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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR, NO. 38

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1987

40c



Getting his goat

The Salt Spring Island Fall Fair drew hundreds of spectators and exhibitors to the Farmers' Institute grounds along Rainbow Road last weekend. As usual, the

animals—such as these goats—proved a big hit with the youngsters. Complete Fall Fair coverage next week.

'Dioxin levels, egg breakage unrelated,' claims biologist

By MIKE TURKKI

A biologist for the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) said this week that while he is concerned about the high level of dioxins found in blue heron eggs taken this year from Crofton, he does not believe they are linked to egg breakage at the herons' nesting site.

CWS biologist Phil Whitehead said Monday that contrary to recent news reports, he feels egg breakage at the heron colony's nesting site — which is located within 1,000 metres of the B.C. Forest Products pulp and paper mill at Crofton — was probably

caused by predators and not high dioxin levels in the eggs.

This spring, CWS biologists walked through the Crofton heron colony's nesting area and reported hearing only "a pitiful few" young herons. Broken eggshells were found littering the ground, and it is now believed there were no young produced in the colony this year.

In studies conducted during 1983 and 1986, CWS biologists discovered alarmingly high levels of dioxin in eggs taken from four B.C. heron colonies. Biologists suspect that dioxins found in heron eggs can be traced to the

forest industry's use of chlorophenyls.

Seventy-five different forms of dioxin have been identified, and the three deadliest forms have been found in heron eggs taken from Crofton. Dioxins are considered embryo toxic, and may kill heron embryos or lead to skeletal deformities in young birds.

"The heron colony is located on what is known as Shoal Islands, not far from the dryland sorting operation for B.C. Forest Products' mill at Crofton," Whitehead told *Driftwood*. "It's only

Turn to Page 2

MLAs confirm announcement on Job-Trac

Salt Spring Island will receive nearly \$250,000 from the provincial government's Job-Trac program, Saanich-and-the-Islands MLAs Mel Couvelier and Terry Huberts announced last Saturday.

The provincial money, together with about \$15,000 in contributions from local groups and individuals, will be used to carry out a number of projects aimed at enhancing Salt Spring's cultural, recreational and tourism amenities. The projects range from construction of hiking trails to improvements to Centennial Park to refurbishing of the Farmers' Institute grounds and buildings.

Appropriately enough, the Farmers' Institute was the setting for the announcement by Couvelier and Huberts that Salt Spring's request for Job-Trac funds had been approved.

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INSIDE



High-flyers

Fulford Elementary School students participated in a paper airplane contest on Wednesday. Page 13.

Outer Islands news begins on Page 20



Generous

The Sea Capers committee has contributed \$3,000 to the improvement of Centennial Park in Ganges. Page 3.

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Islands Trust enjoys popular support, says SFU report

A Simon Fraser University (SFU) study of the Islands Trust has found that the majority of Gulf Islanders support the government body and wish to see it strengthened.

The study, released late last week, was prepared by SFU professor Michael M'Gonigle and graduate students in his natural

resources management class. Its findings were based on random telephone interviews and discussions with past and present Islands Trustees and island resi-

dents familiar with Trust issues.

In the 96-page report of the study's findings, M'Gonigle notes that three-quarters of respondents expressed satisfaction

with and support for the Trust, and said they wish to see its role and powers expanded.

"The Gulf Islands are besieged with resource problems — water

shortages, population pressures, applications for fish farms, commercial development — (and) people across the political spectrum want to see these problems worked out by the islanders themselves," he said.

But the Trust, perceived by residents as "their only safe-

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Support the Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic

Monday, September 28 2:30 pm to 8 pm Legion Hall, Ganges

Wildlife service concerned by findings

Dioxin found in heron eggs taken from Crofton

From Page 1

about 1,000 yards, or metres, from the mill itself, and the herons feed on the mud flats near the effluent outfall from the mill. However, I do not believe the dioxin levels and the egg breakage are related, but no matter how many times I say that, the headlines (in daily newspapers) continue to say otherwise.

"I suspect predators were largely responsible for the failure of the colony to produce young this year. I can't categorically say that, but that's what I believe."

The study of heron eggs at Crofton and three other B.C. sites was initiated in 1983 after eggs taken from a heron colony near the University of British Columbia showed surprisingly high levels of dioxin.

In 1983, eggs were taken from nesting sites near Crofton, Crescent Beach, the University of B.C. and Gabriola Island. Three of the four sites — Crofton, UBC and Gabriola Island — were chosen because of their proximity to wood processing operations. Crescent Beach was chosen as the control colony.

That year, eggs taken from the Crofton nesting site had the highest levels of dioxin. The level of T4CDD found in Crofton heron eggs, for example, was listed at 40 parts per trillion. By comparison, eggs taken from the Crescent Beach colony showed T4CDD levels of seven parts per trillion.

The testing of heron eggs from the four colonies resumed in 1986. Once again, heron eggs taken from Crofton contained the highest levels of dioxin. Although lower levels of two other dioxins were found in the Crofton eggs, the amount of T4CDD rose to 90 parts per trillion.

Scientists have not yet determined at what level dioxin begins to seriously affect heron embryos. However, CWS scientist Ross Norstrum has indicated that the

most likely effect high dioxin levels would have on the herons would be to stop embryos from growing inside the birds' eggs.

Although it has not yet been determined if the Crofton heron colony's failure to produce young this year is a direct result of high dioxin levels, the results of two previous dioxin tests worry Whitehead and his colleagues.

"There is some concern, because dioxins are embryo-toxic," he said. "We have no figure when dioxin begins to affect the eggs. There has not been any work of that type done on big blue herons. The closest thing to it was a study of grey herons in the Netherlands, and that study revealed approximately the same dioxin signatures as the ones

found in heron eggs here. But the dioxin levels there were significantly lower."

Whitehead and his CWS colleagues intend to monitor the Crofton site closely in the coming year. Eggs were taken from the Crofton site earlier this spring, before the egg breakage, and will be tested for dioxin.

Whitehead also hopes to con-

duct other tests to determine why the Crofton colony failed to produce any young this year.

If the tests conclude that high dioxin levels are responsible for the colony's failure to produce young, CWS will likely make recommendations to Environment Canada, which will then be responsible for taking action to combat the problem.

Ferry meeting set

A public meeting to discuss the Vesuvius Bay-Crofton ferry situation has been called by the Salt Spring Island transportation committee.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, October 6, at 7 pm in Central Hall.

Committee member Bev Unger said the meeting will protest the loss of vehicle service between Vesuvius and Crofton since the Crofton wharf was torched July 24.

The committee and the Chamber of Commerce, meanwhile, report that 30-plus calls were fielded last week from islanders after the public was asked to contact those organizations with complaints about hardship suffered since regular ferry service ceased.

Unger said the calls came from businesses losing customers and access to supplies, and from travellers unable to reach physicians on Vancouver Island or being forced to stay overnight when visiting the Cowichan Valley via the Swartz Bay ferry route.

Society still looking into possible sites for a pool

The local residents and Salt Spring Island Recreation Commission members investigating the feasibility of building an indoor swimming pool on the island have not yet decided on a location for the proposed facility.

Wendy Vine, president of the Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society said Thursday the local pool committee is still working on the proposal. The commission has already decided, however, to hold a referendum on the pool issue here this fall, and the Capital Regional District approved the

public vote at its last regular meeting.

Vine added last week that the society has now formally applied for a \$400,000 grant from the B.C. Lotteries Branch. If approved, the grant would be used to defray the cost of building the pool — should residents agree to its construction in this fall's referendum.

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24	0545	9.1	28	0145	2.0
	1110	5.7		1005	9.9
TH	1725	10.0	MO	1410	9.0
	2350	3.8		1840	10.2
25	0645	9.3	29	0240	1.8
	1150	6.5		1125	10.2
FR	1740	10.1	TU	1525	9.6
26	0025	3.1		1850	10.1
	0740	9.5	30	0340	1.8
SA	1230	7.4		1300	10.5
	1755	10.1	WE	1725	9.8
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Salt Spring Sea Capers Society last week donated \$3,000 towards improvements at Centennial Park in general and at bandshell in particular. Society president Carol Fowles (centre) was joined at

cheque-signing ceremony by (left to right) member Ed Allan, director Bevis Walters, director Arvid Chalmers, director Trish Nobile and treasurer Pat Beitel.

Society donates \$3,000

The Sea Capers committee has contributed \$3,000 to the Job-Trac program approved last week for Salt Spring Island.

In making the contribution, the committee specified that the money be used for the portion of the Job-Trac program dealing with improvements to Centennial Park — "specifically the backdrop and portable stage for the bandstand."

The \$3,000 came from the committee's surplus funds. Historically, the committee has directed proceeds from Sea Capers to community groups on Salt Spring for projects it feels will enhance the island.

"The committee feels strongly that because all our funds are made possible through the generous support of the community, it should in turn support community projects," it said.

Improvements to Centennial Park constitute one of several projects to be undertaken by the Job-Trac program, which is being co-ordinated by the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce. Fund-raising is underway to make up the difference between the amount of money provided by the provincial government for those projects, and the amount needed to carry out all work.

The Sea Capers committee, meanwhile, has scheduled a meeting for October 14 at 7:30 pm in the school board office in Ganges. It invites all island residents to attend.

Commission gets \$200


A contribution of \$200 has been made to the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission by the local Lions Club.

