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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR, NO. 11

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1987

40c

## Trust to receive land ownership rights

By IAN HUNTER  
*Special to Driftwood*

The Islands Trust has waited over 10 years for the right to accept donations of land and money. According to Municipal Affairs and Transit Minister Rita Johnson, it will have to wait a bit longer — but the Trust will soon have that power.

Speaking at the quarterly Trust Council meeting, held last weekend on Bowen Island, Johnson said provisions will soon be in place to allow the Trust to hold donations of land and money.

"I can tell you that it is on the move," she said. "I hope to tell you within the next week to 10 days, to give you word of it being

finalized.

"I don't see any problems with it. It's on the way. It has my support. I believe it has the premier's support and is just a matter of going through the ritual of cabinet signing."

Provisions allowing the Trust to accept and invest money, and to acquire and hold land, were

written into the Trust Act when it was drafted in 1974. However, those provisions had never been proclaimed, despite repeated lobbying in Victoria by trustees.

"What we are working on right now is the proclamation," Johnson said. "The nuts and bolts will

Turn to Page 8

## School board moves against rezoning bid

The board of trustees for School District 64 (Gulf Islands) passed a motion Thursday providing the Islands Trust with four recommendations relating to development and zoning along lower Rainbow Road.

The four-point motion — made by Salt Spring trustee Charles Hingston and seconded by trustee Ian Fraser — recommend to the Islands Trust:

- that residential 'buffer' zones be maintained around school property;
- that because of its proximity to the Ganges school site, lower Rainbow Road not be developed as a high-volume traffic route;
- that any solution to the problems raised by rezoning requests be delayed until the reports of the Islands Trust task force and the design panel on revisions to the Community Plan have been received; and
- that the Islands Trust employ the services of a full-time qualified planner giving special consideration to the village of Ganges and its growth pattern relative to school zones.

The motion came approximately two weeks after the board of trustees called a special meeting February 26 to discuss a rezoning application received by the Islands Trust from Salt Spring Esso operator Dennis Beech.

Beech, who has been told he must move his Esso service station from its current location along Fulford-Ganges Road within the next six months, hopes to relocate his business there. To accommodate a service station, the property must be zoned Commercial 3. Despite an extensive search, Beech has been unable to find any suitable C3 property in the community.

At their special meeting, school trustees expressed concern over the proposed redevelopment and the possible increase in traffic it could cause on Rainbow Road — which borders on property occupied by Salt Spring Elementary and Gulf Islands Secondary schools.

The proposed rezoning also requires an amendment to the Official Community Plan.



## Masked marvels

These were just two people among the throng that turned out at Central last Saturday night for

the Beaux Arts Ball, which officially kicks off Showcase 87. Exhibition entries were judged

Friday (photos, page 9); columnist Gary Cherneff comments on page 22.



## Jury eyes circumstances surrounding diver's death

By MIKE O'BRIEN

A coroner's jury did not agree last week with four divers who claimed the dive which killed one of their colleagues was conducted as safely as possible.

The five-member jury met March 10 in Sidney to study circumstances surrounding the death of Drew Dzuren, a 26-year-old commercial diver who disappeared in Active Pass last October 3.

"The job was extremely easy," said John Bruce, owner of All-Canada Dive, the company which employed the men to check underwater B. C. Hydro cables between Mayne and Galiano Islands. "Nothing should have happened."

Bruce and the three divers with Dzuren the day he died told the

inquest all five men had agreed it would be safest to ignore Workmen's Compensation Board (WCB) regulations which demand all divers who descend below 60 feet be accompanied by another diver.

Bruce and the three divers each explained that the buddy system of diving was not cost-efficient, was incapable of preventing the death and could prove unsafe if the two divers bumped into each other. A lifeline could be dangerous if it tangled and trapped the diver, they said.

The currents in Active Pass were hard enough to possibly ensnare a tethered diver, Bruce said. "The safest way to do it was the way they did."

Dzuren had just begun his

## 'New' market brings woe to merchants

By MIKE O'BRIEN

The shortage of parking lots in Gasoline Alley is offset by a maximum of confusion over who may use them now that the farmers' market has moved there.

Several plaza merchants complained Monday of a bottleneck of market vehicles which blocked the entrance to the lot last Saturday, effectively cutting off their supply of customers.

The plaza lot is the market's new location. The vendors were moved from the front of the park

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## Outer Island news begins on Page 26



## Critical eye

Salt Spring's artists had their paintings appraised by a panel of judges as part of Showcase '87. Page 9.



## Woodworker

Brien Foerster has held many varied jobs, but has now found something to do which is as sturdy as wood. Page 24.



## Ship magnate

A Pender man owns two dozen ships, builds them himself, and if he wanted to could sail the whole armada in his bathtub. Page 26.

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# Schools budget \$500,000 above ministry limit

Gulf Islands school trustees gave approval Thursday to a preliminary 1987-88 operating budget that calls for expenditures of about \$500,000 more than education ministry guidelines have set.

The document proposes expenditures totalling \$6,063,618 between July 1, 1987, and June 30, 1988. It was described by Schools Superintendent Mike Marshall as a "maintenance budget" — one that will simply allow the district to offer existing levels of service in the coming school year.

Marshall said the 1977-78 budget for School District 64 contains what he considers to be enough money for repairs and purchases needed to prevent the quality of local education from eroding.

"During restraint," he explained, "there was a significant decline in equipment." He added that textbooks and curriculum

## Higher figure said necessary to maintain standards

also suffered from a lack of funding.

The budget sets aside money for the purchase of computers and other resource materials. Without these items, Marshall said, local students will "begin losing out" on their education.

"Computers are just one of many areas in need of attention," he continued. "Libraries are another one. During the last few years, curriculum changes have been made (by the provincial government) with little or no help from the ministry. The students, after they leave the classroom, have little to fall back on. There are simply no books there (in the libraries) on many of the topics they are studying, or they are out of date."

During restraint, Marshall

said, problems developed in local school facilities, but the district lacked the funding to remedy them. The 1987-88 preliminary budget, he said, contains provisions for repair of district facilities.

**'During restraint, there was a significant decline in equipment.'**

ies "to avoid further deterioration."

Additional custodial staff must be hired to keep up with increased workload, Marshall continued. During the past five years, he said, a greater load has also been placed on these employees.

years. "And even with all their best efforts, we are losing ground," he said. "It's hurt fields and facilities."

"All these things, I feel, can be dealt with in a responsible way through this budget," he told board members.

Marshall pointed out to trustees that the preliminary operating budget is approximately \$500,000 higher than the amount allotted to the district under the ministry of education's fiscal framework, a formula used to calculate the level of funding school districts can expect to receive from the provincial government each year.

He said the additional money is needed because the fiscal framework has "under-funded the district about the same as last

year." Last year's School District 64 budget totalled \$5,635,333.

The additional funding, Marshall said, will have to come from the taxpayers in School District 64. However, he suggested homeowners will see little if any increase in their school taxes this year.

Last year's budget, he noted, was \$476,000 above the amount allotted under the provincial government's fiscal framework. It was paid by local taxpayers.

"This year, the figure is only approximately \$30,000 above that," he pointed out.

The district's preliminary budget will now go to the ministry of education for review and possible revision. Under provincial legislative guidelines, School District 64's board of trustees must approve its final 1987-88 budget — which also sets school tax rates for the coming year — prior to May 1.

## Chaos, not evolution

# Trust bylaw 'confusion' tackled

By IAN HUNTER  
Special to Driftwood

On the Galapagos Islands, Darwin observed how different species evolved into markedly different animals by adapting to their environment. It's called natural selection.

On the Gulf Islands, Alan Osborne observes how 20 different base bylaws have developed independently of one another. He calls it bad planning.

"The whole structure and content of the bylaws differ greatly from island to island," says Osborne, a municipal affairs ministry planner. "When someone makes an inquiry on what they can do in the Gulf Islands there's 50 different zoning bylaws to go through. Specific bylaws are not very easy to find — they are quite difficult to use, enforce and interpret."

Osborne, who made his comments at last week-end's Islands Trust council meeting on Bowen Island, said the inconsistencies of the bylaws make it

difficult to give out accurate information — and that many of the bylaws in place are not enforceable, are badly written or go beyond local jurisdiction.

"Those that are not under our authority to control undermine all the bylaws," he said.

Osborne will put together a first draft of a model bylaw for the Trust, put it through a legal review and then bring it as a position paper to a public meeting.

"It's a few years down the road before it's all done," he said, but indicated the wait may be worthwhile. "Overall the bylaws would be shorter and easier to manage," he said.

At present, Osborne continued, the 20-odd different base bylaws in use can't be legally standardized because each island is a separate legal entity.

"But by having a standard model base bylaw to work from," he concluded, "it's better than having to reinvent the wheel each time we open the book."

## Postal policies rapped by newspapers

Charges of unfair competition by Canada Post Corporation were levelled Saturday during a meeting between community newspaper representatives and the B.C. Progressive Conservative caucus.

Driftwood publisher and B.C. and Yukon Community Newspapers Association (BCYCNA) president Tony Richards appeared before the Tory caucus Saturday morning in Vancouver with the association's executive director, Hugh Dickson.

The two presented a brief to the Tory MPs that claims Canada Post, while receiving federal subsidies, is actively competing

against newspapers for flyer revenue in communities across Canada. The brief says that rates charged for admail — commonly referred to as "junk mail" — are insufficient to cover the cost of its handling.

Richards and Dickson stressed they had no objection to competition as long it was fair. But Richards objected to his tax dollars being used to subsidize a competitor.

The association says the high volume of admail in turn leads to poorer delivery of first and second-class mail. The BCYCNA also object to a Canada Post requirement that advertising

flyers delivered in papers must bear a printed dateline indicating the name of the paper and the date of publication. The post office will not deliver papers containing flyers without the dateline unless they pay third-class postage on each one.

MPs were receptive to the concerns expressed by the BCYCNA representatives. Capilano MP Mary Collins observed they were "preaching to the converted."

She said arrangements would be made to allow the association to state its case before the House of Commons operations committee.

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	2100	9.5		1725	1.8
20	0130	8.0	24	0230	10.7
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**The Village Scribe**

**That day again!**

Funny how you always seem to meet a lot of friends on Wednesdays and Saturdays. By next day you're not even laughing. But they tell me that there have been several \$1,000 winners in the islands. Don't look at me, I wasn't one of them!

**Loose again**

I don't like admitting it, but, alright, I got a few loose screws. So loose they dropped out and my chainsaw wouldn't start.

There's another saw point with me. I've reached the stage in life when cutting wood changes my whole life. I swing a crafty saw and the logs fall apart. Only trouble is that I can't straighten my back at the end of the stint.

A saw weighs me down and it weighs me bent. Out slips the spinal disc and I'm holding on to passing daisies for support.

Thing that really baffles me is that I haven't sawn a log since the last time I took up limping. How did those two screws jump out of there?

Just scared, I guess.

**Dear little things!**

Look at those seals, coos Women's Lib. Aren't they cute, coons my sister-in-law.

You look at them, half-hidden in the water and you know that not a watcher is likely going ga-ga those over-fed fish-dieted mammals.

There must be a lot of itchy

**Active Pass dive**

**Crew's safety procedures criticized**

From Page 1

ascent from 110 feet below surface when he failed to respond to the waiting boat via underwater radios.

That moment was recreated when the inquest heard a tape recording of the radio communication between Dzuren and Bruce. Dzuren's widow wept into a handkerchief during the three-minute silence which followed the diver's taped declaration that he had finished the job and was coming up. The Victoria couple had only been married a short time prior to the accident.

Victoria diver Brady Bell, who had been in the water prior to Dzuren's dive, said WCB regulations are too general to apply to certain situations like those caused by the Active Pass currents. "I think these things are guidelines," Bell said.

Bell told the jury he and the other divers remained on board the boat so they could watch for Dzuren's body in case he surfaced. None of the divers went in to look for him. "It would have been like looking for a needle in a haystack," Bell said.

