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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR, NO. 13

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1987

40c

New home planned for market—again

The Saturday Farmers' Market may be moved — again.

A secret report written for the parks and recreation commission and obtained last week by *Driftwood* recommends moving the market out of the parking area in Gasoline Alley to take advantage of an oil company's offer to purchase Centennial Park. (See story, below.)

Because other re-development underway in downtown Ganges limits locations for the market,

the commission recommends that it be housed on a barge that would be floated into the harbour each Saturday morning.

The barge would be about twice the size of the area now available for the market, the report says. It adds that advantages of the barge include an end to parking and traffic worries, ample space to accommodate vendors, and the possibility of introducing a nautical flavour to the market.

"Some enterprising people might even want to offer rentals of fishing rods that can be dangled over the side," the report said.

Vendors would be charged "a modest sum" for display space, to cover the barge's construction cost, its maintenance and the price of a tugboat to haul it into place each Saturday. Mid-week vending, meanwhile, would have to be expanded — otherwise, there would not be enough ven-

dors to share the costs to be charged by the commission.

Some vendors have seen the report. One, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, said the proposal will be fought before the commission. "What the report doesn't tell you," he said, "is that this is all a plot. We know darn well that the first Saturday we're out there, the commission plans to cut the mooring ropes and cast us adrift."

Gas station applications flood island

Islands Trust offices in Victoria were swamped last week with rezoning applications from individuals wanting to locate service stations on Salt Spring Island.

A spokesman for the Islands Trust said that as of Monday, rezoning applications were received for no less than 27 properties located on the island. In all cases, the applicant — a Victoria consortium identified as Off-island Oil and Petroleum Services (OOPS) — is seeking Commercial 3 status on the properties, a rezoning classification permitting the operation of a service station.

Six of the applications were filed for properties within Ganges, four of which are located along Rainbow Road and Jackson Avenue. One application seeks the rezoning of Centennial Park, while another requests C3 zoning on two large rocks in Ganges Harbour, one of which is only visible at low tide.

Rezoning applications on two other properties have created consternation among local government officials and residents. One seeks C3 zoning for two floats moored in St. Mary Lake, while the other requests identical zoning on a portion of Mount Tuam.

According to A. Fugh Brickshort, chief executive officer of OOPS, the consortium has identified a need for service stations here. The organization, he added, has high hopes for its operations, particularly those located in St. Mary Lake, which are designed to serve the outboard motor testing facility to be located there. [See related story, page 59.]

"We feel the St. Mary stations will be an immediate success. As a promotional feature, we're considering giving away a fresh fish with every fill-up," Brickshort said.

The sudden deluge of rezoning applications has puzzled Islands Trust members, who last week requested an immediate review of the Official Community Plan and established a task force to study the issue.



Canadian Armed Forces helicopters over islands

Helicopter gunships to patrol airspace over Gulf Islands

Residents of the Outer Islands may soon see and hear a lot more helicopters flying over their homes.

It was learned last week that the Canadian Armed Forces and the Canada Coast Guard have filed a joint application with the Canada Transport Commission for permission to use airspace over the Gulf Islands as a training ground for would-be helicopter pilots.

Under the proposal, pilot-recruits in both services would conduct single helicopter and formation flights over the islands. Accompanied by qualified military pilots, they would run simulated combat as well as search and rescue missions over Saturna, Pender, Mayne and Galiano Islands.

One such flight was conducted secretly three weeks ago to test the feasibility of the plan. Armed forces personnel said Friday that Outer Islanders likely didn't hear the helicopters because mufflers recently designed to mask the sound of approaching aircraft were employed.

The trainees will be flying a variety of helicopters, including the giant Sikorsky S61 and the speedy UH-1z, an updated version of the Huey helicopter made famous during the Vietnam conflict.

Col. W.E. Areloud, spokesman for Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt, said in a press release issued last week that the training flights would generally be conducted on weekends and during the night to reduce the risk of a mid-air collision between armed forces helicopters and the civilian Helijet commuter 'copters currently flying between Vancouver and Victoria.

When daily training missions are necessary, Col. Areloud said the military and Coast Guard 'choppers' would fly under the Helijet flights, "likely at tree-top level."

Noise from the helicopters is estimated in the 65 to 85 decibel range. According to the ministry of defence, the special helicopter mufflers will not be used on training flights.

When contacted by telephone and asked why the noise-reducing equipment would not be employed by helicopters flying over the islands, Areloud — a former helicopter pilot himself — had no comment. However, Areloud's secretary, Captain James T. Kirkoff, said the colonel might not have been able to hear *Driftwood's* questions. Areloud has a hearing impairment.

Kirkoff explained that the special combat mufflers would not be used on training flights because officials wish to simulate actual flight conditions as closely as possible. "We want the pilots to hear their machines," Captain Kirkoff said. "That way, if something goes wrong, they'll know about it pretty quick."

Kirkoff added that if permission is received to launch the training flights, "every effort will be made to deal with residents' concerns."

"Right now, we're looking at a couple of options," explained Kirkoff. "We may use speakers to broadcast chamber music or natural wildlife sounds — birds, frogs, crickets, gurgling stream noises — at sufficient levels to effectively blanket engine noise. If that proves unacceptable, it is possible our combat simulation flights could incorporate the dropping of several hundred individually-packaged foam earplugs over homes in the area."

"There is an up-side to this proposal, too," he continued. "Islanders in need of medical assistance would be able to call on us at any time."

The joint forces' application will be heard April 1 in Ottawa.

Outer Islands news begins to wear thin



Another win

Driftwood named 'most absorbent newspaper' in nation-wide poll of pet-store owners. Page 52.



Rare find

Island resident finds tiny couple ice skating in her breakfast bowl. Page 67.



Rosapin' Ronnie

McDonald's buys MacMillan Bloedel's island acreage and plans several restaurants here. Page 114.

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Injured eagle at Derek Lundy's home

Provincial museum to seek cause of island eagle's death

Provincial museum authorities will conduct an autopsy on an eagle that died recently on Salt Spring Island.

The bird was found on an island beach last week by local resident Derek Lundy. Noticing that the bird appeared weak and was unable to fly, Lundy took it home to turn over to the SPCA. However, the eagle died before it could be collected by local SPCA field worker Christine Wooldridge.

Wooldridge said Monday the provincial museum is worried about the nature of the bird's death and will conduct an autopsy to determine the cause.

"Right now, it (the cause) is a mystery," she said. "The bird had no injuries, it was heavy and healthy, and whatever happened, happened suddenly. The museum people were worried by that because whatever it died from may have environmental implications — you never know."

Lundy did the right thing when he saw the injured bird, Wooldridge indicated. "The thing to do is to call the SPCA," she said, adding that the rule holds for dead or live birds.

If the bird is dead, she said, it should be placed in a plastic bag and a label attached with the date and area it was found, plus the cause of death (if known). The bag should then be placed in a freezer and Wooldridge notified so she can pick the animal up for transportation to the provincial museum.

"I also like to hear about the ones that are injured and alive," she said.

Wooldridge, who holds a Fish and Wildlife Branch permit to handle wild animals and operates an official museum bird collection station, also pointed out that it is illegal for anyone to have wild birds, "whether dead or alive," in their possession without a permit.

Cottage industry work sought for hotel display

The organizers of a Gulf Islands display to be set up in Vancouver are repeating their call for local artists and craftspeople to take part.

The display is to be set up in North Vancouver's Plaza International Hotel as part of its month-long promotion of the Gulf Islands. The display will include a pictorial representation of the islands, plus arts, crafts and other products made on the islands.

Salt Spring potter Mark Meredith, who is organizing the display, said Monday he has heard from numerous painters who wish to have their works displayed but is still waiting for the crafts industry to come forward.

Meredith added that he must have display participants finalized by April 6 — next Monday.

"We have mainly painters so far," Meredith said, "and now we would like to see all of the cottage craftspeople, anyone who is involved in cottage crafts, to come forward and help promote their industry."

Meredith, who can be reached by calling 537-9876, said the intent of the display is to provide a broad representation of the Gulf Islands that will pay dividends by attracting visitors. "All of the craftspeople should be aware that this is a public relations opportunity, a chance to promote the islands."

The display will be set up in the Plaza International for all of April as part of the hotel's promotion of Salt Spring Island lamb on its restaurant menu. That one menu item has opened the doors for everything else, Meredith stressed, and islanders should seize the opportunity presented to them.

Ross McLeod agrees. A former chef at the Bayshore Inn, McLeod now operates Salt Spring Island's Mansell Farm, which is supplying lamb for the hotel promotion.

"The opportunity to promote ourselves, to promote our lamb, our arts and our crafts, is huge," McLeod said. "This is major — it's a major hotel, and it's a major promotion of the islands. The opportunity is here and people should take that opportunity."

McLeod will travel to the Plaza International on April 7 to prepare the food for a lamb dinner to be served to Vancouver's major food critics. Other special events include an arts and crafts demonstration (featuring a live sheep and a 36-inch loom) on April 11 and 12 and a celebrity barbecue in May featuring island lamb. McLeod also noted that the hotel is offering a special rate to island residents (\$49 a night) through April.

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Garbage can purchases aimed at street clean-up

Gulf Islands Secondary School is doing its part to keep Ganges free of litter.

Last week, four garbage cans were placed along the route taken by students travelling to the downtown area from GISS. The cans, each costing \$160, were purchased by the school in an effort to provide students and community residents with a place to deposit refuse.

Three of the cans are located on school property, while the fourth has been placed along Lower Ganges Road in front of the Small World Real Estate office.

They were purchased in an effort to help reduce litter in the area between the school and the downtown area.

At the March 12 regular meeting of School District 64's board, trustee Ian Fraser noted that some property owners in the area

had complained about garbage being left along the route. Fraser said that although not all the blame for the refuse problem belonged to students, they were singled out for criticism.

GISS Principal John Wellingham acknowledged that the problem existed, but added that it is hoped the installation of garbage cans will solve it.

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WE	1240	2.8		0800	8.8
	2015	9.9		1545	3.1
2	0110	8.0	6	0110	10.4
	0600	9.8	MO	0615	8.9
TH	1320	2.6		0900	8.3
	2125	10.1		1650	3.4
3	0220	8.7	7	0200	10.4
	0615	9.5	TU	0715	8.4
FR	1405	2.6		1045	7.8
	2245	10.2	8	1750	3.6
4	0355	9.0		0245	10.3
	0620	9.2	WE	0830	7.8
SA	1450	2.8		1230	7.6
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to be frank . . .

