

Gulf Islands Driftwood

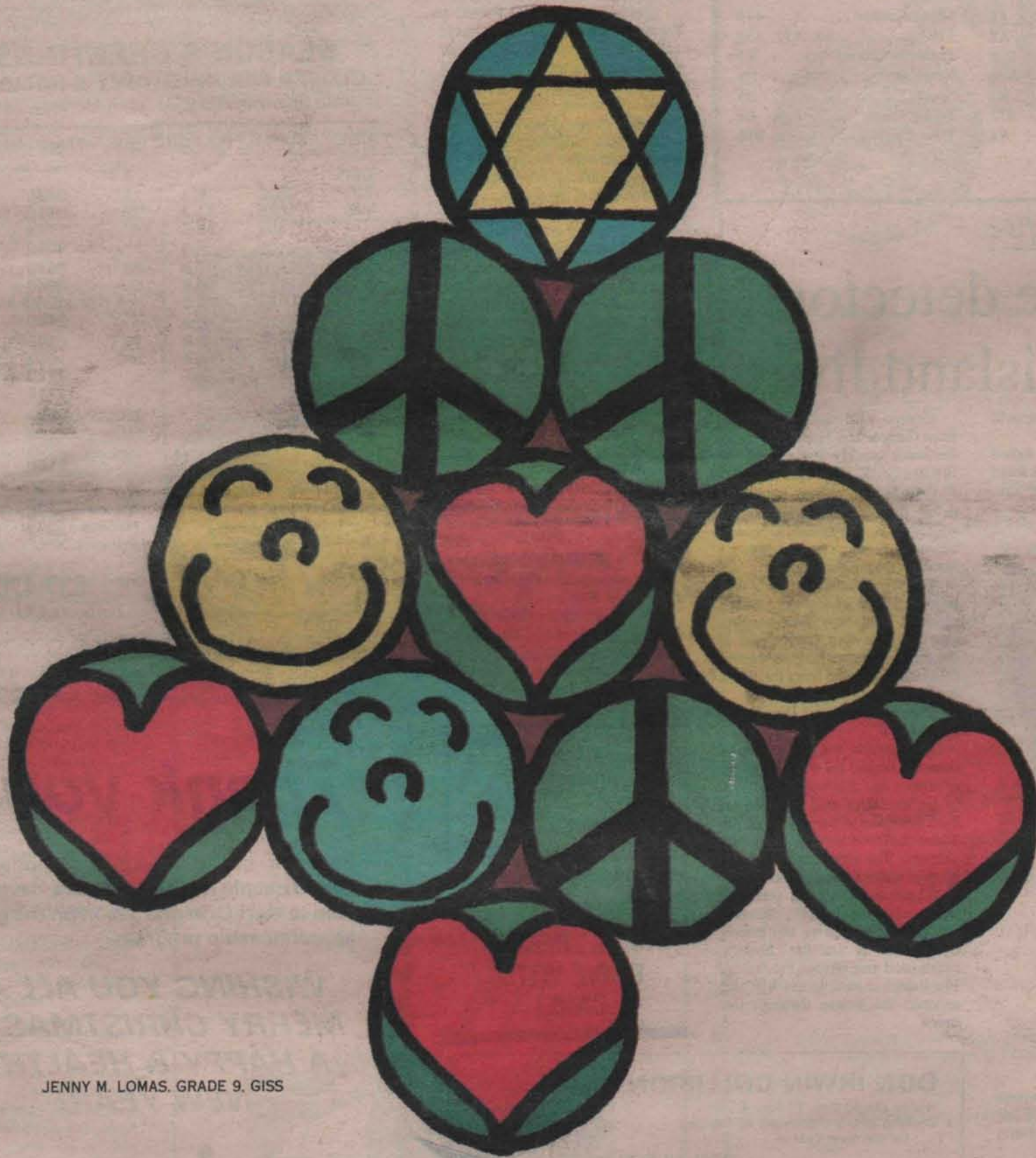
Your Community Newspaper

THIRTIETH YEAR, NO. 51

50¢

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1989



JENNY M. LOMAS. GRADE 9. GISS

Hope you have a Peaceful,
Joyous and Loving Christmas

THE WEATHER

OUTLOOK: For the week beginning Monday, December 18

Mostly cloudy with some sun and high chance of rain. Outlook for the weekend is periods of rains

HIGHS: 11 degrees C.

LOWS: 3 degrees C.

Chance of precipitation 50 per cent Wednesday, 80 per cent Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

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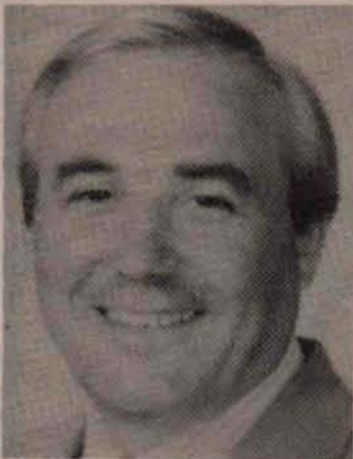
Hubert Beyer	A6	Entertainment	A19
Arthur Black	A8	Letters	A5, A31, A32
Classifieds	B20	Provincial Round-up	R7
Country Gourmet	A26	Real Estate	R1
Crossword	R2	Sports	B5
Down the Years	B27	To Be Frank	B4
Editorials	A4	Your Garden	B10

Tuesday night fire

Smoke detector saves island lives

Salt Spring firefighters came to the rescue, again.

The pumper crews were called to a fire at the Fulford-Ganges Road home of Gary Greico at 1:30 a.m. on December 13.



Gary Greico

Culprits spray vehicles

Several vehicles sustained damages amounting to \$10,000 last week, when they were covered with silver-coloured spray paint.

On December 16 at approximately 8:10 p.m., local RCMP received a call from a Scott Point resident who said the culprits had spray-painted his new Ford pick-up.

The resident also reported paint damage to a red Cadillac, a 1985 Nissan, a 40-foot boat and a van.

The culprits also entered a shed on the same property and kicked in the corner of a 1936 Ford, before walking to a neighbouring home and spray painting a 1984 and 1986 Nissan.

Police are continuing their investigation into the matter.

Greico said the firefighters, from Ganges and Fulford, were on the scene quickly and put out the fire in a quick, efficient manner.

Greico was asleep when the smoke detector buzzed, rousing his wife Phyllis. They made their way across the highway to a neighbour's house to turn in the alarm.

The fire, at the rear of the house, produced heat of intensity which melted a plastic key chain hanging near the front door, Greico said. If the smoke detector had not warned them of danger, he fears the worst could have happened.

Deputy Fire Chief Dan Akerman agreed.

"If he didn't have a smoke detector, he and his wife might not of woken up," Akerman said.

He explained that the fire had been confined to one room but the house suffered extensive smoke damage. The exact cause of the blaze is under investigation.

Akerman offered a possible answer. He said a metal chimney ran up the outside of the house. Speculation is that the chimney overheated and ignited the siding. The flames chased up the wall and entered the house through the eaves.

Coast Guard ordered to work

Coastguard workers with the Public Service Alliance of Canada were ordered back to work early Saturday morning following Senate approval of back-to-work legislation last Friday.

The order affects six workers at the coastguard station in Ganges.

Gary Owen, the PSAC's regional representative in Victoria called the legislation "corrupt" and said coastguard staff had provided essential services throughout the more than month-long strike even though it was not required.

He added that his group plans to work to rule under the conditions of their job contracts. Work that is ordered outside of the contract will be done but grievances will be filed.

Dave Howell at the Ganges office said that while staff was glad to be back at work, it was disappointed that a negotiated settlement had not been reached. Federal shipworkers have been without a contract since December, 1987.

Altogether, the back-to-work order affected more than 2,100 shipworkers across Canada and 1,400 hospital workers. Negotiators for the two sides plan to return to the bargaining table early in the new year.

The last offer made by the Treasury Board last May called for a four per cent wage increase in the each of the next three and half years. The PSAC is asking for a six per cent wage increase each year for the next three years.

Coastguard staff currently earn a starting salary of \$11.68 an hour while "rescue specialists" earn \$12.06. Seaman at a comparable level with B.C. Ferries earn \$16.49.



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The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Services for Christmas

DECEMBER 24

10 am St. George's - Pageant & Carols

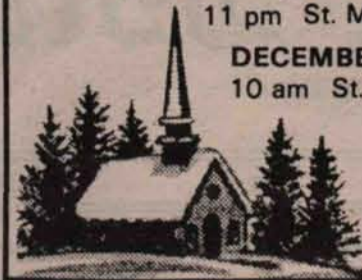
4 pm St. Mary's - Children's Services

7 pm St. George's - Family Eucharist & Carols

11 pm St. Mark's - Eucharist & Carols

DECEMBER 25

10 am St. Mary's - Eucharist & Carols

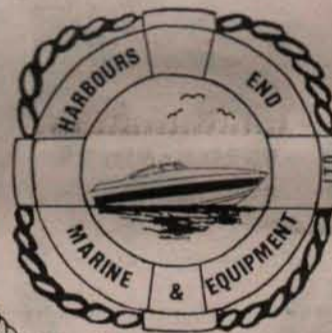


WE WISH YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS

SEASON'S GREETINGS!
CLOSED FOR INVENTORY & HOLIDAYS
from Saturday, Dec. 23, until Monday, Jan. 8.

TIDE TABLES AT FULFORD HBR.—STANDARD TIME

DEC.					
20	0325	6.3	23	0430	9.8
WE	1055	11.2	SA	0710	9.6
	1835	5.5		1145	10.5
				2010	2.9
21	0105	8.0			
TH	0410	7.6	24	0510	10.5
	1115	10.9	SU	0840	10.1
	1910	4.6		1200	10.4
22	0320	8.9		2040	2.3
FR	0525	8.8	25	0545	11.0
	1130	10.7	MO	1000	10.2
	1940	3.7		1225	10.4
				2115	1.8
			26	0620	11.3
			TU	1105	10.2
				1305	10.3
				2150	1.4
			27	0650	11.4
			WE	1145	10.1
				1355	10.2
				2225	1.1



537-4202

Harbours End, Ganges

Thank you...

Because of the positive response the island people have shown, we have been able to start Orin and Jason on the glazier apprenticeship program.

WISHING YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR!



