

Gulf Islands Driftwood

Your Community Newspaper

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR, NO. 52

50¢

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1988

The year in words, pictures

The Following is our annual month-by-month review of the past year's news highlights.

JANUARY

The largest land deal in Salt Spring history was completed New Year's Eve when MacMillan-Bloedel transferred ownership of its 4,800 acres of island property to Salt Spring Lands Ltd.

The island realty company, in turn, is selling the 30 to 33 parcels to local buyers. The properties range in size from 74 to 320 acres.

MB's island holdings were first placed on the block in mid-1985 when the company decided the parcels were too scattered for effective forest management.

The Islands Trust Council said it couldn't endorse a provincial government committee's call to have it restructured as a regional district.

Instead, the Trust said it will ask the province for increased authority in its current land-use control and planning functions — and the ability to pay its own way.

The Gulf Islands region was poised to become the first Canadian community to twin with a Nicaraguan equivalent.

Sergio Lacayo, the Nicaraguan ambassador to Canada, and MP Jim Manly (NDP Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands) visited the Gulf Islands to formally accept a document expressing the interest of various local groups to enter into a mutual friendship pact with residents of the island of Ometepe.

Located in Lake Nicaragua, the island has a population of 24,000 and counts agriculture as the base of its economy.

FEBRUARY

Tree-cutting began on one block of the Salt Spring Island acreage formerly owned by MacMillan-Bloedel. The 446-acre parcel between Stewart Road and the eastern shore of Salt Spring was purchased by local resident Murray Cyprus.

The local Islands Trust committee, meanwhile examined ways to curtail clear-cutting of the former MB lands — including development bonuses and density transfers. About 150 islanders gathered at Peter Arnell Park on Salt Spring to hear speakers calling for legislation to control logging on private property.

Okanagan Helicopters grounded its aircraft for good, citing cost considerations. A company spo-

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Christmas gift

Volunteers last week assembled and distributed hampers of food and presents to needy families on Salt Spring Island. Annual Christmas-season program is carried out by the Community Society food bank.

Balance of assistance fund handed over to beneficiary

Just over \$5,000 was turned over last week to a Salt Spring Island man who suffered medical problems after helping to clean up an oil spill at Long Harbour.

The money represents the balance left from some \$10,000 raised by local residents two years ago when Bob Walde of Fulford Harbour was first stricken with an illness that continues to puzzle doctors.

The four trustees of the trust fund — Henry Schwagly, Les Wagg, Tony Richards and Ron McQuiggan — had been distributing the money to Walde in return for receipts showing payment for medical and related travel expenses.

Last week, however, they decided to turn over to Walde the entire amount remaining in the fund.

"We didn't want to play God with the money," Schwagly said Friday. "We decided to turn the money over to Bob and let him administer it. Bob and his family are entitled to the money — it was raised for Bob, and people contributed because it was for Bob."

Walde began experiencing medical problems after he and other local volunteer firemen were called out to help clean up an oil spill at Long Harbour in 1986. He soon suffered a variety of serious physical complaints — which doctors now believe were induced by his body absorbing and retaining gasoline-based compounds — that made it impossible for Walde to continue his employment with B.C. Ferries.

Schwagly said Walde's illness is showing no signs of improvement, and that the Fulford resident now has no hope of returning to work.

The \$10,000 originally placed in the trust fund was raised by local residents who became aware of Walde's plight. Spearheaded by Walde's fellow ferry workers and by local volunteer firemen, the fund was first used to send Walde to the Mayo Clinic in early 1987 for extensive tests to try to determine the cause and extent of his condition. The trip — including medical, travel and related expenses — cost about \$3,000.

At the time Walde visited the Mayo clinic, his medical condition was considered relatively unique by doctors. Since then, however, similar health complaints have

been reported in connection with workers cleaning up other spills — most notably in Newfoundland, where the federal government has ordered tests conducted on members of fire-fighting crews who suffered illnesses after attending the crash of an aircraft at Gander.

Earlier this year, when Walde heard about the similarities in the two cases, he sent an outline of his related medical record to the federal government. Ottawa later thanked the Fulford Harbour man for adding important data to the investigation underway in Newfoundland.

Free bus transportation offered New Year's Eve

A local bus company is offering free transportation to party-goers this New Year's Eve.

"It's my way of saying Merry Christmas and Happy New Year — don't go out and kill yourselves," says Judy Kelly, the owner of Azure Transport Ltd.

"I grew up on this island and I know what drinking-driving problems there are."

Groups of up to 22 persons may arrange rides in advance by calling Kelly at 537-2311 no later than noon on New Year's Eve.

The 22-passenger blue bus will

be running continuous loops between all local watering holes from 6 pm to 2 am — or later, if required.

Kelly said propane fuel for the bus trips is being supplied by Brown's Petro-Canada in Ganges.

W. E. SMITH
DENTURIST

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DEC.			JAN. 1	0145	8.0
28	0120	3.2	SU	0330	8.0
	0930	11.4		1045	10.8
WE	1610	7.9		1850	4.3
	1855	8.2	2	0230	8.9
29	0200	4.3		0645	9.3
	0955	11.3	MO	1100	10.7
TH	1705	7.1		1920	3.4
	2050	7.7	3	0455	9.9
30	0230	5.6		0645	9.9
	1010	11.1	TU	1115	10.6
FR	1740	6.3		1955	2.5
	2255	7.5	4	0520	10.6
31	0300	6.8		0825	10.3
	1030	11.0	WE	1140	10.6
SA	1815	5.3		2030	1.7

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by richards



Surprising report

I watched a television show one evening recently to learn something of the story of Maria Callas. When a friend of the singer in southern Europe was reminiscing of the family history around the time of the singer's birth, she explained that Maria's mother was pregnant and one year later Maria was born.

At least, that's the way I heard it. I suspect the lady meant to convey the idiom, that she was born the following year.

Power's off!

Do you follow a strict formula when there's a power outage? Or do you fumble around the kitchen for a light and then bumble off to bed? Me? I just ain't organized.

When there was no power for some three hours last week I heard the failure, loudly. The kettle stopped singing its song of triumph over the water and the television went dead.

I found a flashlight and crawled into bed to read for an hour or so. First, I switched out the lights and then unplugged the television, which won't switch without power.

I was woken by the lights. I had neglected to switch out the light at the far end of the room and the hall light came on. I got up and corrected my blunders. But I forgot the kettle, again.

Some hours later I got up and went to the kitchen, suddenly very much aware that I had left the electric kettle plugged in. It was empty and very, very hot. After boiling away the water, it had played a one-player game all night. The kettle heated up and the automatic switch turned it off. It cooled, the switch turned on again and the element overheated. There was sign of ice in the vicinity.

I filled it and plugged it in and I was surprised when it worked at once. I was more surprised an hour or so later, when I used it again. With a bright flash and a crackling noise it went out on me.

The heat had burnt the insulation off one wire and melted the end of the wire.

I don't recommend the procedure, but it proves that if you keep your cool when the power fails, you'll likely keep your kettle.

It's all vanity!

Each morning for the past 50 and more years I have laboriously whisked off the whiskers as a vital part of the morning ablutions. I have bled for the privilege of appearing clean-shaven. I have scraped the skin of my face with a blunt razor in the chill of the morning for the honour of the air force. I have used cut-throat, safety razor, Rolls razor, Wilkinson self-stropping unit and the Rolls hand-winder. Latterly I have gone through a variety of Sunbeams, three Remingtons and two Phillips.

Alas! Either my whiskers are toughening up in the twilight of my span or the razors are getting blunt.

I have tried out various new models, but I prefer the old-timers. Most of the time I use a decades-old Remington poverty model, no batteries, no shaving without an outlet and if you travel and change voltage you have to adjust the razor before plugging in. It is so old that it was made before the company was sold!

My second string is Phillips of about five years' seniority with every modern convenience. You can walk round the garden shaving because it has its own battery and it works on any voltage without adjustment.

And I can't find anything better!

What price a postage stamp?

Tony Farr sent me an advertisement from the aged past. He found it while in California recently in an 1871 issue of *The Shilling Peerage*.

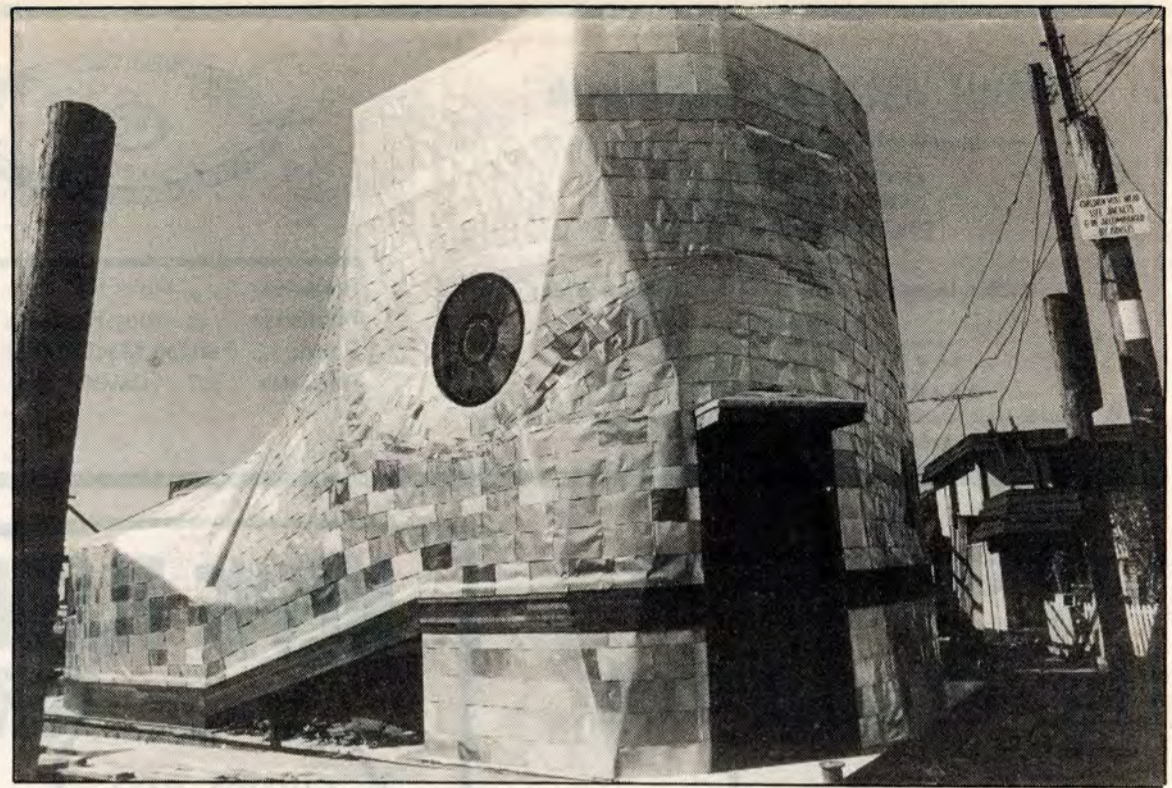
"Lowe's Celebrated Nepalese Hair Dye, in one liquid. This Indian preparation immediately changes red or grey hair, whiskers, etc., to a permanent and natural brown or black; pleasant in odour and highly beneficial in its use. Black or brown, 3s./6d per bottle: the only perfect dye. By post for 42 stamps."

Cast your mind back! In 1871 the British pound was worth about \$5. It was also, at that time, broken into shillings and pence.

The price of 3/6 (or "three-and-six") represented 42 pence. So what's wrong with that?

Nothing's wrong. But the implication in the pricing is that one could send the money in the form of 42 stamps. The further indication is that the stamps would have to be each valued at one penny. Did they have no stamps of any other value in 1871? If the customer sent 42 half-penny stamps, would he have duly changed the colour of his hair?

Farr-seeing is my friend, Tony!



'Boot' boat built by Meror Krayenhoff

Houseboat's unique design brought notoriety to builder

Meror Krayenhoff's reputation as a builder has spread far beyond Salt Spring Island. However, he's not so sure he appreciates the notoriety.

A project Krayenhoff spent over a decade completing has been featured on television and in newspapers throughout North America and Europe. The first reports began 10 years ago; the most recent surfaced again last month.

The project was a floating house Krayenhoff built to resemble a boot. He lived on the boat on the Fraser River — where it was first spotted by CBC reporters in 1978 — and sold it last year, just before moving to Salt Spring Island.

A feature article on the boat and its new Fraser River owners was sent out on the Canadian Press wire service in November. A clipping of one version, printed in the *St. John, New Brunswick, Telegraph-Journal*, was received by *Driftwood* last week.

Krayenhoff, who operates a construction and renovation company on Salt Spring, said that when he built the boat, he intended it to be his "final resting space." However, after children arrived in his family, he decided the 800-square-foot structure was too small, and feared that living on the water would prove a hazard for youngsters.

The decision to sell a boat that meant so much to him was difficult in one sense, he said, but easy in another. "The boat became such a big part of people's perceptions of me," he says. "I was always being introduced as the guy who built the shoe. It got tiresome after a while."

Another bright side to selling the boat was that it allowed Krayenhoff to move to Salt Spring, where his parents were living and where he had frequently vacationed in the 1950s and 1960s.

In the planning stages, the boat was not intended to be a shoe but a marriage of two architectural forms — the geodesic dome designed by Buckminster Fuller, and the tower. Krayenhoff explained that the first form defined the introspective, while the second represented external viewing.

However, as work progressed the builder was not satisfied with having two separate structures on one float and decided to meld the two forms. The result was an accommodation that produced the boot shape.

"The outside has a sense of humour," Krayenhoff says, explaining that the inside — which took seven years to finish — is completely functional.

Built primarily from salvaged wood and shingled with recycled

photographic plates, the boot is reportedly a tight fit that uses every available square inch of space. The living room is in the toe, the kitchen is the instep, the bedrooms are in the heel and leg, and a roof garden tops off the structure.

The boat's new owners, Pat Kerr and Les Klywak, are reported as being thrilled by the workmanship evident in the structure. They point out a kidney-shaped table in the kitchen made of 1,200 small strips of laminated wood, and cupboard doors and drawers carefully fitted into the curvature of the wall.

Other cabinet designs are woven wicker, with fish designs. The door leading to the head has a three-dimensional pattern that follows the grain of the wood, while the living room is ringed with triangular windows and a stained-glass skylight.

Another feature is a hatch in the middle of the floor that opens to the river below, allowing guests to sit and fish in the living room.

Youths charged by police

Six local young offenders were charged last week by Ganges RCMP in connection with various break and enters, theft and mischief offences, as well as on several charges of making obscene phone calls.