. . . by Richards

Where flies the eagle

When my kid brother came last week to visit us, he was impressed by the sight of Salt Spring Island eagles, all bald as badgers.

In his long-forgotten youth Laurence enjoyed flying hither and yon in sailplanes. He was a glider pilot with and without the armed forces and from time to time he recalls those days of smooth sailing.

Last week he was reminiscing about the glider pilot who flew past the eagles. The observant pilot noticed that each time he rose on a thermal current he would see the eagles holding themselves at that level and scrutinizing the ground, half a mile below.

The flying naturalist compiled notes on what he saw and when and he ascertained that the eagle has optimum vision at that particular level and hovers half a mile high watching for his prey.

That's my pudding!

I was presented with a package of semolina last week. A reader took pity on my divorce from the puddings of my youth.

Doreen Biggs of Ganges presented me with an eight-ounce package of semolina. It was the same as me, though. It's imported from Britain.

The significance is that it tells just how to make a semolina pudding. You heat up half a litre of milk and sprinkle on 50 grams of semolina. It cooks for two or three minutes before you add 25 grams of sugar. Then the whole shooting match is turned into a dish and baked in the oven.

And that's the way I remember it.

My bailer outer tells me she doesn't go too much on and she doesn't get hysterical over tapioca. Her *bete* here is rice pudding. And I grew up on that!

Manufactured or packaged by Whitworth Holdings, the semolina comes from Wellingborough, in Northamptonshire.

Why would they?

There's the sign, staring you in the face as you drive off the ferry at Swartz Bay: *Enjoyed having you on board*. Why would anyone enjoy having me on board an early morning ferry? With a scowl over my face a mile long; with nary a civil word for man or beast; miserable, dedicated to misery for the entire day and there I am, an enjoyable passenger for half an hour.

I don't believe them. I don't believe they did enjoy having me on board. Nobody said how welcome I was when they were trying to park me closer to the car in front and the car on the left and the car on the right than I wanted to be. Who could enjoy that?

I reckon if they'd known it was going to be me on that ferry they'd have taken the sign down until I'd gone past. Just like at home!

What's in a name?

I'm getting a bit too much of these croakers and their lovely yellow flowers. I think it probably depends on which media is your speciality. Or whether one phenomena is more phenomenal than another.

Grown any good saffrons lately?

They couldn't read me!

It is impolite to write one's personal notes on a typewriter, protested a dear daughter. But a carefully written letter by hand is still not much use if the other fellow can't read it.

I wrote a letter.

Three weeks later I had a phone call: did I write on March 5?

I did.

Then the unreadable letter must be mine!

That's the last time I use my hands for a letter.

Grade Three student passes 'honesty test'

Eight-year-old Marriah Grey is as honest as the day is long.

Grey, a Grade Three student at Fernwood Elementary School, was travelling on the school bus March 26 when she found a large roll of money. She didn't know how much it was, and had to get her friends to help count it.

Grey turned the money — \$176 in total — over to her bus driver, Wayne Duke.

A high school student, who asked that she not be identified,

apparently lost the money while travelling on the bus. She claimed it the following day, and when contacted at home Friday, said she was impressed by the eight-year-old's honesty. "I think I'll give her a call thanking her," the teenager said.

Marriah's bus driver was impressed by her actions, too.

"It would have been all too easy to keep it (the money)," Duke said. "I think some recognition should go to the little girl."

Water line extension project serves to improve harbour fire protection

Work concluded Thursday on a project designed to improve fire protection services in the Ganges small craft harbour.

A spokesman for the federal government's small craft harbours branch in Vancouver said Friday the project consisted primarily of extending a water line to the Ganges small craft harbour. This water line will provide better fire protection to the harbour area.

A sewer line was also laid to connect the washroom facilities in

the temporary harbour office with the main Ganges sewer system.

At the same time, Centennial Park's washroom facilities — closed since last fall due to problems with the park's septic system — were connected to the new sewer line at a cost of approximately \$1,500 to the parks and recreation commission.

The entire project cost the federal harbours branch approximately \$17,000, the spokesman said. Work was completed shortly after 1 pm March 26.

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Property tax changes could cause hardships

Gulf Islanders will pay more in property taxes in the future, thanks to two significant measures contained in the 1987-88 provincial budget announced recently by Finance Minister Mel Couvelier.

The measures under discussion here are one which raises the provincial tax rate on residential and recreational properties in rural areas from \$1.40 to \$1.70 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and one which increases the minimum property tax payable (after application of the Home Owner Grant) from \$1 to \$100 for seniors, and to \$350 from \$200 for other property owners.

In announcing the hike in the rural tax rate, Mr. Couvelier said it is "intended to reduce the provincial subsidization of services which occurs particularly in urbanized non-municipal areas." He further rationalized the move by explaining

that "taxpayers in municipalities consider it unfair that neighbours in adjacent unorganized areas receive similar services, yet are subject to a much lighter tax load."

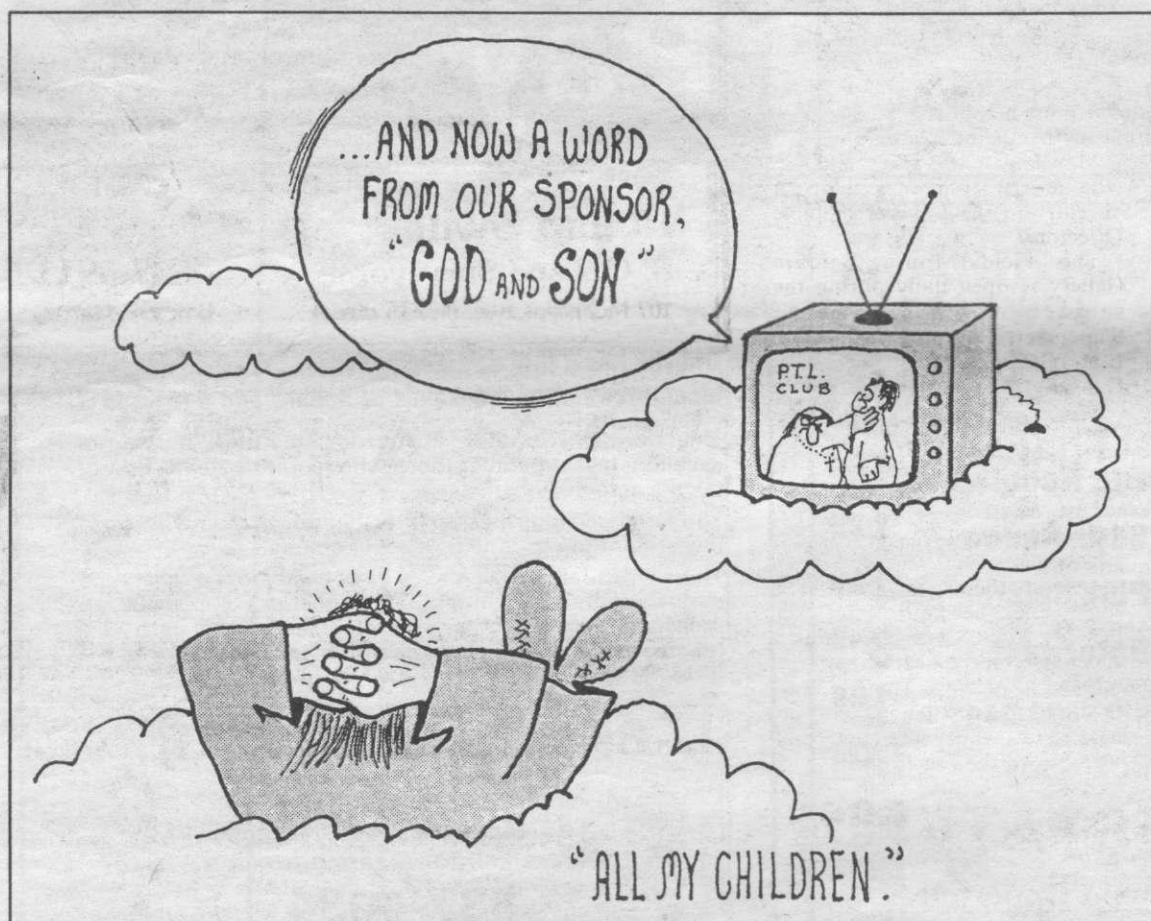
We agree with Mr. Couvelier, pausing only to add that the rural tax rate has been kept artificially low for too long and should have been increased in small leaps — beginning several years ago — rather than in the one single bound outlined in the budget announced last week. While the new, higher rate will not show up on property tax bills until 1988 (giving land owners ample time to prepare for the blow), it still represents an awfully large hike to digest in one sitting.

We direct a similar concern towards the increase in the minimum amount of tax

homeowners must pay. Like the rural tax rate, the minimum levy can withstand an increase — but homeowners, particularly those Gulf Islanders whose finances lie close to the bone, should have been allowed a year's warning of the hike.

As it is, the near-doubling of the minimum is due and payable in a few short months, giving them little time to juggle finances. Seniors in particular may be hard-pressed to come up with an extra \$99 on such short notice.

By way of contrast, we note that other property tax changes outlined in the budget — i.e. hiking the rural rate, eliminating preferential rates for resorts — are to come into effect down the road. The same period of grace should have been extended to an increase in the minimum amount of tax property owners must pay.



Gotcha!

It's all in fun.

Today's front page, highlighted by tongue-in-cheek stories that events that did not (and hopefully will not) happen, is our acknowledgement of April Fool's Day, which ends at noon today (Wednesday).

For the staff at the paper, the exercise was an enjoyable break from the realities of the news-gathering business; for our readers, we hope it was an equally-refreshing change from the seriousness that all too often dominates the news pages.

No apologies should be necessary to anyone who may find the *Driftwood* sense of humour lacking, or the satirical stories in questionable taste. Our intent was not to push noses out of place, but to laugh at ourselves and others we call neighbours.

However, if any feelings are hurt, we invite repayment in kind, next April Fool's Day.

Space expanded, contracted in accordance with law

To Murphy's Law and all those other odd rules that regulate the absurdities of daily life, we must add one more truism: book collections expand in direct proportion to the amount of shelf space you have unavailable.

