

# Gulf Islands Driftwood

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TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR, NO. 52

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1986

40¢

## Rising insurance costs hit gun club

The rising cost of liability insurance has made it necessary for the Salt Spring Island Rod and Gun Club to raise its membership fees.

The rod and gun club obtains its liability insurance through the Shooting Federation of Canada, according to rod and gun club members. In the past, each gun club member has been required to pay \$1.25 per year for liability insurance, but this year the fee

will more than triple.

Rod and gun club member Ellen Bennett noted that in 1987, the club will be required to pay a \$30 membership fee to the federation as well as \$1 for each of its members. "That's just so we can insured as a club," she explained. "Then, from every member, we have to send along another \$5.50."

Club Vice-president Louie Lorentsen said Wednesday the in-

crease in insurance costs has made it necessary for the club to revamp its membership structure — and do away with its special rate for couples.

Lorentsen said during the coming year, a two-fee system will be employed. Associate (social) members will pay \$10 each, while each member who uses the range will pay \$20. Junior shooters will still pay a \$2.50 membership fee, however.

In 1986, rod and gun club members 17 years of age and older paid \$10 each, while couples could register for \$15. Lorentsen said that while the club intended to increase its fees slightly this year, it hadn't planned to increase them this much.

Despite the planned increase, the Salt Spring Island Rod and Gun Club's membership fees

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## Needy get Christmas hampers

Christmas will be a little brighter this year for approximately 80 local residents and families thanks to the efforts of the Salt Spring Island Community Society food bank.

Eighty Christmas hampers prepared by the society and its approximately 20 volunteers were delivered Friday to needy residents across the island by eight volunteer drivers.

According to community worker Jo Logan, each Christmas hamper contained a complete Christmas dinner — "everything from nuts to a certificate for a turkey." Families receiving hampers were also given a \$10 gift certificate for each child from The General Store. Used toys repaired in the Ganges Santa's Workshop were included in some hampers, while small gifts were added to some hampers destined for needy senior citizens.

"We've done really well this year," noted Logan, "and Santa's Workshop went well, too. I think the experience gained in previous years really helped. The volunteers who have done this before just sort of took over."

Logan said that thanks to the generosity of Salt Spring residents, the community centre had



Community worker Jo Logan with some of the Christmas hampers slated for distribution on

adequate funding to meet the need for hampers here.

"We have enough," she stated. "The people here on Salt Spring are really great, and as a result, we never have to scrimp and scrape, or worry about putting nice things in the hampers. Salt Spring Islanders are more than generous."

Salt Spring Island. Many stuffed animals and other toys were donated to the cause.

Funding for the Christmas hamper program was raised through donations and a food bank dinner/auction held December 6 at Central Hall.

The dinner and auction raised approximately \$3,000 for the community centre food bank's Christmas hamper program.

## Magazine pulled from bookshelves

By BEV UNGER

In keeping with the Voice of Women opposition to war toys, the Salt Spring Island group has visited the three Ganges magazine dealers to ask withdrawal of the December 15 issue of *MacLean's* magazine.

All agreed that the cover sketch of Santa wielding a gun is in poor taste. Concern that a gun-toting Santa giving the okay to killing contradicts the spirit of Christmas, D & D News and Salty Shop will keep the magazine off their shelves. The Pharmasave representative similarly expressed disapproval of the magazine cover.

Local action followed reports of all Vancouver Safeway stores responding favourably to a young mother's complaints that the magazine set her young son into wanting a gun like Santa had. Other major chains such as London Drugs, Overwaitea, Eatons and Shoppers Drug Mart have followed suit.

## Salmon eggs go into hatchery

The Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society has approximately 30,000 coho salmon eggs "on the rack" in its Cusheon Creek hatchery, society member Jonathan Oldroyd said Thursday.

The society is catching coho salmon that move up Fulford Creek to spawn. When these salmon are "ripe" — ready to release their eggs — society volunteers strip them of the eggs and place the latter in its hatchery.

This is the second year the Cusheon Creek hatchery has been in operation. "We're shooting for 50,000 eggs," Oldroyd added.

Half the fish reared by the society are returned to Fulford Creek. Eventually, the society hopes to supply other salmon streams in the Gulf Islands with fish.

Oldroyd said this year's salmon return to Fulford Creek was better than last year's. "It is a bit

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## SPCA raises \$2,030

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals collected slightly more than \$2,000 on Salt Spring Island during its October to December fund-raising drive.

Maurice Davis, treasurer of the Salt Spring Island auxiliary to the Victoria SPCA branch, said the basic three-month campaign raised approximately \$2,030 for local programs.

Davis said that while the local SPCA auxiliary was pleased with the money raised, it had hoped more would be collected.

"It's about the same (as last year's total)," Davis said. "Actually, I think they had hoped

to raise more. But times are tough ... We may have been overly optimistic."

Although all membership fees collected by the Salt Spring SPCA auxiliary are forwarded to its Victoria headquarters, the money raised here during the recent campaign will remain on the island. It will fund such valuable work as the auxiliary's spay and neutering program.

According to Christine Woolldridge, SPCA inspector on Salt Spring, last year's fund-raising program raised \$1,800, which funded the spay and neutering program.



SPCA inspector Christine Woolldridge with abandoned kittens.

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### Donations still being accepted for Nicaragua

# Tools for Peace raises \$10,000 in aid

By ANDREW GIBSON

This past weekend, on December 20, the Salt Spring Island Tools for Peace material collection went to Vancouver to be put into containers with goods from the rest of Canada and shipped to Nicaragua.

This has been a very successful drive. A conservative estimate of the materials' value is more than \$3,000. Money is also an important tool-for-peace, and approximately \$3,000 has been collected to date. In addition, the Salt Spring Island World Development Program, sponsored by the United, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Community Gospel Churches, has received a donation from the United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union which, with

matching grants, will provide \$4,000 to help rebuild the Nicaraguan fishing fleet.

In all, this island will have generated approximately \$10,000 worth of Nicaraguan aid that is really humanitarian. Tools for Peace thanks the people of the island who, at a time when they are being asked to help so many worthwhile endeavors in Canada, still had enough concern and generosity left over for the poor and abused Nicaraguan people. Members can't thank them by name, but would like to thank the various business and organizations who, by acting as collection agencies, offering discounts on purchased goods, helping at our fund-raising events, donating or in any other way assisted us.

These include Windsor Plywood, Mouat's, Gulfstream Supply, Foxglove, KIS, Sunshine Foods, Embe Bakery, Island Savings, the Fulford Parents' Association, the Gulf Island Teachers Association, School District 64, the Parks and Recreation Commission, Central Hall, Taurus Farms, Spindrift

Inn, Lady Minto Hospital, the United Church and Continuing Education.

The shipment of goods to Nicaragua is an annual event, but her need is year round. Tools for Peace will continue to inform, and to persuade the Canadian government to do its utmost to bring an end to the violence in

Central America.

Cash or cheques can be sent to Tools for Peace, Box 1500, Ganges. If a tax receipt is needed for donations of \$25 or more, the cheque should be to Tools for Peace — Inter Pares (Inter Pares is a registered charity through which Tools for Peace directs receivable donations).

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25	2340	7.6	29	2035	6
TH	0355	6.5		0525	11.2
	1115	11.2	MO	0850	10.5
26	1840	4.6		1300	11.5
FR	0145	8.3	30	2120	-2
	0500	7.8		0615	11.7
27	1135	11.2	TU	1000	10.8
SA	1915	3.2		1345	11.6
	0325	9.4	31	2205	-7
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**to be frank . . .**

**. . . by Richards**

**Punctuality?**

What matter if the mail doesn't arrive before Christmas Day? Is the wish the weaker for delay? The urgency has gone out of the post office everywhere. Maybe the haste for mail delivery had been fed by the postal service and perhaps there was less call for speed than we had been led to expect.

Late mail means late cheques and that's the pinch! But the same lateness means late bills. I don't mail for Christmas. I send few Christmas cards and write few letters. But why panic? I've got a letter here on my desk that I wrote in October and haven't got around to mailing yet.

