

# Gulf Islands Driftwood

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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR, NO. 39

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1987

40c

## Work draws protest

By MIKE TURKKI

Local and regional groups expressed anger last week over the way the provincial ministry of highways proceeded with its Jackson Avenue extension project in Ganges.

The project, which had initial support from the Islands Trust as well as other groups, involved construction of a short connecting road through wooded property between McPhillips and Seaview Avenues. The new road is designed to provide motorists with an alternative route around the downtown core, thus relieving traffic problems.

By necessity, the ministry of highways' project required the bridging or culverting of Ganges Creek, which flows through the area. It is the way the ministry handled this part of the work that has some islanders and regional officials upset.

When work started on the road extension in early September, the ministry slashed a right-of-way through between Jackson and Seaview Avenues, denuding a portion of Mouat Park. They then filled the creekbed with dirt while waiting for a culvert — thus damaging the watercourse. For nearly two weeks, while work progressed on the road, the lower

Turn to Page 2



## Never-ending season

Summer officially left the Gulf Islands last week, but perfect

weather remains. Sampling a new season's sunshine is Derrick

Lundy, afloat on Roberts Lake. Weatherman expects summer-like

conditions to last a little longer.

Driftwood photo by Duncan MacDonnell

## Industry-wildlife links to be monitored by mills

A spokesman for B.C. Forest Products' Crofton Pulp and Paper Division said Friday the company will "closely monitor" a Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) study of herons in the wake of an announcement two weeks ago that eggs taken from the Crofton heron colony have been found to contain dioxin.

David Haywood, industrial relations officer at the mill, said company officials are interested in the wildlife service's findings and will be keeping tabs on the CWS study as it progresses. He indicated, however, that the company is not overly concerned as of yet about the discovery of dioxin in heron eggs taken from nesting grounds near the mill. Haywood said the company wants more information on dioxin (a toxic substance) and how it is produced. Although pulp and paper mills such as Crofton — which started operating in 1958 — utilize chlorine as a bleaching agent, Haywood claims no evidence has been produced confirming a link between that chemical and dioxin. CWS biologists feel, however, that dioxin can be traced to the forest industry's use of chlorophenyls as wood preservatives.

### Switch to other types of preservatives

"There are chlorophenates that are used as wood preservatives at sawmills," he said. "We might be exposed to some of those products through the woodchips and hog fuel we use, but sawmills are starting to switch to other types of preservatives.

"Chlorine is the most effective bleaching agent, and has widespread use in the pulp and paper industry," he continued. "There is some experimentation with oxygen leaching, but only as a secondary process."

Turn to Page 10

## INSIDE



Outer Islands news begins on Page 29

### Giving

Salt Spring residents turned out Monday to donate blood at Red Cross Clinic held at Legion Hall in Ganges. Page 9.

### INDEX

Business Directory	38
Classifieds	34
Editorials	4
Entertainment	21
Garden	47
Letters	5
Real Estate	39
Sports	41
Years	44



### Winners

Top entries in this year's Salt Spring Island Fall Fair competitions are listed today, beginning on Page 25.

## Water woes prompt delay of approval

Concerns about water supply last week prompted the Salt Spring Island Trust committee to withhold final approval for a rezoning bylaw that would have cleared the way for a multi-family development near Ganges.

At its regular meeting held Friday, the committee voted to table the bylaw at fourth and final reading, saying it would be considered again if and when the proposed development receives assurances of water supply from the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

The district last month placed a moratorium on supplying water to uncommitted developments, saying that demand now equals the amount of water available from its St. Mary Lake and Maxwell Lake sources. The moratorium, in turn, came after the provincial government turned down a waterworks district request to increase the amount of water it could draw

Turn to Page 8

# Wildlife officer critical of road extension work

From Page 1

portion of the creek was deprived of water.

The ministry's activities were immediately brought to the attention of federal fisheries officer Bob Tupniak, who is amazed by the action.

"I believe that for almost two weeks after the ministry filled it in, there was no water passing through to the downstream portions of the creek," Tupniak said. "Of course, without that flow, everything downstream dies. Furthermore, if we had had a major rainstorm, that road wouldn't have been there anymore — and all that material would have washed downstream into the creek."

Tupniak says he has considered laying charges against the ministry as a result of its actions, which have done significant damage to the creek. He noted that to his knowledge, highways never obtained approval to proceed with the project from the provincial ministry of environment.

"The thing is, we walked that

## 'Significant damage' done to Ganges Creek

creek, and it could have been enhanced," he said. "Fish and wildlife (officials) had not given their okay to the project at the time. The ministry of highways claims they did, but the ministry of environment says otherwise."

The ministry of environment's water management branch said Friday that highways officials never obtained formal approval for the project. "They had not gone through the approval process," said Bruno Blecic, a technician with the environment ministry's water management branch. "They claim they had verbal approval, but we didn't think that was the case. They certainly never applied for approval formally."

Kathy Reimer, a member of the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, feels the ministry's actions show a complete lack of respect for the wishes of

island residents. She noted that her group planned to enhance the creek, which already supports a small but thriving population of cutthroat trout.

She added that the Creek Task Force, of which she is a member, spent thousands of hours studying Ganges Creek with the idea of

**'It's the principle of the matter. They just ignored everyone.'**

creating a linear park system along it. As a result of the ministry's activities, she said, the task force will now have to re-evaluate its plans.

"They filled the creek in without a temporary culvert," said Reimer. "The Ganges Creek Task

Force, all the people who donated their time to it, spent two years studying the creek. We gave highways a thorough engineering report on it, but their guys in Victoria ignored it.

"The creek has been running all year. The springs have been putting out a steady 1,300 gallons of water a day — not a lot, but it was a steady flow. There are sea-run cutthroat trout in the creek, too."

Although the creek has been adversely affected by the ministry's project, Reimer (a biologist) and Tupniak say the damage isn't irreparable.

Reimer noted that Roads Foreman John Stepaniuk has already taken steps to clean up the area. A large culvert has now been put in place, and the ministry has agreed to do everything possible to remedy problems identified by

fisheries officials. The salmon enhancement society will complete additional work on the creek, she added.

"There are fish alive above the culvert that has now been put in," she said. "John (Stepaniuk) is doing everything he can. It's not irreparably damaged. Furthermore, fisheries officials have now told us that we might as well do a lot of other work on the lower portion of the creek, because no more harm can be done to it. When all our work has been finished, we will likely have a net gain of fish habitat."

Tupniak agreed, adding that additional work will now be undertaken to improve the watercourse.

"In the long run, it will be all right. Nothing has been irreparably damaged," he said. "But it's the principle of the matter. They (highways officials in Victoria) just ignored everyone."

"I'm not finished with this. I will be writing letters to the government."

Islands Trust officials have also expressed their indignation over the matter.

## Jensen: procedures followed

# Project timing, circumstances defended by highways manager

District highways manager Joe Jensen said Friday he doesn't feel the ministry was "ever out of step" in its handling of the Jackson Avenue extension project.

Jensen said Friday he cannot understand why federal fisheries officials and some Salt Spring residents are upset by the project, which involved the construction of a short connecting road between McPhillips and Seaview Avenues.

Jensen admitted that Ganges Creek was filled in for a "period of time" while ministry workers awaited delivery of a large culvert. However, he said the creek appeared dry when work started on the new road.

"There was a period when water in the creek was blocked," he said. "But when we began putting in the fill, there wasn't any water there. It was dry at the time, and then we had a little bit of rain. The amount of water that backed up could have been put in a 45-gallon drum."

Jensen says the ministry did everything required of it — that it did obtain approval to work in and around Ganges Creek prior to starting the project.

"Before we started work we got approval," he said.

"In my mind, we were never out of step," Jensen continued. "We can't contact every organization. We have a requirement to contact the fish and wildlife people, and we did that. But it would be simply too much for us to contact all the groups involved."

Environment ministry officials disagreed with Jensen, however. They claim approval to start the project was never formally given.

"They had not gone through the approval process," Bruno

Blecic, a technician with the environment ministry's water management branch said Friday. "My understanding is they were never given approval. They say they received verbal approval, but we didn't think this was the case. They certainly never applied formally."

The Islands Trust and other groups had requested that a bridge be built over Ganges Creek, rather than see the watercourse culverted. Jensen said that economic constraints made it impossible for the highways ministry to grant this request.


"I talked to Nick Gilbert (Salt Spring Trust member) about it,"

Jensen said. "I told him that it was dependent on funding. It's okay to ask for things, but if the money's not there, well . . ."


"The culvert cost \$5,000, where a bridge would have been before \$40,000 and \$60,000. We just didn't have the funding."

Jensen considers the matter resolved. He noted that fisheries officials and the ministry of highways have come to an agreement on the creek, and a large culvert capable of handling a higher volume of water than anticipated has been installed.

Every effort, he said, will be made to remedy any problems resulting from the roadwork.



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	1300	10.5		0755	2.9
WE	1725	9.8	SU	1530	10.8
	1905	9.8		2120	6.7
OCT.			5	0230	8.8
1	0445	1.9		0850	3.7
	1355	10.7	MO	1555	10.7
TH	1800	9.6		2155	5.5
	2230	9.0	6	0350	9.2
2	0555	2.1		0935	4.6
	1435	10.9	TU	1610	10.6
FR	2025	8.7		2225	4.3
	2240	8.9	7	0455	9.5
3	0700	2.4		1020	5.7
	1505	10.9	WE	1630	10.5
SA	2055	7.8		2300	3.3

### HARBOURS END

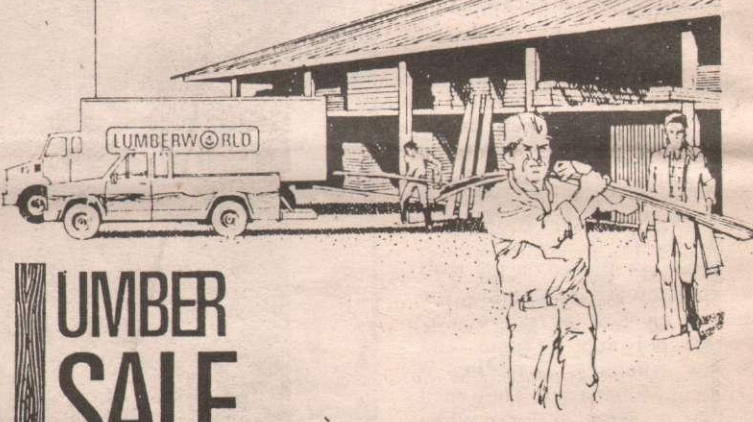
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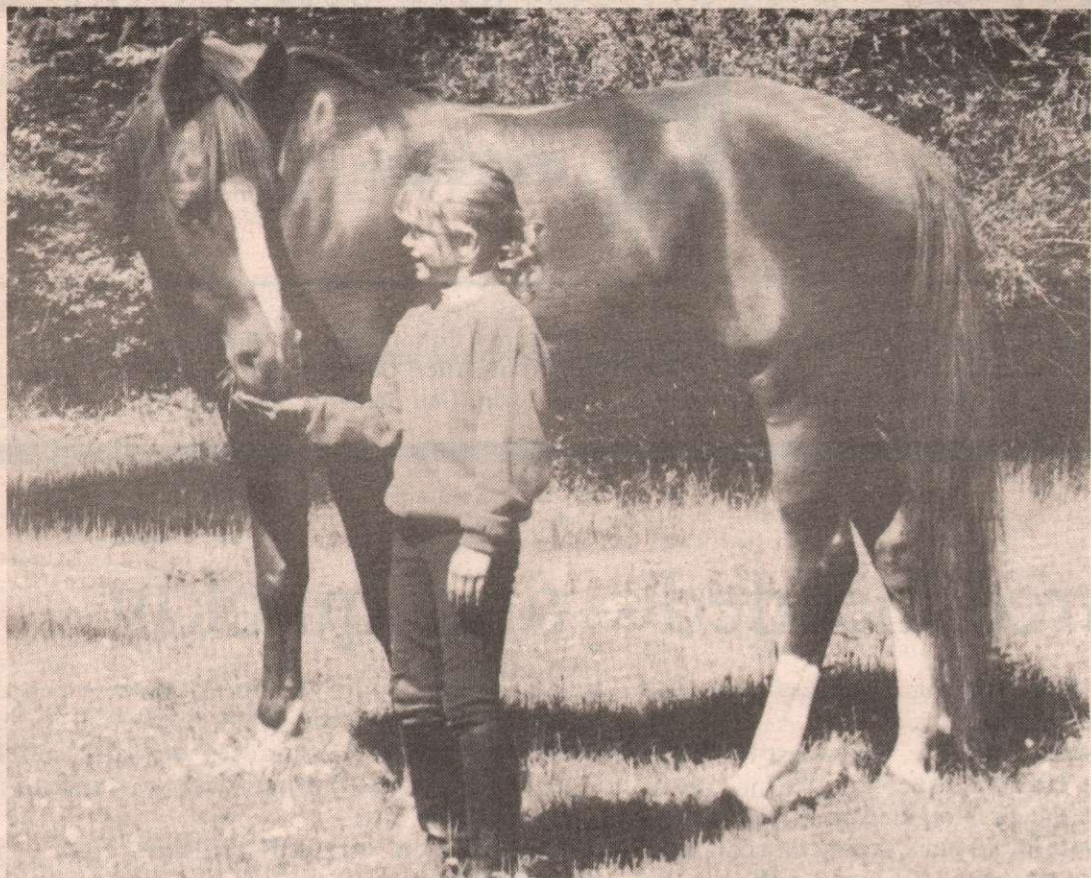
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## Horsing around

**TOP:** Kylie Sharp and her horse Ciona earlier this year. Kylie and Ciona teamed up to win the Salt Spring Riding Club trophy for the Highest Aggregate Points in the Junior category, as well as several other awards. A total of 39 horses were entered in this year's show.