I stumbled across this strange law earlier this year when, with a few spare hours on my hands, I decided it was time to finally do something about all those books hiding in boxes tucked into closets around the house.

Since the assault on my lack of shelving was designed to solve the problem once and for all, I heeded the advice of the experts who tell us that a job worth doing is worth doing right. In this case, it meant hauling out all of the homeless books, stacking them end-to-end to get a clear idea of

how much shelving would be needed; then building just a little bit more.

Building the shelves themselves was easier said than done (we'll save that story for another time) but the job was eventually completed and, to my surprise, it was a success. Box after box of books was emptied, the contents of each joyfully re-discovered after having spent a year with mothballs and old coats — and, best of all, some space was even left over for new additions.

I suppose it was the sense of pride in a job well done that led to my undoing. I couldn't wait to enjoy the fruits of my labour: shortly after, new additions to the library began trickling in the door.

my word

by
Duncan MacDonnell

At first, it was only the odd book picked up here or there and easily placed in a vacant spot on the shelf. Then they came in bunches of two and three, necessitating some re-arrangement of the existing stock to squeeze everything into place. Finally, the swimming pool society did me in.

When that group held its fund-raising book sale, I only meant to drop in for a short bit

and see if one or two hard-to-find volumes might slip into my hands (it happens). Before I knew the dimensions of the calamity that had struck, I was walking across the parking lot at Mahon Hall with 32 books, most of which had been picked up on pure whim.

At home, my worst fears were realized: there was no space available on the shelves. At first, I considered the closet routine again, but ruled that out because it would mock my shelf-building exercise. Eventually, I settled on stacking many of the books sideways, a move that gained enough room for perhaps 20 volumes or so.

However, as I write this in my study at home, I glance over at one of the bookshelves and see it

hopelessly cluttered with random piles of books sitting on the edges of shelves, their spines jutting into empty air. I can barely make out the orderly rows stacked behind them.

Across my desk, three more stacks of books cry for attention; down the hall, in the kitchen, I know there are a score more hiding in the cupboard where normal folk keep their jars of spices or boxes of corn flakes.

There's only one solution, but it's fraught with danger: I envision a series of bookshelves spanning one entire wall in the living room, and know it's possible. However, my newly-discovered addendum to Murphy's Law also tells me it is a short-term hope. What will I do when that wall is full, as it inevitably must be?

Unacceptable

Editor's note: The following is an open letter to Helijet Airways, filed with this newspaper for publication.

Sir,
I am a shareholder in the David Elford Holding Company Ltd. This company represents the interests of the owners of a large parcel of land on the slopes of Mt. David and Mt. Elford on Saturna Island, over which you have a temporary licence to fly your helicopter shuttle service from Vancouver to Victoria.

We comprise a group of 30 shareholders who together own 300 acres of property and represent on the order of 100 people availing ourselves of the tranquility and beauty of the island. Your shuttle service has curtailed the enjoyment of our rightful peace and quiet and we urge you in the strongest terms to re-route your flight path so as not to interfere with our use of our property.

I am given to understand that previous to your present route over Saturna Island you had routed your flights over Pender Island, until complaints arose. Saturna Island is more quiet and more remote than Pender, and as such deserves this disturbance even less.

Discussions have been initiated with other Saturna property owners and we are unanimous in our opposition — it would seem that some weather conditions necessitate your helicopters flying extremely low, and I can inform you that when this occurs your flights literally shake the houses. Since you cannot control the weather, no assurance of yours regarding a change of altitude would seem possible. With 16 trips a day, from early morning until night, this situation is simply unacceptable.

I believe that you yourself recently said, on the radio, that a route change to take you over water could add a possible five per cent to your operating expenses. Even though you also apparently said that this additional cost would be prohibitive for the continued operation of your service, it is our opinion that your right to operate a private concern should not be allowed to jeopardize our right to peace and quiet.

We shall be approaching our elected representatives for redress, as well as the Air Navigation Branch of the Department of Transport to attempt to come to an appropriate resolution of this matter. Naturally, any suggestions would be gratefully received.
MARK DREW,
Vancouver.

Destruction

Sir,
After having been to the new and improved (?) Farmers' Market on Saturday, March 21, I can only say I now believe the Parks and Recreation Commission intends to destroy the market.

They took what was a totally spontaneous, free-enterprise event that had happily survived and prospered over many years (about 10, I think) — one that was well received by, enjoyed by, and wanted by most residents and tourists — and made it into a state-controlled, bloody awful mess. They have all the vendors miserable, the inside and the outside kind.

I believe the Farmers' Market, as it was, is what island residents want and they said so in the referendum the regional director chose to ignore. I call on the regional director to put it to a vote again, and this time to listen and put the people's choice before his own.

B. E. ARISS,
Ganges.

Ironic

Sir,
What irony was presented in *Driftwood* last week. On one hand we have the problems facing Dennis Beech, an honest businessman currently providing employment on the island, but thwarted in his every effort to relocate his established business; on the other hand, we are requested to help a group of folk looking for donations of money and manpower in order to set up an agency to deal with the unemployment on Salt Spring.

And then, of course, there's Frank Richards, who "for weeks... was going to have Dennis Beech look at" his brakes, but in the end took his business off island.
MUZZ HOLMES,
Ganges.

Dangerous

Editor's note: The following is a letter to the local highways ministry office, filed with this newspaper for publication.

Sir,
Further to our telephone conversation of February 23, 1987, concerning the hazard to student safety at the junction of Rainbow and Fulford-Ganges roads: the hazard was occasioned by a mud puddle extending where the sidewalk should be, combined with the high hedge around private property which obscures visibility.

May I take this opportunity to express thanks for the prompt action taken by the ministry of highways in filling the offending puddle.

I am wondering what the result of your survey was regarding the feasibility of installing a curb around this corner, as some water still collects in this area. Considering the high volume of student pedestrians at this intersection, a crosswalk placed away from the corner might be a means of improving safety standards.

Trimming back the hedge which obscures visibility on the corner would also be a safety bonus. A number of school staff members have concurred that the hedge is a safety hazard as both traffic and pedestrians are obscured. Two persons state they had been involved in near collisions with students at this point. I contacted

letters

the manager of the property in question, who responded negatively to a request that the hedge be trimmed. Does this hedge intrude on the road allowance — if so, may trimming back to the property boundary be enforced?

Thank you again for your cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your comments on the points raised.
POLLY TREMBLAY,
Ganges.

No zoning

Sir,
In your recent coverage of the meeting reporting the rezoning application of the two lots on Rainbow Road and Jackson Avenue, you refer to a report which is forthcoming from the Advisory Design Panel.

I wish to make it clear that no such report is contemplated since matters of zoning are outside the scope of the terms of reference under which the panel was constituted.

The Advisory Design Panel's responsibility is simply, and I quote, "... to advise on the design merits of all plans submitted in respect of Development Permit applications..."
PETER VIDA,
Salt Spring Island
Advisory Design Panel.

Correction

Sir,
May I include a short letter in your newspaper in order to correct an entry in the Lions Telephone Directory?

The Field Mouse Wildlife Gallery is open daily during the summer months, April to September, 2 pm to 6 pm.
P.F. WRIGHT,
Ganges.

Thank you

Sir,
The Salt Spring Island Swimming Pool Society would like to thank the Vesuvius Inn for sponsoring the recent Jazz Benefit Night and the Peppermint Pat Benefit Night. We very much appreciate the support of both the Inn and its patrons. Thank you to all the Pool Society members and supporters who attended and helped with the functions.

As well, we appreciate the patience and forbearance of those Inn patrons who were unaware of the cover charges on those nights and who gracefully succumbed. Thank you to the musicians, as the music was excellent and reports indicated that both events were most enjoyable.

To the Vesuvius Inn, thank you also for your most generous donation. To Wayne Taylor, thank you for spearheading the events. To Lois Phillips and Evelyn Harker, thank you for your last-minute organizational wizardry!

WENDY VINE,
Salt Spring Island
Swimming Pool Society.

In support

Sir,
We would like to add our support as a community and health-oriented group to the drive to make the swimming pool a reality.

Much has been said about health and fitness benefits of swimming already, and those who

commute to Duncan and Victoria regularly to "take the waters" can attest to that, but think of the savings in energy, time and money when we have our own. The mind boggles.

Gulf Islands chapter of the Registered Nurses Association of British Columbia

Appreciation

Sir,
At the annual general meeting of the SPCA's Victoria branch, held on Saturday, March 21, 1987, a resolution was passed directing me to write and express the appreciation of the membership of the society for all of the services you have made available to the branch.

Your reporting of branch activities has been invaluable to us. You have helped us not only to inform the public of our concerns about animals but also to place many of our shelter animals into good homes.

LYNN WEST,
SPCA.

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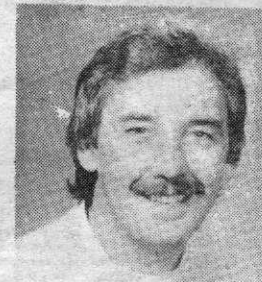
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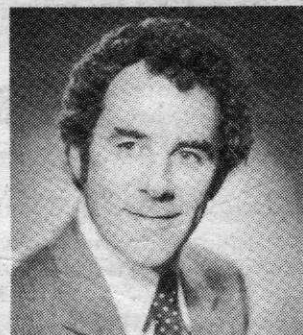
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Dismayed

Sir,
I went to hear Robert Anton Wilson at Off Centre Stage last Monday, expecting a metaphysical delight. Instead, I was left disappointed and dismayed.

He is (seems to me to be) a brilliant speaker: exquisitely articulate, with an enviable vocabulary and memory for quotations. But just exactly what was he saying? That science is the religion of today? That "soul" and "spirit" are meaningless words (he prefers the term "higher neurological functions" because it's measurable in a laboratory)? That emotions are obsolete mammalian drives which we must conquer?

As a biologist, I can only say that things which can be measured in a laboratory comprise few of the diversities of human existence. That science as an untainted, objective study of our world is a myth, exploded continually by reports of fraud and deceit in research (see *Betrayers of the Truth* by New York Times reporters William Broad and Nicholas Wade).

