

Dioxin, furan counts tabulated at Crofton

Testing by the federal government of shellfish and Great Blue Heron eggs taken from Crofton have confirmed that they contain significant levels of dioxins and furans. But while Ottawa says the amounts found fall within safety

guidelines, MP Jim Manly (NDP) says the federal government is not treating the problem seriously enough.

The shellfish and egg samples were taken from Crofton for testing as part of two programs to

monitor the levels of contamination by chemical compounds at pulp and paper mill sites in four Canadian provinces. One study focused on heron eggs, the other on fish and sediment.

The former study found that

"there is widespread contamination ... of the Great Blue Herons" at the sites in the southern Strait of Georgia, and that the colony at Crofton produced the highest amounts of dioxins found — a mean level of 252 parts per trillion,

up from the 92 parts per trillion detected in samples taken in 1986.

The 1987 sampling program followed the failure of the Crofton colony to produce any young that year. Testing was done on broken

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TWENTY-NINTH YEAR, NO. 21

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1988

50¢



Mound presence

Solid pitching by Norman Borland (above) and night Little League play. Win lifted team to 4-1 record and first place in circuit for eight-to-ten-year-olds.

Borsman awarded 'top citizen' honour

Praised as the possessor of quiet dignity, and roasted as the world's worst politician, Dr. Hugh Borsman was honoured as citizen of the year in a sold-out dinner at the Harbour House Hotel last Friday night.

An estimated 145 people gathered in the hotel's dining room to honour Borsman, who has been Salt Spring's director to the Capital Regional District (CRD) since 1983. Borsman sits on number of committees and, as master of ceremonies Kevin Bell said, has maintained a quiet dignity among the "citizens of Salt Spring who, politically speaking, look both ways before crossing a one-way street."

Borsman accepted the award following a number of speeches, and reminded the gathering of the "literally hundreds of hard-working, conscientious people" on the island. He voted his wife, Ruth Borsman, as his own "citizen of the century."

Borsman was elected as director to the CRD by a margin of 125 votes in 1983, Bell told the group. In 1985, his majority jumped to 400; in 1987 he was acclaimed to the position. A fourth election, Bell said, would be a "coronation."

Sandy Gordon, president of the Hospital Board, provided a brief history of Borsman, after expressing the hospital board's "strong support for (the Chamber of Commerce's) choice" of citizen of the year.

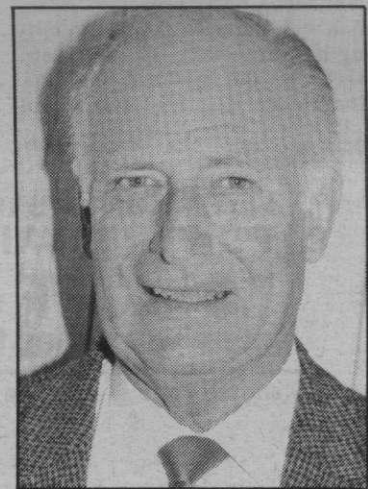
Born in England, Borsman spent the later part of his child-

hood in Saskatchewan, graduating from high school during the Depression. He attended McGill University in Montreal, received an award upon graduation and completed post-graduate medical work in Montreal and Britain.

During Borsman's 25 years of practising medicine in Victoria, he headed a number of departments and served on several committees. He moved to Salt Spring Island in 1978, becoming chief of staff at Lady Minto Hospital — a position he held until this spring, when he became administrative consultant.

At present, Borsman serves on more than a dozen committees.

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Dr. Hugh Borsman

INSIDE



MONEY
Matters

Your finances

Investment advice from experts is available in 'Money Matters.' Page A18.

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Water rules pondered

Regulations requiring proving of potable water supplies on all lots created on Salt Spring Island are being prepared by the local Islands Trust Committee.

At present, regulations require proof of potable water only when lots smaller than five acres are created.

At its meeting held in Ganges last Friday, the local Trust Committee voted to draft a bylaw outlining extension of water requirements to lots of all sizes. The step, requested in a letter from

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Hot Tubs
653-4513

Borsman named citizen of the year

From Page A1

On Salt Spring, he is a member of the sewer commission, the solid waste committee, St. Mary Lake Task Force, incorporation study committee, Parks and Recreation Commission and the Ganges Advisory Group.

He is also vice-chairman of the Capital Regional hospital board; chairman of the CRD's community health committee; regional board representative on the hospital and health planning commission; and co-ordinator and chairman of the proposed Salt Spring and Gulf Island Health Services Society. Borsman also participates in a number of ad-hoc committees.

Speaker Tom Toynbee provided a light roast of Borsman, noting that, by his own admission, he is the "world's worst politician," writing over-long letters and reports, and being "an even worse orator now than before." Toynbee noted that, contrary to good political behaviour, Borsman always takes a position and places himself in the centre of all controversy.

Toynbee noted that those traits have won Borsman the respect of the community, as indicated by the number of people honouring him this night. "Citizen of the decade," Toynbee described him. "I have no trouble with that."

Phil Hume, chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, said the body would no longer be in place had Borsman not "stepped in and looked at the future."

Ron McQuiggan, Salt Spring's alternate director to the CRD, noted that Borsman has more than 100 individuals working on committees. He recalled the "famous" Ganges Citizens Committee, which studied the proposed sewer installation, and Borsman's skillful participation in it.

Chamber of Commerce president Jack Cherry presented Borsman with the award, complimenting him especially for his recent work with the Job-Trac program. The presentation was met with a

standing ovation.

In his speech, Borsman recalled wanting to solve the Ganges sewer problem as his initial reason for becoming politically involved on Salt Spring.

While doctors are fairly protected individuals, he noted, politicians are not. He said he survived the controversies fairly well; however, his wife used to dread the Wednesday publication date of *Driftwood*.

As a politician, Borsman said he wanted to see peace on Salt Spring Island. To this end he remains convinced that on any major issue, a decision must be made. "Until that time, there will be no peace."

Speaker Charlie Horel said Borsman achieved that goal and more. As CRD director, he said, Borsman placed "a stamp of intelligence, integrity and respect" on the position. His achievements, Horel said, included the restoration of neighbourhood goodwill, and provided a "splendid example of excellence in office."

CRD director among trio thanked by Trust

Three people who have made contributions to Salt Spring Island were cited at last week's Trust Committee meeting.

Trustees Pat Byrne and Nick Gilbert voted to send letters of thanks to Capital Regional District (CRD) director Dr. Hugh Borsman, former local highways ministry roads foreman John Stepaniuk, and former Islands Trustee Dr. Dave Lott.

The letter to Dr. Borsman congratulated him on his selection as Salt Spring's citizen of the year and noted "the hard work and effort he has put into the community."

Stepaniuk was cited for the concern and effort he had shown for the aesthetics of the island as



Official opening

Lucky horseshoe was presented Monday morning by Charlotte Walters, far left, to Ganges Village Market to mark the opening of their new supermarket. Posing with Walters to accept the plaque are, from left,

Madeleine and Ken Cooper, Mike Tyson and Rob Large, with store employees in background. Story, Page A12.

TO MY PATIENTS . . .

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Ron Reznick will be associated with my practice, and I recommend him to you as a very well-trained and experienced physician. I will continue the practice in the usual manner for at least a year.

E. A. JARMAN, M.D.

21-2

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Vesuvius rezoning rejected

Solid opposition by Vesuvius Bay residents prompted last Friday's Salt Spring Islands Trust Committee meeting to reject a bid to rezone property in the area from residential to commercial status.

In letters and in vocal submissions made to a public hearing, speakers said the rezoning requested by Cec Bader would destroy the residential flavour of their neighbourhood and possibly lead to development of a commercial strip in Vesuvius.

It was also argued that enough commercial development is underway in Ganges to satisfy any demand that might be met by the Vesuvius rezoning bid.

Trust Planner Dave Morris spent almost one hour at Friday's meeting reading out about 40 letters sent to the Trust in opposition to the rezoning application. Several vocal presentations were also made, again in opposition to the bid.

"I don't think we've ever had such a number of people express such strong concerns and with such consistency as we have today," Trustee Nick Gilbert said when the public hearing closed and the regular meeting reconvened to consider the application.

Bader asked for commercial zoning on two adjacent lots in Vesuvius. His intention, he told the public hearing, would be to have a small house and adjacent commercial space on each lot. The commercial space would be low-key and small-scale development — i.e., studios for artists.

It was also argued by Bader that his properties — which are adjacent to the beauty parlour in Vesuvius — hold the key to easing parking problems in the area.

Designer Bob Hassell, speaking for Bader, added that his client was willing to agree to restrictive covenants and other controls which would guard against any abuse of the commercial status. He also pointed out that what was planned for the lots could be considered home occupations, which would not require rezoning, but that his client felt a commercial designation would be the most honest and straightforward way to put his plans into operation.

Area residents refuted those arguments, however. They made it clear that they did not wish to see commercial activity of any type or scope on the properties in question. A development would create parking problems, not ease them, they said, and be the beginning of further commercialization of the area.

Opponents of the bid also said its approval might lead to a requirement for a sewage system in Vesuvius and drive down residential property values.

In deciding to proceed no further with the rezoning request, the Trust cited as reasons the opposition of area residents and concerns by the Capital Regional District (CRD) about the suitability of the property for sewage disposal.

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to be frank

Red-faced

Had she lost a meat thermometer, I asked a young lady. I had found one in my kitchen.
"If it's the one on your counter," I was told coldly, "it's the one I gave you the other day!"
Don't you hate yourself, sometimes?

Grow it at home!

She told me which way to go. Gwen Althouse has the obvious answer for a man who eats little rabbit food and wastes many a leaf of lettuce.
"Grow it yourself," she explained.
Then I can cut the seeds into two sections and grow half-lettuces, she suggested.
Trouble now is that I haven't got a chisel small enough.

Which one goes first?

It was a long time ago when a fellow immigrant from Britain was taking his first driver's test. And the examiner followed the book.
"Would you throw a lighted cigar or cigarette out of the car window?"
The puzzled Brit pondered the question carefully before coming up with the obvious answer.
"A cigar!" he replied.
The answer took the examiner by surprise.
"Why do you say that?" he asked.
"I only smoke cigarettes."

by richards

Getting fatter?

Last week I wore a jacket I hadn't touched for three years. It was a garment designed to cause friction in families. Every time I put it on, Women's Lib used to make the same flattering observation: "You're not going to wear that thing, are you?"
After a few years it used to get to me. Last week I brought it out in self-defence. A belated blow for freedom.

It still fits me in most places. It was made as a single-breasted suit but I could darn near get it round me twice.
This losing weight isn't all it's cracked up to be. You keep getting thinner and you wake up in the night trying to decide whether to die of cancer or some other wasting disease.

Since last fall I've been avoiding sugar. No sugar in beverages, no sugar in cooking, no candy, no cakes! On medical advice I learned I was getting too sweet and something had to stop: either the sugar or me. I plumped for the sugar. I can't understand why it makes such a difference. I never used more than four spoons of sugar to a cup of tea and I never drank more than eight cups a day, at least, not often! I could eat a pack of chocolate-covered biscuits in one sitting. Sugar and me, we've gone through 70 years' living together!
If you're getting on the heavy side, quit sugar! It's deadly!



Lynn Hunter
setting it straight

Last week's *Driftwood* gave two last names for the NDP candidate for Saanich-Gulf Islands. The correct one is Hunter, not Hanson.