The donation represents monies raised by the Lions Club at its August 2 salmon barbecue and beer garden, held in Centennial

Park in Ganges.

In appreciation for the Parks and Recreation Commission allowing it to use Centennial Park for the event, the Lions Club directed that the \$200 be used "in maintaining and upgrading the park."

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MLAs confirm Job-Trac plan

From Page 1

Also on hand for the announcement were Chamber of Commerce president Jack Cherry and business manager Spencer Marr, who prepared the island's Job-Trac application in consultation with a wide range of community groups.

Couvelier and Huberts said that \$127,486 of the money provided will be used to develop hiking trails and complete improvements to Centennial Park. A second allocation worth \$98,402 will provide upgrading to facilities at Drummond Park, Stowell Lake, the Farmers' Institute, the Bittancourt House Museum, boat launching facilities and the community's tennis courts.

Job-Trac is part of an \$80 million provincial government program aimed at providing skills training and employment opportunities for income assistance recipients.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Salt Spring Rotary Club is now accepting applications for its Student Exchange Program for 1988-89. If your birthdate is between Sept. 1, 1970 and Sept. 1, 1972 and you are interested in travelling to an overseas country for a year of study, fill in this form and mail to the address below by October 2.

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For further information contact Mr. J. Wellingham, 537-4123, or Mr. Don Harrison, 537-2409.

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Will Trust 'authority' be eroded by the state?

One of the more interesting aspects of a Simon Fraser University (SFU) study of the Islands Trust, released last week, is a section which explores the theories and history of central versus local government controls in British Columbia. As an indication of what might be in store for the Islands Trust, it provides as much food for thought as the conclusions and recommendations of the study itself.

The section in question notes that a central government — in this case, the province — will, from time to time, establish some new form of local management authority in response to a specific problem or problems. The new body, called a 'change agent,' normally has its powers

defined by legislation, proceeds by encouraging community support and participation to identify community needs and a course of action, and then establishes a mechanism to implement its plan, policy or objective.

After the 'change agent' is put in place, however, it is often dismantled by state governments because of skepticism of local motives or competence, pressure from special non-local interests or as a result of the central government's "own will to survive", the report says.

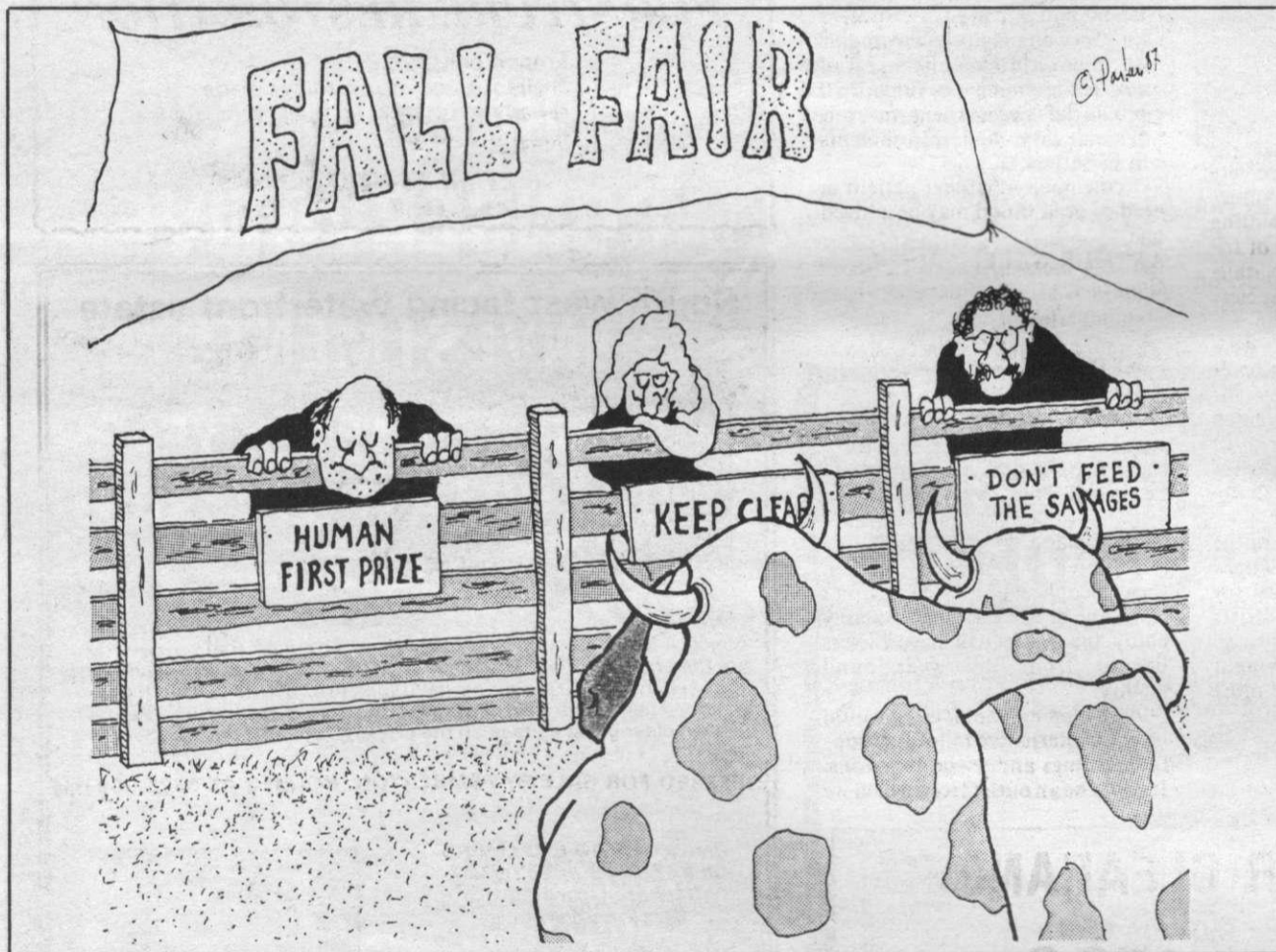
It continues: "The state government thus seeks to maintain, on the one hand, its flexibility to act in local affairs and, on the other, not to have local

authorities interfere in existing ministerial processes. When local government does intervene, the state government may attempt to override it on the grounds of a higher national, provincial or regional interest. Thus, the state may well encourage the weakening of the local authority in favour of the larger community, even where it has created the authority and where a democratically chosen local government is capable of managing its own affairs."

A few quick examples are given of 'change agents' which were established in B. C., only to see their powers eroded or eliminated. The report notes that regional districts, established in the 1960s to answer needs for co-ordination of local planning and other services, saw their scope reduced in the 1980s; and that community resource boards, adopted in the 1970s to revise the system for delivery of social services, saw their original, limited powers slowly eroded and the boards themselves finally dismantled. In both cases, it notes, what was born as an example of government decentralization later lost out to centralization.

Michael M'Gonigle, author of the SFU report, believes the Islands Trust matches the model of regional districts and community resource boards in that it was "established by the provincial government in response to a crisis" and faces difficulties establishing its authority.

If M'Gonigle is correct, the pending report of the provincial legislature's all-party standing committee investigating the Trust's performance and mandate should make for interesting reading. Committee chairman David Mercier (SC, Burnaby-Edmonds) has said his members agree the Trust is here to stay, but if the report recommends any erosion of Trust powers (in opposition to the majority of submissions, which argued for a strengthening of authority), the province's attitude towards the Trust may well be read as a close match of its demonstrated view of resource boards and regional districts.



letters

Disturbed

Sir,
While the mysterious noises coming from the Crofton mill are causing some people to lose sleep at night, I am more disturbed by a recently-released report by the Canadian Wildlife Service.

Biologists studying Blue Herons nesting near the mill found that out of 57 nests, not one egg hatched. The eggshell fragments were then analyzed and found to contain dioxin in levels amongst the highest ever found in Canada.

It is thought that chlorophenols used in the forest industry are the source of the dioxin. Herons, with their diet of small fish and crabs, are at the top of the food chain,

where these poisons will become concentrated.

Since there are alternatives to dioxins, it's time we started using them.
FRANCES KERMAN,
Ganges.

Thank you

Sir,
All too often we read and hear criticism of the B. C. Ferries and crew but very seldom are their services praised.

However, I would like to thank the crew on the *Queen of Tsawwassen* morning ferry on Thursday, September 10. Just before boarding the ferry at Swartz Bay for Galiano I was stung by a wasp on my left hand. Soon after, the finger had swollen so badly

that I could not get my ring off and the first-aid man was called. He gave me an ice-pack and said the ring would have to come off and he could try to work it off by wrapping my finger with string. He unravelled a string mop to obtain a piece of string and although I was convinced the only way would be to cut it off he persevered for 20 minutes or more and successfully got the ring over the swollen knuckle. How much nicer for me to see a wedding band of 36 years come off in one piece instead of being cut.

Thanks once again to Peter and the other concerned crew. It is nice to know there are trained people there to help when needed.

JOAN WATERMAN,
Galiano Island.

New name

Sir,
Visually, the new 'Graceland' in Ganges is starting to resemble Granville Island, and I hate to think what the total effect will be if it is extended to include the Esso gas station as planned. Yuppieville, perhaps?

The building itself doesn't seem so bad but the idea is to develop a townsite that is aesthetically pleasing, built to scale, not oversized and focussed toward the water. The worst part has to be building a new liquor store, high profile, on prime waterfront real estate, next to the central park; it should have been a restaurant everyone could enjoy, not merely built for the convenience of boaters, at taxpayer's expense.

