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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR, NO. 4

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1987

40c



Driftwood photo by Duncan MacDonnell

New sign for Beaver Point Hall was created by area resident Paul Hart (above) from a piece of red cedar he found six years ago on a nearby farm. Hart calls the work

his "thank you to the community" and says it represents a rebirth of enthusiasm for the centre and its activities.

New sign symbolizes 'rebirth of enthusiasm'

A new sign identifying the Beaver Point Community Hall does more than attract a traveller's eye or attach a name to the nearby building. Paul Hart, the area resident who created the sign, says his work symbolizes a rebirth of enthusiasm for the local meeting place.

Hart has called Beaver Point his home for the past 10 years. That's long enough to see inevitable swings between light and heavy use of the hall, depending on the mood and makeup of the community.

"It's a cycle," he says. "Six or seven years ago, the hall was really busy. Then, as people grew older or whatever, not so much was happening. Now, things are picking up again."

Hall says the new sign, constructed of red cedar and mounted on a pedestal of rocks on the east side of the building, represents "a rebirth of enthusiasm"

for the centre. He doesn't say that just because the sign is something new, or because the community hall committee authorized a generous budget for its creation. Rather, his feeling is tied to a showing of community effort spawned by the sign project.

"Take the rocks for the base," Hart says by way of example. "They came from Beaver Point. People helped me haul those rocks to the hall, and people helped me set them up. That's just one more sign that people are getting excited about the hall again."

There are other reasons. Proposals are being considered for building additions or renovations that would expand the list of activities that can be staged in the hall. They include sectioning off a small area that can be used for meetings and improving the

Turn to Page 3

Pool proposal will be aired at public meeting

By MIKE TURKKI

Members of the Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society will unveil their proposal for an indoor swimming pool at a public meeting to be held February 2 in the library of Salt Spring Elementary School.

"At the public meeting, the swimming pool society will bring forward for its members and the public a rough draft of the (indoor pool) proposal it will take to the

'We'll be bringing to the meeting our proposal for the type of pool we're considering, and we'll be looking for comments on it.'

parks and recreation commission on February 23," Wayne Taylor, vice-president of the swimming pool society, said Friday.

Based on the findings of its 1986 questionnaire, the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission has recommended that a referendum be held here in November on the question of building an indoor swimming pool. The commission has expressed a willingness to work with the swimming pool society on the referendum, and suggested that

the pool facility's capital cost be under \$1 million — one-third of which should be supplied by the provincial government.

Taylor said the February 2 public meeting will give the swimming pool society an opportunity to put its ideas to the public and gain valuable input from island residents.

All facets of the swimming pool proposal are on the meeting's agenda — everything from the project's estimated costs to its proposed location.

"We'll be bringing to the meeting our proposal for the type of pool we're considering, and we'll be looking for comments on it," Taylor continued.

Taylor stressed that any pool constructed here must be tailored to fit the needs and wants of the community. "Every community is different," he explained. "Here, we have a large number of older people, and a pool facility must be designed with that in mind."

"Right now, we're looking at the concept of a leisure pool. Most pools built in B.C. recently are along this design, which has come over here from Europe and Britain."

The pool currently being considered by the society would contain, Taylor said, "a lot of shallow water" because many of the people likely to be using it do not know how to swim or do not swim well. A "beach area" — a

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Salmon scales provide helpful fish information

Within three years, the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society will be able to gauge, through fish scale analysis, growth improvements in local salmon.

Under a microscope, fish scales look like human fingerprints and can be used to determine age, growth patterns and where the fish has been and is going.

Chilliwack biology teacher Walter Wakely, who operates a highly successful "hatchery" from his high school classroom, spoke on scale analysis in Ganges last Saturday. Under his guidance, about 30 people took part in removing scales and observing them under a microscope.

The process involves removing several scales from the dorsal and anal fins area, mounting them in a scale booklet, and pressing them under a hydraulic press for approximately four minutes.

Society spokesperson Kathy

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Outer Islands news begins on Page 22



It's fishy

Enhancement society members learn to interpret fish scales — Page 8.



Timely tune

Stephen Kelly's piping highlighted Burns Night on Pender — Page 17.



Helping out

February is Heart Fund Month and events are being organized — Page 21.

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**Swans wintering at Fulford Harbour subject of reader's enquiry
As feed for waterfowl**

Driftwood photo by Duncan MacDonnell

Authority advises against bread

From Page 1

for it — but it's the best thing for them."

Dodd explained that bread — even the whole wheat variety — is too refined to offer birds much in the way of nutrients. In addition, a bird's digestive system quickly turns the bread into a pulp, much like pablum or porridge, which "goes right through them ... it's like giving them an enema."

In rare cases, Dodd added, birds have been known to suffer blocked digestive tracts from soggy, bloated bread.

"Grain, in the raw form, is the best thing to feed them," he said. Dodd ranks wheat as the most nutritious grain to offer waterfowl, followed by barley, oats, maize and corn. While raw grain is best, birds can also be given rolled oats, cracked wheat, maize flakes or poultry feed.

"It can be anything but grain in a flour form." To serve, Dodd recommends scattering the grain on shore or in shallow water; the birds will do the rest. It won't make for "sexy" feeding habits, but it will be effective.

Waterfowl do not need to be fed by humans to survive the winter, Dodd says. Their ability to fly makes them "incredibly mobile," meaning if they can't find food in one spot, they simply move to another.

"Waterfowl won't starve. The only reason to feed them is to keep them near where you are," he said. "Of course, to keep them around you have to feed them almost permanently. And when one flock migrates, you'll have to attract another."

Exercise caution near waterways

With trout currently entering a number of island creeks to spawn, members of the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society ask that property owners be especially careful when excavating near watercourses.

Kathy Reimer, a member of the society, noted that dirt and sand from excavation work can damage spawning habitat if it finds its way into trout streams.

Reimer said that Brien Foerster, a biologist who lives at the mouth of Duck Creek, recently noticed considerable silt in that stream, which is the spawning ground for cutthroat trout.

When contacted, Foerster — who has lived at his Duck Creek home for approximately six months — said the stream recently became heavily silted.

"It was like hot chocolate," he said.

Foerster said he suspects someone has recently done some excavating near the stream, or perhaps dumped some topsoil into it. He pointed out that this is extremely harmful to the spawning habitat.

The biologist explained that the cutthroat trout now in Duck Creek — which may have been forced into the sea by stream movement, remained there for some time, and are now returning — spawn in gravel because the material allows water to circulate around the eggs and thus provide them with adequate amounts of oxygen.

He said that when dirt enters a watercourse, it clogs gravel and impedes the flow of oxygen-bearing water around the fish eggs — thus reducing egg survival rates.

According to Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society members, almost all streams on Salt Spring have trout in them, including Fulford, Cusheon, Mansell, Bullock, McAlfie, Ganges and Booth Inlet creeks.

At least 20 or 30 trout were observed in Duck Creek last year.

In addition to asking that landowners be careful not to dump sediment in these creeks or disturb stream beds in any way, the society requests that anyone seeing trout in local streams contact a society member as soon as possible.

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to be frank . . .

. . . by Richards

Frozen freezers

What do you mean, asks Fred Brookbanks of Ganges, suggesting that freezers are unpopular in Arctic regions? I meant, of course, that it was quite cool in those climes.

Fred, who retired several years ago from Simpsons-Sears, recalled an instance when a freezer was shipped by his company to Inuvik. Upon delivery, it was learned that the lid had been damaged in transit.

No problem. A replacement could be shipped by the last boat of the season. But, alas! The boat had sailed early. The missing lid was put aboard an airplane and Fred called the customer to inform him the lid was on its way. Before closing off his call he asked the customer why he would want a deep freeze in a deeply frozen winter.

Sure enough, it was cold alright, agreed the Inuvikian, but everything froze so hard that it could not be cut, whereas, storage in a deep freeze permitted ready use of the commodity.

So you can sell refrigerators to Eskimos.

Gosh! That's cold!

The weather, for mid-January, was balmy. The mercury had tried for about nine degrees on the Centigrade scale and was still yearning when I called my twin brother in England. I could feel the cold waves of frost coming over the phone.

It was cold, he told me. And he's spent half a lifetime in the sub-tropics of South America, so he's probably a good judge of climates.

The highlight of the news reports, said my brother, was the reaction of a chess team from Iceland. The northern players were unanimous in their complaints. It was too cold for them in England and they were all eagerly awaiting the following day when they could go back home to Iceland to thaw out.

Beaver Point hall receives outside sign

From Page 1

framework for theatrical productions.

Another reason is new activities already underway or planned to start soon. Among them are once-a-month screenings of National Film Board productions, a piano concert a few weeks down the road and an exhibit of local sculptures set for sometime in March.

Robert Rustad, chairman of the Beaver Point community hall committee, indicated the intent of his group is to encourage greater use of the centre by more area residents.

Hart, who credits Rustad with encouraging greater interest in the hall, says expanded use of the centre can only benefit Beaver Point residents. "I grew up in a rural area like this, and I know that a hall is one of the few things you have to draw people together, to create a real feeling of community."

And that feeling, he says, is already growing: "There's a lot of new energy. It looks like a whole new cycle is ready to start at the hall."

The northerners protested that even the hotels were cold and that the Brits haven't learned yet how to keep warm in the cold.

Ablutions

I was put in mind again of the vagaries of the English language when my hands were gooey with food and the phone went.

At the Victoria Airport, when it was the Patricia Bay Airport and thousands of air force personnel lived there, we had two men in the instrument section who habitually washed their hands. I trust everybody else did, but the two significant hand-washers stood out for their difference.

"I'm gonner wesh me 'onds," quoth one. His companion agreed, "I'm going to wosh me 'ends," he echoed.