Hunter captured the nomination May 14 in Victoria, after three ballots were taken to narrow the field of four hopefuls to one choice.

One line was missing from a letter to the editor in last week's *Driftwood*. The letter from Barbara Koski and Jean Hogan, referring to a French multicultural festival hosted at Salt Spring Elementary School, should have noted thanks given "to Irene Wright and Louise Couture for their unflinching encouragement and generous assistance."

Liberals next to nominate party hopeful

With Progressive Conservative and NDP candidates now in place to contest the new federal riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands, it's the Liberal Party's turn to name its standard-bearer.

Sidney businessman Clive Tanner, the vice-president of the Liberal Party of B.C. and a member of the federal constituency association, said last week that no party candidates have stepped forward, and no date has been set for a nomination meeting.

However, Tanner indicated the party feels there is still much time left before a federal election is called, and an equal amount of time available for the selection of a candidate for Saanich-Gulf Islands.

Last weekend, the Tories and the NDP named their candidates for the riding — MP Pat Crofton (Esquimalt-Saanich) will be on the ballot for the Conservatives, and Lynn Hunter will appear for the NDP.

The Gulf Islands are currently part of MP Jim Manly's Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands riding. However, redistribution has carved up and combined portions of the constituency with part of Crofton's riding. Manly, an NDP member of the House, will not seek another term.

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Supply of water eyed

From Page A1

the Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society, falls within the Trust's authority, planner Dave Morris said in response to a question by Trustee Pat Byrne.

The Water Preservation Society request, made by vice-president Mike Larmour, argued that more and more lots larger than five acres are being created on the island — "many in areas of very uncertain water supply."

It continued: "This trend is liable to grow as the more remote areas of the island are being developed."

Failure to require proof of potable water supplies on larger lots represents a risk to the property buyer and to the community, Larmour's letter said. On the latter point, it said that if large areas do not have adequate supplies of water, the community may be asked to help subsidize the cost of extending a water system to the affected areas.

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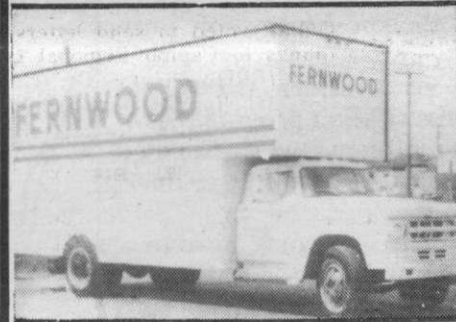
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Will roadwork provisions be resurrected?

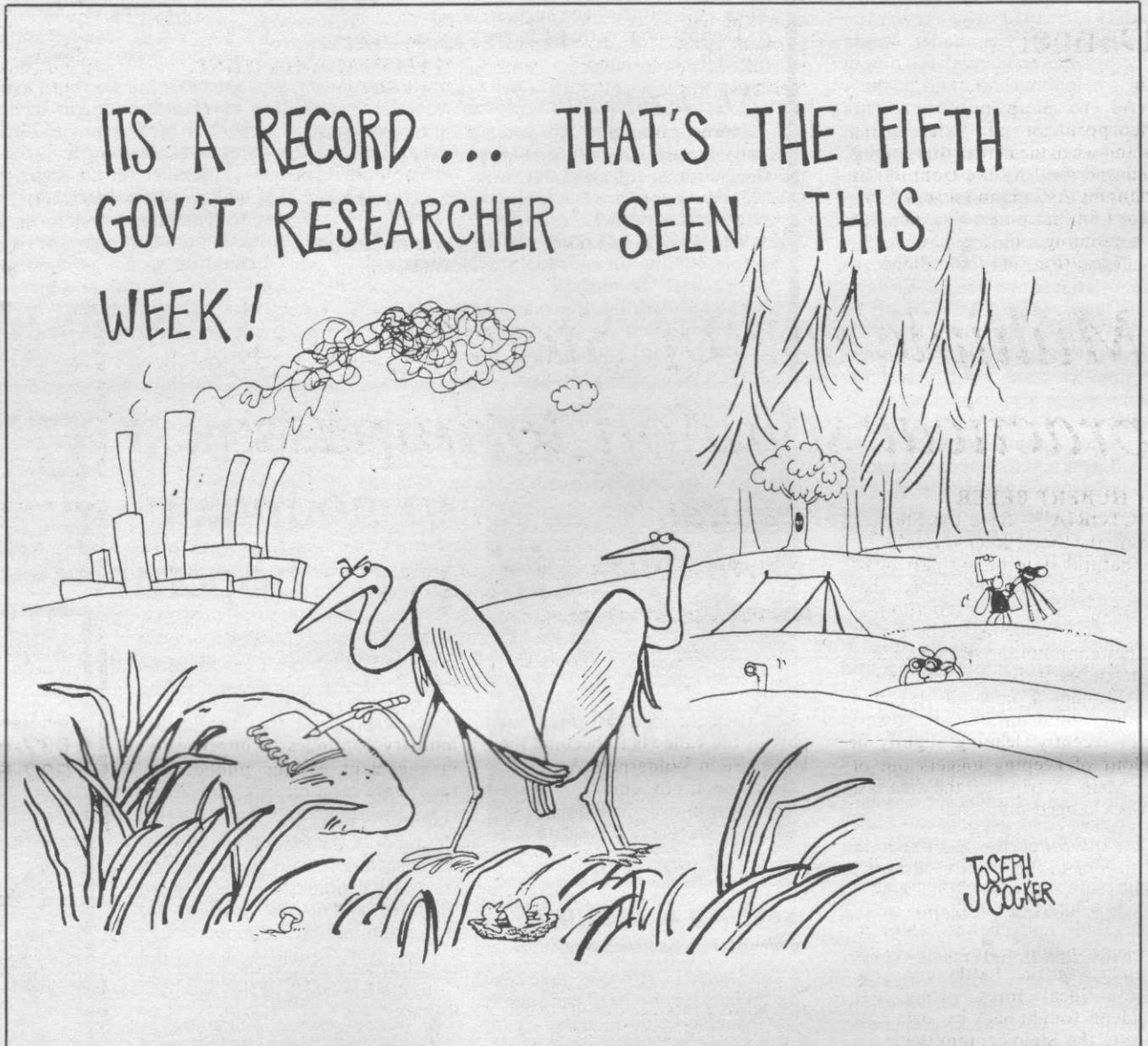
To students of history — especially those who hold that it always repeats itself — the failure of Salt Spring Island's first attempt at incorporation may not be quite so telling as the account of the provisions the town fathers of 100-plus years ago made to keep local roads in good repair.

Each able-bodied male, it notes elsewhere in this week's *Driftwood*, was required by the incorporated area of the 1870s and 1880s to work for a number of days each year at the upkeep of island thoroughfares. For this, they received some compensation from a local treasury that was already under attack for its spending policies from residents upset at the taxation and debt levels being reached.

When we look at the possibility of an incorporated municipality of Ganges arriving in the 1980s, and when we consider that the provincial government privatization program has thinned the ranks of local road crews, we wonder if a similar scheme might not prove tempting to the new council sworn into office.

After all, the new municipality would have to assume authority over the upkeep of roads within its borders, and would face an electorate sure to be wary about the number of tax dollars to be spent on establishing a municipal works crew. Also on the plus side, the scheme could certainly dovetail nicely with the reputation of the island's citizenry for community-mindedness, as well as with the prevailing mood favouring decentralization.

But today's Salt Spring Island is a tad more complex than its counterpart of 100-plus years ago. The hardy settlers working on roads in the 1870s and 1880s have been replaced by a population leaning more towards its 70s and 80s



— raising fears that road crews might have to be imported on a seasonal basis and that residency permits could eventually be required.

Also, the current value of the stipend offered to road crews of the 19th century might break the new municipality's treasury, leading to a repeat of the tax revolt of so long ago. Unless, of course, we adopt the modern answers of tax credits and

appeals for funds from higher levels of government to subsidize the cost of public works

No, it will not be easy ushering the proposed municipality of Ganges through the rough waters which lie ahead, particularly if the new mayor is a history buff. Then again, maybe it should be a prerequisite for the job.

Vehicle crunch no longer a single-day affair

Rush hour has arrived on Salt Spring Island.

If you doubt that statement, find a perch in downtown Ganges on any mid-afternoon. While the flow of vehicles cannot be compared to what's found on a given day in Manhattan or Miami, it's still a significant cut above the level expected in a "sleepy seaside village."

The arrival of the summer season is partly responsible, of course. But so is the arrival of ferries.

The mid-afternoon traffic peak, you see, just happens to coincide with the arrival of ferries at Fulford Harbour and Vesuvius Bay — ferries that were idle for lunch breaks before transporting vehicles lined up on Vancouver

Island since about noon. At roughly the same time, depending on the day, the ferry from Tsawwassen docks at Long Harbour, spewing forth another procession of vehicles.

You can see these three lines of cars and trucks merge and cluster, as I said, on any mid-afternoon in Ganges. Add them to the regular flow of late-day shoppers and school teachers heading home and service vehicles and you've got a real crunch.

I bring this up because traffic flows, like living organisms, follow an evolutionary pattern. In the larger cities of North America, for instance, the rush hour is no longer confined to stretches lasting a few hours in the early morning and late afternoon —

my word

by
duncan macdonnell

researchers now find that the tangle is uninterrupted.

(They have nice terms for this so-called phenomenon — the pre rush hour rush and the post rush hour rush, for instance. Next up is the pre-post rush hour rush, I presume.)

With these developments in

mind, I'm wondering what stage of traffic pattern evolution is next in line for Ganges. Will we soon see advertisements for the formation of car pools, a sudden influx of commuter cars on the used-vehicle sales lot, or the addition of a roadway lane for buses only? GO-Trains or subways, for those of an Eastern bent?

Whatever happens, we've already passed the line separating sleepy rural lanes from main feeder roads, and it's bound to mean some changes in lifestyle.

Take the case of friends who visited from off-island and eagerly joked about my aversion to driving into Ganges on Saturdays, suggesting that I wanted no part of the gut-wrenching, three-car traffic jam sure to be waiting.

Coming from a major urban centre, they found the thought too funny for words.

What they didn't understand was that it's a matter of degrees. A three-car lineup was unsettling when two was the norm, but I can handle it now that more crowded road conditions are commonplace.

The problem, however, is that I don't see too many of the three-car stalls anymore, and it's made me want to steer clear of downtown on more than just Saturdays.

Which means I'm not keeping pace with our traffic flow evolution pattern. Here Ganges has moved up to the rush hour notch, and I'm still stuck in the rush-day mode.

Who votes?

Sir,
Who will vote on whether or not to incorporate Ganges? The answer is to be the property owners in a very small mainly commercial area. Non-resident property owners and commercial developers will be the ones who decide everything.

It won't be the people who live on the island at large who will dictate the terms of how and when and where the city of Ganges is to be.

It will be the developers. Again, **NANCY B. ACHILLES**, Ganges.

Danger

Sir,
As a proponent of the incorporation of Salt Spring Island when the matter was studied and endorsed by the Community Planning Association several years ago, I am grateful to Dr. Bendick for pointing out the dangers of incorporation of the village of

Ganges (*letters*, May 18).

Whereas the whole island would gain a measure of autonomy from incorporation, and elected officials would be accountable to the community at large, incorporation of Ganges would have the opposite effect.

This explains what had bewildered me hitherto: the fact that opponents of the original concept are now pushing the incorporation of the village.