Perhaps it still could be. Voice your opinions.

Someone said: "Isn't it amazing what can come out of a sewer?" Those who supported the sewer for environmental reasons aren't necessarily pro-development. The town exists and employs members of the community, not merely tourists, and will be here for generations as a reflection of the spirit of the place and people. The developer can only be considered successful if responsive to the people here as well.

The other issue is, of course, parking and downtown traffic and where are all those people going to the liquor store going to park? I guess the Highways Department and the Island Trust must have the answer to that one.

SUE HISCOCKS,
Ganges.

Superficial

Sir,
Canada's superficial win in the Canada Cup pseudo-hockey tournament should be a disappointment to anyone who values sportsmanship, decency, civilized conduct and justice.

Canadian hockey success against the U.S.S.R. is always based on cheating. Canadian players continually use illegal tactics (holding, hooking, interference, cross-checking, elbowing, slashing, charging, etc.) with near impunity while the officials penalize the Soviets a disproportionate number of times (often for imaginary fouls).

In addition, the viciousness of many Canadian players is disgraceful and despicable. Canadian hockey no longer qualifies as a sport because Canadians have no respect for the rules which define the game.

The Canadian team does not deserve to be recognized as a winner; indeed, it does not deserve to be on the same rink with the Soviets.

CHRIS LITTLER,
Ganges.

Forces

Sir,
I am back on the island after two years in Vancouver and, as I go about, I note the many changes which have taken place in my absence. There are two which deserve public mention.

First is the markedly noticeable poor quality of the water in my bathtub and sink from St. Mary's Lake; it is bright orange. Needless to say, I support a stronger Islands Trust and thank Tom Gossett and others for their consistent efforts through the Water Preservation Society.

Second is the very positive addition to Ganges of The Mobile Market. What a pleasure to shop in such ambience, amid such good produce, being able to find almost all the products I regularly use, while paying lower-than-city prices. I salute Pam Donnelly's taste, and her family's hard work, while thanking them for making my shopping so enjoyable.

The forces of light and dark are very active here on our island. The fight to save our planet begins very close to home. It behooves us all to do what we can to sway the balance.

PHYLLIS TATUM,
Ganges.

No brains

Sir,
This letter is directed to the two classy gents who trespassed on my property over the Labour Day weekend to completely spoil our holiday by stealing my son's new Firebird.

Are your brains in the wrong end? What you two did not know is the owner of that car is now and has always been a car buff. Had you stood up on your hind legs and come to our door, he would have talked cars with you, taken you for a ride and a turn at the wheel.

I see so many nice new cars around Ganges, so next time you get the urge, try asking; don't slither in under cover of darkness. Thanks to the fast action of the RCMP and your poor driving skills, you did not get to keep it long.

I prefer to think it was someone passing through but with all the thefts we have had in this district it probably is some of our local talent. Twenty years ago we bought a little house in the Fulford Valley; it had stood vacant for two or three years with dishes, bedding and a new well pump all intact. If I remember, it had a poor lock or

none at all. So folks of Salt Spring, keep your outside lights on, especially on weekends.

C. M. WESTON,
Ganges.

Big time

Sir,
Is it too late to rename the Grace Point development? How about Graceland II, or Graceland of the North? Come on Salt Spring, Think Big. Think Progress!

Picture this: 24-hour-a-day live stage shows featuring dozens of Elvis impersonators at the exciting Club Mondo Condo. A giant leisure pool in the shape of Elvis. We could put pontoons under the new townhouses, float them in Ganges Harbour, and convert them to gambling casinos.

Loudspeakers, mounted on all island Hydro poles, could constantly blare out Elvis' Greatest Hits. I'm sure that *You Ain't Nothing But A Hounddog*, played at max volume, would make islanders forget about noise from trail bikes and the Rod and Gun Club. Vesuvius residents will be happy as the music will drown out the Crofton mill noise.

Salt Spring will become big-time. We'll make the cover of *People* magazine. We'll be featured on *Lifestyles of the Dead and Famous*. The sky's the limit.

SHILO ZYLBERGOLD,
Fulford Harbour.

Winners

Sir,
I would like to announce the winners of the recent Pool Society raffle, drawn September 7. Winner of the Kirstie Shoolbraid painting was Joyce Holman; winner of the Terry Warbey ring was Natalie Horel; winner of the Pool Society beach towel was Marg Sitton.

Two additional prizes were drawn, due to the generosity of visitor Jack Pumphrey of Washington State, who donated two matted prints. Winners of these prints were W. Payne of Victoria and Dennis and Kathy Morris of White Rock.

The Pool Society thanks all the merchants who sold tickets, Orcas Gallery and Marsim Crafts for displaying the prizes, the artists who donated their work as prizes, and all those people who bought tickets. Your support is most encouraging!

WENDY VINE,
Salt Spring
Swimming Pool Society.

more letters

Protest

Sir,
Well, the Ferry Corporation has done it to us again. To add to the inconvenience of not having the Vesuvius/Crofton ferry in operation, we have now been blessed with the return of the *Quinitsa* on our remaining link with Vancouver Island. Not only does this vessel carry fewer vehicles, it is unable to consistently maintain the schedule.

This happens to us every year at this time just as sure as autumn follows summer. But it doesn't have to if we all complain enough. We have two Social Credit MLAs representing us and one is a cabinet minister. Why not write one or both and voice your objections as strongly as possible. I have.

MICHAEL MURRAY,
Ganges.

Give blood

Sir,
Branch 92 of the Royal Canadian Legion is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic at the Legion Hall on Hereford Avenue on Monday, September 28.

This annual clinic has always been warmly supported by the citizens of Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands, and the need is critical. I urge every eligible islander to give half an hour of time and a pint of blood next Monday, between 2:30 pm and 8:00 pm. The process is safe and easy, and refreshments will be served.

Remember—the next patient in need of your blood may be a loved one.

ARTHUR GALE,
Ganges.

Aware

Sir,
I am pleased to see that we are becoming more and more aware of the potential personal benefits to be gained from having an indoor swimming facility built on Salt Spring Island.

I wanted to point out that even those people who presently don't want one or are unable to actually enjoy the water will nevertheless benefit from this year-round facility.

A swimming pool facility would offer an alternative to local groups for meetings and social functions. It could be an outlet from which we

could extend invitations to sports groups from other communities to join us.

It could even enhance our current island recreation programs with the input of a full-time recreation coordinator.

Most importantly, building ourselves a swimming pool would enable us to put locally-collected tax dollars to use as a direct investment in our present and future community. We need to continue looking ahead.

We must admit that off-islander dollars help to keep Salt Spring

Island afloat from year to year, and we, therefore benefit from any increase in trade and commerce. We don't boast an excess of activities for kids and family fun here, but would alleviate that by having a public pool.

With something for the kids to do, more visitors will come to the island, stay longer, spend more money, and louder extol its virtues. We can't help but benefit from this.

So, even if you don't get in the swim—and I challenge you to try—you can help promote the swimming pool because it's a community project which will work for us all.

GAIL BRYN-JONES,

Dr. Charles Alsberg, N.D.

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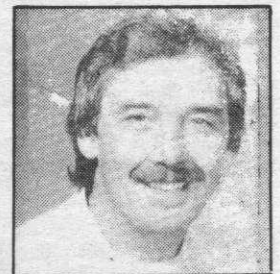
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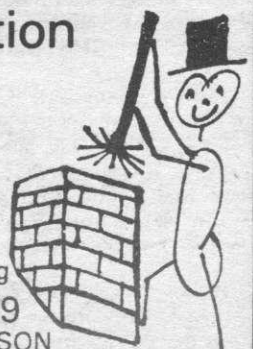
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Tools for Peace seeks donations for Nicaragua

American-backed contra forces yesterday attacked a farming cooperative 140 km. north of Managua, killing 7 members of the civilian defense and a woman and child.

News item, September 1987
 "There is no line at all, not even a fine line, between a civilian farm owned by the government and a Sandinista military outpost."

Contra director Adolfo Calero

By ANDREW GIBSON

Canadians have difficulty contemplating American actions in Central America, as they would have in private life if a friendly neighbour sharing their language and culture mounted a violent assault on the poor family in the tarpaper shack down the road.

"There must be a good reason for this," they might say. "He has always—or almost always—respected the fence between us; he says he'll help us if we are attacked. In fact, he'd been giving us self-defense lessons lately. He must know what he's doing."

In such a circumstance we should go into it a little more deeply. Maybe he is out of line. Perhaps he has a temporary mental problem, and we can help calm him down. So, using the same neighbour analogy, let's look at Nicaragua and the USA.

The poor family has a few stony acres and, like his equally-poor neighbours, had a sharecropping arrangement with the rich landowner, whereby they supplied fresh fruit in exchange for seed, fertilizer and protection. It was a miserable existence, and they could only make a living by keeping the children out of school and in the fields. What they really resented was having to pay for the security guards. They were trained by the rich man, and stalked menacingly around with their guns, eating their heads off and contributing nothing.

"We've had it," they said at last. "This is no way to live. We'll chase the guards away, and grow what's good for us. It'll be tough, but we can make it."