The jury was unable to identify the probable cause of death, though testimony indicated Dzuren might have blacked out from holding his breath while ascending, or had forgotten to purge the carbon dioxide from his face mask and was knocked out.

"WCB rules aren't necessary on the coast," said John Barry



**to be frank . . .**

**. . . by Richards**

trigger fingers around when the hungry hordes arrive.

Thing is we only see the seals from our window. We don't view the slurp of fish cascading into seal-bellies hour after hour. I'm not sure that I particularly want to. But maybe, just that possibility, I'm prejudiced!

**Garded by dogs**

I was taken with the description offered by John Lauder, Earl of Fountainhall, in his Journal, when he looked at the savage animals of France, 300 years ago.

The French peasants would have suffered short shrift with the modern animal protection groups. Even the society for the prevention of cruelty to people might have been indignant.

Lauder writes of a "tounne in Bretagne which is garded by its dogs". He explains that the dogs are chained up all day and released at night.

"If either horse or man approach the city," he wrote, "they are in hazard to be torn to peices." (The spelling is his.)

More in keeping with British Columbia's problems of today was the approach of the small French communities to the depredations of the wolf.

Says Lauder:

"The wolves are so destructive to the sheep heir that if a man kill a wolfe and take its head and its taille and carry it throw the country willages and little burrowes, the peasants as a reward, will give him som eggs, some cheese, some milk, some wooll, according as they have it."

Among their many stratagems for dealing with wolves was the preparation of a trap.

"They dig a wery dip pit wher they know a wolfe hants; they cover it with fail (turf) fastens a goose some wery quick which by its crying attracts the wolfe, who coming to prey on the goose, zest plumpes he in their and they fell him their on the morning."

That was crying "Wolf!" for real. There are no wolves eating French sheep today! So it worked!

**More pudding!**

When I was a very small boy, long ago and far away my doting Mama fed me, from time to time on a milk pudding she termed "semolina". After many years of being fed by a doting wife I learned that semolina in North America has adopted a trade mark

While serving my recent apprenticeship in the kitchen, I

decided to undertake the preparation of a semolina pudding. I discovered that no recipe author has heard of it.

The only place I could find it was in a dictionary which informed me that the term semolina is Italian and refers to the stone-hard part of the wheat grain which resists grinding. It is collected at the mill

and takes the name given. The dictionary also refers to the pudding made from the grain.

I enjoy this sense of superiority it gives me. I know more than the writers of a dozen cook books!



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## Trust provision should protect rural charm

When the Islands Trust was visualized and finally established as a land-use regulation agency in the islands, it represented a completely new approach to planning. In British Columbia the function of land-use control had lain with the municipal authorities where land was incorporated, and with the province beyond the municipal boundaries. The Islands Trust was an experiment in community affairs.

Planning and zoning is often a highly emotional issue in any community. Among the islands, where issues tend to gain in tension by virtue of their isolation, concerns over planning had reached fever pitch. The introduction of the Islands Trust

was seen as a more localized medium of regulation. The Trust was islanders examining islanders' concerns and the more welcome for being locally-centred.

But the Islands Trust was not merely a vehicle brought conveniently close to the regional districts in order to switch burdens from the old to the new. The Trust was provided with a wider range of responsibilities, some broader powers and the mandate to enquire into the islands' land use controls. It was established on the twin foundations of protecting and preserving. The islands were to be protected and preserved and the exact nature of that duty was only broadly spelled out.

Early in its lifetime, the Trust took a close look at the principles involved in retaining the rural aspect of the islands. Equally early in its deliberations came up the question of accumulating land banks or of holding land in trust for recreation or other purposes. Property owners on many islands expressed interest in placing property in trust for future generations, but there was no provision for such measures. For 13 years, the Islands Trust Act included provision for holding land and monies, but those provisions of the Act had never been proclaimed.

Despite regular and constant appeals from the Trust to proclaim these measures, successive governments never did reach the point of bringing them into force.

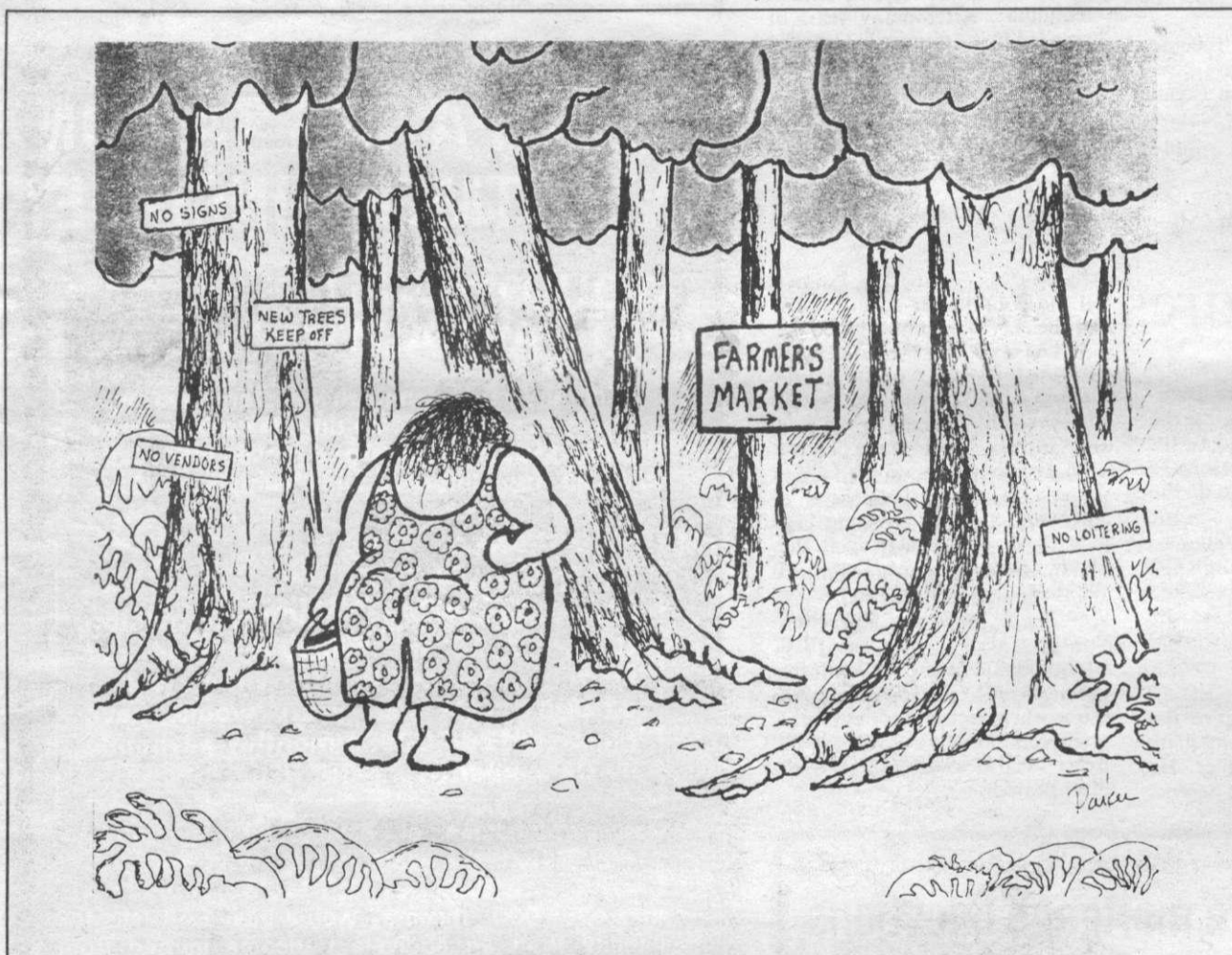
While the regulation of land use became the lifeblood of the Trust among the islands, it represented only a portion of the responsibilities identified by trustees as a significant function in planning the islands. Trustees recognized the pattern of the National Trust in Britain and its counterparts in other lands, whereby lands and homes are held in perpetuity and kept up for the enjoyment of the general public now and in the future.

Last week at Bowen Island the minister of municipal affairs, Rita Johnson, told the Islands Trust council that she favoured the proclamation of the sections of the act authorizing the holding of lands and monies by the Trust.

The minister also assured trustees that she could recognize no reason for delay in bringing these functions into effect.

The announcement will not closely influence regulation of lands within the islands. It will, however, clear the road in future for the dedication of property to be held in trust and for the provision of funds to maintain such property.

During the past 13 years, there have been numerous pleas for this provision from island property owners eager to avail themselves of such a facility. It is likely that the demand remains and the new measure will ensure that provision exists in the islands for the retention of rural land in its natural state for the enjoyment of islanders and visitors for ever.



## Cariboo, Salt Spring pubs vie for top honour

The Vesuvius Inn, according to a recent account in one of the Vancouver newspapers, is one of the two best pubs in this province. The source for that opinion is a gent from Simon Fraser University who bases his rankings on first-hand visits to about 500 neighbourhood pubs and beer parlours in B.C.

Notice we said "one of the two best pubs." It seems the researcher was reluctant to come right out and pick a favourite — he simply said the Vesuvius Inn was one of his top choices . . . and so was the Likely Hotel.

For those who have not had the pleasure of visiting Likely (and it is a pleasure), let me assure you that its local watering hole deserves to be ranked right up there with our Vesuvius Inn. As to which is better — well, just hang

on a few minutes.

Likely, first of all, is a small burg at the end of 40-odd miles of dirt road heading east and north of Williams Lake. It sits on the banks of the Quesnel River and lies just a short boat ride from Quesnel Lake. Fishing and gold mining are its claims to regional fame.

The Likely Hotel, meanwhile, has the local monopoly on visitor accommodation, restaurant fare and liquid refreshment. It also — and this is what makes it truly unique — serves as the town's unofficial museum.

We're talking about more than a couple of ashtrays from the CPR and a milk urn from Saskatchewan, too. Walk into the pub and you'll find the craziest assortment of relics on the walls, in the corners and out the back door: old stoves, ploughs, a diver's helmet,

### my word

by Duncan MacDonnell

framed photographs, axes, washtubs, violins, you name it. More space is taken up by antiques than by tables or customers.

A related attraction is the what's it box that hotel owner Bruce Deacon pulls out when (as he puts it) any group of visitors looks ready to leave. The box is full of strange, ancient gadgets that defy description or logic, and figuring out what each one is used for "is usually good for three,

sometimes four, more rounds," Deacon once told me.

A story about Deacon: I once asked him to recommend a good ice-fishing lake in the area. He quickly named a spot and gave detailed directions. I asked if the fishing was good there.

"Not a bit," he said. "It's terrible. Ugly, in fact."

"Then why send me there," I asked.

"So you'll get fed up early and come back here to spend your money," was the reply.

After the antiques and Bruce Deacon, the hotel is a gem because of its clientele and the stunts they pull (like the night Deacon caught young John shooting craps in the beer cooler with two tourists, or the time a box of chicks was released just inside the back door . . .)

Most of the regulars claim to be gold miners (they're just 'waiting for supplies') and the rest are loggers, and they all compete to tell the most outrageous, entertaining lies — especially when a stranger walks in the front door. I can't say I ever spent a dull moment in the place.

But enough reminiscing. Our 'expert' from SFU wouldn't say which is better, the Likely Hotel or the Vesuvius Inn, and I can see why — it's like comparing apples to oranges. But a decision is called for.

(Drum roll, please.) Despite giving my former favourite all the ink today, my choice for best pub in B.C. (of the ones I've visited) has to be the Vesuvius, by about a nose. Why? At least no one here has ever tried to steer me and my fishing rod to a dead lake.

# Miracle

Sir,  
There is no picture for this story. There was no photographer on hand, nor were there any school students to watch what would have been for them a wonderful learning experience. There were just the two large, white five-ton trucks from the environment and parks ministry which had turned in close to the public beach at St. Mary Lake.