We have already had a clear demonstration of the intent of the Ganges business interests, and it would be nice to know how many permanent residents are attracted to the island by developments facilitated by the installation of the sewer.

It will be fascinating to read campaign statements by potential mayors of Ganges, who may well have no concern for and certainly no answerability to the rest of us.

MARY C. WILLIAMSON, Ganges.

Reminder

Sir,
With reference to your recent article in *Driftwood*, concerning this year's graduating class from Gulf Islands Secondary School, I would like to point out that your stated "nearly 65 Salt Spring Islanders" includes five Pender Islanders, three Mayne Islanders, four Galiano Islanders and one Saturna Islander.

Just a friendly reminder that there *IS* life outside Salt Spring Island.

MALCOLM JOHNSTONE, North Pender.

Policy

Sir,
Bishop Remi De Roo was shown a copy of the May 4 edition of *Driftwood* with its article about

a fire hazard on Charlesworth Road.

I wish to clear up promptly a misunderstanding which seems to have arisen with regard to this land and to Catholic Church policy in matters of public safety and of ecology.

The contract to log the property mentioned in your article was awarded to a local contractor in preference to a highly qualified logging firm from Vancouver Island. This was done because local church representatives had assured us that the Salt Spring Island contractor was reliable and could be trusted to meet all prescribed conditions.

It is church policy to favour local industry and create jobs within the community. We remain confident that the Charlesworth site will be left properly cleared and that all safety conditions and

ecological concerns will be met before summer.

MURIEL E. CLEMENGER, Administrative Assistant, Diocese of Victoria.

Opportunity

Sir,
How privileged we were to witness the spectacle of the world-class, New Zealand 70-piece Youth Symphony Orchestra. To think that they actually found time to come to Salt Spring.

Their rendering of Tchaikovsky's *Pathétique* — which is my favourite, even though I am not at all a symphony buff — was simply magnificent. The orchestra radiated youthful vigour and excellence and the audience should have packed the hall like sardines.

Oh, where were the teachers and their senior pupils, the doctors, the musicians, and the butchers, bakers and candle-stick makers?

Like is too short to miss rare golden opportunities such as Tuesday evening's concert.

PETER ROWELL, Ganges.

Multiple use of Stein Valley practical solution to impasse

By **HUBERT BEYER**

VICTORIA — Save the Stein or Share the Stein? Keep the valley in its natural state or log part of it? Those are the questions that separate urban conservationists from local residents in the Fraser Valley communities of Boston Bar, Lytton, North Bend and Lillooett.

Although I had not taken a definite stand on the issue, I was, until recently, leaning slightly in favour of keeping loggers out of the Stein. A trip into the area last week changed my mind.

If my sympathies previously lay with the proponents of keeping the Stein Valley as it is, it was because the anti-logging lobby was well-organized and better able to influence public opinion. "Save the Stein" was the battle cry long before local forest firms and residents fought back by forming a "Share the Stein" committee.

Based on the emotional appeals by conservationists, I had, in my mind, formed a picture of giant trees, hundreds of years old, covering the entire Stein Valley. Well, it isn't quite that way.

From a helicopter, flying frighteningly low at times, I was able to see the entire valley from the mouth, where the Stein River flows into the Fraser, all the way to the western end of the valley.

The Lower Stein Valley, which is to be declared a wilderness area, is beautiful, but no more so than any other of the hundreds of valleys I've seen. Instead of the towering trees I expected, I found rather sparse forest coverage and trees that were rarely more than a foot in diameter.

Still, it is a beautiful valley that would offer good recreational opportunities, provided one could get in. That won't be the case, however, if the conservationists have it their way. The only way anyone could see the Stein would be by helicopter or by walking in. Most people aren't rich enough for the former and not young or energetic enough for the latter.

The mid-Stein Valley is no great shakes. Beautiful, but not spectacular. Logging part of it would not desecrate anything.

Now, the last part, the Upper Stein, is something else. It is awesomely beautiful. Thickly-forested slopes running headlong into giant glaciers make this area worth preserving just as it is. And

capital comment

hubert beyer

that's what the plan calls for. This part of the valley is to become the Upper Stein Wilderness Area.

Nothing I saw could convince me that the mid-Stein shouldn't be logged. I looked at Meares Island a few weeks ago and came to the opposite conclusion. To log Meares would be very wrong. In the case of the mid-Stein, it would be wrong not to log.

There is nothing intrinsically sacred about a tree. It is born, it goes through its various life cycles and finally dies. Forests die as inevitably as everything else. There is nothing wrong with logging per se.

I saw a dying forest during this trip and a sadder sight you can't imagine. It wasn't dying from pine beetle attack, just old age. Another 50 years or so, and none of the trees will be standing. You'd do that forest a favour to log it.

I also looked at young forests in various stages of growth, from clear-cuts that were planted or had naturally regenerated five, six years ago, to sections that had firmly-established trees, planted some 15 or 20 years ago.

I saw examples of good and not so good forest management. In

some cases, too much debris was left behind; in others, there is a need for spacing. It became clear, however, that the more recent the operation, the better the management. Under increasing pressure from the public, forest companies are cleaning up their act.

The number one priority should be to make sure that the forest industry continues to improve its management of this public and renewable resource.

If the government bows to pressure from conservationists and Native Indians and denies BCFP the chance to harvest the mid-Stein, the local mills will sooner or later have a shortage of timber. When that happens, a lot of people in the Upper Fraser Valley communities will end up on welfare.

The Indians aren't really against logging the Stein. They would prefer to log it themselves. Meanwhile, they're managing to hold up any progress on the proposed logging by claiming that the entire valley is sacred ground. Negotiations, however, may still prove to be successful.

That would only leave the conservationists who admittedly have good intentions, but are out of line in this case. And if the government has any intestinal fortitude, it will take the heat and not cave in to those who want to save the Stein and, in doing so, could well condemn several communities to stagnation or worse.

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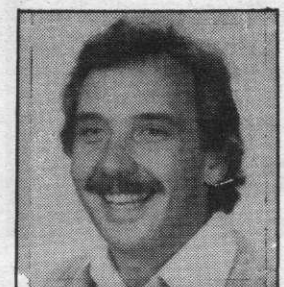


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What? Not muddling enough? Say it's not true

By ANDREW GIBSON

Whatever has happened to the sceptred isle, the other Eden? For millennia it prospered by muddling through, but now it is showing disturbing signs of cold-blooded efficiency. Rational planning is rearing its ugly head. Tradition is being flouted.

Until now Britain's custom, after each victory, was to disarm almost completely. Only thus, when the next would-be world conqueror threatened, would she be almost helpless and thus in the proper frame of mind for winning.

This irrational but successful ploy was used to defeat Spain's Armada and Napoleon's levies, to thwart in two world wars the meticulous planning of her adversaries. But once there was peace, the Chancellor of the Exchequer's greatest delight was in saying no to the field marshals and the admirals. The ships disintegrated at their moorings; the army was reduced to the size of the Monaco Palace Guard.

So convinced were the British of the efficacy of fiascoes that after Dunkirk they realized that victory was inevitable, and so proclaimed the disaster to be a triumph. Their calamities are the most glorious pages in their history.

There being then, as now, no Canadian merchant service worthy of the name, in 1939 I had been serving for two years on one of Britain's most disreputable tramp ships. We sailed from Milford Haven on September 5 in the first convoy of the war, and I can state that in our service no preparations of any kind had been made for the conflict that was obviously coming. After a few months we were favoured with a First World War naval gun, which might be useful if a U-boat commander did the decent thing and stayed surfaced until we finally hit him. Otherwise the only effect of our practices was popped rivets and eardrums.

By this time squads of Oxford dons had been shifted from Greek literature to weapons design, and some of them were given the task of inventing something to combat the divebombers which were harrying us. We were favoured with two of their efforts. One was a mortar, and being for use on steam-powered ships, it also was steam-powered. Alas, our supply of steam was so irregular by the time that it got to the mortar that the bomblet would usually land on deck, and in an actual attack would finish off what the dive-bomber left. It was removed and replaced by a multiple rocket launcher, the Rube Goldberg, MK. 1. It was welded to the deck, and was pre-aimed at the point from which it was hoped the attack would come, but when the dive-bombers failed to co-operate it too was removed.

Both of these contraptions may, however, have been successful. No tally was made of the planes lost when their pilots became helpless with laughter.

(I must, of course, add that as the war progressed we were equipped with effective armament).

Even more indicative of the British penchant for galloping confidently into the Valley of Death was the attitude in merchant ships to the regrettable necessity of carrying lifeboats. True, they were swung out and provisioned, but it was considered a sign of neurosis and defeatism to have meaningful abandon-ship drills. In six years, almost all of it in the war zones, and during which time three of my five ships were sunk (after I had left), I only once saw the boats actually lowered into the water, and that at my insistence.

andrew gibson

This apparent insouciance involved the whole ship's company, from the captain down. To a man, they thought it shockingly bad form to act as if engaged in anything more lethal than punting on the Thames.

Two examples: one night in the North Atlantic we were assigned a position three miles at 45 degrees from the main body, the theory being that we would draw the action. We did, in fact, come upon a surfaced submarine, which our captain, with great coolness, attempted to ram. It submerged, and with maximum speed of nine knots, our situation could be

considered perilous. Yet until the morning only the watch on duty knew what had happened — there was no thought of alerting the others.

On another occasion, again in the North Atlantic, we broke down and were left behind by the convoy as it was under attack. Realistically, our chances were slim, and yet there was no break in the ship's routine. Twenty-four hours later we were joined by an armed trawler, which circled us until the gallant Dutch rescue tug *Thames* came and towed us to Iceland, several hundred miles distant.

At first blush, such reluctance to take even sensible precautions seems demented, especially in the Merchant Service, which lost over a quarter of its men, far more than in any other service. Yet I am convinced that over the long haul it is far more salutary for a nation to

muddle through than to plan so carefully for defense that to attack becomes attractive.

For hundreds of years the British have resisted regimentation, often in opposition to their leaders. Regimentation being essential to war-making, they were limited to commercial pursuits, and colonization. Therefore they prospered.

Now, alas, under the Iron Lady, Britain is being transformed. She was first afflicted with hubris when in the Falklands she defeated a gang of incompetent generals. The country is now being transformed not only into very rich and very poor, but into southern prosperity and northern wretchedness, into the I'm-all-right-Jacks and the humane.

Feckless as Britain may have been, I liked her better then. There is nothing there now for Canadians to emulate.

more letters

Cheers

Sir,
At this time I would like to give three cheers for Connie Kelly's letter in last week's issue of *Driftwood*, regarding the trucking operation owned and operated by Hal Wright.

There is a lot of support for Hal Wright on Salt Spring Island, but unfortunately most people are too timid to get involved.

Good letter, Connie, you told it the way it is.
J. BENNETT,
Ganges.

Generosity

Sir,
A goods and services auction hosted by Arvid Chalmers and Mike Hayes on May 21 added almost \$2,000 to the coffers of Off Centre Stage. The event was organized by April Curtis and Lynda Jensen, and was supported by the generosity and enthusiasm of Salt Spring Islanders.

Gary Lundy, Terry Warbey and Dwaine Prosk played music, lots of people contributed great desserts for the bistro, and the list of auction items was dazzling. A sincere thank you to all who

participated in any way. You always come through when you're needed.

Off Centre Stage (theatre, art gallery, bistro) has a new lease on life these days as well as a new two-year lease on its premises. Concerts, plays, workshops — all are possible; many are already scheduled for the months to come. Watch for the ads.