He went for bust

One of my first assignments on a British Columbian newsbeat was the secession campaign by Central Saanich, which was originally Ward Six of Saanich, and both of them are located between the ferry terminal at Swartz Bay and the city of Victoria.

One advocate of secession was the late Victor Virgin. He offered his views as a slogan when the debate swung to the size of the new council to take office in the new municipality.

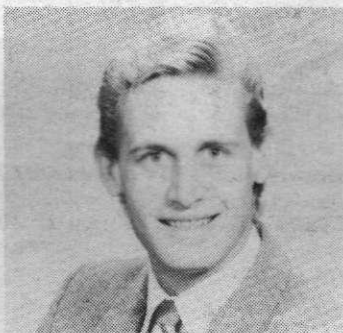
"Three or bust!" he sang out, rhythmically, "three or bust!"

I quoted him.

Within hours he was in the office, screaming. He knew perfectly well that the word "bust" was slang and he should have been quoted, "Three or burst!"

I got my story, but we lost a subscriber, who didn't like being quoted in anything but grammatical English.

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Schoolroom course proposed

Education can't help but combat racist views

How would you like these people coming into your community, to rape your wife or your daughter?

Words to that effect, captured by a radio reporter, were spoken last weekend by a resident of Cumming, Georgia, in an attempt to explain why he and his neighbours opposed a civil rights march into their community by thousands of blacks and their supporters.

Cumming's intolerance of blacks, reportedly typified by the above remark, is long-standing; the country has been an all-white preserve since 1912, when a white mob lynched one of three black men accused in the rape and slaying of a white woman.

(Although a handful of blacks today work inside the county's borders during the day, not one feels safe enough to remain overnight. A sign in the main town square advises them to leave by dusk.)

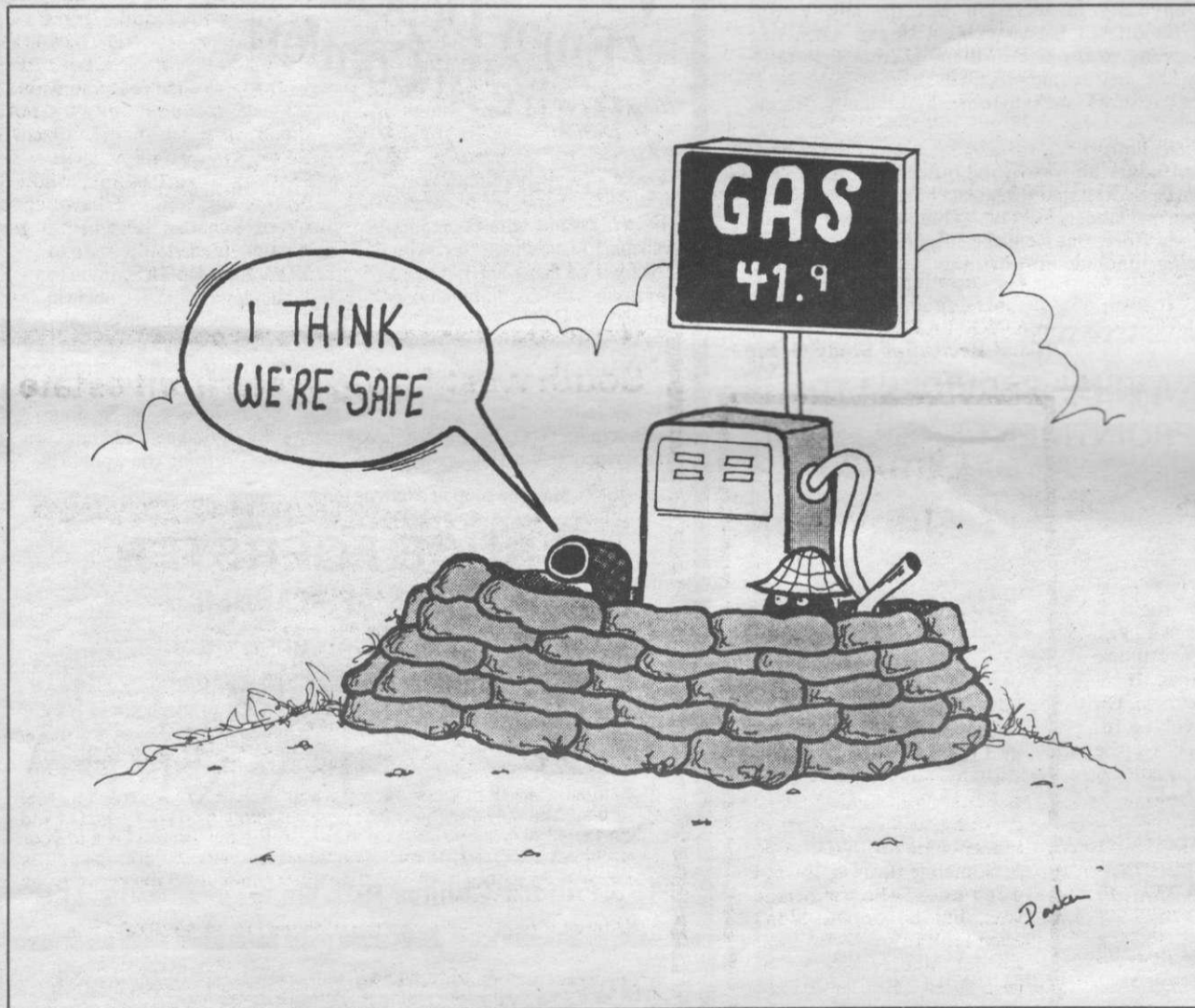
If a general conclusion can be drawn from the words and deeds of Cumming's residents from thousands of miles away, it is that 75 years in an all-white enclave has left them ill-prepared to even consider the concept of racial harmony. Ignorance and bigotry, it seems, walk hand-in-hand in Cumming.

The racial strife found in Cumming, while extreme, is not unique. A decade ago, schoolyard attacks on minorities — primarily East Indian and Pakistanis — in the Lower Mainland prompted authorities to institute a classroom course about different races and culture. Offering information about minority groups and their customs, it was found, contributed to greater racial tolerance and a lessening of mindless violence.

Recently, a call was made here by Bill Underwood, a librarian and English teacher at Gulf Islands Secondary School, to launch a similar program in local classrooms. Underwood stressed that his support for a course to guard against the growth of racist attitudes through education does not suggest the Gulf Islands is a hotbed of intolerance — the district has few visible minorities — but is based on a wish to prepare students for the day they may study or work in outside communities which have significant minority-group populations.

It's a wise idea. As Underwood pointed out, Canada is a multicultural nation, and its racial diversity is likely to be expanded as more and more immigrants are welcomed to our shores. Any contribution to inter-racial harmony and understanding, then, has to be welcomed.

Education certainly fits the bill, especially a program as proven as the one Underwood is urging for this district. Whether the education provided by that course is immediately applicable to the Gulf Islands is a moot point; as the Cumming experience pointed out, an outside world exists, and we should be prepared for anything it offers us.



Party's resurrection promises fun times ahead

The Andre Bissonnette affair is not, to my mind, the most significant recent political development in Canada. Most dramatic, maybe, but when the dust has settled, it will have been just one more incident allowed entry into Brian Mulroney's scandal-of-the-month club.

My nod for most significant development is also withheld from news that aides with criminal records have been employed by federal cabinet ministers, the stink about where John Turner does and doesn't hang his hat, the low standing of the Tory party in yet another poll or a decision by members of Mulroney's delegation to Africa to pack extra pints of blood in their suitcases. That stuff is just so much grist for the *Oddities In The News* mill.

Low ranking also goes to word

that Vancouver may be declared an international banking centre ahead of — perish the thought — Toronto, anything concerning trade negotiations with the Americans, or musings over which region of the country is next in line for a dose of federal largess. Nothing more than hot air from or for the ship of state.

So what's the hot item? Just a paragraph or two, regarded as filler material by most of Canada's newspapers, about the re-birth of a minor political party that nonetheless had a major impact on all of us during its all-too-brief former life. Yes, the rhinos are back.

The Rhinoceros Party of Canada, for those who missed it the first time around, defined irreverence. Candidates like John (Eh?) MacDonald offered up campaign

my word

by
Duncan MacDonnell

promises like a pledge to ease traffic congestion by requiring trucks to drive on the left-hand side of the road. One week later, they pledged, passenger vehicles would follow suit.

(Other favourites included repeal of the law of gravity, and painting a red line along the ocean surface off Newfoundland so 'our' fish would know better than to stray into 'foreign' nets.) Perhaps because party founder

and leader Jacques Peron was a French-Canadian, the rhinos were strongest in Quebec. In was there, in one federal election, that several rhino candidates actually placed second in balloting, ahead of hopefuls for the mainstream parties.

That success promised a bright future for the party (inroads were also being made on the west coast), but operations ceased two years ago when Peron died. With him went his creation's cheeky reminders that so much of what our governments say and do amounts to a pile of guff, that an absurd eye helps to keep the carryings-on in perspective, and that a fine line separates the reality of politics from the ridiculous.

The fresh air provided by the rhinos, missed so much when it

left us, will soon be blowing again, however. Earlier this month, party members removed their mourning clothes and pledged to once again lighten our all-too-serious political scene with their iconoclastic views and off-beat policy statements.

There is one problem, however. As shown by the continuing silliness that passes for serious politics in Canada, the rhinos do not have a monopoly on irrational behaviour. A warped sense of humour is fine, but stranger things are needed to top the unintentional pratfalls tossed our way in the past few years by Brian, John and Ed.

So, a rhino comeback won't be easy, but it should be fun to watch. And fun, as Brian will tell you, is something definitely missing in Ottawa these days.