On December 21 Ganges RCMP, aided by the Duncan RCMP highway patrol and a

motor vehicle inspector from Victoria, conducted motor vehicle inspections on Salt Spring Island.

Over the past weeks 11 residents were ordered to have their vehicles inspected due to defects. Four vehicles were voluntarily taken off the road by owners prior to the inspection.

A total of seven vehicles were checked, resulting in one vehicle

being ordered off the road and several others requiring extensive repairs.

Two persons failed to bring their vehicle in for inspection as required and are now facing prosecution under the Motor Vehicle Act.

Sgt. Larry Wendel advised that further inspections would be conducted in the new year.

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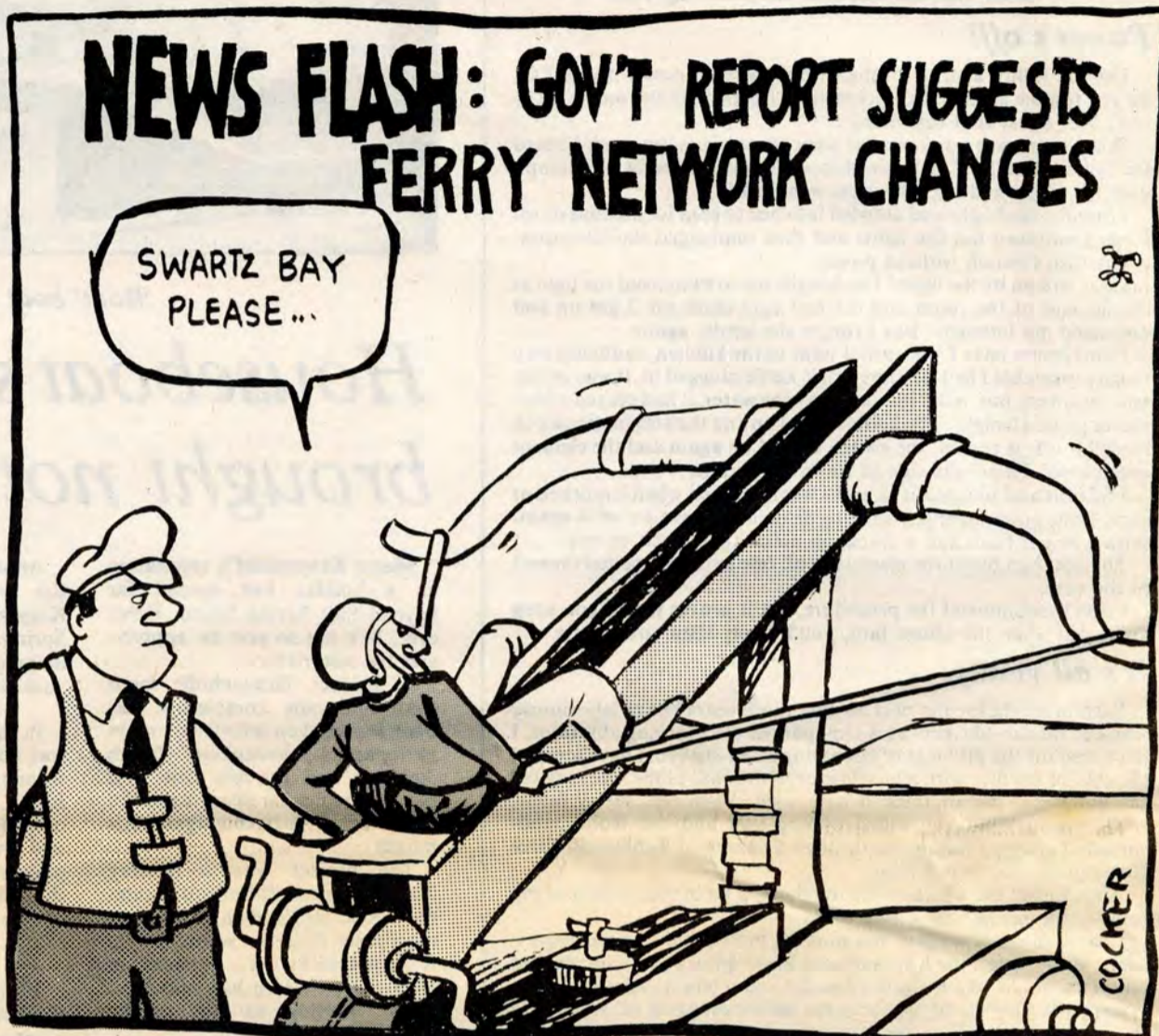
Slowly but surely, public attitudes about drinking and driving are changing for the better. As evidence, we point to the recent experiences of the officers at the Ganges RCMP detachment, and of their colleagues from the highway patrol division based across the water in Duncan.

As of late last Friday, police roadblocks on Salt Spring Island had stopped between 800 and 900 vehicles during the RCMP's annual Christmas season drinking-and-driving CounterAttack program, which began December 8 and extends until January 3. Amazingly enough, not one of those vehicles had an impaired driver behind the wheel.

An even better record has been posted in Duncan, where highway patrol officers who regularly assist with roadblocks on Salt Spring Island report that 3,000 vehicles have been checked during the annual crackdown on drinking drivers. Again, not one of those vehicles was being piloted by an impaired motorist.

The reasons for the drop in drinking drivers are many: some are obvious, others are less apparent. A chief factor is the public awareness campaign launched by the provincial attorney general's office. Coupled with stiffer penalties written into federal law and the willingness of our courts to mete out those harsher sentences, the publicity campaign deserves no small share of the credit for helping to make our streets and highways safer for motorists and pedestrians.

The tremendous role played in this regard by official government agencies is secondary, however, to the part played by the individual



citizen. All of the publicity campaigns, all of the beefed-up laws and all of the stiff sentences emanating from governments in the past several years would amount to naught if people refused to realize and accept the wisdom of the message and change their lifestyles accordingly.

Credit for the effectiveness of the Christmas CounterAttack program does not lie mainly with police, the attorney-general's office or the courts.

It is a direct consequence of more and more celebrants choosing not to drive after having had enough to drink. Thus, it is the conscious decisions made by those people which deserve the fullest marks for making our roads safer places to be during the holiday season.

So here's to the former drinking driver who now declines to slide behind the wheel. May his or her common sense become a year-round virtue.

Traditional tune will brighten New Year's Eve

Former university professor Murray Shoolbraid, the recent school board candidate who is probably better-known as a long-time researcher of history and language, played a large part in compiling — and correcting — the Christmas songs and carols recently published by *Driftwood*.


In the process of the work, Shoolbraid also provided us with the following note, whose publication is more appropriate now, as we near the celebration of New Year's Eve.

Enclosed please find the words of *Auld Lang Syne*, in the "real" version by Burns. It's often sung in a sort of truncated version, and the words are sometimes garbled. But this is it, from the horse's mouth (or another part of its

my word

.....

by duncan macdonnell



anatomy). I hope it can appear in time for Hogmanay.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
 And never brought to mind?
 Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
 And auld lang syne!

CHORUS
 For auld lang syne, my jo,
 For auld lang syne,
 We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet

For auld lang syne.

And surely ye'll be your pint stowp!
 And surely I'll be mine!
 And we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
 For auld lang syne.

We twa hae run about the braes,
 And pou'd the gowans fine;
 But we've wander'd mony a weary fitt,
 Since auld lang syne.

We twa hae paidl'd in the burn,
 Frae morning sun till dine;
 But seas between us braid hae roar'd
 Sin auld lang syne.

But there's a hand, my trusty fiere!
 And gie's a hand o' thine!
 And we tak a right aude-willie-waught,
 For auld lang syne.

Shoolbraid adds the following note:

"Burns gave out the tale that he had collected this from an old man, and that it was therefore quite old and anonymous. But everyone is agreed he is the real author. He wrote it just 200 years ago, in 1788, and it has become

the parting song *par excellence*, although some of its words are so Scottish that folk tend to change them to something more familiar.

"Some of the more obscure words should be translated for the benefit of Sassenachs: *jo*, darling; *pint stowp*, pay for a drink; *gowans*, daisies; *fiere*, comrade; *gude-willie-waught*, draught with right good will.

"The stanzas about the braes and the gowans, I think sum up beautifully the idea of early friendship and later parting."

Right. And I hope and expect more than one New Year's Eve get-together might find time and voices enough to give the original Burns tune an airing, courtesy of Murray Shoolbraid. As for me, I'll see you next year.

Editor's note: The following was presented to local school bus driver Bill Simpkin by Gwen Haevens, a Grade Four student at Fulford Elementary School.

Bus rides

Thank you for the great bus rides,
That without I'd be late
and the teacher would skin my hide.

You drive through the mud, the mush and the muck,
And when a log fell on the road
You didn't get stuck.

You pick me up in rain, slow and snow
My feet are so cold
that by the heater they glow!

I am sorry at the back there's an awful noise
You must be getting sick
of us girls and boys.

When the bus run's done you must be very happy and pleased,
But then you have to work with a hundred or more keys!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Corrupt

It is shameful that the world's most powerful country and some of its most powerful allies persist in pressuring the Palestine Liberation Organization to accept an imaginary "right" of the Zionist entity to exist.

Every informed, decent person knows that the legitimate right to exist belongs to Palestine. Support for and friendship with the Zionist entity are morally indefensible.

The probability that western governments find it politically and financially expedient to please the Judaist establishment, by abetting that Judaist-sponsored horror project which they call Israel, would reveal a practically criminal aspect to our societies' power structures. The Canadian government should have the moral integrity to rescind its recognition of a Zionist state and acknowledge that the Palestinians have a right to be repatriated without surrendering to the Zionist conquerors.

For the Palestinians to recognize any "right" of the Zionist entity to exist would be equivalent to an acceptance of a right of foreigners to invade, kill, pillage, conquer and expel their victims. No people should be considered to have such a right.

It is discouraging that prospects for justice on this planet seemingly require the approval and co-operation of the corrupt, immoral United States.

CHRIS LITTLER,
Ganges.

Starting up

Thank you very much for the article you published on December 7 regarding the proposed cardiac rehabilitation fitness program on Salt Spring. I appreciate your kindness and also the sympathetic and perceptive ear of your

reporter, Jim Black. People are slowly starting to respond to the article and we expect to start the program early in January.

We call ourselves Salt Spring Pump Primers.

Once again many thanks; without you, it couldn't start.

JOHN PAGE,
Ganges.

Wonderful

When Santa Claus visited Salt Spring Island on December 10, he made his list and checked it twice.

When he came back to check the list the second time, aboard the *S.E.S. Discovery II*, we noted that the following people were listed as "nice" rather than "naughty" — Beth and Bill MacDonald of Ewart Gallery, May and Vern Densmore, Malcolm Graham, Louise Harker, Alan Edwards, Jan Flanagan, Arvid Chalmers, Dodie Marshall at the Bank of Montreal, Salt Spring Lions, Salt Spring Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, Fernwood Elementary Parents, McColl's Shell Service, Gary Greico, Salt Spring Sailing Club, Ross and Ganges, the owners of decorated boats escorting the *Discovery*, Stan at Harbour Low Cost Market, volunteer fire-fighters, Murray Henderson, Village Market, Pat Lanzinger at Alisi Catering, Don the Chef and Harbour House Hotel, Canadian Coast Guard, Murray at the Trading Company, Golden Island Restaurant, Embe Bakery, Golden Hands Craft Club, Bellingham Jaycees, Sea Scouts from Bellingham, Whidbey Island and Seattle, The Chalet Bed and Breakfast and last but not least, Tripo Costello.

What a warm-hearted community we have. Many thanks to one and all.
PEARL GRAHAM,
Christmas Ship Committee,
Chamber of Commerce.

Urge support

Editor's note: The following is an open letter to the ministry of Crown Lands, filed with this newspaper for publication.

As you are aware, on December 9, 1988 the Islands Trust unanimously rejected an application for rezoning to allow a fish farm in Satellite Channel.

Every one of the property owners facing that area (including ourselves) made written or oral submissions strongly opposing the application. We were supported by a number of people who had had the misfortune to have a fish farm established near their property, and by other property owners at and near Musgrave Landing.

Other than the applicant, his representative, and an employee of the Mae West Fish Farm, no one spoke in favor, and at least a dozen other residents of Salt Spring expressed various degrees of indignation at the idea that someone could come along and plunk down a noisy ugly industrial activity like this in front of someone's prime waterfront

letters

property, with scarcely a by-your-leave! As arbitrary as expropriation but with no compensation! My perception is that most Salt Spring residents and property owners would probably agree.

Over 16 years, we've personally paid taxes, patronized local business and endured transportation agonies, believing we could expect to enjoy the peace and quiet of the area in our old-age retirement. We also hoped that no government would be so lacking in foresight as to permit the establishment of an industrial activity like this proposed fish farm at this location. It would significantly downgrade the whole area's prime value and usefulness — as an ever more precious recreational, residential and tourist retreat from the urban and industrial environment of two large cities. If the government heeds the Ombudsman report just released and overhauls the system of granting fish farm licences, a fish farm at the proposed site would surely be seen as inappropriate.

We urge you to support the verdict of the Islands Trusts and rule against this application for rezoning to establish a fish farm.

SHAUNA LITTLE,
ROBERT MAKAROFF,
Vancouver.

Raptures

With reference to the talk on community forests given at Off Centre Stage by MLA Graham Bruce, a few points bear observation.

It appears that tracts of land which might qualify for community forest status are those which can't be high-graded with the massive waste of wood that this brings in its wake. The lands that qualify are likely to be marginal from a logging point of view and I would include the Maple Mountain part of the lands that Mr. Bruce speaks of in this category, having gotten to know them rather well over the last 30 years. Most of this land is right downwind from the Crofton pulp mill.

(Incidentally, we on Salt Spring are downwind from the sulphite pulp mill at Harmac and get more of its emissions than from Crofton. What stunting effect this has on wood growth is probably not measurable at this point.)

To me, talk of community forests, while silviculturally-speaking we are where agriculturally we were ten thousand years ago, is just another smooth diversion from the larger forestry issues that Mr. Bruce refuses to address or answer questions on, notwithstanding the fact that he is chairman of a legislative committee which deals

with land use and forestry as its *raison d'etre*. On top of this, to profess ignorance of silvicultural matters is just an insult to our intelligence when prevarication, side-stepping of the Mackenzie Tree Farm Issue and other urgent concerns were the order of the day.