Memberships in the Off Centre Stage Society are now available, too, ranging from "supporting" at \$10 to "patron" at \$50.

For further information, please call Off Centre Stage at 537-5211.
MAGGIE HAYES,
Ganges.

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Qualifications - Grade twelve or equivalent supplemented with work-related courses, e.g. office management, computer skills, interpersonal relations. Experience dealing with public and good communication skills; extensive knowledge of government organizations, programs and services; knowledge of local community preferred; ability to deal with public in a fair and consistent manner; understand, organize and interpret complex material; ability to work independently. Typing is essential.

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Organizing

Sir,
Improvements to Salt Spring ball fields have begun as concrete pads for dugouts were poured on the long weekend at Portlock Park and at the Fulford II field. In addition, metal pipes were sunk into the ground so that the backstop screening could be extended.

Future projects include building the dugouts, sandblasting and painting the backstops, raising and extending the Fulford fence, and improving the field conditions.

There will be a meeting on Thursday, June 2, at 8:30 pm at the Salt Spring Elementary School Library to organize work parties to accomplish these projects. All teams participating in the four Island softball leagues are

encouraged to send a representative to the meeting.
SHILO ZYLBERGOLD,
SSI Softball Association.

Questions

Sir,
A recent account in *Driftwood* with regards to combining the boards of Greenwoods and Lady Minto institutions has left me with questions. These are:

- Which board will take over complete control?
- If these facilities are combined, we will have 80-odd beds for extended care and some 20 beds for acute care. What qualifications

more letters

are required for these administrative duties, and do we have the personnel with the requirements to meet them?

• Why is there such haste to make this considerable move? Would it not be normal to discuss this at the upcoming annual general meeting and, after consideration, make the decision at the following AGM?

This is a matter which strikes at the very heart of our community well-being. Do we want to act in haste? Is it not proper the community be given full knowledge of the board's proposals?

It is hoped the public will be given adequate notice of the time

of the upcoming annual general meeting to enable them to make considered judgements.

CHARLOTTE A. WALTERS,
Ganges.

Successful

Sir,
The Auckland Youth Symphony's performance was a success because of you.

Thank you, billet hosts. You are to be commended highly for the generosity and hospitality you extended toward the young New Zealanders last week. Thank you, too, to the families who stood by as spares in case something happened

at the last moment. And thank you to all who continued to offer billeting even during the concert.

Thank you to Glenn Woodley, Mike Hayes, Yvonne Fee at Salt Spring Elementary School; Dave Henshall and Bud; Frank Sutherland and busing staff; Dwayne Prosk; Trish Nobile and GIPSY; Gulf Island C.A.C. for their financial contribution; Dawn Luker and the et cetera staff; and audience members who stayed behind to help stack and sort chairs after the concert.

You have all made it a memorable experience for yourselves and these students. You facilitated a rich and wholesome cultural exchange.

Thank you all.
MARGIE KORRISON,
Vesuvius Bay.



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Mimicking

Sir,
We are almost always favourably impressed by your newspaper, and feel that the articles are well represented and in good taste. But the photo of young David Fiander on Page B13 of last week's paper was, in our view, in extremely poor taste.

You could have shown a picture of just the kid and his trophies. Or even, I suppose, the kid with his gun in a less prominent position. Instead, you chose to have him in a ready-to-fire position, with his finger on the trigger, mimicking the worst of the G.I. Joe type images with which our kids are already overwhelmed.

Are you aware that the RCMP, in conjunction with the schools, has been showing kids films and talking with them about firearms? Are you aware that this island is considered to have a problem with kids and guns? We just don't need to feed into this kind of image.

The photo has been printed, and there's not much you can do about it. But please give the issue some thought. Salt Spring is not a frontier area any more. It's a suburban and semi-rural island with precious little area for the safe use of firearms. We hardly need to encourage their use.

**JULIA ATKINS,
DOUG ATKINS,
Fulford Harbour.**

Proclamations

Sir,
We note through the *Driftwood* that both the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Salt Spring Island Planning Association have gone on record supporting the Ministry of Parks and Environment's decision to deny our Company's application to use (on a temporary conditional basis) a short section of the historical road located at the North East corner of the Ecological Reserve. We are at a loss to understand why neither group extended an invitation to us to attend such discussions. For us, making such proclamations without understanding the facts seems to be a bit short-sighted. To demonstrate the need for some organized responsible action let's take a not-so-hypothetical picture of the present and future potential for this particular area of our island.

- a. within three short years; a fully operational ferry terminal will be located west of Isabella Point, featuring quick and easy access to Victoria and Vancouver;
- b. just down the road, a much improved highway access, starting from the new ferry terminal and connecting to Musgrave Road just slightly south of the switchbacks;
- c. from the date of completion of this modern, more frequent ferry

service, ever increasing users, commuters, residents and tourists; d. that every one of these ferry users both arriving and leaving our island will be a potential visitor to the Ecological Reserve (oh, gee, really?) which will then be easily accessible to all;

e. South of Cape Keppel there exists an underwater Ecological Reserve. It is noted for the clarity of its ocean water and should be accessible to all residents;

f. West of Cape Keppel there are large acreages of undeveloped Park Reserve with no public access to the land or the beautiful beaches;

g. Cape Keppel has a recognized salmon run every fall but at present there exists no legal or easy access for our residents to this or the beautiful beaches east of the cape.

Hopefully the above will provide "food for positive action" for those concerned or for those who are charged with the responsibility to act. We believe that at present there exists "a window of opportunity" with respect to the present and future use of this area of our island. Those island residents who want access to public lands, access to beaches, hiking trails, fishing spots, etc. should demand that those charged with the responsibility of obtaining such things, get off their duffs and meet this challenge. Along with other very interested landowners in this area, we are prepared to put our cards on the table, negotiate and effect many of those desirable changes by which the community would benefit.

This process does not have to be long, drawn-out or tedious. Therefore we specifically request that the planning association and the parks commission join forces, provide a table, do a little homework, and undertake private or public meetings on these issues.
M. CYPRUS,
President,
Pepperbrook Retreats Ltd.
Ganges.

Moderation

Editor's Note: The following is an open letter to Premier Bill Vander Zalm, filed with this newspaper for publication.

Sir,
As a resident of B.C. for the past 17 years, I wish to convey my concerns about some of the current political policies that are taking effect in this province.

The mandate of a government in a free society is to provide services to the population which elects it. Clearly, the best government provides the most services within the financial restraint of revenues collected. When the government

more letters

begins to reduce those services and allocate the funds to personal campaigns, then I can see no reason to offer my support.

In the past I have been proud of B.C.'s health care record and I consider this to be the government's greatest gift to its people. However, the recent tampering by Social Credit with this system that, in the past, has performed so admirably leads me to this letter. I find your privatization and cutbacks unacceptable.

It is common knowledge that the public has a short memory and come election time all will be forgotten. I assure you that this will not be so in my case, and unless you rectify your policy I will actively work towards your defeat. You are simply going too far. It is time for moderation.

DUNHAM L. CRAIG,
Fulford Harbour.

Recognition

Sir,
When the 1988 Heart Fund campaign on Salt Spring began earlier this year I wrote a letter to your paper saying it is hoped the campaign will receive community-wide support to help bring a check to Canada's number one killer. It did; and as a result it far exceeded its goal of \$5,000.

I can now report that more than \$12,000 was raised, with the bulk of the money being the result of the enthusiasm and energy of the boys and girls who participated in the skip-rope for heart activities at the elementary schools of Ganges, Fulford and Fernwood.

The Ganges school brought in

more than \$4,000 and the other two each raised in excess of \$2,000. The three principals — Glenn Woodley, Barbara Aust and Bob Brownsword — deserve high praise for their leadership. Their teachers who organized and ran the events, especially Kevin Vine, Jim Lightfoot and Jeannie Gray, warrant special recognition for bringing the campaign to our Salt Spring community as a whole.

In addition to these individual achievements, the other activities that took place during Heart Month all contributed to success since they brought attention to the importance of the fight against cardiovascular disease.

On behalf of the B.C. Heart Foundation I wish to express appreciation to everyone who donated to the Heart Fund and who helped to make the campaign a success.

JOHN CROFTON,
Chairman,
Salt Spring Island
Heart Fund Committee.

Courage

Sir,
Well done, Chris Kodaly. At long last someone has had the courage to voice his opinion on the state of pianos on this island.

I agree with him 100 per cent. Being chicken-hearted I have not had Chris's courage to speak up in this matter, mainly because, to a lot of people, it is of little concern that they are listening to a bad piano. The general public as a rule blames the pianist and not the instrument if the sound offends their hearing.

On the local scene regarding pianos for public use my rating would be as follows:

Category fair:
• Central Hall, provided it is Margaret Cunningham's own piano.

• Mahon Hall. It is not worthy of Mr. Kodaly's talents, but is adequate for a reasonable performance.

• Most of the school pianos.
• Humperdink's restaurant. Similar to Mahon Hall. However, it has a nice tone and very flexible to play.

Category weak:
• Vesuvius Inn. Commendable overhaul has been accomplished but it is still not worthy of public performances.

• The Golf Club.
• Fulford Inn.

• The Legion. I do hope that they celebrate their new premises with a respectful and competent piano because their current instrument is not worthy of the Legion's prestige in this community.

• Harbour House. It is sad that their Heintzman has declined so much over the years since I assisted in its purchase. Let us hope the new management will rectify this important asset to their premises and revert back to live music instead of the insipid blah sound of 'wired tapes.'

Good luck, Mr. Kodaly, to your plea for playable pianos on this island. You deserve only the best
BRYAN SMITH,
Ganges.

PART 21 OF 26

To the Peoples of the World

A BAHAI STATEMENT ON

Peace

CONCERNING the proceedings for this world gathering, 'Abdu'l-Baha, the son of Baha'u'llah and authorized interpreter of his teachings, offered these insights: "They must make the Cause of Peace the object of general consultation, and seek by every means in their power to establish a Union of the nations of the world. They must conclude a binding treaty and establish a covenant, the provisions of which shall be sound, inviolable and definite. They must proclaim it to all the world and obtain for it the sanction of all the human race. This supreme and noble undertaking—the real source of the peace and well-being of all the world—should be regarded as sacred by all that dwell on earth. All the forces of humanity must be mobilized to ensure the stability and permanence of this Most Great Covenant. In this all-embracing Pact the limits and frontiers of each and every nation should be clearly fixed, the principles underlying the relations of governments towards one another definitely laid down, and all international agreements and obligations ascertained. In like manner, the size of the armaments for every government should be strictly limited, for if the preparations for war and the military forces of any nation should be allowed to increase, they will arouse the suspicion of others. The fundamental principle underlying this solemn Pact should be so fixed that if any government later violate any one of its provisions, all the governments on earth should arise to reduce it to utter submission, nay the human race as a whole should resolve, with every power at its disposal, to destroy that government. Should this greatest of all remedies be applied to the sick body of the world, it will assuredly recover from its ills and will remain eternally safe and secure."

For a free copy of the complete statement "TO THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD" or information about the Baha'i Faith and local activities, please call 537-5383 or 537-4588, or write Box 772, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0.

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TOWN HALL MEETING

Friday, June 3 - 7:30 pm
Masonic Hall
LOWER GANGES ROAD

Meet your Social Credit MLA's
HON. MEL COUVELIER
DR. TERRY HUBERTS

EVERYBODY WELCOME!