At first there wasn't a big problem, and the rich family even showed signs of knowing that it was time for a change. The children got to school, even the oldest adults learned to read and write, and everybody's health

improved. But then the head of the rich family retired, and Uncle took over. He had this idea that it was manifest destiny and God's will that the rich should give orders and the poor should obey and shut up. He really believed it, and he was terrified that if the poor family bettered its condition it would be an example to those in the other small holdings.

For quite a few years now, Uncle has been attacking the poor family. Not himself, of course — in fact most of his family don't like what he's doing, but he is a very powerful and persuasive guy. He's been hiring back the security guards, and forcing the other sharecroppers to billet them. They don't tackle the adults, who are pretty formidable fighters, but they beat up on the kids and destroy the crops and burn down the buildings. The storekeepers in town have been ordered to stop credit to the poor family, so they have real trouble getting tractor parts and seeds and even medicine.

Uncle has brought out a fact sheet which he has distributed to everybody in the area. "See," it says, "look how vicious they are. They're defending themselves. And they won't let my fact sheet in, so there's no freedom of the press. And those tumbledown buildings — they're just ruining the place. Worst of all, they don't think right. They've got a virus — yeah, that's it, a virus."

Now back to the real and much more lethal world in which Nicaragua struggles. With a population somewhat smaller than that of B. C., she paid 50,000 lives to get rid of the brutal US-installed Somoza dynasty, and has, in the last five years, lost 15,000 killed and another 25,000 injured and kidnapped to the contras. In our terms, that is like wiping out Victoria.

The economic loss has been nearly \$4 billion. But, tormented as she is, she has been buoyed by aid from many governments, including Canada, who, refusing to go along with the US embargo, has supplied \$50 million in aid.

Many non-governmental groups in Canada, in the USA and in other western democracies, have been appalled at what is happening, and have become active in Nicaraguan aid. One of the most important of these is our

own Tools for Peace project for which Salt Spring Island raised, in goods, money and matching funds, \$10,000 in 1986. Worn down by the military and economic assault, and having to use 50 per cent of her meagre resources to defend herself, Nicaragua needs our help more than ever to hold out until the policies which oppress her are finally discredited.

Every year the priorities change. Notebooks and writing materials for the ill-equipped schools are always needed, as are rubber boots for field workers, safety gear for industry and farms, and fishing gear. There is a great need for corrugated roofing, because thousands of buildings and storehouses have been destroyed. First the roofs have to


be put up, for shelter. The walls will come later. We need to collect money for that (tax receiptable for \$25 or more), since it is not economical to ship heavy building materials from Canada.

Our Tools for Peace drive will therefore be varied, with boxes for donated items, fund-raising activities, and perhaps garage sales where unneeded items can be

turned into cash for Nicaragua.

It all kicks off September 29 (by coincidence, that is a day of protest against the Contras in the USA) at 7:30 pm at the Elementary School Library in Ganges. It will be an informational meeting, and there will be a video of a recent visit to Nicaragua. If you would like to assist in this great work, be sure to attend.

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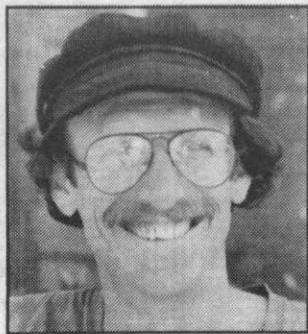
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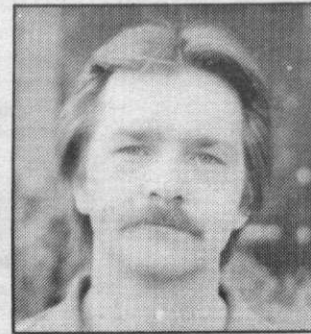
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Two ways to look at forest changes

VICTORIA — There are two ways of looking at the provincial government's new forest policies. You can don your Jaycee hat and call the changes better than anything you had hoped for, or you can be a cynic and ask where the catch is.

Being a bruised idealist from way back, I find myself somewhere in between the booster and the cynic. On the face of it, the changes, announced by Forest Minister Dave Parker, are great news, indeed, but some nagging doubts remain.

First the new policies. On October 1, a new pricing system for timber will be implemented in British Columbia. The new system will give British Columbians a much fairer return on their forests.

The cost of replacing the forests, until now largely the government's, that is the taxpayers' responsibility, will be borne by the companies harvesting the timber. More timber will be made available for competition on the open market, and small operators will get a larger slice of the timber pie.

At the same time, the government promises to create more jobs in the forest industry by launching initiatives in wood marketing, forest product research,

'The cost of replacing the forests, until now largely the government's responsibility, will be borne by the companies harvesting the timber.'

forest renewal activities, and by increasing timber processing and the manufacture of value-added products.

Last but not least, the government will no longer forego potential revenue by allowing forest companies to accumulate credits against their stumpage payments under section 88 of the Forest Act in exchange for basic silviculture and the construction of roads and bridges.

What's all that mean? To the forest companies, it means they'll have to dig deeper into their pockets. To you and me it means that the government will collect more money from the forest industry, which will be reflected in the taxes we pay.

Translated into dollars, the forest industry's mother tongue, the revised pricing structure will

capital comment

by
Hubert Beyer

increase provincial revenues from the forest industry by \$100 million from \$580 million to \$680 million.

If you add to that the \$73 million we allowed the industry in section 88 credits last year and a further \$55 million in deferred credits, additional revenue to the the government will be \$228 million.

Those calculations, however, are based on last year's figures when the 15 per cent export tax was already in effect. That tax will have generated another \$400 million by the end of the first 12 months. The government will continue collecting that \$400 million a year, even if the self-imposed tariff is lifted, which means that compared with the last pre-export tariff year, the government will actually collect an estimated \$628 million a year more from the forest industry.

Another policy change that will have the industry in a flap is the removal of five per cent of the allowable annual cut from licences that come up for sale or transfer. The five per cent will be plowed into competitive timber sales.

That move is long overdue. At present, only 5.2 million cubic metres of timber, less than eight per cent of the total annual harvest, is sold competitively.

The minister says the Forest Act will be changed to make 'pre-harvest silvicultural planning' mandatory. Performance will be enforced, he says, and audits required.

That's where my nagging doubts come in. Impressive as the minister's announcement is, we won't know just how tough the government intends to get with the industry over its new silviculture obligations until the amendments to the Forest Act are tabled in the legislature.

Nothing short of full legislative clout will make the industry assume its role as proper manager of the province's forests. Unless that role is clearly specified in legislation, and failure to comply is suitably punished, the industry will try to cut corners wherever and whenever it can.

If, on the other hand, the government means what it says and doesn't dilute the changes Parker announced, British Columbians will, for the first time in the history of forest exploitation, get a fair return on their resource.

Like I said, I'm not a cynic, but I have learned to regard government pronouncements with some caution. I hope my doubts will turn out to be unjustified.

Ian H. Clement

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Widespread support found

SFU study recommends strengthening of the Trust

From Page 1

guard against uncontrolled development on the islands," suffers from a lack of appropriate decision-making powers, particularly in its dealings with provincial agencies like the department of highways and the B.C. Ferry Corporation, the SFU professor says.

The report offers economic and biophysical profiles of the Gulf Islands, an examination of the theories of central versus local government controls, international and local perspectives of the Trust, a history of the evolution of the Trust structure, and an overview of the external decision-making process which impacts on the Trust area.

Widespread public support for the Trust is noted in the report as one of its main strengths, along with its mandate and the perception that it is a local body which gives islanders close and easy access to government.

Major weaknesses identified by the study included insufficient authority to enforce bylaws and zoning restrictions, the Trust's "politically unstable position" as an agency which operates at the whim of the provincial government, and a failure or inability to engage in long-term planning.

On the latter point, the report notes some respondents felt the Trust "appears to operate through defence and delay tactics, rather than initiating or planning actions."

In conclusion, the report says:

- residents are concerned about protecting the unique environmental and social character of the Gulf Islands;
- strong popular support exists for the Trust and its 'preserve and protect' mandate;
- residents view the protective role of the Trust as being "satisfactorily fulfilled" and note that while the Trust's zoning powers are limited, they have wide implications for the control of development;
- the public is dissatisfied with the Trust's level of performance on specific issues, even those over which the Trust has no formal jurisdiction;
- relations with specialized government agencies have been uneven and often quite unsatisfactory — however, there is general recognition among other agencies of the legitimate mandate and role of the Trust;
- the provincial government's failure to proclaim sections of the Trust's enabling legislation — i.e., a section which would give the Trust greater subdivision approval powers — has "severely handicapped" the institution;

- the Trust mandate is often seen as unclear, and the Trust's planning powers as too fragmented and limited; and
- the Trust has been and continues to be underfunded and understaffed.

Among the recommendations contained in the report are calls for retention and strengthening of the Trust, for a "clear governmental commitment to local management by the Trust and local islands," and for the Trust to be given greater financial and staff resources.

Also recommended are a long-term program of locally-

ger population centres such as Bowen Island and Ganges."

The report also calls for the Trust Council to be given legislated authority to set standards and policies of general application to all islands in the Trust area, and for individual islands to be given greater decision-making authority over local matters.

Other recommendations include:

- strengthening of the authority of the Islands Trust in relation to other government agencies;
- provision of an independent financial base for the Trust, possibly through transfer of some property taxes paid within the Trust area; and
- setting broad policies, guidelines and regulations applicable to all receipts of land and money under the terms of the newly-proclaimed Trust Fund, along with provisions for individual islands to develop their own "pattern of usage and management of lands donated to it."

