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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR, NO. 10

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1987

40c



Volunteers helping move the cement planters at Centennial Park

Downtown Ganges projects underway

By MIKE TURKKI

Work got underway last week on several projects designed to improve the appearance of downtown Ganges.

• Construction crews began hammering at the sidewalk and pavement of Purvis Lane between Mouat's Trading Company and the General Store. The eastern side of the street, next to Mouat's Trading, is being widened to allow for two-way traffic, while the west sidewalk will be extended slightly for the convenience of pedestrians.

The Purvis Lane work — conducted by Hazenboom Construction Ltd. — is being paid for by private business, and as Mouat's Trading Company president Tom Toynbee noted Friday, it is only a portion of the contribution mer-

chants have made towards downtown beautification.

"The next phase of this project is to close off Manson Avenue," Toynbee said.

• The portion of Manson located between the two banks will become a park and pedestrian area. Electrical conduits carrying electricity to various businesses at the end of Fulford-Ganges Road will also be placed underground.

The Purvis and Manson redevelopment projects are expected to cost \$130,000 when completed. Mouat's Trading Company and the Bank of Montreal will pay for the work. A contribution has also been obtained from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

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Man's death connected to court case?

A 27-year-old man died suddenly Monday, on Salt Spring, only hours before he was scheduled to appear in Victoria county court on charges of manslaughter.

Cst. Jim Harrison of the Ganges RCMP detachment said police received a call from a Ganges residence at approximately 12:38 am Monday. Emmanuel Henry Joey Schembri was found on the scene and transported to Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Foul play is not suspected. Cst. Harrison said cor-

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Rainbow Road

Rezoning bid draws criticism

Members of the community last week fired on a proposed Islands Trust bylaw designed to amend the Official Community Plan and allow some light industry on property at the corner of Rainbow Road and Jackson Avenue in Ganges.

Salt Spring Island Trust Committee Bylaw 179, which goes to public hearing at 1:30 pm March 20, would reclassify Block 5 of the Official Community Plan to permit automobile service and repair as secondary uses on the property in question.

Block 5 encompasses several lots at the corner of Rainbow Road and Jackson Avenue, two of which the Islands Trust is being asked to rezone Commercial 3 to allow the Salt Spring Esso service station to relocate there.

For the rezoning to proceed, the entire designation of Block 5 must be changed — a stipulation that has created concern among several island residents who feel such an amendment could change the face of Ganges.

Ian Fraser — chairman of the Ganges Creek task force, a member of the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) and a School District 64 trustee — said last week he feels the community plan amendment may be proceeding too quickly. He added that he felt the APC (which recommended that the rezoning of the two lots be approved by the Trust) was not fully aware of the implications of the rezoning application.

Fraser — who as a member of the APC voted against the rezoning because of concerns that a service station could create additional traffic in a school zone — said he felt the Islands Trust should await the reports of its

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Outer Islands news begins on Page 24



Turned off

A total of 229 students from Salt Spring Elementary School receive certificates for not watching TV. Page 15.



Shark tales

John and Kottie Ross and family have returned from a three-year cruise to the South Pacific. Page 24.



Heady play

Salt Spring Island's Selects pulled off a 1-0 win against a stubborn Bays United team in District Cup play Sunday. Page 32.

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Property sale finalized

Grace Point development to proceed

Grace Point in Ganges Harbour has been sold.

The waterfront site, formerly owned by Mountain Park Farms, a company headed by local resident Norman Mouat, was transferred to Grace Point Holdings Limited at the end of February. The new owners are a group of investors led by Salt Spring resident David Questo.

Sale of the Grace Point property — which includes four residential and commercial lots — clears the way for a multi-phase build-

ing project estimated to eventually cost \$6 million.

Phase one of the project will see construction of two buildings of retail and professional space. Questo said last week the contracts for consulting engineers were awarded in February, and that construction contracts will be finalized in time for a planned start-up in April.

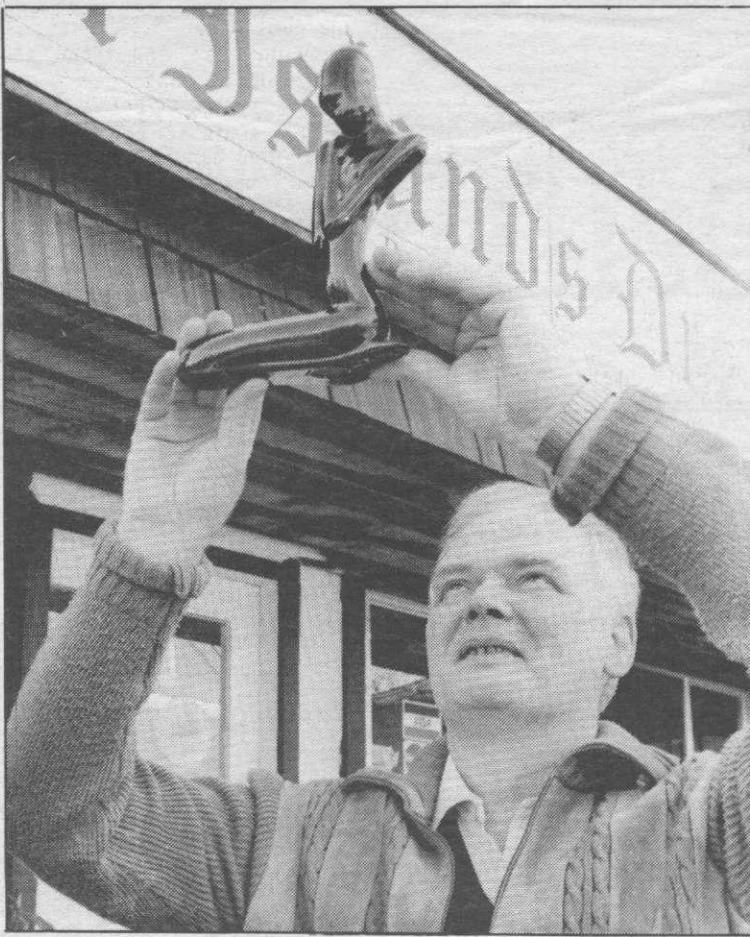
The buildings will include a retail and office structure fronting Fulford-Ganges Road and a separate, smaller waterfront building

designed to provide "an appropriate scale and atmosphere for specialty shops," a statement from Questo said.

It's expected that the buildings will be ready for tenants by this fall. One assured tenant will be the provincial government liquor store.

The two commercial and retail buildings to be constructed in phase one will later be joined by another commercial structure to be built where the Esso service station is now located.

Turn to Page 2



Donation

Salt Spring Rotarian Don Harrison examines recent donation to club's goods and services auction, slated for March

28. While Harrison is unsure what to call this particular item, others on the block are expected to appeal to a wide number of islanders.

Beautification work gets started in Ganges

From Page 1

Toynbee noted that because Ganges is unincorporated, businesses bear the full costs of sidewalk construction and improvements such as those planned for Purvis and Manson Avenues. He pointed out that in municipalities, businesses will often make contributions to sidewalk construction and street improvements but seldom foot the entire bill.

The redevelopment of Manson and Purvis Avenues, Toynbee said, is being "dovetailed" to fit the downtown design concept created by architects Jonathan Yardley and Jane Durante.

The initial phase of Centennial Park's redevelopment also got underway last week with the planting of more than 20 red oak trees in Centennial Park and the downtown area.

Fifteen 18-foot-tall red oak trees were planted in and along the park. Several others are to be planted on the narrow traffic divider separating the firehall parking lot from Fulford-Ganges Road.

Chris Schmah of Foxglove Farm and Garden Supplies — who oversaw planting of the trees — said red oaks are excellent shade trees. He added that the trees planted in Ganges are specially grown with high crotches so they don't obstruct lines of

sight — one concern expressed by district highway officials.

The 20 red oaks — and shrubs for the planting sites — are expected to cost approximately \$4,000, Schmah said. He noted the ministry of highways has agreed to foot the bill for this project. A curb running along the front of Centennial Park will also be paid for by the ministry.

Additional assistance will come from the Capital Regional District and the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission. Volunteers from both organizations — as well as from Dave's Blasting and Ken Tara Excavating — helped with the planting on Friday.

Under the Centennial Park proposal, the parking lot at the park's north end will be permanently closed to vehicles as of tomorrow (March 12). Vending from carts and tables will be permitted in the area, however.

Saturday vendors selling their wares from vehicles will be allowed to do so in the parking lot between Centennial Park and the Gasoline Alley complex.

Man dies on day court case was set

From Page 1

oner Ivan Dare will conduct an inquest or enquiry into the incident.

Schembri was to appear in Victoria county court later in the day on charges of manslaughter filed under Section 217 of the Canada Criminal Code. Those charges were laid in connection with the September 27, 1985, death of 18-month-old Warren Elliott of Ganges.

Crown counsel Nicholas Lang said late Monday he is convinced Schembri's death was linked to his trial date.

Lang explained that the infant Warren Elliott was the son of Schembri and his common-law wife. Schembri and

the woman had been living together with the infant at Fulford Harbour between May 1985 and the time of the baby's death.

At that time, pathologists indicated the child's death was linked to a "severe shaking" it had likely received sometime during the previous 24 or 48 hours. Subsequent investigation by police revealed that only Schembri and his common-law wife had "dealings with or access" to the child during that time.

Schembri later gave a statement to police indicating "some responsibility" for the baby's death. That statement would have been used as evidence in Monday's court case, Lang said.

Grace Point property has new owners

From Page 1

residences will be pre-sold.

There is more to the development project than buildings, however. Questo noted that his company responded to Community Plan guidelines for Ganges, and to aesthetic considerations set out by the Advisory Design Panel, by designing "a pedestrian-oriented centre with traditional architectural features."

The project will involve enhancement of various public areas adjacent to the Grace Point property, and preservation of view corridors to the water, Questo noted. A substantial portion of the project budget, he added, has been earmarked by the developer towards sidewalks, a waterfront walkway and other public amenities.

"The new development will be designed and built to the quality standards the landmark site warrants," Questo said.

Site plans and concept drawings for the development were reviewed by the Advisory Design Panel last fall, and a preliminary development permit from the Islands Trust was received in November, 1986.

Grace Point Holdings Limited, formed by Questo last August, spent a total of seven months studying the development feasibility of the property and negotiating its purchase.

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	2030	2.9		2255	4.2
12	0445	10.4	16	0540	10.1
	1020	8.1		1145	5.2
TH	1400	8.7	MO	1755	9.1
	2110	2.9		2330	5.0
13	0500	10.2	17	0555	10.2
	1035	7.5		1215	4.3
FR	1455	8.8	TU	1845	9.2
	2145	3.1	18	0005	6.0
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Aging chickens

Something has happened to the three-minute egg. When I was weaned from beer to solid food, the boiled egg was a breakfast staple. And the boiled egg was cooked for three minutes to reach that state of solidity that was not hard, yet not "runny."

It seems to take about 4½ to five minutes to reach just that same state of doneness today. Is it me or the eggs?

Number one Sunday

It was first! And so was Mrs. Brabandt of Beddis Road, Ganges.

The bird watcher reports seeing her first swallow at 8:15 on Sunday morning.

Swallows come early every year to the Brabandt property and they



to be frank . . .

. . . by Richards

are anxiously awaited.

No losers?

I listened to reports on the winner games and I was left to wonder whether they might as well run them in the summer as well!

Real estate

I was reading the weekly *Christian Science Monitor*, a tabloid that conforms to none of the frequently criticized features of

modern tabloid newspapers. The classified columns, two pages short, offer as wide a range of services as you'll find anywhere in any tabloid.

Top offer is a 7,000-square-foot mansion, marble, gold-plated hardware, the lot, for a million bucks, Texas variety. For more sober living you can buy a restored 1845 Cape Cod home in Nova Scotia, on an island, for \$51,000. You can go for thoroughbred culture on better than 250

California acres for a mere eight millions. Or you can buy a motorcycle dealership in southern England for 25,000 pounds sterling.

You can stay at Victoria's Olde England Inn or you can rent a Victoria house to sleep six people in London.

Tent caterpillars

Each spring we gaze fearfully towards the skies, searching out

the nests of the tent caterpillars. Sometimes we find them, and sometimes we don't.