I think it is presumptuous for a politician to expect to be treated like a professor when all he can bring to bear on the subject is what Lin Yutang so charmingly called "words that don't inform." If he wants respect and deference shown, let him bone up on the subject, go to school for a long long time and then find himself an audience that was born yesterday and maybe, just maybe, that audience won't stray from the subject as he would like to present it.

How seriously are we to take a man who has never visited Merv Wilkinson's tree farm in the Cedar area, yet lauds it into the sky while at the same time, on the crucial issue of pesticides, does not see the discrepancy between his practices and those of the pesticide-free tree farmer?

So before we go into raptures of delight about community forests and regress to a myopic Salt Spring-centred world view, let us not lose sight of one central fact. All the meticulous care we give our little island will not compensate for the devastation going on all

around us. So let us keep the larger picture in mind, the one that our MLAs would rather wish we did not raise.

Mr. Couvelier knew nothing about the Mackenzie Tree Farm Licence Application by Fletcher Challenge, and Mr. Bruce refused to say anything about it. Since the application only covers an area twice the size of Vancouver Island it is possible it just got lost in the shuffle or does not rate much attention from politicians concerned with bigger things...

In all cases there is no willingness by any of these people to take responsibility for what is happening. The most disheartening part is to see so many people being thoroughly conned by so few.

DIETRICH LUTH,
Ganges.

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Response

In response to L. Moth's letter to the "snivelling, whining" chairman of the Sierra Club who has the nerve to travel the Dempster Highway and criticize it, I am forwarding a bit of the highway to him to look at.

My trip was so "memorable" (three flats, consumed by mosquitoes, \$600 extra for tires and accommodation) I brought some of it back with me — shale road surfacing used on the road north of Eagle Plains as you enter the North-West Territories. This shale is sharp like razor blades, and used because road surfacing is hard to find up north.

So are tires. My mother and I had to "hitchhike" about 100 miles with a Coast Guard employee to Inuvik to get tires and passed many others with similar problems. Most were tourists. On our trip of 4500 miles, this was the only difficult stretch.

There should be a sign at the foot of the Dempster saying "steel-belted tires only — then drivers know and drive at their own risk."

The local road foreman said "nobody reads signs" — the highways minister said they would include it in a tourist literature, but in this age of communications, it seems so simple just to put up a sign.

As for advance preparations, we are no strangers to the north. I have driven worse roads in the dead of winter, with a jug of cider, a propane torch for protection, wolves howling at 30 below in North Saskatchewan, and wintered in the Yukon. My mother has driven across the country 36 times. My grandfather, Jake, was the first civilian in Fort Nelson and ran the post-office, trading post and was magistrate, and customs officer during the building of the Alaska Highway in the 1940s. It is the people that make the highways!

Regarding calcium chloride as a bonding agent on the roads — locals, familiar with the area, told me of their concerns about the chemicals killing fish in the streams and affecting their habitat. As for driving the Coquihalla, instead, that is not my idea of a wilderness experience. It's more like a taxpayers' nightmare. I haven't driven it! My big ambition in life was once to set up a truck stop (somewhere peaceful) up north, where you could tell stories and serve coffee to people who agreed with you. Like Jake's Corner. With my luck, I'll have to

be content with driving the Ganges bypass.

SUE HISCOCKS,
Ganges.

P.S.
I'd rather be eaten by mosquitoes than attacked by moths!

Misleading

The necessity of publishing statistics on illegitimate births in the U.S.S.R. and other such trivia confirms our worst fears. The *Driftwood* is determined to become a conduit for conservative propaganda.

In your December 7 column on international affairs, the first item on Brazil would have been interesting except that it was completely misleading. The statement about the Reagan administration's opposition to military takeovers is highly dubious.

In 1964, a U.S.-sponsored coup overthrew the democratically-elected government of Joao Goulart. Lieutenant Colonel Vernon Walters, in cahoots with his wartime buddy, General Humberto Castello Branco, helped engineer this overthrow of a popular government. Vernon Walters went on to become Deputy Director of the CIA under Richard Nixon. Mr. Walters is now U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

The resulting military government imposed a market economy on Brazil. This has resulted in 10 per cent of the people growing richer, and 90 per cent growing poorer.

The "Brazilian Miracle" benefited few Brazilians. This country's failure to institute land reform has crowded thousands of poor peasants into the Amazon basin. They slash, burn, and log the land in a futile attempt to develop productive farmland. Indeed their actions may be the single worst cause of the destruction of the earth's atmosphere.

At present there is a centre-right civilian government in Brazil. It is trying some belated reforms, such as a new constitution. However,

more letters

they don't dare do much as this civilian government owes its existence to the approval of a nervous Brazilian military establishment.

Brazil's present terrible state of affairs compares — in such indicators as education, housing, health care and mortality rates — with that of South Africa. Thus we can see that this sad state of affairs can be directly linked to U.S.

intervention in Brazilian affairs. The December 7 column appears to be nothing more than a perversion of the truth.

Driftwood should be on firm ground quoting from the *New York Times*. However, this once prestigious paper, in common with most of the U.S. media, has been corrupted by the eight years of Reagan's rule. It has been battered by charges of left wing bias by such

organizations as the neo-conservative Heritage Foundation and Accuracy In Media (A.I.M.) This latter organization, of course, has nothing to do with any fairness and objectivity.

There are still some good sources of information, such as the excellent *New Yorker* magazine. Also since Lewis Gapham returned to *Harper's*, this magazine is worth a look. The *Atlantic* has its moments, too. *Driftwood* would do well to refer to these sources.

DENNIS PEACOCK,
Ganges, B.C.

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There is still lots of time to contribute to the collection boxes for safety gear, rubber boots, tools and school supplies at Gulfstream, etcetera, Foxglove, the United Church and Patterson's Store.

Cheques made out to *Tools for Peace* — *Inter Pares* (tax receiptable if \$25 or over) can be mailed to Tools for Peace, Box 1500, Ganges.

ANDREW GIBSON,
Tools for Peace,
Ganges.

Innuendo

I am surprised that you would print a story such as the gossip item on "availability of liquor..." by Jim Black on page A8 of your December 7 issue.

If Mrs. Nordine has "seen firsthand" that Liquor Distribution Branch employees are selling liquor to minors she should lay charges against the guilty parties — not slander by innuendo our employees who take their responsibilities very seriously.

more letters

Our employees know very well that they cannot sell to minors or inebriated persons and know the law in this regard. They also know that they are in a very vulnerable position and risk a fine or jail term if they flout this law.

The greatest problems related to liquor access to minors are adults who buy for under-age people, and easy access by minors to liquor supplies in the home.

MAURICE WALFORD,
Director,
Merchandising and
Communications,
Vancouver.

New idea?

I am fascinated by the advertisements of the "revolution-

ary" new razors which vibrate the blade. I think that "revolutionary" in this case must mean the motor goes round and round, because I had a similar razor made, I believe by Gillette in 1933.

Certainly it was not rechargeable, because that type of battery had not been invented, but it was cordless and took two small batteries. There was no exterior switch; it switched on or off by a rotary movement of the wrist.

Also, people didn't use twin blades then.

I rejected it, because it was more bulky than other razors and did not shave any better than the ordinary ones. I concluded that whoever had given it to me had wasted their money under the impression I was getting

something special. All I got was a buzzing toy.

I will not say that the new ones, now advertised, are not better than the ones that do not buzz. They might not like it if I did, and I don't know. I will say that the idea of a vibrating blade is not revolutionary but was short-lived in the 1930s. I know why it was short-lived.

RONALD HOLCROFT,
Ganges.

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I think it's safe to assume, without asking anyone to take his or her clothes off, that all of us gathered here have figures that are ummm, less than Greek?

Thought so. Well if it's any consolation, your Obedient Correspondent is unlikely to be taken for a lean, mean sex machine either. As a matter of fact this chassis of mine has got so many miles on it (not to mention dents and dings on the fenders) that its owner doesn't entertain fantasies of transforming it into something sleek, speedy and admirable any more. I'm just happy the cops haven't ordered it off the road.

Which makes me odd man out these days. Everywhere I look, folks seem to be absolutely obsessed with the idea of shedding suet and putting on muscle. There's a Fitness Club on every block, the streets are littered with joggers and hikers and power walkers wearing agonized scowls and spandex tights. My television is infested with whole flotillas of happy-face aerobics bimbos chanting and puffing to disco Muzak.

Oh well. It's better than robbing banks or doing drugs, I guess.

Unharnessed energy

But it's kind of depressing to think of all that unharnessed energy going to waste. Running around my block feels like it takes enough energy to provide hydroelectricity for some small Third World village. And where does all that energy go? Into my sweatband.

Wouldn't it be nice if you could just order the body you want and devote all that exercise energy to useful pursuits such as raiding the refrigerator or lying on a river bank chewing grass and watching the river flow?

The science magazine *Omni* came up with the same concept recently. The editors asked several prominent sportsmen, entertainers and scientists what kind of a body they'd like if they could trade theirs for a customized job.

The jocks they asked came up with fairly predictable requests. Yankee slugger Mickey Mantle, one of baseball's all-time greats, who was getting greater when his gimpy pins gave out under him, said he'd order the stainless steel knees option if he could. "Injury-free, I would have hit 700 home runs," says Mantle.

Tennis dreadnaught Martina Navratilova said she'd like to have a "rotating waist". Something like the turret on a Leopard tank I suppose. Not a pretty thought.

But not everyone wanted to be turned into a bionic superperson. Designer Oleg Cassini said he'd love to change the colour of his skin — to every colour under the rainbow.

Cassini would like to have a body as pretty as a peacock — literally. "Oh to possess those colours," he cooed.

Improvements in design

Interesting parlour game, designing your own body. What improvements would you make? I can think of a couple of God's glitches that I'd drop. Tonsils for one thing, and that nasty little time bomb in our bellies, the appendix.

Oh yes, and teeth. Next time around I'd prefer to face life with a set of teflon choppers in my mouth. I realize it would put a severe crimp in my dentist's lifestyle, but she could always sell one of her Porsches.

Remember the Acid Guru of the sixties — Timothy Leary? He's gone one step further than redesigning his body — he's throwing it out.

Sort of. Leary has just paid \$45,000 to have his head frozen and preserved after he dies. No body, just his head. Leary figures it can be stuck at the back of the freezer for a couple of centuries or so until science has evolved sufficiently to rewire him. Or it.

Scary thought — inflicting an idiot like Leary on defenseless generations yet unborn.

Dunno why he stipulated waiting until death to freeze his head. It's not as if he's using it.

Letters

Driftwood welcomes letters to the editor on matters of topical interest.

Please keep your letters brief — about 200 words — and to the point. Type it double-spaced or print neatly, so that it will be legible. Sign it and include a telephone number where you can be reached during the day.

Deadline for letters to be considered for each Wednesday's issue of *Driftwood* is 10 am the preceding Monday. Should there be more submissions than the space available, any letters left over in one week move to the top of the list for the following week's consideration.

However, if space is limited it is not uncommon for unusually lengthy letters to be held over for several weeks.

Address your letters to: The editor, *Driftwood*, Box 250, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0.

44-9



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Vandals take aim at rural postal boxes

Vandals with little respect for the postal service went on a spree last week, pushing over 50 rural mailboxes on Salt Spring Island.

On Wednesday, December 21, Ganges RCMP received numerous complaints of damage to post office mail boxes, which had been knocked down the night before, between midnight and 1 am.

RCMP are requesting the public's assistance in locating the person or persons responsible for the vandalism. If you have any information about the acts, contact the Ganges RCMP.

Spree saw 50 mailboxes pushed over on island

Sgt. Larry Wendel said that a month before the latest incident rural boxes, a few individual mailboxes and highway signs were damaged, some with a vehicle.

Wendel says a resident of North End Road heard a loud crash at 12:30 am on December 21 but failed to notify the RCMP because she assumed no one was on shift.

Wendel says there is someone

on duty during that time and that citizens are encouraged to call the local detachment if they hear or see something suspicious.

The mail box rampage took place on three of the island's four rural routes — near Vesuvius, Sunset Drive and North End Road.

Postmaster Fred Smidt-Nielsen said that, at one site, there were signs a vehicle was backed into the boxes. He added that none of

the boxes were damaged.

The postmaster said that when the boxes are down, mail cannot be delivered and local residents must be depended on to right the heavy containers.

The acts of vandalism were not welcome for the post office staff, which was busy last week dealing with the busiest Christmas season for many years. "It's slowing down," said Smidt-Nielsen Thursday.

"It's terrible. I've never seen anything like it. But everything's gone out. It's only a matter of people picking up parcels. They always leave it to the last day."

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School board name committees; Eyles selected to head trustees

For the third straight year, David Eyles has been elected chairman of the Gulf Islands School Board.

The election was made in early December, when the nine-member board was sworn in and committee appointments were made.

Charles Bazzard, the first-time trustee for Salt Spring, was elected to two board committees.

On the buildings and grounds committee Bazzard will be joined by Ian Fraser (chairman) and Mark Billsten.

On the finance and negotiations committee are Bazzard, Charles Hingston and chairman Grace Byrne, who was also elected vice-chairman of the board.

The education and personnel committee consists of Lorraine Campbell (chairman), Joy Ridley and Margaret Howell.

In other news the board agreed to come up with a plan to boost the quality of school playing fields, "although there is little money to do that," says Eyles.

The board also publicly recog-

nized Shell Canada for its donation of sets of Beatrix Potter storybooks to Gulf Islands school libraries.

The board also discussed the recent visit by MLAs Mel Couvelier and Terry Huberts, who examined the Kanaka Road situation. The board wants the road, which cuts through the Salt Spring Elementary grounds, closed.

Problems with crosswalks and warning signs were discussed and a letter sent to the provincial highways ministry.

Regional director given places on bodies dealing with health, hospitals

Dr. Hugh Borsman, Salt Spring Island's representative to the Capital Regional District (CRD), has been named to chair the body's community health committee and to sit as a member of its hospital board executive and its general municipal services committee.

The appointments were made at the CRD's recent inaugural meeting.

The CRD's general municipal services committee deals with community planning, land use control, building inspection and other issues in the electoral areas. The board's community health committee is charged with reporting to the CRD on matters relating to public health.

Murray Coell, chairman of the CRD's hospital district board (where Dr. Borsman is included on the executive), told the inaugural meeting that hospital and

health care in the region is in "an active state of transition." The emphasis, he said, is moving from institutions to community-based services.

Those changes, Coell continued, are being reflected in the activities of the board. As an example, he pointed to its work in helping to develop a new health care society for Salt Spring Island.

"In the coming years I expect a continuation of this trend," he said. "We will have before us

projects from the continuum of health care. As directors, our role will be to balance the requirements and the demands for service with the taxpayers' ability to pay."