But late mailing or late receipt of mail simply doesn't coincide with advancing years.

It is only 60 years since I used to rush down the hall to meet the postman on Christmas morning as he delivered Christmas mail. I wouldn't want to see the unfortunate gentleman working on Christmas Day now, but that's the way it was. I guess I'm spoiled.

**Oh! It ain't gonner snow no mo', no mo'**

I have made up my mind: if it snows this winter I stay at home until the snow is cleared. If the snow lies for a day, I'm out of circulation for the day. If it sticks around for a week, that's a week of gentle leisure and reading.

I have bought no more snow tires and I don't intend to. As a working citizen I had to go to work every day. As a gently retired, rural resident, I don't have to listen to any alarms.

And if it does snow, then I ain't gonner go no mo', no mo'.

**What a tale!**

I picked up a book devoted to automobiles and I glanced through it. I learned a lot.

I discovered that the landalette had been devised in order to permit members of the royal family and others of close rank to open the rear roof of the car and permit the world to gaze upon them.

My recollection is otherwise. I would suggest that the landau, or its younger brothers, the landalet and the landalette, were originally horse-drawn carriages with a folding top to permit the occupants to see who

was looking. As they were adapted to automotive power, they fulfilled a dual purpose. The folding of only the rear quarter of the top permitted a greater degree of luxury in the upholstery and yet permitted the occupants to enjoy the air in summer.

When I was a boy at last half the taxis in my home town were of that style and who on earth would want to see who was riding in a taxi?

Incidentally, the landau was invented in Landau, Germany.

**Oh! Not tea again!**

I'm still riding the tea trolley. A man denied the pleasures of coffee must find something to drink during the day. I'm still fed up with restaurants which serve me a beverage under the misnomer, tea. It is a cup of hot water with a tea bag lying around. It does no good to protest. I've tried. I'm on a new track.

Let's make coffee the same way! Here's the recipe, based on the popular method of serving tea.

Take a cup and fill it with warm water. Take one coffee bean, preferably roasted and preferably selected by a normal coffee blender armed with a machete and a hessian sack. Place the bean in the warm water, carry it around the dining room twice and serve.

Ah! Delicious!

**I'm dreaming**

I'm dreaming of a wet Christmas, just like Christmas used to be. I don't mind a touch of frost. Not enough to be skiddy, mind you!

On the average, looking back in memory I've got just about as much chance of making my dream as some other fellow who's nutty enough to want it white! I may have even a little better odds on the wet than an even chance.

If you figure I'm all wet, I'll make a deal. I'll sweep up my rain and leave you to sweep the snow!

**Merry Christmas!**

And whether you like it wet or not: whether you like it white or not, have a merry Christmas, whatever the weather. And lots of happy new years!

That's life; merry Christmases and happy new years and a few odd incidents in the middle.

Like I said, Merry Christmas!

**GISS girl contributes front cover**



**Naomi Potter**

*Driftwood's* full-color cover last week was provided by Naomi Potter, a Grade 12 student at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

This is the second year that Potter — whose work earned her a cheque for \$50 this year from publisher Tony Richards — has provided *Driftwood* with a Christmas picture for its front page. Last year, her picture of Santa Claus also appeared in full-color on the front page of *Driftwood*.

Potter said she hopes to continue her art after graduation.

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**Dues to be increased**

**Insurance hike hits gun club**

From Page 1

remain among the lowest in British Columbia.

"We still have some of the lowest fees of any of the clubs in the province," Lorensen noted. "Most clubs charge \$35 or more."

Reorganized in 1948, the Salt Spring Island Rod and Gun Club has trap, rifle and indoor shooting ranges on its property located along Long Harbour Road.

In other rod and gun club news, the organization's annual general

meeting will be held January 28 at 8 pm in the rod and gun club hall. On the meeting's agenda — in addition to the report from club officials — is discussion of new shooting hours and the annual election of officers.

**Salmon eggs collected for hatchery**

From Page 1

better, but of course, it's not a result of our efforts, because we haven't been at it long enough to have an impact," he pointed out. "We have cleared some obstacles from the creek, though. In terms of return, there were a fair number of chum, and then there's the coho, which we've been getting farther up."

In its first year of operation, the stream and salmon enhancement society's Cusheon Creek hatchery

had a 65 per cent hatch-out rate. This year, the society hopes to do even better.

Electricity has been extended to the hatchery, and its water

intake problems have been remedied. The facility is monitored twice each day, and after the eggs hatch, volunteers take turns feeding the young fish every hour.

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# Gulf Islands Driftwood

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## Islands residents show that Christmas spirit

Christmas is a time for giving, a time for showing goodwill toward others. During the past few weeks, Gulf Islands residents have once again proved they know how to do both.

Though residents of the islands contribute generously to worthy causes throughout the year, during the Yuletide season they dig a little deeper into purses and pocketbooks for the good of their fellow man.

The support given the Salt Spring Island Community Society's hamper program is just one example of the generosity shown by islands residents. At the community centre's food bank auction December 6, approximately \$3,000 was raised through the sale of approximately 100 items *donated* by local merchants and craftsmen. This money, along with contributions made directly to the community society, enabled the organization to create 80 Christmas hampers for Salt Spring's less fortunate residents. These hampers, which contained a complete Christmas dinner, were put together by approximately 20 volunteers and distributed Friday by eight

volunteer drivers.

And what about Galiano's fund-raising drive to save the Bellingham Jaycees' Christmas Ship? Approximately 130 people attended a Galiano benefit dinner on December 8 for the *Discovery*, which is facing an astronomical increase in insurance rates. As organizer Shirley Coulter noted: "So many people gave and donated." The staff of the Hummingbird Inn worked for free so the benefit dinner would be an even greater success; other Galianoites donated their time and talents to the event. As a result, a community of less than 900 people was able to present a cheque for \$1,200 to Bellingham Jaycees who arrived December 13 aboard the Christmas Ship.

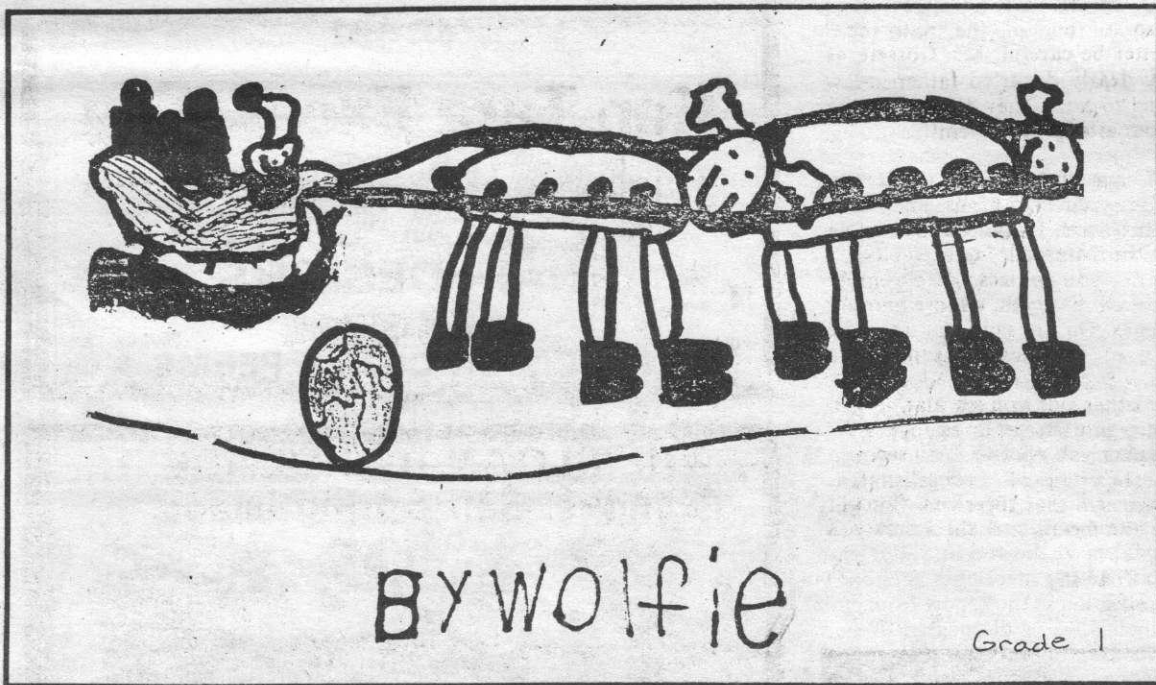
Now that's Christmas spirit.