The caterpillars are murder on vegetation, but they are revolting for their bad habit of falling out of the trees and shrubs, sated with somebody else's leaves. Not many gardeners really want to be decorated with the woolly little beasts.

This year I've hit the jackpot. For the first time in decades we've got a tent on an evergreen. It looks like a colony of caterpillars with gourmet tastes or else a colony that couldn't tell the difference between leaves and needles. With any luck it won't last! They are probably bud worms, says a colleague, Anne Lyon.



Vesuvius ferry dock is currently being upgraded. Timbers that are replaced will not go to Cy Peck

project, however; contractor has other uses for the wood. Cy Peck project committee, meanwhile,

will turn to corporate sponsors to raise funds.

Timbers from B.C. Ferries dock won't be utilized on Cy Peck site

Timbers being removed from the B.C. Ferries dock at Vesuvius are not destined to be part of a Cy Peck lookout.

Jack Cherry, head of a Chamber of Commerce committee working to construct the memorial to the historic vessel, said last week acquisition of the Vesuvius timbers has been ruled out. He explained that the dock project contractor has decided to retain the timbers for other uses.

The timbers, being removed as part of upgrading work underway at the Vesuvius dock, had been sought by Cherry's committee as a donation to the Cy Peck lookout project. The value of the wood would have been counted towards the \$8,750 the community must raise to acquire a matching grant promised by the provincial government.

Cherry said loss of the timbers will not delay progress of the project — "it will just send us back to look for corporate donors" — and may, in fact, be just as well. He said the suggestion of using donated materials was viewed in some circles as lost business for local suppliers.

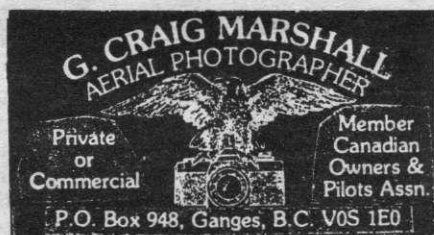
The Cy Peck lookout project,

which Cherry has said he hopes will be a completely local undertaking, would be a two-level salvage when the ship was scuttled last year in Nanaimo harbour, while the bottom would be linked to a seawalk. Estimates are

that the entire project would cost about \$24,000.

Cherry is hopeful the project will begin this year. Negotiations are underway for a site, clearance to use the land for the lookout, and an agreement for maintenance. Once those details have been cleared up, fund-raising is set to begin in earnest.

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Any positive sign has to be an encouragement

It is spring and the blossom is already on the trees and shrubs lining island roads. There is promise in the air and summer looms as a brighter hope for the islands' economic recovery than has been the case in years.

Last week the report of building activities in the islands was published in these columns, revealing a steady rise in comparison with the same period of last year. The spring brings promise that the activity will be with us for the coming year. Construction work is the barometer of island economy. When the construction business is happy, the commercial community is happy and there is jam on every table.

Last week brought more than blossoms and reports of building statistics. There was optimism in other areas. The Salt Spring Island Public

Library Association announced its plans to provide half as much space again for the community service with a \$100,000 extension to the building on McPhillips Avenue in Ganges.

Not only is the association investing another \$100,000 in the structure, but it is planning to do so without appealing to members or supporters for assistance. The association already holds a building fund of \$60,000 set aside for such needs, while a \$40,000 provincial grant last year set the ball rolling.

In another, and slightly smaller, realm of recreation was the revelation of plans for another tennis court at Portlock Park. It would have been quite fitting to have referred to "yet" another tennis court. The demand for tennis facilities has risen steadily since the first anxious moments of

opening the first facilities slightly more than 10 years ago.

In addition to these signs of life in the old islands economic horse, the Grace Point project is starting as the owners plan a commercial and residential complex beyond the Esso service station in Ganges.

The gradual improvement in the general appearance of the Ganges community, which was launched last year with the extension to the Island Savings Credit Union office and the new Ganges Pharmasave, promises to continue booming into the coming summer.

A decade ago such activities might have taken place, virtually unnoticed, but after a series of depressing and depressed years, any sign of development is encouraging.



Enhancement society deserves recognition

Salt Spring Island is a home away from home for salmon. It is, in fact, the birthplace of many salmon which owe their existence to the Cusheon Creek hatchery.

Last week, the Salt Spring Island Stream and Enhancement Society was honoured by the ministry of fisheries and oceans for its work in promoting the habitat for salmon in the islands. The society, a volunteer group which has devoted hours of work to the opening up of streams on the island, as well as to the hatchery, received a plaque from fisheries officials as a token of the appreciation of the ministry for the advances made on the island.

The island society has also brought the issue of replenishment of salmon streams and the renewal of stocks to local students.

Concern for salmon streams has been evident on Salt Spring Island for a number of years, and the work of Gavin Reynolds, who brought salmon back to Fulford Creek a decade ago, has not been forgotten.

The society has worked hard and long and well deserves the national recognition.

Shut-down exercise prompted students to think

Elsewhere in today's *Driftwood* is an article about some 200-plus Salt Spring Elementary School students who kept their television sets turned off for one full day last week. The shut-down exercise was probably a lot harder than it sounds; these are kids, as the story points out, who each average about 25 hours of viewing time a week.

In talking to some of them individually, it became apparent that ways of handling 24 hours without television were as varied as the students themselves. Some said it was no problem, others felt it was an ordeal that must have ranked with that 40-year trek Moses once took across the desert.

A few examples should underline the differences:

- In this corner, we have Neil, who said quitting the tube for 24 hours was a piece of cake. Of course, it didn't hurt that there were others to share the 'cold turkey' feeling — like his dad, who quit smoking at the same time, and his mom, who agreed to quit snacking between meals — or that the television set was broken.

Well, maybe not broken. You see, the cable reception wasn't working, so all Neil feels he missed were three channels he says carry "boring" content anyway. Still, the point is he made it through the 24 hours, and the experience was relatively painless.

- Over here we have David, who readily admits to being a TV junkie. A normal viewing day, he

my word

by
Duncan MacDonnell

says, would involve cartoons from 6 am to 9 am, followed by whatever is on from 4 pm to 10 pm. That's about 10 hours of the tube a day.

"I watch TV all the time," David said. "It was hard for me to quit." But he did, for 24 hours, by listening to the hockey game on the radio and finding a few other things to do.

David's only complaint, in fact, was that the 'cold turkey' exercise was scheduled for a Wednesday, which he considers a day of prime TV programming. "Another day," he said, "would have been a lot easier."

- And here we have Nathan, another pupil who describes himself as being addicted to television, whose sole comment on the shutdown was that it was boring. So boring, in fact, that he pulled together 12 pages of homework last Wednesday evening.

As school teacher Ian Jukes noted in evaluating the 24-hour shutdown, the exercise doesn't really prove much but at least it forces students to turn away from the tube and experiment with a few alternative activities, and it might make parents wonder if

their children watch too much as it is.

Certainly, the students surveyed said they felt they now watch too much television. Interestingly enough, they all added that their parents place no restrictions on what they can watch, or for how long . . . and each one of them pointed out that their families have more than one television set in the house (three sets was average; the high was five), presumably to resolve potential conflicts.

Anyway, the point I'd like to end with is that the past viewing habits of these students don't really matter much anymore. The 24-hour shutdown made them *think* about what they were doing, and why, and you can't ask for much more than that.

History

Sir,
I read with interest your article last week on the proposed rezoning of "a piece of property located at the corner of Rainbow Road and Jackson Avenue across from Salt Spring Elementary School." The intended purpose of the rezoning application, it was stated, is for the relocation of the Salt Spring Esso service station.

I would like to add a few salient points that were omitted in your article, and a little history on this subject, some of which has, evidently, been forgotten:

- The rezoning application that is before the Islands Trust is for the rezoning of two lots, not one as stated.

- When the present owners of the properties applied for rezoning the properties from Residential-1 to Industrial-3, in June, 1985, to allow an auto repair shop, they were consequently turned down by the Islands Trust and the Advisory Planning Commission. At that time, Trustee Nick Gilbert told *Driftwood* that the question of a gas station did not have to be considered since any rezoning would limit property use to automotive repair. A great increase in traffic near the elementary school is not wanted, he said.

- Proposed bylaw no. 179 (published in last week's *Driftwood*) calls for amending the bylaw no. 118 (cited as the Official Community Plan for Salt Spring Island) to change the plan policies with respect to Plan Reference Block 5 at the corner of Jackson Avenue and Rainbow Road to allow automobile service and repair uses as a secondary use.

- Block 5 is composed of six lots, three fronting on Jackson Avenue and three fronting on Rainbow Road.

- In June, 1985, then School Board trustee and chairman of the Advisory Planning Commission, David Williams, suggested that the school board pass a resolution that a residential buffer be maintained around the school property. The motion was passed.

- Mike Hayes, representing the Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, said that it (GITA) had made a motion to oppose the rezoning on the grounds that an undesirable increase in vehicular traffic could result opposite the school.

- In the July 10, 1985, issue of *Driftwood*, David Williams is quoted as saying: "We (the school board) just felt the auto repair proposal was quite unsuitable for the site. You don't put an industrial park around a school — that's plain stupid."

And in rebuttal to Hugh Borsman's question, *But how can one explain the refusal of this proposal, when so many other commercial activities are allowed in the same area?*, Williams replied: "To argue that just because there is some industrial development in the area, a little more should be tolerated, is a totally specious argument." (*Specious*: pleasing to the eye but deceptive.)

- On turning down the original application, vice-chairman of the Islands Trust, Carol Martin, said the proposal was not the best use for the land.

- Kanaka Road traffic has been debated over the years as a problem in regards to children's safety. Traffic on that road will, undoubtedly, increase if the lots are rezoned.

As a parent of two Salt Spring Elementary School students, living within one-quarter of a mile of the properties, I, for one, fail to see that anything has changed in the past 20 months. The concerns (of the school board, the Gulf Islands Teachers Association, the parents, the Islands Trust, and the

Advisory Planning Commission) that the safety of children will be jeopardized by the creation of a service station in that location, are as valid now as they were then.

If the properties are rezoned C-3, retail stores and/or restaurants could conceivably be permitted, as well as a service station. If bylaw No. 179 is passed, the remaining lots in Block 5 will be eligible for rezoning to automobile service and repair uses.

Both Dennis Beech and myself are concerned with the safety of our children. I heartily agree with him that organizations like the school board, the department of highways, and hopefully the Islands Trust and the APC could take steps to improve the safety on Rainbow Road. David Williams' suggestion that a residential buffer be maintained around school property is an excellent way towards that end.

I hope that after reflecting on this subject for the next week and a half, the Advisory Planning Commission will reverse its decision to support the rezoning bid and agree with its chairman when he said that rezoning this property would be "just plain stupid."

ERIC BOOTH,
Ganges.

Program

Sir,
For the past couple of weeks and during the next two months, people will notice high school students participating in the police Ride Along Program.

This program is put on by the local RCMP detachment and involves Grade 12 law students. The students will be going out on a Friday or Saturday night shift with police officers from this area.

The purpose of the program is to involve students in a realistic exposure to the duties of an RCMP officer. While in this program, they will cover in great detail the workings of equipment and the processes of the RCMP.

This is for the benefit of the students in the law class and we would like full support from the community. We would also like to learn how people feel about this program and others planned for the future.

CAM GEIGER,
Ganges.

letters

Offer

Sir,
The Salt Spring Island Market Association is offering free membership to any non-profit organization that may wish to use the market in some way during the coming months. Phil Hume of the recreation commission says that from this summer on, only Market Association members may use the Market. Please contact me if your group would like free membership. For those entrepreneurs who sell goods in the market, association membership is \$5, which can be sent to me or dropped off at Rodrigo's La Salsa in downtown Ganges.

SUSAN BRADFORD,
Ganges.

Attention

Sir,
The recent outbreak of botulism in Vancouver brings to mind that the first recorded case of botulism occurred when Lieutenant (later Captain) Vancouver, with some of his crew, camped overnight on an unnamed sandy beach in Georgia Strait.

They enjoyed a feast of shellfish, which resulted in 13 sick sailors, of whom three died.

Prior to this, botulism was not recognized as such, but this case put it into the *Materia Medica*, and probably brought Georgia Strait to the attention of the world for the first time.