**BOTTOM:** Gretchen Prystawick, in costume, with her horse Bucky. The two-day horse show drew competitors from Galiano and Saanich as well as Salt Spring.

Photo courtesy Kay Catlin



## Dock repair contract let

Pacific Piledriving of Sidney has been awarded the tender for "structural reconstruction" of the B.C. Ferry Corporation's dock at Crofton, a spokesman for the corporation said Monday.

Ramsay Machine Works Ltd. of Sidney — the firm's sub-contractor — has been awarded the contract to replace or restore marine components damaged in the July 24 fire at the dock.

Under terms of the contract, the dock's running surface and supports will be removed, and all pilings checked for damage. Replacement will be made if necessary, after which time the decking will be rebuilt.

The final cost of repairing the Crofton dock will depend on the amount of material salvaged, as well as the extent of the work needed, "based on on-site inspection during disassembly."

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## Influenza vaccinations urged for area residents

Free influenza vaccines will be distributed in the coming weeks by the Capital Regional District (CRD) community health services department.

The CRD has received close to 20,000 doses of the vaccine, which will be administered free to eligible persons who are considered at increased risk:

- adults and children with certain chronic medical disorders such as chronic lung or heart disease, immunodeficiencies, chronic renal or metabolic diseases;
- residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities; and
- healthy persons over 65 years of age.

The vaccine guards against influenza, which the CRD describes as "a highly contagious disease characterized by sudden

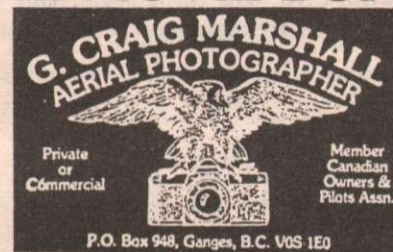
fever, severe aches and pains and the usual development of coughs and sneezes."

The CRD advises that people wishing protection against influenza should make arrangements to receive the vaccine as soon as possible. A quick response will also ensure that adequate immunity levels are built up prior to arrival of the virus.

Free vaccines will be available to eligible persons special flu clinics set for the coming weeks or from family physicians. People ineligible for free vaccines should contact their physicians, the CRD says.

Adults will require one shot, while some children may need two shots administered one month apart, the CRD says.

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## All impacts important

# Assessment of resource needed—and quickly

Predicated by circumstances, or transparent political ploy? Those two assessments were offered last week to explain the same issue — a moratorium on approvals of domestic water supplies to uncommitted developments, applied by the North Salt Spring Waterworks District following its failure to win approval from the provincial government to increase the amount of

water it may draw from its St. Mary Lake and Maxwell Lake sources.

The two assessments were voiced last Friday at the Salt Spring Island Trust committee meeting in Ganges, when the first regulatory effects of the moratorium were felt. After warning that concerns about domestic water supplies would change the way it viewed subdivision bylaws, the Trust

declined to approve an otherwise-proper development proposal until and unless the landowner receives assurances of water supply from the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

The decision sparked criticism from one member of the audience, who indicated that the water scarcity may be artificial, since water has been committed by the district for developments not yet in full service — i.e., Channel Ridge — and that the moratorium is a way of inducing affected landowners to petition the province to increase the district's allotment of water.

The Trust, which explained that the moratorium was applied because demand for the resource now equals the district's supply, is taking a wide approach to the issue. It wants studies conducted through the provincial government to determine the extent of the island's water supplies — particularly groundwater — and a survey taken of the nature and extent of supply problems experienced by island residents.

(Hopefully, the study and survey will also tell us how islanders regard water. Do we make effective use of cisterns, for instance, or do we treat supply with an indifference left over from the 'land-of-plenty' syndrome?)

The Trust's call is justified. The importance of water supply is paramount, and an assessment of local supply can only help us plot how the finite water resource should best be managed — but to be fair to all concerned, we would urge that the study be completed as quickly as is reasonably possible, and that appropriate action swiftly follow. The halt now in place is a stern response appropriate to a tough problem, but its impacts must be treated with the same degree of importance attached to the supply issue itself.



# Perceptions, not logistics, may be largest problem

We had pulled up to the ticket booth at Swartz Bay and been told we'd be aboard the *Salt Spring Queen*, which was just then preparing to embark for Fulford Harbour. There were no vehicles ahead of us as we drove across the concrete, the rest having already been loaded, but if we thought we were seconds away from boarding, we were wrong.

The traffic controller threw up his arms, motioning us to a stop. A half minute or so later, we saw the *Salt Spring Queen* pull away from the dock. The driver of the vehicle I was riding in suddenly felt the urge to vent his spleen.

And vent he did. The exchange began with a simple outburst by the driver over the extra time he would have to wait before delivering his commercial cargo to Salt

Spring — time that would have been saved if he had been allowed to board.

The traffic controller should have let it rest there, but he didn't. His fatal error was to explain that the *Salt Spring Queen* had a schedule to keep.

"Schedule? What schedule? Don't tell me about schedules — there are none," the driver yelled.

I had to agree. The ferry that had just left for Fulford was unscheduled, in that its departure time should have been 45 minutes earlier. It was also the wrong boat — the *Quintisa*, not the *Salt Spring Queen*, had been the ferry we expected to find at Swartz Bay.

(The only reason we arrived 45 minutes late, I should note, is that

my  
word

by  
Duncan MacDonnell

the driver had no faith in the ferry schedule — he had expected to find it completely out of whack.)

The driver finally cooled down as the traffic controller departed for the far side of the parking lot. Frustration had replaced anger as we settled down for what would be an hour wait for the next boat. Counting the late departure of the early-morning ferry from Swartz to Fulford, the driver expected to be about two hours behind sche-

dule when Salt Spring was reached later that afternoon.

The thing that really galled him, he said as we sipped coffee, was that the day's events were becoming a normal occurrence — an occupational hazard, if you will, that made doing business a daily challenge, not to mention a logistical nightmare.

His sentiments were echoed by other commercial carriers met that same day. Snide remarks about the mechanical condition of the boats, rumours repeated about bigger and better ships under-utilized on other runs, tales of woe of time and money lost because no one knew which ship would sail when — all were offered up as indictments of the ferry system as it serves Salt Spring from Swartz Bay.

But the worst aspect of all this,

for the B.C. Ferry Corporation, is the perception that lurks in the minds of the people I chatted with that day. They believe Salt Spring Island is getting the short end of the ferry system stick and that the corporation can't help but know all about the shortcomings. They say it means that if the corporation doesn't provide better ships for the route and establish some semblance of a schedule, the corporation doesn't care.

The problems on the route, exacerbated by the loss of the Crofton-Vesuvius connection and autumn refits, are real enough, as I saw in a one-day tour. Solving them might even be a large job — but not as large as convincing the commercial carriers that their perception of the corporation's attitude is wrong.

## Rewarding

Sir,  
The Salt Spring Island Community Society was recently appointed a full member agency of the United Way of Greater Victoria, and we look forward to a long and mutually rewarding association.

The annual United Way campaign is now in full swing and early in October your mail boxes will announce to all local households and businesses that "it's time" once again for Salt Spring Islanders to generously donate of our bounty in support of not only our "Society" but to all 33 United Way member agencies who participate in this one annual campaign.

Thank you, in advance, for your charitable donations, and in closing, a very big thank you to *Driftwood* for superb supporting articles and pictures.

**WALTER SWING,**  
Chairman,  
Salt Spring Island  
Community Society.

## Benefit

Sir,  
For about a year I have been unusually stiff and sore. My legs ache, my shoulders hurt and my neck is stiff. Never all three at once, and I can always function, but, still, it hurts!

It has been so nice, this summer, to swim in Stowell Lake. In the water I feel comfortable and flexible. I am anxious to be able to continue to swim. The Swimming Pool Society has been terrific in its efforts to bring a pool to Salt Spring and I heartily support them and fervently hope they succeed.

There must be lots of people who feel the same as I do.

The rest of my family would benefit as well.

**BLY KAYE,**

Fulford Harbour.

## Foolish

Sir,  
In the September 23 issue of *Driftwood*, Gail Bryn-Jones stated, and I quote: "A swimming pool facility would offer an alternative to local groups for meetings and local functions."

The only mental picture I can conjure up from that statement is that of the Chamber of Commerce and various other organizations conducting meetings while frolicking in the water.

Could anything be more foolish than that? I get fed up with all the absolute nonsense about all the supposed benefits to be derived from a pool by everyone, even the people who don't swim and don't want it, and I also wonder how so many of us older folks have lived all our lives on this Island without one, and managed to remain alive and relatively healthy!

**J. BENNETT,**  
Ganges.

## A plea

Sir,  
Having read the *Driftwood* religiously for the past five years and not, to date, having had any of the many controversial Salt Spring-Gulf Island happenings prompt me to write, I'm surprised to find myself cooling my heels in one of the local pubs with pen in hand.

Why am I spending an hour and a half of my precious home time indulging in the refreshments provided with nothing better to do than borrow stationery for this letter? I found my truck hemmed in — yes, hemmed in — to the point of no greater than one-quarter of an inch leeway between both my

front and back bumpers and the vehicles (which weren't there when I left for work this morning) parked at either end of me.

After a hard day's work, a long and uneventful *Quinitsa* ride, and my trudge uphill dodging traffic (thank-you BCFC for poor pedestrian-vehicular traffic planning), I found the sight of my truck's predicament a trifle difficult to digest.

Parking near the Fulford terminal has never been pleasant. In actuality, it's a relief to find a place at all. But, unable to extract a vehicle from the melee, without of course damage to the forward and aft culprits, frankly rots my socks. The notes I left on both vehicles will surely attest to the fact.

My plea to all the other commuters and/or Fulford ferry parkers is: How about being considerate enough to leave your fellow parkers at least enough room to pull off a 32-point turn to get out.

Your prompt co-operation will be greatly appreciated by all.  
**CATHY COOK,**  
Ganges.

P.S. I have one other matter which should merit *Driftwood* publicity. Late last year, one of your letter writers suggested that *Boos* and *Yeas* might provide those of us on the islands with an easy outlet to voice our opinions on the local sights — or should I say, in more journalistic terms: 'Island Atmosphere'.

My *Yea* goes whole-heartedly to the Department of Highways beautification project at their yard by Central Hall. It looks not only great but efficient. On behalf of Salt Spring, thank you.

My *Boo* goes to the Ganges Car Lot — come on guys, let's let the Cobble Hill area take that cake. I'll be writing again in complaint if we end up with an orbit of hub cap dealers, glass castles and mini golfs surrounding the car lot.

## Pleased

Sir,  
On behalf of all Canadian Red Cross Society volunteers on Salt Spring, I am very pleased to welcome our partner, the United Way, into our community.

As a direct result of the association between the United Way and the Community Centre, the Red Cross will no longer be actively engaged in fund-raising on the island. All of our services will still be available to islanders, however, including the blood donor clinics, blood transfusions at the hospital, sickroom equipment loan-out service, assistance to burned out families, water safety programs, and assistance in finding lost relatives.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all the dedicated volunteers who have helped support the Red Cross on Salt Spring over the last 45 years. We do not have enough room in this space to list everyone's name, but thank you, everyone.

Although the Red Cross will no longer be fund-raising on the island, we will benefit from all donations made by islanders to the United Way. Please respond generously to the United Way appeal which will appear in your mailbox in about two weeks.

Thank you very much for your past, and future, support.  
**CAROL SIMPSON,**  
Volunteer co-ordinator,  
South SSI Campaign  
Canadian Red Cross Society.

## letters

### Promises

Sir,  
On Tuesday, October 6 at 7 pm, there will be a meeting at Central Hall to discuss the deplorable non-action by the B.C. Ferry Corporation to give us a car-ferry between Vesuvius and Crofton.

It has taken them over two months to invite tenders for the necessary repair work. We have been promised resumption of service around about Christmas. And the band played *Believe It If You Like*.

We need service long before that date. The army was willing but ferries said no. As a committee we suggested that the ferry between Chemainus and Thetis be employed even if for only two or three trips a day. This, too, was cried down. One feeble excuse was the expense of \$25,000 for rubber tires to enable the boat's ease of docking.