Then, there is the Lions Club on Pender and its CARE tree, a fund-raising project started years ago by the late George Pearson. That worthwhile effort, which benefits hungry children around the world, is expected to once again raise \$10,000 for this worthy cause.

There are dozens of other examples of Gulf Islanders' generosity during the Christmas season; indeed, the list could go on and on.

Even organizations with extremely limited financial resources have managed in some way to spread the message of Christmas this year. On December 12-13, Salt Spring's four peace groups—the Voice of Women, Beyond War, Tools for Peace and the Salt Spring Island Nuclear Disarmament Group—organized a community get-together in Mahon Hall. These groups, which spend every cent in their meager budgets on promoting world peace and supporting victims of war and oppression in countries like Nicaragua, are to be commended for their efforts to bring "peace on earth, good will toward men."

Gulf Islanders can be justifiably proud of their efforts this Christmas. If such generosity exists in other communities, then perhaps one day, the carpenter born in a lowly Bethlehem stable nearly 2,000 years ago will return to find a world that has finally seen the wisdom in His teachings.



## Community will miss hard-working Blundell

He never held public office and rarely appeared to take an active role in a community dispute. Yet, on Salt Spring, Bob Blundell was an institution.

Bob came here less than 20 years ago. While selling groceries, propane gas, appliances and tickets, he held forth on many local topics. Maybe he talked a lot, but that was Bob. He liked people and he liked to tell them how he felt about almost anything that came to mind.

Mr. Ganges enjoyed laughing. He spent a lot of time doing that.

Nobody would ever starve while Bob Blundell had a grocery store. Nobody was ever left to find his own way through a personal tragedy.

Explaining a political dilemma; helping a stranded visitor; providing information on any subject under the sun, Bob will be missed.

## Women MLAs taking wrong approach to issues

VICTORIA — I just have to share the contents of a recent NDP-inspired press release with you and follow up with a comment or two.

'We will pursue specific issues (in the legislature) that we know are important to women in B.C. We will continue to press the government on issues like pay equity, increased minimum wage, job security, child care, educational opportunities and poverty,' the press release says.

'That's our legislative agenda, and we want action on these issues,' it states.

So far so good. Few open-minded people will take issue with these worthy goals. There's just one thing that bothers me. The press release wasn't issued by the NDP per se. It came from the five newly-elected women NDP MLAs.

The five are Lois Boone (Prince George North), Anne Edwards (Kootenay), Anita Hagen (New Westminster), Darlene Marzari (Vancouver Point Grey) and Joan Smallwood (Surrey-Guildford-Walley) and Joan Smallwood.

When the press release says we, it means the five women, not Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition at large. It seems we have two NDP caucuses — the general one and a women's caucus.

Now, I have no doubt that the entire NDP caucus will line up behind the women's caucus on the above-stated issues, but why make the distinction in the first place.

Is equal pay for equal work an issue to be pursued only by women for women? Do the five women in the NDP caucus believe that men are not capable or

### capital comment

by  
Hubert Beyer

willing to speak for women?

The five have taken their campaign one step further. In addition to the regular duties as critics, they have assumed a variety of sub-critics' jobs.

Lois Boone will be speaking out on issues of concern to northern women and women's health issues. Anne Edwards will be speaking for women in the areas of multi-culturalism, small business and the arts.

Anita Hagen will be responsi-

ble for education, job training, and issues important to older women, including housing and pensions. Darlene Marzari will speak out for women in relation to social services, child care and human rights, and Joan Smallwood is the women's advocate on matters involving reproductive health and economic issues, including pay equity and health and safety in the work place.

I'd like to ask a few rhetorical questions, if I may. Will Joan Smallwood treat concerns of male reproductive health with indifference? Will Anita Hagen be less than enthusiastic in dealing with an injustice involving a pensioner who happens to be a man?

The five women may be tempted to treat such questions with contempt, but really, they aren't that irrelevant. How would the women's caucus react to the

appointment of their male colleagues to positions of critics on issues involving men only? Why not have a male NDP MLA deal strictly with northern men's economic problems?

More should also be done to open opportunities to women. And in the area of child care, a lot needs to happen. In short, enlightened as our society is, it does cling to age-old practices of discrimination against women.

But women shouldn't play the game of elitism and chauvinism to achieve a better lot for women in general. It defeats the purpose.

There are a lot of good men in the NDP caucus who are extremely capable of championing women's issues. A common approach to common goals would be preferable to the go-it-alone strategy adopted by the five women MLAs.

## Donors

Sir,

The Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce wishes to extend a hearty thank-you to the following for their generous participation in the 36th annual Christmas Ship visit. We would also like to thank those who made donations to the Christmas Ship Fund to pay the expenses to maintain this wonderful tradition. Christmas in the islands would not be the same without the Santa ship.

Anyone else who wishes to donate to this worthy cause may drop a donation to the Chamber office in the Tourist InfoCentre. We will forward it to Tripo "Santa" Costello on behalf of the Christmas Ship.

Thank you to School District #64, Coast Guard, Marks' Construction, Embe Bakery, Bread Winners Bakery, Ewart Gallery, Humperdinks Deli, Kanaka Deli, Harbour Fried Chicken, Harbour House Hotel, Glad's Candy Cottage, Golden Island Restaurant, Labatt's, Village Market, The Trading Post, Royal Canadian Legion, Lions Club, Rotary Club, the ladies who donated wool and the ones who knit all the bed socks and slippers for the extended care patients, the Chalet Bed and Breakfast, Shady Willows Resort, Cusheon Lake Resort, Small World Realty, Ganges Gas, Al Hengstler, Moe and Yvonne Gerwing, George Lamont.

Seasons greetings and our thanks to all who made this wonderful community event possible.

S.S.I. C. of C.  
Christmas Ship Committee.

## Fashion

Sir,

The testing of cosmetic products on innocent animals in the laboratories of our nation staggers the imagination. What motives could possibly be behind these inhumane practices by Gillette and other industrial giants?

Personally, I believe that we are witnessing an aggressive marketing assault into the pet fashion and grooming world. At this very moment, helpless chihuahuas are dragging about the laboratories with dozens of cans of Right Guard stuck to their bodies to test for animal magnetism. English sheepdogs are being subjected to Toni Home Perm while Persian cats are sprayed incessantly with FDS\* (Feline Deodorant Spray). Dogs are being house-trained to doo-doo on the Liquid Paper. Our Harbour seals and sea otters are sporting the European Dry Look hair styles, while porcupines cavort about in outrageous Hi-Gel "spike" cuts (Obviously cashing in on the popular Corey Hart look). Gillette Foamy is being tested as a possible deodorant mouthwash treatment for rabid animals.

Even some of the advertising slogans have been cleverly thought up: "A tiny dab of O' de Kitty

## letters

Litter behind the ears will guarantee that your special Tom will do more than shake your paw outside the cat-door."

"Trac II—shaves so close, only your trapper knows for sure."

Now that the people market has been saturated with cosmetic products, it seems only natural that the animal kingdom should be civilized next. We can rest assured that the industry will take the same careful and humane precautions with these products as they have in the past with human products.

**SHILO ZYLBERGOLD,**  
Fulford Harbour.

## Charity

Sir,

After all the numbers have been added up, expenses subtracted, heads counted and leftovers donated to the appropriate causes, our grand total acquired from the RNABC garage sale, raffle and bake sale came to \$700.

Many thanks to those generous people who donated money, goods, time, effort and good humour to our cause and to Foxglove for the beautiful basket.