NOTE: On Saturday, June 4,
your MLA's will be at
CENTENNIAL PARK—11 am-1:30 pm
Please come & bring your concerns.
EVERYBODY WELCOME!

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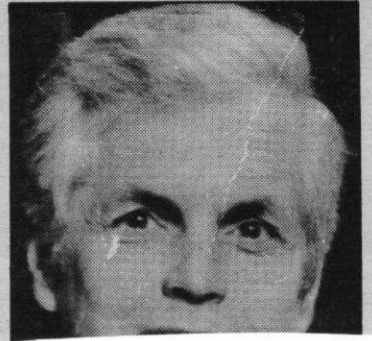
Annual General Meeting

Friday, June 3 — 6:30-7:30
Masonic Hall
Lower Ganges Road

SPEAKERS:
HON. MEL COUVELIER
DR. TERRY HUBERTS

Welcome to members, young Socreds & supporters. New members welcome.

Studies tally levels of contamination



From Page A1

egg shells taken from the colony. Noting that the herons are year-round residents of the area and that their nests are within one kilometre of the Crofton pulp and paper mill, the report says there is "little doubt that the . . . contamination in their eggs is of local origin."

Double-Crested Cormorant eggs taken from the same area for testing were found to contain slightly lower levels of dioxins.

Shellfish samples taken from the Crofton area for testing showed contamination levels ranging from 12 to 31 parts per trillion. Significantly higher levels were found in the digestive systems of crabs, but the federal government said that since this portion is not normally eaten, the levels found do not pose a hazard. The report also noted that the Crofton area is closed to shellfish harvesting.

Manly, MP for Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands, said Friday that the federal government is not treating the study findings seriously enough. Just because the Crofton area is officially closed to shellfish gathering is no guarantee people will avoid harvesting and ingesting contaminated shellfish, he said, and some people will consume the digestive systems of crabs.

Manly is also concerned about the portion of the Great Blue Heron study which points out "widespread contamination in estuaries." He said he has raised the findings of both studies in the House of Commons and questioned the federal government's apparent indifference to those findings, but received "unsatisfactory answers."

The MP added that he will continue to raise the issue in hopes of "getting the government's attention, and getting the government to recognize that this is a serious issue."

The dioxins and furans found in the samples are a family of 75 chemical compounds known as polychlorinated dibenzo-para-dioxins. A backgrounder provided with the two studies notes that such compounds have varying levels of toxicity but are generally resistant to biological breakdown

Birds, fish tested for dioxins, furans

"and therefore may remain in the environment for years."

It adds that the use of chlorine in the bleached pulp production process and the use of chlorophenols for protecting wood against fungus are two sources of dioxins and furans.

The heron study said chlorophenols are the most important potential source in the aquatic environment of dioxins known as PCDDs, and that the sawmilling and pulp and paper production

processes contribute chlorophenols to that environment.

The backgrounder outlines a number of steps Ottawa intends to take to gather more information

ment, and research is planned on the health impact of using paper products which may contain dioxins.

In co-operation with provincial governments, Ottawa says it also intends to intensify efforts to reduce environmental contamination by dioxins and furans. Guidelines

Public forum on Crofton

The findings of two studies or found near the Crofton pulp and public forum scheduled for this

The forum, sponsored by the C the Salt Spring Island chapter of t this Sunday, May 29, at Central Organizers said the forum contaminants being produced fro expansion of the operation.

Representatives from the Croft provincial governments, have bee Also expected to be in attendance union representative to the mill's p officials from Greenpeace.

Meeting organizers say the loc since the pulp mill began operatin intolerable."

MLAs sched

Local MLAs Terry Huberts and Mel Couvelier have scheduled a "town hall" meeting for this Friday on Salt Spring Island.

The two Social Credit members of the provincial legislature will open the meeting at 7:30 pm in the Masonic Hall on Lower Ganges Road. The public is urged to attend.

Prior to 7:30 pm, Couvelier and Huberts will be in attendance at the annual general meeting of the Salt Spring Island Social Credit

al Park in Ganges.

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Friday, May 27 6 am-10 pm

11 am-9 pm

11 am-3:30 pm

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed tenders for partial restoration of the Henry Ruckle house, Ruckle Provincial Park, Fulford Harbour, will be received by Jonathan Yardley, Architect, 105 Rainbow Road, Ganges, B.C., V0S 1E0 (P.O. Box 960) up to 12:00 NOON (local time) on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1988, and opened in public at that time.

Plans, specifications and tender documents may be obtained for a fee of \$25 from Jonathan Yardley Architect, 105 Rainbow Road, Ganges, B.C., V0S 1E0 (P.O. Box 960).

Tenders must be made subject to the conditions of tender and submitted on the forms and in the envelopes supplied.

A certified deposit cheque, bid bond, cash or irrevocable line of credit equal to 10 percent of the tender price must accompany each tender.

No tender shall be considered having any qualifying clauses whatsoever and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Inspection of the site may be arranged by contacting Mr. Patrick McLaughlin, Supervisor, Ruckle Provincial Park, phone 653-4209.



Ministry of Environment and Parks

An airplane landing strip proposed for a property near Fernwood will be opposed by the Islands Trust.

At last Friday's local Trust Committee meeting in Ganges, 12 letters from property owners in the Maliview Drive area outlined objections to the landing strip being proposed by Toni Holmes for his nearby 26-acre property.

Trustees agreed with the letter-

Airstrip opposed by Trust

writers, who said the landing strip would be inappropriate for a residential area featuring a large number of houses. Writers cited safety concerns and noise levels as the chief reasons for this opposition to the plan.

The Trust has no jurisdiction

over use of land for airplane landing strips. Such authority rests with the federal government, it said.

However, the Trust noted that construction of a landing strip on Holmes' land will require clear-

ance by the Agricultural Land Commission (ALR). When an application for such a use is made, the ALR must refer the request to the Trust for comment. At that time, a statement outlining the Trust's objections can be made, Trustee Pat Byrne said.

Opposition to Holmes' project began with a petition signed by 120 of his neighbours. Holmes has countered objections by indicating the strip would be for his private use only. He says a small plane makes less noise than a diesel truck, and feels his flight path — which would take the plane over a field and then the ocean — poses no threat to residential safety.

**Best Wishes to
GANGES VILLAGE MARKET**
on your Grand Opening!

Good luck in the future.

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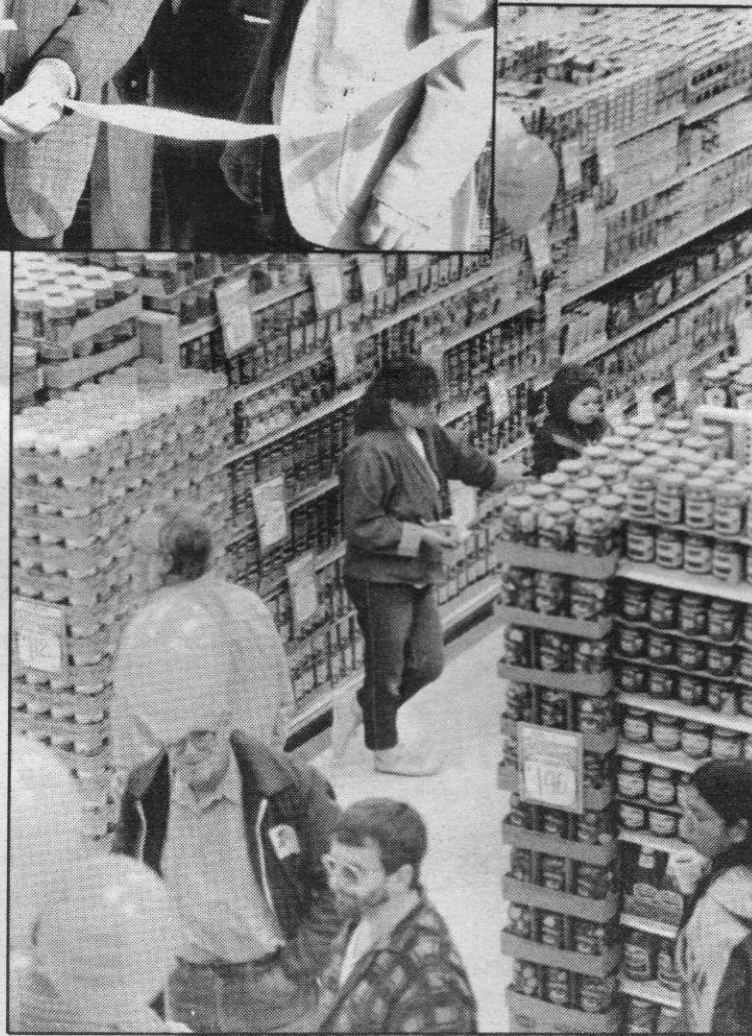
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New store

Village Market opens doors

An additional 15,000 square feet of retail grocery space opened Monday in Ganges when the Village Market completed a move into new premises. The Ganges supermarket opened officially Monday morning in the newly-renovated Upper Ganges Mall, giving the store a total of 22,000 square feet.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony saw veteran Salt Spring grocer Ben Greenhough declare the store open before a large crowd of spectators. Greenhough, who operated Ben's Lucky Dollar Store before selling to K&R Your Food Store about 20 years ago, told the crowd that it was the third time he had assisted in the opening of an island food store. The first was when he took over the grocery department of Mouat Bros., which he operated as Ben's Lucky Dollar in what today is Mouat's Mall. The second was when he moved into the downtown Ganges building just vacated by the Village Market.

Prior to the ribbon-cutting, longtime Salt Spring resident Charlotte Walters presented the store with a plaque bearing a horseshoe. The latter had been found by husband Bevis in the field where the store now stands. It was being presented to the store, Walters explained, as a symbol of good luck.

The Village Market is occupying a building originally constructed almost 10 years ago by former island developer Phil Valcourt. It sat empty for a number of years before Ganges Bin & Barrel, a bulk foods outlet, moved into a part of the building a few years ago. Most of the building had remained vacant, however, until this week.

Ganges Bin & Barrel has been absorbed by the Village Market.

Contractors spent the past few months enlarging and remodeling the building in preparation for the store's move. Owners of the building, a Victoria company, haven't announced who will occupy the remaining space, which includes a gas bar.



Sunday pre-opening of store allowed visitors to look over layout and selection at market.

Rezoning sought for store property

Two rezoning requests connected to the new Ganges Village Market (GVM) store met different fates at last Friday's meeting of the Salt Spring Islands Trust Committee.

An application to rezone to commercial status a small, triangular-shaped parcel on the west side of the new store was tabled at first reading when Trustees Nick Gilbert and Pat Byrne could not agree on its merits. Another rezoning bid, to allow creation of a "gas bar," was sent to the minister for approval after being given three readings by the Trust.

The bid to rezone the triangular-shaped parcel was made to allow consolidation of parking and building space beside the store, the applicant said at a public hearing held before the regular Trust meeting.

Later, Gilbert asked for second reading on the bylaw but Byrne declined, saying it came "perilously close" to creating a strip development on a major road leading into Ganges — something he noted the official

community plan advised against.

Without a seconder, the bylaw was tabled until the Trust's next regular meeting, in July.

The second rezoning bid, to permit opening of gas pumps, was given three readings and sent to the minister despite concerns raised at the public hearing that it would create a potential fire hazard.

Douglas Darling, retired after 40 years with Imperial Oil, said he opposes self-serve gas bars because he feels they are unsafe. He asked that the Fire Marshall's office be advised of the application.


Darling also questioned the need for another gasoline outlet on Salt Spring.