BRUCE WILLIAMS—Journeyman Glazier



Hope Crawley (left) prepares to paint the young face of Ananda deBruyn, while the completed face of Ayla Whynott waits by. Face painting was all part of the fun at the Spirit of Peace Craft Fair, staged last Saturday at Central Hall.

Driftwood photo by Derrick Lundy

Threat evacuates school

Students of Gulf Islands Secondary School got a scare and a break from classes Wednesday, December 13, when a bomb threat cleared the school.

A telephone call from an anonymous female was answered by the office staff at 10 a.m. that day. The caller said a bomb was set to explode at 10:15 a.m. and if the students were not evacuated, people would be killed.

Vice-Principal Hugh Archer ordered the students to leave the school and return in time for afternoon classes. A search of the school was organized and according to principal John Wellingham, he, Archer and RCMP Constable Rod Holland looked in "every nook and cranny."

Nothing was found.

Wellingham said the school intends to initiate "proper procedures" to identify everything in the school. If a search is conducted in future, he said, "we'll immediately be able to identify any foreign object."

School officials will also talk to B.C. Tel to find out if it is feasible to identify where each phone call to the school originates.

When classes resumed for the afternoon, Wellingham said "some students did not return."

While the secondary school was evacuated, the elementary school next door was not. Wellingham said that the bomb threat was called into the high school and not the elementary school. Officials did not think the elementary school was in danger at the time.

RCMP Sergeant Larry Wendel said police are continuing their investigation into the matter.

He added that mischief is a serious offence, carrying a maximum penalty of five years in prison.



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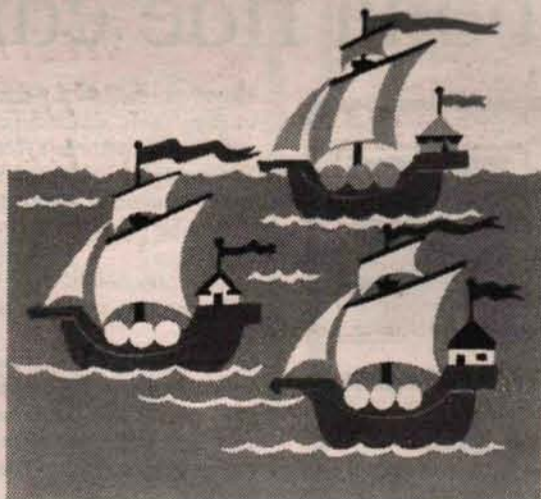
Facing Tomorrow
Together

Fair Winds, Calm Seas, And A Merry Christmas To All!

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earth day



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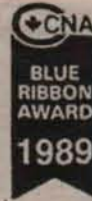
VOLUME TWO BOOKSTORE

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Gulf Islands Driftwood

Published every Wednesday at Ganges, B.C. by
Driftwood Publishing Ltd.
 126 Upper Ganges Road
 Box 250, Ganges, B.C. V0S 1E0
 Phone: 537-9933 Fax: 537-2613 Victoria Direct: 655-1619
 Office hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Monday-Friday

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 In the Gulf Islands \$15, Elsewhere in Canada \$22; Foreign \$70
 Second Class Mail Registration No. 0803



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Christmas

Season of goodwill soothes human spirit

Peace on Earth. Goodwill to all.
 Could it be that saying so often repeated during the holiday season may actually be closer in 1989 than it has ever been?

Dramatic changes in Eastern Europe are shown each night on our television screens, thousands of faces determined to forge a new life buoyed by the power of the human spirit.

It is that human spirit which can make such a difference in the world around a single person, city or nation.

This time of year we talk about the Christmas spirit, the spirit of giving. The belief in Santa Claus that makes Christmas such a magical time for children of all ages.

Collectively the spirit of the human race can achieve peace on earth, can feed the hungry, can sooth the weary souls. Individually we all have to believe it is possible and wonderful things will happen.

The spirit of love has created an avalanche of Christmas greetings to descend upon a small boy on Salt Spring Island. The spirit of freedom has brought down a wall in East Germany. The spirit of hope helps people through such tragedies as the senseless slaying in Montreal. The spirit of peace will bring all people of the world together in our lifetime.

All the staff at the *Gulf Islands Driftwood* and our correspondents join in a message to our readers on the islands, throughout the province, across the country and around the world:

"PEACE ON THE EARTH: GOOD WILL TOWARDS ALL."



Best of the season to bona fide editors and all


All these things you forget about every year which suddenly appear on grocery store shelves. Eggnog. Mandarin oranges. Cranberry sauce. Poinsettias. It all puts me in such a good Christmas mood!

Then there's *A Christmas Carol* with Alistair Sim. And what would the Yuletide season be without Dr. Seuss's *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*? (So it's not high literary stuff — it sure beats the big *Batman* flop, conveniently released in video for the Christmas tree, so those who haven't already discovered how incredibly bad it is, can fork out \$19.95 based on all the hype and fanfare that accompanied its creation.)

Actually, Salt Spring's very own grinch tried to steal the Christmas spirit right from my office, with a nasty letter which noted a grammatical error in my column

off the record

susan dicker



last week.
 It's true, I realized, sugar plums and candy canes fading from my vision, the very first word of the column "blatantly misuses the English language" (to quote the letter).

After mentally forming my letter of resignation, looking through my resume for *grammatical errors*, and hoping to the highest of highs

that my Grade Four teacher (who happens to live on Salt Spring) did not receive a copy of last week's *Driftwood*, I saw one line in the hate letter take on a gleeful glow.

The unnamed writer of the letter (signed a *bona fide editor*) also goofed.

He or she correctly points out the statement "There's a few things . . ." is grammatically incorrect.

However, the letter writer goes on to say, "there seems no excuse for substituting it (there's) for *they're*." Wrong again. (It must be a very tricky sentence.) The correct words should be "there are a few things. . ."

My conclusion: this bona fide editor needs a vacation as much as I do.

So with my Christmas spirit restored, I took to the streets of Ganges, purchasing stocking stuffers and After Eights, Christmassy decorations and a good bucketful of eggnog.

To all the great people I work with every day — the *Driftwood* staff, Gwen and her demented co-workers up the hill (over the hill?), Pat and the school board, Nick and John, Jules, those at the Community Centre, my family (inlaws and outlaws) . . . and many, many

others — have a wonderful holiday season.

I'd also like to send a seasonal greeting to Ruth Borsman in memory of a good friend of mine, who passed away on September 18.

To those of you who keep me on my toes by writing nasty letters and sticking your tongues out at me. . . well, you have a good season too.

As for me, I get the best Christmas present possible: SIX days off. In a row. I even wrote it, with great trepidation, in my desk-top calendar: — OFF — To Long Beach —. Now I've put it in writing twice. Be damned if I don't make it to that windy seashore for a good three days of blistering walks and cosy campfires.

Because if *there are* a few things I do like, they include the sound of crashing waves on the beach, accompanied by a glass of eggnog.

letters

Legislation needed

To the Editor,
John Reynolds, our new minister of the environment, has issued a statement that he is looking at the question of logging on private land. Here on Salt Spring the effects of industrial clear cut logging on such land is disastrous, since much of the property in question is near rural residential areas.

We desperately need legislation to curb the impact of large scale logging in this community. Most of us are living on Salt Spring because of its great natural beauty and relative natural environment. This is very quickly being destroyed. We urge everyone concerned to write letters in support of legislation to deal with logging on private land. Ministers to contact are: John Reynolds, Minister of Environment, Mel Couvelier, MLA, and Claude Richmond. Their address: Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4.

We have a sample letter at Green Islands Office, Ganges, if you are interested.

**RANDY THOMAS
and HEATHER MARTIN,
Green Islands.**

School bus use

To the Editor,
I would like to respond to Stan Rossburger's concern regarding adults wearing out school buses on Sundays.

Our district owns some school buses; these are only used for children. We also contract with individuals who provide bus service on school days. Our contract is for these days only and the independent operators are, of course, at liberty to use their buses how they wish on the weekends.

Mr. Rossburger does not have a listed phone number but I invite him or anyone else to call me if they have further concerns.

**DAVID EYLES,
School District #64.**

Transportation

To the Editor,
With the arrival of winter weather, some of your readership may have the same questions about what the Seniors-For-Seniors' Volunteer Drivers can do for them as some of my "ridership" had. These answers may help them.

If you are a senior living on Salt Spring Island and you need transportation to (and from) medical, hospital, other health care appointments, we shall try to arrange a volunteer driver and car to provide this for you. Since this is a volunteer service, there is no charge for it.

To request this service, or for more information about it, call Seniors-For-Seniors at 537-4604, or drop by their office (on the ground floor of the former Valcourt Building in the Upper Ganges Centre, opposite the Government Building).

Each Seniors' Driver must hold a valid B.C. Driver's License. Liability insurance coverage for this program is funded, in part, through the Victoria Health Project Grant which also pays some compensation toward the car expenses of the volunteers. (When this grant expires, other funds will be needed if this service to the senior community is to continue. Therefore, all donations are welcome and *are tax deductible*.)

This is a rewarding service to be able to offer. Hopefully, you may never need us. But, if you should, "try us ... you'll like us."

**BARBARA ARMSTRONG,
Volunteer driver,
Seniors-For-Seniors.**

Choose with wisdom

To the Editor,
During the first trimester, when according to Virginia Newman over 90 per cent of abortions take place, the heart starts beating, the fetus develops all the systems and organs that a full term baby would have, the baby's sex can be distinguished, "baby" teeth buds are present, bones are forming, and fingernails and toenails already show. By the 12th week, it is 3½ inches long (9 cm) ... did you know?

When a pregnant woman agonizes over whether or not to have an abortion, she must choose between giving birth to that human life growing inside her or electing its premature death ... may you choose well, now that you know!

**BRIAN & CATHY JOYCE,
Ganges.**

Goodwill dept.

To the Editor,
... And, will the public spirited M. Cypress of Ganges be extending compliments of the season to the faithful followers of his weekly column in the letters page of the *Gulf Islands Driftwood*? Or will he maybe pay for his advertisements in future like any honest capitalist that was only half a villain would?