BEVIS WALTERS,
Ganges.

Corrections

Sir,
Thank you for your article about the upcoming visit of Robert Anton Wilson to Salt Spring Island. A few corrections are in order, however.

Wilson's forthcoming book is called *Coincidence*, (not *Coincidence*), i.e.: life is a dance of meaningful coincidences, or synchronicities.

The seminar *The Fool and the Universe*, which runs from 11 am to 4 pm on March 22, not 1 am to 4 pm as stated in your article, is designed so that participants can see the interconnectedness between all life in the universe, as exemplified in such artworks as the

Tarot, *Finnegan's Wake*, and the models of quantum physics.

Bluntly stated, some (but by no means all) physicists suggest that quantum mechanics provides evidence that prayer and magic work. This may not be necessary for those people who already know that they work, but is very useful for the doubting western mind, in need of a rational framework to process its experiences.

For more information about this, see the books *Space, Time and Beyond*, by Fred Alan Wolf, *The Tao of Physics*, by Fritjof Capra, and Wilson's *Schrodinger's Cat*, described by *New Scientist* as "the most scientific of all science fiction novels."

In demonstrating this interconnectedness, Wilson says: "and then there's all the data that Jung collected about the collective unconscious. I find it very hard to take any of the criticisms of Jung very seriously. You just have to look at Buddhist art, at medieval Catholic art, and your own dreams to see that there are these archetypal patterns that keep appearing over and over again."

It is worth noting that synchronicity, the principle formulated by Carl Jung and physicist Wolfgang Pauli, implies meaningful coincidence. Of course, meaning is relative and exists only in the mind of the person having the experience. Robotic rationalists (those who deny the existence of anything which they can not rationally understand) will therefore assert that this is "merely subjective."

In response, we quote the study *Gravitation* by physicists Wheeler, Misner and Thorne: "Participation is the incontrovertible new concept given by quantum mechanics; it strikes down the term 'observer' of classical theory, the man who stands behind a thick glass wall and watches what goes on without taking part. That can't be done, quantum mechanics says." In other words, how we think about the universe plays a large part in shaping the future, and if the universe is interconnected beyond or outside the fabric of spacetime, as some physicists now think, synchronicity is indeed significant.

Wilson hopes that participants

will come out of this seminar with new insight into their own dreams, the day-dreams we call 'reality', and the structural laws that underlie both imagination and the genetic code. For information phone 537-4076.
DOUG MANLY,
Ganges.

Drastic

Sir,
In view of the increasing number of major environmental threats (drastic weather changes around the planet, depletion of the ozone layer, the effects of Chernobyl and Bhopal, etc.) it seems drastic actions are required.

I am asking Canada, together with the U.N., to help set up a global environment monitoring agency to pinpoint problem areas and co-ordinate information to be acted on immediately.

We have the satellite technology and the know-how but it requires a co-operation amongst governments, research institutes and local environment groups to co-ordinate the information.

The Worldwatch Institute in Washington was reported, in the Vancouver *Sun*, as saying that "earth's life-support systems are strained ... with contamination of the atmosphere, climatic change, a mass extinction of plant and animal species and the long-term prospect of a decline in the quality of life. It could overwhelm the capacity of governments and individuals to adjust adequately."

By around 1990, scientists predict, the temperature will have risen approximately two degrees and affect the growing season, productivity in the oceans and so on.


If you are concerned, please take the time to write to your member of parliament, Jim Manly, at the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, and Stephen Lewis, Canadian ambassador to the U.N., at the Plaza of Nations, N.Y., N.Y., 10017.

There are two books, *Gaia: Atlas of Planet Management*, and *State of the Ark*, published by Doubleday, with information and detailed studies on the global environment. As author Gerald Durrell wrote, "There is only one world, and that belongs to all of us, and it is the only one we have."

Feel free to call me for more information.
SUE HISCOCKS,
Ganges.

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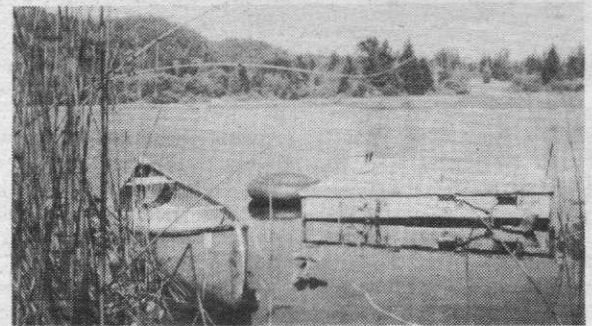


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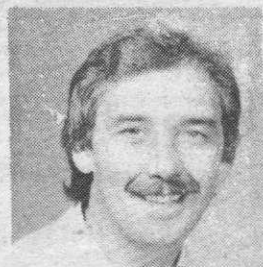
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Leaving

Sir,
By a series of predestined circumstances and unknown coincidences, Ian Jukes found himself one day in the computer room of the Salt Spring Elementary School. He was given courtiers, brooms, dust-pans and various low-tech utensils to clean up the place. As soon as he obtained soft and hardware he spent his time with kids and grown-ups until he could teach us not only to lose our fear of computers, but even to cultivate them ourselves in our own gardens.

He then entered into the Salt Spring Elementary temple and mounted the rostrum: "O people!" he cried, "see in me not only the representative of the axis of your computer's world! Within me are many me's, and many are the operations of my me's. If, for instance, disorder from your rose gardens of children comes to me, my heart, like a rosebud, will burst out Order and Fun!" There was a rushing and a roaring and soon Ian found himself in almost all the committees of the school, taking on task after task.

I wonder, what do most people know about the value of his great heart? Of his great generosity? Of his warmness? How many know of his end-day tiredness? Of how many times yawning and through half-closed eyes sat on his magic energetic carpet and, against all odds, said "I am ready!"

And now he is leaving us ... leaving us! To Polar Bear Land! Ah well, perhaps in years to come it will be written in the pages of history that the Eskimos learnt the martial arts of computerism thanks to him.

Assuredly, some forms of his own beautiful reality will remain with us. His enthusiasm, his energy, his single-minded devotion to bettering our children's learning environment. We will miss him so much ... so much. No less will we miss his soft-spoken and kind wife, Ann.

And now tears will fall from the computers' keyboards. The clatter of printouts will become the wailing and moaning of grief-stricken terminals. In fact these machines will sing requiems and never work efficiently again.

Bye Ian and Ann, we love you. Bye and have good times. May God bless you always.

ALEX, JACQUIE, ZAMORANO and many friends.
P.S.: Ian, rumour has it that a resolution has been drafted to induct you into the Computer Hall of Fame!

Splash

Sir,
Wow, what a book sale! You wonderful Salt Springers helped to make it a real splash.

Thank you to all book donors, to all volunteers who sorted all month long and Friday night. Thank you to the people with sore backs who transported and then hauled the books into Mahon Hall. Thank you to all volunteers

who cashiered, organized books during the sale; the Girl Scout babysitting service; the artwork of Sheri Hickman and Sonja Hickman, Renee Woodsend and Merle Box; Dietrich Luth for special pricing; Daisy Gear and her ladies in the Splash Cafe for coffee and cookies; and to Sonja and Phil Townsend, our major book getters.

Thank you also to all the book drop-off areas: all the schools, Fulford Post Office, Bin and Barrel and, of course, Foxglove. Thank you, Farmers' Institute, for the tables; Carol Walde, thank you for your superb organizing Friday night and Saturday; and thank you Claudia Clarke for the whole idea.

We sold approximately 7,000 books and we made \$2,572.66. Our membership is now 1,458 people.

We want to do it again next year.
**WENDY VINE,
MIMI GOSSETT,**
Salt Spring Island
Swimming Pool Society.

Appalled

Sir,
I am appalled at the decision to open B.C. for uranium mining. Our beleaguered immune systems are having troubles enough with the onslaught of environmental pollutants without our adding contamination of our air and water by the products, waste-products and side-effects of uranium mining. Besides, I heartily disapprove of any contribution to the nuclear industry or the arms race.

ROSALIND HILDRED,
Bull Island.

Hitch

Sir,
Much has happened in the "outside" since you published the odd information I was able to provide about plans for buying some 15,000 nuclear warheads from the Soviet Union and selling them to the Reagan administration. Readers may recall that Mr. Gorbachev was keen on this plan. In fact, he and Mrs. Gorbachev were thinking of visiting Salt Spring to finalize arrangements with our enterprising local arms-brokers. They will be disappointed to learn that there has been a hitch.

There are, we learn, two problems: it is not clear which is the more serious. The first is growing uncertainty about who (if anyone) at the White House is sufficiently in control to make this deal. The men in the Kremlin are apparently having a hard time understanding how the great United States can continue to function with the driver asleep and his assistants squabbling over who should wake him.

letters

Our friends on Salt Spring are also troubled. The people in the National Security Council they were counting on to back the U.S. end of the warheads deal have either been sacked or look rather insecure. The Russians would still like to be rid of their useless nuclear surplus but say they are now concerned that the Americans, instead of merely adding the 15,000 Soviet warheads to their own enormous (and equally useless) stockpile, might get carried away by another hare-brained scheme, like lending them to Pinochet in Chile, or the "contras" in Miami, or Savimbi and his South African friends attacking Angola.

The second snag, according to my informants, is public pressure from Soviet citizens flooding the Kremlin with letters and telegrams full of anxiety about their national security. It seems they consider Comrade Mikhail is going much too far, too fast, in what they regard as one-sided disarmament. Like most of us in the west, they have been taught for many years to believe that these nuclear gadgets were real military weapons. They counted on them to dissuade the US/NATO forces from "doing a Hitler" on the Soviet Union some day.

"How often," runs a typical protest, "have you told us we must pull in our belts to build more of these things so as to 'maintain parity'? You said that, if we fell too far behind, the war-makers in America would try to destroy us. Now you are proposing to disarm! Are you mad? If you can get those crazy people in Washington to disarm, too, that will be wonderful. But look at the way they spurned our gesture over nuclear testing ... is this *Amerika* film not part of a plan to prepare the American people, who don't know what modern war in their homeland is like, for more military adventures? We have to show them we are not Grenada!"

One can see Gorbachev's problem. Dispelling illusions about nuclear "weapons" is not easy. Lord Louis Mountbatten tried in 1979, George Kennan in 1981, Robert McNamara in 1983; few have grasped their meaning. It is indeed difficult to stop thinking of missiles tipped with nuclear explosives as if they were spears or arrows, where numbers meant strength; difficult to realize that Einstein's remark about the inner energy of the atom "changing everything" applies to nuclear sums: that 35 nuclear-tipped

missiles on invulnerable long-range launchers are equal to any bigger number in the ability to destroy a large nation (the U.S. or the U.S.S.R.). So in nuclear arithmetic, 35 equals 350, equals 35,000.

In simple terms, enough is enough; more is stupid waste and a pointless threat to human survival. We in Canada can see that. It looks as though Gorbachev does, however belatedly. Do Reagan, Weinberger, Perle and Company? And do they have the political guts to admit it publicly? If they do, isn't it nonsensical to talk about "negotiating" our removal of the useless, dangerous surplus? We do not delay emptying our smelly garbage bins until we have checked that our neighbours are emptying theirs.

If the original deal with the U.S. falls through, I learn, our enterprising island friends are examining another scheme

involving purchase of nuclear "garbage" from Moscow (at junk prices) for "processing" in neutral Switzerland and eventual sale of the plutonium content to France. I know the French are crazy about their independent *force de frappe*, but this seems to be going too far. I still think Washington is their best bet.

Don't you?
PETER PENTZ,
Ganges.

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— S.S.I. Parks & Recreation Commission

Province poorer without traditions

capital comment

by
Hubert Beyer

VICTORIA — On November 19, 1858, the day the Crown Colony of British Columbia was to be inaugurated at Fort Langley, it was discovered that there was no mace.

In the haste that preceded preparations for the new government on Canada's west coast, London bureaucrats had forgotten to send out a mace, the traditional 'weapon' signifying the speaker's authority in Parliament.

The matter was quickly resolved by clipping out a bit of tin and shaping it into an elongated makeshift affair that substituted for a mace at the ceremonies.