Walter Large, the applicant, told the public hearing the outlet would be constructed to standards set out by the Fire Marshall's office.

In giving three readings to the bylaw, the Trust said the Fire Marshall's office would be involved in construction of the outlet.

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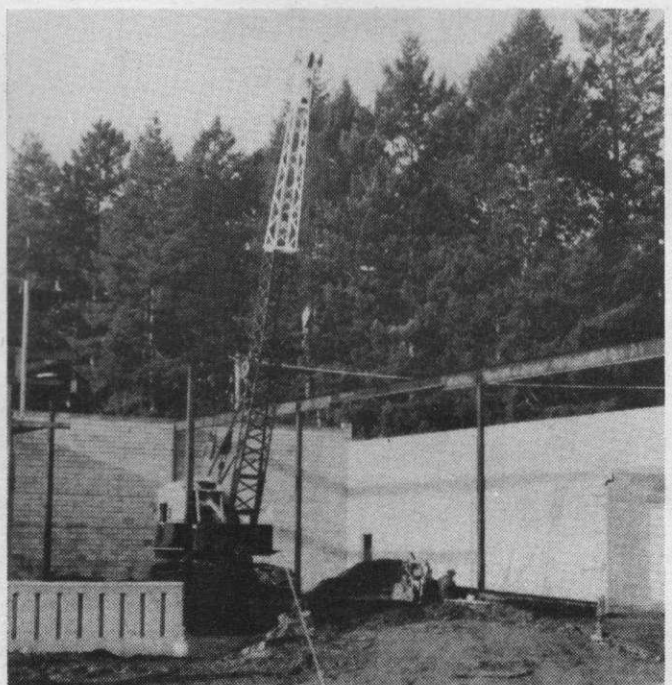


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Applicant expected to seek waste disposal site change

The owner of Salt Spring's solid waste disposal site may apply to transfer island garbage to a Mt. Tuam parcel of land, Tom Gossett, head of a local committee studying solid waste for the Capital Regional District (CRD), said last week.

Norman Twa, who owns the present three-acre dump site on Blackburn Road, has purchased a Mt. Tuam parcel which may be suitable for solid waste disposal.

Gossett said the application process could take up to three years. Relocation of the disposal site would involve environmental studies as well as public hearings. In the long term, Gossett noted, it is important to move the disposal

site from its present location.

Gossett also said liquid effluent from the Blackburn Road dump has not "shown up" yet; it has not appeared in Blackburn or Cusheon Lakes, nor in Blackburn Stream. However, he added there is a danger it will appear and contaminate drinking water.

The one advantage of the present site is the convenience of its location. It would function well as a transfer site (the CRD has agreed to pay up to \$100,000 for a transfer station) to either the Mt. Tuam location or the previously proposed Hartland location.

A feasibility study of transferring Salt Spring solid waste to Vancouver Island is presently

underway between Twa, the CRD and a consultant. The study is considering the affordability of the proposal for both Twa and the community.

As a transfer station, the Blackburn Road site could also facilitate an expanded recycling centre. While the level of recycling on Salt Spring — at about 15 per cent — surpasses the provincial average of less than one per cent, Gossett said improvement of the process is high on the priority list.

Gossett said much of the problem in local recycling is the present facility. He wishes to "work closely" with the Community Centre to improve it.

B.C. running out of space for garbage

A recent solid waste survey indicates British Columbia is running out of places to dispose of its garbage.

"We will soon face a crisis in many areas," the minister of environment and parks, Bruce Strachan, said after releasing the results of a ministry survey of waste disposal practices in municipalities across the province.

Strachan said local governments should plan on working with the provincial government to develop a solid waste strategy.

The survey examined quantities of solid waste collected, recycled and disposed of during 1986 in 129 of the province's 172 incorporated municipalities and regional districts.

The results indicated the province generates more than two million tonnes of solid waste every year — close to two kilograms per person per day. This annual total is expected to increase by 28 per cent over the next two decades.

The survey estimated the cost of disposing of B.C.'s garbage equals \$52.6 million annually.

Some 60 per cent of existing landfills will reach their capacity within the next 10 years. Of the 129 jurisdictions responding to the survey, only 31 offer their communities recycling programs — this means less than one per cent of solid waste is currently recycled.

Strachan has started a development strategy process by sending a copy of survey results to provincial mayors.

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Trust briefs

Requests made for core area rezonings

Subject to highways ministry clearance, the Islands Trust has approved a Development Permit amendment clearing the way for expansion on the former site of Ganges Village Market.

The property is owned by Mouat's Trading Company, which plans to redevelop the former GVM store and construct a new commercial building on the other side of the lot, next to Lower Ganges Road and kitty-corner from the Credit Union. Also planned is removal of the Kanaka Place Restaurant building.

In approving the amendment request, the Trust said the highways ministry is concerned about changes to the property's parking scheme. The Trust's approval is subject to clearance on that point by the ministry.

The Trust has given three readings to a bylaw rezoning a Lower Ganges Road property next to the Ship's Anchor Inn to commercial status.

The property, now zoned residential and occupied by a house, will be used as a retail outlet. Eleven parking spaces are located at the rear of the lot.

No comments were received on the application at a public hearing held prior to last Friday's Trust meeting. The bylaw will now be sent to the minister of municipal affairs for approval, then back to the Trust for final adoption.

Rezoning of a Valhalla Drive property to accommodate a multi-family residential development proceeded to third reading at last Friday's Trust meeting.

The development would create eight units on a .86 acre lot. At a public hearing held before last Friday's Trust meeting, the Trust was told that the project and the population density it would create are inappropriate for the neighbourhood. However, trustees noted that other multi-family developments are proceeding in the area, and that the community plan has designated the area as suitable for such projects.

A zoning provision allowing for a pub on Grace Point is being deleted by the Islands Trust.

Last Friday, the Trust gave three readings to a bylaw removing the designation. The deletion request was made by the property owners, who noted the designation was put in place several years ago when a different development was proposed for the point.

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Tandem wins tennis tourney

Marg Domina and Norman Best won a mixed doubles tennis tournament sponsored last weekend by the Vesuvius Inn.

The tournament, organized and operated by Dennis and Sheila McMaster, featured 12 teams made up of residents of Salt Spring and Pender islands. Each team played a minimum of four matches.

Domina and Best were declared the winners after recording the fewest losses in competition. As prizes, they received tee-shirts and dinners for two at the Vesuvius Inn.

Tug-of-war challenges welcomed

Dorise Jolicoeur has been named to organize the tug-of-war events that will make up part of the Saturday schedule for this year's Sea Capers Celebration.

Sea Capers takes place from June 17 to 19.

Jolicoeur's appointment, made at a meeting of the Sea Capers organizing committee held last Wednesday, leaves her responsible for programming the event. She said she is anxious to hear from anyone interested in entering, to find out which entry classifications might be appropriate.

The events are usually open to children and adults of all ages.

This year, the competition will also feature an open challenge class. First team to enter is from Islands Saving Credit Union.

For information about the tug-of-war events, contact Jolicoeur at 537-4567.

Some Sea Capers properties are missing.

The organizing committee is looking to locate the following: the banner usually strung across Lower Ganges Road; the mail box key; sand for the sand sculpture contest; two tug-of-war trophies (children's class); and 14 coal sacks used in the water events.

The organizing committee is now accepting advertisements in the program to be printed for Sea Capers. Spaces cost \$30 each — a prime source of funds for the committee — and are being sold by Carol Fowles. Deadline for accepting entries is May 27; for information, call Fowles at 537-5993.



John Pickering checks location of horseshoe in Vesuvius Inn tournament played Saturday. Pickering and partner Jon Korrison later advanced to finals.

Horseshoe pitch earns Kopp Fund donations

A horseshoe pitch tournament held last Saturday at the Vesuvius Inn raised \$100 for the Darlene Kopp fund.

Kopp, the 35-year-old daughter of long-time islanders Terry and Marge Byron, is undergoing cancer treatment at the Mayo Clinic. A fund established on her behalf by the Royal Canadian Legion has raised nearly \$9,000.

Saturday's horseshoe pitch

tournament at the Vesuvius Inn was organized by Betsy Dosco of the local Canadian Cancer Society branch. It charged \$1 admission at the door.

The tournament featured 10 teams of two members each. After a round-robin portion, the finals pitted the team of Jon Korrison and John Pickering against the eventual winners, Pat Mussell and Jesse Byron.

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- * Lakefront view lots - \$41,500 - \$62,500. Close to town, easy terms.

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Clinics scheduled for tennis players

The Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Commission is sponsoring three Tennis Clinics this summer — on May 28, June 25 and July 23.

The first clinic, on May 28, is from 10 am to noon and from 1 pm to 2 pm at Portlock Park. It will focus on basic strokes and strategy for the beginner to intermediate player, and will be led by three Tennis B.C. trained instructors.

A person should know how to keep score and play the game before attending. Anyone over 12

is welcome to participate.

The instructors are: Toby Seward, former island champion who has led many clinics of this type; Paul Maron, another former island champion who is currently teaching tennis at the Oak Bay Recreation Centre; and George Coelho, who has been giving private and group lessons on the island.

For further information and registration, contact Sandi Geiger (537-5812) or call George Coelho (653-9242).

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World-wide bridge hand to be played

More than 100,000 bridge players in some 80 countries around the globe will sit down June 3 and play the same bridge hand.

The Salt Spring Island section of the 1988 Epsom Worldwide Bridge Contest will take place at the golf club at 7 pm next Friday.

The event is a simultaneous pairs competition conducted by the World Bridge Federation. Identical hands are played in heats all over the world in one 24-board session. Random-dealt hands from tournament play, and match-point awards are used. Each heat has its own winners, who are awarded WBF Diplomas.

An international ranking list of high scores will be published within 24 hours of the event. An overall winning pair will be announced; however, three equal prizes will be presented in Europe, the ACBL and the rest of the world. There will also be prizes for second and third in each group.

In last year's contest, a pair from Ontario took the third overall position.

Locally, between 40 and 50 bridge players are expected to test their skills in the world competition. Players must pre-register.



Cutting cake honouring Golf Club's 60th anniversary last Sunday night were Marjorie Cade and Glenn Hewitson.

Golf Club marks 60th birthday

The Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club marked its 60th birthday last weekend.

A tournament spread over Saturday and Sunday saw 118 golfers involved in an 18-hole competition. A Saturday evening dance and a Sunday evening barbecue,

attended by 126 diners and featuring entertainment by the Salty Wheels square dancers, rounded out the festivities.

Also part of the weekend was a display of golf club memorabilia.

Winners of the tournament were Shirley Parsons, Pat Laven-

der, Alice Fraser, Ada Woodley, Marg Rithaler, Ann Louise McAllister, Marie Hopkins, Vi Austin, Cedric Walker, Bruce Kirwin, Hal Stone, Bob Marshall, Mac Mouat, Bob MacKay, Ed Rithaler, Vic Austin, Herb Munro and Mike Wheaton.

Ships arrange stop schedule

The committee organizing this year's Sea Capers celebration has received the sailing orders for the three navy training vessels due to visit Ganges on the June 17-18-19 weekend.

Each of the three ships carries two officers, one crew member and nine trainees. While the officers and crew are professionals, the trainees are mainly young people learning the art of navigation.

The three ships will arrive in Ganges at 6 pm on June 17, after being met at the entrance to the harbour by a squadron organized by the Salt Spring Island Power and Sail Squadron under Commander Gloria Simpson.