Finally, the report recommends that the Trust should play a greater role in providing social amenities on the islands, that it develop a long-term strategy for tourism control and development, that it seek agreements with the ministry of forest and lands to develop greater community control of forest harvesting and production, that it be given increased powers to regulate proposed fish-farming and foreshore activities, that it set general subdivision policies and standards and give individual islands greater authority to set and enforce zoning requirements, and that it develop an economic strategy of "appropriate sustainable development" that would build on an already well-established base of home occupations and craft industries.

Copies of the report, titled *To Preserve and Protect: An Institutional Analysis of the British Columbia Islands Trust*, are available from SFU for \$10 each. Contact SFU at 291-4659 for further information.

'Major weaknesses identified by the study included insufficient authority to enforce by-laws and zoning restrictions, the Trust's politically unstable position... and a failure or inability to engage in long-term planning.'

generated reforms which would include a public review of the Trust mandate, a clarification and expansion of Trust jurisdiction, and an incremental restructuring of the functions and decision-making processes of the Trust into a new general Trust Council and new individual island councils.

Such a restructuring, the report says, "would lead to limited autonomy for and greater diversity between individual islands. It should thus encourage greater local innovation that, for example, might produce alternatives within the Trust system to the contemplated incorporation of lar-

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Public opinion sought on farm tax

Public opinion on the provincial government's proposed farm tax changes is being sought by the Islands Trust.

At its recent general council meeting held on Denman Island, the Trust said it will attempt to inform farmers and other interested parties about the proposed changes and encourage them to send their reactions to Finance

Minister Mel Couvelier.

The proposed changes would see the province increase from \$1,600 to \$5,000 the minimum amount of annual income a farm would have to produce before the property could be classified as a farm for tax purposes.

The Trust has objected to the higher rate, saying landowners who lose farm tax status would be

encouraged to subdivide farmland or seek its removal from the Agricultural Land Reserve.

"It would be reasonable to increase the basic amount (the \$1,600 minimum), since everything is going up, but the increase should be reasonable, not to \$5,000," Trust chairman Nick Gilbert said. "The premise should be to preserve land for the future."

The Trust is hoping that by contacting farmers, it will promote support for its opposition to the proposed changes. At the same time as it is compiling lists of farmers on the Gulf Islands and preparing to contact them with a call to voice their concerns to Couvelier, the Trust is trying to find more details on the tax changes which might come into effect.

Trust may hold enquiry into Gabriola bridge plan

By DUNCAN MacDONNELL

The Islands Trust is considering holding a public enquiry into the bridge the provincial government proposes to build from Gabriola Island to the Cedar area south of Nanaimo on Vancouver Island.

At its recent general meeting held on Denman Island, the Trust received a request from a Gabriola Island group to conduct an enquiry that would establish the social, economic and environmental impacts of the bridge project. Trust chairman Nick Gilbert, the representative from Salt Spring, said the request has merit but the Trust must weigh several factors before deciding whether it should undertake an enquiry.

The bridge proposal was aired last month by Transportation and Highways Minister Cliff Michael and endorsed by Premier Bill Vander Zalm. The provincial government has raised the idea several times since the early 1970s, always in connection with

networks and other infrastructure connected with the entire project, plus the impact on Gabriola Island.

The Trust is also concerned that it was not consulted prior to the bridge proposal being presented again by the provincial government.

"It's important that these issues be addressed publicly," Gilbert said, adding that other islands in the Trust area — Salt Spring in particular — could soon face the same ferry terminal and bridge pressures and be subject to the same decision-making process in Victoria.

However, while the Trust agrees a public enquiry would be valuable, there is no guarantee it will undertake the task. Some trustees "feel threatened" with the idea of assuming such a role, Gilbert said, and others are concerned about how it would affect the Trust's dealings with the highways ministry.

A third factor may be timing. During the recent round of public meetings called by an all-party committee of the provincial legislature reviewing the Trust's performance and mandate, numerous submissions were critical of the way the highways ministry makes decisions in isolation from islanders and the Trust.

Gilbert said earlier that with Highways Minister Michael sitting on that committee, it may be "an awkward time for (the Trust) to protest" the Gabriola bridge proposal. The all-party committee is due to present its report and recommendations to Municipal Affairs Minister Rita Johnson in October.

In the meantime, Gilbert said last week, the Trust Council will be discussing the call to hold an enquiry into the bridge proposal.

'An enquiry may be the only way to get the facts (on the bridge) out.'

construction of a new ferry terminal on the island to shorten the link between Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

Gabriola Island's community plan, meanwhile, says the bridge and ferry terminal proposal should not be considered until a full public enquiry has been held into the social, economic and environmental aspects of the project. Pressed on that point, Cliff Michael has said he will consider holding public meetings to discuss the proposal.

Gilbert said the Trust does not believe public meetings are enough. "They will give the people an opportunity to speak out, but there are no facts out," he said. "An enquiry may be the only way to get the facts out."

Of concern to trustees are the costs and benefits of a new ferry terminal, the bridge, land, road

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Pit stop

Refreshment break is taken in Ganges Saturday by two members of large body of cyclists who toured island to raise funds for the

B. C. Lung Association. Salt Spring was one of three area stops for cyclists.

Carver overcoming injury that sidelined him for weeks

Salt Spring carver Terry McKinnon is battling back.

McKinnon — whose life-like chainsaw carvings of bear, eagles and other wildlife have earned him international attention — crushed his lower vertebrae in an accident August 2 near his studio and has been unable to work since that time. The amiable carver said last week, however, that he is recovering from the injury.

"I'm feeling much better now," said the 41-year-old carver, who is now up and walking after spending several weeks immobilized on a backboard. "On a scale of one to 10, I feel about 6.5 right now. Everything's coming along well."

McKinnon said he is now on a new exercise program, and hopes to resume his carving career in the near future.

Availability of water could be factor in land decisions

Availability of water could soon play a greater role in the consideration of subdivision applications, Islands Trust chairman Nick Gilbert says.

Gilbert, the trustee for Salt Spring Island, said the serious water shortage felt on the islands during the summer dry spell has raised concerns about the wisdom of permitting additional subdivisions.

"When I have subdivision applications in front of me, I feel uneasy if I don't know there is enough water," he said. "I feel it would be irresponsible of me to proceed with rezonings if there are questions about the water supply."

Gilbert said the best long-term solution to the water question would be commissioning a study to determine the extent of groundwater supplies on Salt Spring. However, he noted it is difficult for such studies to paint an accurate picture — at best, geologists can only provide an educated guess.

"The next-best solution might be limiting subdivisions," he said. "The thought has to be put out there. We are facing a crunch."

During the summer dry spell, reports of island wells running dry were common, as was word of catchment ponds and cisterns being built to hold more water.

Complicating the question of groundwater supplies was the provincial government's recent refusal to grant the North Salt Spring Waterworks District an increase in the amount of water it can draw from St. Mary Lake for its customers. The waterworks district then placed an interim

moratorium on the supply of water to uncommitted developments, noting that projected total consumption of water now equals supply.

Gilbert said groundwater supplies become even more important because no one can presume

that St. Mary Lake will continue to be able to provide "good" drinking water. The quality of its water is declining, he said, and islanders should begin considering what it would cost for treatment systems to "get good water from a dirty lake."

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Most clamdiggers operate within rules, says officer

A federal fisheries officer based in Duncan said last week that most clamdiggers seen taking large hauls of shellfish from Salt Spring beaches are legally-licensed commercial fishermen operating within current regulations — and not unscrupulous visitors illegally over-fishing the resource.

Fisheries officer Bob Tupniak said Thursday that he and other fisheries officers have received recent reports of clamdiggers taking large hauls of shellfish from Booth Bay beaches. Most of these 'incidents' have been reported by islanders justifiably concerned about possible over-fishing of the resource, he said. Tupniak added, however, that fisheries officers making regular patrols of the Booth Bay area are yet to find an offender.

Many complaints of clamdiggers taking illegal hauls of shellfish from Booth Bay appear unfounded. Tupniak pointed out that under current regulations, clamdiggers possessing valid commercial licences are permitted to take as many clams as they wish — provided none are under 1.5 inches (38 millimetres) in size. Furthermore, commercial clamdiggers are not restricted to operating in a specific area, nor do they receive licences for specific areas.

As a result, particularly well-stocked clam beaches such as those along Booth Bay are often worked by several commercial diggers at the same time.

"We have had reports of a lot of clams being taken from Booth Bay," stated Tupniak. "However, whenever we have gone to the area at low tide, we've never had any problems. The commercial fishermen working the beach have all had their licences, and all their clams have been of legal size. A lot of the complaints stem from the fact that commercial diggers, while they are restricted in terms of the size of clams they may take, do not have a quota."

Reports of clamdiggers taking what some Salt Spring residents feel are too many shellfish from island beaches are one of the more common complaints heard by federal fisheries officers, according to fisheries officer Bob Tupniak. They are often part of the on-going "controversy or war between sport and commercial fishermen," he said.

It is not known how many commercial fishermen are work-

ing beaches in the Booth Bay area. Tupniak said, however, that he has noticed a decline in the clam beds there.

"You can't put that kind of pressure on them without seeing some decline," he stated. "It's like the salmon. At one time, we always seemed to have plenty of salmon. But now, even when we go out to check sports fishermen, we're finding fewer and fewer salmon in the boats."