I stopped the car and looked on while a huge metal pipe was connected to a tank on one of the trucks. The other end of the pipe was held manually a few inches above the lake. Then, for an incredible few seconds, I watched 15,000 young trout cascading out of the pipe into the water.

Some of the fish, jade green in colour and about six inches in length, swam dazedly back into shore at my feet. I wondered why there was no one here to admire them, or at least to welcome these new residents of the island.

Of the 15,000 put into the lake that Thursday afternoon, 8,000 were cutthroat and 7,000 were Rainbow. On the same day, earlier in the afternoon, 3,000 Rainbow were released into Weston Lake and 2,000 Cutthroat in Cusheon Lake.

This restocking of the island's lakes is an annual undertaking by the environment and parks ministry. Eggs from a domestic broodstock at Fraser Valley Trout Hatchery are transferred as fry to the Vancouver Island Trout Hatchery and looked after there before being placed in the island's lakes. By the end of this summer they will have grown to about 10 inches in length, providing excitement and pleasure to resident sportsmen and visitors.

Tourist folders will make note of the good fresh water fishing on Salt Spring; motels will start to fill up with guests in anticipation of catching a few Rainbow or Cutthroat trout.

As I watched the young fish swimming into the centre of the lake, the thought came that, at this time, when there have been so many negative impacts on the environment, this miracle of the fish was a positive step on the part of our provincial government.  
**PATRICIA MASSY,**  
Ganges.

# Shocked

*Editor's note: The following is an open letter to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, filed with this newspaper for publication.*

Sir,  
We are shocked by the revelations of the extent to which the Reagan administration is financing an illegal war against Nicaragua.

You have made strong statements against military intervention. You have supported the World Court decision for Nicaragua against American-backed aggression. But President Reagan continues to emphasize his commitment to the Contras and his determination to crush Nicaragua. Direct military intervention by the U.S.A. is far from being ruled out.

You have already shown international leadership in confronting apartheid. Please act now to stop this illegal war and break the economic boycott of Nicaragua. When you meet with President Reagan in Ottawa in April, tell him to drop all aid to the Contras — overt and covert — and begin negotiations with the democratically-elected government of Nicaragua. Let's actively support peace in Central America. We should organize international support for Contadora. Send Canadians as observers to its

meetings and offer Canadian resources for peace-keeping.

Thousands of Canadians, through organizations like Tools for Peace, are already sending millions of dollars in aid to Nicaragua. It is time the Canadian government backed them by increasing its official aid to Nicaragua. The time to act is now.

Peace is possible if countries like Canada act. Canada can be energetic and generous. Let's give a hand to Nicaragua.

**DON KREYE,  
ANDREW GIBSON,  
BETTY GIBSON,  
KAREN REISS,  
MURRAY REISS,**  
Ganges.

# Correct

Sir,  
Mr. Richards was absolutely correct. The plural of *crocus* is *croci*. That it is seldom heard nowadays does not make it less correct.

The Linnaean system of nomenclature is the recognized system and cannot be overset. Words like *crocus*, which are easy to say, are always in danger of becoming anglicized. Plant names which are hard to say, in the singular, acquire "common" names to which an "s" can be added for plural.

Growing *croci* for years, I would suggest, makes one expert at growing *croci*, not expert in the use of language, which is in Mr. Richards' realm of expertise.  
**R.S. HOLCROFT,**  
Ganges.

# Protest

Sir,  
On March 23, 1983, U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced to the world his vision of a defence system against nuclear missiles. Officially titled the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), it soon became known as Star Wars. Mechanisms of immense complexity, computer-controlled, were to be developed to "make nuclear war impossible."

Few took Reagan seriously, but those who did rallied behind him, convincing many other, mostly in powerful positions in U.S. political, military and scientific circles. Support gradually grew

and money began to be allocated for research and development: the vision began to take form in the laboratories, and soon new industrial concepts began to take shape. Another facet of the arms race was born.

Why should we be concerned? What's wrong with trying to prevent nuclear war?

Those who disagree with the SDI concept — including many top political, military and scientific persons — do agree on many points of opposition:

- to fulfill the "vision," accuracy approaching 100 per cent would be necessary, a virtual impossibility under any circumstances, and particularly so as the test of the system could only occur under battle conditions;
- the diversion of money, scientific expertise, and other resources from much-needed research and development in other global-necessary areas is wasteful; and
- the logical method of preventing nuclear war is the dismantling of present stockpiles, and the discontinuing of further manufacture and testing of nuclear explosives and carriers of same.

We in Canada can tell our elected representatives how we feel about Canadian involvement. We can urge our friends in the U.S. to tell their elected representatives.

We can join in protest. Will we?  
**RAY NEWMAN,**  
Ganges.

# Oblivious

Sir,  
I almost died yesterday. I didn't feel too good about it. I am sure that the lady who almost killed me would have felt quite bad if she had succeeded; I know I would have.

It was an almost sunny day and I just had to take the bike for a ride. I went into Ganges to pay my hydro bill (any excuse will do).

The car came through the stop sign by the hospital. I slammed on the brakes, the tires screamed, the bike jumped and shook, I swerved sideways and came within two or three inches of going under her wheels.

I did not even have time to think "my God, this can't be happening to me."

She was totally oblivious to me. I had my headlight on (high beam), I was wearing a silver helmet with reflective tape front, back and sides.

# letters

When I pulled up beside her in Ganges, (sorry if I was a little abrupt, dear lady, my near death affects me that way) she said "where did you come from? I never saw you." This is the standard response in 90 per cent of car/bike accidents. The car driver never saw the bike because he never looked. A 190-pound man on a 600 pound bike is not really invisible. The car driver simply chooses not to see him.

Spring is springing forth, so are the bicyclists, motorcyclists and kids. The next sunny day, take a guess at how many motorcyclists you will see; then, during the day, make a conscious effort to count them. You will be surprised — there will be at least four times as many as you thought there would be. You have simply never looked for them before.

Spring is here early this year. It is time for all good automobile drivers to open their eyes before turning on ignition, engaging brain before engaging gears. The life you save may be my own.

For those of you who think this letter does not pertain to you, when you hit me, make it good, because you get one shot, then it's my turn.

**K. BUTLER,**  
Ganges.

# Gratitude

Sir,  
This letter is a public expression of gratitude to both the Mouat's Mall administration and the residents of Salt Spring Island for the welcome and outstanding success as a result of our recent three-day greenhouse display in Ganges. We look forward to returning this fall.

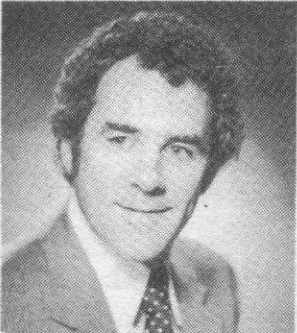
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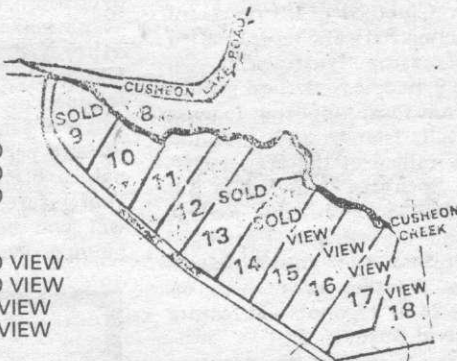
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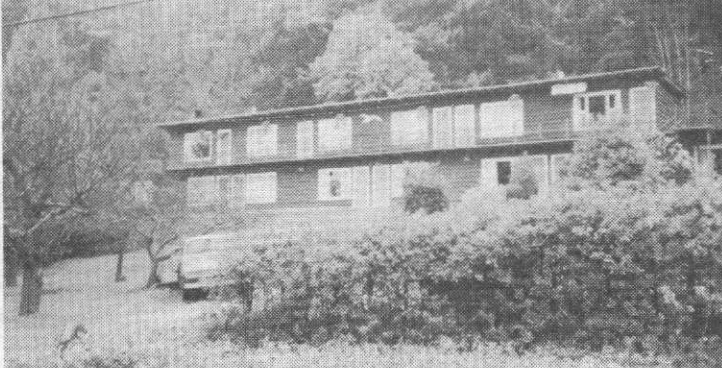


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## Let down

Sir,

As one who voted Socred in the last election, I feel let down by the premier's latest utterances.

One imagined that some at least of the cabinet would know their business, and thus perhaps it would not matter if the premier did not know his.

Who could have predicted that Mr. Vander Zalm would then display such an encyclopaedic ignorance of high-school physics and chemistry? Is his understanding of government similarly sketchy?

Are we suffering from political thrombosis? (*Thrombosis* means bloody clots.)

**COLIN NICHOLSON,**  
Ganges.

## Cleanup

Sir,

Salt Spring Island needs a spring cleaning.

We all want to see the roadways, walkways and parks free of litter and dirt.

The Chamber of Commerce cleanup committee plans to hold a cleanup campaign on Sunday, April 12, 1987, and we need the help of all island residents.

We'll start at 1:30 pm and go until the job is done. Afterwards we'll meet for a social (with potluck goodies) at the Farmer's Institute Hall.

We invite anyone interested in helping to please bring appropriate tools and willing friends. We'll meet at the Mouat's Mall parking lot (unless someone prefers to work on a specific, predetermined site).

Garbage bags will be provided. Let's not make this a one-day effort. Start now on the cleanup, and plan to make it an ongoing activity. Call me with any ideas or offers.

**DODIE MARSHALL,**  
Cleanup committee,  
Salt Spring Island  
Chamber of Commerce.

## Frustration

Sir,

To date, the proposed boundary changes to Strathcona Park have not taken place. Shifting environment ministers and timber lease negotiations seem to be delaying the passing of the required order-in-council.

The unwillingness of any minister to meet representatives of groups opposing the changes (Sierra Club, SPEC, Friends of Strathcona Park and more) has led to increasing frustration. On March 9, people from these groups and from those opposing logging on Lyell Island, and uranium mining rallied at the B.C. Legislature. Speakers — including Bill Reid and local residents Robert Bateman and Bristol Foster — condemned the government's silence. Another rally there on March 24 at 12 noon will feature Dr. David Suzuki.

These issues must be addressed in a public manner, not behind closed doors. I urge anyone concerned to keep up the pressure

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## more letters

— write letters and sign the Strathcona Park petition.

On Monday, March 30, Steve and Marlene Smith, co-founders of Friends of Strathcona Park, will give a slide presentation on the proposed boundary changes. Watch this paper for time and location.

**DONALD KREYE,**  
Ganges.

## Meanings

Sir,

It has been said many times that the path to destruction is wide but the path to truth is difficult and narrow. Finding truth in regards to man's existence and his ultimate purpose in life has troubled man since we came to be on this earth. Is there such a thing as truth, design, purpose, and an ultimate meaning to the world and our existence, or are we to accept the opinion of such people as Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution, which supposes that the world came about as a result of an accident and that life and man came to be as the result of further accident and chance without prior design or thought?

Darwin's theory suggests that over millions of years life evolved as the result of a struggle called "survival of the fittest," and that only the strongest and fittest evolved and represent life as we know it today. No explanation can be found for missing links which indicate the absence of transitional fossils moving from one species to another. Every fossil found seems to indicate a complete fossil of a specific species of animal with slight variations within that species. The theory of evolution requires millions of years to have come about.

Prior to Darwin's theory it was thought that life had been around on this planet for a considerably lesser period of time and was based on the biblical account of creation, and that man had purpose which was to be fulfilled through a set of supernaturally inspired laws and guidelines. Darwin's theory gives man that power to define himself and to control his own destiny according to need. The biblical account of creation tells us that we are created in God's image and that his laws and Christ's teachings are what guide our destiny.

In regards to either, the theory of evolution or the biblical account of creation, to just have an opinion as to whether you accept one or the other is just not enough. Ultimately your belief will be founded on one or the other and will result in the way you live your life and perceive your place in the nature of things. Will you base your future life on an opinion or will you dedicate yourself to a lifelong pursuit of truth and

greater understanding? The choice should be yours.