I know we are more than "imperfect computers." We are capable of feeling, analyzing, believing, enjoying, intuitive leaps of understanding ($e = mc^2$), and learning. Our machines extend many of our skills, but they can't match us for versatility. I hope Robert Anton Wilson will one day expand his intellectual horizons to include the whole of human capabilities and possibilities. Then I might find myself sitting through his lecture with pleasure.

STEPHANIE PETER,
Ganges.

Campaign

Sir,
During the April 5 and 6 summit between Prime Minister Mulroney and President Reagan, a letter will be formally presented to the prime minister and the U.S. ambassador from the national heads of Canadian churches, outlining their concerns and recommendations for peace in Central America. At the same time, letters from other church Central America networks will be presented.

Last year, the church leaders' letter received wide media coverage and it's hoped this year, together with the other letters, there will be even greater impact and more public attention focused on Central America.

It is certainly needed. U.S. foreign policy is still obsessed with the overthrow of the Sandinista government of Nicaragua. The contras, although less credible than ever, have received the \$40 million balance of last year's \$100 million package. Presumably because of the Iran connections, a bill proposing another \$105 million has been postponed until September.

The madness continues. The Contadora peace plan is now being undermined by Costa Rica, which proposed another plan in

February in which Nicaragua had no say. Costa Rica is the second largest recipient of U.S. aid per capita, after Israel.

The military escalation of the region continues unchecked with large-scale maneuvers, mock invasions with U.S. troops and National Guardsmen, and the tentative approval of the sale of sophisticated F-5E jet fighters to Honduras — where 73 per cent of the population is unemployed or underemployed, and abject poverty is the norm for most.

The Canadian government has given some support to Nicaragua and the Contadora process, and should be praised for what it has done, but it needs to give a lot more if present U.S. foreign policy on Central America is to be altered for the good.

The Contadora peace plan must be backed to the limit of Canada's peace-making expertise.

The U.S. should be strongly encouraged to abide by the World Court's decisions and begin a policy of peaceful dialogue to resolve their differences with Nicaragua.

Canadian bilateral aid to El Salvador and possible resumption of aid to Guatemala should be reviewed. Both these countries have terrible records of human rights abuse.

Canada has withdrawn its ambassador to Guatemala (who also covered Honduras), leaving an already-overworked embassy in Costa Rica to cover Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras, with Guatemala being covered from Mexico. This lack of staff in such a sensitive area makes information-gathering and independent analysis of events very unreliable and difficult.

Nicaragua is close to being on the rocks and needs food and economic aid on a large scale.

Letters to the prime minister should be addressed to: Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6. (No postage necessary.)

Letters to president Ronald

Reagan should be sent care of Jane Fyles, 965 Kingsmere Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K2A 3K3.
TOM MITCHELL,
Fulford Harbour.

Help wanted

Sir,
Last week's *Driftwood* carried an article on page 22 outlining our plans to establish a community employment office in the Upper Ganges Centre, next to Dagwood's.

The Salt Spring Employment Action Society plans to operate the all-volunteer office with locally-raised funds for an initial period of six months (from April through September).

At the end of that time, the society will evaluate the effectiveness of the service and, if successful, will apply for ongoing funding from the federal CEIC Outreach program.

The society has received moral and financial support from the Community Society, Regional Director Dr. Hugh Borsman, and the Anglican parish of Salt Spring.

The funds and commitments obtained thus far are sufficient to pay the rent, utilities and telephone costs, but not much more. We still require either the loan or outright donation of surplus office furniture and equipment such as desks, chairs, filing cabinets and tables.

The society has applied for charitable status and will be able to issue tax deductible receipts for all goods received, based on the fair market value of the furniture or equipment donated. We are also desperately short of the funds needed to pay for our sign, phone installation and other start-up costs.

There are over 600 employable individuals and heads of families out of work on Salt Spring. We are convinced that our community employment office is urgently needed to provide an employer-employee link and to provide direct access to federal wage subsidy and training programs.

After three months of intensive research, planning and meetings with community groups we now have the concept, the plan and the premises. We also have the active co-operation and ongoing assistance of the Canada Employment Centre in Saanich, and the Peninsula Employment

Project in Sidney. In addition, we have a group of experienced, dedicated volunteers ready to staff the office.

We strongly urge anyone who is able to do so to contribute in any way possible, financially or otherwise, to help us make our plan for a community employment centre a reality.

Please call 537-4386 or 537-9264 for donor information.

BILL BEST,
Salt Spring Island
Employment Action Society.



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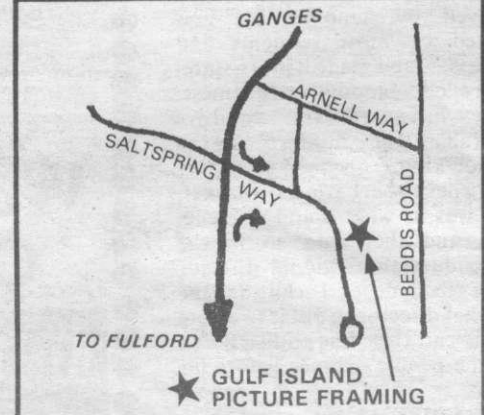


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Liberalization of liquor laws ahead

capital comment

by

Hubert Beyer

VICTORIA — Between April 13 and May 1, a dozen British Columbia communities will have a chance of contributing to social change in this province — for better or worse.

On April 13, John Jansen, the Socred MLA for Chilliwack, will begin a round of public hearings, the outcome of which will determine B.C.'s liquor distribution and consumption policies for years to come.

The hearings will start in Vancouver, move to Burnaby, Victoria, Vernon, Kamloops, Castlegar, Chilliwack, Nanaimo, Prince Rupert, Sandspit and Fort St. John before winding up in Alkali Lake.

The outcome of the hearings will not only determine to what extent the distribution of hard liquor, beer and wine will be turned over to the private sector, but may also result in drastic changes to regulations that govern the sale of alcoholic beverages in hotels, bars, cabarets, restaurants and neighborhood pubs.

The liquor policy review discussion paper, prepared by the finance and corporate relations ministry and the labor ministry, gives an indication of what's at stake.

"There are a number of issues that should be considered: the type and nature of licences to be authorized; criteria for reviewing licence applications and renewals; days, hours and conditions of operation of licensed premises; nature of liquor advertising; and role of municipal governments in provincial liquor policy," the paper says.

The privatization of government monopoly liquor stores, the paper warns, could lead to a shift in employment from the public to the private sector and could also have an impact on retail prices.

"To a large extent, the degree of competition among private sector retailers, and the revenue requirements of government, producers, distributors and retailers will dictate whether alcohol prices will rise or fall," the paper says.

"While it is impossible to predict with certainty the ultimate effects of privatization and liquor policy changes, the potential implications identified in this paper should be considered carefully in determining the future direction of British Columbia's alcohol policies," it adds.

The paper skirts the question of whether society is ready for substantial changes in the province's liquor policies.

"Over the years, public attitudes towards alcohol and the government's monopoly have changed. On the one hand, consumption of alcoholic beverage

has become more socially acceptable; on the other, British Columbians have become increasingly aware of health and social costs of alcohol abuse. The result is a public expectation that the government improve customer service and convenience while continuing to minimize social costs through pricing and control."

In other words, the government isn't quite sure what the public wants. It has really no idea whether the public is in favor of liberalizing liquor laws, tightening them or maintaining the status quo.

That's where the public hearings come in. And I really believe that the government is seeking guidance on this issue from the public. I don't believe that the hearings are held for public relations purposes only. Premier Vander Zalm seems committed to the concept of consultation.

Whether the end result will be better or more representative of the majority's wishes is another question. There is a good chance that the hearings will be dominated by special interest groups. Hotel and restaurant owners may press for more liberal liquor laws and regulations while the anti-drinking lobbies may use the hearings as a platform from which to preach against the evils of drinking.

Still, the government can't be faulted for consulting the public on this important issue. No matter what the outcome, society will always have to walk a fine line between the social desirability and acceptability of drinking and its social cost. Anything that might change the precarious balance between the two deserves public input.

My guess is that the outcome of the hearings will be a further liberalization of liquor laws. The government may not yet be willing to completely relinquish its liquor distribution monopoly, but there will probably be increased private sector participation in the system.

We may soon see grocery stores or drug stores selling beer and wine in competition with government liquor stores, while the latter will retain a monopoly on the sale of hard liquor.

To combat drunk driving, the government may also try to encourage the proliferation of neighborhood pubs and the inclusion of sections in restaurants where patrons are allowed to drink alcoholic beverages without having to order a meal.

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Business loan program garners no local interest

Gulf Islands students have decided to let someone else be their boss.

The students have shown no interest in the Student Venture Loan Program, which lends up to \$2,000 to high school or post-secondary students who plan to run a summer business.

(The loan can reach \$3,000 for partnerships, and all loans are interest-free until September 30.)

Lack of local interest in the program appears to follow trends evident elsewhere — across the province, participation has fallen since the program's inception in 1984.

"It's a very good practice for anyone interested in business," said local Chamber of Commerce business manager Spencer Marr. "It's perhaps not used as much as it should be."

The program, promoted as *Be Your Own Boss*, is sponsored by the federal and provincial governments. The provincial ministry of advanced education and job training provides the loan; the federal government offers training workshops in business management.

Local chambers of commerce are responsible for promoting the program in their communities, and will help applicants fill out the four-page application form

needed for loan approval.

Marr and chamber vice-president Jack Cherry said several Salt Spring students have expressed interest in the program in years past but none have ever completed an application.

"If they're ever going to run their own business, they've got to fill out those forms," Cherry said.

'If they're ever going to run their own business, they've got to fill out those forms. It's just an essential bit of entrepreneurial training.'

"It's just an essential bit of entrepreneurial training." Both men want more island students to learn about the program and consider self-employment this summer.

Gulf Islands Secondary counsellor Marg Sitton said none of the school's students have ever taken out a Student Venture loan.

"As soon as they see it up on the board, *Be Your Own Boss*, it sounds great. When they sit down and do the paperwork, they lose interest."

Students can start work in April and work until September 30. Sitton said it is harder for high school students, who have only two months off, to operate the business. "University kids get an extra couple months. July and August isn't really enough time to raise that kind of money (the loan)."

A provincial government spokesman who was involved with the program's inception says participation is "as good as we expected." The program's objectives are to provide youth employment and to give them management training, explained Frank Bullard, student venture's coordinator.