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Rhonan Heitzmann has his mother to thank for helping to launch his literary career.

The 15-year-old Salt Spring student recently won first prize — worth \$250 — in the high school category of the B.C. Federation of Writers' Literary Rites competition, thanks to the encouragement of his mother Kathi Singbeil.

Singbeil also entered some of her poems, which were included in the emerging writer category of the competition.

Student earns poetry prize

It all started several years ago when Singbeil gave her son a Chinese diary booklet in which to write his poems — an idea prompted by interviews with two of Rhonan's teachers, who had good things to say about the youth's writings.

"I was cleaning up his room one day and found the book," she said. "I read the poems and, as

the years passed, I continued to like them."

On her computer Singbeil put together a small booklet of poems by her and Rhonan, calling it *DREAMS and Dragons*. She had 100 copies printed.

Singbeil heard of the literary contest on the radio and sent a copy of the booklet to the writer's federation, which they recently

joined.

On December 3 Rhonan received a telephone call and telegram informing him he had won. "I was really surprised," he says. "He almost hit the roof," says his mother.

Rhonan says he gets his ideas from themes given to him in English class, or from what's going on around him. "I'll write

something and it will sound poetic, so I'll keep writing."

The youth says the prize has inspired him to write more. He also thanked his mom for "twisting his arm" to allow his poems to be printed in the booklet.

Also included in the collection is a poem by Rhonan's English teacher father, Gregory Heitzmann, who passed away when Rhonan was nine. The book is dedicated to him.

artseen

by gary cherneff



I have to tell you that this was not my intention. I thought I'd be able to write this column about post-Christmas; you know, how we all overate, especially the shortcake, fruit cake and Nanaimo bars. All that canker-in-your-mouth stuff.

But, here I am on Friday the 23rd, the editor wants my column in by 3 pm rather than on Monday at noon, the battery is dead in my van and to top it off, the plumber has, in his best bedside manner, just informed me that the water system is crummy, the supply line has a leak in it and he will see me on Tuesday when I will finally be able to flush the toilets.

Know anyone with three one-way tickets to somewhere torrid with mango trees? A place where the nightmarish echo of dripping water dries up in a tropical blow-torch. I think the Oak Bay Rec Centre will do in a pinch.

Well, let's look on the good side of things. It was just the other day that a wonderful conjunction of fortuitous events plopped into my lap. Remember last week's story about the New Zealand potter, Harry Davis? Well, in that piece I also mentioned another English potter with whom Davis was connected in various ways. His name was Michael Cardew. Both men had similar interests in the folk craft movement and the applications it could have in Third World countries.

Harry Davis attempted to establish a village ceramic industry in Africa and Peru. Michael Cardew experimented more successfully with this kind of program in Africa and Australia. Cardew is by far the better known of the two men — mostly by virtue of his classic book, *Pioneer Pottery* — a book which became one of the bibles (along with Bernard Leach's *A Potter's Book*), leading us youngsters along the righteous path. I still love to thumb through it for a hit of inspiration, even though my work has deviated from its orthodox folk craft aesthetic.

Cardew's method was to make pots from the ground up — digging local clay, quarrying the mineral rocks for glazes, and grinding both for use

in pottery making. He eschewed self-aggrandizement and at the same time taught us the nuts and bolts of pottery-making. He promoted a workshop situation in which many hands with honest work produced utilitarian pots of great simplicity which could be sold at a reasonable price, thereby sustaining the popular consumption of charming and original vessels for everyday use.

Garth Clark, in his 1976 monograph on this great teacher, subheaded his book: *An intimate account of a potter who captured the spirit of country craft*. There is no pretention to his pots but a playfulness and joy in their construction; something uncontaminated with ego.

He influenced many of us in small ways. One underglaze blue colour I use is a direct adaptation of Cardew's recipe, and a current teapot design I use owes something to his solution to the design problem.

To return to the fortuitous coincidence, the day after I submitted my article on Harry Davis, I walked into *Rare Find* in Mouat's basement to discover a small brown-black spouted vessel labelled "Saki Pot" for \$12. It looked familiar and as I drew nearer was intrigued with the screw top lid and the simple incised and impressed decorative touches. The potter's mark was on the bottom and also another for the name of the pottery. It was hard to believe what I was seeing, so I quickly returned home to check the marks in a book published by the Craftsmen Potter's Association of Great Britain. Sure enough, there it was, the stylized bridge in a circle signifying Cardew Wenford Bridge Pottery in Cornwall.

As I write this, the little pot sits before me. Probably it was made by Svend Beyer, one of Cardew's trusted craftsmen who began with him in 1969. The screw top lid is a Cardew trademark — one method for which he has described as being handed down in a 16th century treatise by Italian potter Cipriano Piccolpasso.

There is indeed lineage to my little pot. I felt as if I had rescued a bit of that abandoned history.

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Land-use issues sparked local interest

From Page A1

kesman said the government was not using the service as often as it has in the past.

MARCH

Islanders voted in favour of late-night sailings in a questionnaire put out by Salt Spring's transportation committee. Of those polled 82 per cent supported the idea while most of those opposed objected to losing the early-morning ferry to make the plan work.

A proposed tree-cutting bylaw for Salt Spring Island was withdrawn because Island Trustees Nick Gilbert and Pat Byrne believed it could have intensified tree-cutting efforts.

The proposed bylaw, drafted after the start of logging on blocks of the former MacMillan-Bloedel lands, would have restricted tree-cutting on steep slopes, within watersheds and near watercourses.

APRIL

Johnny Canuck (alias Salt Spring's John Wilcox) began his cross-Canada sojourn to protest the proposed free-trade bill with the U.S.

Wilcox drove a 1941 Chev half-ton truck with a freshly-painted red maple leaf on the hood.

District highways ministry employees lost their bid to acquire the bridge and road maintenance contract for the Southern Vancouver Island region.

The employees, led by now-retired Salt Spring roads foreman John Stepaniuk, had their application turned down by the provincial government, which expressed concerns over the group's financing plans.

MAY

The skeleton of a young girl — who may have lived anywhere between several hundred and 1,000 years ago — was discovered at Harbours End Marina.

The remains were found less than two feet below the surface in a shell midden when a backhoe was digging a trench between the marina building and the beach.

Lynn Hunter emerged from a field of four candidates to win the NDP nomination for the new federal riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands. She later defeated Progressive Conservative candidate Pat Crofton in November's federal election and is now an MP in Ottawa.

Significant levels of dioxins and furans were detected in shellfish and Great Blue Heron eggs taken from Crofton.

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.

JUNE

The Islands Trust rejected the provincial highway ministry's bid to increase the width of new roads constructed within the Islands Trust area.

A ministry spokesperson told the Trust the request for expanded guidelines stemmed from growth pressures applied to the islands.

Trustees, however, were unmoved and said current standards maintain the rural nature of the islands. They added that while



Archaeologists unearthed human remains

expanded standards would lead to better engineered roads, they would also encourage people to drive their vehicles at higher speeds.

Falconbridge Minerals stressed that a public process would take place before a decision was made to proceed with any mineral exploration work on its Mt. Bruce claims, believed to contain reserves of base metals — possibly copper, zinc, gold and silver.

(In December, however, the company indicated that it would abandon pursuing its mineral claims in the southern portion of Salt Spring Island. The decision was reportedly based on questions about land-use jurisdictions and on public opposition.)

The Islands Watch Society was formed to support and protect the island's way of life, naming an 11-member board of directors.

But the group faced their first official challenge before the founding meeting had even concluded. Dr. Hugh Borsman, Salt Spring's director to the Capital Regional District, called the society a "self-elected elitist organization" whose statement of purpose "smacks of authoritarianism."

But before he could finish Borsman was ruled out of order by society chairman David Williams, who said the society's founding meeting was neither the time nor place to take it to task.

JULY

Terry Huberts, Social Credit MLA for Saanich-and-the-Islands, was named minister of state of one of B.C.'s eight new regional development zones and given ministerial responsibility for the parks portfolio during a

provincial cabinet shuffle.

Mel Couvelier, the riding's other Social Credit MLA, retained his post as minister of finance and corporate relations.

At the same time the cabinet shuffle was made, a reorganization of the premier's office saw Salt Spring resident Peter Bazowski appointed as special advisor to Premier Bill Vander Zalm.

The *Island Times*, a new weekly community newspaper, was launched to serve the outer Gulf Islands. The paper is owned by Driftwood Publishing, which also produces the *Gulf Islands Driftwood* and *Second Impressions*, a graphic arts trade magazine serving Western Canada.

Top B.C. cyclists competed in championship races from North End Road to Vesuvius Bay Road. In total 155 riders in seven classes competed for titles.

Organizers rated the Salt Spring course as demanding and challenging, and were pleased with the co-operation and patience shown by motorists who found their way onto the 20-kilometre lap during racing.

Seafood at
Vesuvius Bay...

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Lunch Specials from 11:30
Dinner Specials 5-8 pm

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AUGUST

The federal government pledged close to \$200,000 in funding for small craft harbour projects on Salt Spring Island.

Fisheries and Oceans Minister Tom Siddon visited the island, announcing a project in Fulford valued at \$47,000 and two projects in Ganges costing \$143,000.

The Fulford job involves repairs to harbour facilities, including repairs to pedestrian access and, at Ganges, replacement of the main wooden float with a wider concrete structure and the construction of a permanent harbour manager's office.

Both projects are expected to be completed by spring of 1989.

The Salt Spring Island garbage

dump was condemned as a potential health risk in a report given to the Capital Regional District (CRD) sanitation and water committee.

The B.C. environment ministry's waste management branch wrote the CRD, saying that although the appearance of the operation on Blackburn Road had improved it is located close to residences and is in the Cusheon Lake watershed, which is the source of drinking water for many homes.

About 50 irate Salt Spring residents voiced their beefs about commercial clam diggers at a public meeting attended by federal and provincial officials as part

Turn to Page A11

**The Chart
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Hours
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Lunch Special — Dec. 31-Jan. 6

CURRIED SEAFOOD CREPES
A delightful blend of shrimp, crab & scallops sauteed with curry and wrapped in thin crepes. Topped with white wine sauce & served with house salad **5⁷⁵**

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JACK LORDS BAND**

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HOTEL**
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House fire brought tragic close to year

From Page A10

of a committee studying clam digging practices and regulations.

At present commercial diggers must hold a \$10 licence which entitles them to an unlimited number of clams. The only restriction they face is the size.

Pat Crofton, federal MP for the now-defunct Esquimalt-Saanich, said commercial diggers travel here from off-island and "are taking — taking selfishly — and putting nothing back into the pot."

SEPTEMBER

Island Trust representatives meeting on Gambier Island voiced sharp differences of opinion over proposals outlining the legislative relationship between the Trust and incorporated areas which may be formed within its boundaries.

Meeting as a council the 26 trustees representing 13 major islands within the Trust area debated two sets of proposals drafted in response to the incorporation of Ganges on Salt Spring Island and the whole of Bowen Island.

One proposal called for the Trust to retain significant influence over incorporated areas while their powers are being established while another proposal called for more autonomy for the incorporated areas.

In what organizers are calling an overwhelming display of generosity, Salt Spring residents raised close to \$17,000 in the Terry Fox Run and related activities.

And a total of \$56,000 was raised for the B.C. Lung Association by 78 cyclists who pedalled around Salt Spring Island. The three-day, 180 kilometre trek followed a route across Salt Spring, through the Chemainus and Cowichan Valleys and around Shawnigan Lake and the Saanich Peninsula.

OCTOBER

Attempts by police to locate the registered owner of a Nissan Sentra found aboard the *Queen of Vancouver* failed. It was suspected the owner, Maurice Gardiner of New Westminster, may have fallen overboard in Active Pass at about 8:15 pm, October 1.

The field of federal election candidates in the Saanich-Gulf Islands riding reached eight hopefuls.

Included were representatives of the Communist, Western Canada Concept (WCC) and Libertarian parties and one "generic" candidate, who had no affiliation with any party but who asked not to be listed as an independent.

The field of candidates almost reached nine: a representative of the Rhinoceros Party arrived at the returning office 15 minutes after the deadline had passed for the filing of nomination papers.

Construction of a \$402,000 Ganges Harbour seawalk, first proposed in 1981, cleared its final hurdle with the approval of a provincial Lottery Grant of \$134,000.

The remaining funds needed to complete the seawalk will come from private and corporate contributions, a federal government employment grant and donations of labour and material.

NOVEMBER

Voters in Saanich-Gulf Islands



Reform Party was factor in election

joined the majority of B.C. electors, opting for a New Democrat Member of Parliament instead of one who will sit with the majority Progressive Conservative government.

The NDP's Lynn Hunter defeated Progressive Conservative Pat Crofton by roughly 1,000 votes. On Salt Spring, Hunter collected the majority of votes in all but one of 12 polling divisions.

Nine new members were elected to the Islands Trust Council. On Salt Spring John Stepaniuk, a former trustee re-entering local politics, led second-place Nick Gilbert by 272 votes. Gilbert

would later be elected as chairman of the Islands Trust for the second straight term.

A bout of stormy weather brought snow, wind, rains and a reminder of winter to the Gulf Islands. The storm caused power outages on most of the Gulf Islands, disrupted ferry and water taxi service and dropped more rain than normal for November.

DECEMBER

Two separate house fires within four days claimed the life of one Salt Spring Island resident and left eight other people homeless. Killed December 11 in the fire

was Wendy Sinclair, 36, a mother of two who lived on Price Road near Ganges.

Four days earlier on December

7, another fire struck the Harrison Avenue home of Debbie Davies and her three sons, who were not home at the time of the blaze.

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Saturday, Dec. 31 **NEW YEAR'S PARTY** - 8 pm
 Sunday, Jan. 1 ... **NEW YEAR'S LEVEE** - noon-3 pm (members only)

Monday, Jan. 9 **GENERAL MEETING** - 8 pm
 Monday, Jan. 16 **LADIES GENERAL MEETING** 7:30 pm

Watch for information on the **AUCTION** and **ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT**, both coming in January.