Evolution, an experiment that failed. The theory of evolution teaches amorality, resulting in the tolerance of immorality. The principle of creation teaches morality based on biblical teachings; amorality is not a consideration.

It has been said that an idea is more powerful than the largest army in the world; such is the idea of evolution. Timing, support, need, utility — all contribute to the success or failure of an idea.

If I should believe a lie, then it shall be my enemy. If I should teach a lie, then I shall be the enemy.

**KEVIN McCARTHY,**  
Ganges.

## Crisis?

Sir,

Reflecting on today's world politically, ecologically and spiritually it is obvious that we as a species are on the brink of a crisis. This is a crisis of change necessary not only for our mere survival, but for the fulfillment of the highest potential of our individual and collective being.

All too often this great, imminent transition is anticipated to be negative in nature: a global devastation, for example. Though these scenarios are within the realm of possibility, they are by no means inevitable.

I would suggest we keep in mind another plausible alternative. Imagine a world at peace, where the marriage of spirituality and materiality, the esoteric and the practical, heaven and earth became a reality within each human soul. Heaven on earth; here truly is a future worth believing in.

On March 22 and 23, Robert Anton Wilson will be appearing at Off Centre Stage. I urge everyone to attend these important events.

**PHIL OSBORNE,**  
Ganges.

## Intellect

Sir,

Of all the responses I have encountered to the work of Robert Anton Wilson, one of the most interesting is that he is "too intellectual." With such an abundance of talk about "mysticism" and "skepticism" circulating these days, it is refreshing to meet somebody who is both open minded and skeptical, who is capable of having "mystical" experiences and putting them in a rational framework so that they can be of some use to other people.

Perhaps Mr. Wilson's most important contribution to modern life is as a cartographer of "higher consciousness"; that is, he

integrates his experiences into a map which can be followed to a greater or lesser extent by other people who want to develop the same faculties that he has developed. (For example, read his book *Cosmic Trigger*.)

If that seems "too intellectual," perhaps we are mistaking the map for the territory; Robert Anton Wilson merely tells you how to get there — you still have to do the work yourself. (Can you imagine sitting down to eat the menu instead of the meal? It might be easier, since you don't have to cook the menu, but it won't taste nearly as good.)

A slight clue is appropriate here.

It is sometimes necessary to release obsolete mindsets about the nature of reality before we can experience it in new and intriguing ways. Mr. Wilson demonstrates at exhaustive length that genius consists of the ability to synthesize previously unthought-of combinations of information. Be careful, though. Through his intentional use of humour he has a way of turning things inside out. Your ideas may never be the same again.

Finally, as stated in *Angel Tech: A Modern Shaman's Guide to Reality Selection*: "Yesterday they called it coincident; today it's synchronicity but tomorrow they'll call it skill." Which reality do you want to live in?

**DOUG MANLY,**  
Ganges.



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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**ISLAND SAVINGS**  
CREDIT UNION

**DATE: Thursday, March 26, 1987**  
**TIME: Registration - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Call to Order - 7:30 p.m.**  
**PLACE: Village Green Inn, Duncan**

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# Get government out of liquor sales

VICTORIA — Hang on to your pennies. B.C.'s not only open for business, a lot of it is going on the auction block.

"Any Crown corporation is for sale, I imagine, if the price is right," Transportation and Highways Minister Cliff Michael said the other day. So, provided you've got a bit of spare cash, you might just walk away with a liquor store or two, or even a couple of ferries.

That Premier Vander Zalm is committed to pursue the privatization drive started by his predecessor, Bill Bennett, is nothing new. Like Bennett, Vander Zalm firmly believes the private sector is a better and more efficient business manager than government — an assumption that's probably true in most cases.

It certainly was true in the case of the ski hills — Cypress Bowl and Manning Park — the government turned over to the private sector. The facilities are vastly improved and they make money for their private operators, whereas they consistently lost money when the government ran them.

The same probably goes for the government's liquor distribution system, a costly operation that could be turned over to the private sector without any loss of revenue to the taxpayers. In fact, by selling off the retail liquor

*'The government would no longer have to practice the double standard of selling alcohol while preaching abstinence.'*

stores, the government stands to make a bundle of money. And liquor taxes, which provide huge profits to the government now, will continue to generate the same amount of revenue.

That the government is serious about getting rid of the liquor distribution system is evident from the fact that it has placed a freeze on all appointments of licensee retail stores, including estate winery outlets.

The freeze followed an announcement by Finance Minister Mel Couvelier that no changes would be made in the government's liquor pricing policies until after the whole question of privatization has been resolved. A policy review dealing with that matter is expected to be finished by the end of June.

## capital comment

by  
**Hubert Beyer**

There is little doubt that Couvelier will recommend the privatization of liquor stores. The money that will flow into government coffers from such a move is too great a temptation for the finance minister to withstand.

There is also little doubt that it would be a good move. Aside from the financial benefits to the provincial treasury, there are a number of other reasons why the government should get out of the sales end of the booze business.

To start with, it would give the government a chance to terminate its patronizing role as guardian of the public's drinking habits. Canadian society is, by and large, mature enough to take on that responsibility. And those who aren't, won't be any worse off buying their booze from the private sector.

But more important, the government would no longer have to practice the double standard of selling alcohol while preaching abstinence, or at least restraint.

There may be other recommendations, including the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores, a proposal that's been bandied about for years but never went anywhere, in spite of wide public support.

All in all, drastic as the changes to our liquor policy may be, they'll be good changes. The question is: will the sale of other Crown corporations — provided there are buyers — be as beneficial to the taxpayers?

With a \$57 million deficit last year, chances that investors will line up to buy the B.C. Ferry Corporation are slim. But Transport Minister Cliff Michael hasn't ruled out a piecemeal sale of the Crown corporation.

The Victoria-Vancouver run, he says, could probably be made profitable. He may be right, but at what cost? Would private operators be allowed to double fares, for instance?

Any discussion of selling the ferry corporation or part thereof should be nipped in the bud. W.A.C. Bennett didn't nationalize the system for no reason. He was convinced that this vital transportation link must be in public hands. That reason still stands.

And let's all hope that the Secreds aren't going to dismantle ICBC. The government-owned insurance corporation has been good for British Columbia. Our automobile insurance premiums are among the lowest in Canada and, equally important, the money stays right here.

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# MB's Salt Spring property options discussed

An Island Futures representative met last week with MacMillan Bloedel (MB) to discuss options for the forest company's holdings on Salt Spring Island.

Island Futures is looking at forming a community group to buy and manage MB's 4,800 acres of land on the island. It says purchase of the property — composed of seven blocks in the southern part of Salt Spring — might be possible through a loan from the provincial tourism ministry.

Island Futures member Ken

Renaud, who doubles as president of the Gulf Islands Woodlands Association, said last week he met Monday in Vancouver with MB representative Gary Kadatz to explain his group's purchase concept and its intentions.

"I told him (Kadatz) we're not looking for a free lunch and that, like MacMillan-Bloedel, we're interested in long-term solutions," Renaud said.

Scenarios discussed at the meeting, he continued, included the possibility of Island Futures ac-

quiring an option to purchase the land and alternatives like leasing the property or entering into a joint venture with MB. Mention was also made of transferring the land's development potential to one block and turning the balance over to the community.

Renaud indicated that the most important point raised at the meeting was the possibility of Island Futures acquiring an option to buy the MB holdings. While no price tag was set on the option, Renaud said it would have to be "enough to ensure that

we're not wasting their time."

A summary of the points discussed at the meeting will be put into report form.

"The best possible use of the land is still at issue, but we're in a co-operative mode," Renaud continued, explaining that both parties have agreed to continue discussions and to possibly meet again in the near future.

Kadatz, interviewed in his Vancouver office by telephone, agreed with Renaud's assessment of the meeting's mood. MB and Island Futures, he said, have

reached an understanding and will continue to discuss possibilities.

"We got to know each other, and we got to talk about the possibility of doing things together," Kadatz said.

MB's Salt Spring properties have been on the market for the past 18 months, ever since the company decided the seven blocks were too scattered for effective management. Asking price is \$5 million, although offers for about \$3.5 million have reportedly been entertained by MB.

## Trust to be given land right

From Page 1

just have to be worked out on how it is to be administered, but it's something that the council members are looking forward to and I see no reason why they shouldn't be given that opportunity."

The minister said her government believes "in allowing local elected and appointed people to manage the affairs in that community, and this is just another step in that direction."

By guest speaker

## Pool design choices to be outlined

Victoria pool architect Vic Davies will discuss the leisure pool concept at an open meeting to be held March 23 in the library of Salt Spring Elementary School.

Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society president Wendy Vine said Friday the meeting — scheduled for 7:30 pm — will give local residents an opportunity to learn more about the type of indoor pool proposed for the island.

Vine noted that Davies has designed a number of community swimming pools in B.C., and is currently developing one for the community of Grand Forks. Pool society members recently visited the W.C. Blair Recreation Centre in Langley, the Victoria architect's last project.

Vine said that through Davies, island residents and society members will be able to learn what

type of pool design is viable for Salt Spring.

"We'll also be able to find out what sort of modifications we can make," she said. "We don't want strictly a leisure pool. We plan to offer different activities, and if we had just a leisure pool, there would be no provisions for lanes. But we want something for everyone, so people can swim lengths, dive, and something for the kids."

"He (Davies) is the person who can answer people's concerns." The Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society, which has more than 1,000 members, hopes to see an indoor swimming pool built on the island. Society members have proposed the creation of a facility designed along the basic concept of a leisure pool.

The proposed facility would cost between \$1.2 million and \$1.4 million, a significant portion

## Workshop to consider future of forest industry

Ken Drushka, author of *Stumped*, a critical study of B.C.'s forest industry, will speak at an Adult Education workshop on Salt Spring Island in early April.

The session, to be held in the Elementary School Library from 1 pm to 4 pm on April 5, will also feature a discussion panel comprised of local residents.

Drushka has chosen the future of B.C.'s forest industry as his broad topic, but Continuing Education organizers say they expect the workshop to concentrate on the potential to be found in community ownership of forest land MacMillan-Bloedel owns on Salt Spring Island.

"The concept of a community-owned woodlot is in line with the new ideas of community economic development put forward by the Island Futures organization," a release from Continuing Education notes. "The potential for jobs here is enormous."

Ken Renaud, a member of the Island Futures committee studying possible community ownership and the president of the Gulf Islands Woodlands Association, is expected to be included on the discussion panel.

Organizers note a \$5 admission charge will be levied, "to cover the cost of bringing Ken Drushka to the island."