The raffle winners were: creche, D. Ritchie; afghan, Hilda Ross; basket of goodies, Joyce Jamison; cushion, Gillian Mouat.

Now we are issuing a challenge to any and all groups in the community to meet our \$100 donation to the Rick Hansen fund at the hospital. Come on you staff members, ferry watches, school kids (and teachers, too!) It's a very good cause spearheaded by an individual of remarkable courage and worthy of all the support we can give.

Thanks to all.

**VONNIE SIMPKIN,**  
President, Gulf Islands Chapter,  
Registered Nurses Association of  
British Columbia.

## Logging

Sir,

Re: Tom Gossett letter to *Driftwood*, November 19, 1986.

Tom, in your letter to the editor on November 8 you referred to the activities of Foxglove Farm in the Maxwell Lake Watershed as a little clearing intended to be a "buffer zone" against future development. Large scale logging in the disguise of a motherhood

issue like farming hardly strikes me as a community act. You also claimed that "most" of your land drained into Cranberry Creek. What about the people down the creek?

As for the invitation to view your property, I already have during the course of my flying travels over the past few years. Your most recent "clearing" as you call it, which goes right to the edge of the lake, leaves me wondering if you might have taken a head butt from one of your prize bulls?

Are we talking about the same person here? Is this the same guy who gets so fired up when he sees a motor on St. Mary Lake that he takes out two full-page ads challenging the integrity of the issues at stake? Is this the same man who led the water preservation society to battle to stop the Williamsons from getting their tiny lot at Central rezoned to commercial because it was on the edge of the St. Mary Lake watershed? Is this the same man who costs the taxpayers thousands of dollars to relocate the Fulford School site because it was in watershed zoned land?

Logging and the effects of erosion are well-documented. Logging in any watershed is taboo. In a December 9 article in the *Vancouver Sun*, our Islands Trust chairman Nick Gilbert is quoted as stating that the main issues that need addressing in the Gulf Islands are fish farming and logging! And you say you did all this here logging in the watershed while considering getting your land rezoned out of the watershed? Better be careful, Mr. Gossett; as my dearly departed father-in-law used to say: "They don't grow too good after you cut 'em!"

It is a little difficult to identify what your intentions and your policies are. Logging and farming in the Maxwell Lake watershed makes you no less the developer than all those you oppose in other arenas. On one side you wave the flag of your own creation, the water preservation society, and on the other side you are alarming in your ignorance or arrogance in the manner you operate. You seem so caught up in your evangelism that it appears that there's no thought for the meaning of the words you speak.

**ED DAVIS,**  
Ganges.

## Thanks

Sir,

The annual food bank auction was a tremendous success. Central Hall was full of people who ate a delicious dinner and then participated in the fun and entertainment of bidding on a wonderful assortment of goods and services.

Michael Hayes was amusing and purposeful in his role as auctioneer backed by his helpful family. Paintings, pottery, food, haircuts, wills and clothing were among the many items donated by Salt Spring. Many thanks to all those who gave.

The volunteers who organized and put on this evening deserve a tribute for the hours they spent attending to the many details. A

special thanks must go to the Bradford family: Sue for making it happen, Jim as chef, and Jennie who modelled beautiful; and to Maggie Warbey and family for their energy.

But the final praise must go to all the people who came out and were involved in this event. We wish you all the best this Christmas season and want you to know that your continuing support is appreciated.  
**BARBARA JORDAN-KNOX,**  
Salt Spring Island  
Community Society.

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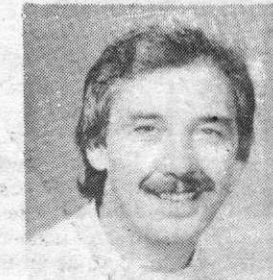
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## Nuclear

Sir,  
 In recent years there have been over 150 reported accidents with nuclear reactors and weapons testing in the West.

A serious one at Hamm, West Germany, went unreported for 2 weeks in May 1986. On April 10, 1986, malfunction of underground tests in Nevada left dangerous

radiation levels in tunnels, which were "vented" April 22 and 27, the same time as the Chernobyl disaster—leaving high radiation levels over Vancouver and drifting around the world.

The reactor in Hanford, Washington (very close to home) is very similar to Chernobyl, but

## more letters

more dangerous because it has no secondary-containment structure. It has 365 tonnes of uranium in its core, versus 200 tonnes at Chernobyl—it is older and has recently been plagued with failures.

There is no insurance available for nuclear accidents—even if we do survive them! Nuclear reactors produce plutonium—the world's most deadly substance.

"We are fighting World War II" against our own Earth—and we are winning", says Terry Padgham, one of the most articulate speakers for nuclear disarmament. Soon, we are warned, many of these changes in our eco-system will be irreversible.

We are individually responsible for allowing this to happen. It can only be stopped by all of us taking the responsibility to change our own thinking from destruction power-struggles, commitments to war, and greedy use of nature's bounties—to peaceful, creative, constructive plans and ideas of how to work with Nature to produce and use the bounty available for all, and to pressure our governments to make a stand for such changes.

Canada could be an example to the world for the peaceful use of power in all its forms, e.g. to stop producing uranium and work to harness the sun's energy and by becoming a nuclear-free country—using our huge water supplies, like New Zealand, as alternative power—before we kill all our lakes with pollution.

We are being hypnotized by the U.S.A. into being a dupe for their power-crazed government. Let's stand for Canada—and Peace. It's our country!

There is an option...we can make choices about whether we spend our time being involved with the negative issues of our day, each day, being upset by what the media feeds us of tragedy, crisis, death and the separateness of nations and peoples, or we can instead become involved with changing our attitudes to those of seeking ways to build the consciousness of the oneness of all peoples.

All nationalities can learn to depend on each other, joining

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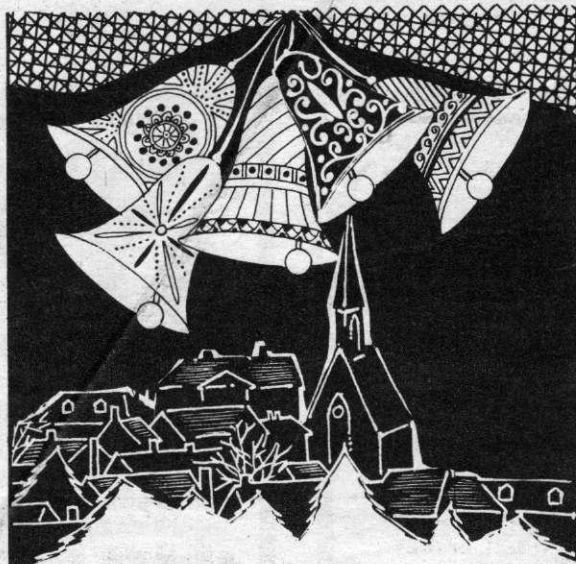
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Pam, Eric and the staff of the

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would like to wish our friends and customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

together to be a positive force in working out the problems of starvation, lack of water, lack of knowledge of how to overcome deserts, droughts, cruelty and ignorance. With all our modern technology, and knowledge we could teach the Third World, and all nations, how to survive and rebuild their economies and be independent—but we allow ourselves to feel separate from one another—superior but detached benefactors, giving alms but not solving one another's problems.

We are all cells in one great body—our Earth—which in turn is a cell in the body of the Universe—all part of one great whole, in which the nerve energy is love and the nutrient bloodstream is compassion—caring. We can live our lives daily, caring, in our own home, in our community, our country, and the World.

It starts with ourselves and works outward. We can't support everything, but we can give positive energy with our thoughts and actions to the things we choose as right for us, being helpful according to our personal capabilities wherever we can. As more and more people get involved in this kind of thinking, it spreads like a huge network into every corner of earthly endeavours, and eventually it eliminates and negative, simply by becoming the positive in the consciousness of all people.

**DOREEN CHATWIN,**  
 Mayne Island.

## Big deal

Sir,  
 Congratulations to the residents of Galiano Island for their great contribution of \$1,200 in U.S. funds for the continuation of the Christmas Ship Discovery.