The mace is an essential part of the regalia of Parliament. It symbolizes the authority of the Crown as exercised by the elected assembly.

The origin of the mace goes back a long way. In the middle ages it was used as an effective weapon, enabling the bearer to smash through the helmet or armor of an opponent. Medieval bishops, encumbered by the injunction that "He who takes the sword shall perish by the sword,"

quite smug about sending enemies to their reward with a firm swing of a mace on the head. In the 13th century, the mace began to take on symbolic and ceremonial meaning. The first

that time on, the House could not sit without the mace.

That tradition is carried on in most Parliaments that have evolved from the British Parliament, including many state legislatures in the U.S.

While the British Columbia Legislature is in session, visitors can observe the mace's role in the proceedings. When the legislature resolves itself into a committee — to debate spending estimates, for instance — the mace is no longer removed from its place in front of the speaker, but it is lowered out of the speaker's sight.

When the committee reports to the full House, Richard Nicol, the present sergeant-at-arms, marches up to the speaker's chair and places the mace in front of him again, signifying that Parliament is now in session again.

The present mace was adopted on February 16, 1954. It was chosen by the cabinet of the day from designs submitted by six British Columbia firms. It was designed by F.G. Cope and made entirely by hand by Jefferies and Company, a Victoria firm of silversmiths still doing business today.

The mace is made from native British Columbia silver. It is plated with 24-carat gold and weighs 11 pounds. The design follows the traditional concept, consisting of a long shaft, topped by a deep bowl, surmounted by a representation of St. Edward's Crown and the Royal Cypher.

The bowl bears an enamel British Columbia coat of arms, the Canadian coat of arms and four scenes depicting the province's most vital industries — forestry, fisheries, agriculture and mining.

While the overall design of the mace is traditional, the four industrial scenes are thoroughly modern, showing men cutting trees with power saws, going at mine walls with hydraulic drills, catching salmon in a late-design seiner and operating farm tractors.

If you can make it to Victoria during this coming session of the legislature, make sure to get a good look at the mace. Just drop in for one of the sittings. The security personnel at the front entrance of the Parliament Buildings will fix you up with tickets for the spectators' gallery.

Quaint traditions may not do a thing to solve our political problems, but without tradition, we'd all be poorer.

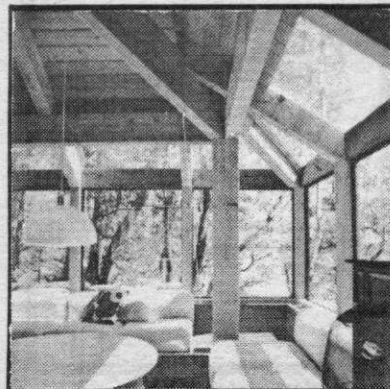
'It was Oliver Cromwell who elevated the mace to its present importance.'

written mention of the mace in parliamentary procedures goes back to 1344 when the British House of Commons protested the use of maces by cities and towns as an infringement on their prerogative.

It was Oliver Cromwell who elevated the mace to its present-day importance, although that's not what he intended. When he dismissed Parliament in 1653 and forcibly ejected the speaker from the House, he ordered one of his men to remove the mace.

"Take away that bauble. Ye are no longer a Parliament. The Lord has done away with you. He has chosen other instruments for carrying on his work," Cromwell said.

Rather than reducing the mace to an object of ridicule, however, Cromwell's actions served to entrench its importance. From



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Noble camellia a welcome sight in late winter

When it comes to late winter and early spring, the most welcome sight in the flowering shrub border has to be the noble, sophisticated camellia. With an aura of distinction and a long-standing reputation as a symbol of love and purity, it is easy to see why camellias are valued and much sought-after plants. Being a slightly finicky plant to get established, and having a sensitivity to severe cold and unexpected frosts, only makes it a more worthwhile challenge. Fortunately for us, the Pacific Northwest is an ideal region for camellia growing.

Originally from China, Japan, and other surrounding countries, it was brought to Europe by merchant trading ships during the 17th and 18th centuries. The camellia had been in active cultivation for over 3,000 years and several varieties were exported to eager gardeners in Europe. Its sister, *Camellia sinensis* is the teabush and it made a much greater impact in the west.

Today, camellias are available in a wide range of forms and colours. Single, semi-double, formal double, peony form, anemone form, rose form, and fimbriata form blossoms are grown in shades of pink, reds and white, with all of the colours in between as well as streaked, speckled and bi-coloured varieties. Unfortunately, only a handful are fragrant.

The glossy, rich green foliage serves as a perfect backdrop to the three-to-five inch blooms. The leaves live for about three years before yellowing and dropping off. Plant heights range from six to 12 feet for the majority of cultivars, but a few are low trailers that would work in a rockery, and a few can reach 30 feet or more in height.

Camellias have a fairly shallow root zone that is made up of a dense mat of small fibrous roots. They are fairly heavy feeders and the fine roots work right up to the soil surface, enjoying topdressings of aged, rotted manure and compost mixed with liberal doses of peat moss.

These fine roots are sensitive to the hard freezes and the baking heat of direct sun, so mulching in the fall and topdressing in spring are very valuable to the plant. An acid soil is preferred, with a pH of 5.0 being ideal, but up to 7.0 is tolerated. When planting, soil mix consisting of 20 per cent peat moss, 20 per cent woody duff and leaf mold, 10 per cent compost and well-rotted manure, and 50 per cent rich loamy soil is best. This is essentially a well-drained, yet moisture-retentive soil that is rich in nutrient and organic matter. Use a cupful of bonemeal when planting and place the plant so that the crown is even with or above the soil level, as crown rots and deep planting are the prevalent causes of failure in establishing a camellia.

The feeding of camellias should be undertaken just as the plant is in

bloom (mid-March to mid-April) and again in early June, using half of the recommended dosage each time. Use a rhododendron-azalea, acid-generating plant food such as 10-7-7.

Another feeding approach is to use two pounds of bonemeal mixed into a cubic foot of peat moss, and then applied as a topdressing. A September feeding of 0-10-10 or other no-nitrogen fertilizer will help to provide winter hardiness and disease resistance as well as serve to enhance and enrich bloom colour next spring.

Since camellias need ready access to moisture to do well in a sunny position, regular deep waterings are recommended. Once the roots are shaded by the evergreen foliage, well-established plants can do quite well without any watering except during severe droughts.

Aspect and location are critical considerations for the welfare of the plant. An easterly aspect is good if winter sunshine can strike the buds before 10 or 11 am and burn the frozen or frosted flower buds. During the spring, summer and fall, an easterly situation is ideal, but winter sun in the morning isn't. A northerly aspect is fine for *Camellia japonica* varieties (especially *C.j. nagasaki*), as long as it isn't in deep shade or overhung by eaves or trees. In too shady a position the plant will become too leggy and very few blooms will be generated. A southerly aspect is fine for making lots of buds, but problems with winter scorching and summer sunburning will be more severe. In a full sun position the foliage will

your garden

by
Chris Schmah

be yellowed, paler, and stressed, but if you need to plant one there, select the less frost-hardy, but more sun-tolerant *Camellia sasanqua*. Overall, a westerly aspect fulfills most of the needs, but even it can become a tad hot. Look for a sunny spot with no winter sun during the morning.

Prune camellias after blooming is finished, but before spring growth commences. Cut out dead, diseased, broken, crossing or inward-growing branches. In some cases the branch angles are too narrow and close, which will ultimately result in a split stem or collapsed plant when snowed upon or when in full bloom. Cut it back hard to develop a more open, safer, branching habit. Prune back any leggy growth, as new, bushier growth will flush out from dormant buds located above every leaf or leaf scar. Old plants can be rejuvenated and made fuller, by

pruning back a third each year, so that blooming will continue, without any appreciable difference.

Pick-off blooms as they fade, discolour and turn brown, and burn or bury them to prevent any risk of spreading camellia petal blight. If bud drop is a problem, then suspect too little (most likely) or too much water (less likely) during the summer growth period. Camellias can be propagated from seeds, cuttings taken in August, grafting now or by layering and airlayering in August and September.

There are thousands of varieties of camellias but virtually all are cultivars of, or hybrids of *C. japonica*, *C. sasanqua* and *C. reticulata*. *Camellia japonica* and varieties are the most reliable, and most popular, preferring partial shade. *Camellia sasanqua* and varieties are less frost hardy but bloom in late fall and early winter. *Camellia reticulata* is only marginally hardy here, but these and all others will perform well if grown in a greenhouse. The plant for you is best chosen when in bloom, or from a colour catalogue, as the choices are almost limitless.

For woodland setting, foundation plantings, hedges, accent shrubs, containers, and even ground covers and hanging baskets, the exquisite, serene blooms of the camellia make a most fitting and beautiful choice.



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All applications must be accompanied by copies of the front page of the applicant and spouse's 1986 Income Tax Return and applicable farm operating statement. Farm corporations must provide a copy of their financial statement most relative to 1986 operations.

Farm operators who intend to submit more than one application should mail all forms together. Note: Applications **will not** be acknowledged as being received. Applications should be sent by registered mail to provide proof of mailing.

The reimbursement level for the 1986 Program is 10.55%. The amount of reimbursement receivable by an applicant will be influenced by "ceiling rates" based on the average rate paid by applicants throughout the Province. The maximum benefit is \$10,000 for each operation.

For details of the calculation or other enquiries, contact the Agricultural Finance Branch, Victoria 356-1646 or 356-1647.

Mail applications postmarked no later than May 31, 1987.



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Historical society member John Crofton, whose grandmother opened the first Harbour House Hotel in 1916, points to the plaque recently installed on the Council Tree. The historic maple tree was used by Indian chiefs as a seat at meetings.

Salt Spring sites

Historical society erects plaques here

Plaques giving background information about five local sites or buildings are being installed by the Salt Spring Island Historical Society.

The plaques — of a standard size and design specified for use throughout B.C. by the province's Heritage Conservation Branch — are to be located at St. Paul's Church in Fulford, the Fulford Inn, the Council Tree at Harbour House Hotel, Central Hall and the Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club.

The objective of the plaque installation program, according to a society spokesman, is to enhance the attractions on the island for both visitors and residents. As of last week, plaques had been installed at St. Paul's Church, the Harbour House Hotel and the golf club.

• St. Paul's Church, which overlooks Fulford Harbour, was founded in 1878 by Father Donckele, the first Roman Catholic missionary to the Gulf Islands.

The church was erected between 1880 and 1885 by members of the community, who acquired the windows, door and bell from Father Rondeault's 'Butter Church' in Cowichan Bay. Building materials were brought by Indian canoe from Cowichan to Burgoyne Bay, and then hauled by ox-drawn stonebolt to the church site. The church was officially dedicated on May 10, 1885.

• The Harbour House Hotel sits near the site of what was once known as the council tree. In the days before white settlement on the island, Indian chiefs conducted council meetings from a seat in the fork of a tree there.

The tree stands near the site of the first Harbour House Hotel, established in 1916 by Nona Crofton while her husband Fred was overseas serving with the Canadian Army during the First World War. In the 1920s, when several large clamshell middens were cleared in front of the tree to make way for a hotel tennis court,

numerous skeletons were discovered.

It is suspected the skeletons belonged to the victims of the Massacre of Admiralty Bay (now Ganges Harbour), which took place on the beach below the tree in 1860, when the Cowichan and Bella Bella Indians fought over clam-digging rights. The Cowichans were victorious. No Bella Bellas survived.

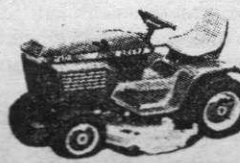
• The golf course is the former site of a large, rose-covered home built in 1894 by Rev. Edward Wilson, who bought a decrepit log cabin and 40 acres there for \$900. While serving as Anglican rector on Salt Spring (1894-1909), he enlarged the building, bringing part of his former house to the island from Victoria. Named after Wilson's parents' house in England, Barnsbury was leased to the James Seed Company in 1922. It became a golf club in 1928, but burned down in 1959.

The Salt Spring Island Historical Society plans to install more plaques, but does not possess sufficient funds to continue the work at this time.

Any reader who is interested in this project is invited to contribute to the society. Contributions and suggestions for new sites should be addressed to society treasurer Mort Stratton, Box 705, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0.