Columnist

Sir,
I disagreed with almost every point made by Frank Richards in the guest column in last week's *Driftwood* (January 21). On the other hand, this was one of the rare occasions when Mr. Richards makes any sense at all. Congratulations, Frank. Welcome to the English language.
SHILO ZYLBERGOLD,
Fulford Harbour.

Sir,
Frank Richards' January 21 article may or may not pass unnoticed by the CBC but, in case it does, perhaps it deserves passing comment.

I realize that the columnist had his tongue stuck firmly in his cheek when he entertainingly expressed some of his closely-held opinions about the CBC's "political" role in B.C. Well, perhaps not firmly.

I am also aware that anything so heavily loaded with opinion could hardly lay claim to good basic reporting. However, surely one could expect so experienced a publisher to agree that virtually nothing contributes more to public apathy and confusion than the placing of opinion, editorial or otherwise, before the basic reporting of fact. Someone said it is like trying to fly without wings.

If Mr. Richards has a case against the CBC, based on fact, I would like to see it in print. So far, I am afraid the column has only tickled my funny bone.

LOWELL HICKS,
Ganges.

Handicapped decals

Sir,
Islanders are still telephoning me requesting handicapped parking decals for their cars. The supply at Pharmasave is now exhausted and, until this week, I was unable to be of assistance in this regard.

However, I now possess several decals clipped from brochures. They are replicas of the stick-on originals but would need masking tape around the edges to adhere to the inside of a windscreen. I can only spare one per applicant and such requests must be accompanied by a doctor's certificate. You can call upon me personally at 1155, R.R.4, North End Road, or a stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated.

Whilst on the subject of parking for the handicapped, I feel sure you, the general public, and I would like to express our appreciation to Mr. Ron Wertman for giving up his leisure time to freshen up the yellow paint on the signs and slots. The sour note, he reports, is that abuse is still occurring whereby non-disabled drivers have been seen to park in these slots. Such abuse cannot be rectified by law and so we urge the public to take heed of the disabled and park elsewhere.

BRYAN SMITH,
Ganges.

Public bay

Sir,
Eight women were acquitted recently of trespassing on Department of National Defence (DND) property when it was found that they were, in fact, on public land, below high water mark, on Winchelsea Island in Nanoose Bay.

The original action last August had been yet another attempt to establish dialogue with our government regarding its agreements and compliance with US nuclear weapons testing programs in Canadian waters. And the acquittal on a technicality served government interests by neatly silencing our voices of inquiry and alarm one more time — no case, no dialogue.

A large and disturbing question remains: did higher authority at CFMETR/Nanoose, who ordered the arrests and proceeded to trial, know or not know that the foreshore below high water mark is legally accessible to all? If they knew and planned the arrest regardless, then DND is guilty of irresponsible intimidation and illegal proceedings, resulting in considerable expense and hardship to the arrestees, and in reprehensible waste of public time and money.

If they did not know the foreshore law, then it is reasonable to assume that they also may not know much more important things such as: what happens if fire breaks out on a nuclear-powered submarine in Nanoose Bay? Might the answer be "It's not our jurisdiction — it is a US vessel?"

BETTY FAIRBANK,
Hornby Island.

Land claims

Sir,
Hubert Beyer, in his January 21 column in *Driftwood*, suggests there is a hint of change in the provincial government's attitude towards Indian land claims. If so, it has been a long time coming. On November 2, 1874, David Laird, minister of the interior in the Dominion Government, wrote to the privy council as follows:

The undersigned (David Laird), would therefore respectfully recommend that the Government of the Dominion should make an earnest appeal to the government of British Columbia — if they value the peace and prosperity of their province; if they desire that Canada as a whole should retain the high character she has earned for herself by her just and honorable treatment of the red men of the forest — to reconsider in a spirit of wisdom and patriotism the land grievances of which the Indians of the Province complain, apparently with good reason, and take such measures as may be necessary promptly and effectually to redress them.

MARY ASHWORTH,
Ganges.

letters

Pool proposal

Sir,
The Salt Spring pool society is requesting further input from the community before formulating its initial finding for the feasibility of construction of an indoor swimming pool to the parks and recreation commission. A special meeting of the swimming pool society will be held on Monday, February 2 in the Salt Spring Elementary School library.

The Island Recreation Study Group will present the results of the recreation survey, as well as provide information on the costs and operation of a pool.

The survey undertaken by the parks and recreation commission and the island recreation study group indicates a strong interest in construction of an indoor pool and a desire to spend some additional tax money to cover the costs. The question is whether the community has a big enough tax base and enough users of the pool to offset the costs.

Essential to any construction would be the acquisition of land at little or no cost, in a central location and a significant contribution from the provincial government in the form of a lottery fund grant.

Major topics for input are the location, the type of pool, potential cost of construction, the potential cost of the operating deficit, funding, relationship to business community and fund raising.

The meeting is open to the membership and the public.
WAYNE TAYLOR,
Island Recreation Study Group.

Canned Junk

Sir,
I'm writing to you because I'm fed up with some of the people on this island throwing their junk on the beaches and polluting the whole area.

The other day my mother and I (I'm 12 years old) were walking our dog down the beach. We heard some crashing, and the carcass of a deer came down the bank.

Someone threw it down. I don't know who the person was, but he or she didn't even look to see if there was anyone underneath — he just threw. If that carcass had hit someone, it could have injured them seriously.

If the person who threw the carcass is reading this, please don't do it again. And garbage throwers, remember that junk is meant to go in cans. One little effort can change a whole lot.

ANDREA GAETZ,
Ganges.

Gift to library

Sir,
The Salt Spring Island community library is greatly indebted to Mrs. Edith Campbell for the generous gift of books in memory of her husband, H.K. Campbell, who died suddenly in 1985.

Mr. Campbell was well known locally as a painter, photographer and naturalist, and had had a distinguished career as a movie-maker with the National Film Board.

The books chosen by Mrs. Campbell and her family reflect her husband's interests: *The Living Planet*, Attenborough; *Images of the Land: Canadian Block Prints*, Ainslie; *Art Directors' Club of Toronto Show*, Anos; *The Encyclopedia of the Animal World*, Burn; *A Heritage of Canadian Art: The McMichael Collection*, Casson; *The Galapagos*, Cribb; *Painting Nature's Quiet Places*, Daly; *The Amateur Naturalist*, Durrell; *The Adventure of Nature Photography*, Fitzharris; *Pastel Painting Workshop*, Handell; *The Wild Pacific Coast*, Kraulis; *The Encyclopedia of Birds*, Perrins; *The Wildlife Painting Techniques of Modern Masters*, Rayfield; *The Wonder of Canadian Birds*, Savage; *Bill Reid*; Shadbolt.

Further books on photography will be added as suitable titles become available.

OLIVE F. CLAYTON,
Ganges.

Ambitious plans

Sir,
The Chamber of Commerce's ambitious plans to revitalize itself, as reported in a recent *Driftwood* article deserve the support of its members and it is to be hoped that the various new committees will help the executive achieve the chamber's goals for 1987.

As I understand the chamber's constitution, its purpose is to develop, promote and improve trade, commerce and the economic, cultural and social well-being of the citizens of Salt Spring Island, avoiding political partisanship along the way.

I was also interested to learn that almost anyone may apply for membership. While there are some residency or related requirements, the main requirement appears to be a direct or indirect interest in achieving the chamber's purposes.

On the surface, the chamber's purposes seem very broad. However, perhaps the hoped-for membership increase will provide for a balanced perspective on local needs, wants and issues; and perhaps even lessen the feeling that the Chamber of Commerce tends to focus on the needs and wants of the business community and not so much on those of the citizens of Salt Spring Island at large.

We should all, I think, follow the course of the Chamber of Commerce this year with a good deal of interest.

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Ganges.

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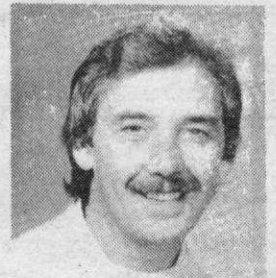
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Land-deal scandal dominates house

A land-deal scandal involving a Quebec member of parliament is preventing elected representatives from airing other concerns in the House of Commons, MP Jim Manly (NDP) said last week.

In an interview from Ottawa, the member for Cowichan-Malahat the Islands said the Andre Bissonnette affair "has blown everything else off the front pages."

The result, Manly said, "is there are other, more important issues that I and other MPs would like to raise — but none of us can get a hearing."

Manly says the land-deal scandal raises serious questions, most notably about possible conflicts of interest and breaches of cabinet confidentiality, but its consumption of the House's time and attention is not being rewarded.

Last week, the daily question period in the House was devoted almost exclusively to the Bissonnette affair. The Tory MP was fired as junior transport minister January 17 amid charges that he and members of his riding association in St. Jean, near Montreal,

'I get the feeling Mulroneu is very angry with Bissonnette.'

profited from the sale of land to a Swiss armaments firm that had won a defence contract from the federal government.

Despite requests by opposition MPs for information about the affair, Manly said, the question period sessions have proven fruitless.

"We've been stonewalled," he said.

At the same time, Manly charged, Prime Minister Brian Mulroneu's staff is leaking information to the press — information that should be divulged in the House.

"What we have is trial by innuendo," Manly said. "There has been no full statement on the case to the House of Commons. True, the RCMP is investigating the affair, but there are wider questions on conflict of interest and possible breaches of cabinet confidentiality (that could be answered)."

Manly indicated there is an pronounced impression in Ottawa that Mulroneu is making no attempt to protect Bissonnette, hence the leaks of information about the former junior minister

and his role in the land deal. But the MP reiterated that the place for such disclosures is in the House.