What is the matter with Salt Spring Island? Donations of over \$100? Big deal! Everyone knew it was coming and that it may be the last visit because of the increase in liability insurance.

We have a much larger population here and many more children who look forward to seeing Santa Claus come just once a year. Why deny them of that happiness. Remember, we were all kids once.

Please continue to make donations at the Chamber of Commerce office, Salt Spring Island.  
**MARY FOX,**  
 Ganges.

## Grinch

Sir,  
 We wish to extend our warmest Christmas wishes to the grinch who stole the fir tree from the boulevard in front of our house.

It was considerate of him/her to hack it off two feet above the ground so maybe it will grow again. If he/she is interested, we have the lights out and ready to decorate it for the holiday.  
**RIMMER/WALKER,**  
 Ganges.

THIS IS A



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more letters

No agreement

Sir,  
I was startled to read the headline on Page 2 December 3, *Saturday Vendors Agree*. As a member of the market vendors' negotiating team, I'm not aware of any agreement have been reached any agreement having been reached yet with the parks and recreation commission.

Most vendors feel that helping with park upkeep is fine, but that some of the many changes the parks and recreation commission wishes to make to the market are not acceptable.

At our first meeting with the representatives of parks and rec. it was agreed that public input would be sought on any proposed changes to the market at a public meeting. This has not yet taken place. If we find that the majority of Island residents want the market to remain as it is we are unlikely to agree to any changes, and if most Islanders wish the market to change in the ways the recreation commission proposes, then we can go along with that too. We want the market to be as the majority of Islanders want it to be.

We have also not been informed that discussions between vendors and the parks and recreation sub committee have been completed. (Do we have to find this out by reading the paper?) There are matters of concern to vendors that haven't even been brought up yet, such as the clause in their new bylaw that prohibits the use of campstoves for the preparation of food and drink. Coffee and hot snacks have always been an integral part of the market in our opinion.

And on other items that have been discussed, agreement has not yet been reached. For instance, we take the position that the commission should charge a fixed amount for a space rather than allocating it to a bidder (not necessarily the highest bidder, they assure us). What would a local family do if they had mortgaged their home to buy a business such as Friar Tucks, and then found that their bid for a spot, even if it was the highest bid, wasn't accepted by the parks and recreation commission?

The market vendors have only had general discussions with the parks and recreation sub committee so far. The recreation commission wants to make sweeping changes to the market, but they are not an elected group any more, so they must first seek public approval of their plans. Maybe the real issue is whether or not the market is a "problem".

The market draws visitors to the Island and it draws shoppers to the business area in a way that no advertising campaign could hope to achieve. It also helps to support over one hundred island families, without the environmental damage that many other employment schemes might cause. We believe that a vigorous, healthy market is good for the social and economic well-being of our island, and that the majority of Islanders support and enjoy it. Long live the market!

SUE BRADFORD,  
Ganges.

Pet advice

Sir,  
The busy Christmas season is once again upon us and the Branch would like to remind people about our Christmas concerns for pets.

Remember the following are hazardous to pets:

- turkey bones (they splinter);
- poinsettias, holly and mistletoe berries (poisonous);
- tree ornaments (when broken they cut);
- tinsel (can choke);
- electrical cords (when chewed they electrocute);
- rock salt and ice chemicals (make them very sick);
- antifreeze (tastes sweet but very poisonous).

Insure that your pet has a long life. Give it shots or boosters for Christmas and see your veterinarian on a regular basis.

JOSEPH F. HEALD,  
Secretary-Manager, BCSPCA.

Apathy

Sir,  
"The Gulf Islands Secondary School Parents' Group had its first meeting of the school year on November 6th...only seven parents attended..." (from a letter from the President of the Parent Advisory Committee for the Gulf Islands Secondary School, Nov. 14th, 1986.)

Why are the shortcomings of public schools in B. C. so often attributed to government disinterest, to lack of money, to underpaid teachers, to frills instead of basics, to unwieldy classes, to the B.C.T.F., to "political" administrators, etc., etc., and so rarely to apathetic parents?

In our democratically decentralized school system no one is more able to introduce a little evolutionary rigor into the bureaucratic climate of ministries of education, school board offices, and school staffrooms, than a concerned parent. And surely one of the most basic obligations that we have, as parents, is to see to it that our children are properly taught, that, for example, the curriculum is followed, that sensible homework is given, that the teacher checks work done, that adequate testing takes place.

Teachers are fortunate in at least one regard: the average "kid" is such an appealing member of the human race that wanting to help him or her is the natural reaction. Almost invariably teachers want to teach. Very occasionally this does not happen. The sad truth seems to be that alert parents are more likely to discover this unhappy situation than are school superintendents, or directors of education, or principals. The even sadder truth is that, sometimes, only an angry parent can prod these administrators, benighted in the land of status quo as they so often seem to be, into carrying out their basic obligation, which is to ensure that our children are properly taught, even if that means the dismissal of teachers who, over many years, have clearly demonstrated their incompetence.

Does the B.C.T.F. even concern itself with the teaching competence of its members?

CLIFFORD HUNT,  
North Pender Island.

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# Eagles' nesting area on Galiano threatened

By MARGARET GRIFFITHS

Under grey skies the Gulf Islands traffic waits at Tsawwassen ferry terminal. The sun breaks through for a moment and the gulls on the breakwater look silver. Then the sun has gone again.

There are cars and motor bikes. There are foot passengers wrapped against the cold. There are dogs and sometimes cats. The number of visitors seems to grow each year. Their destination is a string of beautiful islands with shorelines that were set in a process we can only imagine with difficulty.

We know that some 18,000 years ago the ice here lay a mile deep, mirroring the cold sky, compressing and buckling with its sheer weight. The sea, about three hundred feet lower than it is today, broke and beat on a coastline considerably west of Vancouver Island.

Unhurried over time we can imagine the thunder of moving walls of ice, the grinding of descending gravel, until through centuries of growing warmth comes the cataract and the rising sea flooding into the muck in the valleys and leaving the high land as islands in a Gulf. About 3,000 B.C. we can see the environment stable, the land forested, and our wildlife as we see it now finding its place in the eons of time.

We cannot know when the first eagle flew with her life-time mate into the sea-flooded valley we call Active Pass. She came riding the wind with exquisite skill, her primary feathers spread like fingers, her fine yellow eyes picking out every detail as the earth revolved below her. If she came in spring she would be seeking a tree stout enough to carry a nest even under a shaking wind. And she would have seen through the trees the fresh-water pool high on Galiano Mountain, a quiet secure watering place at nest time, a place to drink and wash and oil her salty feathers to prevent them becoming brittle and breaking, a pool with its own life cycle where she could bring young foraging fledged eagles vulnerable and unable to fish or ride the winds.

Over many centuries the cycle must have repeated itself. Nesting eagles have been driven by the lengthening days to return each March to the same eyrie in the

## Man's encroachment creating problems for birds

southwest entrance to the Pass, repairing the old nest, lining it with grass and down and always bringing to it a sprig of fresh evergreen.

Although we will often see many eagles in the pass and over the islands — opportunists after the food supply at any time of the year — the number of birds nesting in the southwest entrance to the pass has for some time been estimated to be four pairs. These are believed by their size to be of the southern race of leucocephalus, or bald eagle. This sub-species is endangered and we are hosts and stewards to this remnant.

We also see bald eagles of the northern race which is larger in size and not endangered, although about 120,000 were slaughtered in Alaska under the bounty system. Now in the U.S. an eagle nesting area (not just the tree) is protected, but not so in B.C.

The first Gulf Islanders did not much disturb the eagles' wilderness and the birds tolerated their small intrusions. But in 1971 some

islanders began to seek protection for the Galiano Mountain pool known as Eagle Lake. MacMillan-Bloedel's plans for that year included making the eagle pool part of a public park that would serve a subdivision to be built part-way up Galiano Mountain. Offers to buy the pool area to try to protect it in spring were refused, but the subdivision plan was shelved for various reasons.