Under current regulations, fisheries officers are unable to limit the number of commercial and sports fishermen working local beaches. Tupniak said that although the federal government has considered implementing specific "area licences" for commercial clamdiggers, this has not been done.

In addition to restricting the activities of commercial diggers by allowing them to take only larger clams, the federal department of fisheries and oceans also relies on the laws of economics to maintain clam stocks in specific areas, according to Tupniak.

"Theoretically, what is sup-

posed to happen is that commercial diggers will leave an area when stocks get too low to make it viable for them to dig there — before we have a problem (with over-fishing)," he stated. "It's just not viable for them, you see, to come to an area for 25 or 50 pounds of clams. It would be a tremendous haul for a sports fisherman, but nothing for a commercial digger."

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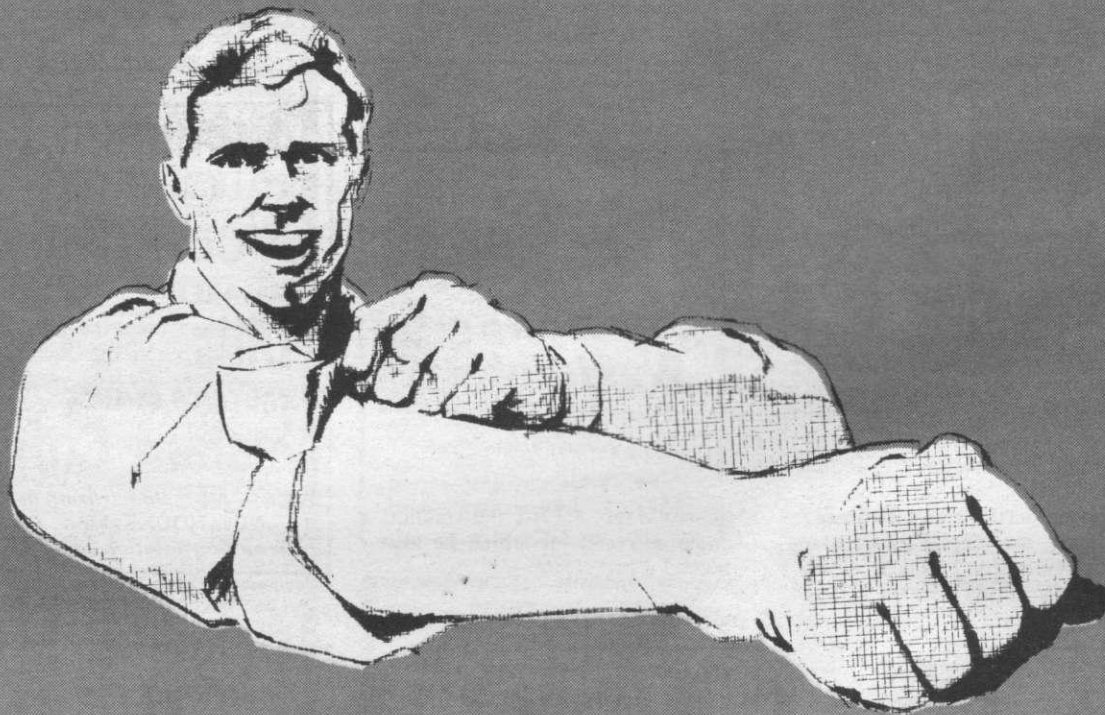
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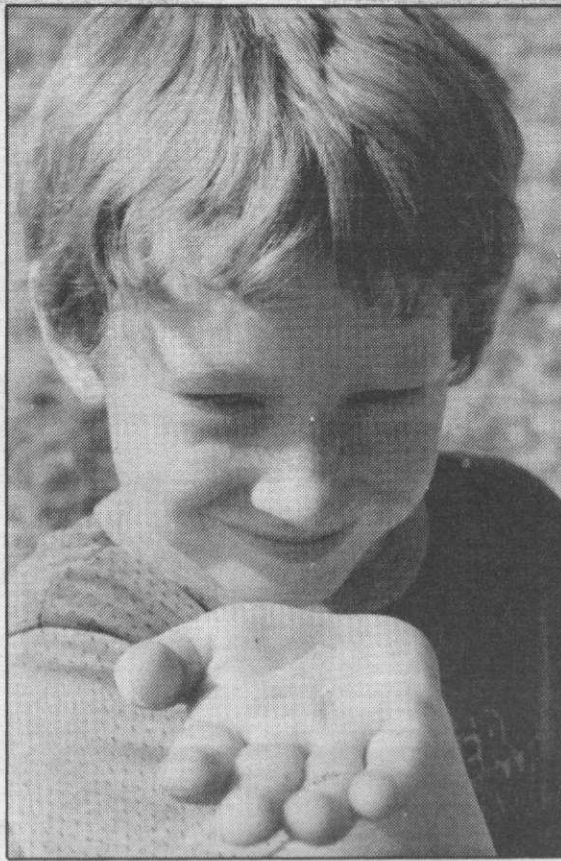
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Up, Up and...

Awards were handed out Wednesday at Fulford Elementary School's paper airplane competition. A group of Fulford

students (left) won a certificate for building the largest paper plane, although it didn't fly well. Grade 3 student Tony Eyles (right)

painstakingly folded the smallest paper aircraft, for which he also earned a certificate.

Islands honoured

Question: Where can the *Spirit of the Gulf Islands* be found?

Answer: Riding the rails of Vancouver's rapid transit system.

Municipal affairs minister Rita Johnson, in a letter to Capital Regional District director Dr. Hugh Borsman, announced last week that one of Skytrain's 114 cars will be christened *Spirit of the Gulf Islands* at a dedication ceremony planned for September 23 in Vancouver.

The provincial government has stated it will name each of Skytrain's 114 cars after a city,

town or region of the province. Next Wednesday, in conjunction with the Union of B.C. Municipalities' annual general meeting, 72 communities (including the Gulf Islands) will have a Skytrain car dedicated in their honour.

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Meeting with islands' MLAs sought by local school board

The board of trustees for School District 64 has asked for a meeting with Saanich-and-the-Islands MLAs Mel Couvelier and Terry Huberts to discuss the need for additional school facilities here.

Board chairman David Eyles said Friday he has invited Couvelier and Huberts to visit the district and tour local schools. Eyles said he feels it is important the islands' two MLAs see the over-crowded school facilities for themselves.

Eyles said School District 64 will likely need approximately \$1.5 million in the near future to improve its facilities. He noted massive increases in student enrolment have placed enormous pressure on a number of schools.

"Between 1981 and 1987, School District 64 experienced a 21.3 per cent increase in enrolment," he noted. "We're the fastest growing school district in the province. This enrolment increase has pushed our facilities beyond their capacity, and we're expecting substantial growth in the next decade as well."

Eyles noted that although the district was anticipating an enrolment increase this September,

more children than expected registered for school.

"We have some portables in place, and we're making do," he said. "We've got two at the high school and one on order for Fulford. We were expecting more (students) this year, but we've just had so many people walking through the doors. It's getting ridiculous in some schools. At Fernwood, for example, we have one bathroom for 200 kids."

"Many of our classrooms were designed to hold 26, but we're having to fit six or eight more (students) in," he continued. "At Fulford, we had 37 enroll for a

class, and we just couldn't fit them all in. Right away, we had to bring in a substitute, divide the kids and create a new split class."

School District 64 has submitted a capital budget of \$1.766 million for the 1988-89 school year. Eyles said this year's enrolment increase, as well those predicted in the future, make it imperative that some funding be obtained to upgrade local schools.

He and board members are hoping that MLAs Huberts and Couvelier will agree to the need for additional monies after touring local schools.

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Work on addition will temporarily close library

Construction of an addition to the Salt Spring Island public library will force temporary closures of the facility.

The library will be shut down this Saturday — September 26 — to accommodate construction

work. Once the addition is completed, it will close again for about two weeks to allow for rearranging of the library interior.

The addition, being built at the rear of the McPhillips Avenue

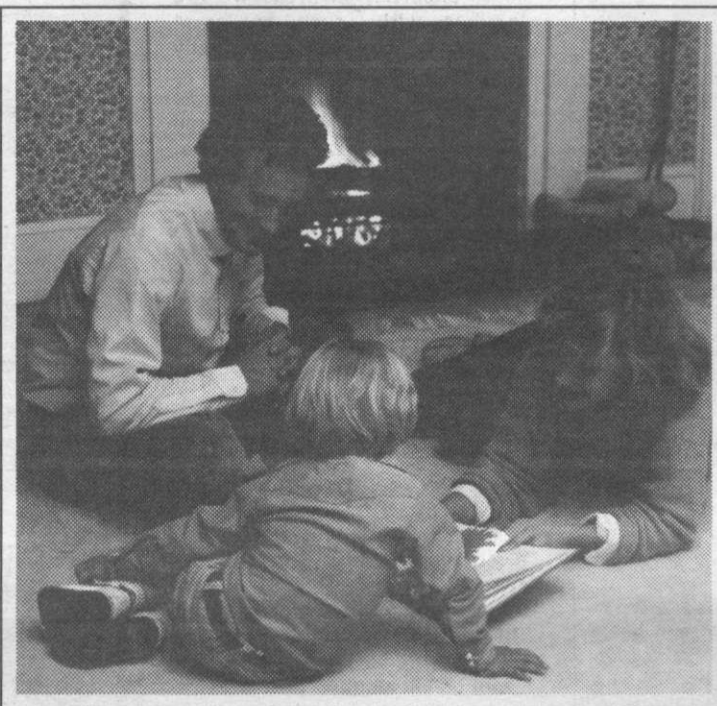
building, will increase the library's floor space to 1,342 square feet, bringing the total area to 3,692 square feet and effectively doubling the current space available for books.