"I get the feeling Brian Mulroneu is very angry with Bissonnette — it's one more person who has apparently betrayed his cabinet, his government and the people of Canada."

The affair should cool down this week, Manly continued, because Mulroneu is visiting Africa, leaving deputy prime minister Don Mazankowski in charge.

"It will still be an issue, but it won't be quite so explosive," he said.

The Bissonnette affair left tempers short on both sides of the House last week, leading to a breakdown in attempts to adopt the softwood lumber bill.

The bill would enact as law the agreement reached between Canada and the US to place a 15 per cent export duty on Canadian lumber, instead of seeing the goods subject to 15 per cent duty on the American side of the boarder.

Manly said passage of the bill was interrupted when Liberal members offered a motion labelling the document as incomplete because the agreement itself had not been tabled in the House.

"The mood of co-operation has vanished in the House, which is why the technicality was raised," Manly said. "The Speaker should rule that the bill is, in fact, imperfect, which means we'll have to start all over again. I tried to suggest that the House leaders sit down and reach an agreement, but no one is in any mood to co-operate."

Manly's view of the lumber agreement is that while it will keep in Canada money that would otherwise be paid out in US import duties, the federal government has given the Americans the right to oversee how export tax receipts will be spent by Canadian provinces, and the right to veto certain spending plans.

"I see it (the deal) as an infringement on Canadian sovereignty, and on the Canadian economy," he said. "It will also have a negative effect on the price of lumber bound for other markets."

And one important bottom line, Manly continued, is that the agreement has simply passed American unemployment across the border into Canada. US lumber interests pressing for import duties had said unfair competition from Canada was causing widespread unemployment in their industry.

Appreciation

Sir, What better environment for baroque opera than the rustic ambiance of Galiano Island?

Georg Frederic Handel's rarely performed pastoral masque, *Acis and Galatea*, was offered in concert form last week at the South Community Hall — and it worked.

Appreciation and thanks to Ken Millard of Galiano for importing the Cecilian Ensemble, and to Handel, to this improbably and unique setting.

GRAEME WILKINSON, Ganges.

Gala event

Sir, I would like to invite everyone to set aside the evening of Wednesday, February 11. That night, the Vancouver Opera Touring Ensemble will be performing on Salt Spring Island, in the Activity Centre, at 8 pm. We now all have an opportunity to get dressed up and go to the opera.

Through the co-operation of the Community Arts Council, School District 64 and the Cultural Services Branch of the province of British Columbia, the ensemble will be giving two performances in the schools and one public performance.

Tickets are available at *et cetera* for \$6. If you wish to organize a theatre party of 10, the price will be \$5 per person.

The parents and students involved in the high school French immersion program will be supplying treats at intermission.

Let's make this a gala event and have a lovely evening at the opera.
LYNDA JENSEN, Ganges.

Protectionism

Sir, An environmental protection act is currently being drafted by the federal government to be tabled in the spring. Under it, companies or individuals who pollute will be subject to heavy fines (a million dollars) and criminal charges. A copy of the draft and meeting times for input are available at the library.

It seems neither the government nor industry here have been able to recognize and deal with certain problems — i.e. the holes in the ozone layer above the Arctic circles created by the production of 'fluoro and chloro-hydrocarbon compounds' (mass-produced for refrigeration systems).

And it may be too late — there are erratic weather changes all over the planet. Industry denies there was any original connection, of course. They are now researching other refrigeration methods.

On a more positive note, a group of Soviet and US scientists has decided to co-operate, in spite of their governments, to monitor nuclear testing. They've set up seismic detection posts in both countries; a private citizen donated land next to the Nevada test site. This is called 'doing an end-run around the Reagan administration.'

Other 'revolutionary activities' might include the statements of both Mother Teresa and Shirley Maclaine on American television networks last week. The first, (setting an example), goes in to rescue helpless kids under missiles fire in Lebanon, saying "even the smallest act in love is infinite"; the second reaffirms her spiritual journey in *Out on a Limb*, saying "there is nothing more important in the universe than the individual soul, and its contribution to the higher consciousness."

SUE HISCOCKS, Ganges.

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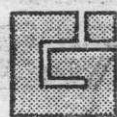
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Intentions aside, scheme raises ire

VICTORIA — I have mixed feelings about a recent announcement that the names and work skills of 3,700 "employable social assistance recipients" will be fed into a computer.

On the other hand, my feelings about remarks attributed to Social Assistance Minister Claude Richmond in connection with the computer-based work skills inventory aren't mixed at all.

Ostensibly, the exercise is to help find jobs for people on social assistance who are able to work, but ever since I read George Orwell's 1984 and have lived to see a few of his nightmares become part of my daily life, I am reluctant to accept government announcements at face value.

And the minister's warning that welfare recipients who won't accept jobs offered them might have their children taken away doesn't make me any more enthusiastic about the scheme.

In fairness to Richmond, the work or lose your kids warning came about in a convoluted way. If someone on welfare refuses a job, the minister said, his or her social assistance payments will be cancelled. And if, as a result of not getting welfare, a recipient's children are considered at risk, the ministry may apprehend them, he added.

'They have no choice in the matter, unless they want to starve.'

The opposition NDP responded immediately by accusing the government of turning British Columbia into a police state. I wouldn't go that far, but there's certainly something potentially sinister about the whole scheme.

Having my name fed into a computer scares me at the best of times, although I will admit that it can hardly be avoided in this age of high tech.

My SIN number is probably in all sorts of computers. So is my credit rating. Hospitals have my health record. And I'm not the only one who can call up my bank balance by sticking a little card into a machine. The bank can do that just as well, any time it wants to.

But these examples apply to most of us. What makes Richmond's scheme unpalatable is that it zeroes in on a select group of people — 3,700 welfare recipients in Kamloops and Surrey-White Rock. They have no choice in the matter, unless they want to starve.

You might say that the names of all welfare recipients are

capital comment

by
Hubert Beyer

already in some computer. After all, Richmond doesn't make out the monthly cheques by hand. True, but again, the names aren't fed into the computer selectively. They're in there for the purposes of a mailing list, no more.

The work skills computer inventory, on the other hand, is discriminatory because it divides welfare recipients into two classes — employable and unemployable. The distinction, in the eyes of many, is one between genuine hardship cases and welfare bums. In legal terms, such a distinction is "improperly discriminatory."

Having said all that, I will admit that it probably can't hurt to find out at a moment's notice what skills a person on social assistance has, although I fail to see where the jobs for them should come from.

There are more than a million names in the UIC computers, names belonging to people looking for jobs which don't exist. What chance, do you think, does Richmond have of finding jobs for employable welfare recipients?

Unless, of course, the Socreds plan to adopt a clever little scheme used by Dave Barrett's NDP government to get people off the welfare rolls.

At that time, a person had to have worked for 10 weeks to be eligible for unemployment insurance. To help people on welfare get the necessary 10 weeks, the government instituted all sorts of make-work programs, hired people for 10 weeks and then turned them over to the federal UIC rolls, freeing the same jobs for the next batch. Bingo: welfare costs went down.

If the government plans a similar program of relieving provincial coffers at the expense of the federal purse, it won't be quite as cheap. The prerequisite for unemployment benefits is now 20 weeks of work. Still, it's a possibility.

As I said at the outset, I have mixed feelings about the scheme. Despite Richmond's ill-advised remarks that people had better accept jobs or lose welfare benefits and perhaps their children, the government's basic intentions are probably sincere.

But I am also convinced that the scheme could be successfully challenged in the courts. And perhaps it should be. Discrimination is unacceptable, even when it is triggered by the best of intentions.

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CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT Ganges Sewer Commission

will accept requests from property owners who wish to have their property included in the defined area of the Ganges sewer. Written requests will be accepted up to 12 noon Friday, Feb. 13, 1987 at the office of Mike Williams, CRD Chief Engineer, 524 Yates St., Victoria. For further information contact Ron McQuiggan, 537-5521.



Driftwood photos by Susan Dicker



Diagram showing how biologists can gauge growth improvements in salmon through fish scale analysis.

Two participants in last Saturday's scale analysis workshop learn how to identify the age and growth patterns in fish.

The discussion, sponsored by the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, was led by a Chilliwack teacher.

Island enhancement group studies salmon scale inspection technique

From Page 1

Reimer said members will begin taking scale samples from adult salmon returning to Fulford this fall.

"We should be able to see if our improvements show increased growth in three years," she explained.

The six-scale samples should also help the society distinguish which fish found in local waters are from island streams.

Wakely, who spoke for approximately half an hour on his hatchery project before discussing scale analysis, intends to return to Salt Spring and provide those interested with further information.

For three years, Wakely had a 100 per cent success rate with his hatchery program. In the fourth year, he said, Vancouver in-

creased chlorine levels in the water and the young salmon were unable to survive without the extra de-chlorinator Wakely now has.

Wakely became interested in the project when a friend started talking about salmonid enhancement six years ago. He had always been disturbed about the way high school biology is taught — studying formaldehyde-coated parts of dead animals. "Biology is a life story."

Wakely's hatchery project incorporates de-chlorinators, a sand filter and three tanks. His students perform water tests and analysis, and weighing tasks. In four years, the high school students have released some 15,000 young salmon into a nearby creek.

"Whatever we're doing, we're

doing it right," Wakely says.

Through a slide presentation, Wakely was able to show how a scale is read. The magnified image looks something like the inner rings of a tree. Distance between the rings can show such factors as seasonal growth rate and fresh and salt water inhabitation.

police report

A local man escaped injury but his vehicle sustained damages after he lost control of the wheel last week and spun into St. Mary Lake.