NEW YEAR'S HOURS:
New Year's Eve (Dec. 31) Meat Draw 3-5 pm; Legion closes 6:00 pm.
Monday, Jan. 2 - Regular hours

**10% OFF
TUESDAY**

JAN. 3 — 9 am-8 pm
everything but cigarettes & tobacco

HAPPY NEW YEAR from everyone at **GANGES VILLAGE**

<p>FROZEN GR. 'A' DUCKS 2.18 kg 99¢ lb.</p>	<p>BULK NO. 1 BACON Cryovac 239 lb.</p>	<p>CORNISH GAME HENS 3.28 kg 149 lb.</p>	<p>BONELESS STUFFED PORK BUTT 4.39 kg 199 lb.</p>	<p>HIGHLINER FISH IN BATTER 700 g pkg. 589 ea.</p>	<p>BOTTOM ROUND BARON OF BEEF Grade 'A' 5.71 kg 259 lb.</p>
--	--	---	--	---	--

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<p>FRESH—SMOKED—FROZEN—FISH!</p> <p>FRESH FARM COHO SALMON 8.80 kg 3.99 lb.</p> <p>FRESH COD FILLETS 7.91 kg 3.59 lb.</p> <p>SMOKED KIPPERS 7.47 kg 3.39 lb.</p> <p>FROZEN TIGER PRAWNS 99¢ each</p>	<p>FRESH POULTRY</p> <p>ECONO CUT FRYERS 3 legs, 3 breasts, 3 wings, back attached 3.06 kg 1.39 lb.</p> <p>FAMILY PACK— 5.71 kg 2.59 lb.</p> <p>BREASTS 2.59 lb.</p> <p>THIGHS 5.05 kg 2.29 lb.</p> <p>DRUMSTICKS 4.39 kg 1.99 lb.</p> <p>WINGS 3.95 kg 1.79 lb.</p>	<p>SLICED BEEF LIVER 3.06 kg 139 lb.</p> <p>CHICKEN CUTLETS 4.17 kg 189 lb.</p>
---	---	---

Make this New Year's Party a

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Have a Safe & Happy New Year!!

FRESH BULK REFRIED BEANS 35¢ 100 g	BULK SALSA SAUCE 57¢ 100 g	FLOUR TORTILLAS 8" 179 pkg.	EL SPLENDITO NACHO CHIPS 289 400 g
NACHO CHEESE 66¢ 100 g	NEW! MEXICAN VARIETY DIP 454 g 399 ea.	FLOUR TORTILLAS 10" 199 pkg.	• Nacho Cheese • Plain Round • Mini Dell
SOUR TOPPING 28¢ 100 g		CORN TORTILLAS 6" 99¢ pkg.	

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RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT

FOR **100**

ARIZONA FRESH LEMONS **6/99¢**

TROPICAL KIWI FRUIT **5/\$1**

B.C. GROWN ANJOU PEARS **2.99¢** lb.

EXTRA LARGE GREEN PEPPERS **59¢** lb.

CELLO SPINACH 454 g bag **139**

BOK OR SUI CHOY **2.89¢** lb.

B.C. GROWN RED DELICIOUS APPLES **59¢** lb.

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OATMEAL COOKIES **199** doz.
The kids' favourite!

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• Chunks
• Rosebuds
• Crispy Crunch
• Macaroons
• Slow Pokes
• Coconut Fingers 8.34 kg

CASHEWS **696** lb.
• Salted
• Unsalted 15.31 kg

SESAME STICKS 5.96 kg **248** lb.

Dry Roast PEANUTS 4.38 kg **199** lb.

Trophy Salted, Unsalted or BBQ PEANUTS 2.82 kg **128** lb.

BITS & BITES 7.46 kg **339** lb.

OLD DUTCH SNACKS **295** lb.
• Nacho
• Tostada
• Taco
• Cheese Curis
• Corn Chips 6.49 kg

CELERY SALT 3.17 kg **144** lb.



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750 g tub **234**

NESCAFÉ INSTANT
COFFEE
Reg. blend, 200 g
Viva or Columbla, 150 g
468



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COFFEE
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SUGAR TWIN
100 g pkg. **178**



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DETERGENT
2 kg bag
296

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DETERGENT
10 litre box **798**

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DETERGENT
500 ml btl. **98¢**

PHILIPS SOFTONE
LIGHT BULBS
Twin Pack 40-60-100 watt **168**

VENICE FRESH BREAD
100% STONE GROUND
or Fibre Bread—454 g loaf
98¢




BERRYLAND RED
KIDNEY BEANS
14 oz. tin **78¢**

GRANTHAM'S
LEMON JUICE
500 ml btl. **98¢**

TWININGS
TEA BAGS
10 pack **88¢**
50 pack 3.78 **88¢**

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8-roll pack **288**

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PAPER TOWELS
2-roll pack **98¢**

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200 pkg. **98¢**

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CHEESE SLICES
500 g pkg. singles
288



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MOZZARELLA
Partly skim 1 lb. **298**

MCCORMICK
CHOCOLATE PUFFS
400 g Orange or Pudding **198**

PRINGLES
POTATO CHIPS
200 g pkg. yr. choice **198**

PINATA
TORTILLA CHIPS
1 lb. bag
198

MAINSTAY
DOG FOOD
8 kg bag
498

SEA HAUL or CLOVER LEAF
SMOKED MUSSELS
104 g tin **98¢**

NEW! McVITIE HOBNOB
CRACKERS
300 g pkg. **178**

McVITIE
GINGER SNAPS
118

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GOURMET SMOKED
SALMON PATE
• Lox & Capers
• Lox & Pickles
170 g tub Produced on Salt Spring! **358**

CARNATION
HASH BROWNS 1 kg **98¢**

• Strawberry
• Peach
• Pina Colada
bacardi
DRINK MIXES 250 ml **138**


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McCAIN FROZEN
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PEANUT BUTTER
Regular or Old Fashioned
750 g jar **236**

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except sugarless tin **298**

BURTONS
COOKIES
300 g pkg. • Rich Tea • Ginger Nut • Nice • Shortcake • Digestive **98¢**



PACIFIC
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385 ml tin limit 12 tins **68¢**

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CARNATION
COFFEEMATE
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BURTON'S 150 g
CREME COOKIES
• Custard • Orange • Strawberry **2/99¢**

CLOVER LEAF
BOYSENBERRIES
10 oz. tin While stock lasts **99¢**

Investment decision needed by year's end

By J. BARRY MILLS

One of the most important financial decisions that must be made by individuals relates to the disposition of their Registered Retirement Savings Plan. Under current tax laws, the RRSP must mature (be closed) by the end of the year in which one reaches age 71. It can, however, mature anytime before then — at age 60 or 65 for example. Whenever the RRSP matures, four alternatives exist:

- Collapse the RRSP, take the proceeds in cash and pay tax on the entire amount;
- Purchase a life annuity;
- Purchase a fixed term annuity; or
- Open a Registered Retirement Income Fund.

The first provides no tax deferral whereas the last three do.

The following comments relate specifically to the last option — the RRIF.

An RRIF is essentially an extension of the RRSP with one major difference. When you have an RRSP you make contributions to it which are tax-deductible, whereas an RRIF makes retirement payments to you and these payments are taxable.

When you open an RRIF, you simply transfer the cash and investments in your RRSP to your RRIF. No tax is triggered by this transfer. The RRIF then makes payments to you on either a monthly or annual basis. These payments are included in your taxable income as they are received. The payments continue until all the funds in the RRIF (both original capital and accumulated income) have been



disbursed. All the funds must be withdrawn by age 90.

Like an RRSP, an RRIF is not taxed on its earnings. The income earned on the cash and investments in the RRIF is allowed to accumulate on a tax-deferred basis — it is only the actual payments you receive from the RRIF which are subject to tax.

The advantages of an RRIF may be summed up as follows:

- **Payment Flexibility:** You may withdraw as much as you like, whenever you like subject to a minimum determined by formula.

This is determined by dividing the value of the RRIF on January 1st of each year by the difference between 90 and your age on January 1.

- **Inflation Protection:** Payments

may be increased to offset inflationary increases.

- **Tax Deferral:** The funds in the RRIF maintain their tax sheltered status until withdrawn.

- **Estate Planning:** Since most of the RRIF funds can be payable toward the end of the term, an RRIF can leave more funds intact for beneficiaries of your estate.

- **Transferability:** You can transfer funds on a tax free basis from your RRIF directly to: another RRIF, an annuity, or an RRSP (if you are under 71).

As a result of these attractive features, it is not surprising that RRIFs are becoming a popular choice of people whose RRSPs are currently maturing.

J. Barry Mills is an account executive with Nesbitt Thompson Deacon Inc., in Victoria.

Production-parity agreement 'an important step for OPEC'

By DONALD W. DONY

One of the most intense OPEC meetings in recent years has concluded with the signing of a new production limitation agreement. This agreement calls for an overall quota of 18.5 million barrels per day, providing output parity between Iraq and Iran at 2.64 million barrels each per day. Thus, a major stumbling block to OPEC unity has been removed.

OPEC is being given credit by some oil economists for creating conditions in which the price of oil can rise quickly to a range of \$14 to \$18 per barrel from the approximate \$12 per barrel of last week.

The Iraq-Iran production-parity solution is an important step for OPEC. However, it does not

address a number of other long-standing problems that are equally crucial to OPEC's continued viability as an organization.

OPEC produced about 22.5 million barrels per day in November for a world market that only required 19.5 million barrels per day. Thus, close to three million barrels per day are currently being held in storage.

The new agreement will not take effect until January 1, 1989, so between today and the start of the new year, there is the possibility that a further 60 to 100 million barrels will be held in storage even if output is gradually dampened. There is already some 200 million excess barrels stored worldwide.

The reported overall quota of 18.5 million barrels per day, by

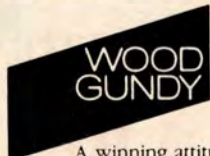
itself, looks to be in line with estimated demand for OPEC oil in 1989. However, no overall OPEC quota number has ever actually been observed by members of the organization. Therefore, if one assumed an extra 800,000 to one million barrels per day supply coming from inventories, and between one-half to one million barrels per day additional oil from cheating, the effect would be to push up supply well above the level of apparent demand, thus weakening prices.

The events presently unfolding in OPEC continue to suggest that our estimate of the average price of \$13.50 per barrel for the mix of the six OPEC crudes in 1989 remains the best calculation we can make.

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Housing needs for seniors defined by survey results

Respondents to a questionnaire about local housing needs for seniors indicate islanders have defined the ideal type of dwelling unit to suit their needs.

At the same time, they have expressed concern over the prospect of finding affordable housing on Salt Spring, now and in the long term.

The survey, conducted by the seniors' housing committee of the island's health care planning group to gauge the local need for subsidized housing, drew 41 responses.

Organizer Sue Mouat said the total of returned questionnaires "was disappointingly small," but she drew solace from the fact that it indicated "considerable awareness" of the housing issue.

She said survey results showed most of the respondents were concerned for their own future, and not for that of an elderly relative. Many expressed fears about a shrinking dollar putting affordable housing out of their reach within 20 years.

The questionnaire indicated that only four respondents answering an optional question about income levels received more than \$30,000 a year, and only 19 would qualify for subsidized housing under the guidelines of the B.C. Housing Management Corporation.

In an analysis of the questionnaire results, Mouat wrote: "Almost everyone who answered stated they would prefer to stay in their own homes as long as health, income and support services were available. What the

large majority is looking for is a self-contained unit with a minimum of two bedrooms on one level or with an elevator, within walking distance of Ganges."

She added that the results outlined a need for two types of housing on Salt Spring:

- "Moderately-priced condos or apartments near the Ganges core where the maintenance of the building and the grounds would be part of the rent (or a monthly charge). These buildings should be close enough to town so that it would be an easy walk to the library, the post office and eating places.

'They would prefer to stay in their own homes as long as health, income and support services are available.'

"The seniors also want to have room to have children or grandchildren to visit. They also want the security of locking their door and going to the sun in winter without worrying about freezing pipes, hydro failures, etc., when they are away.

- "Sheltered housing is the second type of accommodation that is required. This would be some form of personal care home . . . (where) the seniors would have meals provided, the companionship of other seniors, and someone on the premises 24 hours a day. Those who were looking for this type of accommodation wanted to be close to Ganges, so they could easily walk to various services."

Mouat's report also noted that unless there are strong support groups locally, living by oneself in a single-family unit is not always the best situation for the elderly, or the younger handicapped residents. She pointed out that Salt Spring has a range of support services available — including Pioneer Village and Croftonbrook, Meals on Wheels, Home-maker Services, the Alert Line System, Bessie Dane Foundation and the Community Centre. Those are, she said, "just a few of the many non-profit groups which provide service to the elderly and the handicapped."

Hope was expressed that, at some time in the future, Croftonbrook will have kitchen facilities to provide meals for Croftonbrook and Pioneer Village residents. The local Lions Club is hoping to upgrade bachelor units at Pioneer Village, and to erect additional units, she wrote.

The report added that Brinkworthy Place has been "a great asset for many seniors, who find there the comfort of close neighbours and units of any size they require."

Mouat noted that a seniors housing file at the Seniors for Seniors office at the Community Centre has information on several examples of alternative accommodation in place for the elderly in other areas.

She closed the report by writing that "hopefully, we can all stay on the island, where we have built up friendships through our retirement years, knowing that all services are here for our various needs in each of life's changing stages."

Child payments to increase

Family Allowance payments will increase in the new year, the federal government announced last week.

The payments, made to 3.6 million Canadian families on behalf of 6.6 million children under the age of 18 years, will be increased effective January.

Payments will rise to \$32.74 per month from the current level of \$32.38 — an increase based on changes in excess of three per cent in the Consumer Price Index, the cost-of-living measure determined by Statistics Canada.

In announcing the increase, Health and Welfare Canada also

noted that the refundable Child Tax Credit for the 1988 taxation year will provide up to \$599 per year, based on family income.

Also, parents who qualify can claim an additional \$100 on their return for each child aged six years and under for whom no child care expenses were claimed.

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Mon.-Sat.**

Kiosk's placement draws design criticism

By DAVE FRASER

Tom Toynbee gazes out of his office window at his new harbour building and shakes his head.

He can't understand critics of the project to redevelop the former Ganges Village Market building — particularly those who complain about a transformer box situated on the site.

Toynbee says the kiosk was necessary because above-ground wiring and poles are being removed and cables placed underground to make the site more attractive.

Freda O'Connor, chairman of the advisory design panel (ADP) which approved Toynbee's plan, told *Driftwood* December 14 that she has received three complaints about the location of the electrical kiosk.

O'Connor says the issue of the box's location was also raised recently at a meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission (APC).

Main points under discussion are that the kiosk is not located where the approved plan said it would be, and that the switch in locations was never referred back to the body.

Art Hopping, a designer and colour consultant who just resigned from the ADP for health reasons, says that in his three to four years on the panel, developers have always resubmitted plans for electrical kiosks, landscaping, garbage areas, propane tanks and site lighting.