Benefits of the expansion also

include provision of more ceiling space in the older portion of the building, an enlarged desk area, the building of two washrooms (both to handicapped standards) and an eight-foot-high unfinished basement.

The project is being funded by \$40,000 from the provincial government's Lottery Fund, and by \$60,000 the library association has been holding in a special account for financing an addition.

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Salt Spring society enters region's United Way group

Officials from the Salt Spring Island Community Society met with a representative of the United Way last week to discuss the local organization's role as a member of the Greater Victoria service group.

The Salt Spring society applied for membership in the United Way of Greater Victoria last year, and was accepted as a United Way agency in June. Community centre director Barbara Jordan-Knox and society chairman Walter Swing met Wednesday with United Way executive director Joseph Landon to make preparations for a fall fund-raising campaign.

The United Way of Greater Victoria, affiliated with the worldwide United Way organization, was established in 1937. An umbrella organization for 33 other well-known service and support groups such as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and the Arthritis Society, it handles direct fund-raising campaigns and provides its members with funding as well as other resources.

Jordan-Knox and Swing feel Salt Spring residents will benefit greatly from the island society's acceptance into the United Way of Greater Victoria. Both noted that the society will continue to operate autonomously and offer a wide variety of programs through the community centre on Fulford-Ganges Road.

The United Way is expected to provide the Salt Spring Island Community Society with approximately \$20,000 during the coming year, although the Greater Victoria group's total contribution will depend greatly on the results of its mail-out fund-raising campaign to be initiated here October 8.

"It (acceptance into the United Way) will help us in a number of ways," said Jordan-Knox. "It will provide us with more financial stability, for one thing. Much of the funding we receive now from government agencies is



Walter Swing



Barbara Jordan-Knox

locked into specific programs. The United Way will provide us with core funding, money that we can move around within our budget and spend where it will do the most good."

Jordan-Knox also noted that through its membership in the

United Way of Greater Victoria, the community society will have access to the expertise and resources of other member agencies. The Salt Spring organization, she indicated, will benefit from the experiences of other United Way member groups delivering similar services.

"The United Way is a vehicle through which we will be able to carry out programs to meet the needs of Salt Spring Islanders," she stated. "At regular United Way meetings, we will make contacts in other organizations and learn from their officers. In turn, we might be able to offer some expertise in areas we are familiar with, such as grant writing. It should be a mutually beneficial association."

"And even if we offer the same type of programs as other United Way groups operating in Victoria, our association with them will be beneficial," added Swing. "It often helps when two different lights are illuminating the same subject."

Through its contact with United Way agencies, the society will also be able to refer islanders with specific needs to groups best able to help them.

"The additional resources available to us through United Way will help," Jordan-Knox explained. "For example, if we found out that there was a real problem with arthritis on the island, we would be able — as a result of our association with United Way — to direct people to the Arthritis Society for help. We could even contact the arthritis society directly and perhaps have them send someone over to speak with the people."

"It (being a United Way agency) will open a lot of doors for us," she continued.

Although the Salt Spring society's acceptance into United Way will not change operation of the community centre or the delivery of existing programs, it will have an impact on fund-raising here.

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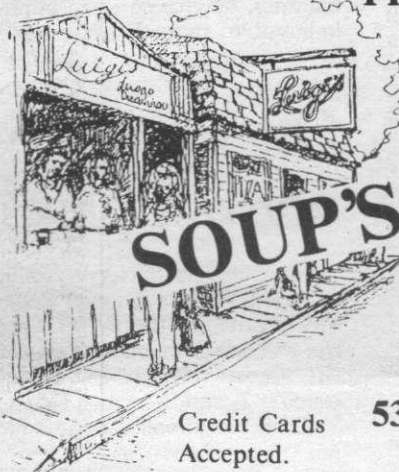
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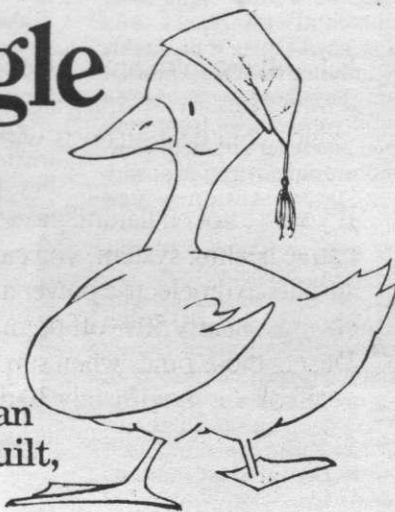
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Focus on process anticipates today's dilemmas

By GARY CHERNEFF

Dear Reader,

The following is the fourth of five letters on post-modernism and art written to me by Barbara Drennan.

Gary,

Post-modernism rejects theory as "one man's opinion". How do we find what "it" is without a system? A system is a set of values that are imposed on something to see where the differences and similarities lie. The alternative is to look at the subject as it is and watch for patterns. If we are living in the era of Post-modernism, characteristics of it must be around us in all cultural forms, from high art to mass media, from shopping trends to social institutions.

Eventually change and novelty emerge, repeating in all our expression. We can see patterns that tell us *what* we are concerned about and *how* we present those concerns.

These patterns are in constant flux. When we examine them, we artificially arrest them. They are deeply rooted in human experience and carry seeds of the future. That is why they are important to our understanding.

In his media studies, Marshall McLuhan observed a pattern in informational systems. He saw that the cultural *form* of one age became the *content* for the next age. For example, when writing was invented, oral dialogues were used as its material. On TV, we watch movies. Contemporary artists are borrowing from past culture and building new works with this material to create new forms. The difference is that these borrowings are served up for what they are, as undisguised "leftovers".

When we start to look for it, the topic of refuse has now become a major concern: a floating garbage barge, toxic and contaminated waste disposals, nuclear fallout, acid rain and water pollution. Garbage collection aimed at environmental awareness and recycling has become a profitable private industry in urban Ontario. We can buy how-to books on successful garage sales from both the buyer and seller's point of view. We decorate our environment with eclectic taste, antiques and collections. We wear vintage clothes and artistically express ourselves with found objects.

Daily, we are confronted with the reality of technological progress and production. Nature has caught up with culture. With every product comes a waste by-product; everything has a life and a death. Modernism concerned itself only with the product and its functional life. Post-modernism must consider product waste and death.

One telling article about our contemporary consciousness appeared in *The Financial Post's Moneywise Magazine* (May, 1987), featuring David Suzuki. Upon receiving a \$100,000

Canadian achievement award from the business community, he seized the opportunity to promote his hardline stand against economic growth. Bittersweet irony. Our commodity orientation has resulted in the depletion of our natural resources beyond reversal. We are destroying our planet and no amount of money will buy it back. The cost of doing business

art seen

has never been considered in "the cost of doing business". It is time to stop growth and see what we have created with an eye on the future's legacy.

As artists we know that "things"

do not substitute for meaningful lives. Quality cannot be measured in quantity. Suzuki says we cannot count on science and technology to find solutions. We must each rediscover our place in nature and its cycle. By focusing on process over the product, we accept and anticipate the dilemmas of growth and decay.

When we examine current

cultural patterns, we can't help but wonder if our predilection for "leftovers" doesn't indicate that the Grand Supper has been consumed. We are now faced with the post-meal mess. The question is whether we celebrate or despair. For me, life on the Gulf Islands repeatedly teaches me about triumphant rebirth as spring naturally follows winter.

Play by Victoria writer to be shown on island

Another play that was well-received at both the Edmonton and Vancouver fringe festivals will be presented this weekend at Off Centre Stage.

Buildings, a new work by Victoria playwright Stephen White, will be shown on Friday, September 25, and Saturday, September 26. Showtime each night is 8 pm. Tickets are \$6 and available at *et cetera*.

Buildings is the story of a man and a woman who meet after a six-year separation. During a night spent together in a deserted building, they come to an almost impossible mutual understanding.

"The play is funny, sad and often explosive," Off Centre Stage says, adding that it moves between real and linear time "and suspended moments that are both poetic and truthful."

Also part of the play is original music by Stephen Sherlock.

Buildings is directed by Glynis Leyshon, artistic director of Victoria's Belfry Theatre. Performers are Colin Alcorn, Sheryl Fjellgaard and Stephen White. Lighting design is by Annie Weeks.

For further information, contact Off Centre Stage at 537-5211.

Off Centre Stage readies one-act plays for viewing

Fend Players Society, producers of the Victoria Summer Repertory Festival at the Belfry Theatre, will bring two one-act plays to Off Centre Stage on Friday, October 2, and Saturday, October 3. Each performance begins at 8 pm.

Creatures, Rona Murray's new play, features Janie Woods-Morris and Reg Hook. Directed by Bob McNeil, *Creatures* is "based on the nightmare of nuclear holocaust," Fend Players said, and "gives sensitive form to the symptoms of 20th Century decay."

The Madness of Lady Bright, written by Lanford Wilson and directed by Prairie Escallier, fea-

tures local native actor Charlie Whonook as a 40-ish homosexual gradually disintegrating in his room on a hot Saturday afternoon. Using his address book, he vainly tries to contact friends but can only get through to American Airlines and Dial-a-Prayer.