David Robichaud lost control of his 1969 Pontiac convertible early in the morning of Wednesday, January 21. A dock owned by Mrs. Becky Legg was damaged in the incident, as was Robichaud's car, which will cost approximately \$300 to repair.

Local RCMP received a report of property damage, believed to have occurred during the night of January 19 and 20.

Mrs. T. Horrocks reported damage to her home's gateway and wooden picket fence. Damage to the Fulford-Ganges Road property appears to have been caused by a vehicle.

Police say they have no suspects at this time; however, the incident is under investigation.

Several people have been charged in relation to vehicle thefts which took place in November and December. The RCMP is unable to identify the individuals until all police procedures have been completed.

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Gasoline storage warning issued

The recent gasoline price war may have pleased motorists on Salt Spring Island, but it has also created concern.

Fire chief Bob Leask said Monday he is worried that residents who purchased large quantities of gasoline during the price war may now be storing the fuel in or near their homes.

Leask said that under fire regulations, the only individuals allowed to hold large amounts of gasoline on their property are farmers and construction site operators — and even they have must have the fuel "under permit." Leask said regulations also stipulate that the maximum amount of gasoline a single motorist can "procure and transport" is five gallons.

Leask noted, however, that these regulations were largely ignored by consumers during the recent price war. The service station battle saw the cost of regular gasoline drop to 16.9 cents per litre. "Now the damage is done, and gasoline is being stored at home," he said.



Driftwood photos by Duncan MacDonnell

Island gas war great for consumers, worrisome to fire chief

Leask said that anyone now storing fuel on his property should take proper precautions with it. He pointed out that under certain conditions, gasoline is "just as dangerous as dynamite."

"It should be stored outside, not within any buildings," he stressed, "and it should be stored in proper containers, clearly marked gasoline."

The fuel, Leask added, should only be kept in proper safety cans, barrels and tanks — all of which must be marked. "Know

the precautions," he said, "and afterwards, when the cans are empty, they should be filled with water to help get rid of the fumes."

It is the fumes given off by gasoline that represent the greatest danger, Leask said. These fumes ignite relatively easily. "Gasoline is a very volatile substance," the fire chief pointed out. "Gasoline even ignites on its own at temperatures above 535 degrees, and in a house fire, 535 degrees isn't a high temperature.

Sewer commission

Meeting reviews plant performance

The Ganges Sewer Commission held its first annual meeting at 4 pm on Monday, January 19 at the local school board office.

Regional director Hugh Borsman, four commissioners — Art Lloyd, Alec Houston, Tom Toynbee and Ron McQuiggan — and two technical staff presented a review of the first year of operation, in which the plant had performed in an expected manner, except that volume loading was somewhat less than expected.

Jim McFarlane, the operations manager of the plant told the audience that the low usage (33,000 gallons per day as opposed to a capacity of 100,000 gallons per day) had led to some less-than-satisfactory performances of the Bio-Disk unit. He claimed that the effluent met permit requirements about 40 per cent of the time, with small overruns in most other cases. He also told the audience that increased volumes during 1987 should promote increased efficiency of the Bio-Disk.

McFarlane also covered the harbour water testing that has been conducted over the past two years, and asked the audience to consider these results which

showed that there had been no change in water quality over that period.

The tone of the meeting was subdued, which is in contrast to many heated sessions in past years. In fact, the most pointed questions came from those who wish to have the sewer area increased.

It was announced that those who live within the existing sewer area will be required to complete their connections to the system prior to August 1, 1987. This increased flow will bring the plant usage to 40 to 45 per cent of rated capacity.

Sewer commission chairman Ron McQuiggan was of the opinion that the sewer system had performed well during its first year of operation and that the major tasks for 1987 would be to increase sewer usage so that unit costs for the customers can be reduced to the minimum possible.

A secondary task will be to co-ordinate some planning activities with the Islands Trust so that the two organizations will not get in each other's way during rezoning application processing.

— Article contributed.



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If started in the fall

'Queen of the Annuals' can flower by early May

With the publishing of this issue of *Driftwood* we see ourselves safely conducted through a mild, balmy January, and if luck is with us, the 28 days of February will slide by and usher us into spring without ever having run into the wrath of Old Man Winter. It feels good.

Perhaps we have already had our last frost of the season, and I can justify this article which will deal with the Queen of the Annuals, the beautiful sweet pea (*Lathyrus odorata*). This sweetly-scented bloomer will put on a colourful show from June through September, and if fall-started it can even start flowering by early May. This gives them the prestigious record for having the longest-running bloom season of all fragrant plants.

This native of Sicily has been in western gardens for nearly 300 years as a species and over the past 100 years or so plant breeders have given us a host of new colours, plant habits and sizes from which to choose. Now the range includes shades of pinks, reds, creams, salmon, amethyst, blue, mauve, purple and combinations thereof, and sizes range from the 12-inch-high Bijous (and other dwarfs), through Knee-Highs (30 inches) on up to the Spencers, Multifloras, and other giants which can grow to over 10 feet in height.

While the dwarf strains can do quite well in containers, the majority of sweet peas are vigorous growers and quite demanding of rich, well-drained soils and ample water.

They like to be in a sunny position, but need to have some escape from the hot temperatures usually associated with a full southern exposure, for they are cool temperature lovers, like their cousins, the garden peas.

For this reason, a full eastern exposure is preferable, or in an open garden plot, positioning the sweet pea rows in a north-south orientation helps. A southern exposure with a shady, mid-day break or a location where cooler air flows from a wooded area or a body of water, also make good sweet pea growing spots.

Sweet peas are heavy feeders

and like a loamy soil with some clay being beneficial for retention of nutrients. The pH should be in the 6.5 to 7 range and the soil should be prepared to a depth of 16 to 18 inches and a trench or bed width of 18 to 24 inches.

They are strong, deep rooters and will take advantage of a soil that has been well-amended with bonemeal, wood ash, some peat moss, sand, compost and well-rotted manure. This should all be carried out between October and late February so that the soil has ample time to settle.

Sweet peas may be started up indoors or they may be sown out directly into the soil bed prepared for them. They may be sown out in late October to late November for an earlier blooming than the usual spring sowings done in late February, March and April. If you choose to start your spring plants indoors or under glass in a coldframe, you will get blooms three to six weeks sooner than if you direct-seed. Indoor sowings can commence as early as late January and go on as late as mid-March, with early to mid-February being about right for the Gulf Islands. This would give you plants for setting out in April. The earliest sowings can go out while there is still some light frost in mid-to-late March and the latest sowings may be set out as late as the first week of May.

Now that was a lot of calendar dancing, but the essentials to remember are; 10 to 14 days are

your garden

by
Chris Schmah

required for germination at 18 to 21 degrees C (preferably in darkness), and four weeks more are needed to grow plants sizeable enough for planting out.

Some texts say to scratch, nick or file the seed to speed up germination, but one good alternative is to soak the seed overnight in room temperature water so that the seed coat will be softened. Be careful with the watering after sowing as the seed is susceptible to rotting. To ensure good drainage, use some sand around the seeds or sow them directly into an inch of sand, spread over your starter soil. Keep the temperatures cool and give full direct light to develop robust plants. Pinch out the growing tips

after the third pair of leaves have emerged and hold off with the fertilizing until some flower buds appear (later on when they've been planted out).

Started plants should be set out two inches deeper than the surrounding soil level, six inches apart, and root disturbance should be kept to a minimum as they are sensitive and easily damaged or set back by rough handling. When direct seeding in the garden, sow them one to two inches deep, three inches apart, and thin them to six-inch spacing as the healthier ones become apparent.

Once the plants are underway, fertilize them monthly with a low-nitrogen, high-phosphorus-potassium fertilizer, as they are legumes and fix their own nitrogen. Never let the soil dry out, watering deeply and fairly often. It also helps a lot if you mulch around the plants to help retain moisture and reduce the heating of the soil.

If you have chosen to grow the taller vining types, you will have to

provide some stakes, branches or netting for the plants to climb on. Twiggy branches stuck into the ground in a beehive or tent-like manner provide a most natural scaffold for the plants to grow on. If you want to get longer-stemmed showier blooms, you will have to pluck out all of the leafy side shoots that develop, and direct it into bloom production.

The most critical job to carry out is the picking of flowers and spent blooms almost every day as they finish their show. If they are allowed to set seed, or if all of the seed pods aren't removed, then bloom production will fall off to nothing and the plant will die, having fulfilled its aim in life. This means that you should enjoy picking all of the flowers off for arrangements and sheer pleasure, as the sweet peas will be happy to make you more. Whether grown in lush colourful rows, in dense clumps or in patches, the delicate hues and delightful fragrance of sweet peas deserve a place in every garden.

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February 2

Swimming pool proposal to be explained at meeting

From Page 1

section of the pool where water depth increases gradually — would enable children and handicapped individuals to enter the water easily, he noted.

"If there is to be diving, it will likely be a small area and one confined to a one-metre diving board," he suggested, adding that the pool — which need not be rectangular — might include "four 25-metre lanes."

The pool facility could also include small slides, cargo nets and "Tarzan ropes" for children, as well as a sauna and a whirlpool.

Included in the society's pool proposal is an area where people could go and have "tea or coffee in the afternoon" in a garden setting. Children's birthday parties could also be held there, Taylor noted.

The pool society has given careful consideration to the purification and filtration system for the proposed facility. Taylor explained that in addition to the traditional chlorine purification methods, there is the possibility of using a new ozone-chlorine system that significantly reduces the amount of chlorine needed. "Many people, of course, don't like chlorine or are allergic to it," he said.

At the upcoming meeting, swimming pool society members will also discuss proposed sites for an indoor pool.