**YVONNE ADALIAN,
Ganges.**

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

The Driftwood will publish every Wednesday as usual over Christmas and New Year's...but advertising deadlines and office hours have been adjusted to allow for the holidays. Please note:

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

for the paper of: **DEC. 27** **JAN. 3**

Display Advertising 4:30 pm ... Dec. 20 .. Dec. 28

Real Estate Dec. 15 .. Dec. 15

Classifieds Dec. 20 .. Dec. 28

Too Late to Classify 2 pm Dec. 21 .. Dec. 29

OFFICE HOURS

Dec. 18-22 OPEN 8:30-4:30

Dec. 25 CLOSED

Dec. 26 CLOSED


Dec. 27 OPEN 8:30-4:30

Dec. 28 OPEN 8:30-4:30

Dec. 29 OPEN 8:30-4:30

Jan. 1 CLOSED


Jan. 2 OPEN 8:30-4:30



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ANNOUNCEMENT



ERIC BOOTH

Arvid Chalmers, president of Pemberton Holmes (Gulf Islands) Ltd. is pleased to announce the addition of Eric Booth to the sales staff. Born and raised on Salt Spring, Eric's knowledge of the island, background as a local real estate developer, and his recent successful completion of an intensive University of British Columbia real estate and sub-mortgage broker's course gives him a comprehensive view of our real estate market. From questions on rezoning property to current market trends, he looks forward to sharing his experience with you. For friendly, personalized service please call Eric at (bus.) 537-5568 or at (home) 537-9532.



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Mon.-Fri. — Vancouver → Islands 3:30 pm (arriving by 4:30 pm)

EFFECTIVE FEB. 2/90

Mon.-Fri. — Vancouver → Islands 4:00 pm (arriving by 5:00 pm)

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capital comment

by **hubert beyer**



VICTORIA — The one great common denominator of important religious holidays is the memories they invoke — memories of childhood, of young love, memories of good times as well as bad.

While Christians the world over observe Christmas in memory of Christ's birth, Jews celebrate Hanukkah in commemoration of the redemption of the Temple by the Macabees, following their victory over the Syrians.

In Israel, they will remember past struggles for the survival of their young nation. Some of the older ones will be reminded of Hanukkah past, nearly half a century past, Hanukkahs spent in times of unsurpassed peril, under the constant threat of death.

They will, no doubt, give more than a fleeting thought to the six million of their fellow-Jews whose memory today stands as history's most grim reminder of man's inhumanity to man.

It is Christmas that I would like to talk about, alas, I cannot think of a more fitting way to start than by paying homage to those whom Christianity has treated with indifference, if not hostility.

Not in the hearts of men and women

Where was the Christian doctrine of "Love Thy Neighbour" when the Jews were rounded up and sent to the death camps in Germany? What happened to "Thou Shalt Not Kill" when, centuries earlier, thousands of Jews were killed in York? You might well ask, where was Christ? Certainly not in the hearts of men and women of goodwill.

My earliest childhood memories of Christmas are warm and comforting. Visions of wonderfully-decorated Christmas trees come easily to mind. So do the feelings of utter security in the knowledge that all was well as long as my parents were there.

In retrospect, these memories are clouded, not because they were not real, not because my parents' love was not all-encompassing and selfless, but because I now know of the world that existed around me in those years.

Christmas 1938 was but a few months after the infamous Kristallnacht, the night the organized horror of genocide began. I was three and a half years old then and did not yet know anything of man's cruelty.

Today, I know that while our family sang Silent Night, Holy Night that year, thousands of Jews, as well as non-Jewish opponents of the Nazi regime, had already died, and millions more were destined to die.

What of the millions who didn't survive?

I was to become familiar with hardship before the madness was over. There were the endless nights spent in air raid shelters, there was the utter destruction and desolation of my once beautiful home town, Dusseldorf. There was the uncertainty of my brother's fate. He had been drafted at the age of 15 to serve as Hitler's last-ditch canon-fodder in an army retreating before the Russian onslaught. There was the hunger and near-starvation after the war.

But I survived. So did my brother, so did every other member of my family, something few Germans, or Russians, for that matter, can say. What of the millions who didn't survive?

There is Remembrance Day, of course. March to the Cenotaph. Lest we forget and all that. Unfortunately, Remembrance Day still has too many connotations of the glory war never held. It is a day that invokes memories of sacrifice, rather than a deep commitment to peace.

Appalling part is not commercialization

Christmas is the proper day to honour the legions of men and women who died because man had not yet learned to love his fellow-man. Nor, I'm sad to say, has man yet reached his potential for love and tolerance.

This year, while Christians everywhere will sing Silent Night, Holy Night, in a multitude of languages, so-called Christian militia men will go on seeding death in Lebanon, IRA members, good self-professed Christians, will plan bombings, and good Christians right here at home will continue nurturing their dislike for fellow-Canadians of different race or origin.

The appalling aspect of Christmas is not its commercialization. Any true Christian can ignore the commercial angle of Christmas. Even taking part in the sometimes frenzied commercialism doesn't necessarily mean a negation of the true Christmas spirit.

What is appalling is that so many Christians celebrate this festive occasion is a spirit of total self-righteousness, not only ignoring the dictates of their religion, but distorting the clear message — Love Thy Neighbour.

Christmas is a beautiful time of the year, its commercialization notwithstanding, but if you want to give your children a lasting gift, give them the gift of love and tolerance for their fellow-creatures.

**Bryne
graces
chair**

The Gulf Islands School Board has a new chairman.

Grace Byrne, school trustee for Salt Spring, was chosen to succeed David Eyles as board chairman at a recent meeting of the group. Eyles has served three years in the position.

Vice-chairman will be Marg Billsten of Mayne Island.

'TIS THE SEASON

May it bring you happiness and prosperity!

HARBOUR LOW COST

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

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NOEL

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FROM EVERYONE AT

MOUAT'S

Would public-MB partnership provide a solution for Galiano?

BY WILLIAM S. PATERSON DDS

The November 18 meeting on Galiano Island must have given MacMillan Bloedel a clear message that the Galiano Islanders totally reject its (MB's) present development plans. These initial plans, as developed by Intrustwest, were criticized for a variety of reasons; a recurring criticism was that there was nothing in it for the Islanders.

The 350 islanders at the meeting must have convinced MB that the company has a long uphill fight with very little hope of success, as it can do no development without the community's permission to change the island plan. The company must have our co-operation.

Guest

Column

Yet a press release on Saturday suggested that it has not given up their present plans. Therefore MB must still hope that a solution can be found for its present dilemma. Neither has it set a definite price on its property which precludes any option of the Community purchasing their property. Is there any realistic compromise possible?

Yes, I think there is. Let MacMillan Bloedel make the Galiano community its partner, and let Intrustwest fade quietly into the sunset! As I outlined in the August issue of the *Active Page*, this would involve the island residents forming a Community Council of elected representatives (possibly G.C.A. could fulfil the need). Such an equal partnership could accomplish most of the goals of MB and of our island community.

MacMillan Bloedel would be

able to realize a fair profit for its land through a variety of possibilities. Bylaw 128 could be modified to allow a minimum amount of development on the valuable, low-bank waterfront. Tax write-off concessions could benefit MB similar to those realized in the recent transaction of the land purchased by the North End Hall.

Provincial and Federal concessions, and possibly even money, might be available for such a visionary process. MB could thus happily exit from their present frustrating situation with their "P.R." intact and money in their pockets.

The community would end up owning the remainder of MB's land (probably about 7000 acres). The Community Council would cooperate with the company's plans and approve both the scope and the timing of all development plans. As equal partners, they would assist in removing the limiting factors of Bylaw 128 to allow the required development.

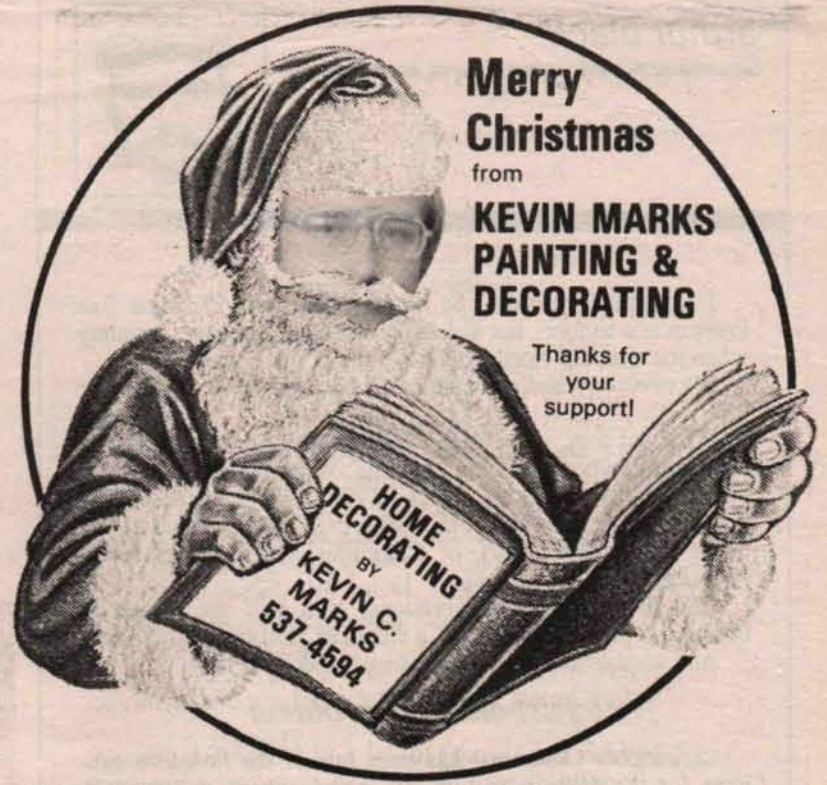
The type and scope of the development would have to meet the community's approval yet be sufficient to meet the price set by the original agreement with MB.

I visualize that the bulk of the land would remain forever as a Wilderness Ecological Reserve, though possibly some harvesting of mature trees could be considered in the future. The Ecological Reserve could be administered by the Forestry Division of the Provincial Government (as is now being done in the Kootenays).

The people of Galiano, and its many visitors would have the wonderful prospect of knowing that this precious resource would remain theirs to use and enjoy for ever and ever. Our stewardship of this invaluable asset could be an

example for others to follow — our inestimable gift to all future generations. Our environment is so unique and so beautiful that we all must compromise to preserve it.