We need your urgent support. Terry Huberts has promised to attend and the radio, TV and newspaper media have been approached. Only with your help and support can the transportation committee function with a strong voice.

Please come.  
**BRYAN SMITH,**  
Transportation Committee,  
Ganges.

### Enjoyed

Sir,  
On Monday, September 14, 1987, a group of amateur singers and dancers called *Orot Hashchuma* came to our school. They are a group that travel around and sing and dance for people. Their group has just finished touring the USA. They are starting to tour Canada. They are young people from Israel.

All the singers had very good voices, some high, some low. I enjoyed them a lot. The group sang some American songs and some songs in Hebrew. They were bilingual; they could sing in English well. They looked like they had fun doing it. Their costumes were variations of colors of red, white and black.

At the end of the show they asked some people to come up and dance. I was one of them. I could tell they must have worked hard. It was very well done. I enjoyed it.

The visit was arranged by Mayne Island residents, Leni Taussig and Judy Taylor.  
**SEAN BURSON,**  
Grade 6,  
Mayne School.

### Support

Sir,  
Thank you for supporting the Terry Fox Run. With your help we have raised \$208,000 in B. C. and the Yukon. The total for runs across Canada and around the world will soon be over our goal of \$4 million.

The press coverage has been most appreciated for this important annual event. The run in your area has raised: \$5444.40.  
**KATHY STALEY,**  
Provincial Co-ordinator,  
Terry Fox Run.

### Pledges

Sir,  
The Canadian Peace Pledge Campaign is underway across the country. It is designed to present the opportunity for voters to help vote Canada out of the arms race

by indicating to the candidates how they feel.

The pledge states that the signatory will vote only for candidates who will speak out against Canada's support for the arms race:

- stop all Canadian involvement in and support for Star Wars;
- make Canada nuclear weapons free — no cruise weapons testing, no nuclear armed ships in our waters, no low flight testing and training of nuclear war-fighting aircraft, and no further production of nuclear weapon components; and
- convince all nuclear powers to end all nuclear weapons testing, and support international arms control initiatives.

Pledge cards will be available at the peace table in the Farmers' Market on Saturdays and from the Salt Spring Nuclear Disarmament Group.

**RAY NEWMAN,**  
Ganges.

### Cruise

Sir,  
The Lions Club of Salt Spring Island is again proud to be a part of the annual Christmas Cruise for disabled children. This year's event is scheduled to sail from Swartz Bay to Tsawwassen and return on

December 5. Anyone interested in having their disabled youngster and an attendant go on this cruise, please drop a line to our secretary, Lions Club, Box 165, Ganges, or phone Carl Albert at 537-5843.

The ship and crew for this voyage are generously donated and volunteered by the employees' union and the management of the B. C. Ferry Corporation. However, there are many other expenses that must be covered. To meet these expenses the Lions Club is planning another entertaining event for your readers to enjoy.

We were so encouraged by the response to our last pancake breakfast in the park on September 5, that we are now planning another for October 10, 1987, to be held again at Centennial Park.

All of the proceeds from this event will go to the Christmas Cruise fund. Mark it on your calendar!

I want to invite everyone to please come out for a great breakfast of sausages, coffee and three large pancakes with all of the trimmings for only \$3. Also, any financial donation for this exciting cause would be welcomed.

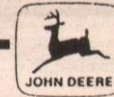
I am sure that this cruise will prove to be a wonderful opportunity for these special children to come out and enjoy some Christmas fun.

**BARRY URQUART,**  
President,  
Salt Spring Island Lions Club.

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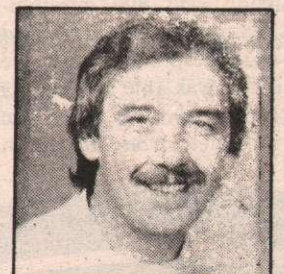
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## On the way

Sir,  
I would like to inform those island residents who contributed to the Rick Hansen *Man in Motion* campaign that receipts should be in the mail very shortly. On enquiring at the *Man in Motion* office on September 15, I was informed that the Salt Spring contributions were processed through the computer last week. Apologies were made for the delay — the tremendous number of donations and reduced staff at the office have slowed down the process.

Should anyone who contributed through the school not receive a receipt in the next week or so, please contact me or the *Man in Motion* office: 687-5200.

Thank you again for your great contributions and patience.  
**POLLY TREMBLAY,**  
Life Skills Program Co-ordinator,  
Gulf Islands Secondary School.

## Crime fighter

Sir,  
As a police agency, our prime responsibilities are the prevention of crime and maintaining peace and order in this community.

The frequency of crime in our community is much lower than most communities in this province; however, we have seen increases in the past year in the area of property crimes that are generally attributed to youth activity. For example; vandalism to private property has increased by 65 per cent and theft over \$1,000 has increased by 76 per cent.

When expressed in percentage form, these figures appear more frightening than reality, the reality

being that we received 101 complaints of vandalism in 1986, and 41 such complaints in the first six months of 1987. In 1986 we received seven complaints of theft over \$1,000 and six such complaints were received in the first six months of 1987. Complaints of theft under \$1,000 totalled 156 in 1986, and 56 complaints in the first six months of 1987.

Several studies throughout North America have indicated that these types of crimes, although not limited to, are generally attributable to youth between the ages of 15 and 25 years of age. Now more than ever in the past we have a larger group of young people in this age bracket on Salt Spring Island. School enrollment figures will no doubt show that even more are approaching this age group.

It is common knowledge that young people require an outlet for the great energy they possess. Interesting and challenging forms of recreation can provide just such an outlet for the youth of our community. There appears to be a certain lack of facilities and activities for youth in this age group. This is not to criticize those in the community who dedicate many hours of effort to activities for youth, for without these people there would be nothing for our young people. However, a lack of activity can lead to inappropriate behaviour and sometimes illegal activity as our youth search for excitement and challenge.

Obviously, not all young people would utilize every facility or

## more letters

activity provided. There are, and always will be, those who seek excitement through illegal activities. Many of our young people who would not normally become involved in such activity, do so out of a lack of opportunity to become involved in creative, challenging and interesting recreation.

Recreation does not always require large expensive facilities. With this in mind, it would seem appropriate that before proceeding with any plan, the views of young people in the community as to what forms of recreation they would like to see and would utilize, should be sought.

Recreation can have a significant impact in reducing youth-related crime, and crime in our community affects the quality of life of everyone, dramatically — directly and indirectly.  
**SGT. M. D. HANKS,**  
**CST. J. T. J. HARRISON,**  
RCMP Ganges Detachment.

## Build it

Sir,  
On behalf of the teens on Salt Spring Island we would like to share some of the advantages we see in having a pool.

We find that Salt Spring Island is in great need of a place for recreation and fun for kids. If we had a pool year round we would enjoy participating in the following activities:

- swimming in the winter;
- swimming lessons;

- aquafit classes; and
- learning to springboard and scuba dive.

Furthermore, it would give us a healthy meeting place.

In the near future, hopefully, Salt Spring will construct a pool.

**THE TEEN LEADERSHIP GROUP,**  
Ganges.

## No need

Sir,  
I must say all the sociable water-play does leave me puzzled.

Consumers who welcomed the waterbed, dallied in saunas and frolicked in hot tubs and, don't forget, reintroduced the bidet, are now demanding a public pool.

Well now, what next? Whatever happened to real water—I mean the kind that brings one relaxation with nature.

It's all very controlled, and regimented, isn't it; all this "let's get together and have a good splash." Costly, too.

My experience has been, give or take a season, that all children learn how to swim at seven, providing you take them to water on a regular basis. It doesn't matter what sort—sea or lakes do just as well.

I never thought of giving mine a swimming lesson, but picnics by the lake brought about the inevitable, and they all are capable swimmers, and sailors, as were their parents and their grandparents before them.

It has occurred to me, what else

would one want to do, except picnic by the lake, or seaside in summer, on an island. I mean, that's why we live here.

**SUZANNE MADDISON,**  
Ganges.


## Team effort

Sir,  
The Salt Spring Slugs Hockey Team would like to thank John Christianson, Mike Lee, the Rod and Gun Club, Foxglove, Ganges Village Market, Linda Hoover, Fulford Elementary School, Jackie Hembruff, Kanaka Restaurant, Humperdink's, The Fulford Inn, the Harbour House, Ben Martens, Salt Spring Rotary Club, Lynn Richardson, Fernwood Elementary School, Paul MacKenzie and the Fall Fair Committee, and especially all the people who supported our concession stand at the fair.

Your support has allowed the team to continue playing hockey this year. Thanks from all of us.

**SCOTT BERGSTROME.**

36-4



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# Why a pool?

Why should we be going to the polls on November 21st to vote on the pool issue? Didn't the island refuse a recreation complex in the 1980 referendum? Aren't we already surrounded by water? Are we too small a community to afford such a luxury? Why are we even talking about the possibility of a pool?

Let's look at some history on the subject. Five years after the pool-theatre complex was rejected by the voters, interest was renewed amongst a handful of people and the Island Recreation Study Group was formed. This later evolved into the Swimming Pool Society, which met for the first time in May of last year.

Paralleling this development, the Recreation Commission has, for the last five years, been encouraging interest in aquatics with their popular summer swim programs. In September, 1986, the Commission sent 800 questionnaires to randomly selected voters—433 responded and the Commission was able to chart its course for the next five years. The survey indicated **strong interest** in

constructing an indoor pool with a view to possible expansion for other recreation facilities in the future. In addition, the virtual **lack of teen recreation** was pointed out by respondents.

Early this year, the Recreation Commission and Pool Society joined forces. Vic Davies, a Victoria architect who created leisure pools in British Columbia, was hired to design a facility for Salt Spring. The concept of leisure pools has made it feasible for smaller communities, like Grand Forks, Sparwood and ourselves, to consider building and operating an indoor pool. The Swimming Pool Society has raised almost \$10,000 through raffles, book sales, swimathons and memberships.

At present, islanders have nine lakes to swim in; half of these lakes serve as potable water sources. The ocean, with limited beach access, provides **a maximum of four months** swimming (two weeks is probably a more realistic figure for many of us).

Consider the cost, excluding admission fees, for a family of four to swim in Oak Bay, Crystal Pool,



## the Splash REPORT

SALTSPRING  
SWIMMINGPOOL  
S.O.C.I.E.T.Y

Panorama or Duncan Aquatics Centre (which is now no longer accessible via Crofton). The return ferry fare is \$18 to \$20 depending on the ages of your children, gas—say \$4, plus in excess of two hours travel and waiting time.

What does the future hold for the 2000 registered pool

supporters? On November 21, the island will decide whether or not to build the indoor pool facility that has been designed for Salt Spring. If the answer is **yes**, we will own a facility which will provide recreation and employment opportunities for years to come. We will be investing our tax dollar (for many residents, the equivalent of the cost of a couple of off-island visits to other communities' pools) and our entertainment dollar here, instead of sending it elsewhere in

the province. We will have year-round access to the best form of exercise. Water, purified mainly by ozone, is a perfect recreative and rehabilitative medium for all ages, abilities and handicaps. Our pool will also be an affordable social centre for both seniors and teens.

The idea of an indoor pool on Salt Spring is not new. It is strongly rooted in a community movement. The Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society believes it is an idea whose time has come.

## Issues and Answers

### 1. ISSUE: Taxpayers' burden

**ANSWER:** This will be less if the pool is built on land already owned by the public, or land donated. This route demonstrates fiscal responsibility.

### 2. ISSUE: User fees to pay for the pool

**ANSWER:** Yes, the public will pay each time they use the pool. We have calculated an average visit cost of \$1.75. The balance of the operating cost will necessitate a contribution from the taxpayer. The specific amount per landowner will be made clear to all voters well before the referendum date.

**NEXT WEEK:** Our topic is Leisure Pools. Watch for it.

# Privatization plan eludes us—again

capital comment

by

Hubert Beyer

VICTORIA — What had been widely billed as a preview of Premier Vander Zalm's vision of the future turned out to be little more than a public relations stunt.

The political scuttlebutt was that the premier had selected the Union of B.C. Municipalities convention in Vancouver as the launching pad for his privatization program. He did no such thing.

The only news was an announcement by the premier that the government would implement a regional economic development plan and beef up the fund for the revitalization of downtown cores throughout the province.

The regional development plan calls for the creation of eight specific regions, each comprising a number of existing regional districts, each getting a \$1 million start-up fund, and each expected to work an economic miracle or two with that loot.

Sounds familiar? It should. Apart from a few new frills, the plan is a reincarnation of the enterprise zones established by the government of former premier Bill Bennett. The downtown revitalization program is also not new. It, too, was started by the Bennett government. The difference here is that the new program will have a \$10 million revolving fund to draw on, whereas the old scheme operated on more of an ad-hoc basis.