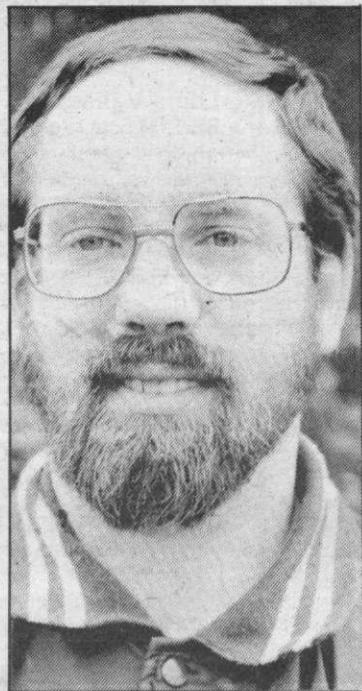
"At present, we're looking at a location near the Ganges core area, because it's central on Salt Spring," Taylor said. "We want everyone to be no more than 25 or 30 minutes from it."

At present, the Mouat Park site suggested in 1980 is being given close examination by the society. A number of factors make it a prime site for the proposed pool. Taylor said, for example, that it is important for the pool to be within walking distance from existing schools in Ganges, as it is felt the school district could become a major user of the facility.

He added, however, that before the Mouat Park site could be chosen, "some sort of environmental impact study" would have to be done. He added that the community would also have to approve the idea, along with various local and provincial government organizations.

"Some people have suggested we look at Portlock Park as a site for the pool," he continued, "but there's no available land in the Portlock Park area."

The pool society also intends to use the upcoming February 2 meeting to tell people how the pool can be financed and operated.



Wayne Taylor

It is hoped, Taylor said, that a significant portion of the money needed to construct the pool can be obtained through the B.C. lotteries branch. "There is the possibility of a capital grant from the school board, too," Taylor said, "and the balance would have to be made up by a capital deficit reduction program through the Capital Regional District."

The pool's operating expenses, he said, could be met in a variety

of ways. He stressed, however, that all public pools of this type lose money, and the proposed Salt Spring Island facility will be no exception. Tax money will be needed to make up the difference between pool revenues and operating expenses if the facility is to become a reality here, he stressed.

Additional information on costs, staffing levels, sources of revenue and other matters will be available at the upcoming meeting.

The swimming pool society hopes local residents will attend the February 2 meeting. "One important point is that nothing is etched in stone," Taylor said. "We are open to suggestions."

In 1980, a referendum on a recreation complex was defeated. However, in the survey conducted last year by the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission, between 75 and 80 per cent of respondents indicated they supported the idea of building an indoor swimming pool here.

The same survey determined that only eight per cent of respondents were unwilling to accept a tax increase to pay for such facilities.

The Salt Spring Swimming Pool Society, according to Taylor, now has more than 900 members. In addition to a proposed advertising program, the society has a fundraising campaign and is planning a book and record sale February 28 at Mahon Hall.

The Alternative Minimum Tax:

Many are concerned, but few actually affected

The alternative minimum tax, a separate tax system commencing in the 1986 taxation year, was designed to subject high income earners with significant tax credits and deductions to a minimum amount of tax. It came about in response to the growing public concern about the numbers of high-income Canadians who, through the use of various deductions and incentives, pay little or no tax in any one year.

When first introduced, taxpayers whose income was predominantly from dividends and sheltered by the dividend tax credit were concerned about a potential 25% combined federal and B.C. tax that had not existed in the past.

However, in its final form, the alternative minimum tax is expected to affect no more than 100,000 Canadians who, in most cases, will still be able to recover it within a relatively short time.

Taxpayers with incomes under \$40,000, regardless of source, plus their personal deductions, will not be affected by the alternative minimum tax at all, because there is a basic \$40,000 deduction built in to the system.

Those with net incomes over \$40,000 could possibly be affected, if they have certain tax-preference

items such as substantial capital gains (the capital gains exemption does not apply here) or tax shelters, taxable dividends over \$60,000, or a large retiring allowance which was rolled over into an RRSP. In fact, anyone with a significant amount of capital gains coupled with a rollover of a retiring allowance could fall into the minimum tax trap without realizing it.

In these cases it will be necessary to go through the exercise of completing the calculations on Form T691, which is not included in the standard tax package and must be ordered separately from Revenue Canada.

Even if the alternative minimum tax proves to be applicable because of unusual circumstances in one year, the additional amount payable as a result of the new rules is itself available as a potential tax credit in future years.

Those few taxpayers that are affected should investigate the advisability of restructuring their financial affairs in order to take advantage of the tax recovery provisions.

NEXT WEEK: A new tax credit with new income reporting requirements.

PREPARED BY:

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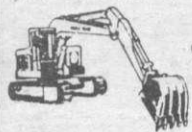
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Canada's military position scrutinized

Conference queried defence policies

Editor's note: Late last year, a 'people's enquiry' into Canadian military policy was held in Edmonton, Alberta. Galiano Island resident Woodrow W. Coward, a retired Lt.-Col., attended the two-day event and has since prepared three articles concerning its content. Following is the first of those articles.

By WOODROW W. COWARD
First of Three Parts

Last January, Nanaimo was the scene of a two-day *People's Enquiry* into the Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental Test Range (CFMETR). This Canadian military facility, located a few kilometres up the Island Highway from Nanaimo, has been under lease to the US Navy for a number of years.

The use of this Canadian military range by US Navy nuclear-powered and nuclear-capable vessels has concerned B.C. peace activists for some time. The Nanaimo enquiry, organized by the Gabriola Island Peace Association, was designed to determine the facts concerning the Canada-US arrangement and to identify any perceived hazards.

Five hundred people, mostly B.C. peace activists, participated in the Nanaimo enquiry. It was shunned, however, by Canada's defence and external affairs departments, and by the national Liberal and Conservative parties.

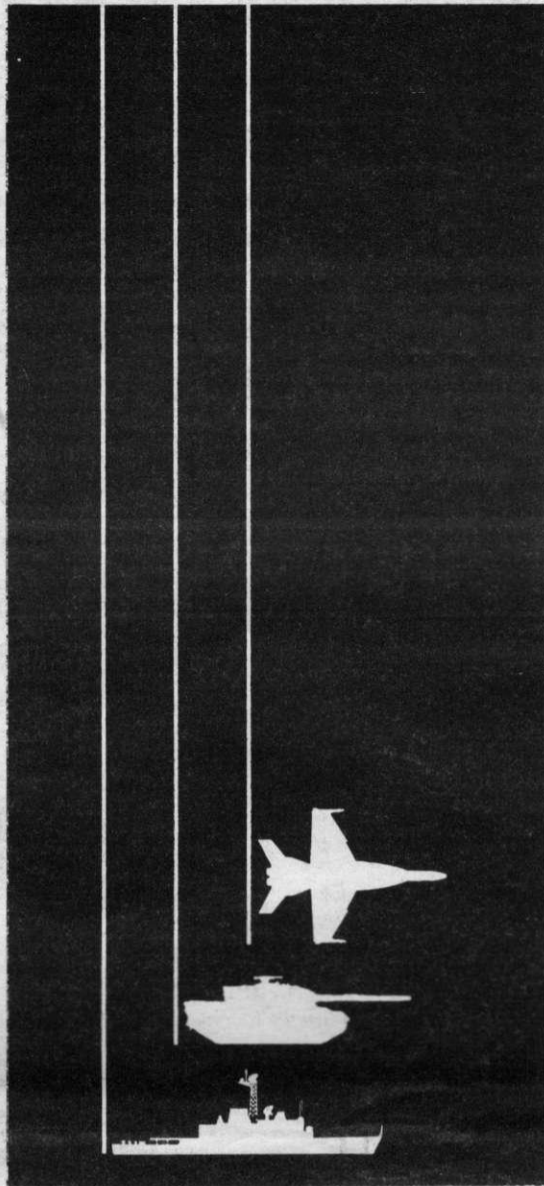
Although the enquiry failed to deter renewal of the lease to the US Navy, it impressed Mel Hurtig, one of the enquiry's moderators, as a unique way to promote public dialogue on contentious national issues.

(*Driftwood* readers will recognize Hurtig as the noted Edmonton publisher of the *Canadian Encyclopedia* and founding chairman of the Council of Canadians.)

In his closing remarks at the Nanaimo event, Hurtig quoted Dr. Wendy Dobson, head of the C.D. Howe Institute: "1986 will be the most important year in Canada since the Quebec referendum." Dr. Dobson was referring to the Free Trade talks between Canada and the US.

Hurtig went on to say: "There are many people who think that the fate of Canada, in many ways, will be determined during this year, and that the Mulroney government and the Reagan government are really talking about not a free trade agreement but steps toward an economic union with the United States that could lead to a political union."

Ten months after the Nanaimo event, Hurtig and the Northern Alberta chapter of the Council of Canadians, together with the Alberta branch of Physicians for Social Responsibility, sponsored another public enquiry. They called this one *True North Strong and Free?*, with marked emphasis on the question mark. Edmonton — regarded by many as the "conservative



capital of Canada" — was selected as the site for the conference.

The Edmonton enquiry was a far cry from the Nanaimo event, after which it was modelled. It attracted over 5,000 participants from all across Canada and many internationally-known speakers and commentators of the stature of Dr. David Suzuki, Gwynne Dyer and Dr. George Ignatieff.

The Canadian Forces sent a large and able contingent, headed by Brigadier General Don MacNamara. The external affairs department spokesman was Ralph Lysyshyn, the director of its arms control and disarmament division. Canada's three political parties were represented by heavyweights: Lloyd Axworthy (Liberal), Dr. Pauline Jewett (NDP) and Tom Hockin (Progressive Conservative).