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Proposed change to community plan draws fire

From Page 1

industrial task force and other study groups before proceeding with the proposed changes.

Fraser agreed that the Official Community Plan is "in need of changes." However, he suggested that a major amendment to the plan now would be made in haste and without adequate information.

He noted that reclassifying Block 5 could have a long-term effect on Ganges, particularly the area along Jackson Avenue. He suggested that once the area was opened up to light industry, it would discourage residential use there. "It's like a stain on a cloth," he said. "It spreads out."

Fraser and other members of the Ganges Creek Task Force met Saturday with Salt Spring Island Trust members and a representative of the local design panel. The Ganges Creek Task Force is

Residents concerned about bylaw's impact on area

concerned about the community plan amendment because a branch of Ganges Creek flows through the area.

Fraser said the task force will meet today (Wednesday) to discuss the issue further and to draw up some recommendations for the Trust on the proposed amendment.

"The thing is, we don't want to see the door closed on any use of that branch of the creek in the future, whether it be for town beautification or whatever," he explained. "A lot of people feel it (the branch of the creek) is just a ditch, but there is a steady flow of spring water through it."

"Most of the people there at the Saturday meeting expressed the opinion that it (Block 5) was

more suited to single family, multi-family and light commercial with small shops than light industry," he added.

APC chairman Dave Williams also expressed concern over the speed with which the rezoning application and the community plan amendments were proceeding.

"Usually, the process of changing the community plan is a lengthy one," Williams noted. "This one seemed to have been pushed through so quickly."

The APC chairman said he didn't feel the commission had "enough opportunity" to fully consider the proposal. "The motion made at the APC meeting (to recommend rezoning of the Rainbow Road property sought by Salt

Spring Esso) surprised me," he said. "I don't think everyone was aware of the implications."

Williams agreed that redesignating Block 5 to permit automobile service and repair in the area along Jackson Avenue and Rainbow Road could change "the whole face" of the area in question.

He added Monday that the APC will reopen discussion of the proposed rezoning (Bylaw 178) and the community plan amendment (Bylaw 179) at its March 16 meeting.

"We will be talking about it again at our meeting on the 16th," he said, "because there are some people who have indi-

cated they would like to bring some things to the meeting that they feel the APC might have missed."

The application to rezone two lots at the corner of Rainbow Road and Jackson Avenue was made by Dennis Beech, operator of Salt Spring Esso. Beech has been told he must move his service station from its current location along Fulford-Ganges Road within about six months to permit development of Grace Point.

Beech says he has conducted an extensive search throughout the area for suitable property on which to relocate his business, but discovered there was no available C-3 property in the area. The Rainbow Road-Jackson Avenue property is the only one he claims is suitable for his operation, but it must be rezoned

Public hearing planned

Trust chairman explains bylaws

Islands Trust chairman Nick Gilbert is defending the Trust's decision to consider a rezoning application requiring amendment of the Official Community Plan.

Gilbert said Monday the application made by Salt Spring Esso operator Dennis Beech — which asks that two residential lots located at the corner of Jackson Avenue and Rainbow Road be rezoned Commercial 3 to allow automotive service and repair — has placed the Trust in an awkward situation.

Gilbert said it has been suggested by at least one individual that the Trust is being irresponsible by considering the application and amendment of the community plan.

Although he agreed this was a case of spot zoning, Gilbert noted that Beech has been told he must move his Esso service station from its current location along Fulford-Ganges Road sometime during the next six months to allow the Grace Point development to proceed. Gilbert added that no additional C-3 property is presently available in the com-

munity.

Gilbert also pointed out that if Salt Spring Esso is unable to relocate, the community could lose the business and the approximately six jobs it creates.

Gilbert agreed that amending the community plan could have an impact on the area. However, he suggested the impact could be minimal.

The Islands Trust chairman pointed out that Blocks 2 and 4 — which border on Block 5 — are already zoned for commercial and light industrial use. Block 4 (located to the west of the property Beech seeks to rezone) is designated as the future site of a food store, while Block 2 is the site occupied by Salt Spring Sea Products Ltd.

Gilbert said the upcoming public hearing on bylaws 178 (the rezoning application filed by Beech) and 179 (the Official Community Plan amendment) will give local residents and groups the opportunity to express their views on this issue.

"We felt this was serious enough to take to public hear-

ing," he stressed. "There will be people there, I'm sure, who will look at it from Dennis' point of view, as well as some who do not. We'll certainly listen to both sides."



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Pool society's book sale raises \$2,440 for facility

The Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society raised \$2,440 from its February 28 book sale, society president Wendy Vine said last week.

"We figure we sold in excess of 7,000 books at the sale," Vine stated. "We made \$2,440 on books and \$300 on memberships. We're really pleased with the community response."

Vine said the sale seemed to draw "a wide spectrum" of the island's population. "So it would seem," she said, "that the pool issue is pulling people together. We seem to be getting wide support."

The pool society president said she had hoped there would be more bartering by purchasers at the booksale, "but people seemed content to pay what we were asking."

Most books sold for 50 cents each but, at the end of the sale, die-hard bargain-hunters were allowed to take home all they could carry for \$2.

"We hope to make this an annual, late-winter event," Vine added, "and I'd just like to say that it (the sale) couldn't have been done without Mimi Gossett and her volunteers. They are to be commended."

The Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society is currently working with the parks and recreation commission to formulate a proposal for an indoor swimming pool on the island.

The society hopes to build a leisure pool. A proposal

for the facility — expected to cost between \$1.2 million and \$1.4 million — will be put to referendum this fall.

Pool society members have a number of fund-raising activities planned for the coming weeks.

Vine said that a Jazz Night will be held at the Vesuvius Inn on March 12 starting at 8:30 pm. Admission will be charged. The featured performers will be saxophonist Ken Speller, lead guitarist Peter Taschuk, Stu Salmon on string bass and Bill Smith on drums.

The following week will be Leprechaun Week with a Peppermint Pat Night to be hosted by the Vesuvius Inn's St. Patrick Mack. Entertainment will feature Sheila Ryan from Ireland, with Celtic Heart. The entertainment starts at 8:30 pm March 18, and admission will be charged.

And finally, the Beach Bum Volleyball Tournament will be held March 27-28 at Gulf Islands Secondary and Fulford Elementary schools.

The entry fee for each team in this mixed recreational tourney is \$12, with proceeds going to the pool society. Anyone interested in entering a team should contact Wayne Taylor (telephone 537-5678).

The pool society is currently formulating new ideas for activities and fund-raising. Anyone with any suggestions is asked to contact the society executives by writing to Box 531, Ganges, B.C.

Hotel hoping to feature island lamb

The Plaza International Hotel in North Vancouver hopes to showcase Salt Spring lamb and other island-grown products at its restaurant in April, a spokesman for the hotel told *Driftwood* in late February.

Bruce Milligan, executive chef for the Plaza International Hotel, visited Salt Spring recently to contact local farmers who could supply the hotel with their wares. Milligan said the hotel's restaurant plans to showcase the products of various areas each month.

Milligan is working with Ross McLeod of Mansell Farm and several other farmers to arrange for the lamb. He said he plans to prepare a promotional package in the near future, and added that details of the April event should be available sometime this week.

The executive chef asked that anyone else interested in having their lamb and other island products featured contact him at the hotel (984-0611).

Salt Spring lamb, though still popular, was at one time known worldwide for its quality. During the 1950s, it was served by the Empress Hotel as a specialty. It was even offered to Queen Elizabeth II, then princess.



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How to fill in the new TAX EXEMPTION FORMS being received by many pensioners

Taxpayers in receipt of provincial superannuation or a private pension will have received a letter from the payor in February, enclosing a TD1 form. This form sets out the exemptions that may be claimed, and the amount of tax withheld by the payor is adjusted accordingly.

The complexity of the form has caused much confusion among pensioners. Suffice it to say that the easiest thing to do is to fail to return the form. In this case, the pensioner will have tax withheld as if they are a single person under 65. Those who make tax installments or who have tax payable at the end of the year may wish to have tax withheld in this manner. It causes the highest amount of tax to be withheld on a monthly basis so that less is payable otherwise.

For those who wish to have as little tax withheld as possible, the form will have to be filled out and returned to the payor. Items 1, 2, 4(ii) and (iii) and 5 are the only ones that are generally applicable, since few pensioners have dependent children, student exemptions, or are still receiving the family allowance.

In Item 1, the basic personal exemption is \$4,220. If married and spouse has net income less than \$520 for the year, claim

\$3,700. If spouse's net income is over \$520 but less than \$4,220, the claim is \$4,220 less spouse's net income.

Item 4(ii) is the age exemption of \$2,640 for the pensioner. Item 4(iii) is the disability exemption of \$2,890. The criteria for eligibility for this exemption have been broadened substantially starting in 1986, and some who were formerly denied this exemption may now be able to qualify.

Item 5 covers the pension income deduction and \$1,000 should be claimed. Therefore, given a straightforward situation of a married couple, both over 65, where the wife's income consists only of O.A.S. of approximately \$3,500, the exemptions would be \$4,220 basic, \$720 for spouse, \$2,640 for age and \$1,000 for pension income deduction, totalling \$8,580 in exemptions, or Net Claim Code "8" for the box in Item 11.

Claiming all exemptions to which you are entitled will result in withholding of the least possible tax, and the exemptions should be utilized by those whose total tax liability for the year, after all available deductions and credits, is small.

NEXT WEEK: A new definition of "disabled" for the disability deduction.

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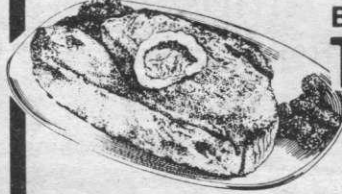
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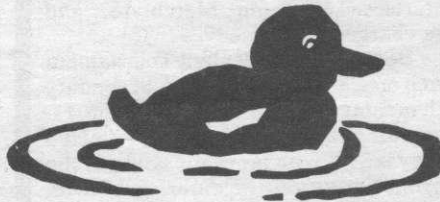
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Jim Stuart completes training

Auxiliary constable awarded badge, identification

Auxiliary RCMP Constable Jim Stuart recently received his auxiliary police badge and identification card after passing four provincial police training examinations.

Though he only recently received his badge and ID card, Stuart is no stranger to auxiliary police work. He has been serving the Ganges detachment as a volunteer for the past eight years. However, major changes to the auxiliary program during the last four years necessitated that he successfully complete the entire training process before receiving his new appointment.

"Jim obtained an average of 87 per cent on his four training exams, which certainly shows that he is more than competent in his abilities as a police officer," RCMP Cst. Jim Harrison said in discussing Stuart's work and the auxiliary police program.

The program is provincially funded and administered through the B.C. ministry of the attorney general. It affords citizens the opportunity to serve the community through their local police department or RCMP detachment.

To be eligible for service, interested individuals must have graduated from secondary school and be between 21 and 55 years of age. They must also be Canadian citizens of good character, residents of the communities in which they apply, and capable of providing 160 hours of volunteer service annually.

Auxiliary police officers are appointed as provincial police constables by the ministry of the attorney general under the B.C. Police Act. Appointments are not simply handed out to interested volunteers, however: as RCMP Cst. Harrison noted last week, auxiliaries must earn their badges by successfully completing an extensive training program.

Subjects normally covered in the training program are orientation to police service; equipment, crowd control and disaster; criminal and provincial statute law; physical fitness, self-defense; crisis intervention; traffic control and direction; small arms and police community relations.

Training is divided into four blocks and at the end of each is an exam. All exams must be passed with a minimum score of 60 per cent.

Firearms training requires a minimum qualification to the RCMP marksmen's level, and a thorough understanding of small arms and the policy concerning their use.

"An auxiliary policeman is not a Rent-a-Cop," stressed Harrison. "In actual fact, he or she are members of our community who volunteer their own time. By assisting the police when on duty, they become involved in the constant maintenance of law and order in their community. Further to this, their duties provide them with the opportunity to assist people in many ways."

Cst. Harrison said that fully 75 per cent of police duties are "assistance oriented." When on duty, auxiliary constables — by the virtue of their appointment —

have all the authority of a regular police officer.