"This challenging and perceptive play probes unerringly but compassionately into the loneliness and despair of a tiring drag queen," the society says.

Added Michael Smith in *The Village Voice*: "A beautiful and human work... a beautiful play, written in wit, compassion and honesty."

Both plays are suggested as adult fare.

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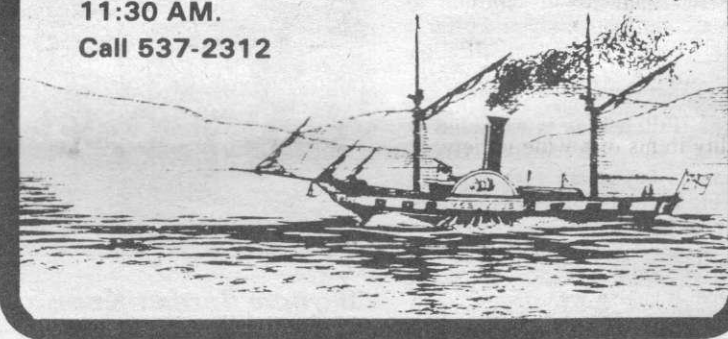
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Twenty-five thousand visited Artcraft this year

Organizers of *Artcraft*, the Community Arts Council's annual summer show and sale of island-produced works, said Thursday that 1987 sales were "on a par" with those of last year.

Penni George, assistant manager of *Artcraft* — which is sponsored by the CAC — indicated Thursday that sales during the show's 88 days of operation this year approximately equalled those recorded in 1986. Last year, gross sales at *Artcraft* totalled \$225,000.

"But we were open longer this year," noted George. "We opened June 12 this year and closed September 7 — Labour Day — which meant we were open about a week to 10 days longer."

Artcraft sells items produced by local artists and craftsmen. The arts council charges participating artists a 22 per cent commission on works sold. Any profit realized from the annual event is used to support the arts on Salt Spring Island.

George noted that *Artcraft*, established 20 years ago, is gaining "a reputation for the high-quality work" produced by its more than 160 participating artists and craftsmen. This summer, she noted, more than 25,000 people visited the annual event.

Artcraft's assistant manager feels the event's success in 1987 can be attributed not only its reputation, but to the efforts of its artists, organizers and staff.

"The participants were able to supply us with new work throughout the summer," she said. "They provided us with high-quality items of a wide variety."

"Another thing that helped with the unique layout. This year, we put lower beams in Mahon Hall, which proved to be a good feature because we were able to put up more displays. We also had a walk-through gallery.

"And finally, I think the third reason for our success was the friendly, relaxed atmosphere promoted by the staff."

Lawrie Neish, past-president of the Community Arts Council and convener of its *Artcraft* committee, is also pleased by the event's success this summer.

"I think it was really successful

this year," said Neish. "On the whole, it went really well — Mahon Hall is a wonderful building. Of course, we did have a few problems. One thing we'll have to do as organizers is look at what is acceptable and what isn't."

According to Neish, in addition to providing the CAC with funding to promote the arts on Salt

Spring, *Artcraft* also benefits the community in other ways. He noted that a significant portion of the money derived from the show by participating artists is spent in Ganges. Furthermore, *Artcraft* provides employment during the summer.

George and Neish extended their thanks, on behalf of the arts

council, to participating artists and *Artcraft* staff for their efforts in making the event a success. Special recognition also went to *Artcraft* manager Martin Bach, who is leaving the island and will not be involved with the sale next year.

"He (Bach) did a good job," concluded Neish.

At Off Centre Stage

Works of street artist on display this month



Keith McKellar's rendering of the Smilin' Buddha Cabaret, on East Hastings in Vancouver.

A collection of works by Victoria 'cafe and street artist' Keith McKellar is on display at Off Centre Stage until October 2.

McKellar, who visited Salt Spring last week to show samples of his work at the Saturday Market, described them as a "band of jester-like, caricature jazz-line drawings of vintage cafe and street characters in a caravan, carnival fashion."

Included in the show are depictions of the "buskers and bag ladies" found on city streets, and of the cafes and hangouts they frequent. McKellar says his passion is "recording the cafes of funk and past decades ever-so-quickly slipping into the widening cracks of modern times," and that his special love is old neon cafe signs.

Among the landmarks recorded by McKellar are several found in Vancouver — i.e., The Only restaurant, the Smilin' Buddha Cabaret, and the Blue Eagle and Ovaltine cafes.

McKellar, who works from a warehouse studio in Victoria, has also included in his 56-piece collection some scenes from California, Manila, Hong Kong and Tokyo.

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SAT., Sept. 26 — 11 am-5:30 pm
THURS., Oct. 1 — 5:30-10 pm

—Dinner Special — Sept. 26-Oct. 2—

SOLE GOURMET

Fillet of sole topped with shrimp & mushrooms in a spicy tomato sauce, served with rice & vegies

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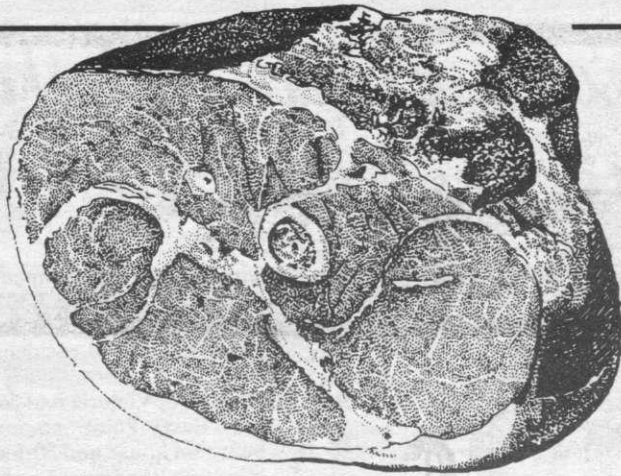
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- 3.51 kg **1.59** lb.
- 2.62 kg **1.19** lb.
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- Fillets in Sauce 270 g **2.99**
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All Pork Government Inspected

- RIB & END CUTS **PORK CHOPS** 5.71 kg **2 59** lb.
- PORK SAUSAGE** TRAY PACK **2 39** 5.27 kg
- FAMILY PACK **1 89** 4.17 kg

OLYMPIC SPECIALS

- Veal Chopettes 5.71 kg **2.59** lb.
- Pork Chopettes 5.27 kg **2.39** lb.
- Honey Hams 14.09 kg **6.39** lb.
- Mayfair Bacon 500 g pkg. **2.49**
- Beef Liver 3.06 kg **1.39** lb.
- Beef Kidney, Heart 1.52 kg **69¢** lb.
- Beef Tongue 4.39 kg **1.99** lb.

2 66 300 g pkg. **3.16**

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Joan and Ian McNeil in front of the East Point Lighthouse earlier this year. The lighthouse, established in 1887, has been warning

mariners to stay clear of Saturna's reefs for a century. The lighthouse will celebrate its 100 years of service with a special ceremony.

East Point lighthouse marks its first century of service

Editor's Note: The 100th anniversary of Saturna Island's East Point light station will be marked by an on-site ceremony this Sunday, September 27. Below, historical writer and researcher Marie Elliot of Victoria examines the station's century of service.

By MARIE ELLIOT

Like a giant fishhook, the 52-foot promontory and jagged reefs of Saturna Island's East Point reach into the boiling tides of the Strait of Georgia, ready to catch unwary mariners.

East Point, the southernmost extension of the Gulf Islands, marks the entrance to the Strait of Georgia from Boundary Passage and Haro Strait. Most deepsea vessels, outbound to the Pacific or inbound to Vancouver or points north, use this route via Juan de Fuca Strait, leaving Active Pass to the north for passenger ferries and fishing vessels.

A steady increase in marine traffic prompted Marine Agent F. Pavely in 1884 to recommend that lighthouses be established at East Point and at Sea Bird Point on Discovery Island, at the western entrance to Haro Strait.

Discovery Island's light became operational in 1886 but contract problems delayed awarding the \$4,000 tender for East Point until 1887.

One year earlier — on February 20, 1886 — the need for a light on Saturna was underscored when the wooden ship *John Rosenfeld* was wrecked after striking the rocks now named for the ship near East Point. The "finest specimen of marine architecture ever seen in Nanaimo" was laden

with the largest shipment of coal made to that date — 3,905 tons — which quickly found its way to the hearths of island residents.

By September, 1887, Joshua Holland of Victoria had completed the East Point station's six-bedroom house and 50-foot tower. However, the lantern and filter — supplied by E. Chanteloup for \$1,750 — went missing in transit and was not unearthed in a CPR warehouse until November.

The lighthouse tender *Sir James Douglas* was then called in to transport the light to East Point as quickly as possible, and it was in place in time for keeper John Wick to officially "light up" the station on New Year's Day, 1888.

Apart from the daily tasks of tending the light and the ever-constant watch for ships in distress, the major concerns of East Point lightkeepers over the years

Turn to Page 22

saturna scene

by priscilla janszen

This Sunday, September 27, a celebration will be held at the East Point lighthouse to commemorate its 100th birthday. A pot luck lunch will be enjoyed at 1 pm, and speeches by the Coast Guard will be made around 1:30 pm.

Bakshish Gil of Breezy Bay has been most interested in the celebration and organized the get-together. All are invited to come to the celebration to participate in Saturna's history.

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