Not that the programs announced by the premier aren't welcome news. The million-dollar infusion of funds will be considered a windfall by the eight economic regions, particularly those which paid for but got little or no benefit from megaprojects like Expo, B.C. Place Stadium and the North East Coal venture.

The eight development regions comprise Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland (including southwestern British Columbia), the Okanagan, the Kootenays, the Cariboo, the North Coast, the Nechako area and the Peace River region.

The development region initiative, the premier said, would be made possible by the government's "restructuring program." That's the one everybody was waiting for and expected to hear about when Vander Zalm stepped up to the speaker's podium. The premier, however, kept his lips buttoned.

Restructuring, by the way, is the new buzz word for privatization, with some government decentralization thrown in. It's the decentralization part that has public servants scared stiff. Decentralization means two things: reducing the size of the public service and turning certain government operations over to the

private sector, as well as to the lower levels of government — municipalities and regional districts.

No wonder public servants are worried. They still remember Bennett's restraint program, which cost 10,000 public servants their jobs. Mind you, a lot of government employees laid off during restraint are again working for the government, not as employees but on contract. Now, Vander Zalm wants to trim the public service by another 30 per cent.

Public servants weren't the only ones the premier disappointed with his deafening silence on restructuring. A lot of business people have been wondering about the spoils of privatization. The insurance industry must be drooling at the prospect of ICBC going private. The government-owned buildings, now run by the B.C. Buildings Corporation, would also be a prize for the private sector, particularly if they came with long-term leases.

There have also been a lot of rumours that the government wants to get rid of the responsibility for a score of services, including health care, welfare and highways maintenance.

The government also plans to let the private sector look after the pension scheme for public servants. That one should thrill the bureaucrats.

I'd like to stress that the original plan was for the premier to unveil the whole privatization and restructuring plan at the UBCM convention. That was the word from sources right in his office. It was also the word from the premier's principal secretary, David Poole, in a speech delivered just days before the convention, to the B.C. Managers' Association, a sort of uncertified union for senior public servants.

The media were so certain of the impending announcement that one of the TV stations aired a long report from the convention floor, with the camera zooming on the speaker's podium, and the reporter telling viewers that from this platform the premier will announce his blueprint for the next decade.

Well, we can't always be right. Maybe the premier decided at the last minute that the UBCM wasn't the proper forum for his vision.

We are waiting, waiting, waiting.

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# Water worries withhold development approval

## From Page 1

from those sources. Those decisions then prompted local Trust committee member — and Islands Trust chairman — Nick Gilbert to warn in mid-September that questions about water supply might prompt a clampdown on future subdivision approvals. Last Friday, the warning became a reality.

The first proposal affected concerned land near Pioneer Village owned by Dorothea Crofton. A bylaw changing the property's designation from

Residential-1 to Multiple Family-2 had earlier cleared the public hearing stage and received first, second and third reading by the trustees, and approval from the minister of municipal affairs. Fourth and final reading by the Trust last Friday would have brought the bylaw into effect and allowed development of the land to proceed.

However, the Trust voted to withhold final reading because the proposed development has not secured water supplies from the waterworks district. Trustees decided to table the bylaw until

such time as water is supplied.

That decision prompted an angry response from Bob Hassell, a residential planner and designer attending the meeting on behalf of the property owner.

Hassell said the property owner has a signed agreement for sale of the land to a builder, which would fall through if the rezoning was not approved that day. He also argued that any water shortage situation is self-policing, since construction would not start until water supplies were secured.

Hassell charged that the North Salt Spring Waterworks District's

moratorium on supplies to new developments was "a transparent political ploy" to bring pressure on Victoria to increase the amount of water the district can draw from its sources.

"The landowners in the village are being held to ransom," he said.

Hassell also argued that there is enough water available for the development, since the waterworks district counts as committed the water it will eventually supply to new subdivisions at Channel Ridge.

"Channel Ridge will take up

500 connections, but not one is in use," he said.

Gilbert replied by pointing out that the waterworks district has committed all of its existing supplies, that water is a community resource which must be managed, and that a shortage of water "is a real problem that needs the Trust's help."

Trust vice-chairman Carol Martin added that while property owners can pressure government agencies to increase supplies drawn by the waterworks district, "no one can pressure the lake to provide more water."

## For Salt Spring Island

# Water supply survey, studies to be sought by Islands Trust

A picture of Salt Spring's fresh water supplies is being sought by the Islands Trust.

At its regular meeting held in Ganges last Friday, the Trust said it wants to send a questionnaire to local residents to determine the extent of water shortage problems faced in recent years, and to lobby the provincial government to conduct a detailed study of the island's groundwater supplies.

Those moves follow a mid-September warning by Trust chairman and Salt Spring representative Nick Gilbert that water supplies are dwindling and may force a clampdown on new subdivisions. That warning, in turn, came after the provincial government turned down a bid by the North Salt Spring Waterworks District to increase the amount of water it can draw from St. Mary Lake and Maxwell Lake. In response, the waterworks district has placed a moratorium on supplying water to uncommitted land developments.

In discussing the need for a questionnaire and a study, the Trust said Friday that critical water shortages are occurring in summers and that an assessment of groundwater supplies is needed to help decide how those problems can be managed.

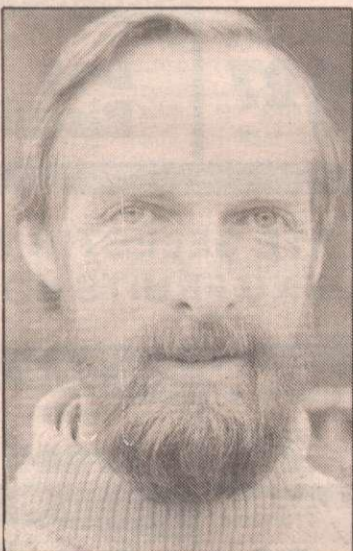
It was suggested that replies to the questionnaire could be "pulled together" with other studies on water supplies and taken to the provincial environment ministry as evidence of the need to inventory groundwater supplies.

Gilbert indicated the environment ministry will have to deal with Salt Spring's water problems sooner or later.

If nothing is done at present, he said, "I can see subdivisions being built and running out of water, and the people going to the province for a solution — be it water in tankers or a water pipeline."

However, there are no other sources of fresh water within close proximity to Salt Spring Island, he continued.

"We should send a clear message to the province that the Trust islands will petition the government for solutions to (future) water shortage problems," Gilbert said. "If they don't recognize those problems, they will take on responsibility to



Nick Gilbert

resolve them in future — and that will be expensive." Gilbert added the Trust should

## Almanac predicts milder weather in coming year

The 1987-88 West Coast winter will be milder than normal, according to the new *Old Farmer's Almanac*.

The book, released last week, predicts coastal B.C. will be comparatively dry this fall and winter. Temperatures are expected to be milder than normal, rainfall should be less than usual, and snowfall is predicted to be "considerably below normal."

Looking ahead to next spring, the *Almanac* says coastal B.C. will have drier-than-normal conditions, while temperatures should be close to normal and precipitation will fall below usual levels.

also inventory water catchment basins and consider placing development permit designations over those areas deemed to be essential for groundwater supplies.

In endorsing the call for studies, Trust vice-chairmen Steve Wright of South Pender Island and Carol Martin of Hornby Island noted that concern over the extent of water supplies exists on their islands as well.

Earlier at Friday's meeting, Wright had questioned the ability of Salt Spring's water supply to meet increased services demands placed on it by the number of new developments proposed for the island.

At that same meeting, trustees tabled one rezoning bylaw until the proposed development receives assurances of water supplies.

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*Gift of life*

Salt Spring residents turned out last Monday for blood donor clinic staged by Red Cross and held at the Legion Hall in Ganges. Jack Albhouse (left), one of first local residents to contribute blood, is watched over by Sharon, a Red Cross employee from Vancouver. Clinic began in mid-afternoon and continued into evening.

**Bylaw wording altered after concerns voiced**

The Salt Spring Island Trust committee thought it was dealing with automotive repairs. Colin Nicholson said the issue was trucks.

The difference in opinion arose last Friday at a public hearing called by the Trust to discuss rezoning of a 1.5-acre portion of a Robinson Road property to permit an automotive repair business.

The bylaw presented to the public called for creation of an Industrial 3-A zone which would permit only motor vehicle repairs and parts sales, machinery repairs and parts sales, and indoor and outdoor storage.

Nicholson objected to the need for a new zone, and to a portion of the bylaw outlining indoor and outdoor storage, saying it could pave the way for parking of large semi-trailer and other trucks used for businesses not associated with a repair depot.

Nicholson made it clear he was not objecting to the rezoning of the Robinson Road property, or to the business which would be placed there, but to the possibility that the newly-created zone could be applied elsewhere on Salt Spring Island.

A resident of Kings Lane, Nicholson has long objected to the storage of commercial trucks on residential land in his neighbourhood and feared that the new Industrial 3-A zone could be applied to that property if a clause specifically prohibiting the storage of trucks was not included in the bylaw.

Nicholson also noted that the Trust's recent Industrial Task Force report had recommended a two-acre minimum lot size for industry and asked if that restriction could be applied to the 1.5-acre property on Robinson Road.

Bruce Pearson, the closest neighbour to the proposed repair shop on Robinson Road, spoke in support of the rezoning but said he would not like to see large commercial vehicles stored on the property.

In later debate on the bylaw, trustees voted to qualify the clause dealing with storage of

vehicles by adding a prohibition against "indoor and outdoor storage of derelict vehicles and commercially-licensed trucks." The bylaw was then given second and third readings and sent to the minister of municipal affairs for approval.

Trustees declined to impose a two-acre minimum lot size, however, saying that the Industrial Task Force's recommendations had not been adopted, hence there is no provision for minimum acreages in its bylaws governing industrial uses. Vice-chairman Carol Martin added that a two-acre operation might have more impact on the area than one covering 1.5 acres.

Nicholson said later he was satisfied that the language covering the new Industrial 3-A zone has been tightened, and that it appears the zone cannot be applied to his neighbourhood. He reiterated that he was opposing the potential applications of the new industrial zone, but not its use on Robinson Road.

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*In wake of tests*

# Mill officials seek more dioxin data

From Page 1

Haywood said that, as of yet, there is no definite link between the presence of dioxin in eggs taken from heron nests near the mill and the Crofton heron colony's apparent failure to produce young this year.

"In previous years, tests have shown the eggs to contain minute amounts of dioxin — trace elements, really, measured in the parts per million or something," he said. "Samples were taken this year, but there are no results available yet. But the dioxin is just a trace, and there is no evidence that the dioxin is responsible for the problem with the heron eggs."

Haywood said experts disagree on the source of dioxin. "We have other information that states the highest amount of dioxin is produced by forest fires and municipal incinerators."

The Crofton mill's industrial relations officer added that to his knowledge, there is no information indicating exposure to dioxin is

## 'Chlorine...bleaching agent'

harmful to humans. (Tests conducted on laboratory animals, however, have suggested that dioxin may be both embryo-toxic and carcinogenic.)

Although the mill does not regard the discovery of dioxin in heron eggs as any real cause for alarm, it will be monitoring the situation, Haywood stressed.

"Our main concern is our employees, some of whom have expressed concern about dioxin," he stated. "Our information, however, leads us to believe that they will suffer no harmful effects from working at the mill. As far as the herons are concerned, we will be watching the studies carefully."

"One thing, though, is that from what I gather from talking to people, we have a thriving heron colony here," he continued. "Even if there were no young produced there this year, we certainly had bumper crops in the past few years. There doesn't appear to be any cause for alarm at the moment. These birds, I'm told, live for 11 or 12 years, and even if they didn't produce any young this year, they

## 'Dioxin is produced by forest fires'

probably will next. We don't feel the colony is in any danger of dying off, but we will keep watching it nonetheless."

Haywood said the Crofton mill lacks the sophisticated facilities needed to conduct its own testing. "Our opportunity to do anything locally is limited," he stressed.

In 1983, tests conducted on behalf of the CWS revealed that heron eggs taken from Crofton contained T4CDD levels of 40 parts per trillion, as well as other forms of dioxin — the highest levels found among four test colonies. Three years later, heron eggs from the Crofton colony showed T4CDD levels of 90 parts per trillion.

CWS biologist Phil Whitehead said in a recent interview with *Driftwood* that dioxin is considered to be embryo-toxic. Dioxin is also suspected of causing deformities in animals exposed to it, as well as affecting their growth.

Whitehead said scientists have no idea at what level dioxin begins to affect herons or their ability to reproduce.

# Jury still out on dioxin toxicity, claims official at B. C. Research

Though environmentalists have expressed concern over the presence of dioxin in such products as wood-preservatives and herbicides, at least one member of B.C.'s scientific community said last week she is not convinced that the chemical is as dangerous as originally thought.

Elizabeth McDonald, program leader of B.C. Research's occupational health group, explained Monday that 75 chemicals make up a group commonly referred to as dioxins, chemical byproducts created through certain manufacturing processes. They range in toxicity from the much-touted 2,3,7,8-TCDD (which has been termed the most deadly chemical ever made) to others substances that McDonald says are "relatively non-toxic."

