties of natural sunlight — was purchased with money collected through the sale of an original Robert Bateman painting entitled *Above Fulford Harbour*. The Batemans have children attending the Fulford school, and donated the painting to the project.

The painting was sold through Pegasus Gallery by sealed bid. The gallery, feeling the project was a worthwhile community endeavor, collected no commission.

Bid cards, accompanied by printed folders bearing a black-and-white reproduction of the painting, were sent to interested parties throughout North America.

"They (the bid cards) were sent all over the states and Canada, to galleries, collectors, wildlife magazines and others," Yvonne Toynbee of Pegasus Gallery noted last week.

'It's kind of nice that it will be staying in B.C.'

No bids under \$8,000 were accepted, and each bidder was required to submit a deposit of \$1,000 Canadian to the gallery.

David Jackson, one of B.C.'s foremost woodcarvers, was the successful bidder. The amount Jackson paid for the painting has not been disclosed, but it was sufficient to purchase the new lighting system for Fulford Elementary School.



Driftwood photo by Mike Turkki

Pegasus Gallery representative Yvonne Toynbee and Fulford Elementary School principal Bob Brownsword display a copy of the card bearing a reproduction of Robert Bateman's painting.

"The two highest bidders were both from the West Coast," noted Toynbee, who is pleased to have been a part of this community project. "It's kind of nice that it will be staying in B.C."

Bob Brownsword, principal of Fulford Elementary School, said the parents' group decided to purchase the lighting after reviewing information gathered by its members.

Research done by a number of noted professionals in both Canada and the United States has shown that individuals working under full-spectrum lighting seem to be in better health.

Students who work under full-spectrum lighting rather than the regular fluorescent lighting employed in most schools tend to suffer fewer headaches and less eyestrain. A study done by a nuclear biochemist even showed that they have fewer cavities than their counterparts who study under regular fluorescent lights all day.

"It (full-spectrum lighting) is not used a lot in B.C., but it is

being used a lot in B.C., but it is being used in Alberta and Ontario, and in Europe it's pretty well standard, Brownsword noted, ry School has already installed full-spectrum lighting.

Brownsword described the difference between standard overhead lighting and full-spectrum lighting as "the difference between night and day."

"It's quite a bit different," he said. "It was put up in my office without me knowing, and when I came in, I noticed it immediately. It's quite amazing."

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Any splash of colour welcome as winter nears

Well, there's no doubt about it: the rains have arrived and we are firmly entrenched in the monsoon season. With the shorter days and the almost continuous cloud cover, any splash of colour is a most welcome sight.

The fall-flowering cherry, *Prunus subhirtella autumnalis*, is showing its delicate soft pink and white blooms. The fully double, one-half to three-quarter-inch blossoms are randomly dotted along the pale brown branches and the whole tree offers the illusion that spring is already here, an uplifting hoax which we should all encourage.

The flowers will be produced during warm spells between now and April, and cut branches can be taken indoors throughout the winter.

Another winter-blooming beauty that will soon be making a showing its flowering witch hazel. Cultivars (cultivated varieties) of Japanese witch hazel (*Hamamelis japonica*), Chinese witch hazel (*Hamamelis mollis*) and their crosses (*Hamamelis intermedia*) give highly fragrant blooms in shades of yellow, orange, rust and red. The strap-shaped petals last a long time, through wet, cold weather and the blossoms are sprinkled along the angular branches, lending a very "oriental" look to both the garden and any floral arrangements in which they may be used.

In the rest of the garden, the winter heather (*Erica* genus), are starting to show their colours and will continue to sport shades of white, pink, rose and quasi-red for several months to come. The resilient winter pansies return with fresh blooms every time the weather dries out slightly and the sun shines. They will keep on growing and blooming right on through to the onset of hot weather, next June or July. Bright, cherry blooms of the Primulas are adding splashes of colour to planters, deck pots, and garden beds. Even the snapdragons from last summer are managing to carry on blooming with their last energies, and the gazanias are still willing, if only the sun would shine.