During the last four years, Harrison said, the auxiliary police program has undergone several major changes, not the least of which were the training and appointment requirements. In addition to this, auxiliary constables must now carry sidearms.

Harrison said the service volunteered by auxiliary constables is greatly appreciated by the RCMP and the community. He noted that because regular RCMP officers are often transferred to different communities, auxiliaries give the police force a "continuity" in the community.

In some detachments, he added, regular officers are often "spread pretty thin." Auxiliaries, he noted, can provide valuable services in times of disaster.



Sgt. Mitch Hanks



A/Cst. Jim Stuart

Salt Spring representative

Commissionaires now active here

The Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, a non-profit organization providing security and other services, has extended its operations to Salt Spring Island.

The Corps of Commissionaires is a self-administered organization that provides security guard and other services to all levels of government and industry, according to Commissionaire Stephen S. Millen, the corps' representative on Salt Spring.

Millen — who spent 12 years in the Canadian Forces medical service and also worked at Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital after arriving here in 1972 — said last week the corps provides services to the federal and provincial governments and until recently

worked in the provincial museum. It can also provide security, reception and guide services to businesses and organizations when requested.

The corps operates strictly for the benefit of its members, who are all former military or RCMP personnel. Organizations employing commissionaires pay an hourly fee to the corps that covers all wage and other costs.

Millen — who spent three years with the corps in Victoria — said the organization has a long and proud history. First established in England in 1859 as a means of providing employment for war veterans, it has grown into an efficient, modern security organization. The Canadian Corps of Commissionaires was

organized in 1925, and set up its first branch offices in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

The Victoria and Vancouver Island branch of the corps began operating in 1925. According to Lt.-Cmdr. Bruce Massie, adjutant of the Victoria and Vancouver Island group, the corps has wanted to extend its services to Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands for some time.

"We'd hoped to get established on Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands. We feel our services are required there," Massie said. "We're well established in Victoria, but we've never had anyone on the islands who could provide the service."

There are approximately 600 commissionaires working throughout the Victoria and Vancouver Island district. Massie said he would be willing to visit Salt Spring and speak to local organizations on the corps and its work. He noted the organization has a half-hour film outlining its activities, and would be willing to show it on the island.

Inquiries about the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires and its services can be directed to Commissionaire Millen (537-5957) or the Victoria corps office (727-7755).



Stephen Millen

Alert line going into Victoria

Success of Salt Spring Island's medical alert system has prompted the Capital Regional District (CRD) to expand the service to Victoria.

The medical alert system, which has 31 users on Salt Spring,

is designed for elderly or infirm people who wish to live at home instead of a hospital or care facility. It provides participants with a transmitter that is worn around the neck and activated in an emergency, notifying a

monitoring station that help is needed.

When it was launched late last year the Salt Spring program was billed as a pilot project which, if successful, would lead to expansion into Victoria.

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Speech contest held

Rotarians encourage youth leadership

Gulf Islands Secondary School student Nicky Kerrigan was the winner of this year's Rotary Youth Leadership award on Salt Spring Island.

Kerrigan won the honour by placing first in the Rotary Club's speech contest, and will now attend a four-day youth leadership conference from March 19 to 22 at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington.

Kerrigan and runner-up Angela Donnelly — both Grade 11 students at GISS — spoke this year on the topic of youth leadership and the apparent lack of same at GISS.

Both students feel the lack of youth leadership at the high school has hurt the institution and created problems within the community. They noted that last year, student council elections at the school drew little — if any — interest.

Kerrigan and Donnelly said the lack of youth leadership has made it difficult for GISS students to have pride in their school. However, both indicated that Principal John Wellingham has already helped to promote youth leadership at the school.

Both girls indicated they will try to promote youth leadership at the school. They added, however,

that students willing to do so face some problems.

"It takes a lot of time," the girls said, adding that students are also saddled with "mega-homework."

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award is presented annually by the local Rotary Club. Each year, the winner of the award is awarded a trip to the leadership conference.

Rotarian Don Harrison said the club wished it could send both Kerrigan and Donnelly to the conference. However, he said the club is only permitted to send one student.

"I think this is one of Rotary's better programs, myself," he said.

Harrison presented both Kerrigan and Donnelly with certificates at the high school on Friday.

Event recommended

A Gulf Islands Secondary School student who attended Pacific Lutheran University's youth leadership conference last year through the local Rotary Club said Friday the experience changed her life.

Kim Jorgensen, a Grade 12 student at GISS, said she not only had a lot of fun at the conference, but gained confidence in herself and her abilities.

"It was really great," she said. "We (those who attended the conference) just fell in love with each other. When we had to leave, everyone was crying and hugging."

"It was a bit religious, but it offered a way of looking at things. It helped a lot with self-esteem, and it helps make people better leaders."

Jorgensen said attending the conference helped her become more outgoing. "You find that there are people out there who care, and that you can't judge a book by its cover."

Jorgensen said she has learned to enjoy children more since attending the conference, and finds she is more willing to help people.

"I would recommend that anyone who has the opportunity to go to this conference, go," she concluded.

bridge winners

Gulf Islands Bridge club winners on March 2 were: (north-south) Gordon Hutton and Boyd Siemens; John and Vera Sarginson; Jim and Sue Bradford; Kay Harrison and Dawny Scarfe; (east-west) Kay Sinclair and Alan Steward; Margaret Ellison and John Coates; Vivian Storr and Marion Ashmore; Dick and Fran Tipple.

Tuesday night winners were: (north-south) Isabel Richardson and Helen Shandro; Fred Struve and June Knowles; Bunny Jordan and George Lampier; John Hartman and Carla Reid; (east-west) Anne and Norm McConnell; Irene Hawksworth and Gordon Hutton; Pat Warman and Jim Burford; Mike Testart and Noel Fowles.

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Book explores reasons for widespread hunger in world

Editor's Note: The second event in this year's 'Ten Days For World Development' program on Salt Spring Island is a March 15 workshop exploring the causes of world hunger. In keeping with that theme, organizers have provided the following book review.

World Hunger: Twelve Myths. By Frances Moore Lappe and Joseph Collins.

Frances Moore Lappe, author of *Diet For a Small Planet*, and Joseph Collins are the founders of the Institute for Food and Development Policy, based in San Francisco. In their introduction, the authors say that for over 15 years, they have sought to understand why there is hunger in a world of plenty. Learning, they

discovered, had to start with unlearning — by cutting through scary cliches about hunger, they arrived at some surprising findings.

The book is easy reading of material thoroughly researched and presented in an understandable way. Hunger is seen not just as pictures of stunted, bony bodies but in terms of universal human emotions that we all have known at some point in our lives — anguish, grief, humiliation, fear and powerlessness. Once we begin to understand hunger as real people coping with painful human emotions, we can perceive its roots.

This is a book of hope, ending with a section on what we can do.

—Marg Simons

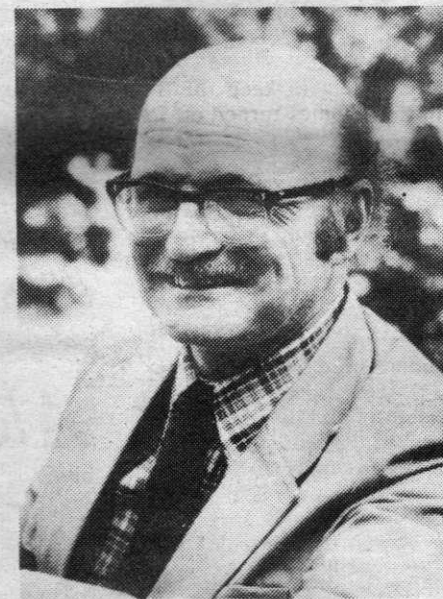
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N.Y. TIMES



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John Barth is the author of several major novels in the past three decades. They include, *Chimera*, *Giles Goat Boy*, *The Sot-Weed Factor*, *The Floating Opera*, *The End Of The Road* and his most recent *Letters*. A previous winner of the National Book Award for Fiction, Barth is the Alumni Centennial Professor of English and Creative Writing at Johns Hopkins University.

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The President's Distinguished Lecture Committee presents speakers of international renown each year to speak on issues of interest to the community. Among this year's Distinguished Lecturers will be NOBEL LAUREATE JOHN POLANYI who will speak in the University Centre Auditorium on MAY 28, 8:00 p.m.



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SALT SPRING ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIETY NEWS

- ★ **THE ACHIEVEMENT CENTRE** needs volunteers: tutoring, "leisure time buddies" to go bowling with the students! Anybody interested call 537-9212.
- ★ **THE RECYCLE DEPOT** has moved down behind the Upper Ganges Centre and needs more helpers. Important work, not too much time, hours set at your convenience. Call 537-9212.
- ★ Don't forget we will have help available to seniors filling in their G.I.S. forms. For an appointment please call us at the centre - 537-9212.
- ★ **FOOD BANK** hours Mon. & Fri. 2-3:30 at the Community Centre. For emergency help please call the centre Mon.-Fri. 9-4 and make an appointment.
- ★ If there are any women interested in forming a support and fun group please call the centre and leave your name and phone number.



A total of 229 students from Salt Spring Elementary School received certificates for not watching any television during a 24-hour period. The abstinence project was part of a month-long reading campaign.

Students given certificates for not watching television

Certificates were handed out last week to 229 Salt Spring Elementary School students who avoided watching television for a 24-hour stretch.

The abstinence project, part of a month-long reading promotion launched by the school, initially involved 253 students; however, 24 were unable to keep the TV sets in their homes turned off for a full day.

Elementary School teacher Ian Jukes noted that the project had a 90.51 per cent success rate — 229 students out of 253 — and that it served its purpose.

"If we were able to make some people aware that they are addicted to television, then the program was a success," Jukes said. "Judging from the reactions of a lot of parents, who said they hadn't realized what the numbers were, we did raise that awareness."

The 'numbers' Jukes referred to were the results of an in-school survey that found the average student watches 24 hours and 28 minutes of television each week. Individual counts ranged from a low of zero hours to a high of 80 hours.

"That threw a lot of parents," Jukes said. He noted that one mother, on learning from the study that her son was watching about eight hours of television a day, decided against repairing the family set when it broke down recently.

In response to the survey, the school launched a month-long reading blitz aimed at encouraging students to exchange television sets for books. The 24-hour TV

shutdown, dubbed "cold turkey" day, was part of the program.

Although the reading skills held by local children are rated among the highest in the province, Jukes said, the study done of TV viewing habits shows some students are definitely hooked on the tube.

'Some kids have substantial television habits.'

"It's apparent that while we do well in reading tests, some kids have substantial television habits," he said. "And it doesn't seem like a discriminating habit — it's TV for the sake of TV, not for the sake of quality."

He continued: "We can't hope to battle television, but we can at least hope to lead the way in

showing students there are other things to do besides watching television.

"Sure, it's tokenism in that it only lasts for one day, but all you can hope to do is be successful within the terms of reference drawn up — and our terms were for one day."

Judging by feedback from parents and students, Jukes said, alternatives were found to television. He noted that several parents contacted him to say whole families took part in the TV shutdown and most spent their free time in activities that involved everyone.

As for the students, a random sampling by Jukes and *Driftwood* found that 24 hours of abstinence was difficult but satisfying. The pupils surveyed said they learned they can do other things with their time, be it reading or listening to the radio.

One student said he was repeatedly tempted to turn his television set on, but refrained from doing so because he feared "letting the class down."

4-H starts projects

By ANDREA RONDEAU

At the last meeting of the Salt Spring Island 4-H Club on February 27, members were divided into groups responsible for crafts, bicycles and model

railroading. These projects will be continued at the March 1 meeting.

Andrea Rondeau and Gitta Baker went to the 4-H district public speaking contest. Both did very well and earned certificates.

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CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT Notice of Local Court of Revision

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- SALT SPRING ISLAND HIGHLAND WATER SYSTEM
- SATURNA ISLAND WATER SYSTEM
- GANGES SEWERAGE SYSTEM

TAKE NOTICE that the first sitting of the Local Court of Revision, pursuant to Section 484 of the Municipal Act, will be held at 10:00 am, Tuesday, March 31, 1987 in the Board Room of the Capital Regional District, 524 Yates Street, Victoria, British Columbia to hear appeals against the aforementioned 1987 parcel tax assessment rolls.