Sea Capers spokesman Bevis Walters said the committee is inviting residents to "adopt" the visiting trainees to show them the sights of the island. He also hopes a good number of residents will be on hand when the vessels dock.

Once the ships are moored, visitors will be welcomed aboard. The three vessels will remain on Salt Spring for 39 hours.

Golfers enjoy medal round

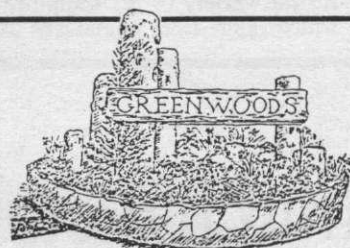
By ANN LOUISE McALLISTER

On May 17 the ladies playing 18 holes held a medal round. The honours were taken by Josie Aleksich, with a net of 71, and runner up was Shirley Andersen with a net of 74. Alice Fraser took the putt pot with 30 putts.

On May 18 the ladies' nine-hole group had a cloudy and wet day. Low net and low gross were taken

by Vi Austin, and there was a competition for the longest drive on the seventh hole which went to Sherrill Adshead. The putt pot was taken by Norah Ray.

We are asking all club members to save up any goodies that you don't need for the club garage sale being held on June 18. The funds earned from the sale will go to the ladies improvement fund.



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R. Dow Reid

Ivory, onyx sculptures recall Antarctic

A collection of ivory sculptures mounted on ice-like honey onyx was unveiled last Friday at the Pegasus Gallery in Ganges.

The carvings, featured as *The Antarctic Series*, are the work of R. Dow Reid, a Scot who emigrated to Canada in 1958 and who now operates a gallery in Kelowna.

Reid, who was in attendance for the opening of the week-long show (it closes May 28), is known for the variety of his sculptures, which range from miniatures like

those on display at Pegasus to 40-foot-high monuments erected in downtown Vancouver and Calgary.

The artist also works with a range of materials, from wood to fiberglass to stone. The honey onyx used in *The Antarctic Series* is a stone Reid had never tried before: he chanced upon a pile of it in a store yard and took some for test purposes. After finding that the stone could be made to closely resemble icebergs, he made it the base for his current

series of sculptures.

Those sculptures are of aquatic life forms — i.e., penguins and sea lions — etched in the artist's memory from seven years spent as a professional whaler in the Antarctic during the 1950s. The ivory is from whale teeth collected by Dow during the same time and place.

"You can't get it anymore," Dow says of the ivory used in the series. Clampdowns on whaling have led to a scarcity, meaning the artist is limited to his dwindling private supply and forced to make the most out of every tooth he chooses to use.

A large whale's tooth would be about seven to eight inches in length, he notes, which is just slightly larger than most of the sculptures in his current show.

"You have to use as much of the tooth as possible," he said, explaining that he tries to make two or possibly three sculptures from each one.

Thought-provoking

Catholic Church dictates probed

By PEGGY WHITTAKER

Belonging: A Book for the Questioning Catholic Today, by Lucinda Vardey, pub. Lester and Orpen Dennys, 248 pp.

Lucinda Vardey's book will undoubtedly be an important one for Catholics who are finding it difficult to reconcile their personal moral beliefs with dictates that are being handed down from the Vatican. Topics explored include homosexuality, contraception, pre-marital sex, marriage laws and the responsiveness of the clergy to the laity.

Although Vardey is protective of the Catholic Church, she is far from defensive. In discussing her own Catholic upbringing and in recounting the experiences of others, she illuminates in down-to-earth detail the problems inherent in the church's organization and discusses how one can disagree with some of its precepts yet remain a practising Catholic.

For non-Catholic readers hoping to gain some insight into that particular church's mentality, however, the book may give rise to more questions than it lays to rest.

What struck me was the author's willingness to divorce (no pun intended) her personal life from her church life.

"The church has no part in my sexual life," she told me in a recent interview. "It never has."

"I believe that one has to define one's personal faith and then try to fit that definition into the institution, instead of trying to adopt a preconceived image of what the church perceives as a good practising Catholic," she states in the book's introduction.

But, having defined one's

book review

personal faith, why even try to fit it into an institution if it feels like putting a square peg in a round hole? Well, it becomes apparent that the roots of Catholicism run deep.

Throughout the book, the church is referred to as "the club" and the Vatican as the "head office". She speaks of congregants showing their "membership cards." In the interview, she said the church was much like a nation, where to "denounce" it would feel like giving up your passport.

This desire to "belong" is certainly a very human need. But if you use your church to fulfil that longing, and call that "religion," do you not come in danger of sacrificing, or at least compromising, other important aspects of your spiritual potential?

Vardey contends that to leave the Church because you disagree with it is "a coward's cop-out."

"You can't effect any change by just going away," she said.

But when asked if she would like the Vatican to ease its stance on issues such as birth control, Vardey said "They are never going to loosen up, and they shouldn't ... it is better for them to take the hard line and for us to do what we're doing than to be more lenient to us and upset those who have always been following the church."

Nor is she displeased with the church's disallowal of women clergy. Not only does she "like a patriarchal society," she feels that men see ethical matters as "black and white," which is necessary at the higher church organizational levels where a firm stand must be taken. Women's strengths, she says, are working with people at the grassroots level.

This book manages to be extremely thought-provoking for believer and non-believer alike without being an arduous read. Although you can read the pages quickly, the impact of their content remains with you for much longer.

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New Zealand visitors

Salt Spring audience enjoys youth orchestra performance

By MARGIE KORRISON

The 75 members of the Auckland Youth Orchestra finished their successful tour of B.C. with a May 17 concert at the Salt Spring Elementary School Activity Centre.

During the day an orchestral demonstration was given to the elementary school students.

Despite the informality of the hall the Auckland students added refinement to the evening's performance by being dressed in formal black and white. They performed with exuberance, joy and discipline under the skilled direction of conductor Michael McLellan.

The orchestra responded warmly to the intimate audience, which was delighted with their performance. Rachel Atkinson, cellist, received a standing ovation for her solo performance in Tchaikovsky's *Variation on a Roco Theme*. The orchestra and McLellan received three curtain calls and a standing ovation.

The three other pieces performed were Beethoven's *Leonore Overture No. 3*, Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 6, Pathetique*, and a modern orchestral piece by New Zealand composer, David Hamilton. This piece seemed greatly influenced by the passion of nature in all its forms. It was filled with texture, brilliance and life.

The young New Zealanders felt

at home on Salt Spring. The billeting hosts are to be commended for their great outpouring of hospitality and generosity which made the orchestra's stay a tour highlight.

There is much pressure on the schools to convene projects like the orchestra. Good productions and fine musicians want to come here.

'There is much pressure on the school to convene projects like the orchestra.'

However, many won't because of the inadequate facilities. Fortunately, the orchestra was accommodating.

The Activity Centre is inadequate when it comes to acoustics, full house audience viewing, seating and lighting. Chairs must be borrowed and properly returned to three venues. They are portable, stackable and

uncomfortable.

The present halls and gyms also serve recreation functions. This makes it difficult to house a proper grand piano. Rental of a decent one from Victoria is \$500 per performance.

The volunteers in this community organizing cultural events do the best with what is available. However, a decent hall would improve the cultural future of Salt Spring.

This B.C. tour was the Youth Orchestra's first major tour outside New Zealand and Australia in 40 years. The cost was one-third financed by the students, who were given one year's notice to raise \$500 (NZ) each. Remaining funds came from charitable or music trusts and a bequest. All members, including director McLellan, are volunteers. It took eight weeks to prepare this concert.

Our local Gulf Islands Community Arts Council contributed to local publicity and bus costs.

The money collected at the door on May 17 was enough to defray a fraction of the container shipment costs to and from New Zealand of just the timpani drums and double basses.

If you wish further information regarding the functioning of the orchestra, please write to Mr. H. W. Stevens, P.O. Box 1643, Auckland, 1, N.Z.

'Prairie Winds, Prairie Women' brought back to Off Centre Stage

Prairie Winds — Prairie Women, written, produced and directed by Delia Dreis, is returning to Salt Spring Island on Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4, at 8 pm at Off Centre Stage.

This one-woman show presents a forgotten area of history through a rich collection of characters. Life in the Canadian wilderness is depicted through the monologues — fictionalized but historically valid — of 11 women who represent a 100-year span of time, beginning in 1810 with a Cree Indian called Turtle Woman and ending with her great-granddaughter 103 years later. In their own words, these women tell about the tedium, hardships, sacrifices and small joys of their lives.

In the tradition of "suitcase theatre," with a minimum of props, each of these characters gives a "herstory lesson" with tales of experiences they have lived through: the story of the Scots literally burned out of their country who fled to Canada; the

Metis, whose land claims were ignored; Icelanders eager to form an autonomous nation; blacks, who emigrated from Oklahoma; the story of the nearly 100,000 English orphans — the "home children" who were practically sold into bondage on the Canadian prairies as late as 1925; and more.

Dreis, a 65-year-old grand-

mother who began her acting career seven years ago, has toured with this show extensively in Canada and the U.S. for over a year. The enthusiastic response to the single performance sponsored by the Community Arts Council last month, has led to a return engagement at Off Centre Stage for two nights.

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21-3

Forests . . . A Shared Resource



Gulf Islands Community Arts Council & the Salt Spring Festival of the Arts present a workshop on



Centre for the Arts

— COULD THIS BE A REALITY? —

To be held at the

COMMUNITY CENTRE

May 28, 1988 — 10 am-4 pm

Among the speakers for the morning program will be

ROBIN RANKIN

President, White Rock Community Arts Council

If you have any experience in design, planning or fund-raising relating to the arts field, please contact us.

Any individual or group who wishes to present a brief, or contribute to the discussion, please register with Judi Warren, 537-9606 evenings.

Bring your lunch — coffee & tea will be provided.

A joint project of the Community Arts Council & the Festival of the Arts Society

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Bond investors well served by market

By DONALD W. DONY

When you buy a bond or debenture you make a loan to the corporation or government body that issued it. The issuer then promises to pay this money back to you at the maturity dates. Bonds and debentures are issued in Canada by the federal government, by the 10 provinces, by thousands of municipalities, by agencies set up under all the governments, by hundreds of corporations and occasionally by religious organizations.

Debt securities issued by municipalities are usually called debentures. Traditionally, a debenture is a debt security which is an unsecured promise to pay — that is, there is no property or other assets pledged as security for the loan. This is precisely what a Government of Canada bond is, but custom has established that we speak of Government of Canada bonds, not debentures.

Many Canadians have some concept, however vague, of what the stock market is. The bond market, by comparison, is less well known or understood, and in many cases seems hard to keep track of for those who approach it only infrequently.

The bond market is a negotiated, rather than an auction, market. No official data are collected or published on prices or volumes of transactions. However, bond investors are well served by the bond market. Dealers typically work for less than the commissions charged on listed stocks and frequently assume an inventory liability as a normal part of transaction.

How are bond prices determined? They are mainly determined by interest rates, for this represents the cost of borrowing money. They are also affected by economic and most political events, occurrences in nature, the demographic profile and, of course, monetary and fiscal policies of various countries

around the world.

Bonds similar in quality, maturity and other characteristics will trade at about the same interest rate level, because if any of them gets out of line, traders will buy or sell it until its yield comes back in line. Bonds, being interest-generating vehicles, naturally are affected by the movement of interest rates.