I would like to close with a quotation from the Report of the National Task force on the Environment and Economy which was signed by Adam Zimmerman, President of Noranda: "Increasingly industry finds that environmental and economic benefits can be complementary. At times, however, environmental benefits entail substantial expenditures, and this should be recognized as a cost of doing business. In both cases, corporations show leadership by fulfilling their responsibilities to conserve resources and protect the environment."



During the Holiday Season more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. And in this spirit we say, Simply but sincerely

Thank You and Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Oh, no! Not 65!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SANTY!

Warm Wishes

Here's hoping the holidays will glow with joy for all!

Parallel Blinds inc.

BUYING? SELLING? CHECK OUT THE...

Driftwood classifieds

arthur black



I have no idea when the next earthquake will shiver San Francisco's timbers but I can predict with absolute certainty when the next big North American flood will come.

It's two years and a couple of weeks away, folks. Watch for it in 1992.

What are they going to call this flood? I'm not sure. Christofrenzy, maybe. Or Columbomania. Whatever they call it, it will definitely strike our shores in 1992. Why? Because 1992 is exactly 500 years later than 1492, that's why. Which makes it the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of North America.

And there will be celebrations. You will see a rash of books, a spate of TV specials, a clutch of Hollywood movies.

And an absolute mint of coins and medals.

Just one tiny problem

Christopher Columbus has been one of the favourite subjects for the folks who turn out coins, tokens and medals. Depictions of the famous Italian and/or his equally famous ships, the *Nina*, the *Pinta* and the *Santa Maria*, have appeared on coins from Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Costa Rica, Brazil and Iceland as well as Canada and the United States.

Which is not surprising. Discovery of the New World and proving that the world was not flat were two crucial developments that changed terrestrial history.

There's just one tiny problem.

Columbus doesn't deserve the credit for either discovery. He was a Christopher-come-lately on both counts.

Knowledge that the earth was round, not flat? Earthlings with a shred of scientific knowledge had known that for centuries before Columbus presented his credentials to Queen Isabella in the Spanish court. The Romans portrayed the earth as a globe in the year 20 A.D. An Arab scientist by the name of Al Maqdisi had figured out that the Earth had 360 degrees of longitude and 180 degrees of latitude in the 10th century — nearly 500 years before Columbus waddled up the gangplank of the *Santa Maria*.

Business trips... pure and simple

And another thing our high school history books failed to make clear — Columbus was no noble explorer in pursuit of pure knowledge. His four voyages were business trips, pure and simple. The expeditions were bankrolled by Spaniards, including Queen Isabella, on the express understanding that Columbus would bring back plunder — gold, jewels, spices — whatever he and his cutthroats could lay their hands on.

Columbus accepted the gamble because, after all, he thought he was taking a short cut to Asia, where booty was easy to come by. You can imagine his surprise when he fetched up instead on the palm-fringed shores of the island of San Salvador. No cities. No gold statues. Not a jewellery store in sight.

Columbus panicked. He owed big bucks to his sponsors back in Madrid, and they weren't the forgiving kind. Frantically, he raced from one Caribbean Island to the next, stealing anything he could get his hands on.

Columbus was no humanitarian

Which wasn't much. There were after all, no great civilizations in the Caribbean islands in the 15th century. Just a bunch of peaceful Indian tribes who greeted the visitors with wide-eyed wonder. The Taino Indians on the Island of Hispaniola were particularly hospitable. Columbus paid them back by seizing 1200 of them, throwing them in his ships' holds and shipping them back to Spain. The ones who survived the trip were paraded through the streets of Seville naked, then sold as slaves.

Not to put too fine a point on it, Columbus was no humanitarian. He was also not the discoverer of the New World. Vikings were in Newfoundland in the 11th century. Some historians believe that St. Brendan the Navigator touched these shores in 565 A.D. The supreme irony is that Columbus, famous in our history books for discovering America, never even set foot on our continent.

Well, maybe not the supreme irony. That honour goes to a friend of mine, Pat Ningwance. I said to her "Pat, do you realize that Columbus didn't discover North America at all? Isn't that shocking?" Pat just looked at me for a long time. Saying nothing.

Then I remembered. Pat's an Ojibwa.

Youth is fined \$150

A Salt Spring youth was found guilty of impaired driving and fined \$150 but Judge A.E. Filmer left the length of the mandatory licence suspension to the discretion of the supervisor of motor vehicles.

Under the terms of the Young Offenders Act, the youth cannot be identified.

Ganges RCMP were called to an accident scene almost a year ago. The officer investigating the incident formed the opinion the youth was impaired, however the young man refused to take a breath test.

Judge Filmer dismissed the charge of refusing to supply a breath test because of sections of the Young Offenders Act which call on the police to enlist the aid of either relatives or an adult with whom the youth is familiar. The officer at the scene of the accident did neither.

Judge Filmer did accept testimony from witnesses which tended to bear out the impaired state of the youth.

GREETINGS
May your season be adorned with laughter and love, goodwill and the joy of giving.

RON CUNNINGHAM TRACTOR SERVICE

May your hearth be cheered by the presence of dear ones!
Warm wishes from
Honest Ol's Firewood
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Peace & Joy

A very special thank you for your valued patronage.
Richard Weatherall & Family
G.I. OPTICAL
537-2648

'Tis the Season
may you know the pleasure of holiday giving and the joy of friendship.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
and many thanks!

NORMAN ROTHWELL
537-5515/537-5103

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(Formerly Salt Spring Lands Ltd.)

Jarrood's party brings Batman, Santa Claus

Jarrood Booth was treated to a surprise visit from Batman and the president of the Help Fill a Dream Foundation Saturday morning.

The visitors brought more than 6,000 Christmas cards collected from schools and drop boxes in Victoria.

The foundation's Barry George said the cards were collected from about 25 schools in Victoria in the last two weeks. He added that he expects to collect another 6,000 cards before the Christmas Day.

The Booth family, in the meantime, says it is coping with the

growing number of cards and calls coming in, although arrangements had to be made with a local elementary school to count the cards, now coming in at the rate of 2,000 or more a day.

The total number of cards sent to Jarrod now stands at close to 20,000, a figure which will increase after news of the Booth story was picked up by the national wire service last week. The story was also aired on two national programs earlier this week.

In addition, the Booth family has learned that a story about the campaign was aired in Ireland. Jarrod's father Eric said that a computer club out of Victoria has included information about the campaign on its bulletin board which is seen world-wide.

Eric said he had no idea the campaign would become the event it has, but noted that the spirit of Christmas is obviously alive and well. He added that he expects to see cards coming in well into the new year and that it will months before all of them are opened.

The attention the campaign has generated has provided a variety of other high points in Jarrod's life this Christmas season, including a party sponsored by campaign organizer Brian Harding at the Harbour House Saturday, which included a ride in a Rolls Royce chauffeured by one of Santa's elves.

On Sunday, Jarrod was made an honorary fire chief by the local fire department.

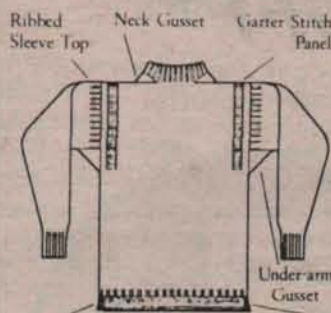
The Booths have also been offered a trip to Hawaii by a Victoria-based travel agency but Eric says the details about the offer are sketchy and the family has not yet decided whether it will be making the trip.

He says that one thing the family will do is take a short vacation after Christmas to catch its breath from this busy holiday season.



Piper Fred Tarasoff plays welcome for Jarrod Booth at party held at Harbour House, Saturday.

THE GUERNSEY SWEATER... probably the best knitted sweater in the world!



The Guernsey sweater came into being as a garment for seamen, who required a warm, hard wearing, yet comfortable item that would resist the sea spray. The hard twist given to the closely packed wool fibres in the spinning process, and the tightly knitted stitches, produced a finish that would 'turn water', and repel a surprising amount of rain or spray.

The Traditional Wool Guernsey
12 colours: Biscay Blue, New Natural, Goodwood Green, Breton Red, Tudor Red, Corvette Blue, Tartan Red, Steel, Black, Olive, Aran
22"-48"
Navy sizes 22"-54"

The Traditional Guernsey in Cotton
7 colours: Navy, White, Aran, Lemon, Green, Blue, Red. Sizes: 22"-48"



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Happy Holidays

Wishing one and all a very Merry Christmas and Health, Happiness and Prosperity in 1990.

—The Staff, Gulf Island Trading Co.

TRADING SPECIALS

10 BIG DAYS—DEC. 20-31—WHILE STOCKS LAST

NABOB GROUND COFFEE	Reg., Fine or X-Fine 300 g pkg. Reg. 3.25	2⁰⁹	CARNATION SMOKED OYSTERS	104 g tin Reg. 1.89	99¢
OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRY SAUCE	398 ml Whole or Jellied Reg. 1.85	99¢	MOTT'S CLAMATO JUICE	Reg. or Extra Spicy Reg. 2.49	1⁶⁹
DAIRYMAID ORANGE JUICE	1 litre ctn. Reg. 1.85	99¢	OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRY COCKTAIL	1.14 litre btl. 4 flavours Reg. 3.25	1⁹⁹
ALOHA MIXED NUTS	350 g tin Reg. 3.55	1⁹⁹	OLD DUTCH POTATO CHIPS	Assorted 200 g box Reg. 1.89	1⁰⁹
DOLE PINEAPPLE	Reg. 1.59 540 ml tin Sliced, Chunks or Crushed	79¢	VENICE ITALIANO DINNER ROLLS	12's Reg. 1.59	89¢

SPECIAL OPENING—SUNDAY, DEC. 24

8 am-5 pm — for all your Christmas shopping requirements

PRODUCE SPECIALS

B.C. NO. 1 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	3 lbs. 99¢	JAPANESE MANDARIN ORANGES	Approx. 9 lb. box 7⁹⁹
NEW CROP! FRESH CRANBERRIES	12 oz. 99¢	FLORIDA FIELD TOMATOES	49¢ lb.