Meanwhile, Islands Trustee Nick Gilbert says landscaping plans were submitted by Toynbee but the approved permit had a discrepancy in that any detail changes were not required to be submitted back to the Trust.

Gilbert says the hydro box is in a "slightly different position" than indicated on the drawings that were approved. The box was also supposed to be buffered by a tree and hedge.

Gilbert says the Trust requires builders to be in "substantial accordance" with their approved plan. The developer, however, is given "reasonable latitude" to make changes to allow for the builder's judgement, he says.

Toynbee says the original loca-



Tom Toynbee overlooks scene of dispute

tion of the kiosk was "totally unacceptable." Not only did it block a view corridor to the sea, he says, but underground wires next to the transformer would have been more vulnerable to high tides.

"They're not viewing it from a broad perspective," Toynbee says of his critics. "We're not doing this to create an eyesore. We're doing it to remove above-ground power lines and it's costing a lot of money."

Toynbee says the price tag is an additional \$100,000 to move telephone and hydro wires underground from Centennial Park to the new development. Total cost

of the project is estimated at \$50,000.

"It's a real problem. There are back alleys. Everything is visible."

Toynbee says he had also had to provide suitable vehicle access to the kiosk for B.C. Hydro crews.

"It's the best possible location for it. We worked with electrical consultants, architects and Hydro on this."

Toynbee says the kiosk will be beautified by framing material covered in signage, possibly with a directory of the area. Foxglove Farm and Garden Supplies will landscape the site, including the planting of oak trees.

Toynbee says his problem was

compounded when B.C. Hydro shipped transformer boxes that were 6.5 feet tall, not the 4.5-foot-high kiosks he expected. "Hydro threw a curve at us."

He says locating the box behind the two small buildings in the open space would not only disrupt the waterfront view aspect of the development, but would be more vulnerable to flooding. Access for B.C. Hydro would be more difficult and, as the unit would be less than 20 feet from a building, it would need to be encased in concrete.

Toynbee says he has received dozens of compliments about the renovation of the old Village Market market, a project that was designed by Jensen Architects of Victoria.

The builders have taken great pains to keep the waterfront aspect unobstructed, he says, pointing to a pear tree on the shoreline. A planned walkway will be built around the tree to preserve it.

"We're not going to tear things out and stomp on nature," Toynbee says.

44-9



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BR. 92
Renew your membership
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

WOLFE-MILNER & ASSOCIATES
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P.O. Box 3
Ganges, Salt Spring Island

B.G. Wolfe-Milner, B.C.L.S.
537-5502

OFF TO HAWAII!



Congratulations to CAROL MILLER

of Atkins Road, Ganges on winning the Hawaiian Getaway!

OTHER WINNERS:

Weekend at the Royal Scot: Kathleen Rathwell

\$20 GIFT CERTIFICATES

FROM GANGES VILLAGE MARKET:

Linda Ramsey, Maurine Fryer, David Kempling, Mr. & Mrs. A. Watkins, Sandra Brainerd, Vonnie Simpkin, Margaret Nixon, John Villadsen, Tom Cairns, Ruth Wood, Kitty Beasley, June Webb, Ron Puhky, Elizabeth Davies, Dorothy Hamer, Ted Stone, Stella Vreim, Beth Romeril, G. LeMarchant, Ken Akey.

In the draw for participating businesses, Dawn Luker of *et cetera* won the trip to Hawaii and Chris and Marilyn Schmah of Foxglove won the weekend at the Royal Scot.

Gulf Islands Driftwood
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

CONTRACT SALES
Bert ter Mors



YOUR NEW SIDNEY GRAVELMART
656-8888 OR 727-1159
2072 HENRY AVE., SIDNEY





Sweet Arts Patisserie-Cafe

NEW YEAR'S GALA!

9 pm-2 am New Year's Eve - an evening of

- IMPROV THEATRE SPORTS
- MUSIC • LAUGHTER • SILLINESS!

Members of the S.S. HYSTERICAL SOCIETY, the Sweet Arts Breakfast Club and Friends, and maybe even your neighbours are warming up to amuse and annoy you as never done before. Help us bring in 1989 in a way you're sure to remember. **RESERVE A PLACE NOW**, as space is limited, by calling Laura or Christine at 537-4127 from 6 am-8 pm.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM EVERYONE AT SWEET ARTS!

your garden

by **chris schmah**



This week we find ourselves basking in the afterglow of Christmas, with all of our gifts distributed and happily received, and with a few extra Christmas dinners hanging around our waists. While Christmas means so many different things to so many different people, it is generally followed by a period of reflection and thought. We tend to reminisce about the good times we've had and the quality of life which we enjoy. We have a great deal to be thankful for.

Another thing which many of us do at this time of year is to send out our annual notes and letters to old friends and relatives; a ritual of the season which reconnects us with our past. In a roundabout manner, the cards and letters we send and receive all mark out our personal history, and in a pertinent parallel, our gardening activities are tracked and flagged by our seed orders, receipts, bills and hastily scribbled notes.

The sowing dates marked on a calendar, and the personal comments and observations written in the margins of our gardening books, are a storehouse of personal gardening experiences. Many of us have enjoyed reading the journals and notes of esteemed gardeners and plant breeders, as they give insights and understanding of the lives of these history makers.

Wealth of experience

On a more local scale, the accumulated data and information of all our scratchings is itself a wealth of experience which is history recorded on a personal level. While we never overlook the value of our personal experiences, we often fail to realize that many others in the community have their own experiences and valid information which, if shared, might enrich our lives as gardeners, improve the results of our horticultural efforts, and provide a base of advice and information for young people and recently "transplanted" gardeners.

Many of these gardeners who land on our shores come from distant, frozen lands, and while many of the basics are the same, several things are done differently here. The subtle differences are what often make gardening frustrating, and they take a long time to learn by oneself, so in the spirit of community and lending a helping hand, the collecting and sharing of this information is vital.

I realize that this beneficial dissemination of knowledge already takes place at garden club meetings, in the garden centres, over the garden fence with the neighbours, and in gardening articles such as these, but on a broader basis the collection, compiling and dissemination of gardening facts and advice should be a community effort. Wouldn't it be great to share your results and observations with others who would benefit from it, and in return derive information and factual advice from others in the community? It all starts here at home, in our own gardens.

Record all observations

The first priority, of course, is to record all observations and keep accurate, factual records, always using the date, weather observations and location as references. A large monthly calendar or a daybook will provide sufficient space for marking down sowing dates, harvesting times, yields, heights, failures and frosts. You should take actual measurements in inches or centimetres, and pounds or kilograms, and endeavour to keep brief notes on immeasurable observations such as plant colour, bushiness or flavour. The local weather, soil type, fertilizers or amendments added, and the seed types or varieties used would all be useful in any future analysis or decision-making efforts.

For the purposes of putting everyone's records together at some future date it would be nice to get to some uniform and consistent format, but that remains to be determined at some other time, if interest warrants it.

The second aspect of the data collection process is the interpretation of the gathered information, discarding suspicious results unless verifiable and averaging some of the varying measurements to give a solid basis of fact for decision-making in your garden.

Well, all of this gets pretty general, but to sum it up your experiences are worth recording and your results can provide the basis for others to learn from and build upon, so keep good records and share your findings and observations; a noble aspiration for the New Year.

On that note I want to wish you all a very happy, prosperous and healthy New Year. May the bugs stay out of your garden and may your flowers flourish in 1989.

Canada Pension rate rises

Canada Pension recipients will see slightly larger cheques beginning in January, the federal government said last week.

Payments for Canada's 2.2 million plan recipients will rise by 4.1 per cent in the new year, thanks to a quarterly adjustment in rates based on changes in the Consumer Price Index, the cost-of-living measure used by Statistics Canada.

For those who become eligible for benefits in 1989, the maximum monthly retirement pension at age 65 will be \$556.25.

A contributor can now begin receiving a retirement pension as early as age 60 and as late as age 70. The amount will be reduced for pensions beginning before age 65 and will be increased for pensions beginning after age 65.

The maximum amount payable for a person becoming eligible for a disability pension in 1981 will be \$681.23 per month, while benefits for disabled contributors' children and orphans of deceased contributors will be \$103.02 per month per child.

Maximum benefits paid on behalf of contributors who die in 1989 will be \$311.61 for surviving spouses under the age of 65 years, and \$333.75 for surviving spouses aged 65 years and over.

Survivor benefits are no longer discontinued on remarriage. Those whose benefits were discontinued on remarriage can ap-

ply to have their benefits reinstated.

There is also a lump sum death benefit payable under the Canada Pension Plan: the maximum payable in respect of contributors who die in 1989 will be \$2,770.

Canada Pension Plan benefits are based on a person's actual earnings and contributions for the

period during which that person could have contributed to the plan. There are yearly minimum and maximum earnings levels between which persons contribute. For 1989, those levels are \$2,700 and \$27,700 respectively. The maximum contributions during 1989 will be \$525 for employees.

Phillip Swift

B.C. Land Surveyor

107 McPhillips Ave. (in KIS office)

537-5911

Box 997, Ganges

Custom Homes, Renovations & Commercial Construction

LANCER CONTRACTING LTD.

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from our vast, in stock selection of the finest decorative fabrics around: (priced from \$3.99 M)...

our many artisans can create for you...

masterworks in soft furnishings

381-2404
3388 DOUGLAS ST.

CALGARY N. VANCOUVER
EDMONTON VICTORIA
now open Sundays

HARDWOOD

HARDWOOD PLYWOOD

Prices you can afford.

ALSO STOCKING

Veneer plywoods, oak, teak, mahogany, etc. & Melamine hardboard.

WESTWIND HARDWOODS
10230 Bowerbank, Sidney
656-0848

PATTERSON'S General Store

presents:

10% OFF

ONE DAY ONLY!

ALL MERCHANDISE

except Fuel, Feed, Tobacco Products, Video Rentals, Lotteries & Newsstand

SATURDAY, DEC. 31

9 am - 6 pm

CONTRACT SALES

Bert ter Mors

LUMBERWORLD

YOUR NEW SIDNEY GRAVELMART

656-8888 OR 727-1159

2072 HENRY AVE., SIDNEY



CLASSIFIED

Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

537-9933

DEADLINE: 2 pm MONDAY



Buy 2 Get 1 Free

SAVE \$4.50!

Buy a classified for 2 weeks and get the third week free!
Offer applies to Employment, Merchandise & Real Estate Classifications

RATES

LINERS: \$4.50 for up to 15 words; 20¢ each additional word. Buy 2 weeks, get 1 free (private party ads only; sorry, no refunds or changes). Frequency discounts available on request.

SEMI-DISPLAY: \$7.60 per column inch. Frequency discounts available on request. Boxed ads, add \$2.

BLANKET CLASSIFIED: Run your ad in community newspapers across the country or in the province of your choice. Call us for details.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY: Classifieds placed after deadline but before noon Tuesday will be published unclassified, subject to availability of space. Liner rates apply.

DEPT. NUMBERS: \$3 per ad.

SAMPLE SEMI-DISPLAY CHARGED BY THE INCH
8 POINT TYPE

12 POINT TYPE
16 POINT TYPE

SAMPLE LINER CHARGED BY THE WORD

TO ADVERTISE in this section call 537-9933. Contract rates available.

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TERMS

Classified advertising accepted on a prepaid basis only. Visa and Mastercard welcome.

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Deaths 008

NEHL/SPRIGGS on December 20th, 1988 Margarete Nehl/Spriggs aged 63 of Salt Spring Island. Margarete was born in Germany and emigrated to Canada in 1952 and came to SSI in 1974 where she was well known for her pottery, art and love of animals. Margarete is survived by her loving husband John. A graveside service was held Friday December 23rd. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the North Island Wildlife Recovery Association, Box 364, Errington, B.C., V0R 1B0. Goodman-Jones Funeral Home, Ganges in care of arrangements. 1

In Memoriam 011

B.C. Heart Foundation



1008 Blanshard St., Victoria
B. C. V8W 2H2

736-4404

A donation in the name of someone you loved or knew is but a phone call/letter away and we'll acknowledge your caring gift with a card to the family. 43-tfn

Canadian Cancer Society

IN MEMORY/IN HONOUR
In B.C. & Yukon the Canadian Cancer Society supports research, education and patient services. Mail gifts to Salt Spring Island Unit, Box 1147, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0. Please include name of person being honoured or name of deceased and where to send cards. lwmm

Cards of Thanks 014

SEASON'S GREETINGS to all of the volunteers who have staffed the Tourist Information Centre this past year. Your cheerful dedication is appreciated. Thank you, see you in the New Year. June Webb, co-ordinator.

Personals 023

Christmas Portrait gift certificates say I love you 365 days a year. Barker Photo Studio. 537-2217 50-3

Community Services 026

A. A. MEETINGS, Salt Spring Island, phone 537-9337 or 537-2317, GALIANO - 539-2235 or 539-5770. PENDER - 629-3312. 43-tfn

Are you having a problem controlling your eating? If you're interested in helping yourself, we're interested in helping you. Call Overeater's Anonymous, 537-9253 or 537-2618. 43-tfn

Cancer support group held once a month in private homes. Confidentiality ensured. Please call 537-2768. 43-tfn

Dressings are free to Cancer patients by the Order of the Eastern Star. Contact Carol Miller, 537-4023 or Health Services, 537-5541. 43-tfn

Alanon afternoon/evening meetings. Call 537-2317, 653-4288. 43-tfn

FAMILIES OF Schizophrenics meet informally in homes for mutual support and exchange of information. Phone 537-9237 or 537-2765. 46-tfn

Lost & Found 029

FOUND: Prescription glasses found GVM parking lot, Dec. 20th. Claim at Driftwood Office. 1

Notices 032

Serving Swartz Bay

Peninsula Taxi
656-1111 51-2

SALT SPRING PUMP PRIMERS CARDIAC FITNESS CLASS

CENTRAL HALL
MON - WED - FRI
START JAN 9, 7:30 AM
537-4246 51-3

SCHOOL DISTRICT #64

(Gulf Islands)

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be held in the Galiano Elementary School, Wednesday, January 4, 1989. The Meeting will commence at 1:00 p.m.

Public welcome! 1

SPANISH IMMERSION: Special Day Care for children in family environment. All ages, come practice your Spanish. Call 537-9427 52-2

JEAN KNIGHT

wishes to announce that she has retired from teaching violin, but her colleague,

ANN THOMAS

from Duncan, is coming to Salt Spring every Saturday to give individual and class lessons for violin.