The province lent \$750,000 in 1984, 10 per cent of which is still unpaid, Bullard said. The number of applicants dropped in 1985 and 1986. The estimated total loan, based on the number of participants multiplied by the average loan of \$1800, was \$525,000 in 1985 and \$400,000 in 1986.

Late payments are not penalized, though the bank's prime interest rate is attached after

September 30. If the loan is not paid to the Royal Bank — the program's designated outlet — by December 31, the government pays the bank and assumes the debt and the collection responsibilities.

The low participation rate among Gulf Islands youth might be a sign that most are able to get work elsewhere, Bullard said.

The program is targeted at university students more than high school youth, Bullard said. "The potential is certainly there to make tuition."

The application package includes an example of a cash flow

forecast which applicants must complete. The fictitious example is a student with a gardening service who, after paying back the loan and business expenses, draws a \$2,400 profit for six months' work. "That's a fairly typical amount," Bullard said.

"The amount of money they make depends on a lot of factors." Students must plan ahead and be willing to sell actively, Bullard said.

Bullard figured at least two out of every three properly-completed applications are approved by the ministry of advanced education and job training.

Hospital workers saluted for their years of service

Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital paid tribute to a dozen long-time employees at its annual service awards ceremony Friday.


Eight hospital workers were presented with certificates and gifts in recognition of 10 years of service to the hospital. Mary Gilbert and Margaret Northeast both recorded their first decade of employment at Lady Minto in 1985, while Vonnie Simpkin, Karen Child and Lillian Savage actually put in their 10th year of service here in 1986. Judy Wilkin, Pat Taylor and Phyllis Jorgenson, all currently in their 10th year at the hospital, were also honoured.

Four employees — Catherine Faulkner, Margaret Niven, Maria Hull and Bernice Glen — have worked 15 years or more at the hospital. They were also presented with gifts and certificates.

Sandy Gordon, chairman of the Lady Minto hospital board, thanked all the hospital's long-time employees for their many years of service. "We hope to see you here again for your 25- and 30-year awards — and we'd be happy to see you here at pension day as well," Gordon joked.

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MOUAT'S

Bowling champions need help to continue roll

The Leisure Lanes men's bowling team hopes to raise enough money during the coming week to attend the provincial finals tournament in Kimberly on April 11.

The team — which consists of Kevin Marks, Arnie Hengstler, Albert Kaye, Mike Reynolds and Danny Bedford — is hoping the community will support its bid to bring the provincial men's bowling title home to Salt Spring.

Marks said Monday the team

needs to raise \$800 to cover the cost of renting a 15-seat bus for the trip. Team members will be paying an additional \$250 each to cover other expenses.

To date, \$300 has been donated by local merchants. "So far, those we have asked (for help) have been excellent," Marks said.

The team has placed donation boxes throughout Ganges, and is planning several fund-raising events. "This Saturday at Upper Ganges Centre, we're going to be having a car wash," Marks noted, "and we hoping to organize a bowling tournament, something like Beat The Champs."

Marks said the team hopes to promote Salt Spring Island during the trip. He noted the team will try to drop off promotional literature along the route for Salt Spring businesses contributing to the travel fund.

"We can't do too much, but

we'll do whatever we can for the community," he stressed.

The Leisure Lanes team, which will represent Vancouver Island in Kimberly, earned a berth in the provincial finals by overcoming a 120-pin deficit to win the March 22 National Classified Regional Finals in Nanaimo by a mere 20 pins.

Prior to that, the team won first round play in Esquimalt.

'An excellent reference'—society

Larger vessel to serve Salt Spring; ferry in place for summer season

The B.C. Ferry Corporation will place a larger vessel on the Long Harbour-Tsawwassen run this summer to improve service between Salt Spring Island and the Lower Mainland.

Joan Ingram, chairman of the Salt Spring Transportation Committee, said Friday that either the *Queen of Burnaby* or the *Queen of Nanaimo* will be on the run from mid-April until mid-October in an effort to reduce overloading.

In the past, small ferries such as the *Queen of Tsawwassen* have been unable to accommodate all visitors wishing to travel to or from Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands.

The *Queen of Burnaby* and the *Queen of Nanaimo* are known as stretch ferries and can carry a maximum of 192 vehicles. The *Burnaby* — which also served Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands last summer during Expo 86 — is currently sailing between Long Harbour and Tsawwassen while the route's regular ferry, the 150-car capacity *Queen of Tsawwassen*, undergoes repairs to its electrical system.

BCFC spokesman Betty Nicholson confirmed Ingram's statement. "Yes, there will be a stretch ferry on that run for the summer season," Nicholson said. "There is a possibility that we may be able to start it prior to the summer run, too."

The ferry corporation's decision to employ a larger vessel on the Tsawwassen-Long Harbour run came several weeks after the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce sent a letter to the island's transportation committee requesting "an immediate upgrading, i.e. either a larger ferry or an additional run, from Tsawwassen to the Gulf Islands, and, in particular, to Salt Spring."

In that letter — copies of which were sent to Transportation Minister Cliff Michaels, Tourism Minister Bill Reid and Saanich-

and-the-Islands MLAs Mel Couvelier and Terry Huberts — chamber business manager Spencer Marr noted that "over the past five or six weekends, prospective visitors to Salt Spring have been unable to board the *Queen of Tsawwassen* because of overloading."

Marr noted that "this is, in our opinion, a serious misfortune when we, with the considerable help of the ministry of tourism, are attempting to attract as many tourists as possible to Salt Spring and find that many of them are unable to reach us because of transportation problems . . . the economy of the island depends heavily on tourism and we cannot

afford to lose tourism dollars, particularly in the off-season period."

Nicholson said she did not know if a copy of the letter also found its way to the ferry corporation.

The B.C. Ferry Corporation's decision to put the 70-car *Bowen Queen* back on the Fulford Harbour-Swartz Bay run also drew positive comments last week from a chamber member.

Chamber president Rick Rockliffe, who earlier in the week expressed concern over recent overloading problems on the route, said the *Bowen Queen's* return represented a "partial resolution" of the problem.

Ferry corporation invites input from island residents

The B.C. Ferry Corporation is looking for input from Salt Spring residents on how it can best meet their transportation needs, Joan Ingram, chairman of the island's transportation committee, said Friday.

Ingram said the corporation is "requesting input . . . on what type of service" islanders feel will be needed here in the future.

Ingram encouraged residents to write the transportation committee or send a letter to *Driftwood* outlining their proposals.

Last week, Ingram and other members of Gulf Island transportation committee met with ferry corporation representatives in Swartz Bay to assess the proposed summer ferry schedule, details of which have not yet been released.

Ingram and other islands representatives are expected to meet with corporation executives again in a few weeks to continue their discussions. She said the committee will press for several changes designed to improve service to the island.

Ingram said the committee is again asking the corporation to reinstate a late sailing on the Fulford-Swartz Bay run. She said a similar proposal was tried in the past and is needed now.

"We're trying to get a later sailing, at least one late one," she said. "Right now, you can't take in an evening off-island without staying overnight. You can't leave the island after 8:30 pm . . . we're trapped here, even in some cases of medical emergency. So we'll keep bringing it (the need for a late sailing) up."

The Salt Spring Transportation Commission consists of 12 representatives drawn from the community. The organization, which tries to meet four times a year with the B.C. Ferry Corporation's chief executive officer, is scheduled to hold its annual general meeting here in April.




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Physiotherapists join battle against \$5 government fee

A Salt Spring Island physiotherapist says her profession is fighting hard to overturn a user-fee charge outlined in the 1987-88 provincial budget.

The budget, announced two weeks ago, says people making use of supplementary medical services like physiotherapy must pay a user fee of \$5 per visit, as of July 1, 1987.

The charge is being fought by the B.C. Society of Physiotherapists in Private Practice, whose ranks include Leslie Spinks of Salt Spring Island.

"We want the government to rescind the charge," she said. "There's still a chance it could be changed, so we're going all out."

Spinks has launched a petition campaign from her Ganges office and says her patients are rushing to oppose the charge. "There are a lot of angry people," she said. "We're upset, and so are the patients."

One reason physiotherapists oppose the charge is because they view it as a pay cut. Spinks explained that Medical Services had given her \$11.20 per patient visit but, with the user-fee system, will now pay \$6.20. She must collect the remaining \$5 from patients, knowing that some

will not pay.

"Our association has been negotiating for a fee increase — instead, we get a 46 per cent cutback."

Spinks said her association also fears that people on low or limited incomes may be unable to afford treatments, or will turn to hospital-run physiotherapy units, which will not charge the \$5 user fee.

"This could really affect the island," she said. "If I don't get patients, I won't be able to stay."

"As for patients going elsewhere, the problem there is that the hospital departments have a much longer waiting list — the average wait is four to six weeks — and the direct costs to the hospital are so much higher. It will have a greater impact on overall health care costs."

Spinks said she also wanted people to realize that the \$5 user fee, when combined with other recent health care cost increases, means British Columbians are paying more for less. She noted that physiotherapy services were once covered fully by Medical Services, that health care premiums rise by approximately 10 per cent today (April 1), and that people must now pay \$5 for a physiotherapy visit.

Wheelchair 'relay race' considered

A wheelchair relay race is being proposed for Salt Spring Island, in support of Rick Hansen's *Man In Motion* fund-raising efforts.

The idea comes from the life skills program at Gulf Islands Secondary School. In a release, co-ordinator Polly Tremblay suggests the wheelchairs could be home-made and taken around a course in downtown Ganges on Friday, May 15. Teams of four people would build the wheelchairs and each person would take one lap around the course.

Tremblay envisions sponsors being signed up for the relay, donations collected from spectators lining the route, and concessions stands set up. Proceeds would be directed to the same cause as Rick Hansen's around-the-world tour is highlighting — spinal cord research.

However, she adds that "lot of volunteers" and support from the entire community will be needed to stage the relay.

For further information, contact Tremblay at Gulf Islands Secondary School (537-2213).

bridge winners

Gulf Islands Bridge Club winners on March 23 were: (north-south) Jim and Sue Bradford; Boyd Siemens and Audrey Campbell; Jean Herring and Anne McConnell; Helen Shandro and Bunny Jordan; Dorothy Sneddon and Irene Hawksworth; (east-west) Fred Struve and Gordon Hutton; Shirley Love and Phyl Henderson; Stan Stewart and Norm McConnell; Vivian Storr and Marion Ashmore; Fran and Dick Tiple.