The Local Court of Revision will hear only those appeals filed in writing with the undersigned at least 48 hours in advance of its first sitting.

A copy of the complete rolls will be available for inspection at the offices of the Capital Regional District, 524 Yates Street, Victoria, British Columbia between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, commencing March 16, 1987.

Dated at Victoria, British Columbia this 23rd day of February, 1987.

Diana E. Trueman, R.I.A.
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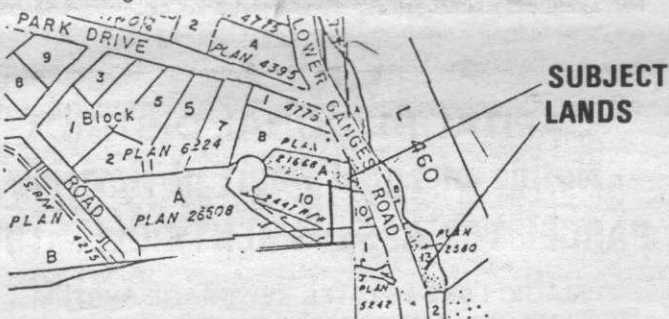
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons who deem their interest in property affected by the following proposed by-laws will be afforded an opportunity to be heard on the matters contained therein at a Public Hearing to be held at the **HARBOUR HOUSE HOTEL, GANGES, B.C.** on **FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1987**, commencing at **1:30 P.M.**

In general terms the intents of the following proposed by-laws are as follows:

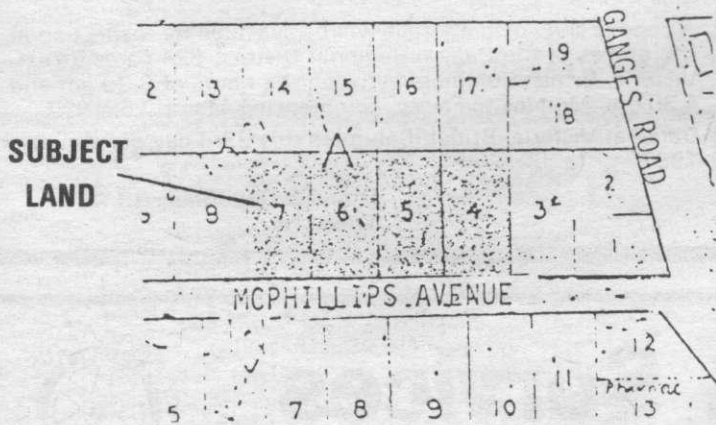
- a) Proposed Salt Spring Island Trust Committee By-law No. 167 is a by-law to amend Capital Regional District By-law No. 118 cited as "Official Community Plan (Electoral Area 'F' - Salt Spring Island) By-law, 1972" to provide for the issuance of Temporary Commercial and Industrial Permits within the Designated Development Areas in Ganges.
- b) Proposed By-law No. 173 is a by-law to amend By-law No. 123 being "Zoning By-law, Salt Spring Island, 1985", by:
 - i) adding a new zoning classification "Uplands and Forest Cluster Zone (UFC) which provides for uses such as single family dwellings, seasonal cottages, home occupations, outdoor recreation use, farm use and forestry and logging. One single-family dwelling and one seasonal cottage per 8 hectares are permitted. The By-law also includes provisions relating to building height and setbacks. This By-law re-establishes a zoning classification deleted in error when the zoning by-law was consolidated; and
 - ii) amending Section 17.1(3), the regulations relating to the Upland and Forest Zone, to allow two single family dwellings on a parcel larger than 12 hectares.
- c) Proposed Salt Spring Island Trust Committee By-law No. 174 is a by-law to amend By-law No. 123 being "Zoning By-law, Salt Spring Island, 1985", by:
 - i) changing the zoning classification of Lot "A", Section 2, Range 3 and 4 East, Plan 21668, North Salt Spring Island from the Residential 1 Zone (R1) to the Comprehensive Development (2) Zone CD(2); and
 - ii) by changing the zoning of a portion of Lot 13, Section 2, Plan 2580, North Salt Spring Island from the Industrial 4 Zone (I4) to the Comprehensive Development (2) Zone CD(2) as shown on the plan attached to the by-law.

The locations of the subject lands are shown on the sketch following:



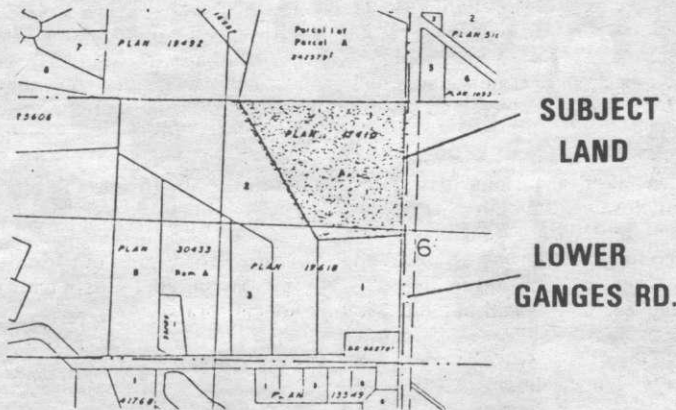
- d) Proposed Salt Spring Island Trust Committee By-law No. 175 is a by-law to amend By-law No. 123 being "Zoning By-law, Salt Spring Island, 1985" by changing the zoning classification of Lot 4 and 7, Plan 1371, Block "A", Section 1, North Salt Spring Island from the Residential 1 Zone (R1) to the Comprehensive Development Zone (CD) and by changing the zoning classification of Lots 5 and 6, Plan 1371, Block "A", Section 1, North Salt Spring Island from the Commercial 1 Zone (C1) to the Comprehensive Development Zone (CD).

The location of the subject lands is shown on the sketch following:



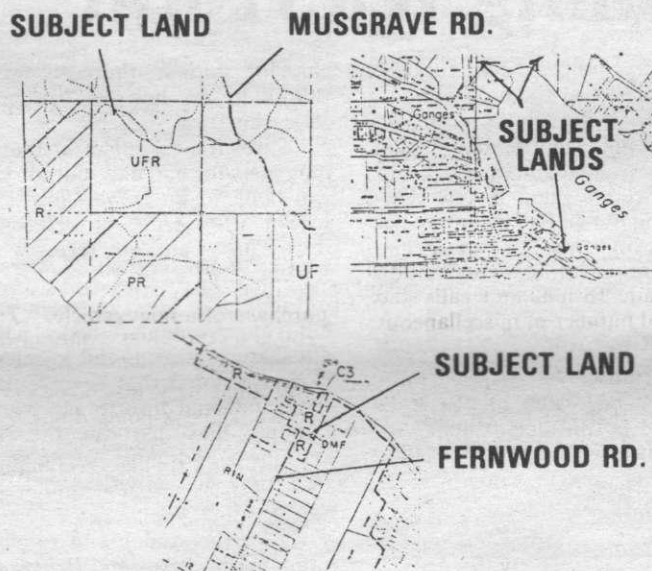
- e) Proposed Salt Spring Island Trust Committee By-law No. 176 is a by-law to amend By-law No. 123 being "Zoning By-law, Salt Spring Island, 1985" by changing the zoning classification of Lot A, Range 1 East, Plan 17410, North Salt Spring Island from the Agriculture 2 Zone (A2) to the Agriculture 1 Zone (A1).

The location of the subject land is shown on the sketch following:



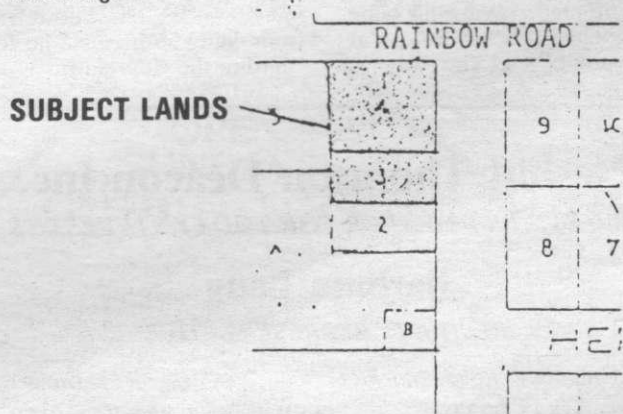
- f) Proposed Salt Spring Island Trust Committee By-law No. 177 is a by-law to amend By-law No. 123 being "Zoning By-law, Salt Spring Island, 1985" by amending Section 4.22, the minimum and minimum average parcel area requirements for subdivision, from 4,000 square metres to 2 hectares for the Detached Multiple Family Zone (DMF) and by adding a minimum and minimum average area requirement for the Comprehensive Development (2) Zone CD(2) of 2 hectares and a minimum and a minimum average area requirement of 32 hectares for the Uplands and Forest Retreat Zone (UFR).

The location of the subject lands is shown on the sketches following:



- g) Proposed By-law No. 178 is a by-law to amend By-law No. 123 being "Zoning By-law, Salt Spring Island, 1985" by changing the zoning classification of Lots 3 and 4, Plan 5827, Section 1, Range 3 East, North Salt Spring Island from the Residential 1 Zone (R1) to the Commercial 3 Zone (C3).

The location of the subject lands is shown on the sketch following:



- h) Proposed By-law No. 179 is a by-law to amend Capital Regional District By-law No. 118 cited as "Official Community Plan (Electoral Area 'F'—Salt Spring Island) By-law, 1972" to change the plan policies with respect to plan reference Block 5 at the corner of Jackson Avenue and Rainbow Road to allow automobile service and repair uses as a secondary use.

A copy of the proposed by-laws may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 747 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 957(2)(v) of the Municipal Amendment Act, 1985, an additional copy of the proposed by-laws may be inspected at the Capital Regional District Building Inspection Office, Salt Spring Island.

CYNTHIA HAWKSWORTH,
Manager.

Planning group

Wigen chosen chairman

The Salt Spring Island Planning Association has a new slate of officers.

The association, which held its annual meeting on February 18, has selected Syd Wigen as its new chairman. Wigen takes over from Murray Reiss, who will remain an executive member.

Vice-chairman of the association during the coming year will be Sue Bradford. The treasurer is Gordon Calderhead, while Murray Shoolbraid will serve as secretary. Tom Wright will continue to serve as association's representative on the Island Trust's Advisory Planning Commission (APC), while Bob Cunniffe will act as the association's alternative APC representative.

Other executive members are Jim Wight, Clair Nutting, Tony Bartley, Matthew Coleman, Ken Renaud and Reiss.

Prior to selecting their new executives on February 18, members of the planning association heard a number of year-end reports.

In his address, Reiss noted that the association sponsored a variety of activities throughout the year. He added, however, that members were "preoccupied" with the question of what the association's role should be in the community.

"As an organization, I guess you could say we're having our mid-life crisis," he said.

Reiss said it was necessary to re-define the association's purpose and goals. He noted that executive members established a new list of objectives in October, and asked that they be approved by the membership.

Members accepted the association's new list of goals. The organization's broad objective, they agreed, is "to improve the quality of life on Salt Spring Island."

- The sub-objectives are to:
- preserve, enhance and develop an ecological balance between concerns of people and nature;
 - ensure that development is planned to meet the long-term needs and aspirations of the community;
 - ensure there is adequate research on development projects before decisions are made;
 - monitor development projects to ensure they conform to existing guidelines;
 - promote the evolution of a more representative form of local government;
 - provide a public forum in which alternative points of view can be given a fair hearing;
 - try to determine what the community wants on public issues and to provide opportunities for it to express its views;
 - lend its support, as appropriate, to other island agencies and organizations in their efforts to achieve objectives parallel to its own;
 - assist in the formation, discussion and dissemination of creative ideas to enhance the quality of life on Salt Spring; and
 - reinforce, as appropriate, the efforts of those organizations that seek to preserve the unique character of the Gulf Islands.

The planning association meets the third Wednesday of each month.

Ganges firehall property

Land purchase cited as protection district highlight

A highlight of 1986 for the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District was purchase of the Ganges firehall property, board chairman Dennis Andrews told those present at the district's annual general meeting March 3.

Andrews noted that a year earlier, trustees had asked for the organization's guidance on the issue of whether to purchase the property.