All enquiries to
JO LUNDSTROM 537-9514
any evening 1

THANK YOU FROM THE MEMBERS OF WATERFRONT GALLERY

for making 1988 their best year ever.

We look forward to providing you with the best in hand-made creations in 1989.
Open 10 - 4:30 Mon-Sat
Closed Tuesdays 1

Orcas Gallery will be closed Jan 1 to Jan 16



PAINTER'S GUILD SCHEDULE JAN & FEB

Jan. 4, 11, Chris Partinson Techniques learned at Zoltan Szabos workshop in Banff - summer of 88. Bring brushes, paints & practice paper. We hope to have Ann Hawthorne do collages and Kate Ratcliffe watercolours. Dates not confirmed.

Feb. 4 - Garry Thurber - all mediums.

Feb 11, 12 - Keith Holland - watercolours. Jack Anison - watercolours, dates not confirmed. 1

Notices 032



Get in Shape Now!

FULFORD FITNESS STARTS

TUES - JAN 3rd
Fulford Elementary School Gym
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Books of tickets will be on sale that night or drop in for \$3.00. Everyone welcome!

We will continue classes as usual - Every Tues. & Thurs. night 7:00 - 8:00.

AND the ever popular Sat. morning WAKE-UP CLASS at 9:30 a.m.

Call Damaris 653-9409
Jan. 2nd after 6:00 pm for further information. 1

The Travel Shop



has travelled across the street to

The New Harbour Building
Now open Mon - Sat 9-4:30

Call us first for all your travel arrangements
537-9911 1

Coming Events 035

Alternative Healing Fair at the Community Centre Dec. 28, 29, 30

reflexology dreambody work
polarity massage
trance channelling hypnosis
crystal work bio-Kinesiology

Dec. 28
OPEN FORUM
Peruse the various techniques.
\$5.00 to \$10.00
introductory sessions

Dec. 29 & 30
WORKSHOPS & PRIVATE SESSIONS
Phone 65-9576 for info & appointments.

Gift certificates available at etcetera, Health Food Store, and Captain's Cupboard in Fulford. 1

RING IN THE NEW YEAR with "SMALL TALK"

Dance to your favorite 50's, 60's & R&B music
Door prizes, party favors, Refreshments

Fulford Hall 9pm - 1am
Tickets \$10.00 each available from
Reg. 537-4279
Rick 537-5000

Proceeds for the salmon enhancement society
No minors

Notices 032

Salt of the Earth Productions DANCING WITH THE WILDEBEEST

A new play by Jeremy Davis
Directed by Yvonne Adalian
JANUARY 11 - 14 at Off Centre Stage

GRANTS

The S.S.I. Parks & Recreation Commission is now accepting grant applications from local groups for 1989.

Please call Linda Stafford at 537-4558 for further information or for a grant form.

Deadline: Jan. 29, 1989 51-2

Family Christmas Portraits

done in your own living room when everyone comes home for the holidays. My studio is open every day this month, phone day or evening.

BARKER PHOTO STUDIO
537-2217
Member Prof. Photographers of Canada 51-2

(3rd annual) PEACE VIGIL

0400 am - 0600 am
Saturday December 31st,
Salt Spring Centre,
Blackburn Road
EVERYONE WELCOME 51-2

Help Wanted 055

WAITRESS POSITIONS now available, day shift only, experience preferred, not essential. Apply in person to Dagwoods Cafe 51-tfn

LOCAL LONG TERM Care Agency requires mature, experienced bookkeeper/office clerk to work on a 6 basis (approx. 26 hours/week) Please submit resume, outlining previous bookkeeping experience, to: Dept. Y, Driftwood, Box 250, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0, by January 2. 51-2

EXPERIENCED COOK required 30 hours per week, day shifts only. Please apply in person at Dagwood's Cafe, Upper Ganges Centre. 48-tfn

MATURE, LOVING care for two year old 5 mornings a week. Please call 537-9728. 50-3

SALT SPRING Island Homemakers' Service requires homemakers who would like to work on a part-time basis. Please call 537-9955 between 9 am - 12 noon for further information. 51-2

EXPERIENCED BANK customer service representative
EXPERIENCED bank customer service representative for full-time work. Apply to Mrs. Marshall, Bank of Montreal, 537-5524 1

DRIVER FOR automatic Rabbit to take it and owner to 70th and Granville, Vancouver, Sunday Jan 8, expenses paid. Ph. 537-5026 1

RELIABLE, LOVING lady to care for my children, a casual basis to begin with, increasing to 2 or 3 days a week later. Preferably in my home, otherwise must be in the Fernwood/Walker Hook area. 537-2604 52-3

Help Wanted 055

SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (Gulf Islands)
The Gulf Islands Secondary School requires a 1.0 FTE teacher to continue the well established Agriculture Program. This program enrolls pupils from grades 9-12. Desirable qualifications:
1. Specialization in Agriculture.
2. Ability to develop a practical career oriented program.
3. Understand the curricular goals for Secondary Agriculture.
4. Develop in the pupils an appreciation of the Agricultural Sciences.
Applications should be sent to:
Mr. R.D. McWhirter,
Director of Instruction
Box 128, Ganges, B.C.
V0S 1E0
(FAX No. 537-4200)
Closing date for this position is December 30, 1988. 1

SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (Gulf Islands) Child Care Para Professional

School District #64 (Gulf Islands) requires a Para-professional II to work with a Special Needs student at Saturna Island Elementary School. This six year old student has autistic characteristics. The terms of employment are twenty-five (25) hours per week, five (5) hours per school day, effective January, 1989 until June 29, 1989 at an hourly rate of \$10.93.
Desired qualification:
1. Some training in early childhood education.
2. Experience in working with Learning Disabled students.
3. Ability to work on a one on one basis within the school program.
Please apply by January 6, 1989 to:
Mr. R.D. McWhirter
Director of Instruction
P.O. Box 128, Ganges, B.C.
V0S 1E0
Telephone: 537-5548 1

Work Wanted 060
WORK WANTED!
Happy New Year!
Rumor has it that about 75% of our Salt Spring houses are unfinished. Not all members of the family are always amused by this.
If you're still living with "The Big Pink", no baseboards, lack a kitchen cupboard or two, need a deck or a rail to finish it off, then make it your New Year's resolution.
Now the practical part. An unfinished house - even a 95% finished house - has much less value, marketability, and interest to a bank manager or a realtor than a 100% finished house. In almost all cases, finishing off your home yields an increase in equity 2-4 times greater than the investment dollar, i.e. spend \$5,000 in finishing, gain \$10,000 in equity.
There is an excellent chance that your banker would happily re-do your mortgage to finish things off with no increase in payments. After all, your debt to equity ratio is improved and you have a more marketable asset. Manpower is available now.
Call
SHAUN ADAMS
537-4079 1

IF YOU need a housekeeper, we can help with cooking, cleaning, shopping, gardening, and transportation. Call 537-9427 52-3

SCRUBBERS housecleaning service has spaces available for small homes. Bi-weekly service is ideal for the single working person or couple. 537-9669

Work Wanted 060

CUSTOM SEWING, mending and alterations. Call Patricia at 537-2645 51-3
A VERY Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Shaun Adams and crew to all our renovation and construction customers. It's been fun and rewarding to meet such a wide variety of challenges! We will be helped out in the New Year with all project large or small, from grand mansion to a quick repair. Shaun Adams 537-4079 51-2

Automobiles 105

1962 BELAIR, 50,000 original miles, nice shape, new tires, auto., 6 cyl., 235 cu. in. \$1900. 537-2324.
1985 SUBARU GL, 4 door, 5 speed, 60,000 km - highway driven, excellent condition. \$8,700 obo. 537-2812 or 537-9695 50-3
1983 TOYOTA 4 wheel drive long bed pick-up, new radials, recent paint, \$7,000 obo. 537-5323 50-3
74 MG MIDGET \$2,000. '80 Mustang 2 door \$2,500. '77 Honda 750 cc motorcycle \$600. 653-9258 50-3

81 TOYOTA P.U. long box, 27,000 km. Two new tires. Excellent shape, \$4,500. Call Sky 537-4383 51-3

Recreational Vehicles 115

TRIANGLE R.V. Centre offers excellent highway exposure for your consignment vehicle. Also, parts, service, propane, sani-station, and 24-hour car & R.V. Wash. Your complete R.V. Centre. Triangle Homes Ltd., Sidney. Your first R.V. Centre off the ferry. 656-1122. DL5916. 44-tfn

Building Supplies 125

YES, WE ARE STILL IN BUSINESS!

Deluxe Contracting SAWMILL & LUMBER

Offering a complete line of cedar lumber and siding including channel S4S, t & G. - cedar short & clears - cheap cull lumber - split post & rails - sawdust & slabwood
WE ALSO DO:
Custom Milling * Selective Logging * Mobile Milling Log Purchase
MICKEY McLEOD 537-5660
KEN SOLES 537-4513 46-tfn

Livestock 140

2 REGISTERED Highland cows \$500 each. Purebred Suffolk ewes, proven breeders, good flock history, due to lamb March 1, \$125 each. 653-9465 51-3

Pets 145

FREE TO good home. Darling tabby kitten. 537-2923 1

Food Products 150



THE GROCERY STORE WITH A DIFFERENCE
NOW:
Special KIWI's
from Gene and Sharon's Fulford Valley Farm
Open each day 9:30 - 6 pm
Topside at the Fulford Marina
LYNN & ZOE
653-4420 1

Food Products 150



MOBILE MARKET

WISHING ALL OUR FRIENDS & CUSTOMERS A

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Open Tues thru Sat.

Fresh Prawns & Crab

SATURDAY MORNINGS
GOVERNMENT DOCK,
Ganges.
Follow the signs
Crab orders only:
537-9673
44-tfn

Miscellaneous For Sale 165

LONG HAIRE silver-grey wolf rug 9x10, very good condition \$1,500 or best offer. Wool for Cowichan type sweaters. Reg. \$7.50 skein selling for \$5.00. Phone 653-9560 50-3
1 HP air compressor, new, \$295; bath tub with taps, good condition \$95. Ph. 653-9589. 50-3

MAPLE FLOORING

2 1/4" T&G \$225 sq.ft. random length or short. Over 10,000 sq.ft. avail.
All excellent condition.
Also Oak Strip.
Collect 388-7892
51-4

MOUAT'S MOVING SALE

Upstairs in the Home Hardware building
ALL CLOTHING
* childrens
* ladies
* mens
Prices slashed as all MUST be sold 52-2
COMMODORE 64 computer 1541 disc drive and RGB color monitor, BUSS card for running printers and loads of programs, \$725. 537-5476 52-3

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Miscellaneous For Sale 165

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Miscellaneous Wanted 170

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Houses For Rent 510

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Seniors - no children or pets
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2 BEDROOM HOUSE for rent \$450 per month, 653-9549 48-9

Houses For Rent 510

RENT MEADEN Hall in the Legion for anniversary, weddings, birthdays or just plain fun parties. Book early. Call Jim Andrews, 537-5822, for information. 44-tfn

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3 BEDROOM waterfront plus 2 car garage with studio, sunny, fridge, stove, washer, dryer, dishwasher, 2 fireplaces, long term, \$800 per month, available Jan 1/89. Ph. Peter 537-5650, Salt Spring Property Management. 51-tfn

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3 BEDROOM waterfront plus 2 car garage with studio, sunny, fridge, stove, washer, dryer, dishwasher, 2 fireplaces, long term, \$800 per month, available Jan 1/89. Ph. Peter 537-5650, Salt Spring Property Management. 51-tfn

Real Estate For Sale 520

3 BEDROOM waterfront plus 2 car garage with studio, sunny, fridge, stove, washer, dryer, dishwasher, 2 fireplaces, long term, \$800 per month, available Jan 1/89. Ph. Peter 537-5650, Salt Spring Property Management. 51-tfn

Real Estate For Sale 520

3 BEDROOM waterfront plus 2 car garage with studio, sunny, fridge, stove, washer, dryer, dishwasher, 2 fireplaces, long term, \$800 per month, available Jan 1/89. Ph. Peter 537-5650, Salt Spring Property Management. 51-tfn

CHURCH NOTICES
Sun., Jan. 1

Community Gospel Chapel

Drake Rd., Ganges
Worship Service 10:30 am Sundays with Sunday School classes for the children.
Evening Service 7:30 Bible Study & Prayer
Thursday 7:30 pm
PASTOR:
Rev. S.F. Hildebrandt
537-5757, 537-2622

Anglican Parish

Salt Spring Island
St. Mark's, Central
Holy Eucharist 11:15
St. George's, Ganges
Holy Eucharist 9:15 with Sunday School
St. Mary's, Fulford
Evensong and Holy Eucharist 4:00 pm
Weekday Eucharist:
St. Mark's 10am Tues
St. George's - 5:15 pm Thursdays
Rev. James Koester
Parish Office: 537-2171

Ganges United Church

Hereford Ave., Ganges
Church School & Adult Education - 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30
MINISTER:
Rev. Dale Perkins
537-5812

Catholic Church

Salt Spring Island
Fulford - 9 am
Ganges - 10:30 am
Saturdays -
Ganges, 5 pm
Rev. Fr. P.A. Bergin

Salt Spring Pentecostal Assembly

CENTRAL HALL
Sunday School
9:30 - 10:15 am
Morning Worship 10:30
Thursday:
Fellowship Nights 7:00
Home Meetings
For more info call
537-4143
Pastor: Jim Caruso
Affiliated with P.A.O.C.

Salt Spring Island Baptist Church

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SUNDAY: 10:30 Family Worship with Sunday School; 7 pm Evening Fellowship
TUESDAY Youth Group
WED. & THURS. Evening home bible studies.
THURSDAY - Ladies' home bible study, 9:30 am
Rev. Brian Joyce
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3 BEDROOM waterfront plus 2 car garage with studio, sunny, fridge, stove, washer, dryer, dishwasher, 2 fireplaces, long term, \$800 per month, available Jan 1/89. Ph. Peter 537-5650, Salt Spring Property Management. 51-tfn

Real Estate For Sale 520

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Real Estate For Sale 520

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Miscellaneous 535

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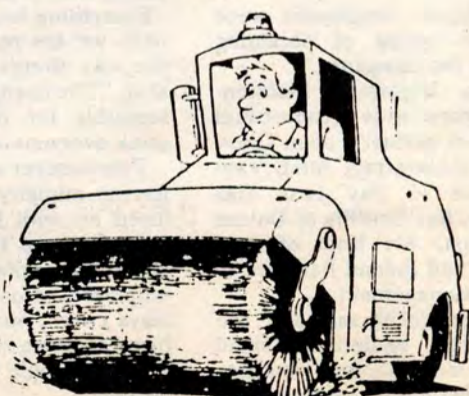
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Private roadwork company adjusting

By JIM BLACK

Privatized bridge and road maintenance service has adjusted to the switch from government hands, say the new company's spokesmen and the former provincial highways ministry roads foreman on the island.