Tuesday night winners were: (north-south) Conhor Hunt and Robert Bradford; Mona Coulter and John Sarginson; June Knowles and Fred Struve; Helen Shandro and Isabelle Richardson; (east-west) Mike Testart and Noel Fowles; Gordon Hutton and Irene Hawksworth; Sue and Jim Bradford; Ima and Wim Krayenhoff.

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Questions & Answers...

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Q. My wife and I received the Old Age Pension of \$3,478.44 and maximum guaranteed income supplement of \$2,692.35 in 1986. My wife had no other income. What exemption can I claim for my wife?

A. You are not allowed any exemption for your wife. The total old age security pension and guaranteed income supplement paid in 1986 to your wife was \$6,170.79 which disqualifies her from being a dependant. However, you should not include the supplements when preparing your return, and you will be able to claim the unused portion of

your wife's age exemption if necessary.

Q. I am just starting a business. Does my year-end have to be December 31?

A. No, your business may have a fiscal year which does not coincide with the calendar year. It is to your advantage to adopt an initial year-end which falls within the next calendar year. For example, if you begin business April 1, 1987, you can adopt a year end as late as March 31, 1988. The business income for the first year will not be taxable until 1988 and payment of the tax can be deferred until 1989. Once a year-end has been adopted, it cannot be changed without the approval of Revenue Canada.

Q. To claim an exemption for a dependant, must I support that person for the entire taxation year?

A. No. Such support must have been supplied at any time during the year and not necessarily throughout the entire year. However, no one else is entitled to claim the same dependant during the same year.

This is the final article in this series.

PREPARED BY:

Terra Tepper

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John Booth held the post in late 1800s

Island man was the Legislature's speaker

By BEVIS WALTERS

The recent opening of the British Columbia Legislature serves as a reminder that the last Member sent from Salt Spring Island became Speaker.

His name was John Booth and he may have been the first permanent resident, but if not the first, then most certainly the second.

In the year 1859, nobody of the European way of life lived on the island. Three years earlier, a New Zealander (whose name is not recorded) settled close to Ganges Harbour with his wife and child. After two years, however, he became fearful of the Indians and moved off.

John Booth came to settle on Salt Spring in the early summer of 1859. Landing at Vesuvius Bay, he pre-empted 2,000 acres contiguous to Booth Canal.

About the same time Henry Sampson, a retired Hudson's Bay employee, arrived at Fernwood and pre-empted land there. They may have arrived on the same day, each unknown to the other, or one may have come a day or two sooner than the other, so either could well have been "the first settler."

John Booth decided to raise sheep, while Henry Sampson came to the island on behalf of a syndicate which thought there were commercial possibilities in the salt springs located at the north end of the island.

The Pre-emption Law allowed any individual to select any unoccupied land, "pre-empt" it, occupy it and later register ownership of it. There were two conditions to pre-empting:

- that you must occupy it; and
- you must pay for it at the rate of \$1.25 per acre.

You pre-empted by selecting as much land as you needed or could pay for, and then drove a stake at each corner, and you had pre-empted the land within the stakes. When convenient, you went to Victoria and registered your pre-emption, paying 25 cents per acre, and later, when a proper survey had been made, the other dollar.

The only other condition for pre-empting was that the frontage should not be more than one-third of the depth.

As there were no roads, the frontage was always the sea, and as actual seashore was seldom arable, the tendency was to select long narrow lots running inland.

Reference to any map showing surveys will reveal where these pre-selections were made, as they show up as long narrow blocks with sea frontage, and are called *Blocks* rather than *Ranges* when the surveyors came later.

Tracks made early in the history of our island later became roads, and some pre-emptions were made facing these, so not all pre-emptions face the sea. The fact that only 25 cents down had to be paid was a great help to early settlers, as the time of the actual survey was possibly years ahead, and the final dollar per acre payment was not an immediate worry.

Whereas Henry Sampson was after salt, John Booth's aim was to produce sheep, not so much for wool as for meat. Sheep raising was not difficult in those days, providing you were not strapped for working capital. You just selected your land in an area where there were natural obstacles to stop your sheep from straying too far, put a bell on them, and turned them loose. No need for long

'Whereas Henry Sampson was after salt, John Booth's aim was to produce sheep.'

fences or buildings — just bring them to the island, turn them loose and when you wanted them, just walk through the bush listening for bells.

John Booth selected his 2,000 acres where there were natural obstacles to stop his sheep from straying, and where there was smooth water for loading and unloading — and on either side of what is known today as Booth Canal.

It is interesting to note that the word *canal* when used in connection with British Columbia place names has a different meaning than when used in other places. *Canal* in English means "an excavated waterway." In Spanish, it means "a long narrow inlet open at one end," and was originally used by the Spanish explorers who came to our coast about the same time as Captain Cook and Lieutenant Vancouver.

The first written record of its use in B.C. was in 1792 when Spanish Lieutenant Navarez sailed into an inlet at the south end of Vancouver



Local resident Bevis Walters (above) has received permission to spruce up headstone marking grave of John Booth, a former Speaker of the B.C. Legislature

who died on Salt Spring at the turn of the century. Note the tree growing to the left of the headstone.

Driftwood photo by Duncan MacDonnell

Island, stayed a week and then sailed away, marking the inlet on his chart as *Canal de Samosuk*. Forty-four years passed and then Captain Richards sailed into the same inlet and, having friendly

tidal waters entering and leaving what we now call "The Gorge." He marked this place on his charts as *Camosum Inlet*.

Camosum Inlet remained undisturbed until James Douglas, acting on instructions of the Chief Hudson's Bay factor at Vancouver (Columbia River) decided that "Camosun Inlet" was a good and safe anchorage, and recommended that a fort or trading post be built there. Surveys were made in 1842, and construction began in 1843, the new fort being called "Fort Camosun." In 1844 the fort opened and Douglas decided to alter its name to Fort Albert in honour of the Prince Consort — Queen Victoria's husband.

A year later, by order of the Governors of the Hudson's Bay Company in England, the name was again changed, to Fort Victoria, which it remained until the fort expanded outside its stockade and became the town of Victoria. As the population grew it became necessary to establish a form of government, and so the Legislative Assembly came into being.

In the meantime, John Booth had prospered and built himself a fine residence in Victoria, where he spent his winters. When J.J. Southgate — the first member elected for Salt Spring — died, Booth was elected and later became speaker.

As is inevitable, Father Time ultimately gathered him into his arms, and he was laid to rest in St. Mark's Cemetery on the island where he had spent so many pleasant and fruitful years.

Eighty-five winters have passed since he was laid to rest and his marker has become overgrown with moss — and leans a little — but is still a tangible indicator of the man and his doings.

Recently I obtained permission from the Wardens of St. Mark's Cemetery to clean the stone and make the inscription readable, and this will be undertaken by some members of the Salt Spring Island Historical Society, including myself, during the coming summer.

We hope that once this work is completed, the stone will become easy to read, a pleasure to look upon, and a continuing reminder of the debt we owe to those who laid the foundations on which we have built the comforts of which our pleasant Island enjoys today.

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Greenwoods administrator may initiate adult day care

A day care program for Salt Spring Island seniors is being contemplated by the administrator at Greenwoods.

Jonna Mattiesing said last week the idea is feasible but that she will avoid exploring it further until the community indicates enough people are interested.

Specifically, Mattiesing is hoping to hear from at least six people who would be willing to participate in the program — including planning its structure and content.

Day care for adults, she explained, involves a broad range of therapeutic services unavailable at, say, a seniors' drop-in centre. "It's physical, mental, emotional and social stimulation" for people who are "struggling to stay independent." For the most part, that means seniors who are close to — but not quite — being in need of taking up residency in a care facility like Greenwoods.

"It's people who are getting along at home, but not too well," Mattiesing said. "It might be someone who wants to take a bath at home but won't because they're afraid of slipping in the tub, or because there's no one around to help them in or out of the tub."

"It might also appeal to a younger couple, taking care of an older person, who would like a break one day a week, or to an older person in the same situation who is fed up with not having anyone around who is the same age."

An adult day care program would offer limited assistance to those seniors. Mattiesing said there are already "one or two" island seniors coming to Greenwoods one day a week for the same type of care, which is what



Jonna Mattiesing

made her think an expanded program might be needed. Finding more people interested in such a program would also allow her to expand the range of services now made available to the drop-in participants.

"To make it feasible, I would need at least six people who are interested," she said. "Otherwise, it just isn't worthwhile."

If she can find six people interested in pursuing the idea, Mattiesing said her plan would be to have those people plan the program's content and framework. Details to be worked out would include transportation — all would have to attend Greenwoods on the same date — and a cost-sharing formula.

Mattiesing said Greenwoods

could pick up some of the costs but, at this early stage, could not estimate how much the bill might be for participating seniors. Items that would have to be covered include staffing costs, meals, transportation and liability insurance.

"At this point, we have people coming in, paying for their own transportation, who pay \$10 a day," she said. "There are other adult day care programs, in Vancouver and Victoria, that charge \$35 a day."

However, Mattiesing said a local per-diem charge might be in place only during the start-up phase. "It's always difficult finding money at the start but once something is established, governments can be convinced to take them over."

One reason might be that adult day care programs can save money for government-run health care plans. Mattiesing says that having a senior spend one or two days a week in a centre like Greenwoods can help them stay in their own homes longer. If and when a move to a care facility is necessary, she added, the transition is easier for residents who have been exposed to the home and its workings.

At this point, however, Mattiesing is looking no further ahead than gauging interest for a local program. "It would take a lot of work to start up, and there's no point in doing unless people say there is a need. If there is a demand, we would try to set it up very quickly — maybe as quickly as two months from now — but, at present, I just want to hear from people who are interested."

Mattiesing can be reached at Greenwoods (537-5561) between 9 am and 5 pm.

Support group to meet April 8

By MAGGIE HAYES

"When is a child not a child? When the child lives with alcoholism."

This is the striking opening of Janet Woititz's book, *Adult Children of Alcoholics*. Over the past few years, the subject of children with alcoholic family backgrounds has been widely studied. Children who grew up in these homes have been called the "forgotten ones."

The alcoholic has had particular focus in our society; the spouse, too, has been recognized as having specific and serious problems. But the children who lived day to day in confusing, tense, frightening and often violent households were somehow overlooked. They learned early on that they could not talk to anyone about what was happening in their houses. Their sense of shame and isolation became acute.