The chemical most commonly referred to as dioxin is 2,3,7,8-TCDD, or simply TCDD. Although it has been found highly-toxic to guinea pigs, McDonald feels it is unfair to classify the substance as "the most deadly chemical ever made."

"In fact, that is not correct," she stated. "It's true that it was found to be highly toxic in guinea pigs. Yet if you presume that monkeys are actually better test animals (in terms of being closest to humans), then it is not the case. In dogs and monkeys, TCDD was found to be only moderately toxic."

According to McDonald, there have been only two documented cases of humans being directly exposed to large amounts of dioxin, one during the 1970s, the other in 1949. In both instances, according to McDonald, those exposed to dioxin showed no notable increase in cancer or birth defects.

"In Italy, in the 1970's, if we believed the results of dioxin testing on hamsters, quite a number of people should have died," she said. "Yet no one came even close to showing signs of acute poisoning. And after 10 years, there was no increase in

birth defects among women pregnant at the time of the incident or those who became pregnant afterward.

"In the case of the 1949 incident, a follow-up study was done. The men in the factory who were exposed to large amounts of dioxin have shown no increase in cancer."

In view of these findings, McDonald feels the danger associated with dioxins — particularly TCDD — is "greatly exaggerated."

"A lot (of experts) don't agree with me," she said. "But I think that it has been treated emotionally by too many people, and even used as a scare tactic by some groups seeking to ban the use of

certain chemicals."

McDonald said that although some people have suggested high dioxin levels are the result of man's activities, this is not always the case. While there are many dioxins whose 'signatures' resemble those found in chlorophenyls used in the forest industry, others are thought to be created naturally.

"Frankly, dioxins are ubiquitous in our environment," she stated. "They can be found on barbecued steak, are a product of any combustion process. They can even be created by forest fires. So to automatically claim most of them are man-made, either in pulp and paper mills or sawmills, is stretching the truth, I think."

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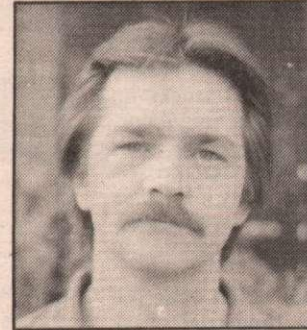
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Shriners' President Jim Napper (left) and Don Pape at Saturday's Shrine Club garage sale in Ganges. A wide variety of items—everything from golf balls to television

sets—were available for purchase at the event, held to raise money for Shriners' community service projects.

**No boat changes expected**

The two-ferry service currently offered on the Fulford Harbour-Swartz Bay run will likely continue for some time, according to the B.C. Ferry Corporation.

Island residents have complained that the two vessels currently operating on the route—the 60-vehicle *Quinita* and the 36-vehicle *Salt Spring Queen*—are too slow and cannot handle traffic levels. Many have asked for the return of the *Bowen Queen*, a larger and faster vessel.

BCFC spokesman Betty Nicholson said Thursday, however, that the *Quinita* will likely remain on the Fulford run "for some time."

Nicholson said the refitting and upgrading of other vessels in the B.C. Ferry Corporation's fleet have necessitated the change.

She explained that the *Bowen Queen* is currently operating on the Swartz Bay-Outer Islands run, where "her speed and capacity are needed on that schedule." She is replacing the *Queen of Tsawwassen*, which in turn has been placed on the Comox-Powell River run while the regular vessel there (the *Queen of Sidney*) undergoes refit.

The *Mayne Queen*, another vessel frequently used on Gulf Islands routes, is currently being used on the Campbell River-Quadra Island run.

Nicholson said it is difficult for the ferry corporation to please all its customers on the B.C. coast. She noted that it currently has 38 vessels operating on 26 different routes. "It's a complicated effort to replace a vessel when we have to remove it for refit, and that happens to every vessel at least once a year," she said.

Nicholson noted that the Crofton dock fire has placed additional pressure on vessels sailing between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay.

**Mechanical difficulties delay scheduled sailings**

Engine experems aboard the B.C. Ferry Corporation vessel *Quinita* caused delays Wednesday for motorists travelling between Victoria and Salt Spring Island.

Corporation spokesman Betty Nicholson said Thursday that the *Quinita*, currently operating between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay on Vancouver Island, icperienced a "lack of oil pressure

in one of her four engines." The oil pressure problem, Nicholson said, forced the vessel to operate on only three engines, and thus "extended the crossing time and delayed scheduled departures."

The *Quinita* was removed from service at 3:30 pm for repairs. A new pressure gauge was installed in its fourth engine, and it returned to its regular schedule at 4:30 pm.

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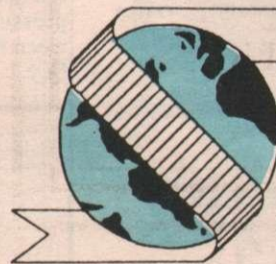
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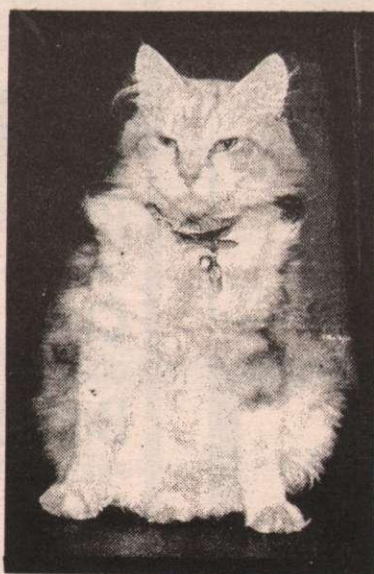
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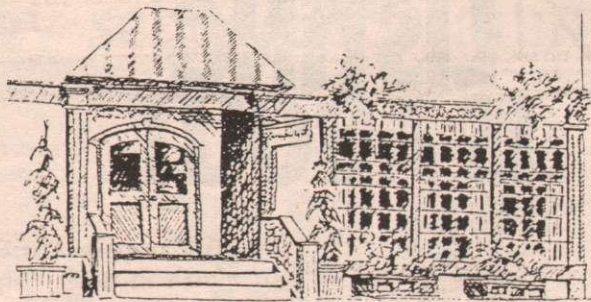
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# New clinic premises promise top-flight service

Expanded premises and new state-of-the-art equipment promise more efficient care of patients at the Victoria Cancer Clinic, its administrator said earlier this week.

Speaking to *Driftwood* on the eve of the official opening of the clinic's new building, Peter McAllister said a main benefit of the improvements is that Gulf Islands residents can receive the best possible treatments for cancer without having to leave the region.

The new clinic, to be officially opened today (Wednesday) by Lieutenant-Governor Bob Rogers, is a \$6.4 million structure erected next to Victoria's Royal Jubilee Hospital. Services once offered from scattered locations throughout the hospital will now be housed under one roof and cover about three times the floor space formerly occupied.

The new building, under construction since 1984, provides more than additional space, however. McAllister, a resident of Salt Spring Island, said efficiency is improved with consolidation in one space, and with that comes greater convenience for patients and medical staff.

As one example, he noted that doctors who used to have their offices minutes away from the former clinic are now "just one staircase away" from patients.

Another benefit of the new quarters is a more aesthetically-pleasing environment for patients, McAllister said. Furnishing and decorations provided by community groups like the IODE and Order of the Eastern Star mean "new and bright surroundings — it's not like walking into a dungeon."

McAllister, president of the B.C. Health Labour Relations Board prior to taking on administration of the Victoria clinic earlier this year, indicated the importance of a cheery atmosphere cannot be understated.

"It's important to treat patients as people," he said. "When I see the clinic coming together and see the patients say how much nicer it is, I get a greater sense of being able to help."

The clinic's new home is staffed by about 50 full-time employees — including specialized nurses, doctors and technicians — and modern cancer-fighting equipment worth an estimated \$1.8 million.

Two approaches are available for treatment of patients. The chemotherapy 'stream' provides treatment with drugs, while the radiotherapy 'stream' uses a choice of machines for the killing of cancer cells. Among the options available are a six-year-old cobalt treatment machine and new linear accelerators in 10 megavolt, six megavolt and 100 kilovolt sizes.

(The difference between the cobalt and linear acceleration treatments is one of efficiency, McAllister said, explaining that the latter is somewhat more accurate and can be administered in shorter, more powerful doses.

Some cancers are better handled by cobalt treatments, he added, while others are best treated with accelerators.)

"The predominant feature (of the new clinic) is that we now

**'Our objective is, as much as we can, to keep patients out of institutions.'**

have in Victoria, for people from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands who are unfortunate enough to contract cancer, state-of-the-art radiotherapy equipment," McAllister said, referring to the linear accelerators. "People

used to have to go elsewhere for those types of treatment — now, that's not the case."

McAllister added that with strains being placed on similar treatment facilities in the Lower Mainland, he expects the Victoria clinic to receive patients referred from that area.

The Victoria clinic, operated on an out-patient basis by the Cancer Control Agency of B.C., has been treating patients at its new premises since April. The first treatment by the six megavolt linear accelerator was administered on September 8, and McAllister expects the larger, 10 megavolt unit to be commissioned and operating by this December.

The clinic sees between 60 and 65 patients a day, of which six to eight are new patients just referred by their physicians or a specialist, McAllister said. A normal first visit involves an admission, patient assessment, full medical checkup and an examination by a specialist. It

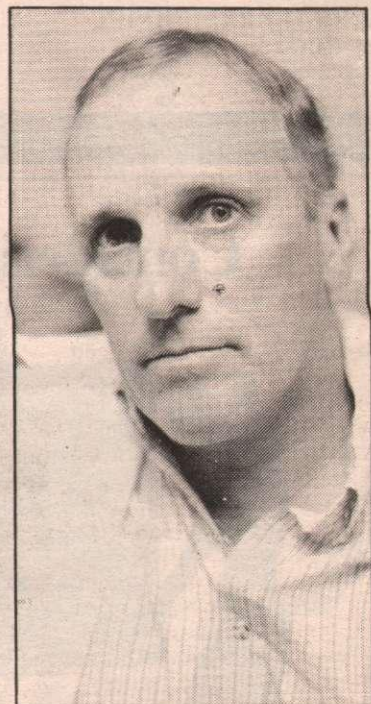
usually takes between two and three hours.

Along with treatments, the clinic offers counselling and referrals to support services provided by the Canadian Cancer Society — "our most effective support group" — which has its offices across the street.

"Volunteers are important," McAllister said. "Our objective is, as much as we can, to keep patients out of institutions. They're there if needed but it's far better for patients to get treatments and spend their time at home."

The Cancer Society operates the Cancer Lodge across from the clinic, where patients on four- and five-day treatment cycles can stay, and offers a variety of services ranging from CanSurvive to breast self-examination clinics to counselling for terminally-ill patients.

"The important thing is you need community support," McAllister said.



Peter McAllister

## For full region

### Pender Island group schedules BSE clinic

The Pender Island unit of the Canadian Cancer Society will hold a Breast Self-Examination (BSE) teaching clinic October 31 between 10 am and 4 pm in the Pender Medical Clinic.

At the clinic — which is open to all women of the Gulf Islands — qualified Registered Nurses will provide personal instruction to those wanting to learn the technique of Breast Self-Examination. A short film on the subject will also be shown.

For those not living on Pender, transportation to the clinic from the ferry terminal can be arranged by telephoning Jean Rogers at 629-3772.

Members of the Pender Island cancer unit urge women to attend

the instructional clinic. Although breast cancer is the leading cause of death among Canadian women aged 35 to 54, the disease can be cured if detected early enough. BSE greatly increase the probability of early detection, and hence the likelihood of survival.

Even if BSE detects a suspicious lump in the breast, it does not necessarily mean cancer. More than 80 per cent of breast lumps are not cancerous, but should still be brought to the attention of a physician.

"Take your life in your own hands by doing monthly breast self-examinations," say organizers of the upcoming clinic. "The reward is life, so do it. We'll see you at the clinic October 31."



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Forests... A Shared Resource

# Local Red Cross branch drops funding appeals

By MIKE TURKKI

The Salt Spring Island Community Society's acceptance into the United Way of Greater Victoria will mean a few changes for another service organization with a long history on the island.

The Red Cross, which has operated on Salt Spring for approximately 40 years, is a partner in the United Way across Canada. With the United Way now having direct representation on the island, the Red Cross has agreed to fold its annual local fund-raising drive — paving the way for the United Way's upcoming October 8 mail-out campaign for Salt Spring Island donations.

In 1986, the Red Cross conducted a door-to-door campaign in the southern portion of Salt Spring. This intensive effort was coupled with a mail-out to north Salt Spring homes. The entire campaign raised \$7,778 for Red Cross programs; 23 volunteers donated their time and efforts to making the drive successful.

(One volunteer spent so much time going door-to-door in the 1987 drive that she wore out a pair of shoes.)