The most reliable sources of colour in the garden are the berried shrubs and trees. Some noteworthy displays are to be seen on female Skimmia, *Pernettya*, Aucuba, hollies (*Ilex* species), American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*), as well as *Euonymus alata* (burning bush), and the mountain ashes (*Sorbus* species), ornamental crabapples (*Malus* species) on which the fruit persist, wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*), Cotoneasters (covered a few weeks ago), hawthornes (*Crataegus*), cranberry bushes (*Viburnum opulus*), our local native white soapberry (*Symphoricarpos*), rose varieties with colourful hips (fruit), the showy,

your garden

by
Chris Schmah

large-fruited *Arbutus unedo compacta*, known as the strawberry tree, and last, but not least, the many and varied cultivars of *Pyracantha*, so bright and showy it has earned the name of "firethorn."

Pyracanthas are close relatives of *Cotoneasters* and roses, and are represented by seven or more species and numerous cultivated varieties. They are broad-leaved evergreens with glossy, generally deep green foliage that is finely serrated or toothed (an aid in separating them from *Cotoneasters*), and can range in height from two feet on up to 20 feet or more.

'The whole tree offers the illusion that spring is already here, an uplifting hoax which we should all encourage.'

In the late spring, small creamy white, fragrant flowers open in clusters that are massed along the branches and spurs that grew in the previous year. The berries are slow to develop but by late fall they assume their various shades of yellow, orange and red, and the one-quarter to one-half inch diameter fruit often last right through the winter, provided the birds don't harvest them.

The firethorns will tolerate a wide range of soils and exposures. They will grow in the full, baking hot sun against a south-facing wall, or trained onto the side of a north-facing wall or fence

(provided it isn't heavy shade), and every sun position in between. They will thrive in sandy, even gravelly soils, provided some nutrition and water is supplied, and they will grow in relatively heavy clay soils, provided it is never water-logged.

Ideally, a well-drained, sandy soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.5 and weekly deep waterings through severe droughts, will give the best results. They have very few pest problems; the texts mention fireblight, apple scab, scale, aphids, and mites; however, I've never seen any of these problems severe enough to require treatment or be cause for concern. Generally a healthy, properly fed (early spring with 4-10-10, 6-8-6 or 13-16-10) plant in well-drained soil, won't even develop these problems, let alone be affected by them; firethorns are tough plants. This past year the tent caterpillars were hard on them, but they rallied and were fully recovered and developed a heavy load of berries again this fall.

They can be grown as espaliered specimens against fences, walls, rock facings and retaining walls or grown as free-standing shrubs for their showy effect, or they can be used as effective barriers, screens or as hedges. Their thorns are formidable and aid the plant in its efforts to be deer-proof, but the deer can and do eat the succulent, developing shoots and young foliage, so they can only be considered deer-resistant.

How you choose to grow them will dictate how you will prune them (naturally), but remember that the best time to prune them is just after blooming is finished in early summer. This will reduce the amount of vegetative response growth that will result, as pruning at that time is in effect a pruning to stimulate the making of more flowering and fruiting wood. They will bear flowers and berries on new growth wood the following year.

There are numerous varieties

available, but some best choices include: *Orange Glow*, a seven-to-nine-foot spreading specimen with bright orange berry clusters; *Watereri*, also seven-to-nine feet but with a smothering of rich scarlet berry clusters; *Cherry Berri*, same as the former, but with large half inch fruit that are glossy and dark red; *Mohave*, with its bright, reddish-orange fruit on a tall shrub (to 12 feet); *Teton*, a low-growing bright orange fruited variety, *Red*

Elf (self-explanatory); and *Gnome*, a dwarf, spreading, dense, orange-berried variety that can serve as a ground cover.

Whether appreciated through the window on a cold, wintry day, covered with snow, frequented by birds searching for a colourful meal, or even as cut branches brought indoors to add a splash of festive, bright colour, the *Pyracantha* is a delightful plant for any home and garden.

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