Now, as adults, some of them are coming together to talk, at last, with each other. Support groups have sprung up all over North America — seven such groups currently operate in Victoria alone.

A group member from Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) in Nanaimo will be on Salt Spring on Wednesday, April 8, at 7:30 pm at the Community Centre, to give more details on ACOA, and to discuss the possible setting up of an ACOA chapter here. Refreshments and written material,

including relevant books and booklists, will be available.

Woititz identifies a number of characteristics as often present in adult children of alcoholics. For example, as a statistical group, they "guess at what normal behaviour is, have difficulty following a project through from beginning to end, have difficulty with intimate relationships, judge themselves without mercy, overreact to changes over which they have no control, and constantly seek approval and affirmation."

They also tend to be overachievers and workaholics, or

underachievers. Adult children of alcoholics have a higher-than-usual incidence of alcohol-related problems themselves, or of being drawn to partners who drink excessively or are drug-dependent. As with alcoholism itself, these effects don't seem to have any relation to how much money or education they may have.

It is possible to break the chain.

Anyone interested in exploring more about this subject, or finding out more about ACOA, is invited to attend the April 8 meeting. For further information, please call 537-9591 or 537-2662.

Sarah Thompson turns 103

Miss Sarah A. Thompson celebrated her 103rd birthday recently — on St. Patrick's Day — at Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital.

A former resident of the Cariboo region (she lived in Quesnel), Miss Thompson celebrated her birthday with friends and hospital staff. She has been in Lady Minto for over 14 years.

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Much work to be done

April is 'veggie patch' month

This issue of *Driftwood* sees us safely into April and, if we're lucky, those past few light frosts will have been our last for this year. Virtually all of the plants in the garden are capable of withstanding these sporadic frosts, as they have built-in timeclocks and other anti-freeze mechanisms. It is only the over-anxious and impatient gardener who will encounter problems, when young seedlings and tender starter plants of annuals and greenhouse-grown perennials are set out too early, or when they may have not been hardened off long enough before being sent out to brave the cold spring soil. Without jeopardizing your coddled and beloved plants, there are still lots of things you can do out in the garden this month.

April is a busy time in the veggie patch, as the soil needs turning, liming and weeding. Since the soil is workable, it's also a great time to rebuild or realign your raised beds, or even time to make raised boxes. Once the beds have been prepared, you can start to sow out a wide selection of seeds, including lettuce, radish, spinach, swiss chard, peas, carrots, onions, runner beans and successive plantings of potatoes. Remember to plant the potatoes in soil that hasn't been limed, as they prefer an acid soil.

Sowings of beets, turnips, bush beans and corn should be done later in the month, as the soil warms up more. Starter plants of cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, brussel sprouts and kale may now be set out in the beds, as long as they've been hardened off and become slowly adjusted to the cooler outside temperatures. To suppress the deadly effects of the clubroot fungus, use a handful of lime in each planting hole and mix it in well, as a neutral or alkaline soil will control the disease.

In the greenhouse, you still have time to start your tomatoes, as they will only need six to eight weeks before they may be planted out. If you had the foresight to start them up last month, prick them out and plant them in three-inch pots once

your garden

by **Chris Schmah**

the first true leaves have developed. Keep them in a sunny, warm daytime, cool night-time position so that they'll stay sturdy and full. Feed them every two weeks with a liquid fertilizer (fish, liquid seaweed, 5-15-10, or even 20-20-20) and remember to harden them off before planting out late this month or in early May.

For most herbs, you may either plant out purchased or grown plants this month, or prepare the soil and sow out patches, rows or pots of parsley, dill, sage, chervil, thyme, borage, summer savoury, marjoram and some of the more exotic ones — but don't bother to grow tarragon from seed, as this Russian type is inferior in taste and quality. The preferred French tarragon can only be grown from root divisions, so it's bum, borrow or buy a piece of the real thing. This month is prime for planting out asparagus, globe artichokes, elephant garlic, jerusalem artichokes and rhubarb, some of the best and most useful perennial vegetables.

In the flower garden, the sowings of annuals and biennials include calendulas, nasturtiums, cosmos, snapdragons, pansies, violas, stocks, dianthus, centaureas, ageratum, asters, mignonettes, annual phlox, candytuft, portulaca, poppies (all types), verbenas and larkspur. It's late, but if you still have to plant your sweet peas, soak them overnight to hasten germination (soaking also helps nasturtiums to get a quick start). If you started sweet peas off indoors in pots, plant them out into richly amended soil, taking care to leave the roots undisturbed.

Successive plantings of gladiolus can be started in rich, well-drained, sunny locations.

All of the summer-flowering bulbs, corms, tubers and roots that are available now may be planted out around mid-month. Get under way with the beautiful hardy lilies as soon as possible, as they are growing vigorously now (in the garden, mine are up six inches already).

If your tuberous begonias are well-sprouted now, you can see if you can divide them with a sharp knife. To stop the oozing of moisture, dust the cut surface with pulverized charcoal, dry the cut surfaces for a couple of hours, then dust with a fungicide.

In the greenhouse there is still time to start sowings of dahlias from seed, african marigolds, more petunias, sweet alyssum, and zinnias. More cuttings of fuchsias, fibrous begonias, impatiens, heliotrope and nepeta should be taken to build up stock for setting out in a month or so.

Keep potting up your geraniums as the pots become fully rooted, so they aren't pot-bound, and remove any flower heads that develop on young plants so that energies will be directed to making them strong and healthy. Give all of the plants in the greenhouse lots of sun, warm daytime temperatures with good ventilation, and cooler nights with no drafts, so that they'll stay full, bushy and healthy.

There's still a lot more ground to cover during April so we'll have to continue next week. Until then, happy gardening.

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12-4



Tell Us What You Think About Liquor Policy We Need Your Opinion

Members of the Liquor Policy Review Panel, chaired by John Jansen, M.L.A., will be in **VICTORIA** **APRIL 16, 1987** to hear briefs from interested groups and individuals on issues concerning liquor control and licensing policy and the question of privatization of the Liquor Distribution Branch.

THE PANEL WILL BE AT:

EMPRESS HOTEL
9 am-noon; 1:30-4:30 pm; 7-10 pm

Everyone is welcome to come and discuss these important issues. Those unable to attend are invited to send their views.

An information kit is available upon request. Those wishing to make oral presentations should contact the Government Agent's Office. **387-1254**

Please forward written submissions by April 3, 1987 to:

Mr. John Jansen, M.L.A.
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the Gulf Islander

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Royal Academy of Music

Scholarship winner picks school



Mary Howard

A Rotary International scholarship is sending a Gulf Islander to England for a year of music studies.

Mary Howard of Mayne Island, who learned last October that she had won the scholarship (*Driftwood*, October 15, 1986), will use it to study piano performance at the Royal Academy of Music in London, England.

In making that announcement in mid-March, Rotary International said the full costs of Howard's studies abroad — including travel to and from the study country, academic fees and room and board — will be picked up by the organization.

The value of an individual scholarship is estimated at about \$50,000. Overall, Rotary International will this year sponsor studies abroad for 1,300 students from 70 countries, at a cost of about \$14 million in U.S. funds.

Howard, whose application for a Rotary International scholarship was sponsored by the Salt Spring Island Rotary Club, is currently working towards a master's degree in music from the University of Victoria. She has studied in Europe before — in Italy, where she spent a year in piano tutorials.

Applicants for Rotary International scholarships are judged on scholastic ability and their potential to be outstanding ambassadors for their countries.

While abroad, they are expected to speak to Rotary clubs in their host countries and otherwise promote communication between nations and cultures. They must also file regular reports with Rotary International and, once back home, discuss their experiences locally.

The scholarships are limited in number, funded by donations from all Rotary clubs and unavailable to sons or daughters of club members. They are open to graduate, undergraduate, vocational and journalism students, and to teachers of the handicapped.

Rotary International is now accepting applications for scholarships for the 1989-90 academic year. Anyone interested should apply to a local Rotary Club. Deadline for applications is March 1, 1988.

Legion members to vote on new hall; three resolutions must be approved

Members of the Royal Canadian Legion branch in Ganges will vote April 6 on motions to authorize construction of a new hall.

The branch, currently housed in a building on Hereford Avenue, is considering moving to a site near Greenwoods. The property was left to the branch by former member Ted Meaden, who died in 1983.

The motions to be put before the membership call for building a new hall at a cost of \$363,000 and financing the project through the sale of the present hall and by the issuing of debentures.

The vote follows earlier clearance given to the project by the Islands Trust. Last fall, the Trust endorsed a Legion request to remove the Meaden property from the Agricultural Land Reserve and said a Legion hall would be an acceptable use of the site.

Two covenants are in place on the land, as requested in Meaden's will. One specifies that a grove of trees on the property is not to be removed, while the other says residents of Greenwoods should have access to the land for their enjoyment.

Legion president Ron Seymour said those

requests indicate Meaden wanted the property to be used for the enjoyment of branch members.

"The Legion meant everything to him," added Betty Galt, president of the Legion's ladies auxiliary and a close friend of Meaden.

Galt said Meaden was a veteran of both World Wars, serving in the first as a dispatcher — while underage — and with the tank corps in the second. During the Second World War, she added, Meaden received medals from every European campaign.

British by birth, Meaden arrived in Canada after the Second World War and settled on Salt Spring in the 1950s, Galt said.

"He didn't really have a family — the Legion was probably his family," Galt said. She remembers that even when Meaden was in ill health in his 80s, he still turned up every November 11th to march in the Remembrance Day parade.

"He was a silent man," Galt continued, explaining that Meaden performed good works for the community, but in quiet ways. As an example, she noted that he volunteered to look after gardens kept by widows, and even grew flowers for them.

Members urged to attend

Dates set for several Legion meetings

By TED O'SULLIVAN

Members of Branch 92 of the Royal Canadian Legion are reminded that the next general meeting is at 8 pm on April 6. Next meeting for the ladies' auxiliary is 8 pm on April 13.

By now, all members should have received in the mail a copy of the branch bulletin, with a small copy of the proposed building plan for the Ted Meaden site. Please study the notice-of-motion carefully — it is so important that you understand what is going to happen.