Local Red Cross volunteers don't mind turning over their successful fund-raising campaign to the United Way, a worldwide organization with more than a century of service to its credit. In fact, they said in a recent interview they are pleased to see the United Way operating on Salt Spring, through the community society.

The United Way will now handle direct fund-raising for both the Salt Spring Island Community Society and the Red Cross. Money collected through the United Way's upcoming mail-out campaign will be used to fund the community centre and programs offered through it.

"We're very pleased to see the United Way on Salt Spring," noted Carol Simpson, a Red Cross volunteer with many years of experience with the local campaign. "The Red Cross is in partnership with the United Way. We don't mind folding our campaign into theirs. It's all for worthy causes."

Although the Red Cross will no longer conduct door-to-door funding appeals on the island, the group will maintain an active presence here.

Red Cross spokesmen stressed that the organization will continue to offer a variety of invaluable and often life-saving services to local residents.

At present, in addition to recruiting blood donors and organizing clinics, Salt Spring's Red Cross group offers a free transfusion service through Lady Minto Hospital. This might not sound significant, but as one Red Cross official noted, blood does not come free in other countries.

"As an interesting note, in Washington State the cost of one unit of blood is \$40, and plasma is \$20," said Simpson. "This only buys the blood — it doesn't get it into your veins."

The Red Cross also offers help to island residents whose homes are severely damaged or destroyed by fire.

"If you are burned out of your home and have no relatives or

## Arrival of United Way link removes campaign need

friends to take you in, the Red Cross Burn Out Relief Service pays your motel/hotel bill for three days, buys your food, equips you with a change of clothes and a supply of personal articles," continued Simpson. "This is a stop-gap measure to ensure shelter and food until insurance claims are processed."

Injured residents in need of

some special equipment can also rely on the Red Cross for assistance. Through its Sickroom Equipment Loan Service, the organization provides crutches, wheelchairs, bedpans, hospital beds and other items to those in need.

In 1986, 95 articles were lent to 76 Salt Spring patients, the most common items borrowed being

wheelchairs, crutches and walkers.

"All these services will still be available on Salt Spring," noted the volunteers, who urged island residents to support the United Way's October 8 fund-raising campaign as they have the Red Cross.

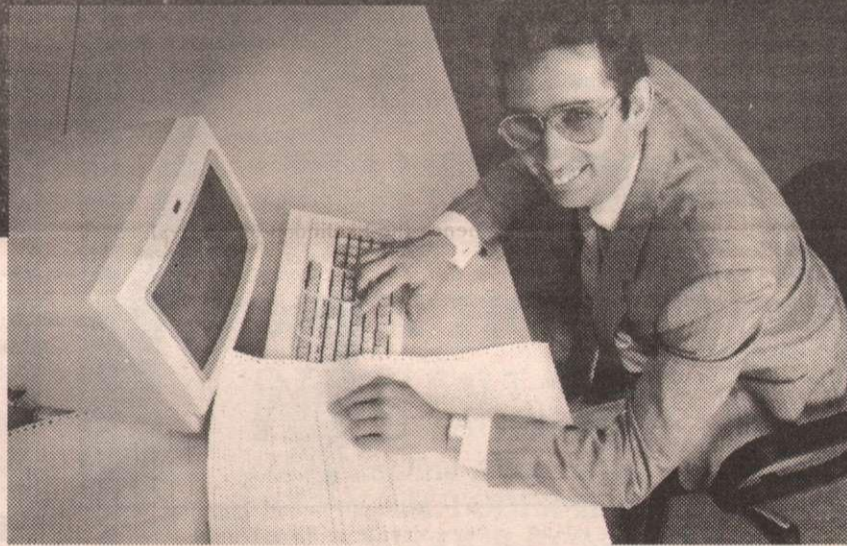
United Way officials are impressed by Salt Spring's Red

Cross contingent and the willingness of local volunteers to join the United Way.

"The Red Cross has generously agreed to fold its campaign into ours," said Joseph Landon, executive director for the United Way of Greater Victoria. "They raised nearly \$8,000 last year."

Landon, Simpson and community society officials hope Salt Spring residents will give generously when the United Way's mailer arrives at their home in early October.

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hobbies of golfing and skiing.

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# September wedding joins Sampson, Spencer families

Friends and family gathered at the Ganges United Church September 5 to witness the marriage of Salt Spring Island residents Kristina-Leigh Sampson and Laurence Grey Spencer.

Kristina-Leigh, the daughter of Ken and Cecilia Sampson of Fernwood Road, was given in marriage by her father. She wore an elegant wedding gown of lustrous satin and imported English silk net. Its fitted satin bodice with dropped waist — as well as its high net yoke — were lavishly adorned with lace appliques embroidered with pearls and accentuated by pearl droplets. A deep border of scalloped lace emphasized the hem of her elaborately embroidered skirt as well as its full train, which swept back from the waist.

The bride's veil and headdress were of lace and pearls, and she carried a bouquet of pink roses, white baby chrysanthemums and freesias.

Kristina-Leigh was attended by her maid of honour, Caroline Andress, as well as bridesmaids Leona Irwin, Kim Sampson and Heather Edwards. Andress wore an aqua-coloured taffeta dress, while the bridesmaids wore full-length pink dresses of the same material and style. They all carried bouquets of spider chrysanthemums and baby's breath bound with pink ribbon.

The bride's mother wore a silk blue tone-on-tone afternoon dress with a white carnation and baby's breath corsage.

The groom, son of Russell and Joan Spencer of Terrace, B.C., was attended by his best man and brother, Scott Spencer. Rick Brouwer, Shane Dodd and Steven Wells served as groomsmen, while Ken Anderson and Paul Sampson (brother of the bride) acted as ushers.

The groom's mother, also in attendance for the ceremony, wore a soft green two-piece afternoon dress with a white carnation and baby's breath corsage.

The wedding ceremony was performed by Rev. Allister Skinner. Angela Funk played the organ.

A reception was held in the Fulford Hall following the wedding. Approximately 250 guests enjoyed dancing and a dinner catered by the Fulford Hall committee.

The head table was decorated with pink and white bells as well as streamers. Silver candlesticks and crystal wine glasses were



Photo by Cedric Barker

**Kristina-Leigh Sampson and Laurence Grey Spencer**

brought out for the occasion, and the happy couple enjoyed a three-tiered wedding cake decorated by the groom's sister, Val Spencer.

Master of Ceremonies for the reception was the bride's uncle, Leon Lloyd-Walters. Alice Andress said Grace prior to dinner.

Out-of-town guests at the wedding included: Caroline Andress and Willie Graber from Toronto; Shane Dodd from Prince Rupert;

Rick Brouwer from Hope; Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Lloyd-Walters from Lantzville; and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Lloyd-Walters from Victoria. Christina Lamand (the bride's grandmother), Annie Spencer (the groom's grandmother), and Elizabeth Taylor — all of Ganges — were special guests at the ceremony.

The couple spent a honeymoon weekend at Hastings House, and now reside on Salt Spring.

## IODE plans fund-raising

The HMS Ganges chapter of IODE held its first fall meeting on September 11 at the United Church Hall.

Regent Joyce Parsons welcomed 22 members and two special guests — Elizabeth Emmerston and Jean Brindamour.

Plans for fund-raising projects were discussed. It was unani-

mously agreed that a fall fashion show will be held in early November, and Roma Aston and Anne Spencer were nominated to be convenors.

Following the meeting, tea was served by Sheila Palesch and Dorothy James, the hostesses for the afternoon.

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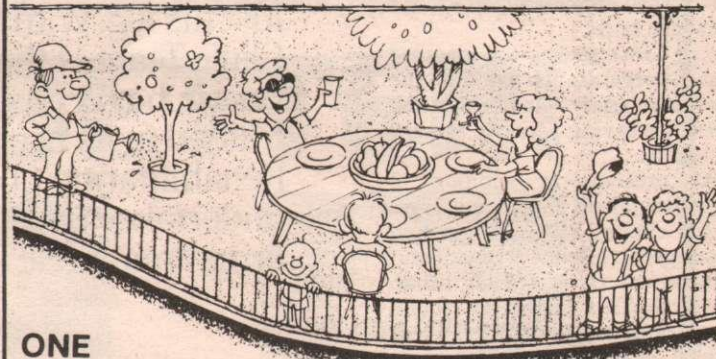
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# Welbury wharf torn down

One of the last vestiges of a vanished Salt Spring Island industry is being dismantled for scrap.

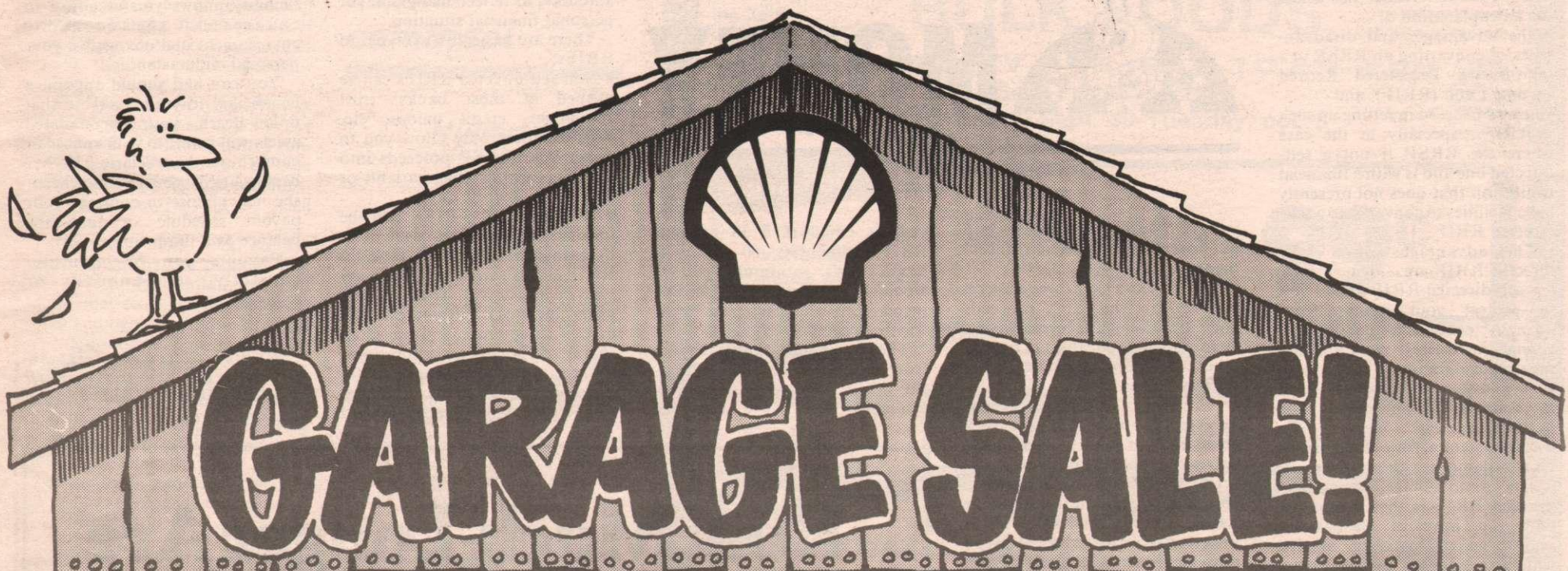
Pacific Pile Driving has been given permission to dismantle the old Welbury Bay wharf. Located at the head of Welbury Bay near

the B.C. Ferry Corporation's Long Harbour terminal, the structure was built during the early 1960s to serve a pozzolan processing plant established there.

Pozzolan, also known as pozzolana, is a fine siliceous material that reacts chemically with slaked lime and water to form a strong, slow-hardening cement.

Phil Christie, a ministry of forests and lands official serving the Southern Vancouver Island region, said Friday the wharf is being dismantled because no one

holds a licence or lease for its use. Christie said the ministry has long recognized the old wharf as an "eyesore." Ministry officials are also concerned that the structure — which has not been maintained — represents a safety hazard in the area.



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**Income fund has potential for high returns**

# RRIF allows investors to protect their money

By **ROGIER THEUNISZ**

A *Driftwood* reader has asked for an explanation of:

- the advantages and disadvantages of converting an RRSP to a self-directed Registered Retired Income Fund (RRIF); and
- how to proceed in setting up such a RRIF, especially in the case where the RRSP is not a self-directed one and is with a financial institution that does not presently have facilities to convert it to a self-directed RRIF.

The advantages of a self-directed RRIF are:

- a self-directed RRIF allows you to protect your money from adverse economic conditions, changes in interest rates and the ravages of inflation;
- it allows you to adjust your investments to changes in your personal life; and
- it has potential for a much higher return than other alternatives.

The disadvantage of a self-directed RRIF is that it requires that you have at least some knowledge of investing or are willing to learn, or that you have some knowledgeable person who can help you.

The advantages of a non self-directed RRIF are:

- simplicity, there are few decisions to make; and
- the principal is relatively safe.