MEAT SPECIALS

BONELESS TOP SIRLOIN STEAK	7.25 kg 3²⁹ lb.	PORK LOIN ROAST	4.37 kg 1⁹⁸ lb.
FRESH PORK SAUSAGE MEAT	Preservative Free! 3.28 kg 1⁴⁹ lb.	OVERLANDER GARLIC RINGS	300 g 2⁹⁹ ea.
SMOKED BBQ SALMON	8.79 kg 3⁹⁹ lb.	FREYBE PORK & GOOSE PATE	175 g 2³⁹ ea.

FULL SELECTION OF FRESH & FROZEN TURKEYS, DUCKS, GEESSE & HOME CURED DOUBLE SMOKED HAMS

Plan ahead—we will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day.

Gulf Island Trading Co.

Recreational harvesting receives fisheries' O.K.

Fisheries Canada issued notice that eating crabs caught in Cowichan Bay is okay.

The notice emphasized that commercial crab fishing in the bay is banned until further notice but recreational and native harvesting may continue.

Health and Welfare Canada advises "that eating the crab meat does not pose a risk, however, you should not consume more than 75 grams per week of the digestive gland."

Fisheries also gave notice that the ban on fin fish in the Ladder Pool of the Cowichan River has been lifted. The area in question is in Marie Canyon south from the railway trestle at Mile 66 to the creek which drains from Mayo Lake into the Cowichan.



T.V. cameramen hurry to catch Jarrod Booth's arrival at a Christmas party, held in his honour. Police escorted the two roll royces which brought Jarrod and his family to the Harbour House Hotel.

Below, Batman makes a special visit to Jarrod's Lakeview Road home.

Driftwood photos by Nancy Vail



Season's Greetings

from all of us at

**HARLAN'S
CHOCOLATE TREATS**


and

**HERITAGE
BOUTIQUE**


Gifts, Cards, Chocolates and
Gourmet Coffees.

OPEN SUNDAY, DEC. 24—9:30 AM-5:00 PM

We will be closed Dec. 25 & 26 & Jan. 1.



LAW OFFICE


 Wishing our Fellow Islanders
 the Merriest Christmas and
 Happiest New Year ever!

Our office will be closed to new business during the period Dec. 18th to Dec. 29th.

Effective Dec. 11th, Gordon Sloan will no longer be an associate in the practice of law with our office.

Ian H. Clement

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Next to Cloverdale Pairs
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from the typewriter

of bill webster



Seagulls group communally on the wharf at Vesuvius, puffing feathers to ward off the plunge in temperature to lukewarm.

But that's the way of this alleged winter, eh?

The weatherman at Pat Bay airport says chances of a White Christmas hovers at five per cent hereabouts.

Despite the gloom about the lack of nature's white blanket, the spirit of the season infects rock sitters abundantly.

When Santa Tripo steamed through the island, many, many rock sitters exerted exertions to ensure the twinkles came and stayed in young eyes.

The Salt Spring Legion - that supposed bastion of crusty vets - kicked in bucks to help Santa please the youngsters. And the Lions Club also donated shekels to the cause.

Rotary added four-figure sum

Meantimes, the Rotary Club, fresh from a successful season of bingo, added a four-figure sum to the Christmas Hamper fund at the white house on the hill above Ganges.

Over on Pender, George Pearson's dream shines through the December nights as the Lions on that rock plug lights into the biiigg tree. The money each light represents goes to C.A.R.E. of Canada and George remains fresh in memory for having started the effort so many years ago.

Bob Appleton's Santa Workshop received a boost from booze buyers at the government bootleggers in Ganges when the big guy locally, Brian Gooding handed over multi teddy bears which customers at the grog shop purchased and donated to the cause.

Thankful that the community cares.

Betty Allard and Mary Toynbee have their hands full co-ordinating the collection of money and non-perishable food in order to co-ordinate the packing of Christmas hampers so that they can co-ordinate the distribution to those who might have nothing to celebrate come Monday.

When George McEwan toted the Rotary cheque up the hill, he attempted to avoid the camera claiming the pic should be of bingo gamblers who helped swell the fund. He finally agreed to pose when convinced that the bingo players would receive more than passing reference.

And so it goes.

The busy folk of Fulford manage to find time to honour the young when they bring Santa into the hall.

Other acts of kindness and help for others goes unnoticed. Those who do, know their deeds and those who receive, do so humbly — thankful that the community cares.

Not to mention local balladeer, Valdy. He squeezed time to strum chords to help raise money for the Victoria area United Way. That worthy organization gathers big bucks and some of it finds use on the rocks.

And so it goes.

B.C. Ferry Corporation makes annual fare hike

Gulf Island residents will be paying more to travel on B.C. Ferries as of January 2, 1990.

The 15- to 50-cent increase on passenger fares in the Gulf Islands is part of increased rates announced last Monday for all B.C. Ferry routes.

Under the new rates, passengers travelling between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay will pay \$1.60, rather than \$1.40. This pushes the driver and vehicle rate from \$5.10 to \$5.50.

Prepaid passenger ticket books will increase from \$11 to \$11.50. These rates also apply to the Vesuvius Bay/Crofton run.

On the Long Harbour/Tsawwassen route, passenger fees will climb from \$3.50 to \$4, and vehicle rates will increase from \$14.50 to \$16.

Inter-island passenger fares will rise from \$1.35 to \$1.50.

On major B.C. ferry routes, the regular passenger fares will go up 25 cents, and car fares will increase 50 cents.

There will be no increase in passenger rates for children between the ages of 5 and 11.

Cancellations announced

The B.C. Ferry Corporation has cancelled several ferry runs over the holiday season.

The first run of the day between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay, and Vesuvius and Crofton, will be cancelled on both Christmas and New Years days.

Sunday and holiday Monday schedules will be in effect for Outer Islands routes on December 25, 26 and January 1.

Randy Thomas

Salt Spring Islander returns from New Zealand meeting

The man who spent almost three weeks in New Zealand says his trip was a complete success. For the first time, he noted, shareholders with Fletcher Challenge understand the impact of the Crofton mill.

Green Island representative Randy Thomas said he feels he was able to convey to shareholders at the annual meeting of Fletcher Challenge in Auckland on the 21 of last month the "high human cost" of the mill.

He also said that for the first time the people of New Zealand, (a country where Fletcher Challenge has a good reputation and a high profile) understood there are

problems at some of the mills the company operates here.

Thomas said he plans to meet with Ian Donald, the chief executive of Fletcher Challenge, later this month to discuss the time lines of various corrective measures presently being done at the mill.

Bill Clarke, vice-president of operations at Crofton, noted last week that early test results indicate dioxin emissions have already been substantially reduced. By the end of next year, he said, no dioxins should be coming from that plant.



Hope the Season brings the best of everything!

Happy Holidays from Shera.

Have the Merriest

To all of our customers & friends.

Mistletoe over your head, and presents under your tree — that's our wish for you!

ME & RON'S TOWING AND USED TIRES.

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Happy Holidays!

To all our clients & friends we wish you the best of the season.

WALTER HUSER & SONS Construction Ltd.



"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night."



To all our friends & customers we wish a healthy & happy holiday season!

Ken & Jill, Nicola, Joshua, Justin, Chelsea, Regan and Jeremy

KEN BYRON EXCAVATING

Islanders reject referendum

Telephone customers on Salt Spring Island and North and South Pender islands have rejected the one-way Extended Area Service proposal which would have seen local rates increase in exchange for one-way toll-free calling to Victoria.

The results of those referendums were released on Friday.

B.C. Tel says only 27 per cent of the Ganges customers and 34.8 per cent of those living in Fulford Harbour voted in favour of the idea. Only 29.6 per cent of those living in North and South Pender Island

favoured the idea.

Altogether, during the four-week referendum, 2,978 ballots were distributed in Ganges of which 2,173 were returned. Only 579 people favoured the idea.

Under the B.C. Tel proposal, monthly rates on residential phones would have increased to \$12.65 from the current \$7.40 in exchange for the toll-free calls to Victoria. The rental rates on business phones would have climbed to \$45.05 from the current \$18.45.

Bernice Benekritis, B.C. Tel's Island Area Customer Contact

Manager, said that the referendum was held earlier this fall because customers on the Salt Spring and Pender Island exchanges qualified for the service under criteria established earlier this year by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission. Referendums are being held on 22 exchange lines throughout the province.

A spokesperson with the phone company says customers in all of the local communities will be notified of the results by mail.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all my friends and neighbours.

VICKI GRIFFIN



Itchy subject tackled

Head lice remains a problem at two Salt Spring elementary schools.

Pupils at Fernwood Elementary and Salt Spring Elementary have been sent home for treatment to get rid of the lice, but the infestation problem remains.

Glen Woodley, principal of SSE, agreed that head lice had "reared their ugly little heads again."

He noted head lice have been a problem in the past but the situation usually straightens out by the end of September. This year, the infestation has recurred and they don't know why.

He suggested that stronger follow-up by public health officials would help alleviate the problem.

Bob Brownsword, principal at Fernwood, said "This year is quite different than in the past. It's (head lice) is ongoing."

Parents, he explained, are concerned. Treating children infested costs time and money, he said, and her parents are worried that their children will carry home the pests.

Anger over the situation is becoming more apparent, he concluded.

The trustees of the Gulf Islands School Board will seek more help and more information from the public health officials.

RCMP release names

Local RCMP have released the names of two people charged with possessing some \$70,000 worth of marijuana.

Salt Spring residents Jackie Lea Fagerstrom and Nick Pawlowski, both 42-years-old, have been charged with possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking.

The marijuana was seized from a residence on December 16.



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Thanks, friends.

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&
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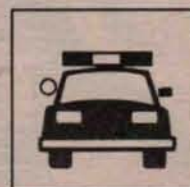
The Capital Regional District's

9-1-1 Emergency Response Telephone System

is now operational in Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Saturna, North Pender, South Pender, Curlew, Gossip, Retreat, Samuel and Tumbo Islands, and Trevor Islet.

In any emergency dial:

9-1-1 for



POLICE



FIRE



AMBULANCE

**BE A LUNG SAVER
USE CHRISTMAS
SEALS**
Support Your Lung Association

Salt Spring musicians serenade the season

Islanders seeking entertainment will be able to enjoy local music over the festive season.

Club Mongo, famed of record and other amplified devices, bring remnants of their annual Christmas Pageant to the Vesuvius Inn, this weekend.