"They (trustees) were given a mandate to do this, so at this time I am very pleased to say that after a lot of negotiations with the government and a good deal of help from our past MLA, Hugh Curtis, and our secretary-treasurer, Spencer Marr, it has become a reality," Andrews noted. "Hopefully, at some future date, if the firehall is moved to a new location, the purchase of this

property will offset to a large degree the cost of new property and the building of another hall."

Andrews drew members' attention to a few other changes made during 1986. He pointed out that after taking "a serious look" at the fire department's vehicle needs, trustees elected to sell two trucks.

"Over the past few months we have taken a serious look at the vehicles we have in the department and with Fire Chief Bob's recommendations — which the trustees totally agree with — have decided to sell our old 1959 Jeep, which served the Fulford area so faithfully for so many years," he explained. "Also to go is a 1959 pumper, which was used for so many years for the Ganges firehall. Seeing as these vehicles have not been used very much

over the last few years, it was felt that with the cost of upkeep, the cost of insurance for them, plus the space they were taking up just sitting there, it would be economically wise to dispose of them. It will be a sad day when these vehicles are sold, as they have served us well over the years."

In concluding his report, Andrews thanked all fire department volunteers and their employers, the department's fire chief and his assistant.

He also singled out the department's current dispatchers for special praise.

"I have been involved with the department one way or another for about 20 years," he said. "I look back on those years and say to myself that maybe we have been remiss in not mentioning a job that takes a very special group

of people to perform, and that is the job of dispatcher.

"It is the duty of the people who live in the suite next door to answer the phone night and day when the fire chief and his assistant are away from the hall — and in the old days, when we did not have anyone working at the hall, the onus fell on the shoulders of these people. It is a very demanding and nerve-racking job, but the satisfaction is in knowing that you are there when help is needed."

Andrews said Salt Spring Island residents have been "very, very fortunate" over the years to have such a dedicated group of people who have done this job.

"To the couple who are in there now, Gina and Harry Messam — and to all those before them — from the people of Salt Spring

Island, thank you very, very much for the tremendous job that you have done," the protection district chairman concluded.

In other reports delivered at the meeting, it was noted the Salt Spring Island Firemen's Association played a key role in promoting community events here. During 1986, the department's volunteers organized a variety of activities on the island — including their annual dance in the farmers' institute building and a picnic in August. They also hosted the crew of the Bellingham Jaycees Christmas Ship, which arrived in December.

And finally, the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District has been given a clean bill of financial health. The district closed out 1986 with a small surplus of \$525.

Chief's report details department's workload

Local firemen responded to 121 alarms during 1986, Fire Chief Bob Leask reported at the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District's annual general meeting on March 3.

Leask, in his annual report to the district, noted that eight house fires occurred on the island in 1986. The department also responded to 23 chimney fires, 10 vehicle fires and 18 brush and grass fires. Fire department officials made 18 inhalator calls and an equal number of miscellaneous visits.

Unfortunately, slightly more than 21 per cent of the calls received by the department during the year proved to be false alarms, the chief noted.

According to Leask, total fire-fighting duties represented 1,363 man-hours of work by the department. The damage to property from fire was estimated at \$252,000.

The Salt Spring Island fire department currently has 27 members, and Leask noted they provided "a good average turnout at fires and practices."

Training continued to be a priority in the department. Fire-

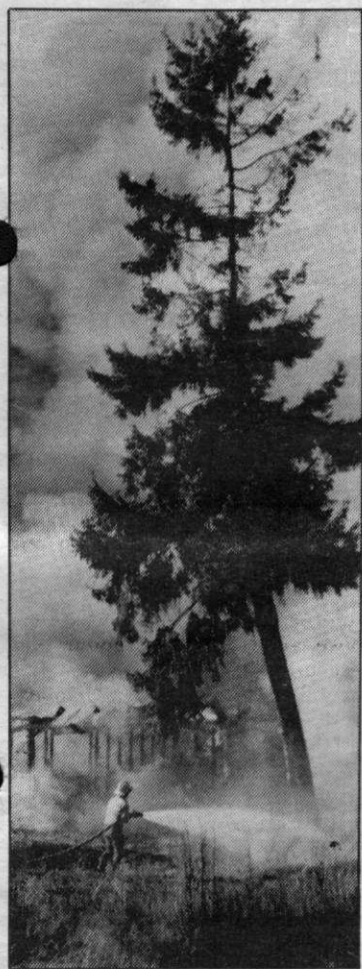
men attended 40 training sessions and received a total of 1,578 man hours of instruction, as well as what Leask termed "many hours of voluntary help in the maintenance of the halls and equipment."

The inspection of schools, hotels, public buildings, chimney installations, solid fuel burning appliances and new construction continued in 1986, the fire chief added.

One of the highlights for the fire department in 1986 was the purchase of a new vehicle. "This vehicle was a 1,500 gallon tanker truck and it replaces the 1959 GMC tanker that was taken out of service," Leask pointed out.

At the conclusion of his report, the fire chief thanked the department's dedicated volunteers, as well as their employers.

"In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the fire-fighters for another year of enthusiastic support, without which this department could not function at the high level it now maintains," Leask said. "I would also like to thank the employers of the volunteers for granting these men time off to attend alarms during their working hours."



Volunteer firemen responded to 121 alarms last year.

Plan changes announced

User fee system to be eliminated

Hospital user fees for acute care patients will be discontinued as of March 31, the provincial government said last week.

Current rates are \$8.50 a day for in-patient acute care, \$8 for day surgery and \$10 for emergency treatment.

Discontinuation of user fees — in effect at B.C. hospitals since 1951 — guarantees that Victoria will receive approximately \$85 million in health care transfer payments from the federal government. Under the terms of the Canada Health Act, Ottawa has been withholding the payments to penalize B.C.'s user fee system.

Health Minister Peter Dueck said discontinuation of user fees will cost the province \$35 million a year in lost revenues, which will have to be made up elsewhere.

Medical Services Plan premiums will increase by 10 per

cent on April 1, the provincial government says.

The premium for a single person will rise to \$20 a month, compared to the present \$18. The rate for a person with one dependent will climb to \$37 from \$34, and families of three or more persons will pay \$42, compared with \$38.

The premiums — last raised on April 1, 1986 — will meet less than 40 per cent of the Medical Services Plan's \$1 billion in annual costs, the province says. The remaining funds come from general government revenues, including transfer payments from the federal government.

Victoria has improved the terms of a program designed to provide full medical coverage to low-income residents.

The province's Medical Services Plan has a premium assistance

program covering over 530,000 British Columbians with low incomes. Beginning July 1, the province will increase qualifying income levels and provide higher subsidies.

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The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division is now accepting names of a qualified person or persons interested in supplying firewood on a contract basis to the Malahat District (Goldstream Zone and the Gulf Island Zone).

For further information, interested parties may contact R. Ramsay, Zone Supervisor, Goldstream Zone, or W. Shaw, Zone Supervisor, Gulf Island Zone, 2930 Trans Canada Highway, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3X2 or telephone 387-4363.

All applicants must have their own wood supply and suitable equipment to fulfill the contract before their bids will be considered.

Applicants must submit their name, address and telephone number no later than 3:00 p.m., March 20, 1987.

No tender shall be considered having any qualifying clause whatsoever and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

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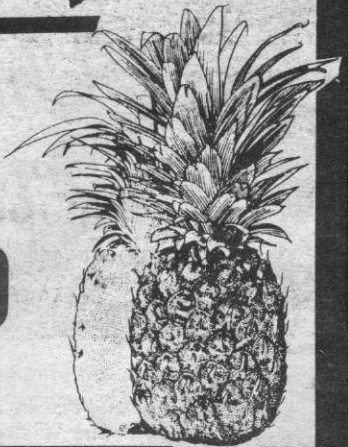


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PORK

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F.B.I. FROZEN
Orange
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SAVE
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tin

78¢

F.B.I. FROZEN
Apple
Juice

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Valdy to perform this Sunday

Valdy concert fund-raiser for festival

The society organizing this year's Salt Spring Summer Festival of the Arts will kick off a fund-raising drive later this week with a concert featuring Valdy.

The event is set for 8 pm this Sunday, March 15, at Fulford Community Hall. Tickets are \$5 apiece and available at *et cetera* in Ganges.

Michael Armstrong, a Festival of the Arts director, said the concert will feature Valdy — a Fulford-area resident — and the studio musicians who have been working with him on an album being recorded in Vancouver.

The concert, co-sponsored by the festival society and Off Centre Stage, is a benefit to raise funds to launch this year's festival, Armstrong continued. After expenses for the musicians are covered, the net proceeds will be turned over to the society.

"It's the beginning of our fund-raising drive," Armstrong said, adding that similar events are being organized to take place between now and the summer. One will be a concert of classical music tentatively set for sometime in April.

At both the Valdy and classical music concerts, society representatives will be on hand to sell memberships. "We will be recruiting festival supporters," Armstrong said. Memberships, including renewals of those taken out last year, are \$10 each.

Higher than 1986 total

Festival society sets financial target

By DUNCAN MacDONNELL

If bigger things are planned for this year's Summer Festival of the Arts on Salt Spring — and they are — its organizers will need more in the way of start-up funds. About \$3,000 more.

The society, which launches a fund-raising drive for the festival with a Sunday concert featuring Valdy (see story, above), had \$7,000 in the bank when the inaugural festival opened last July. This year, society director Michael Armstrong estimates, it would like to begin the show with \$10,000 on hand.

"Our goal is \$10,000 in start-up funds. If we can have that to start, we'll be in good shape," he says.

The \$10,000 isn't the end of the story, however — just like last year's \$7,000 was just the tip of the fiscal iceberg. "We started with \$7,000 in 1986, and then we have the revenues generated by the festival itself," Armstrong said, pointing out that start-up funds of any kind are just that — start-up.

But how to raise the \$10,000? Armstrong said the Valdy benefit and a classical music concert in April are the beginning of a fund-raising drive that will run

from now until the summer, and only one of several revenue sources to be explored.

Money will hopefully flow into the society's bank account from the sale of advertising in a festival program, an appeal to local businesses for financial support, the sale of society memberships — at \$10 each — and from other benefit concerts. Also to be tapped are government agencies offering grants.

It should also be remembered that the society is not starting from scratch in 1987, as it was last year. Although the bottom line on the 1986 festival was a \$25,000 loss, the debt is in the form of an outstanding loan; as Armstrong puts it, "we still have some money in the bank."

By raising to \$10,000 the amount of money they feel is needed to launch this year's festival, organizers are serving notice that they want the 1987 event to be bigger and better than the first one. Armstrong indicates, in fact, that the festival has to grow if the society's long-term goal of establishing a year-round centre for the performing arts is to be reached.

That goal, however, will sit on

the back burner as the bulk of all efforts are directed to the festival itself. "We have to build up the festival first, because it's the seed for the greater goal," Armstrong explains. "With it, we want to become known for a high-quality, popular festival with a name outside this region, one that will draw people here. The festival is the foundation for our reputation."

The short-term goal, at least for this year, is to construct an outside following to lay on the base of local support. That means greater effort will be spent on promoting and advertising the 1987 event in off-island centres, Armstrong said.

"Last year, the festival had a local focus," he said. "This year, we will be moving out from the island. We will advertise, promote and gear the festival to off-island audiences, to bring visitors here and generate revenue for local businesses."

The potential the festival holds for attracting visitors is a pitch the society will toss at local businesses when it asks them for financial support. Armstrong points out that the festival should

Turn to Page 21

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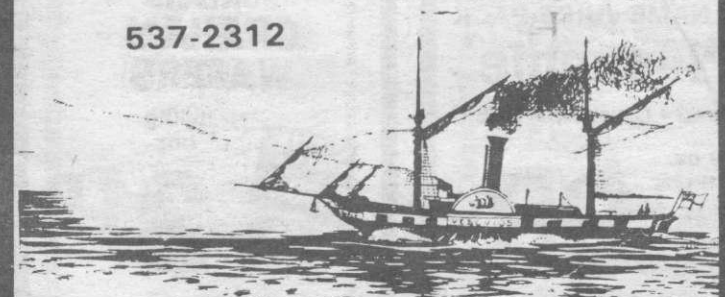
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