The disadvantages of a non self-directed RRIF are:

- the average rate of return is very low; and
- higher returns require that you lock your money in for long periods of time, which will be detrimental if interest rates and inflation increase.

To set up a RRIF (self-directed or otherwise), all you have to do is take a copy of your present RRSP statement to the institution you wish to deal with. They will fill out some forms which you will sign. That's it. You now have a RRIF. The contents from your RRSP will automatically be transferred to your RRIF.

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Everyone yearns for a comfortable retirement. It's the primary goal you had in mind when you first purchased your RRSP. However, in the year that



you turn 71, you are forced to close out your RRSP. What do you do then?

Basically you have three choices:

- Withdraw the entire proceeds and pay taxes on the full lump sum at your then-applicable tax rate. In other words, up to half could go to the government.
- Purchase a life or fixed immediate annuity that provides a fixed rate of return—making it very vulnerable to inflation.
- Open an RRIF. An RRIF is a plan into which you transfer your RRSP proceeds and from which you subsequently receive retirement income to age 90. Both the money within the RRIF and earnings made on that money remain sheltered from tax.

Anyone owning an RRSP can open an RRIF. In fact, there are neither minimum age restrictions on when you can open an RRIF nor restrictions on the number of RRIF's you can have at any one time. You can even roll-over your RRIF funds into an annuity (or vice-versa) as well as close your RRIF at any time.

The only restrictions on an RRIF are:

- you must open an RRIF by the end of the calendar year in which you turn 71; and
- the minimum yearly payment that you must take out is subject to a formula-directed payout schedule. (There is no maximum limit).

The minimum yearly payout from your RRIF is determined by a fractional amount of the market value of your RRIF on January 1 of each calendar year. This minimum fractional amount is equal to ONE over the difference between your age and 90. For example, if you are 60 at the time of plan registration, your minimum yearly payout in the first

year is equal to 1/30 of your RRIF's value. (90 - 60 = 30). The next year's minimum payout would be equal to 1/29, etc. and increase in value each year as the fractions become larger.

The maximum yearly payout from your RRIF is limited only by the total amount of funds available. You have complete

flexibility to vary the yearly payout amounts, to reflect changes in your personal financial situation.

There are basically two types of RRIFs:

- Non self-directed RRIFs can be opened at most banks, trust companies, credit unions, etc. Most of these only allow you to direct your RRSP proceeds into deposits earning either variable or fixed term interest rates.
- Self-directed RRIFs can be opened at investment dealers or brokerage firms. This type of RRIF allows you to use almost any type of investment. These include government and corporate bonds as well as common and preferred shares of Canadian corporations, government treasury bills, guaranteed investment certificates, Canadian Saving Bonds, qualified

mutual funds and options. This flexibility allows you to adjust to changes in the economic environment and changes in your personal circumstances.

You can and should appoint a beneficiary to your RRIF so that upon death, your accumulated assets will revert to your spouse or your chosen beneficiaries. If your beneficiary is your spouse, he or she may choose to continue your payout schedule or take the balance as a lump sum.

Payouts can be monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually.

*Rogier Theunisz is an investment executive with Midland Doherty and lives in Fulford Harbour.*

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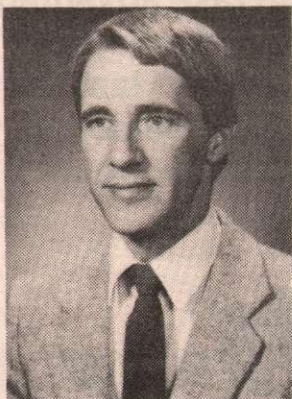
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Find the right pieces

# Building investment portfolio like doing a puzzle

By BRUCE FOERSTER

Constructing an investment portfolio is somewhat similar to assembling a jigsaw puzzle. Finding the right pieces to fit in the right places can be a confusing process. However, if you remember a few rules of thumb and use some basic logic, constructing your investment portfolio can be a fairly straightforward and even enjoyable experience.

The first and most important rule is to recognize the value of diversification. Any wise and successful investor will tell you to diversify your asset base because investments perform differently in different economic environments. For example, when interest rates are high, mortgages, term



deposits and treasury bills will perform well. However, as interest rates fall, these investments will lose their appeal; government bonds and stocks will be given an environment to perform well.

So, if you restrict yourself to one 'type' of investment, it will do well in one economic environment, but poorly in another. Therein lies the

logic of diversification — having a representation in each of these areas will provide you with more consistent and, over the long term, more impressive returns while reducing your risk considerably.

Balancing your portfolio is an equally important consideration. Achieving the optimum growth-security balance is the primary

goal. In order to achieve this 'balance', financial planners often utilize a concept known as the 'age balance indicator.' The age balance indicator simply and logically provides a reference which is based on one's age; the younger you are, the more aggressive you can afford to be with your dollars. During your younger years, you should structure your investments for capital growth. As one approaches retirement, the asset mix should slowly shift towards more conservative securities, as capital preservation now becomes the essential criterion.

Be careful, however, not to have all your dollars in this type of security (term deposits, Canada Savings Bonds, GIC's, etc.) as these investments offer little or no inflation protection.

To simplify this process, professional management can be employed. The cost is negligible when considering the benefits provided. Mutual funds are the fastest growing form of investment in Canada as they offer the easiest, safest and most affordable means to have your money professionally managed.

Mutual funds pool the savings of many investors and diversify the assets through many different securities. Mutual fund managers are experienced in the selection and management of these individual securities, often adjusting the asset mix between stocks, bonds and treasury bills to reflect the conditions of the economy. You can buy virtually any type of investment through the mutual fund system; stocks and bonds are the most common, but treasury bills and mortgages are also very popular. You can also purchase more exotic investments such as gold and commercial real estate through the mutual fund system.

Constructing your investment portfolio using mutual funds will provide you with the growth and security you are looking for, while minimizing ongoing decisions and paperwork as most of the management and administration is provided for you.

Good investing.

Bruce Foerster is a financial planner for Stenner Financial Services. He is based on Salt Spring Island.

## Costs of university education high

By STANLEY LAING

The cost of providing a university education for a child today or sometime in the future is becoming increasingly difficult for the average Canadian family.

For instance, the average cost of a degree program at most of our universities has increased by more than 60 per cent in the last seven years. How much more will it increase in the next seven years?

Why then, are more and more Canadians pursuing the dream of a

higher education? Simple. Degree holders earn twice as much as non-graduates (\$32,000 vs. \$16,000) and in an increasingly competitive marketplace, university graduates have the inside edge on job interviews.

One of the answers to the problem of funding future educational costs is the Registered Education Savings Plan. Basically, a RESP is a contract between a subscriber (parent, grandparent or

other family member) and a registered organization whereby the fund agrees to make payments to a designated beneficiary, in consideration of certain amounts paid, to further the beneficiary's education. The subscribers' contributions are not deductible for tax purposes; however, the gain in the fund is tax exempt to the contributor as the income is paid to the beneficiary in the form of tuition fees and is included in his income.

RESPs come in varying packages, so before rushing out and signing on the dotted line, be sure to check on the flexibility of the plan. There are a number of plans available that can be tailored to suit your particular financial situation. Remember, the earlier one starts, the lighter the financial burden over the coming years.

Stanley Laing is a financial planner with the Laing Financial Group, in Ganges.

## Articles deal with investing

Money Matters is a monthly section of articles dealing with investments and investment advice.

Contributors to Money Matters are professional financial planners serving clients on Salt Spring Island and in the Victoria area.

The intent of the Money Matters section is to provide readers with general information about financial planning.

Articles from contributors have been submitted on the understanding that no specific services or companies are endorsed.

Driftwood hopes this section will give readers the widest possible range of information about investment issues.

If you have a particular area of concern that is not covered in these pages, or that you would like to ensure is explained in future editions, write us at:

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# Balance investment portfolio to ride out the bull market

By RICK SALES, DAVID GILES AND PETER ROBSON

Stocks hit a record high in New York in early September before pulling back. Continuing stable fundamentals of low inflation, modest economic growth and sharply improved profits underpin the performance.

Two additional factors — cash and caution — are reinforcing the bull trend. Foreign money, seeking a safe but sound investment return, continues to find its way into the U.S. and Canada. A healthy dose of investor caution is also an important ingredient. The short position in the U.S. is at a record high and, remember, all stock sold short must eventually be replaced, providing a cushion for markets. Bull markets end in overwhelming optimism, not the prevailing pessimism.

Canadian stocks lagged behind their U.S. counterparts in the last two weeks, mainly due to the mercurial resource group. Metals, golds, oils and forest products now comprise almost one-third of the TSE 300. These groups are quite sensitive to swings in their respective commodity prices. With the exception of forest products, all commodity prices have been extremely volatile this year, but with an upward bias.

Stock prices will continue to



trend higher as long as economic growth continues. The U.S. economy is expanding at a modest rate and this is expected to hold true through 1987 and possibly in 1988. It all looks quite rosy.

But, on a cautionary note, we must point out that the money supply in the U.S., as measured by M2, has been declining in constant dollar terms since January of this year. Recessions have typically followed within 12 to 24 months from the beginning of previous contractions. This may be a situation where history may not repeat. The Federal Reserve could ease its restrictive stance, bearing in mind that 1988 is an election year.

Nevertheless, it is important to recognize that economic activity is fragile and may slow down. Personal savings rates are historically low and consumer installment debt is high. It is

doubtful if capital spending will improve materially given the amount of excess manufacturing capacity. Further economic growth in this business cycle will become more dependent on an improved trade balance. This is a structural economic change and will improve slowly, but, do not expect abrupt changes.

Gains in stock prices will come from the investment of excess liquidity. But, any perception of economic slowdown will trigger a correction. In our opinion, at current valuations of stock markets, risks are increasing. Investors should balance portfolios to protect against any market correction and to ride out the balance of the bull market.

*Sales, Giles and Robson are money managers with the Vancouver-based investment dealer, Odium Brown Ltd.*

## Education Savings Plan dubbed 'tax shelter with noble objectives'

By TONY SOUTHWELL

Whether your favourite tax shelter is the popular RRSP or something a little more exotic like feature films, each has one purpose in common — to provide the holder with tax-sheltered earnings he or she can draw on sometime in the future.

Not so the Registered Education Savings Plan. Here is a tax shelter (utilized all too infrequently) with far nobler objectives. True, it shelters its earnings but these earnings are paid to the student beneficiary — not to the owner of the plan.

Let's not get ahead of ourselves. Just what is a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP)? It is defined in paragraph 146.1(1)(c) of the Income Tax Act. Essentially, it is a savings program to assist in planning for a child's post-secondary education.

The concept of a tax sheltered vehicle was introduced by the federal government in 1964 as an incentive to increased savings for education. How does it work? A lump sum or periodic contributions (maximum \$25,000 per beneficiary tied to CPA) are credited to a plan and these funds are invested in fixed income equity type investments or a combination of both.

While the principal invested in an RESP cannot be deducted from the contributor's taxable income no tax is payable on the income earned in the RESP until it is withdrawn by the student beneficiary for educational purposes. Most important, the capital may be withdrawn by the contributor at any time without incurring any tax liability.

The plan has a time limit of 21 years. By waiting until a child is about five years of age before

starting the plan it can remain in effect through part, if not all, the post-graduate study period. However, an RESP can be established at any age and most issuers provide such flexibility.

One RESP may be used to cover several named beneficiaries, or separate plans may be used for each beneficiary. More than one plan for the same beneficiary is prohibited.

Some common questions asked include:

**'By waiting until a child is about five before starting the plan, it can remain in effect through part, if not all, the post-graduate study period.'**

**Q. How long can payments be made from the plan; when and what do they cover?**

**A.** Payments to the student can begin as soon as the student is enrolled in his or her first year and will be made for as long as he or she is enrolled at a post secondary institution subject to the legal requirement that the Plan be fully paid out within 21 years of its start.

The payments can cover tuition fees, textbooks, equipment, materials, laboratory and library fees, transportation, room and board, and other similar expenses (including a personal computer for educational purposes).

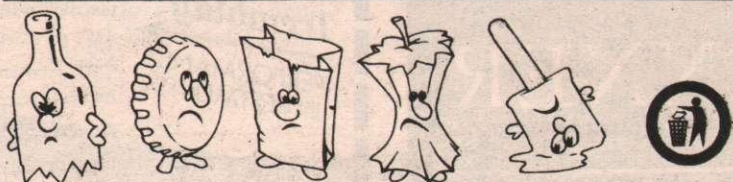
**Q. What restrictions are there (other than the \$25,000 limit and the 21 year rule)?**

**A.** If the beneficiary does not attend a post secondary institution the income must be donated to an educational institution. However, before reaching that point additional or substitute beneficiary(ies) could be designated.

**Q. What types of schools qualify as post secondary institutions?**

**A.** Generally, beneficiaries are children or grandchildren of the contributor. However, recent changes permit the designation of any individual as a beneficiary.