Dave Roland, bass player and all-round nice guy of the group, said of the pageant, "Don't ask me, I was just told about it myself."

Numbers needed

House numbers in the Gulf Islands should be visible from the road, urges Deputy Fire Chief Dan Akerman of the Salt Spring fire department.

He said that with the advent of the 911 emergency number, the emergency crews will be given a street number at which to attend. Gone are the days, he noted, when the local emergency people knew where to find someone at the second drive past the bent arbutus tree.

The 911 emergency number flashes an address on the screen in Langford. That number and the corresponding name will be forwarded to police, ambulance or fire departments of the Gulf Islands.

If the house number isn't clearly visible from the road, Akerman said, precious minutes could be wasted trying to find the correct residence.

"If we go out there, and the number isn't up, we won't find them," he said.

He explained that the easiest way to identify the residence is if the number is at the top of the driveway at the road.

Meanwhile, erstwhile Mongo leader and alleged singer, Tom Bowler agreed to an audience to explain plans for the event.

"It won't be much," he said between munches on a peanut butter sandwich. "We'll revive some of the good stuff from Christmases past."

When pressed for details, he admitted the group had been unable, again, to rehearse the show. "Ask Roland." was his concluding comment.

On a saner note, Valdy brings his brand of rhythm to Beaver Point Hall on Boxing Day evening.

And for the end of the decade, Les Four swing at the Legion but entry is limited to members and their guests.

At Fulford Inn, bring loonies and feed the jukebox until Auld Layne Syng. Up the road, The NEW Club Mongo holds forth in the pub of the Harbour House while a karaoke machine entertains in the dining room. Vesuvius rocks with Silent Treatment.



Lisa Sigurgeirson with the Lisa Max Band was one of several performers taking the stage at Off Centre Stage's "office" party, held last Saturday night at Mahon Hall.

Driftwood photo by Nancy Vail

NOTICE

to all

SALT SPRING ISLAND RESIDENTS

Any emergency response to the

911

 emergency number

will be directed to a given street and address number. All residents are requested to post house numbers clearly in a prominent location, as outlined in Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District Bylaw No. 28, so as to be clearly visible at the roadside. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sponsored as a community service by the Salt Spring Island Fire Department, the Capital Regional District & Gulf Islands Driftwood

Christmas
JOY

WE WISH YOU THE SEASON'S BEST!

FROM THE STAFF AT
PATTERSONS STORE
AND
LITTLE PATT'S

Sale prices in effect Wednesday, Dec. 20, through Sunday, Dec. 24

Ganges Village Market

ISLANDERS SERVING ISLANDERS



It's that special time of the year, **ESPECIALLY FOR THE KIDS...**
We have a spot under the Christmas tree in our front lobby for any toys or treats for those less fortunate.

HOLIDAY STORE HOURS:
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY OPEN **9 AM-8 PM**
SUNDAY, DEC. 24 (CHRISTMAS EVE) **9 AM-5 PM**
CHRISTMAS DAY & BOXING DAY **CLOSED**



from all of us at Ganges Village Market!

OCEAN SPRAY **CRANBERRY COCKTAIL**

- Cranapple
- Cranraspberry
- Crangrape

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Buy four 300g packs of Nabob Tradition for only **1.98** each

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Limit 1 coupon per purchase
Offer expires Dec. 31, 1989. Store coupon #89344
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PEPSI or 7-UP Regular or Diet

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99¢

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Over limit **58¢** ea.



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PHILADELPHIA **CREAM CHEESE** Regular or Light
250 g brick **1.58** 250 g soft tub **1.98**

OLD DUTCH **POTATO CHIPS** 225 g bag **98¢**

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- Summer Sweet Peas
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14 oz. tin

88¢

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SCHWEPES
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KODAK FILM
G-A 135-C pkg. **3.98**

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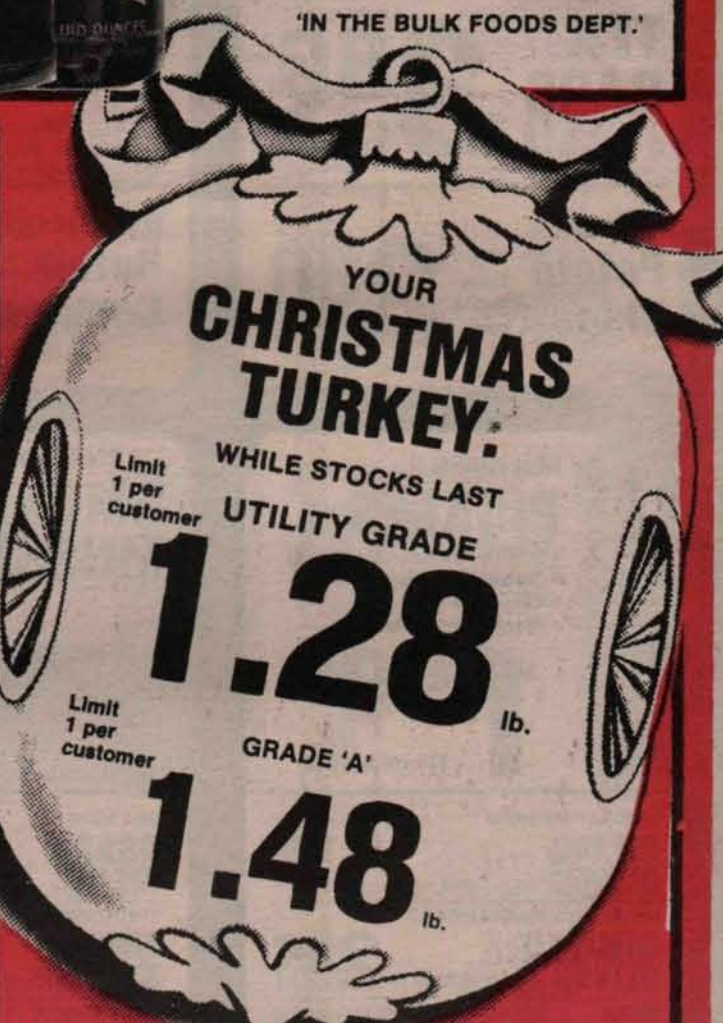


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Buy one pkg. at \$1.89 and GET ONE FREE!

HILLS BROS. INSTANT COFFEE **3.98** 200 g jar

RASMUS DANISH BRIE OR CAMEMBERT **1.98** 125 g

KIRI CREAM CHEESE **1.96** 120 g



YOUR **CHRISTMAS TURKEY.**

Limit 1 per customer WHILE STOCKS LAST
UTILITY GRADE

1.28 lb.

Limit 1 per customer GRADE 'A'
1.48 lb.

KRAFT **CHEEZ WHIZ OR VELVEETA**

1 kg jar or pkg.

5.98



LAUGHING COW SWISS GRUYERE **2.68** 200 g pkg.

PARTICUBE CHEESE **2.28** 125 g pl

BAKERY

FRESH
MINCE
PIES

8" size **299**

PLUM
PUDDING

WOW! 450 g **399**

FRENCH CREME
CHEESE
CAKE

8" size **799**

DECORATED
SUGAR
COOKIES

dozen **198**

FINGER SIZE
SHORT
BREAD

dozen **249**

HOLIDAY DECORATED
WHITE OR CHOCOLATE
BUTTER
CREAM
CAKES

7" size **699**

FRESH!
CELERY

399

FRESH!
LEMONS

5 for **\$1**

BULK FOODS

Neilson's
Chocolates

- Rosebuds
- Macaroons
- Slowpokes
- Crispy Crunch
- Coconut Bars
- Chunks—Plain
- W/Peanuts
- W/Caramel

119
100 g

NESCAFE
GOURMET
COFFEE
BEANS

498
lb.

OLD DUTCH
NACHO
CHEESE
CRUNCHIES

60¢

TREBOR
MINTS

100 g **56¢**

PRETZELS

Mini Twists
or
Sticks 100 g **39¢**

BULK
CHRISTMAS
CANDIES

18 varieties **20% OFF**

BITS
'N'
BITES

100 g **102¢**

LARGE YAMS OR
SWEET POTATOES



48¢
lb.

FRESH!
GREEN ONION

3 bunches for **79¢**

WASHINGTON RUSSET
POTATOES

3 lbs. **79¢**

A CHRISTMAS TREAT
MIXED NUTS

168
lb.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

JELLO
JELLY
POWDERS
3 85 g pks. **99¢**



TETLEY
TEA
BAGS

386
144 pack

VELVET DELUXE

ICE
CREAM



248
2 litre
paper ctn.

AUSTRAL
CANNED
FRUIT

14 oz. tin

- Peaches
- Pears
- Fruit Cocktail



98¢

PRINGLES
Potato
Chips

Your
Choice
pkg. **228**

DANISH LEGEND

Butter
Cookies

248
500 g
tin

OLD DUTCH
Potato
Chips

Twin
pack
Box **128**
All varieties

BLACK DIAMOND
CHEESE



McCORMICK'S
SNACK
BREAD

200 g **186**
pkg.

LIGHT or DARK
RY-VITA

200 g **128**
pkg.

McLAREN'S
PICKLES

- Stuffed Manzanilla Olives
- Sweet Onions
- Gherkins
- Maraschino Cherries

198
375 ml Kent jar

LINDSAY MEDIUM
PITTED
OLIVES

398 ml tin **148**

McLAREN'S MANZANILLA
STUFFED
OLIVES

625 ml jar **224**

BICKS
PICKLES

Sweet
Mixed or
Baby Dills **218**
1 litre jar

CARNATION
SMOKED
MUSSELS

104 g tin



78¢

SEA HAUL
CRAB
MEAT

113 g tin **198**

THUNDERBIRD
TINY
SHRIMP

113 g tin **158**

CASA FIESTA
REFRIED
BEANS

398 ml tin **148**

CARNATION
SMOKED
OYSTERS

104 g tin



116

KING OSCAR
BRISLING
SARDINES

99 g tin **148**

BRUNSWICK
KIPPERED
SNACKS

100 g tin **78¢**

GLOBE
CORNED
BEEF

340 g tin **178**

BLACK MAGIC
CHOCOLATES

454 g
box **6.98**



PLANTERS
Blanched
Peanuts

750 g
bag **348**

OVATION
Mints

125 g pkg. **358**

BASSETT'S
Licorice
Allsorts

350 g
pkg. **238**

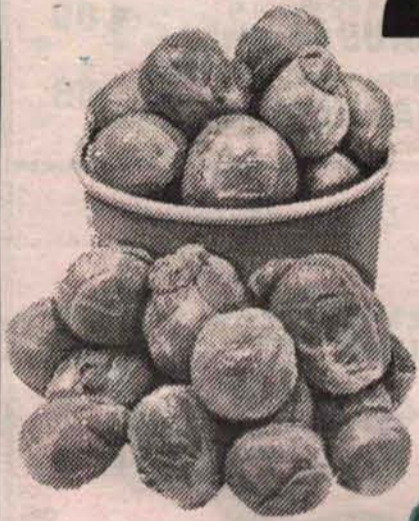
AFT
Mi
240 g

PLANT
Roas
Pea
DIANEY
Tortil
Chips
McVITIE
Diges
Biscu

FRESH!