When interest rates go down, bond prices go up. Bonds are subject to the day-to-day fluctuations of the market place. During periods of high interest rates the prices of longer-term bonds decline more than the prices of shorter-term bonds. Conversely, when interest rates fall, prices of longer-term bonds will rise the most.

For example, in October, 9¼% Government of Canada bonds were \$88. As interest rates dropped over the next few months, these



bonds rose to slightly over \$104. That is an 18 per cent increase.

This market movement of bonds enables the astute bond investor to take advantage of interest rate swings by either shortening or lengthening the average term of his bond portfolio. The approach is implemented by holding a portion of the bond portfolio in long-term low coupon bonds when yields are in the downward phase of the interest rate cycle and bond prices are rising. The investor then reverses his position when yields rise and bond prices fall.

By doing this successfully, a bond investor will make an additional pre-tax return over his average coupon income. However success will depend on his ability to forecast the bond market correctly.

For the bond investor who does not wish to trade, only hold to maturity and look for the highest possible interest rate, good quality corporate bonds offer the answer. As an example, a 9½ per cent Government of Canada bond maturing in 2001 has a yield of 9.875 per cent. A comparable Bell

Canada bond would yield 10.90 per cent.

The purchase of a high-yielding corporate bond does present a challenge that is not involved when buying government bonds. That challenge is assessing the quality of the bond. In Canada, the Dominion Bond Rating Service in Toronto and the Canadian Bond Rating Service in Montreal both provide independent rating services for many debt securities. These services can assist investors in assessing the quality of their debt holdings and help confirm or challenge conclusions based on their own research and experience.

Next month's topic will cover a relative newcomer to the Canadian investment arena — the mortgage-backed security.

Donald W. Dony is an account executive with Wood Gundy Inc. in Victoria.

Cargo containers present sound investment

By BRUCE FOERSTER

Dear Bruce,

I have been hearing more and more about marine cargo containers being an excellent way to provide investment income. Could you explain what containers are, how they work and what investment potential they have?

R. D., Southey Point.

Dear R. D.,

The marine cargo container is proving to be a popular investment with conservative investors whose major objective is income.

Since their introduction in the 1950s, shipping companies were quick to recognize the value of containers as a safe, economical and efficient method of moving cargo.

Containers are used for transporting a variety of cargos, including raw materials, agricultural products, manufactured goods and other items

by ocean-going and overland transportation.

Containerization has become the driving force of international trade and shipping, and is considered the transportation system of the future.

Since 1982, over \$30 billion has been spent on container factories, ships, terminals, cranes and other related equipment. Another \$75 billion will be spent on containerization by the 1990s to meet the demand of world trade, which is expected to grow at over five per cent a year through 1995.

As world trade expands, containerization will expand to new trade routes, to the developing nations and to the few industrialized nations not yet participating fully in containerization.

Today, container leasing companies supply over 53 per cent of all the containers in use.

International Containers Ltd. provides investors easy access to participation in this growing and rewarding international industry.

This is how it works: you purchase a new container which is stamped with your name and a serial number. Your container is then leased by their leasing agent, Barrons Leasing, headquartered in Hong Kong, one of the busiest container ports in the world.

Barrons' job is to lease your container to a large number of shipping companies.

Barrons is represented in approximately 160 depots in over 20 countries around the world.

The investor is rewarded with a 15 per cent annual return, paid quarterly in U.S. funds. This income is projected to increase to

over 20 per cent yearly within 10 years, as inflation makes new containers more expensive to build and therefore to lease. Since the investors are able to depreciate their containers, their income is tax-free for the first several years.

A marine cargo container can be purchased for as little as \$4,000 (Cdn.), so is affordable for nearly every investor. Since the return on your container investment is not affected by interest rate or stock market fluctuations, and only benefits from inflation, it is an excellent addition to a properly diversified, income oriented investment portfolio.

Bruce Foerster is a senior financial advisor with Englana Securities Ltd.

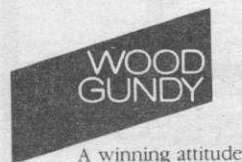
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Colour accents, spot plantings create vivid long-lasting show

By CHRIS SCHMAH

Spring is always a busy enough time in the garden but on top of all that, many of us find ourselves having to make plans for summer visitors, and taking guest bookings for friends and relatives that will be coming to the beautiful Gulf Islands over the months ahead.

For that bit of extra colour and somewhat exotic showing which we would all like to provide for our guests' pleasure, the use of colour accents and spot planting for annuals and summer-blooming perennials are the surest way of creating a vivid, long-lasting show.

Container plantings offer flexibility of placement, allowing you to bring colour and beauty to a deck, stairs, driveway border or any other spot where gardening in the ground is difficult or impossible. Containers also enable us to move our plants around into new groupings or locations for greater appreciation, and also make it possible to relocate them, should they finish blooming or look off-peak and tattered. As virtually all plants go through an off-season, this portability is a most valuable asset.

An integral, important part of container planting is the container itself. A whole range of materials, sizes, proportions and styles are possible choices. From ornate egg jars and incised terracotta Mexican pots, through concrete planters, lightweight cast aggregate "stone" troughs, and alpine planters: the selection is great.

Oak barrels are often the fastest way to obtain a portable, large volume planter space. For more natural, organic looks, carved out logs, water troughs, stumps or driftwood often make an appealing container. Welded wire or cage-wire columns, baskets and planters can be padded out with moss or bark and planted with a wide range of perennials, annuals, ground covers and even shrubs. Some of the most interesting, though perhaps not the most tasteful containers are made from recycled materials such as used tires (either whole or slashed up), tire rims, brake drums, bath tubs, old toilets (organic and self-watering) and old wheelbarrows (often quite beautiful).

Whatever type of container you choose, try to make it compliment or even enhance your garden style, architectural character or colour schemes, so it will help unify house and landscape.

your garden

All containers should drain well enough to not retain water on the roots, yet should not be so full of holes or cracks that the water all flows out before it gets a chance to be absorbed into the soil. Often a coat of paint, oil stain, or paraffin wax melted and brushed onto a warmed container will help seal the container on the inside. If this isn't suitable, a polyethylene or PVC liner can be fitted for a sure seal.

As you will be watering frequently, the container should be elevated above wooden decks or walks to promote rapid drying and reduce risk of rotting. Wooden or brick bars or blocks can be used to raise the container and ensure better air circulation. For absolute protection of the decking, a saucer and through-drain should be installed to carry off all the water past the wood.

Once the container and drainage is taken care of, the next consideration is the planting mix. In most instances, a lightweight mix is warranted, as you may wish to move the planter around from time to time. The blend of soil and amendments should hold a maximum of moisture yet drain well to permit good air circulation in the soil.

The plants will need frequent watering and the soil will be almost fully-occupied by roots in short order, so the mix is fairly critical for the plant's well-being. While some soil is vital, going over 50 per cent with it will make a too-heavy soil mix, and not allow for root growth. Another problem with too much soil content is the tendency of soil to compact as it dries, shrinks and settles in the container.

Sawdust, peat moss, fine ground barkmulch, perlite and vermiculite content will all help keep the soil mix bulked up, and flexible. Try to use one third peat, one third good quality sterilized topsoil, and one third fine ground mulch or sawdust. Perlite or vermiculite may be substituted for the latter ingredient, but don't incorporate more than 15 or 20 per cent. Composed steer or chicken manure will also work wonders if kept below 10 per cent of the total mix.

Whatever ingredients go in, the mix should hold water and still be open enough to allow air penetration. For bringing up the

pH, blend a cupful of dolomite lime for every bushel of soil mix — the frequent waterings will rapidly leach out the calcium and begin to lower the pH.

For the less diligent gardener, or for those in a hurry, mixing in a time release fertilizer such as Nutricote or Osmocote will provide constant feeding throughout the season.

Another additive, useful for areas in full sun or with soil mixes that tend to dry out too fast, is Terra-Sorb, a modern day equivalent of the sponge. These granules will absorb water and store it as they swell up; when the roots require more moisture, the Jello-like cubes give up their water and return to their granular form. Terra-Sorb reduces water stresses and performs well as an in-soil water reservoir. If you don't incorporate a time-release fertilizer, you should plan to fertilize with a soluble balanced fertilizer such as a 20-20-20 twice a month so growth will be optimal.

Now you have taken care of the details, all that remains is to plant your containers with a mix of annuals, perennials, ground covers, shrubs, and even trees.

In our large container, we've opted for a total mix, so there is always something giving a show. Some trees do very well in tubs, jars or half barrels, and they offer textural contrast and some protection from the hottest sun for the annuals etc. in the rest of the container. From Japanese maples and bamboos, right on down to miniature specimens of alpine rarities, containers offer some of the greatest challenges to gardeners, and also some of the finest rewards.

Until next week, happy containerizing.

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60 years

Mary and Mick Munton were honoured for 60 years of marriage at a surprise luncheon last week. Residents of Brinkworthy Place arranged the luncheon at their new activity centre. The Muntons, who were married June 20, 1928, have lived on Salt Spring for 14 years.

Clinic to give women self-examination tips

One out of every 10 women in Canada will eventually develop some form of breast cancer: a disease that kills more women between the ages of 40 and 44 than any other ailment.

A self-examination clinic, scheduled for Salt Spring Island on June 4 at the nurses' residence building behind Lady Minto Hospital, will teach women to detect early signs of breast cancer. While the disease cannot be prevented as such, early detection, diagnosis and treatment can lead to a cure.

The clinic will run on a drop-in basis. Women will view a short film and then be taken through the self-examination process.

The key to detection, says public health nurse Pam MacKenzie, is regular monthly examinations.

"It's not so much a search for lumps, but to find out what is normal."

MacKenzie encourages women of all ages to attend the clinic.

While some individuals are in a higher risk category than others, all women should conduct regular examinations.

Those who have a mother or sister with breast cancer are more likely to develop the disease: there is a family tendency, MacKenzie says. Seventy-five per cent of breast cancer occurs in women over the age of 50. Women who have their first child over the age of 30 are also in the increased risk group, as are women whose diet includes fatty meats, saturated fats, excessive caffeine and little fibre.

As public health nurse, MacKenzie says she is interested in the preventative aspect of health care. With this in mind, she and Jean Ratzlaff attended a recent workshop in Victoria where they learned how to train other registered nurses in the self-examination clinic process. They in turn, trained eight nurses.

The clinic will run from 10 am to 3 pm on Saturday, June 4.

Season ends

Eighty-seven square dancers representing 13 Vancouver Island clubs were hosted recently by the Salty Wheels of Salt Spring Island. The event, held May 14 in the Activity Centre of Salt Spring Elementary School, was the local group's season-ending dance.

Dancers enjoyed the calling of Ron Weisner and guest callers Joyce Command and Bruce Wright. The evening was rounded out with spot dances, door prizes and refreshments supplied by the club.

Gulf Coast Materials

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Wednesday, June 1st

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An Invitation . . .

The Gulf Islands School Board is initiating a long-term planning process for the Ganges school site and the high school in particular.

Our schools are an important part of our community and the community is important to our schools. We would like to hear your ideas. Therefore ALL members of the community are invited to a meeting at:

THE ACTIVITY CENTRE
7:30 pm, Wednesday, June 1, 1988

At this meeting we hope to discuss and share your ideas on:

1. Ways that public involvement in the high school might be increased
2. Possible greater integration of community education services with the high school
3. What educational areas we might want to focus on to be particularly outstanding in our District
4. How we might best develop the high school building and site for present and future use.

For more information please call the Board office at 537-5548 or David Eyles at 653-4558.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!

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