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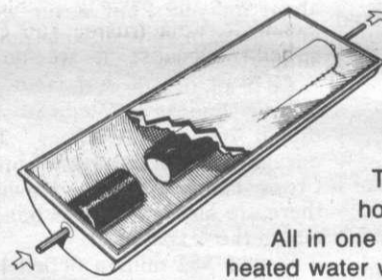
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#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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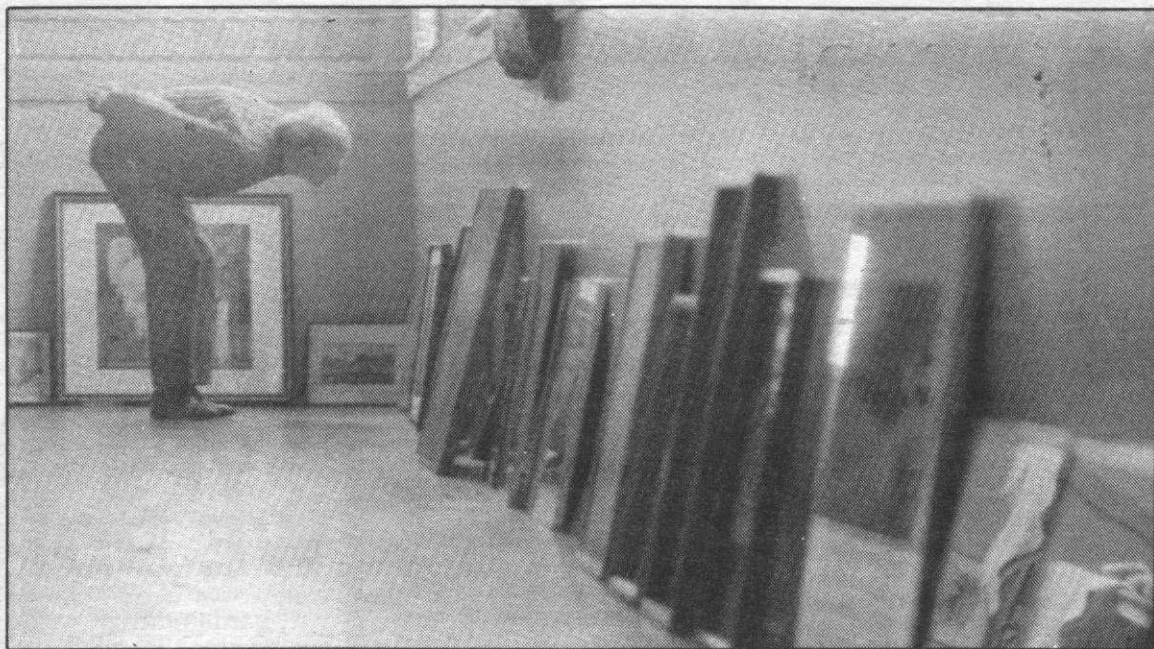
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**Critic's choice**

Judges George Wallace, Sally Michener and Glen Allison

descended on Mahon Hall last Friday to judge and select entries

for Showcase 87, the annual display of the best in artistic efforts

by island residents. Show opened Saturday and runs until March

23. Hall is open from 11 am to 4 pm.

**Competition for parking on the rise near docks**

By IAN HUNTER  
*Special to Driftwood*

It seems the higher ferry rates climb, the worse the parking problem becomes at terminals.

"The need for adequate parking is increasing by leaps and bounds," Islands Trust chairman Nick Gilbert told fellow trustees at last weekend's Trust Council meeting, held on Bowen Island.

Gilbert noted that parking problems are influenced by higher ferry fares, since rate hikes prompt more and more island residents to park their cars and travel aboard ferries as foot passengers.

Most of the islands in the Trust area are experiencing a parking crunch, the meeting was told. It was noted, for instance, that the recent expansion of the ferry terminal on Mayne Island eliminated a 20-car 'parking lot' there.

"To be fair, the ferry corporation did not officially recognize the original parking lot," Mayne Trustee Louis Vallee told the meeting, "but people started parking on both sides of the main street by the terminal, reducing traffic down to one lane only (and) often blocking traffic."

"Then we decided they could only park on one side, which made the line of cars twice as long. Then the highways department measured the street and

determined it was too narrow to park on either side, so the parking problem spread to all the other streets."

Vallee says Mayne Islanders are considering giving someone with land near the terminal a temporary commercial permit to provide parking, but added that such a move only brings other problems.

"I don't think we should hasten to solve the parking problems," said Saturna trustee Jim Campbell, "because if we do, the entrances to all our islands will become large parking lots."

Campbell's solution to the mess? "Just zone a parking lot half a mile in the bush and let the users walk."

Rita Johnson, the provincial minister of municipal affairs and transit, asked the meeting where the money to solve parking problems will come from. "As soon as we look at putting in parking on all the islands . . . the money has to come from somewhere," she said.

"It just seems that parking should not be part of the transit cost," added Johnson, whose jurisdiction covers the Skytrain and bus system but not the ferries.

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# Rock gardens have no dimensional limitations

Spring will officially arrive this weekend and the gardens are in prime blooming condition to welcome it, a few weeks ahead of themselves for this time of year.

After winter passes, I am always drawn to the rock garden to watch in fascination as the seemingly dead, brown patches of earth spring to life when the strengthening sun warms the soil. Without the plants, the form and arrangement of the slabs and boulders in the rockery are a small-scale study of a larger landscape. Valleys, ravines, ridges, dry stream beds, and cliffs are only a few of the miniaturized geological landforms that appear; however, in a few short weeks, the rapidly-emerging greenery will clothe and mask the stark beauty of the rocks, transforming the rockery into a colourful cascade of bloom.

Before we get involved with the early spring collection of blooming plants for your rockery, I offer some general information on the principles and concepts of rock gardens and their construction.

Since rock gardens are without dimensional limitations, you must work with the available space and let the scale of your garden tell you what size and shape is right. Rockeries can go on forever, in a monumental manner, making the best of vast colour displays and mass effect, if the garden and your budget can accommodate it. At the other end of the scale, a small corner in the garden, by the deck or around the front door can become an enthralling miniature landscape, providing a happy home for your cherished alpine and delicate rockery plants. Use common sense and good taste to balance proportions, and make the best use of available rock.

Many properties have an abundance of sandstone rock at hand. Unearthed boulders and rounded till vary widely in colour and texture, making the job much more difficult. Developing a flow of line, and an overall continuity, is nigh impossible when you're working with a bunch of rubble boulders strewn on a bank. In this situation you'll be relying on your plantings to pull it all together and mask the rocks. If you can afford to have more suitable sandstone boulders and slabs delivered, the task is much easier and the results are more pleasing as well. Local sandstone is ideal for rockery-building material.

Most rockery plants and alpine like to have a sunny aspect and very good soil drainage, so before you start, provide drainage around and under the site (if it needs it). Whether you use tile drainage or coarse gravel, pit-run or drain rock layers, ensure there is no standing

water so the soil won't ever get saturated and soggy. Next, set your courses of rock to best advantage, with their tops sloped to the back, to feed rain water into the soil and not allow it to run off in eroding gullies.

Always endeavour to hide the "smallness" of the rock by burying a good portion of it underground. To give the best effect, you should position or bury the rock to make it feel like it goes on forever and only the tip is showing. Sometimes it takes a foot of backfilling, but most often only a couple of inches of soil are needed to cover the rock's shoulders. Don't leave any rounded rocks with their bottom halves showing, or they'll look like a bunch of transient stone balloons parked on your landscape. Show only the best faces of the best rocks and bury the rest; aim for quality.

With each course of rock, the backfilling and soil placement should continue to provide good drainage. Amend the heavier soils with sand, peat moss, humus, compost and rotted manure, so that it's loose, friable and easy to weed. For fast draining, sandy soils, add some peat, compost and rotted manure to help retain moisture and enrich the soil. Add a

**'You must work with the available space and let the scale of your garden tell you what size and shape is right.'**

cupful of lime to each wheelbarrow of soil you put in, and when planting, use some form of phosphate (bonemeal, superphosphate or rock phosphate) to encourage rooting, and bloom development.

One thing to remember is that rockeries are tough places to weed, as it's all hand work, so use clean, weed-free soil, make certain that it's a light, loose soil that's easy to weed, and consider using a gravel, granite grit, crushed rock or stone chippings mulch cover to reduce the need for weeding.

With the remaining space, I'd like to briefly cover a few noteworthy rockery plants that are presently in bloom or are about to make their splendid showing. Some of the fall-planted bulbs are just about finished. Winter aconite (*Eranthis*) has almost cast off the bright yellow 1½ to two-inch blooms, leaving the ruffled rosette of leaves to nurture and develop next year's bloom. They will tolerate some shade in the rockery

## your garden

by **Chris Schmah**

or in naturalized plantings. The familiar crocus has almost finished its showing. They work well in groupings and drifts that flow with the rock arrangements, sun or partial shade. The delicate, early blooming *Iris reticulata* and varieties have lost their colour, but are well worth it, for they are the earliest of flowers in the winter-spring rockery, along with the lovely snowdrops.

The anemones of the blanda group are in full bloom now, with such delicate foliage and pure pink, white, mauve and purple two-inch blooms. It's hard to believe that they were just little hard stony brown lumps when planted in the fall. Any of the varieties are welcome splashes of colour in the spring rockery. Plant the tubers one to two inches deep and six to 12 inches apart, in a well-drained light but rich soil. They enjoy some shade and naturalize well.

The other Anemone in bud right now is *Anemone pulsatilla*, or pasque flower, with its hairy stems, leaves and flower buds just emerging. Soon, the delicate pale blue to rich wine (depending on the type) flowers will pop open to their two-to-three inch size. They like sun or part shade, and need to have an adequate supply of water.

The lovely chionodoxa with its pale blue and white, star-like blooms on four-to-six-inch stems, is at full display this week, another sun or shade tolerant, fall-planted bulb. They will naturalize easily and self-sow as well, so they do great in an informal or alpine rockery.

The English daisy (*Bellis*) isn't really a rockery plant, but does better service in a border planting or perennial bed. The full double blooms in white, pink and red are borne atop a tight rosette of lettuce-like leaves, and the plant likes lots of moisture.

The basket of gold (*Alyssum saxatile*) is a mound of golden yellow blooms in late spring, almost obscuring the greyish paler green foliage. The plant will grow up to a foot in height and will trail over a rock wall. It likes natural pH, sunshine, and some water. Shear or prune back up to half of the growth just after blooming is finished.

Arabis or rock cress is one of the rockery favourites, with its masses of fragrant white, pink and

carmine flowers. With heights up to a foot and trailing down over the rocks, these easy-to-grow beauties enjoy the sun, and a moderate pruning after blooming is finished.

The last — and perhaps more worthy — beauty in the rockery at this time of year is *Aubrieta deltoidea*, commonly called *aubretia* or purple rock cress. This low, fast-spreading mat of silvery green foliage cascades in solid tresses over banks and rocks and is just starting to come into bloom. A wide range of hues and tones are available as named varieties, but they are all heavy bloomers that like sun, some water in the spring (we've got lots on hand) and reasonably dry soil in the summer.

After blooming, trim the plant back quite hard and root the cuttings in a gritty sandy soil mix. The plants don't divide well, and growing from seed takes a full year before you get any blooms.

However you grow it, aubretia is well worth the effort and the wait. It is also available at this time of year, in bloom (so you can see the colours) at nurseries and garden centres.

We've used up all of the space, and spring is here, so get out there and discover for yourself the joys of gardening in the rockery.

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**Woodworkers win award**

**Student craftsmanship cited**

Friday, March 13, proved to be anything but an unlucky day for a number of Gulf Islands Secondary School students.

Four GISS woodworking students were presented with awards Friday by members of the Cowichan Valley Hoo-Hoo Club.

The club, a fraternal order of lumbermen established to promote the forest products industry, holds an annual woodworking competition for Grade Nine students in School Districts 64 (Gulf Islands) and 65 (Cowichan). Four Gulf Islands students were honored by the club for woodworking projects completed during the

1985-86 school year under the tutelage of instructor Laurie Neish.

Mike Howell's woodworking project placed first among Gulf Islands entries in the Hoo-Hoo contest, earning him a Black and Decker circular saw. Second prize — a drill — went to Chad Williams. GISS students Cliff Crooks and Nick Bengier tied for third and received certificates.

Cowichan Valley Hoo-Hoo Club members Allen Crosson (wood promotion chairman) and Bernie Falt (past-president) also presented GISS with the perpetual competition trophy. Last year, wood-

working projects submitted by GISS students were judged the best of all those entered in the contest.

The trophy was accepted on behalf of the school by Neish.

The International Order of Hoo-Hoo is a fraternal organization whose members are men associated with the forest industry and devoted to its interests. The first Hoo-Hoo club was formed in 1892 by five lumbermen in Kansas City. At the time, the name Hoo-Hoo was chosen as a lark, and the black-cat logo was picked to signify members' disregard for superstition.

**police report**

Spring cleanup should improve an area, not create an unsightly mess, Ganges RCMP said earlier this week.

RCMP Sgt. Mitch Hanks said his detachment will be watching for insecure loads on vehicles headed for the dump this spring, in an effort to help keep local roads clear of garbage.

"Every spring, people clean up and haul debris to the dump," Sgt. Hanks said, "and a lot of them have insecure loads. We find garbage all the way up Ganges Hill — the stuff just blows off the backs of the trucks."