Gradually, traffic up the old logging road past the pool to the top of Galiano Mountain increased. Sturdy trucks, four-wheel-drives, motorbikes and

trailbikes, many joy-riding on the bumps and rocks in the road, drove by the eagle pool. On the advice of an ornithologist at UBC, the Galiano Club asked MacMillan-Bloedel for protection

of the area, and a gate was erected on the logging road to allow only people on foot to proceed up the road in springtime. Within a week the gate had been pulled down by a four-wheel-drive. It still lies at the roadside.

The next attempt to protect, but in a wider context, came from the Islands Trust. A plan was put

Turn to Page 9

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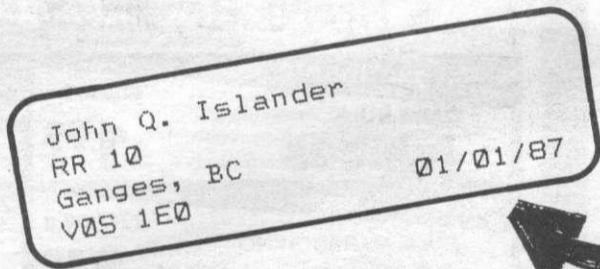
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# School district obtaining charity status

School District 64 (Gulf Islands) is in the final stages of becoming a registered charity.

Superintendent of Schools Mike Marshall noted recently that individuals, businesses and community groups can donate to the school district and receive receipts for income tax purposes.

School District 64, he said, is one of only a few B.C. school districts that have sought and obtained registered charity status. He explained that during the early years of the provincial government's fiscal restraint program, the district decided to seek

charity status in an effort to encourage donations to the Gulf Islands school system.

Marshall noted that now, groups that contribute to the school can claim these donations on their income tax returns. He added that the idea has worked.

"The idea is, that if someone would like to donate something to the school, we can issue him a tax receipt," the superintendent noted. "And we do get some anonymous donations, some major donations."

"Now, for example, if a school is having a raffle, merchants

donating items to it can get tax receipts," he pointed out. "It helps the schools."

Marshall said the school district's official tax receipts are

currently being printed. However, he said groups donating will be given temporary receipts pending arrival of the official record sheets.

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## Nesting area endangered

**From Page 8**

forward to designate special places in the islands which deserve protection. As part of a larger presentation this was refused by the provincial government at ministerial level.

One more effort was made last year to protect the eagle pool when a committee was formed to promote the tourism on Galiano that many islanders would welcome. The committee was asked not to publicize the logging road up Galiano Mountain for reasons explained in a letter to the committee's chairman. There may have been much soul-searching before this plea was refused. After all, nesting eagles use the high pool on the mountain only from spring to early summer. In July, the water dries and the eagles leave for the salmon runs. But people can be attracted to the view all the year round.

**'Late spring showed observers clearly that three of the nests...had become inactive.'**

Maps were drawn up with explicit directions up the mountain logging road, which was sign-posted and regularly marked with tape. Directions led past Eagle Lake to the summit and through another swamp, which is also eagle territory, to Mount Sutil. The remote road became the beaten track. Incorporated in a book of trails, these directions were offered at the tourist bureau at the ferry wharf at Sturdies Bay.

It was a cold spring this year. A hardy pair of campers, escapees from Vancouver air-conditioning, discussed delightedly how they had followed the maps and directions step by step up the logging road.

As they pitched tent on Galiano Mountain all the world lay at their feet. Their dog could run loose there, chasing all the movements and sniffs. They were refreshed. They were free. They would come back.

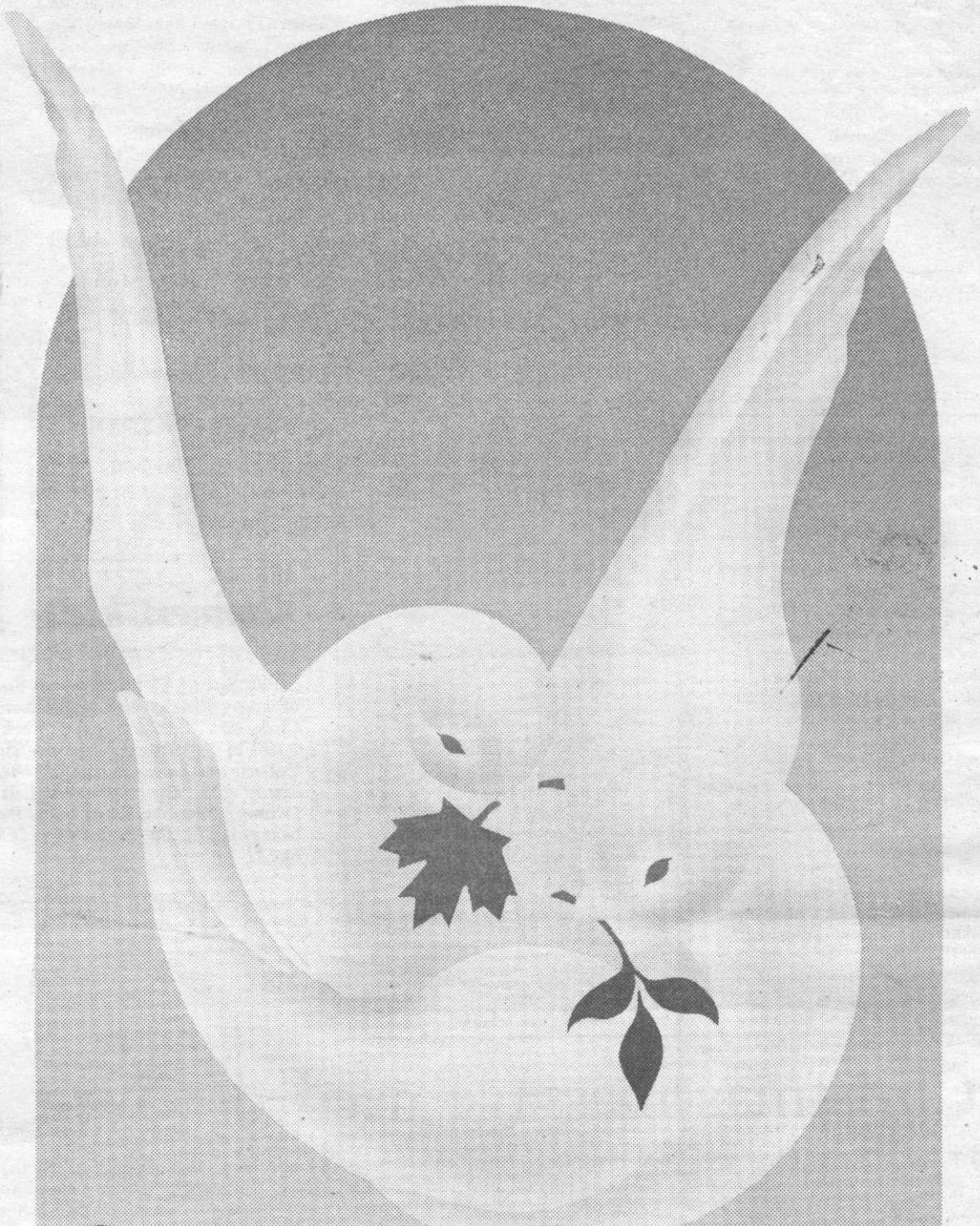
Late spring showed observers clearly that three of the four nests at the southwest of the pass had become inactive and a prognosis for the nest area was sought from the universities and the World Wildlife Fund.

A WWF (Canada) recent study on bald eagles in southwest B.C. has recently been completed and we have received advice. Briefly, the experts are telling us that where people and eagles consistently use the same ground, the eagles have invariably given way. In the past they will probably try to nest again, though they may not persist. Some nests that have become inactive through human disturbance have been known to be reactivated when the area has received protection. One nest was reactivated after sixteen years. The only protection is the will of people to protect.

So we have experience, wise from the past, telling us that a nesting cycle of perhaps scores of centuries may be ending. But hope tells us that the pull of the eyrie in March may give us another chance if we wish to take it.

Now the rain has begun again, gradually filling the pool, oozing through worm tunnels and along tree-roots, bringing life again to Eagle Lake. Its future as an eagle pool has never been more in question.