Brussels Sprouts

25¢ lb.



FROZEN

MINUTE MAID FROZEN ORANGE JUICE

• Regular
• Pulp Free
• More Pulp
355 ml tin **1 16**



DELNOR FROZEN VEGETABLES

• Peas
• Corn
• Mixed Veg
1 kg bag **2 78**

MINUTE MAID FROZEN FRUIT PUNCH

• Grape
• Orange
• Fruit
• Apple
• Sugar Free
355 ml tin **99¢**

SNOWCREST FROZEN CRANBERRIES

Whole
340 g pkg. **1 28**

SNOWCREST FROZEN PETITE PEAS

1 kg bag **2 28**

PEPPERIDGE FARMS CHIFFON CAKE

• Strawberry
• Orange
• Chocolate
• Pineapple
255 g **1 76**

DAIRY

ISLAND FARMS TRADITIONAL EGG NOG

2 litre ctn.
Limit 2 per family order
Over limit **2.34**

1 98

MEDDO BELLE CHEDDAR CHEESE

• Medium
• Mature

20% OFF AT CHECKOUT

ISLAND FARMS SOUR CREAM

500 g tub
Reg. or Trimm **1 48**

NALLEY'S CHIP DIPS

225 g tub
Yr. Choice **1 19**

McLAREN'S IMPERIAL CHEESE

250 g tub **2 98**

ISLAND FARMS TRADITIONAL EGG NOG

1 litre ctn. **1.18**

ISLAND FARMS FRESH WHIPPING CREAM
500 ml ctn. **1 48**

- Extra Old
- Extra Old White
- Mozzarella
- Partly Skim Mozzarella
- Havarti

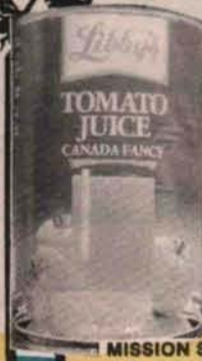
20% OFF AT CHECKOUT

AGNE... **68**
STONED WHEAT THINS 600 g pkg. **2 68**
LIFESTREAM KETTLE CHIPS Your Choice. Pkg. **1 98**



MAXWELL HOUSE INSTANT COFFEE

4 98 200 g jar



LIBBY'S TOMATO JUICE

1 28 48 oz. tin

CANADA FANCY

MISSION SAN JUAN 100% NATURAL JUICES 1 litre btl. **1 98**

WELCH'S GRAPE JUICE White or Concord 1 litre btl. **2 28**

CHRISTIE'S SNACK CRACKERS

- French Onion
- Hot & Spicy Cheddars
- Sour Cream & Chives
- Spicy BBQ Thins
- Swiss Cheese
- Vegetable Thins
- Wheat Thins
- Garlic Crisps
- Bacon & Cheddar
- Triscuits (reg. or less salt)
- Cheese Ritz
- Bacon Dippers
- Better Cheddars

YOUR CHOICE 250 g pkg.

20% OFF

REYNOLDS FOIL WRAP 12" x 25'6" roll **1 48**

CANADA DRY GINGER ALE, TONIC WATER, CLUB SODA 750 ml plus deposit **68¢**

ELEGANTE Chocolates 600 g box

5 98

COKE CLASSIC

Or Diet Coke or Sprite 750 ml btl.

58¢

plus deposit



ROYALE BATHROOM TISSUE

8-roll pack

2 98



ROSE BRAND PICKLES

All varieties 1 litre jar

1 78



PLANTERS Cashews 325 g tin **7 98**

TUC Crackers 250 g pkg. **1 78**

McVITIE'S Hob Nobs 300 g pkg. **1 98**

FORTUNE PINEAPPLE In its own juice 14 oz. tin **68¢**

TANG SALAD DRESSING 1 litre **1 98**

DIAMOND MANDARINS 284 ml tin **68¢**

ROYALE PAPER TOWELS 2-roll pack **98¢**

FLORELLE FACIAL TISSUE 200's **98¢**

V.I.P. SOAP GRANULES 2.1 kg **3 68**

KAL KAN CAT FOOD 383 g tin **86¢**

PAL DOG FOOD 680 g tin **1 48**

GRANNY'S BIODEGRADABLE LIQUID DETERGENT 1 litre btl. **1 68**



TURKEYS

WHOLE
DOUBLE SMOKED
HAM

1 49 lb.

UTILITY
White Stocks
Last

1 28 lb.

Limit 1
per
customer

GRADE 'A'
White Stocks Last

Limit 1
per
customer **1.48** lb.

DRY BULK
Poultry Dressing **1 99** lb.

FRESH PORK
SAUSAGE MEAT **1 89** lb.

FRESH BEEF
SAUSAGE MEAT **1 69** lb.

PORK
Cocktail Sausage **2 39** lb.

BEEF
CHUCK ROAST
1.39 lb.

MAYFAIR
DINNER
HAMS
2 99 lb.

BONELESS, WASTE-FREE
SIRLOIN STEAK
2 89 lb.

SCOTCH FILLETS **3.99** lb.

MAYFAIR
SLICED BACON **1.99** lb.

ECONO CUT
FRESH FRYERS **1.29** lb.

FROZEN

SAUSAGE ROLLS 500 g pkg. **3.59**
HORS D'OEUVRES 325 g **3.59**
HIGH LINER LOBSTER 200 g **6.99**
HIGH LINER
COD FISH FRIES 350 g **5.99**
SCALLOPS 7 oz. **7.59**
BULK SHRIMP **6.59** lb.

PARTY NEEDS

BULK GRIMMS
PEPPERONI **3 59** lb.
BULK FLEETWOOD
COIL GARLIC **1 79** lb.
PICKLED
HERRING 12 oz. **2 79**
IMITATION
CRAB **3 99** lb.

PORK SPECIALS

SIRLOIN END CUT
PORK CHOPS **1 99** lb.
COUNTRY STYLE
PORK RIBS **1 99** lb.
CENTRE CUT
TENDERLOIN CHOPS **2 89** lb.
BONELESS CHOPS **4 39** lb.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

IT'S TURKEY TIME

COOKED, SMOKED or
BLACK FOREST
TURKEY BREAST **1.98** 100 g
CRYOVAC

THIN SHAVED
HAM STYLE TURKEY **79¢** 100 g

COARSE, HERB or FINE
LIVERWURST
99¢ 100 g



QUICK & EASY!

FRESH
4-BEAN SALAD **62¢** 100 g

FRESH HOMEMADE
PIZZA **5 99** ea.
Deluxe or Ham & Pineapple 12"

We have a wide variety of party trays
just a phone call away - 537-4343

We will BBQ your
CHRISTMAS TURKEY—
just call ahead -
537-4343



GISS honour roll announced

GULF ISLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL (GISS) HONOUR ROLL NOVEMBER 1989

GRADE 8

Gitte Baker
Sarah Bevan
Shannon Bidwell
Marc Borbas
David Carey
Sarah Deas
Natasha Eyles
Malcolm Fiander
Kathy Hack
Jenny Hill
Lianna Hingston
Matthew Larmour
Rita Phillips
Hamsa Polden
Jaya Polden
Sylvia Murray
Paula Proctor
Gretchen Prystawik
Andrea Rondeau
Andrea Satzinger
Jamie Sharp
Tia Stevenson
Jenni Thomas
Karina Wickland

GRADE 11

George Bevan
Amrit Crowther
Ryan Davies
Kate Gilbert
Nick Hock

Catheline Jeffery
Willie McGuire
Elizabeth McClean
Virginia Montrichard
Sanatana Patella
Shandra Platts
Florian Satzinger
Nadine Shelly
Justin Tompson
Kirsty Walde

GRADE 9

Cathy Akerman
Chris Barclay
Michael Becklake
Lisa Caldwell
Calico Dobson
Gwynnie Gardam
Julie Gilbert
Keith Hack
Ariana Jacob
Jenny Lomas
Jeffrey Neilson
Alwyn O'Brien
Magnolia Pauker
Melanie Stafford

GRADE 10

David Bacic
Tracy Cunningham
Jennifer Dunn
Dana Hohmann
James Laughlin
Irene Lam
Jessie Maron
David Marshall

Candice Miller
Derek Montrichard
Kristine Pickell
Stacy Proctor
Isabel Prystawik
Lise Rondeau
Caroline Rowley
Tanya Slingsby
Jordy Soames
Neil Somerset
Shawn Spain
Miranda Swift
Sheila Thomson
Vania Williams
Lianne Weisner

GRADE 12

Kim Anderson
Valerie Biju
Julie Cunningham
Trinity Donnelly
Genni Guy
Suzanne Jacquest
Lisa Koski
Bridgette Lord
Tara Martin
Heather Thomson
Penny Vanderwekken
Toby Watson

PRINCIPAL'S HONOUR ROLL

Yvonne Lam, Grade 8
Irene Lam, Grade 10
Stacy Proctor, Grade 10.



We're open for breakfast from 7:30 am Mon.-Fri. 8 am Sat. & Sun.

The Chart Room

Dinner Hours 5:30-10 pm

Lunch Special — Dec. 23-29
EGGS OSCAR 5²⁵
Two poached eggs atop a bed of assorted seafood on 2 English muffins. Served with hollandaise sauce & your choice of Caesar salad or hash browns

Dinner Special — Dec. 23-29
CHICKEN NEPTUNE 12⁹⁵
A fresh plump breast of chicken charbroiled to perfection, topped with snow crab & bernaise sauce. Served with rice & fresh vegetable

CLOSED 8:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE — CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY. OPEN BOXING DAY 8:00 AM.