Sgt. Hanks said carrying an insecure load is punishable under summary conviction and can cost offenders a maximum penalty of \$500.

"I'm sure a lot of people do it without thinking," Sgt. Hanks said, "so I'd just like to point out that it is an offence, and it is unsightly. The co-operation of the public would be appreciated."

Salt Spring motorists have responded to an RCMP call to take care when parking along the main road in downtown Ganges.

Late last month, police warned they would begin ticketing the owners of vehicles which stuck out beyond a white line separating the parking area from the traffic lane. By narrowing the traffic lane on both sides of the road, police said, the parked vehicles constituted a safety hazard.

"There's been a tremendous improvement in the parking situation since then," Sgt. Hanks said earlier this week. "There's the odd vehicle extending over the white line — the odd infraction here and there — but, for the most part, we're really happy with the response of the public."

Ganges RCMP are investigating a theft and acts of vandalism that took place at the highways department works yard at Central last week.

Stolen from the yard were four shovels, three rakes, two brooms and a portable spotlight. Three spotlights were also damaged.

Total loss to theft and vandalism was about \$200.

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**Pender police on lookout for diamonds said missing**

Two unattached diamonds worth \$1,500 disappeared from a zippered case, Pender Islands RCMP reported last week.

A Mayne Island woman told Pender Islands RCMP the two stones — weighing a total of .68 carats — went missing from a case which contained other unset gems.

She noticed the absence while travelling and says the diamonds might be in Mayne, Victoria or Vancouver.

It is unknown if they were lost or stolen, RCMP Constable Brian Brown said.

A Pender man will be charged with two offences as a result of a March 5 auto accident.

The car the man was driving went off Otter Bay Road and into the ditch shortly after midnight. The driver was in hospital for five days with head injuries.

RCMP will charge the man with failing to wear a seatbelt and driving too fast for road conditions, Constable Brown said.

**A new definition of "Disabled" for the Disability Deduction**

Commencing in 1986, the previous special exemption for persons who are blind or confined to a wheelchair, or who would be confined were it not for mobility devices such as leg braces, has been replaced by a more general disability exemption.

Your medical doctor must certify on Form 2201 that you have a severe and prolonged impairment which causes you to be "markedly restricted" in your "activities of daily living", and that the impairment has lasted or will last a continuous period of 12 months.

The areas of impairment specifically mentioned on the form are visual, communication, mental function, mobility, and "other equally disabling impairments."

The original certificate must be filed with the tax return on which the claim is made. A certificate, once obtained, remains valid as long as you continue to suffer from the impairment, therefore a new certificate is not required each subsequent year.

No claim may be made under this provision if any deduction is claimed for remuneration for a full-time attendant at home, or for care in a nursing home for the same disabled person. You may claim the higher of the actual attendant

or nursing home expense, or the \$2,860 disability deduction, but not both.

Any portion of this exemption unused by the disabled person may be transferred to their spouse on Schedule 2. Or the exemption may be claimed by anyone who claims the disabled person as a dependent under the "equivalent to married" provision, or by any parent or grandparent of the disabled person who claims them as a dependant under the ordinary child exemption provisions. Where the claim for a dependant is barred by the amount of income the disabled person has, the person who could otherwise make the claim for a dependant may nevertheless claim the portion of this deduction in excess of that needed to reduce the disabled person's taxable income to zero.

Persons with MS and other disabling illnesses that did not render them wheelchair-bound have not been able to qualify for this deduction in the past. With the new broader terminology of "markedly restricted in activities of daily living", a \$2,860 deduction may be available to those who need it most.

**NEXT WEEK:** The dividend tax credit—no change for 1986, but watch out in 1987!

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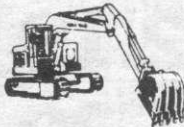
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Canadian, international news highlights

Island peace group aids Nanoose range watchers

Editor's note: The following is a collection of news items about the peace movement, compiled by Salt Spring Island residents Ray and Virginia Newman.

Four thousand Finnish women recently decided to embark on a 'no-nukes for no-nukes' campaign. Led by Marjo Liukkonen, the women presented the Ministry of Trade and Commerce with a petition declaring their resolve not to bear children until Finland changes its pro-nuclear energy policies.

NANOOSE UPDATE

A commitment to change the situation at Nanoose Bay, north of Nanaimo, has spurred the activities of a group in that area. Under the leadership of Laurie McBride, the Nanoose Conversion Campaign (NCC) has developed a slide show, fact sheets and proposals to convert the site from an underwater weapons testing range to peaceful, public use.

For several years, NCC has maintained a vigil on the range from a floating 'junk' and from a peace camp on the opposite shore. During the past summer, the camp had to be abandoned. The situation was reported throughout the Vancouver Island Network for Disarmament (VIND), a loose coalition of peace groups which include those on the Gulf Islands.

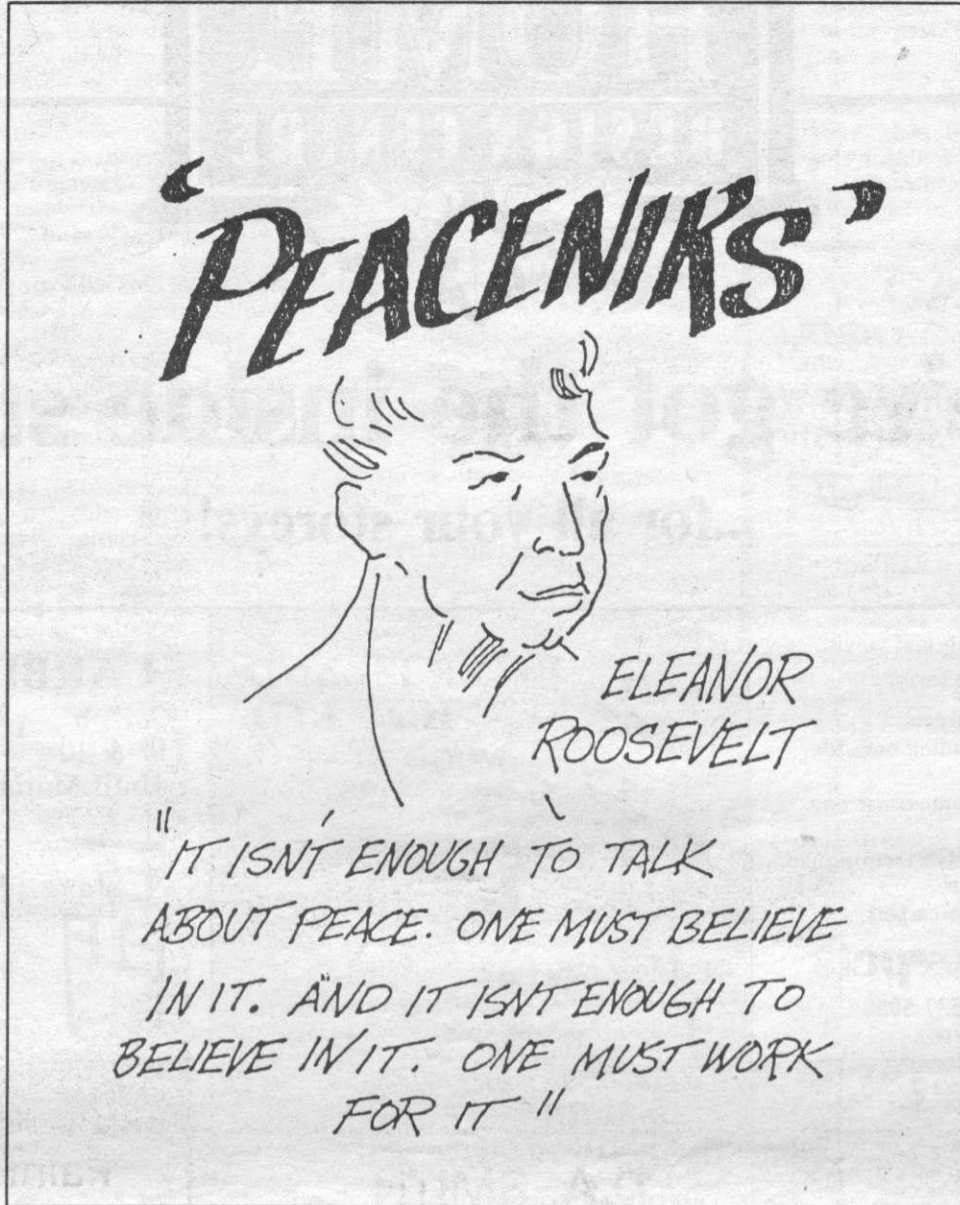
A small committee from the Salt Spring Nuclear Disarmament Group (SSNDG), meanwhile, has arranged purchase of a property overlooking the base, and has leased the site to the Nanoose Conversion Campaign at a nominal rate. The Salt Spring group is now raising funds to replace the motor for the Zodiac boat NCG used for surveillance. The Bob Bossin concert held here recently raised \$600 for that purpose.

What is called a high standard of living consists, in considerable measure, in arrangements for avoiding muscular energy, for increasing sensual pleasure and enhancing caloric intake above any conceivable nutritional requirement.  
— John Kenneth Galbraith, in *The Affluent Society*.

NUCLEAR ISSUES IN COURT

The World Federalists of Canada (WFC) have launched a major legal initiative to prove, in Canadian courts, that nuclear weapons — their manufacture, possession, deployment and planned use — are illegal under international and Canadian law. The Supreme Court has decided it has the jurisdiction to hear matters of foreign policy on defence.

Dieter Heinrich, president of WFC, has announced that the case will be filed in spring, 1987, in the federal courts, with co-plaintiffs including several dozen organi-



fare Board in Helsinki announced late last year that, beginning in 1987, war toys — especially those imitating modern warfare — would not be manufactured, imported or sold.

DATE SET

April 25 is the date on which hundreds of thousands of Canadians in major cities and smaller communities throughout the country will march for peace and attend rallies. In our area, Vancouver and Victoria will be host to those wishing to participate.

PEACE PLEDGE

Canadian Peace Alliance, a coalition of peace groups across Canada, is facilitating *The Canadian Peace Pledge — Voting Canada out of the Arms Race*. The campaign aims to work between now and the next federal election to build political and public support for the following goals:

- stop all Canadian involvement in, and support for, the U.S. 'Star Wars' program;
- make Canada nuclear-weapons-free by ending Cruise missile testing, banning nuclear warships from Canadian waters, ending low-flight testing and training, and ending nuclear weapons component production; and
- work for nuclear powers to end all nuclear weapons testing and support international verification arrangements.

'Peace Voter' pledge cards will be distributed to the public before the next federal election. The card allows the voter to show a preference for candidates who support nuclear disarmament and an end to Canadian involvement in the arms race.

SPECIAL VISITORS

Students Against Global Extermination (SAGE) will visit Gulf Islands Secondary School in Ganges on May 1. The Montreal-based group, run by and for pre-university youth, is presenting a film and discussion program to secondary school students across Canada.

The theme of the program is nuclear arms control and disarmament, its myths and realities, and its particular effects on youth. More information will be forthcoming.

IN BRIEF

- March 23 is the fourth anniversary of the birth of the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) program, commonly known as 'Star Wars.'
- There are now 146 nuclear-weapons-free zones in Canada, including 45 in B.C. Manitoba is the only province, to date, to declare the zone.
- Audio tapes of *True North Strong and Free?*, the enquiry held in Edmonton last November (reported in earlier *Driftwood* issues by Woody Coward) are available from SSNDG. Also on hand are numerous articles and information flyers.
- *Peace* magazine, a bi-monthly publication with international distribution, is on sale at D&D News, Pharmasave and the Salty Shop.

zations representing a wide cross-section of Canadian society.

Included in the list of eminent Canadian lawyers who will assist is Dr. Edward McWhinney, professor at Simon Fraser University and a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, and the author of 17 books on constitutional and international law. Dr. McWhinney says the "prospects before the federal court in Canada seem very favourable."