In this story there is no good or bad. Different opinions will always exert different forces. George Laycock, in his book "The Autumn of the Eagle" reminds us that the protectionist speaks from a lonely pulpit.



# Season's Greetings

*The International Year of Peace is almost at a close. As we pause to reflect, it is our hope that we continue to work for world peace and harmony.*

*In Canada, we share a special sense of family and community, particularly at this time of year.*

*To all - a wish for happiness and prosperity in the coming year.*

The Hon.  
**David Crombie**  
Secretary of State  
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### Concert kids

Salt Spring Elementary was one of many district schools to hold Christmas concerts last week. Above: students Stephanie Collette and Corey Schwagley sing carols with their classmates. Left: Drummer Jenobe Ward keeps the beat going for the school's Grade 7 band.

### Co-op idea draws little response

Little interest has been expressed in establishing a co-operative housing association on Salt Spring Island, according to one of the people who formulated the plan.

Jackie Truscott, a Salt Spring resident who is trying to organize the co-operative housing group, said Wednesday that she has received only a few calls, most of which were from landowners offering to sell property for such a

housing development.

Truscott suggested that perhaps local residents were preoccupied with Christmas and hadn't had the opportunity to express their views on the idea.

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## Christmas message needed now

By E. MARGARET OSBORN

"On earth peace, good will toward men." That's the message of Christmas and oh, how much we need it this year — saddened, as we are, by all the strife, terrorism, and crime that are evident in the world.

Christ Jesus, the Prince of Peace, said: "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." (Matt. 5:9) All of us have found at one time or another the joy — the exquisite, almost unspeakable joy — that comes when peace had been restored to an unhappy situation.

It's a truism that peace must come first in our hearts before it comes to our troubled world. Sometimes it seems hard to forgive when we've been badly wronged.

Perhaps we feel justified in hating. We cherish our hurt, turn it over and over in thought. We know secretly that it is harming us more than the one it is directed against.

Mary Baker Eddy, who discovered and founded Christian Science, wrote: "The basis of Christmas is love loving its enemies, returning good for evil, love that 'suffers long and is kind'."

The Christmas tree with its glimmering lights, the lovely gifts and their gorgeous wrappings, all

fade into insignificance when the real Christmas message steals into our hearts. The companionship and gift-giving, though deeply valued, are surpassed by the love of God which (always present) we feel especially on this day. Even if we are alone and far from friends, the comfort and joy of the Christ presence embraces us.

Yes, the angel song, "On earth peace, good will toward men", rings out and people are listening — and responding.

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# Peace fest proves a success

Last weekend's peace festival in Mahon Hall was a success, according to at least one of its organizers.

Virginia Newman, a member of the Salt Spring Nuclear Disarmament Group, said she thought all local groups did "quite well" at the event, which was designed to raise money for local peace groups as well as promote the cause of world peace.

Newman noted that the nuclear disarmament group, which sold peace buttons, bumper stickers and other items at the festival, is raising money to purchase a new outboard motor for the Nanoose Bay nuclear disarmament group. "They have a Zodiak (boat) up there, and the motor has almost had it," she explained. "They use it to keep track of the submarines entering the bay."

United States submarines use Nanoose Bay to conduct a variety of tests and operations. Newman noted that the disarmament group there has a marine manual and uses it to identify submarines that enter the area. Many of the vessels have the capability to carry and launch nuclear missiles, but as Newman pointed out, their commanders never indicate if the subs are indeed carry such weapons.

The nuclear disarmament group is also raising money to help fight the court case involving eight women who went picnicking on Winchelsea Island. The picnickers, members of a group known as Mother Peace, wanted to determine if the island (which has U.S. military equipment on it) still belonged to Canada.

They were charged with trespass and will appear for trial January 15 in Parksville. "They could go to jail or pay a fine of \$10,000," Newman said, adding that the Vancouver Island Network for Disarmament (VIND) was raising money to fight the case.

Also represented at the Friday and Saturday peace festival in Ganges were members of the Voice of Women. Newman noted this group was raising money for its arpilleras project. This arpilleras are made by Chilean women, who in turn sell them to groups such as the Voice of Women and use the money to purchase food,



Teacher Shannon Willow helps children with crafts at the community get-together organized

recently by Salt Spring peace groups.

clothing and other items for their families. These beautiful works are then sold in this country.

Tools for Peace, which just concluded its successful campaign to collect funds and useful items for Nicaragua, was also represented at the event. Saturday evening featured NicaNoel, a variety program of song, dance, comedy and singalongs. Newman said attendance at NicaNoel was quite good, which enabled the group to raise additional funds for

the country.

Members of Beyond War also attended the peace festival. On Sunday, presentation of the 1986 Beyond War awards was viewed via satellite link-up at the home of Bev Unger.

In general, said Newman, the peace festival went well. She noted that Saturday's rain storm probably discouraged more people from attending. However, she noted there "were some new faces" at the get-together.

# Trail club plans activities

The Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club is planning a number of excursions during January.

On January 13, Ernie Jenkins will lead a hike along Wright Road. A walk to Mount Belcher led by Mort Stratton will also take place.

On January 20, Jean King will lead an Arnell Park hike. On the same day, Marie Dare has planned a walk along Mountain

Road. Starting time for the Mountain Road excursion is 10:15 am at Drummond Park.

Ruby Alton will lead a hike along Reginald Hill starting at Drummond Park on January 27 at 10:15 am. Paul Layard is also organizing a walk along North End Road on for the same day.

Unless otherwise indicated, all walks and hikes start at Centennial Park at 10 am.

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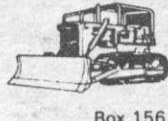
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Candy Strippers (from left) Tanya Konig, Michelle Turner, Chelsea Eldstrom and Melanie Betts decorate a Christmas tree in the extended care ward of Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital.

## Volunteers brighten extended care



Members of the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital ladies' auxiliary with the new television set purchased for the extended care

ward. Volunteers (from left) Vivien Walsh, Irene Helm, Betty Galt, Alicia Anderson and Julie

Tessman were at the extended care ward to help decorate the facility for Christmas.



Bryan Smith kept patients, guests and hospital auxiliary members entertained Friday at the

extended care wing. Smith played a variety of favourite Christmas carols on the ward's piano.

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### Christmas creation

Young Trevor Harder displays the Christmas tree he made recently at the peace group's get-together in Mahon Hall. He

was one of a half-dozen children who enjoyed a craft session with Shannon Willow.

### Money raised for French class

## Fernwood School holds auction

The Fernwood Elementary School auction held December 13 raised more than \$1,600. Fernwood teacher Georgette Pauker said Thursday.

"It went over really well," Pauker noted.

Nearly 50 items were auctioned at the event, including a glass

window by Martin Bach of Nutcracker Studios and silver earrings made by island jeweller Bruce Pearson. Other goods and services up for bids at the event were a side of pork and juggling lessons.

known if enough funding can be raised.

She pointed out, however, that there are places in British Columbia where students can gain additional exposure to the French language.

She said Van Dusen Gardens offers tours conducted solely in French, and noted that the manager of a bakery in Richmond speaks the language and delights in giving tours of his business to students.

Pauker said trips such as these give children first-hand exposure to the language.

### Canada Post gets praise

Criticizing the postal system has almost become a Canadian tradition. Yet last week, a Salt Spring Island resident had something good to say about the Crown corporation that delivers this country's mail.

Yvonne (Scottie) Hawkins of Salt Spring Island reported Thursday that she mailed a parcel first-class in Ganges on December 10 to her sister in London, Ontario. Six days later, on the morning of December 16, the parcel arrived at its destination — intact.

"Now that's good news," said Hawkins with a chuckle.

Pauker said the money raised through the auction will be used to finance field trips for the school's French enrichment class. Originally, she said, the school had hoped to send these students to Quebec where they could experience the language first hand, but Pauker said it is not

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### Local group ends the year with a dinner

A Christmas party on December 2 closed the year's activities of the B.C. Old Age Pensioners (BCOAP) 170, Fulford Branch.