The successful format developed for the

Nanaimo enquiry was adopted in its entirety by organizers of the Edmonton event. Each main speaker made a 15-minute statement, after which he was quizzed by a panel of experts for 15 minutes, and then fielded questions from the floor for a further 20 minutes.

(The panel for the Edmonton enquiry included Major General Leonard Johnson, recently-retired commandant of Canada's national defence college; the Very Reverend Lois M. Wilson, former moderator of the United Church of Canada; and Dr. Cynthia Cannizo, assistant director of strategic studies at the University of Calgary. Lois Wilson was a last-minute substitute for former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, who was prevented from attending for personal reasons.)

Of the 17 main speakers at the two-day event, seven clearly supported Canada's continued participation in its alliances. Ten speakers called for a review of our involvements. Of those 10, one or two suggested that Canada could contribute more to global peace and nuclear disarmament efforts by withdrawing from NATO and NORAD and becoming a non-aligned armed neutral.

Although the organizers aimed for a balanced dialogue, the resolutions which flowed from the enquiry called for a review of Canada's existing security arrangements. The positions taken in the main presentations will be the subject of a future article.

In his closing remarks, almost 10 months to the day after he performed the same function in Nanaimo, Hurtig said: "We, the organizers, like to think that this is the beginning of a process to be repeated in other communities across the country ... people from Toronto, Ottawa and the Maritimes and elsewhere talk about repeating the Edmonton experiment. And, as a long-term goal, they are looking at an international conference via satellite."

It seems clear the people strongly want to examine defence and national policies alternative to those now in place, in order to help Canada effectively intervene in the arms race. It also seems clear that Ottawa heard the signal sent out from the Nanaimo enquiry 10 months ago — the people want total and factual information concerning Canada's international involvements, particularly those with the US. They also want the opportunity for input into Canada's foreign policy, at least more than they have now.

Public enquiries of the Nanaimo and Edmonton model may well provide an important forum for citizen-government dialogue in a participatory democracy. The seeds sown at Nanaimo seem to have sprouted well: they have the potential of giving Canada a democratic method of reaching important decisions concerning its survival.



Julia Forbes

Bout with cancer led to group's formation

By SUSAN DICKER

When Julia Forbes learned two years ago she had breast cancer, there were few people on Salt Spring she knew or could talk with. If not for the Vancouver Lodge — a support group — Forbes would have had to deal with the fear, the shock, the questions and the depression on her own.

That experience recently prompted Forbes and other island residents with intimate knowledge of the disease and its effects to organize a local support group for others.

It was two years ago this April when Forbes first noticed a lump in her breast as she left a sauna in Princeton. She didn't tell anyone, but went to her Vancouver doctor the following month. The mammogram showed the worst: it was breast cancer, and it had progressed to a severe stage.

Turn to Page 14

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Effort needed to help launch local cancer support group

From Page 13

Chemotherapy — treatment through chemical medications applied intravenously—was to begin immediately. The doctor told Forbes she would lose her hair within ten days: she should get herself a wig.

"In the morning I'd find it (her hair) on the pillow. I'd brush it out every day," Forbes says. At first she couldn't even stand having her husband around. But she got used to being bald. It wasn't so bad, she says now.

"I feared for others' reactions, I had a dreadful fear of cancer and never thought I'd have it."

Forbes' blood did not react well to the chemotherapy treatments. "It (the treatment) was killing me faster than the cancer," she says. After six sessions, it was obvious she could go no further with chemotherapy. Her blood had become so badly affected that her immune system was almost non-existent.

The next step was 16 radiation treatments, each one involving three or four areas of the body being bathed in radiation for two to three minutes.

Meanwhile, doctors had decided Forbes' cancer was inoperable at that time. If they did operate, they said, the cancer might invade her lung cavity or her liver. To make matters worse, a severe pain in her back turned out to be a fracture of the spine.

In February, 1986, doctors told Forbes the tumour in her breast had been reduced. She and her husband decided to take a trip to California.

"One doctor said I might not take one next year and I'd better take it now."

After their vacation, Forbes spoke with a doctor on a Monday. The following Friday she underwent surgery. Her entire breast and lymph glands were removed.

"The surgeon told me he couldn't tell me anything else," Forbes says. "He said he scraped what he could, but he can't tell whether it was all out."

Forbes is considered in remission at present. She has regular check-ups and the doctors are pleased with her condition. But while her body works towards rejuvenation, Forbes continues to suffer from "delayed action" depression and anxiety.

While she underwent setbacks and treatments, Forbes says she was able to put on a front. She had a 90-year-old father (who she moved to Salt Spring to care for) and a 60-year-old second husband to think about. That front seems behind her now.

"I'm constantly on medication," she notes. "I don't have any *umph*. I feel lazy. It's very traumatic. I don't know if it (the cancer) is going to come back."

Forbes told herself that if she made it through, she'd work towards organizing a cancer support group. People need to have others, who can relate to the experience, to talk with, she says. She understands there are a number of people on the island who share that need.

"The fear is so devastating. It's a disease of denial — *no that's not me, I haven't got it*," she says. "But I learned not to be afraid of dying."

According to local doctor Ernie Jarman, support groups can have a good effect on how people cope. The old-fashioned approach, he says, is to keep a "stiff upper lip" but patients now find it better to let down some inhibitions.

"People are overwhelmed by this diagnosis ... they go into a kind of shock or depression," Jarman says. "They don't use the rest of the time they do have in a positive way."

Cancer support groups usually consist of people who have had first-hand experience in dealing with the disease. They are not there to advise patients on treatments, but rather to share their experiences and offer advice on issues such as what and how to tell friends and family.

Support groups such as the one here — which is in its formative stage — exist throughout the

country and are organized through the Canadian Cancer Society, whose Victoria branch is helping to launch the Salt Spring *CanSurmount*. Professional social workers and trained personnel from the group have come to the island and held workshops in Victoria for the volunteers.

Letters have been sent to doctors, nurses and druggists on the island, informing the public of the support group's existence.

"We're in the crib stage right now," says president Lil Pavey. "We're just getting started. The crawling stage will come as we start getting people together."

The group desperately needs volunteers: people to drive patients into Victoria; fundraisers; and "volunteers to get volunteers," as Pavey says. (Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Pavey at 537-5905.)

According to Jarman, there is some opposition to the formation of "amateur" self-help groups, which might "meddle" in people's affairs; however, most on the island are glad this service will be available.

"This group has a good background nationwide," he says. "The skills taught are certainly not meddling and don't interfere with accepted treatments. There are guidelines established to help members be of help to the people."

Jarman says cancer is "an accelerated death, and our society just isn't used to it." Things like advertising, for example, are geared towards youth, health and vitality.

Support groups help people reinforce their good intentions and help them get over the bad times, Jarman says. "People will even admit nobody gets out of this life alive anyways."

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Student artwork sought for touring exhibition

A provincial advisory committee is preparing to select over 100 pieces of student artwork for an exhibition which will tour B.C. and neighbouring regions.

The biennial British Columbia Young Artists exhibition (BCYA '87) is co-ordinated by the Emily Carr College of Art and Design, and is said to be the

province's best-known showcase of original, creative work by young people.

Salt Spring Islander Uma Emery's piece, *A Wonderful Marriage*, was selected as part of BCYA '85.

To be eligible for the contest, the artist must be a resident of

British Columbia, and be under the age of 19 as of September 1, 1987.

Paintings or drawings of any medium are eligible, as are original prints, photographs, two-dimensional collages and slides of three-dimensional works. The artwork must not exceed a 55.88 by 76.2 centimetres (22 by 30 inches)

size limit, and each artist is limited to two submissions.

Framed, matted, mounted or laminated works are not eligible for submissions. This also includes copies of other pictures or photos, and posters.

Entry forms should be available through the superintendent of

schools and the education ministry's correspondence education branch (Parliament Buildings, Victoria, V8V 4W6). Submitted pieces, including the entry form, may be sent to Emily Carr College of Art and Design (1399 Johnson Street, Granville Island, Vancouver, V6H 3R9) between March 1 and 20.

At Dandelion Gallery

Edible 'artwork' steals the show

By GARY CHERNEFF

Is there life on the outer planets (read islands)? I guess we will never really know until we go and see for ourselves.

So I did. Last Friday night, I made a quick trip to Galiano Island to attend the opening of a show of *Erotic Art* at the Dandelion Gallery, which is just a short walk up from the ferry landing. My visit was at the invitation of Kurt Ziwicki, who is one of about 12 artists who co-operatively run this small but inviting gallery. Arriving before the official opening gave me an opportunity to have an uncluttered look at the works.

(But before that, I must explain in the most delicate fashion about the handmade hors d'oeuvres. Keep in mind the theme of the exhibition. Now how would you go about arranging two pickled onions and a gherkin or two cherry tomatoes and a baby corn; or how about asparagus tips piercing a pitted green olive section; or two peeled radishes except for the red tips. It was truly the food of love and each morsel was to be savoured as a work of art. Without having had dinner I was not about to stand around ceremoniously. I bit in with ecstasy.)

The artwork of the non-edible variety was equal to its warm up act. Keith Holmes' large painting, *Night Studies*, and the smaller one, *Venus and Mona Lisa*, show great exuberance, wit and movement but at the same time give a sense of the artist being in total control of his medium.

One might contrast these with Willem Breddel's two small paintings, which appear much more sedentary but reveal the heart of a mystifier, a purveyor of illusions and dreams and maybe even a surrealist. Willem showed his stuff as he transmitted from a three-piece suit to starving artist rags for a planned but improvised address to the audience. Will the real Willem please step forward?