Salt Spring's Voice of Women and the SSNDG have agreed to support the court action.

INSURANCE BATTLE

Energy Probe (EP), a Toronto-based group, is preparing to do battle with the nuclear industry on the home front. According to Norman Rubin, EP's director of nuclear research, the Nuclear Liability Act

allows the industry to get 'off the hook' financially in the event of a Chernobyl-type accident in Canada.

"Insurance companies have decided that nuclear power is too risky," Rubin says. "They won't insure you at any price . . . for that possibility. Manufacturers of nuclear equipment . . . demand a 100 per cent government guarantee against any liability whatsoever, even if they falsified safety documents, cut corners in manufacturing, or knowingly shipped defective products."

Seven barristers are working on the case and will waive most of their fees. If the case is successful, the public will have a chance to claim damages and, just as likely, the nuclear industry will abandon this most costly method of energy production.

Finland again: *The National Social Wel-*

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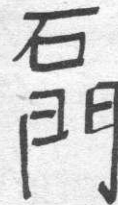


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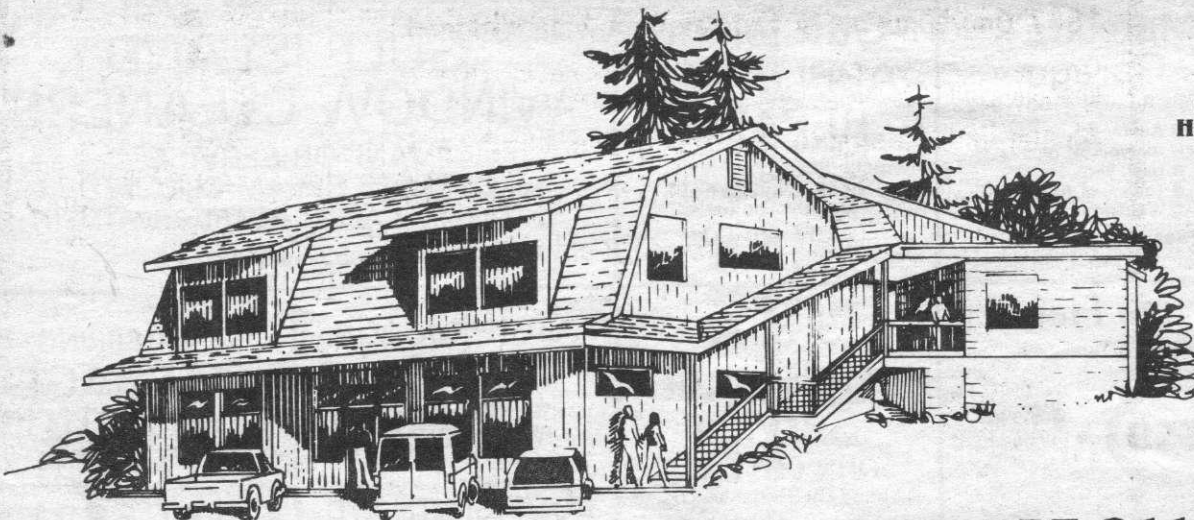
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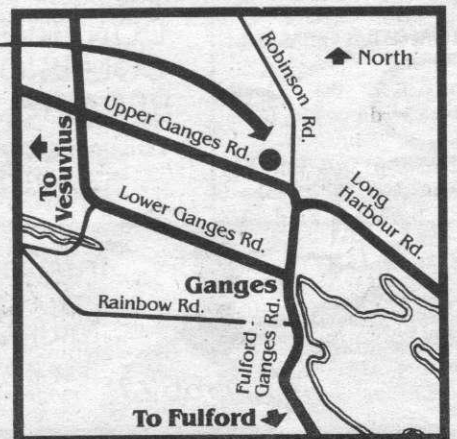


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**School teachers find**

# Computers improve quality of student reports

Teachers at Gulf Islands Secondary School are finding that student reports written on computer word processors are often better than those written by hand, according to drama teacher Tom McKeachie.

McKeachie, who also serves as School District 64's computer co-ordinator, said last week that such reports not only look better but are often of better quality.

"The major gain comes from the ease with which the parts of an essay or report can be repositioned (by a student using a word processor)," he said. "The logic of an argument or a description of an event can be modified without the drudgery of rewriting by hand. The resulting papers represent the students' best ability to organize the information rather than their desire to complete the assignment."

Students using word processors often have access to an electronic check for spelling, which McKeachie says is also a benefit to the teacher.

When a student completes his composition on a word processor equipped with the spelling checker, the document can be compared with a built-in dictionary of 80,000 words.

Words that are not included in the dictionary are brought to the author's attention along with several words from the dictionary that sound or appear similar to the questioned word. The author may then select a better choice or ignore the suggestions, carrying on to the next word.

Words not found in the dictionary but used frequently by the writer — for example, *Ganges* — can be added with the touch of a key. It is also possible to look up the correct spelling of a word in a matter of seconds during composition.

**The overall effect of a paper is improved.**

The computer's electronic spell checker is not able, however, to check context in a foolproof way. For example, the phrase *Two bee our knot too* would pass unchecked, so the students must still be on their toes.

Despite its drawbacks, an electronic spell checker gives the report-writing student a definite advantage, according to McKeachie.

"The overall effect of a paper is improved when spelling is not a distraction," McKeachie noted.

Approximately one-half of all GISS students have learned the computer typing keyboard well enough to touch type. Senior students learned through the existing business education courses, while Grade Eight students have more often learned on computer keyboards in elementary school.

A program is presently being developed to expose all secondary students to the advantages of

word processing. The time needed to teach the additional skills of word processing and general computer use are being taken from different school subject areas, said McKeachie. Teachers of English, Social Studies, Math and elective subjects are preparing

assignments to completed by their students using the electronic medium.

McKeachie said the need to provide students with a working knowledge of computers as information tools is underscored by the fact that today, some informa-

tion never appears on paper at all. A number of businesses order their supplies and pay for them 'over the wire.'

"There are some journals which are now only available electronically," adds GISS teacher-librarian Bill Underwood.

## 'Capers organizers hope for better financial times

Organizers of the 1987 Sea Capers are hoping for a return to better financial times.

Last year, the Salt Spring Island celebration finished with a \$1,418.72 loss. Although the red ink was absorbed by a surplus left over from 1985, organizers don't want to see the numbers repeated in 1987.

Sea Capers Society director Gary Greico said recently that the two weak spots in the 1986 celebration were a dance and the beef barbecue. The former fared badly in direct competition with other night-time events in Ganges, losing just over \$560, and the latter brought in less than half of the \$1,000 profit that had been expected.

Greico said talks are underway to bolster the fortunes of a Sea Capers dance, and that the beef barbecue format will be altered in hopes of boosting revenues there.

The financial fortunes of Sea Capers has a bearing on the community, he explained, because all proceeds are donated to local groups or projects. In the past, for instance, Sea Capers profits have been put towards construction of the bandshell in Centennial Park and for a new roof for Fulford Community Hall.

"It's not as though we make money and sit on it," Greico said. "It's all donated back to the community."

## Several changes planned for 1987 version of Sea Capers

With planning underway earlier than normal and events set for a later date, this year's Sea Capers festivities should be better than ever, its organizers say.

The Salt Spring Island celebration, usually held over the second weekend in June, is scheduled this year for June 26, 27 and 28. That two-week delay, coupled with planning work launched last week instead of sometime in March, is giving organizers more time to fine-tune the event.

Gary Greico, one of five society directors spearheading organization of Sea Capers, says he already feels details beginning to gel. Greico and the other four directors met recently to map strategy for the 1987 celebration.

Among major changes planned for this year's version of the decade-old event, a later date is probably the most significant. Last year, Greico said, Sea Capers was placed in direct competition with the Gulf Islands Secondary School graduation — a conflict organizers would prefer to avoid this time around.

A different site may also be in the cards this year. Negotiations are underway for another location in Ganges, although the eventual home of the festivities will still include Centennial Park.

Other changes include two marching bands signed up (there was one last year), staging of some land events in close proximity to the beer garden so patrons there will be able to watch, an enlarged sand castle contest, several small tents to house the

'lark in the park' event (there was one large tent in 1986), increasing the size of the public viewing area for the water events, and making the beef barbecue available to beer garden patrons and people in the park.

Much work and many details remain to be tackled, however. Greico said Sea Capers needs many more volunteers to ensure all aspects of the celebration are handled. Anyone interested in helping can contact Greico (537-5577) or fellow directors Carol Fowles (537-5993), Bevis Walters (537-9487), Jonathan Oldroyd (537-2752) or Arvid Chalmers (537-5568).

Volunteers are also invited to turn out to the organizing committee's next meeting, set for March 26 at 7:30 pm in the school board office in Ganges.


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**At CWL meeting**

**Lenten prayer, penance discussed**

The Salt Spring Island Council of the Catholic Women (CWL) held its most recent meeting on Wednesday, March 11, beginning with Mass in Our Lady of Grace Church at 1 pm. Spiritual Director Fr. Bergin gave a short talk on Lenten prayer and penance.

The business meeting took place in the parish hall with president Alicia Anderson in the chair. She opened the session with a spiritual

reading. In the absence of secretary Pat McCleery, Shirley Graham took the minutes. Treasurer Dorrie Cherry reported the results of the Valentine tea and bake sale, and its success.

Plans were tentatively discussed for a special mass to be held for members on Sunday, April 26, in honour of the patroness of the CWL "Our Lady of Good Counsel."

A committee was struck to look after nominations for the annual election of officers in April. Members of this committee are Alicia Anderson, Elsa Drummond and Jeanne Anderson.

When the business had been adjourned, the ladies enjoyed tea and a social hour. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8.

**Witnesses hold area conference**

Jehovah's Witnesses from Salt Spring Island will join members from Duncan, Mill Bay, Chemainus and Ladysmith for a two-day convention this weekend in Cassidy.

The March 21 and 22 event will feature eight hours of bible instruction given under the theme,

*Joyfully Enduring Trials Earns God's Approval.* Talks, interviews and demonstrations will be used to present the material.

Organizers say a highlight of the convention will be a public address by L. Gray, a travelling representative of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society. Titled

*You Can Enjoy Life In Peace Now,* the talk will be given at 2 pm on Sunday.

About 600 Jehovah's Witnesses are expected to attend the sessions. The convention is open to the public; for further information, contact Robert Gregory at 245-4994.

**Salt Spring library welcomes fiction, non-fiction works**

The following books are new at the Salt Spring Island library:

**Fiction** — *Make Way for Lucia/The Complete Lucia*, by E.F. Benson; *Conspiracy of Knaves*, by Dee Brown; *Whirlwind*, by James Clavell; *Brothers*, by William Goldman; *Patience of a Saint*, by Andrew Greeley; *The Lady in the Tower*, by Jean Plaidy.

**Non-fiction:** *The Right Instrument for Your Child*, by D. Boyd and A. Ben-Tovim; *Maureen Forrester: Out of Character*, by Maureen Forrester; *Battlefields of Canada*, by Mary B. Fryer; *Memoirs*, by Rene Levesque; *Coasting: A Private Voyage*, by Jonathan Raban; *The Making of a Socialist: T.C. Douglas*, by Lewis H. Thomas (Ed.).

The library has also just received

a number of books on carpentry, wood carving, making children's toys and games, building kitchen cabinets, etc., from the Lee Valley Tools catalogue.

At its recent regular meeting, the Salt Spring Island library board elected the following officers: Marie Crofton, chairman; June Perry, vice-chairman; Arthur Botham, treasurer; and Grace Byrne, secretary.



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**SALT SPRING ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIETY NEWS**

- ★ **MARCH 31 - 7 pm** - Reserve the date for a **VOLUNTEERS' GET-TOGETHER** - for all past, present & prospective Community Society volunteers. Come join the fun & join the good work!
- ★ **VOLUNTEERS** are still urgently needed by the **COMMUNITY CLOTHING STORE, ACHIEVEMENT CENTRE, & RECYCLING SERVICE.** Call us for information: 537-9212.
- ★ **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.