The privatization of local services was one of 17 such deals struck by the provincial government since it launched the highways ministry restructuring earlier this year. Some were purchased by employees, while others were sold directly to the private sector.

(The province's remaining 11 district bridge and roads maintenance contracts are to be concluded no later than January 31, 1989. A total of 1,424 full-time jobs have been affected to date, with 900 more to go.)

Salt Spring resident and new Islands Trust representative John Stepaniuk, the former local highways ministry roads foreman, headed a group of ministry employees who tried earlier this year to form a company and gain the highways and bridges contract for this area.

Altogether, 82 employees raised \$10,000 each and lined up \$4.2 million in bank financing to help put in place the acquisition of the existing highway ministry's assets and operation of a bridge and road maintenance company to serve the district.

However, the government turned down their offer, saying it had concerns about the financing package and that it felt the company was "bottom heavy"—it had too many support workers and too lean a management staff.

After that, in late April, tenders were advertised for private companies to make their bids. In August, the contract was awarded to Victoria Highways Maintenance Corporation.

In a press release issued at that time, the government said all 88 full-time employees and 13 part-time employees affected by the privatization move had received job offers from the new company, at their present position and salary.

Victoria Highways in turn agreed to guarantee successorship rights for B.C. Government Employees Union (BCGEU) wage increases and other monetary benefits that the union may negotiate on behalf of government workers over the next several months, the province said.

In addition, employees were given the option of obtaining shares in the company.

Victoria Highways Maintenance Corporation is a consortium of five joint partners: John Chew of Chew Excavating, Allen Vanderkerhove of Pay Less Gas Company, Ray Cunliffe of Delcan Corporation, Art Kool of Aral Holdings and Roland Beaulieu of Sea Isle Management.

The agreement included the sale of light equipment, small tools and materials for \$1 million. The maintenance contract was priced at \$29.9 million over the three-year term of the contract. That figure is \$1.1 million lower than the projected ministry costs.

Meanwhile, some concerns were expressed about how well the new company would perform, and how it would function in the future.

Stepaniuk told *Driftwood* recently that as far as he knows,

Victoria Highways has been doing a good job. "So far I don't think they have really been tested, in the sense of having to handle an emergency situation," he said. "But everything I have seen so far seems very satisfactory."

He added that he is not against privatization but does not think the government took his group's offer seriously. "They said that our proposal was too bottom-heavy, with too many crews and support staff and not enough management, which was true. But you don't need as much management as they wanted," he said. "We felt the structure was sufficient enough to run General Motors, let alone a ministry of highways crew."

John Charlton, the roads foreman for the company's Salt Spring operations, told *Driftwood* that the initial fears any of the workers who went from the ministry of highways to Victoria Highways Maintenance Corporation have been dispelled.

"The company has proven to be quite fair with the employees," he said. "Everyone seems to have made the transition quite nicely and the company seems quite satisfied as well."

"The morale of the workers has greatly improved, too. When the government was in the process of privatizing we had little incentive or money to do maintenance work. Now that we can get out and do ditching and brushing, people are noticing and giving us positive feedback," he said.

Charlton said that he wanted to reassure the public that the company is not scrimping on materials or equipment. "We are trying to maintain high standards with both workmanship and equipment," he said. "We want to put everyone's fears at rest. We are prepared to handle any situation that comes along."

He added that of the 84 employees in place after some workers took early retirement, 33 chose to stay with the government and the others all went to work for the company, which now has 91 employees. "The former ministry workers make up the bulk of the employees of the company and things seem to be working out quite well," he said.

Bill Petersmeyer, vice-president of administration for Victoria Highways Maintenance Corporation, agreed with the statements of the roads foreman. "Everything has worked out very well, we are really pleased with the way things are going," he said. "The change-over went very smoothly for the employees. I think everyone is quite happy."

Petersmeyer said that all of the former ministry employees who hired on with his company are still employed there. "When we started in September we had 60 employees, mostly from the highways crews. Since then we have hired on more staff and currently have 91 people working for us," he said.

Petersmeyer said the crews are being kept busy with the onset of the winter months, making sure they are prepared for any emergency. "We have switched over to winter hours now, which means that we have crews on 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We want the public to know that they don't have to worry about the roads — everything is running smoothly."



Taking control

Youngsters scramble for control of ball in Inter-Island Soccer League action at Portlock Park two weeks ago. League play, shut down for the holiday

period, resumes January 7 in both the junior and senior divisions.

Movie buff scores with cactus

A tender little love story about a Christmas cactus and a fir tree, penned by a Salt Spring Island man, was judged the second-best movie idea in a Vancouver *Sun* contest earlier this month.

Shilo Zylbergold of Bulman Road wrote the original plot for the newspaper's annual Christmas contest. The self-confessed movie buff says he came up with the idea "because all flowers

should have a myth. And as far as I know the Christmas cactus didn't have one."

Zylbergold says his story would be animated and have the voices of Lily Tomlin for the cactus and Robin Williams for the fir tree.

For his efforts Zylbergold, won some movie passes. He says he's not sorry he didn't win the first prize, a trip to Disneyland. "I wouldn't go anyway. I lost interest ever since I learned Walt

Disney wouldn't let longhairs in."

Zylbergold says he used to work as a cinematographer in Toronto, making National Film Board productions. He is also a member of the Salt Spring cinema society, which brings feature films to Central Hall every second Monday, and of the Hysterical Society, Salt Spring's performing comedy troupe.



Underway

Construction began recently on a permanent harbourmaster's office in Ganges. When completed, the \$53,000 building will replace a trailer now on the site on the east side of Centennial Park. Funding for the

project was made available last August by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Minister Tom Siddon visited Salt Spring to announce launch of the work.

capital comment

by **hubert beyer**



VICTORIA — When someone gives you an orange, he'll say, "have an orange." When the same transaction is done by a lawyer, it may sound something like this:

"I hereby give and convey to you, all and singular, my estate and interest, right, title, claim and advantages of and in said orange, together with all its rind, juice, pulp and pips and all rights and advantages therein with full power to bite, suck and otherwise to eat the same or give the same away with or without the rind, skin, juice, pulp and pips, anything hereinbefore or hereinafter or in any other means of whatever nature or kind whatsoever to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding."

The item above appeared some 30 years ago in the *Montreal Star* and was, at that time, reprinted in the *Canadian Bar Review*. It reappeared a few weeks ago in a report to Attorney General Bud Smith by the Justice Reform Committee.

A strong plea for plain and simple language in our legal system is one of the report's major recommendations. British Columbians, the report says, are entitled to a justice system they can understand.

Comprehension wanted

The reports stress that people involved in litigation need to understand the documents they must sign or swear. They should be able to understand the words that are spoken to them in court by lawyers and judges. The laws that govern people's lives, it says, must be intelligible to them.

"The justice system of this province must commit itself to speaking in plain language," the report states in a language that couldn't be more plain.

The call for plain language instead of convoluted legal lingo was a recurring theme in the submissions the committee received during a number of public hearings.

Workers in a legal aid office, for instance, told the committee that they have to spend a great deal of time trying to explain the meaning of the words spoken by judges and lawyers, and contained in legal documents. Someone who has twice been a defence witness told the committee that lawyers "talk their fancy legal lingo that very few people understand."

Inanity of legalese

The committee offered a few good examples of the inanity of legalese. Archaic phrases such as "Know All Men By These Presents" or "Now This Indenture Witnesseth," should be scrapped, according to the report. The same, it says, goes for piling synonyms on top of synonyms, as in acknowledge and confess, give, devise and bequeath, cease and desist, fit and proper, goods and chattels.

And then there are the archaic Latin terms such as *inter alia*, *de novo*, *ab initio*, *ejusdem generis* or *in re*. For each one of these, the report says, there is a perfectly acceptable English equivalent.

Plain language, the report says, is not "simple-minded" or "over-simplified." Plain language gets the message through immediately and easily, it says.

A lot of countries are far ahead of Canada in replacing legalese with plain language. In Britain, Lord Denning is leading a grass-roots campaign, the official aim of which is the reform of government documents.

For the bottom-liners, let it be said that the switch to plain language can achieve savings. The English Department of Health and Social Security saves an estimated 13 million pounds a year as a result of using new forms that are more easily understood. The cost of redesigning the forms was 35,000 pounds.

Spearheaded by banks

In the United States, the push for plain legal language was spearheaded by banks and insurance companies. Several states have passed Plain English laws that make easily-understandable consumer contracts a legal requirement.

When critics told the Law Reform Commission of Victoria, Australia, that complex statutes cannot be written in plain language, the commission produced a readable version of the Companies (Acquisition of Shares) Code, believed to be Victoria's most complex statute.

To get the ball rolling, the Justice Reform Committee urges the attorney general to appoint a Plain Language Committee. That committee is to develop a strategy for implementation of plain language in the justice system.

The committee suggests that a good place to start introducing plain language into the justice system would be documents used by seniors. The Small Claims Court, it says, would be another natural, because people using that court are usually not represented by a lawyer.

The committee says the impact of plain language in our legal system would be dramatic.

"Justice will be more relevant, efficient, accessible and less costly when this province makes a commitment to the use of plain language in the courts and all areas of the legal system," the report says.

Building pace is slowing

The value of building work underway on Salt Spring Island is slowing down in comparison to the pace set a year earlier.

November's statistics, released last week by the Capital Regional District (CRD) building permits office, show 47 permits were issued last month for work worth \$672,020. A year earlier, the totals stood at 48 permits and work valued at \$948,266.

In year-to-date figures, however, the island's construction activity remains ahead of the dollar figures posted over the same span of 1987. Through the first 11 months of this year, 494 permits have been issued for work valued at \$10.42 million. In the same period a year earlier, the totals were 452 permits and projects worth \$8 million.

This November's totals note permits issued for six single-family dwellings, one mobile home, one moved dwelling, 13 plumbing projects, 11 chimney projects and 15 projects defined as "other."

A year earlier, the November figures listed permits for 10 single-family dwellings, one mobile home, three commercial or industrial structures, 15 plumbing projects, 10 chimney projects and nine projects defined as "other."

The year-to-date statistics for 1988 list permits issued for 70 single-family dwellings, five duplexes, 10 multiple-family dwellings, 22 mobile homes, two moved dwellings, 21 commercial or industrial structures, 152 plumbing projects, 123 chimney projects and 89 projects defined as "other."

Over the first 11 months of 1987, the permits figures listed 77 single-family dwellings, no duplexes or multiple-family dwellings, 15 mobile homes, 20 commercial or industrial structures, 164 plumbing projects, 86 chimney projects and 89 projects classified as "other."

This year's construction activity on Salt Spring represents a large slice of the work underway across the entire regional district. Both the number of permits issued on the island to date in 1988, and the dollar value of those projects, represent about one-quarter of the total within the CRD.

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Outbreak of chicken pox 'silent epidemic' on island

By ADAM WALDIE, M.D.

Is it chicken pox? Is it contagious? Will it leave scars? Are there any complications?

Many parents have been asking these questions recently, as a silent epidemic has quietly involved many island children and the occasional adult.

But actual counts of local cases are hard to come by, since chicken pox is not a notifiable disease under public health regulations, according to Dr. Ted Johnston, deputy public health officer with the Capital Regional District.

Johnston said the disease affects 90 per cent of children. Although there is no vaccine for this normal childhood disease, he noted that victims usually recover fully.

On Salt Spring perhaps the best estimates of the cases of chicken pox come from elementary school teachers, who say they average between eight and 10 cases per class.

One or two doctors reported seeing many cases among children, and a few among adults. Predictably, the adults seem to get a more severe form of the disease.

Dark-skinned people, for some reason, seem to get a much more severe form of chicken pox than light-skinned people.

The incubation period for the disease averages about 15 days and the child may be a little "off-color" before the spots appear, though the preliminary

flu-like symptoms may be much more severe with adults.

The typical rash starts with a flush which may last for only a few hours, followed by patches of

guest column

slightly raised red spots, which develop into tiny vesicles or blisters. Within a day or two these turn into the familiar crusts.

The spots tend to come in crops and they can vary from the odd, scattered blister to many hundreds covering the whole body.

The disease is contagious from a couple of days before the rash comes out, to four to five days after. It is highly infectious and most children in a household or even a classroom will get it if they have not had it before.

'Good old-fashioned baking soda paste is probably as good as any drugstore item for the itching spots.'

Itching is the most troublesome symptom, although there is usually a low-grade fever, muscle and joint pain and a headache.

Complications are fortunately rare.

We used to see a lot of secondary infections, usually staphylococcus, with the blisters or crusts leaving the once-familiar chicken pox scars, but this has become rare since the ready availability of antibiotic ointments in the last 40 years.

Treatment is symptomatic — some sort of a calamine lotion for

the itching and a little Tylenol or other brand of acetaminophen for the headache and malaise.

Good old-fashioned baking soda paste is probably as good as any drugstore item for the itching spots.

What about shingles? The connection between it and chicken pox has been known for some time, and epidemics of chicken pox have been known to start from shingles.

It used to be thought that adults, usually older people, could not get shingles unless they had chicken pox, or if they had it in the past the immunity had "run out."

Dr. John Mowbray, consulting internist at Lady Minto Hospital, told me recent work shows that older people cannot get shingles unless they had chicken pox in the past.

Apparently the virus lingers dormant for years in some of the structures of the peripheral nerves, only to erupt years later, usually after sunburn or an illness such as flu or pneumonia.

Older people live in dread of shingles because it is painful, unsightly and there is no specific treatment. It starts with an intensely painful area of skin, often on the back, chest, neck, face or abdomen, and just about the time everyone — including the doctor — is wondering what is going on, a familiar little group of blisters and a red patch will erupt. Post-herpetic neuralgia, as the pain from shingles is called, can last for many weeks after the rash is gone.

Dr. Waldie is the chief of staff at Lady Minto Hospital in Ganges.

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Organization awards prizes

A raffle to raise money for the convalescent fund for children in Shrine Hospitals was held by the Salt Spring Island chapter of the Daughters of the Nile.

Jackie Swan of Fulford Harbour won first prize, a bassinet and layette. Second prize, a crib quilt, went to Jennifer Penny of Ganges. Marjorie Martin of Ganges won the third prize, a ladies' hand-knit sweater.

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