Post secondary education is expensive. Estimates indicate that within 10 years post secondary education will cost more than \$10,000 per year, for each student. If you have children, grandchildren, a godchild, that special niece or nephew, or a child "soon to be born", talk to your financial advisor. He or she can help you open a world of opportunity for that special child by setting up "tax shelter with a difference".



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# Television watchers offered insights into the world of art

By GARY CHERNEFF

I don't know if it is the sharp bite of Jack Frost in the evening air or some residual hibernational instinct, but whatever it is, the last few days have seen me become the much feared and widely imitated couch potato.

It could have something to do with the purchase of a cable converter which allows me to watch the Knowledge Network. Now, every evening, I greedily peruse my TV guide for some tidbit of erudite enlightenment. No more *Simon and Simon* for me.

I stop short of the Dendrology II course from the UBC Forestry Faculty but I am delighted with the telecourses offered by the Emily Carr College of Art & Design.

The first one is *Contemporary Art in Canada* and presents artists working in this day and age. There is no doubt that most Canadians would be hard-pressed to name five major Canadian artists working in the last 10 years. This is for lack of education rather than for lack of good artists.

Go on, give it a try and don't forget that Emily Carr and the Group of Seven are long gone. What about Jack Bush and his colour field paintings? He was the subject of last week's documentary which offered insights into the intuitive origins of his abstract and geometric aesthetic.

Jack Bush is one of only a few artists in this country who have achieved international recognition. He states in the documentary that "the object of the game is to hit the ball out of the park". Whether you agree or not, this athletic metaphor and his competitive stance is one we do not often attribute to an "artistic temperament". But he made waves, as did Jean-Paul Riopelle, who was the subject of an article in the summer edition of *Canadian Art*.

To your study list try adding these two significant women artists — Betty Goodwin currently has a retrospective show on at the Vancouver Art Gallery, and Joyce Weiland has just had a book

## art seen

published about her work.

The other course offered by ECCAD is *Colour (An Introduction)* and features discussion and practical exercises on colour theory, mixing, and colour schemes. The course is hosted by Tom Hudson who is the Dean Emeritus of the college. The instruction could be valuable to artists in all disciplines. If you enroll for credit, it will cost you \$215 but that includes a "stimulating package of art supplies and printed instructional materials". But if you're cheap like me, you'll just watch for free. What a deal!

The Potter's Guild of B. C. seems to be going through some changes. The last few years have seen a growing professionalism which no doubt has been brought about partially by the establishment of a high profile gallery on Granville Island in Vancouver. For people who make a living with their work, an economic as opposed to a social bond is the strongest cement. Under consideration for the guild is a health care plan and a materials buying co-op, which will give much needed competition to unresponsive ceramic supplies.

The guild is also planning to use its studio space behind the gallery for an "artist in residence" program. Established artists wanting to experiment with new work, or emerging ceramicists, would be eligible for this subsidized and well-equipped studio space.

In addition to gallery shows for individual members there will be the annual Christmas sale at the Robson Square Media Centre on December 10, 11 and 12.

Speaking of crafts, if you're off-

island, where do you go? In the Victoria area, your first stop should be the Maples Gallery on West Saanich Road (take Keating crossroads to Butchart Gardens).

This gallery has had its ups and downs over the years but now, under the direction of Paul Quinn, it is once again an exciting stop.

Right downtown try Out of Hand, which has just moved to its new location on Johnson Street, at Market Square. For international folk crafts, try Fan Tan Gallery on Fisgard in Chinatown.

In Vancouver, Granville Island has it all from the Crafts House, run by the Crafts Association of B. C., to the Cartwright Street Gallery, to Circle Craft Co-operative to the many artist studio shops around the area. You can find everything from handmade paper to handblown glass, pots, weaving and woodwork.

Christmas is coming so don't forget the local galleries and the annual Christmas Guild's Sale at Mahon Hall.

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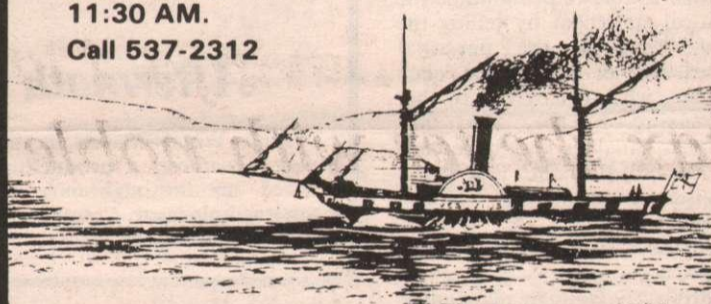
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## 'Worst kind of horror' depicted

Imagine waking up one morning and realizing that everything you had perceived to be part of your normal, routine life was just a thin veneer covering up a dark, sinister stain which had seeped quietly throughout society. Could you ignore this knowledge and go back to the comfortable life? Even if you were willing to oppose and expose the evil you had uncovered, what could you as a single individual do when confronted by a power structure that moves exclusively in darkness and shadow and leaves behind only a trail of lies?

*The Official Story*, the next offering by the Salt Spring Cinema Club, is a horror film of the worst kind. When the film ends and you leave the theatre, you do so in the knowledge that the monster had not been destroyed, but still lurks menacingly in our real world. In this case, the monster is a ruthless and vicious political dictatorship which silences all opposition through a nightly regimen of abduction, torture and murder. People simply "disappear" and all is covered up by a series of lost records, mass burials and unmarked graves.

The 1985 Argentinian production, winner of an Oscar for the Best Foreign Language Film, depicts that country's reign of terror for more than a decade of political corruption. Director Luis Puenzo is able to bring home the political statement by telling the story through the personal experience of an upper class mother who discovers, to her increasing horror, that her adopted daughter may have been the by-product of the state-sanctioned murder of political prisoners.

Norma Aleandro sparkles as the passionate mother who become progressively, though reluctantly, politicized as she travels down a trail of half-truths and lies from political naivety to the harrowing realization of her suspicions.

*The Official Story* can be seen on Monday, October 5, at 8 pm at Central Hall (corner of Lower Ganges Road and Vesuvius Bay Road). As always, non-Cinema Club members are invited and welcome.

— Shilo Zylbergold

## Church offering special blessing for island pets

A blessing of animals will be held this Sunday, October 4, at 2 pm at St. George's Church in Ganges.

The blessing is being held to mark the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, who is associated with poverty and love of animals.

The public is invited to attend the blessing and bring a pet. To "lessen the expected chaos," however, organizers ask that animals be brought to the church in a cage or on a leash.



## Aftermath of nuclear war

Janie Woods-Morris in the play *Creatures*, a production based on the nightmare of nuclear holocaust. *Creatures* is one of two one-act plays to be

presented this Friday (October 2) at Off Centre Stage. *Creatures* and *The Madness of Lady Bright* are considered adult fare.

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## And elects officers

# Guild offers praise for summer shows

The Salt Spring Island Painters' Guild gathered September 9 and congratulated artists and executives for the well-received shows held this past summer.

Paintings on a marine motif were hanged June 4 in the Harbour House Hotel lobby for the Power and Sail Squadron convention. The pleasures of a marine-enhanced lifestyle were evident in Chris Pattinson's colourful *Spring Paint-up*, Gordon Wright's spare semi-abstract *Beach IR2*, and Jo Stone's sailboat under stormy skies, titled *Between Squalls*.

Also contributing to the success of the show were Evelyn Napper, Mabel Renaud, Jack Avison, Marguerite Pearce, Val Konig and boater Gloria Simpson.

In September, the Guild members were invited to participate in the 25th anniversary celebration of Vancouver's Metro Theatre,

and the opening of its fall season. Members responded to a theatre theme with works in oils and watercolours.

Displayed were *Set Painters*, a print from Allan Edwards; *Backstage*, a semi-abstract by Margaret Threfall; ballet scenes from Jo Stone and Evelyn Napper, and masks of *Tragedy/Comedy* by Chris Pattinson. Some sales and generous compliments greeted the talented efforts of these Salt Spring artists.

The September 9 meeting elected Sally Robinson as guild president and Libby Jones as vice-president. The guild also planned fall and winter workshops, to begin September 30, on Wednesdays at 10:30 am in Mahon Hall. All aspiring artists are welcome to attend and participate to explore colours and media at all levels.

—Donnelly Koziar

## Sale schedule settled

Five island craft guilds are preparing for their annual pre-Christmas sale.

This year's sale — to feature works by island woodworkers, potters, painters, weavers and jewellers — will be held November 20-22 at Mahon Hall in Ganges.

On November 20, the Salt Spring Island Guilds' Pre-Christmas sale will run between 10 am and 9 pm, while its hours of operation on the two remaining days will be 10 am to 5 pm.

## The Chart Room



The Dining Room will be CLOSED for a private function Thurs., Oct. 1, 5:30-10 pm.

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# Audience, playwright rewarded by Off Centre Stage production

By ANNE LYON

A careless reading of the advance publicity doesn't prepare the unwary theatregoer for the opening scene of *Buildings*, a new play by Victoria writer Stephen White, presented at Off Centre Stage last Friday and Saturday.

Out of the darkness come loud, confused, scared voices. The lights rise and two people scramble up the girders and rickety carpentry of the set and push each other in through the window.

The man wears torn Levis; the woman, blonde spiked hair, tight black pants and high heels. They're blaming each other for something. They're jittery, shaking—obviously on drugs. They're shouting.

It's all shocking to a gentle middle-class audience. These are people we don't want to know. If they were on TV we'd switch channels. If they were on our lawn, we'd call the cops. But we're stuck here, in the intimate confines of Off Centre Stage, so we give them a chance.

The girl doesn't think much of his hideout. "It looks like there's rats in here," she says nervously. "Hiding, laughing at us with their little rat laughs."

Like invisible rats we sit quietly, stunned, in our dark chairs. And

gradually, from the warlike dialogue the couple hide behind, their truths leak out and we begin to care what happens to them.

White, who plays a minor third role in the drama, says the script started as an exercise in limitations: one man, one woman and a room. "My office used to be across from this abandoned building," he says, "and I started to wonder what kind of people would live in there."

**'Mom even sobered up for five minutes.'**

He studied the street people to flesh out his fantasy, and the play was workshopped for 10 days before its final form was ready for the Edmonton Fringe Festival. All this hard work shows, particularly in Cheryl's role, which has many layers.

In spite of the trappings of authenticity, the gum-chewing and the tough talk, the play seems to aim not for realism but for surrealism. The effective but unobtrusive soundtrack by Stephen Sherlock

also makes it seem more like a movie than a play, larger and louder than life.

Actors Colin Alcorn and Sheryl Fjellgaard must sweat off several pounds in their high energy, physically demanding roles. You have to admire the professionalism that plays to 20 people as if they were 200. It does seem a shame that a quality production like this, even though it's not exactly a fun night out, doesn't attract a bigger audience on Salt Spring.

And so how does the story turn out?

Well, the two had been lovers, years ago, and have just met again tonight in a bar. They've got a lot of catching up and forgiving to do.

Why does John live in this abandoned building, the fire escape his stairs, the window his door? Why is the unseen Mike trying to kill him? Why is Cheryl dressed so sexy and strung so tight?

Some of the answers are in their brittle backchat; some come in surprisingly effective blue-lit soliloquies, where the pair speak truly from their hearts, in real English.

Cheryl tells of her love affair with Lucy, her motorcycle. Headlights off, they rode along a dark beach-cliff road in Oregon. "We was flying," says Cheryl, and in the dim blue light you believe her. "That's where me and Lucy parted company," she says; Lucy to the ocean, and Cheryl to the hospital.

John describes his father's fatal heart attack. "Right on the 20-yard line, in his living room. They carried him off the field on a stretcher. Mom even sobered up for five minutes."

And when the two finally reject the paranoia of sour drug deals and betrayal, admit to their better feelings and stand up together like human beings, against the world, you can't help but wish them luck.

It seems a little disloyal to suspect the best they can hope for is to find honest work and get themselves a decent apartment with a front door.

# Speakers' club planning successful new season

Salt Spring Island's International Training in Communication (ITC) club, Salt Spring Speakers, has high hopes for the coming year.

ITC, which offers its members training in public speaking skills, launched its season in early September with a well-attended meeting at the Harbour House Hotel and is hoping that the initial turnout bodes well for the rest of the year.

President Anne Lyon said the first meeting drew nine members and 12 guests, and that the group is hoping to attract a steady membership of between 20 and 30 people.

ITC meets in the Harbour House Hotel dining room on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Dinner begins at 6 pm and is followed by a meeting.

Lyon said the club's next meeting, on October 6, will showcase ITC activities.

"We will have a commentator from Victoria who will demonstrate all of the things we do and explain each as we go along,"

Lyon said. The commentator is Jan Noble, who offers instruction in public speaking skills and techniques.

"Our purpose," Lyon said, "is to learn how to speak in front of people. We also learn social poise and formal meeting procedures."

Guests are welcome at ITC meetings. However, they should contact Lyon (537-2209) or membership chairman Sheri Nielson (537-4154) to register by the Monday preceding meeting dates.

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