**Pensions**

**Application deadlines approaching**

Pensioners who fail to complete their Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) renewal forms by the end of March will receive less money in April.

GIS is an additional monthly payment for Old Age Security pensioners with little or no extra income. Because payments are based on the income level of recipients, GIS requires annual re-application.

Last week, the Income Security Programs division of Health and Welfare Canada — which administers GIS payments — estimated that 12 per cent of pensioners in B.C. have failed to complete their renewal applications. It said that translates to about 20,000 pensioners who may face income shortfalls next month.

In issuing a reminder to pensioners to submit their re-applications by March 31, Health and Welfare Canada said it is anxious to avoid any reduction in payments on the April cheques which might cause a hardship for income seniors.

Applications received after March will be processed and "appropriate adjustments" made to May cheques, Health and Welfare added. Seniors whose incomes declined in 1986 will receive larger monthly payments, while pensioners whose incomes increased during the year will receive a reduced rate.

Pensioners requiring further information should check the blue pages of the phone book for the nearest Income Security Programs office, or direct their enquiries to:

Health & Welfare Canada  
Income Security Programs  
Box 11177  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8W 2V2

**bridge winners**

Gulf Islands Bridge Club winners on March 9 were: (north-south) John and Vera Sarginson; Dorothy Sneddon and Irene Hawksworth; Kay Harrison and Dawny Scarfe; Mildred Gurney and Norm McConnell; (east-west) Althea Morrisette and Corrine Forster; Jean Herring and Anne McConnell; Shirley Love and Phyl Henderson.

Tuesday night winners were (north-south) Kay Harrison and Marg Havens; Isabelle Richardson and Helen Shandro; Sue and Jim Bradford; Betsy and Bill Minten; (east-west) Lorna and Peter Pentz; Don Nemeth and Chuck Beasley; Irene Hawksworth and Gordon Hutton; Ina and Win Krayenhoff.

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# Strong support from public doubles donations to SPCA

What a difference a year makes. After registering a net loss of \$318.01 in 1985, the Salt Spring Island SPCA office recently reported a \$1,925.56 surplus of funds for 1986. The local SPCA office, which operates as an auxiliary to the Victoria branch, credits the public for its financial fortunes. Dr. David Wooldridge, president of the auxiliary, notes in his annual report that last year saw a marked increase in local donations to the SPCA — they jumped to \$4,001.15 in 1986, more than double the \$1,962.40 contributed in 1985. "In 1986, a very good response by islanders provided us with more funds to do our work," Dr. Wooldridge told *Driftwood*. "For that, we are very, very grateful."

**'A very good response by islanders provided us with more funds to do our work.'**

(Donations to the SPCA are tax-deductible.) In total, the local SPCA office recorded receipts of \$5,536.72 and expenses of \$3,611.16 in 1986, giving it a final balance of \$1,925.56. A year earlier, the office had received \$2,551.51 while spending \$2,869.52 — leaving it \$318.01 in the red for the year. The overall financial picture, meanwhile, shows the SPCA office has \$4,778.32 in savings, current accounts and cash-on-hand.

## 'Not a big-city SPCA'

# Island SPCA somewhat unique

The Salt Spring Island SPCA does not fit the common image of the organization, its president indicated last week. In discussing the local office's financial statement for 1986 (*see story, above*), Dr. David Wooldridge told *Driftwood* that residents should realize the organization "is not a big-city SPCA." Unlike SPCAs serving larger centres, the island office has neither a pound contract nor an animal shelter, he said.

Impounding of stray animals on Salt Spring is the jurisdiction of the Capital Regional District (CRD), and Dr. Wooldridge said that suits the SPCA just fine. "When we don't have to look after strays, our only interest is the welfare of the animal," he explained. "This way, we are the peoples' friend, not enemies who impound their animals." The Salt Spring SPCA office, which operates as an auxiliary to the Victoria branch, also has no animal shelter. Dr. Wooldridge said the local group can use the Victoria shelter when necessary and has no intention of operating one here.

"The financial responsibility of looking after a shelter would be enormous," he said, pointing out that the facility would have to be staffed around-the-clock and would have to be covered by

In a letter accompanying the year-end financial statement, Dr. Wooldridge said the local office's "improved financial picture" will give it the ability to expand an assistance program for animal owners in financial need. The SPCA helps cover the cost of spaying or neutering animals if the owners are otherwise unable to shoulder the cost. The letter also said the local executive is giving "careful consideration . . . to an expansion of the services offered." Dr. Wooldridge told *Driftwood* the expansion would involve the hiring of an associate inspector.

"We now have one 'part-time' inspector who is on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year — which is a tremendous burden," he said. Along with hiring an associate inspector, plans call for the successful applicant to be sent to the Lower Mainland for a week-long course offered by the SPCA. The program provides instruction in animal care and, more importantly, interpretation and application of laws governing animals.

IN BRIEF: The 265 hours worked last year by local inspector Christine Wooldridge represented an 18 per cent increase over the total she posted in 1985 . . . the local office fielded 10 cruelty complaints last year, up from seven in 1985 . . . the co-operative program with veterinarians saw 57 animals spayed or neutered . . . a letter will soon be sent out to SPCA supporters, reminding them that memberships are up for renewal . . . the annual general meeting of the Victoria SPCA branch is this Saturday, March 21, at 2 pm in the lower hall of St. Mary's Church at 1701 Elgin Street in Victoria.

liability insurance. "The costs would be high, and we would want to avoid that," Dr. Wooldridge said. The alternative is that the local organization expects islanders to temporarily care for abandoned or stray animals until arrangements can be made for transportation to the Victoria shelter. "We have to explain that we cannot immediately come down to look after the animals," he said, adding that as long as local

residents remain patient under that arrangement, there will be no need for a shelter here. Dr. Wooldridge also noted that the local SPCA is unusual in that it handles a huge number of calls involving wild animals. For the past six years, protection officer Christine Wooldridge has held a provincial government permit allowing her to work with wild animals, and last year she attended a seminar designed to upgrade her skills in those areas.

# OAPO holds card party

Members of the Fulford branch of the Old Age Pensioners Organization (OAPO) held a card party recently. Eight tables played court whist. Nancy Patterson was the winner among the ladies, while Bob Patterson led the gentlemen. Low scores went to Edna Fraser and Mike Beach. Nancy Patterson won a chicken dinner. Following play, refreshments were served. The next card party will be held March 28, when bridge and '500' will be played. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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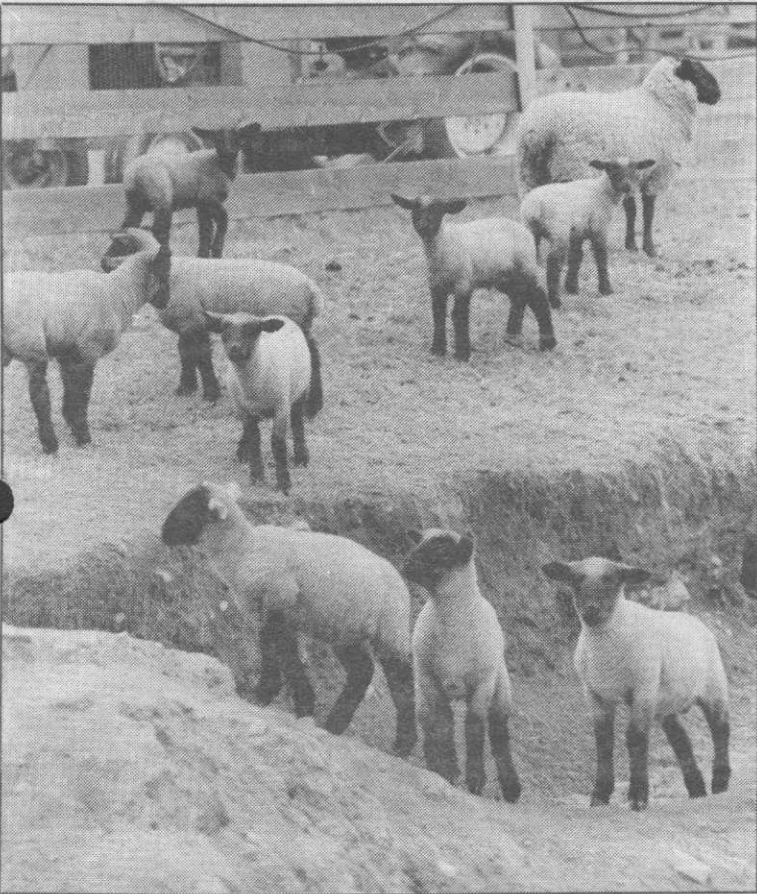
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### Hen-pecked

If lambs are a symbol of spring, there's no better place to count new additions to flocks than Salt Spring Island, where balmy weather and sheep are both claims to fame. At John and Mary Stepaniuk's farm on Maxwell Road, ewe (above) suffering from 'spring fever' competes with hens for food; some of the farm's 50-odd lambs, meanwhile, exercise frisky young limbs under gaze of another ewe.

Driftwood photos by Duncan MacDonnell

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## Job-creation grant requests must be submitted by Friday

Local businesses and community groups hoping to employ students this summer under the Challenge 87 program must submit their applications to the employment development branch by Friday (March 20), project officer Kathleen Williams said last week.

Challenge 87 is a joint federal-provincial student employment program. Under Challenge 87, businesses, municipalities and non-profit organizations are eligible to receive wage subsidies if they hire students during the summer months.

The program is geared to provide students with career-related experience, although funding is provided to businesses and organizations for jobs that provide only work experience.

Challenge 87 runs from April until the first week in September. Williams said private sector businesses hiring students under the program will be reimbursed for 50 per cent of a student's wages — to a maximum of \$3 per hour — for 18 weeks.

Challenge 87 will pay a student's wages up to a maximum of \$4 per hour on projects sponsored by municipalities. The program will also fund \$4-per-hour wages for students hired by non-profit organizations, as well as pay for any benefits they are eligible to receive. Non-profit groups are eligible to receive an additional \$20 per student per week to cover other costs related to their jobs.

Williams said all applications made by businesses, municipalities and non-profit groups are judged on their merit. Funding is not awarded on a first-come, first served basis.

"What we do is wait until all the applications are in, and then judge them in terms of merit," she noted.



"We urge employers to 'top up' the level of wages paid to students. The higher the wages employers are prepared to pay, the better their chances of receiving funding under the program.

"We encourage employers to pay higher wages because most students are not simply trying to survive during the summer months — they're also trying to save some money toward their education," Williams explained. "And let's face it, students cannot survive on the minimum wage these days."

All students hired under Challenge 87 must be referred to employers by a Canada Employment Centre. Sponsors are not eligible to hire members of their family.

Anyone interested in obtaining an application form can do so at any Canada Employment Centre. The forms, which must detail the proposed student job(s) to be created, must be returned to the employment centre by Friday.

Prospective employers can obtain additional information by calling the employment development branch (collect) at 388-3136.






**Bring your plate up-to-date**

If the decal on your plate says "MAR 87" your auto insurance and vehicle licence must be renewed by April 1. See your Autoplan agent this month to discuss your insurance needs and changes for 1987.

**Important reminder:** all Autoplan transactions must be signed by the registered vehicle owner or a person with valid power of attorney.

**Remember, too:** it is extremely important to insure your vehicle in the correct rate class. If it is improperly rated, a claim on Own Damage coverage (e.g., Collision, Comprehensive) could be denied and you could be required to repay Third Party claims paid on your behalf.

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7.47  
kg

MOZZARELLA  
**Cheese**  
**2 89**  
lb.

6.37  
kg

FRESH  
1/2 FRENCH LOAF  
**Pizza**  
**2 29**  
ea.

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**Sausage**  
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**DOG CHOW**  
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SAVE 31c  
104 g tin **78**  
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**POTATO PATTIES**  
SAVE 31c  
680 g pkg. **78**  
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Pink or Regular **68**  
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