Fifty-two persons sat down to a hot turkey dinner with all its trimmings. Grace was said by Nell Bushby.

While coffee and dessert was being enjoyed, Santa made his appearance and each person received a gift from under the Christmas tree.

Donations for Christmas hampers were made by the organization to the local community centre and the Salvation Army.

While many willing hands prepared the meal and worked to make the evening a success, special thanks should go to Muriel Leask who was in charge of the arrangements. The evening closed with the singing of carols.

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# Yuletide season a good time to check chimneys—fire chief

Christmas is the season to be jolly, but according to Salt Spring Island fire chief Bob Leask, it's also a good time for residents to clean their chimneys — and not because Santa Claus hates soot.

Leask noted Friday that during the period between October and March, the Salt Spring Island fire department often responds to between 15 and 25 chimney fires in island homes. He noted that in the past, the department has even been called out on Christmas Day.

Chimney fires, though often insignificant and easily extinguished, can develop into blazes of a more serious nature. They are caused when creosote, an extremely flammable, black substance produced when wood is burned slowly, builds up in the flue and is then ignited by high heat.

While many homeowners have the chimneys in their homes cleaned in the fall, Leask recommends they inspect them again now or in the near future.

"A lot of chimney fires start when someone burns something like a milk carton or paper and it catches the creosote on fire," the fire chief said. "Gift wrapping can do it, and though people may have cleaned their chimneys in September, by Christmas time they can be pretty clogged again."

B.C.'s fire commissioner agrees with Leask. The fire commis-



The sign displayed outside the Salt Spring fire hall in Ganges has a message that Fire Chief Bob Leask hopes all islanders will see.

Leask and the fire department want islanders to have a "merry, fire-safe Christmas."

probably glow red and a tall plume of flames and sparks may be seen rising from the top of the chimney.

"Even the chimney may be become hot enough to ignite any combustible material which might be in contact with it. If there are any loose bricks, cracks or holes in the mortar, fire and sparks may issue forth and the sparks and cinders may ignite the roof of the building and any other combustible material within several hundred feet on the downwind side."

Though most properly designed and maintained chimneys will withstand a creosote fire, Leask said residents should report chimney fires to the department (telephone 537-5544) immediately.

As the old saying goes, however, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Leask and the fire department would like to wish all Salt Spring Island residents a "merry, fire-safe Christmas."

**'Creosote, a substance created when wet wood is burned, can build up quickly in a chimney.'**

sioner recommends that residents: "Inspect and clean the chimney and flue pipes as often as it may be necessary to keep the system free from dangerous accumulation of creosote."

How can residents determine if they have chimney fire in their home?

The fire marshal states that went creosote has been ignited in a chimney, "a crackling sound may be heard at the beginning of the fire, and as the intensity of the fire rises, the flue pipe will

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We are pleased to announce the opening of our new law offices in downtown Ganges on Monday, January 5, 1987, offering a full range of legal services to Salt Spring and Gulf Islands residents.

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<b>FROZEN GRADE 'A' Turkeys</b> 3.51 kg <b>1 59</b> lb.	<b>GRANNY SMITH Apples</b> 1.30 kg <b>59¢</b> lb.	
<b>MAYFAIR Hams</b> 6.15 kg <b>2 79</b> lb.	<b>Diet Coke or Coke Classic</b> 2 litre btl. <b>1 98</b> SAVE 1.21 plus deposit	
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<b>NO NAME Soft Drinks</b> 2 litre btl. <b>1 38</b> plus deposit	Sale prices in effect Saturday, Dec. 27 thru Tuesday, Dec. 30 <b>WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS &amp; A HAPPY HOLIDAY!</b>	

**Three offerings at Victoria art gallery**

**Gallery exhibit features Nova Scotian folk art**

By GARY CHERNEFF

"To make a fine bird demands considerable skill. You take two bars of pine wood, about six inches in length, a little less than one inch in height and the same in width. You soak them in water so that the wood has the maximum pliability, then you carve them. One piece will be the head and body with a fan tail, the second piece will represent the wings."

"The art principally concerns the making of wing and tail feathers. The whole block of each wing is carved according to the silhouette of a single feather. Then the block is sliced into thirteen thin layers and these are gently opened out, one by one, to make a fan shape. Likewise for the second wing and for the tail feathers."

"The two pieces of wood are joined together to form a cross and the bird is complete. No glue is used and there is only one nail where the two pieces of wood cross. Very light, weighing only two or three ounces, the birds are usually hung on a thread from an overhanging mantelpiece or beam so that they move with the air currents."

"One is looking at a piece of wood that has become a bird. One is looking at a bird that is somehow more than a bird. One is looking at something that has been worked with a mysterious skill and a kind of love."

This is a description of a European folk tradition from the book *The Sense of Sight* by the art critic and writer John Berger.

It seems particularly appropriate to link this bit of writing with the current exhibition at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. One of the three offerings is titled *The Spirit of Nova Scotia*. It is an introduction to the decorative folk art traditions of that province. The opening day featured demonstrations in quilting, weaving, wood carving and other crafts, and musicians playing traditional songs contributed an authentic flavour to the day.

Nova Scotia's folk traditions

**Good King Salt Spring**

Good King Salt Spring once looked out,  
Over Ganges Harbour  
Not a ship came round about  
As the night grew darker  
For the fog was thickly spread  
And the weather freezin'  
We must find some warmth and joy  
For this Christmas season

So the king sent out the word  
Gladness in the *Driftwood*  
North and South and Central heard  
The boys and girls have been good  
Then the fog began to lift  
Santa's ship was nearing  
Island shining through the mist  
Christmas came to Salt Spring.

By April Curtis

**SEASIDE KITCHEN**  
at Vesuvius Bay  
NOW CLOSED FOR STAFF HOLIDAYS

stem from the heritage of French, English, Irish, Scottish, German, Black and American immigrants and the spirit of these cultures is preserved in their artifacts. There are more than 200 pieces in this exhibition which is the most comprehensive ever assembled.

**'In the adjacent galleries, etchings, silkscreen prints and lithographs trace the development of Japanese printmaking.'**

In the adjacent galleries woodblock prints, etching, silkscreen prints and lithographs trace the development of Japanese print making from the 17th century to the present. Entitled *The Legacy of Japanese Printmaking* the exhibition presents an extensive collection of major and minor artists primarily using the wood block technique. Such names as Hiroshige Hokusai and Utamaro are represented and familiar to most people interested in Japanese art.

The wood block printing technique was imported into Japan from China and as it was disseminated throughout the country it became a cheap way to reproduce posters and pin up art. The subjects dealt with were actors from the theatre (mainly *Kabuki*), courtesans and geishas, landscapes and historical and legendary events. This type of art was deemed vulgar by the aristocratic class but

**art seen**

was extremely popular with the merchant class.

The technique itself required a team effort. The artists rarely did the cutting of the woodblocks which number up to 12 for full colour renditions. Printing and distribution were often left in the hands of others. The artist would draw the design for the first block and then after receiving a proof print from that would continue to design subsequent colours; each colour requiring a separate block. These prints have inspired many western artists from the time of Degus and Toulouse-Loutrec down to the present day. It is well worth having a look at.

The painting and drawings of Milton Avery occupy the final space in the gallery. The major American artist spent many summers in Canada sketching and painting from the Gaspé peninsula

to the Rockies and this is the focus of the more than 40 watercolours, oils and sketches.

His work is often on the verge of complete abstraction but never does the viewer lose the sense of landscape. His vigorous drawings and watercolours are a marked

contrast to the more sedentary forms in his oil painting.

All three of these exhibitions are well worth a visit over the holiday season. The Milton Avery exhibition closes January 11, the other two remain open until February 1.

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To share your Christmas Day;  
May the blessings of the season  
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SARAH & EMMA TANJA & TYSON

**Orcas Gallery**

**HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES**  
**AT THE VESUVIUS INN**

Tuesday, Dec. 23  
**SALT SPRING MUMMERS**

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CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC. 25  
•••••

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**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**  
from all of us at the  
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