The work was diverse, from a fine fabric collage by Diane La Ronde to glass work by Alistair Ross and Kurt Ziwicki. As erotic art goes, this was by and large family entertainment unless you squirm at bare breasts. The large wood sculpture by Alan Eliot,

art seen

entitled *Fredrika Touch Me* was evocative, as was Ziwicki's abstract glass piece *Lovers*.

Enzio Von Resori had three sculptural pieces—a marble female torso, a tall pierced and pointed wood column and a small piece crafted from coloured plexiglass. Symmetry and classical line seemed to appeal to this artist, who is at home with a variety of materials. As well as producing a line of plexiglass jewellery, he is planning to establish a small-scale foundry on the island, which will enable him to produce some other sculpture.

Tona Von Resory is also a talented artist. Working with silk fabric paints and dyes and airbrush, her hanging piece reveals a love of colour and pattern.

Other works of special interest were the body casts of Trish Saunders, the watercolour sketch of Glenda Rasmussen, and the

Region gets two mentions

Two references to the Gulf Islands are included in the most current issue of *Canadian Geographic*.

The magazine's December-January edition features a photograph of a pastoral Salt Spring Island scene — barn, sheep and a horse — which earned Duane Ensing of Victoria second place in one category of a nationwide *Canadian Geographic* photo contest.

The other local reference is included in an article about satellite views of Canada's land surface. One of the photographs illustrating the article shows a crisp view of the Gulf Islands, Vancouver Island from Victoria to Nanaimo, the Lower Mainland and several points in Washington State, including the San Juan Islands.

weaving of Chris Gaylor.

The conclusion of the evening came for me with the arrival of the ferry, but as luck would have it, it was half an hour late; allowing me to enjoy Debbie Holmes' low-budget film. Set to music and shot in black and white, it offered sensitive mind wanderings on a beach landscape.

At the Dandelion Gallery, the special openings are an occasion of celebration and conversation in a relaxed environment. What impressed me most was the camaraderie of the group, which includes many styles and philosophies. Some galleries on Salt Spring seem positively stuffy and uninventive by comparison.

The erotic show will continue until Valentine's Day. On February 19, the Black and White Show will open. From March 12 to April 6, there will be an exhibition entitled *Island Life*. Don't pass up an opportunity to see this gallery and, who knows, maybe stodgy old Salt Spring might learn a few tricks from this energetic group.



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Our **FOOD BANK** is open Monday & Friday, 2-3:30.

We have **RESOURCE FILES** on many subjects such as **Canadian Cancer Society, Alzheimer's Disease & the M.S. Society**. If we can share any of this with you please give us a call.

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There are number of new Income Tax rules this year. Don't forget to read your Tax Guide. If you need help call Revenue Canada or visit one of their Mobile Information Centres in Duncan Mall Mar. 10-14, 9:30-5:30 and Apr. 14-18, 9:30-5:30; or Rutherford Mall, Nanaimo, Feb. 17-Apr. 30, 9:30-5:30.

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Mail charts route taken by artwork

Two years after local student Uma Emery's drawing won a spot in a young artist's exhibition, she is still receiving letters tracing its international travel.

The latest in the line of letters indicates Emery's drawing will be shown, as part of the British Columbia Young Artists Exhibition (BCYA'85) in Adelaide, Australia, for four months, and then move to Oslo, Norway, where it will become part of a permanent children's art collection.

Emery's drawing, *A Wonderful Marriage*, won a spot in the exhibition in 1985, while she was a student at Salt Spring Centre School. BCYA'85, which is sponsored by the Emily Carr College of Art and Design, has been viewed by over 22,000 people in 23 locations in B.C., the Yukon and Washington State.

Approximately 140 British Columbia students have pieces of art in the exhibition. All whose works are touring abroad will receive a special certificate and slide of their piece.

In Australia, BCYA'85 will be exhibited at the Carlew Youth Performing Arts Centre, and will coincide with an international conference (Association of Theatre for Children and Young People) and the *Come Out Festival* — Australia's national youth festival of arts.

According to Emery's mother, Giraja, her daughter received a letter in October which indicated a Norwegian official saw the exhibition at Expo and expressed interest in having it permanently displayed in his country. The BCYA'85 collection will join the Foundation of Children's History, Art and Culture, to be housed in the International Museum of Children's Art.

Both Uma Emery and her sister, Fainne, are dedicated and meticulous artists, each spending some two hours a day drawing.

The BCYA exhibitions are coordinated by the Emily Carr College on a biennial basis and the call for BCYA'87 has already gone out.



Timely tunes

Stephen Kelly's piping highlighted the entertainment as the North Pender Lions Club hosted Robbie Burns night at the community centre Saturday night. About 100 people came out for an evening of speech, song and Scottish food. Other Burns nights Scottish food. Other Burns celebrations were also held on Salt Spring Island.

Driftwood photo by Mike O'Brien

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

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

Mail applications postmarked no later than May 31, 1987.



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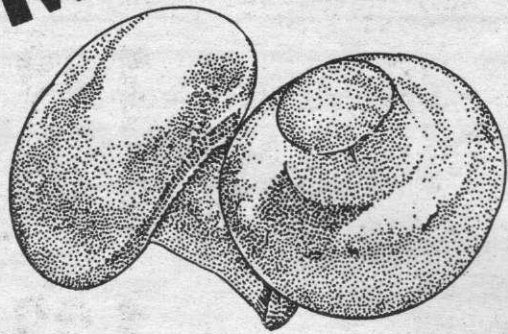
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Festival organizers plan format changes for 1987

Organizers of last year's Summer Festival of the Arts have started work on an improved version for 1987.

While the inaugural, month-festival earned critical and popular acclaim for its lineup of performing artists and theatrical productions, a five-member board of directors named at a general meeting held last week elected to revamp the existing format in hopes of offering an even better product.

Among the changes planned for this year's event are:

- emphasis on theatrical productions, particularly from local groups;
- double-billing of local musicians with 'name' acts;
- off-days on Sunday and Monday; and
- staging of festival events at various Ganges-area venues.

Michael Armstrong, one of the five directors named to the board, said this year's plan is to accent theatrical productions and intersperse those shows with "musical performances of note."

Organizers, he continued, are seeking submissions from local theatrical groups, actors and directors to mount productions specifically tailored for the festival. The hope is to field four or five productions, each of which would run for three or four evenings.

"Already, we have several local theatre groups that have expressed an interest in performing," Armstrong said.

The decision to double-bill local musicians with 'name' performers was made in hopes of exposing home-grown talent to wider audiences. Armstrong said that the variety offered by last year's festival prompted many local residents to shy away from local performers and attend concerts by 'name' performers instead.

"It was unfortunate, but a lot of people shunned the locals in place of 'name' acts," Armstrong said. "By using the local performers as warm-up acts, we're hoping to expose them to larger audiences — and it will mean more money for them."

Call goes out for volunteers

A call has gone out from organizers of this year's Summer Festival of the Arts for volunteers to help stage the 1987 event.

"We need a core group," says Michael Armstrong, one of five directors organizing the festival. "We need all kinds of people, volunteers, to work on all kinds of things. This is a community effort: we need community support."

He added: "If there's anyone out there who wants to work on the festival, we'd be more than happy to have them."

Organizers are planning to hold a public information meeting in the near future to unveil plans for this year's festival and to attract volunteers interested in helping to pull the events together.

"We'll be recruiting energy from the community for the next festival," Armstrong says.

Along with helping hands, festival organizers are also seeking office space. Armstrong said directors are hoping to find "a desk in the corner of an office somewhere" where a telephone can be set up. The office space would be used one day a week, he estimated.

"So, if someone out there has a cubbyhole somewhere, we'd like to hear from them."

Closing the festival down on Sundays and Mondays will provide a break in the schedule for organizers and audiences alike, while the decision to hold events in various locales instead of the Activity Centre — last summer's home — is an attempt to make the festival more a part of the entire

community. Armstrong said sites could include church halls.

Among general objectives for this summer's festival will be attempts to establish a regional identity for the event, trim unnecessary expenses and strengthen off-island promotional efforts.

The inaugural version of the festival was launched last summer to strengthen Salt Spring Island's stature as a haven for artists. With the support of local resident and noted Canadian painter Allan Edwards, its eventual aim is to establish a year-round academy for the performing arts, featuring world-class instructors.

More than goals and objectives have been set in place for the 1987 festival. Organizers have scheduled the event to take place from July 1 to August 2 and have already confirmed the appearance of one act — the Salt Spring Singers. Armstrong said the Singers drew an extremely good crowd last time and organizers "were more than ready to have them back."

Last week's annual general meeting reviewed the numbers from the 1986 festival, which included: attendance of 3,030 people, the appearance of 98 acts and a budget totalling \$30,000. Armstrong said the balance sheet shows organizers have "a small nest egg for 1987."

Named to the board of directors were Armstrong, Lynda Jensen, Linda Laushaway, Trish Nobile and John Akehurst. None of the directors has yet been given specific duties to perform or positions to fill.

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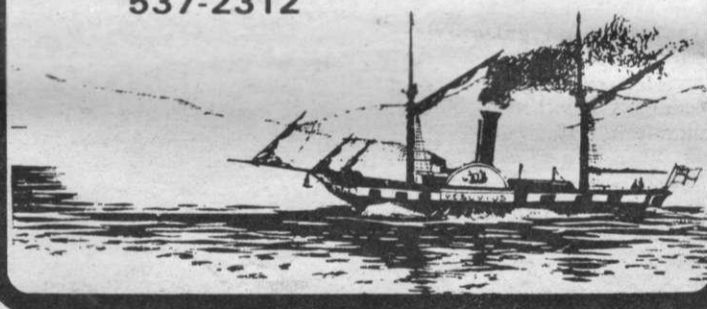
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