Votes on the three resolutions will be held on April 6. A large turnout is anticipated, so come early to be seated. Only members paid up as of March 31, 1987, may vote.

Elections are coming up in May. The nominating committee is making the selections. However, there can be nominations

from the floor on election night.

There will be a blood donor clinic on September 28. Mark this important date on your calendar.

There are still a number of new cards at the bar. Drop by and pick yours up before the next meeting.

Pacific Command bursary ap-

plications must be in to the Legion office by May 15. Applications are at the branch.

School bursary applications must be in writing to the school or the branch secretary before May 15.

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Sheep association to meet

The Inter-Island Sheep Breeders Association, which includes the Gulf Islands in its membership area, will hold its spring meeting at the Cobble Hill Community Hall on Saturday, April 4.

The business meeting will begin at 11 am and will be followed by a potluck lunch. After lunch, there will be a number of presentations of interest to all sheep breeders.

Brenda Atsma will report on the national 4-H sheep-judging competition recently held in Saskatchewan. Judith McKenzie will discuss the grading of fleeces and the possibility of holding a fleece market in conjunction with the ISBA sale this summer, and Dr. Malcolm Tait, Dean of Animal Husbandry at UBC, will discuss internal parasite control on small acreages.



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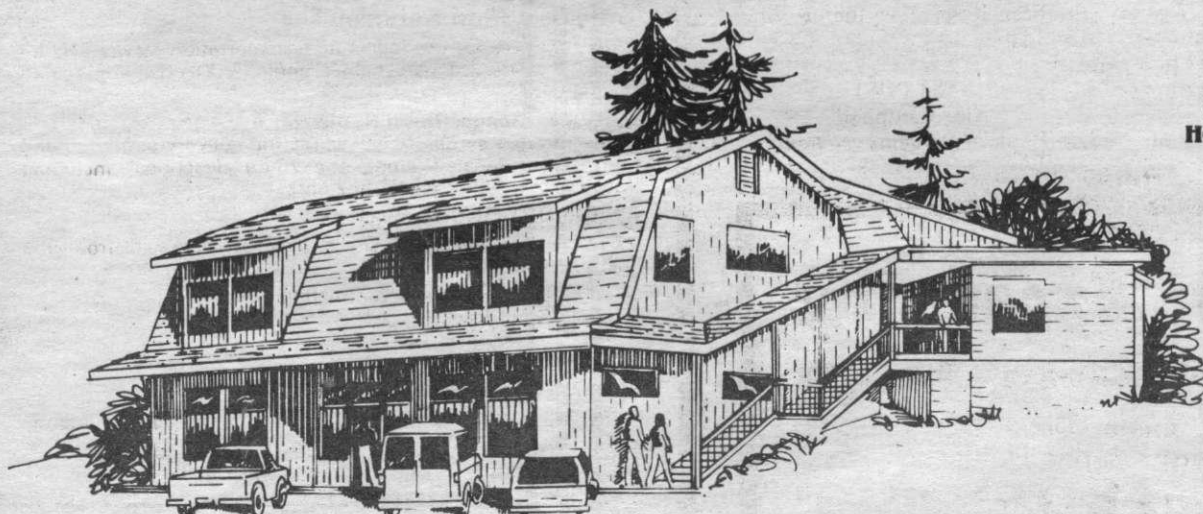
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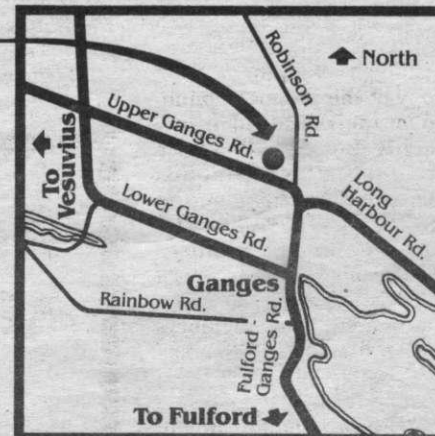


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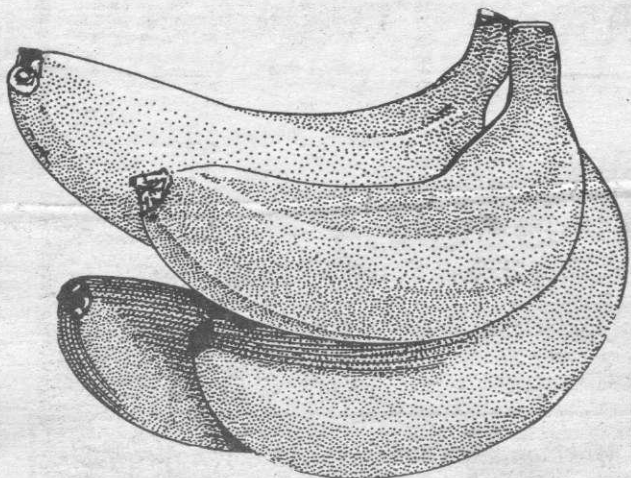


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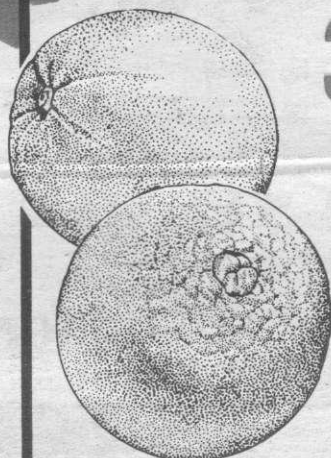
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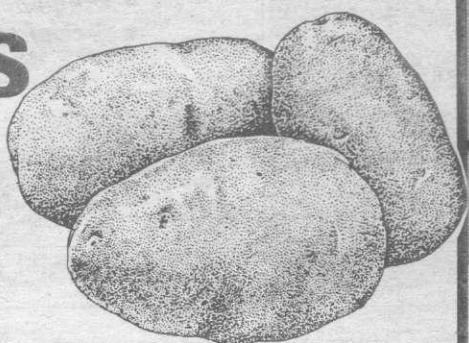
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Salt Spring Singers slate off-island engagements

The Salt Spring Singers are going places.

The singing group, which includes about 45 men and women in its ranks, will make its first-ever off-island appearance this

weekend in Sidney.

The Salt Spring Singers have been invited by their Sidney counterparts, the Peninsula Singers, to share billing at a concert to be held in Sidney's Legion Hall

this Sunday, April 5, beginning at 2 pm.

The island group will be under the direction of Joy Johnsen, while the Sidney singers will be guided by Don Turner.

Its trip off-island means the Salt Spring Singers will have an expanded schedule this year. Normally, the group gives but two public performances a year.

To their regular schedule, the

singers will now add the Sidney appearance, a performance in Victoria sometime this fall and dates at the Salt Spring Island Summer Festival of the Arts.

'Learn to understand' is key art world phrase

By GARY CHERNEFF

Things do not exist in themselves at all. They exist only through our interpretation — Georges Braque.

This kind of quote must be becoming familiar, now, to anyone who reads this column regularly. Well, what does he mean by this? Simply put, if I say it's red you might say it's rose. I say it's salty and you say it's not because I am used to unsalted butter and you eat the other. How many times have you had this discussion with your roommate?

We learn to understand and value each other's point of view. "Learn to understand" is the key phrase and it is often on this point in art that the audience becomes indolent, preferring to accept the notion that art is only entertainment and does not require effort — see your TV guide!

I see the work of Georges Braque with new eyes. He was a smart man. I mention him because he was the subject of one of three films shown at Off Centre Stage on the evening of March 24. The opening statement in this column was an example of the attitude which enabled him to become one of the major innovators in the formulation of modern art.

Braque was a tireless experimenter with the materials, techniques and concepts surrounding the construction of works of art. His stance was intellectual in comparison with the extroverted showmanship of his friend and colleague Picasso.

He broke new ground by removing horizon lines and putting all the elements of a composition on the same plane, by removing formal perspective and shadow effects and treating the painting as an object in itself rather than a picture of something.

He used papier collé and introduced mixed media techniques such as the incorporation of sand and metal filings, etc., which allowed him to construct textural contrasts to augment colour and spatial contrasts.

He helped to forge a new definition of art, one to which many people still find acceptance difficult. That definition unshackled many artists from academic formula painting which had more to say about accepting authority than about acknowledging the value of personal vision.

art seen

Other films shown that evening dealt with the Cubist movement in general, and the sculptor Brancusi. LeRoy Jensen is host for the bi-weekly film night and was able to present some pertinent commentary on Cezanne, Braque and the Cubists. The next presentation will be on April 7 and the film is reported to be on abstract art. Light snacks and refreshments are available. Films start at 8 pm.

Hold your breath folks, here comes the envelope. The winner is Carole Evans and her painting *Garner Moody*, the most popular work in Showcase '87. It only goes to show that everything I've said up until now is not hogwash but only one person's attempt to indoctrinate the masses on something which he considers of great value. Carole Evans' realistic renderings are done with superb technical ability with a lightness of touch and sensitivity to subject which reveals an approach of great honesty. Sandra Locke's painting on fabric, *Low Tide*, was a close runner-up. So congratulations to both and boy am I envious of that \$100 book prize.

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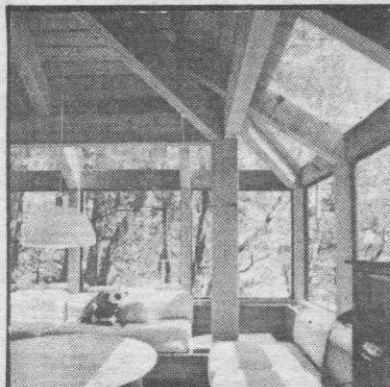
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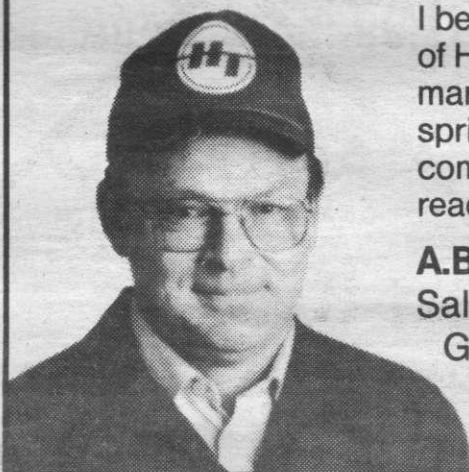
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