RESERVE NOW FOR OUR
BOXING DAY BRUNCH BUFFET 7⁹⁵
Eggs Benedict, Seafood Crepes, Spinach Crepes, Assorted Salads & Platters. 11 am-2 pm

SUPPER FOR SENIORS
Monday to Saturday, 5:30-7 pm; Sunday 5:30-9 pm

Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding	7.25
Petite Ribeye Steak	7.25
Grilled Chicken Breast	6.50
Sole Florentine	7.25
Salmon Hollandaise	6.95



HAPPY NEW YEAR!
in the Dining Room—
LASER KARAOKE PARTY
Reserve ahead. \$55/couple—featuring our NEW YEAR'S BUFFET at 7:30 pm.

In the Pub New Year's Eve—
THE NEW CLUB MONGO
6 pc. band—\$20/person—buffet 9:30 pm—party favours

In the Lounge Fri. & Sat., Dec. 22 & 23
BRUCE GARRISH

In the Pub Fri. & Sat., Dec. 22 & 23
KATZ EN JAMMERS

Harbour House Hotel
537-5571



CELEBRATE WITH US THIS Holiday

Join us for our special Boxing Day Buffets

BUBBLY BRUNCH BUFFET 11 am-2:30 pm 8.95 per person	DINNER BUFFET 5:30-8:00 pm 14.95 per person
---	--

Reserve now for New Year's Eve Dine & Dance
\$45.00 per couple — featuring the ultimate buffet dinner of Fresh Roast Salt Spring Lamb, Local Smoked Salmon, Baron of Beef
DANCE TO THE OLDIES & GOODIES OF PAST & PRESENT
We will be closed from 3 pm Dec. 24 to 11 am Dec. 26.

Merry Christmas to you all from the Management & Staff at

On the Water-front

Waterside Bistro

Gasoline Alley, Ganges

LICENSED
Reservations recommended: 537-4611
Open 7 days a week—Lunch 11:30-2:30
Dinner Sunday-Thursday 5-8
Friday-Saturday 5-9

CHRISTMAS STORIES

Grade 1

First: Rick Laing (\$20)
Second: Arianne Haas (\$15)

Untitled

By RICK LAING, age 6

When Mama and I went in the snow by our house, we had lots of fun sliding down the hill on our hot seats. We became very wet, changed our clothes, made the beds and had lots of Christmas cake.

Grade 2

First: Lauri Legg (\$25)
Second: Ryan Faire (\$15)

Christmas Alphabet

By LAURIE LEGG, age 8

C is for Candles, Church and Carols.

H is for Holly, Happy and Ho, Ho, Ho!

R is for Rudolph with a red nose. I is for ice that melts in the sun.

S is for Santa in the soft slushy snow.

T is for Tree Tinsel that shines in the light.

M is for Mrs. Santa, Mary and Mother.

A is for Angels all over the world.

S is for Slippery Snow that makes smiling Snowmen.

Grade 3

First: Emile Contant (\$30)
Second: Dylan Pinchin (\$15)

Untitled

By EMILE CONTANT, grade two

There was a man; his name was Kun. Kun was a brave Indian. He lived by a river where he went fishing every day. One day at the end of a long dry summer all the fish were dead because the river dried up. He felt worried about the people of his village.

There was enough food in the village for a while. But after a few weeks the river was still dry and food was scarce. It was near

Christmas and the people were sad.

Finally the rain came but the fish did not show up. The chief asked Kun to go to the sea and find out what was stopping the fish from coming up river. Kun had to walk for three days and had only enough food to last that long. On his first night an old man came from the woods to sit by his fire with him. The man was hungry and cold, so Kun gave him some food and a blanket. In the morning the old man was gone.

Kun kept walking, the second night he met a magic owl that needed food and Kun gave him some. On his third day he had no food left. He finally arrived at the sea and saw that an immense rock slide was stopping the salmon from swimming up river.

Kun was hungry, cold and sad. He sat by the river and started to cry.

Suddenly the old man from the first night was standing beside him with the magic owl on his shoulder and with them was a young blond boy. The boy said:

"You fed the old man when he was hungry and you fed the magic owl when he was hungry, now I will feed your people."

A channel appeared in between the rocks and Kun saw the salmon swimming up river. The old man, the owl and the boy went away and Kun went back to his village. They all had a happy Christmas and Kun was always remembered in the spirit of giving.

Grade 4

First: Melissa Hingston (\$35)
Second: Sacha Medine (\$15)

Christmas Story

By MELISSA HINGSTON

Once upon a time in the cold winter days there lived Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. They were getting ready for Christmas. There were about 72 elves that were making a lot of toys. Oops, one elf got a toy cat and put the head on the tail and the tail on the head.

"Aaaa, we forgot that Christmas is tomorrow and we are nowhere near ready," said Santa Claus walking in the door. They had to do 203 more toys. They were all working very hard and so was Mrs. Claus.

She was trying to make Santa's suit and Santa Claus was looking the sled over, making sure that he had all of the toys.

It started to snow. Santa went inside to get his costume and he put it on so he would be ready to take off. Santa Claus sang:

*We are off O-yes
We are off O-yes
We are off O-yes
Like once again
O-yes I'm off yes I am....*

And he sang it again and again. Off he went on his BIG trip singing all the way. First of all he went to North America. There at every house he went to, he found cookies and milk on the tables. Then he went to South America and he found coffee and oranges left out for him. After he had gone to both of the Americas he went to Europe.

In Europe he found chocolate and cheese with herbal tea to wash it down. Next Santa went to Asia. In Asia Santa found sushi, wonton soup and some vodka.

Santa, drunk now, went to Africa, (or he thought he did but really he was in Australia). There he found some koala springs and mangos. Santa then went to New Zealand. There Santa found kiwi juice and pavlov.

"Gosh, dis tastes exactly like de New Zealandish food. They must import lots of yummy food here in Afwica," Santa said, drunk. "I'll go to Austwalia now." (Little did he know that he was now going to Africa.)

In Africa Santa found a bowl of nuts and some ocean water, (ocean

water was the only kind of water they had there on the coast.)

Then Santa went to Antarctica and saw penguins, polar bears and seals. As a treat there Santa found fish and a large chunk of ice. Then Santa went home and gave Mrs. Claus his leftovers.

"I had lots of fun tonight but I think I'd better go to bed now, I have a splitting headache!"

Second place stories found on Pages B17, B18 and B19.



A Very Merry Christmas

from all of us at

Sweet Arts Patisserie-Cafe

We will be closing Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm and will be closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day so that our staff can enjoy the holidays with their families. We will be open for breakfast again Dec. 27, 8:00 am.

NOW SHOWING:
'ON THE PATH'
with Rita Cumming—a journey through Nepal. A collection of fine photography.



PUB OPEN SUNDAYS!
BIG SCREEN T.V.!

FULFORD INN

SPECIAL ROOM RATES:
\$35 plus tax
Phone 653-4432

THE SUPPER PUB

Extra special DINNER specials every weekend!

TONIGHT—WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20
CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG
Two shows with VALDY! 6:30 & 10:00 pm

JOIN US IN THE PUB!
Try one of our INN-credible Appetizers!
Serving great meals daily from 11:30 am-9:30 pm
Reasonable prices too!


We will close at 6 pm Christmas Eve and will be closed Christmas Day.

BOXING DAY, DEC. 26:
Matinee & Evening Entertainment with
THE FENDER BENDERS

RESERVE NOW FOR

New Year's Eve Dinner
in the Blue Heron Dining Room
REGULAR MENU & DANCING IN THE PUB
Dining Room Menu
New Year's Eve & New Year's Day evening
Your choice of PRIME RIB, STEAK & PRAWNS
PERNOD, CHICKEN BREAST with Asparagus Mousse
or STUFFED RAINBOW TROUT.





Happy Birthday Jesus!

The Management & Staff wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

WINTER HOURS:
10 am-8 pm daily
Fri. & Sat. till 9 pm

CLOSED:
Dec. 24, 25 & 26

TAKE-OUT & DELIVERY AVAILABLE
(Delivery starts at 5 pm)
537-2777 or 537-5777



Driftwood photo by Derrick Lundy

Members of the Salt Spring Pentecostal Assembly staged *The First Christmas* at Mahon Hall last Saturday. The day's activities began with a parade through town at 12:30.

Merry Christmas
EVERYONE
 & Best Wishes for 1990
 Don, Anne & Jodie Harrison

CHRISTMAS STORIES

Grade 5

First: Monica Byron/Dawn Akerman (\$40)
 Second: Nathan Sevoid (\$20)

Christmas's Snow

By MONICA BYRON and DAWN AKERMAN

Christmas morning has come. A blanket of snow has covered the land. The children come out all bundled up in their suits. Little flakes of snow fall lightly to the ground. Little children scampered all around calling and screaming. When the night came the families looked around and sang the Christmas carols.

When the children were asleep, a fellow brings the gifts all nicely wrapped in the wrappings and places them under the tree. When the children woke, they ran down the stairs to the tree and poked and shook the presents as much as they could.

Upstairs the parents woke up

with a shock of children on their bed. During breakfast the children were squirming in their seats. After breakfast all the children leaped out of the seats and dashed for the tree.

As everyone got their own presents, the children ripped the wrapping off the gifts and stashed it in the garbage. Jumping off the couch, the youngest child plays with the left over decorations.

As dusk overcame the day, the snow flakes were still falling. Children came in tired from playing so long out side. Cold too, they sat by the fire drinking their cocoa. After dinner, the children played with their new toys. Seeing the children yawning, the parents said, "it's time to go and change for bed." They all ran downstairs with their teddy bears and new toys. After changing, they jumped into bed. Their parents came up to tuck them in and turn out the lights.

The next morning the children woke up and ran to the window to see if the snow had gone. The snow had stopped that night but the land was still covered in white. The snowmen were starting to melt. One of the children saw a snowflake fall, then more and more, then a big gush of snow fell

from the sky. The pile of the snowmen grew bigger from the falling snow. After breakfast the children went out to start another day of the snowy season.

START A RELATIONSHIP TODAY



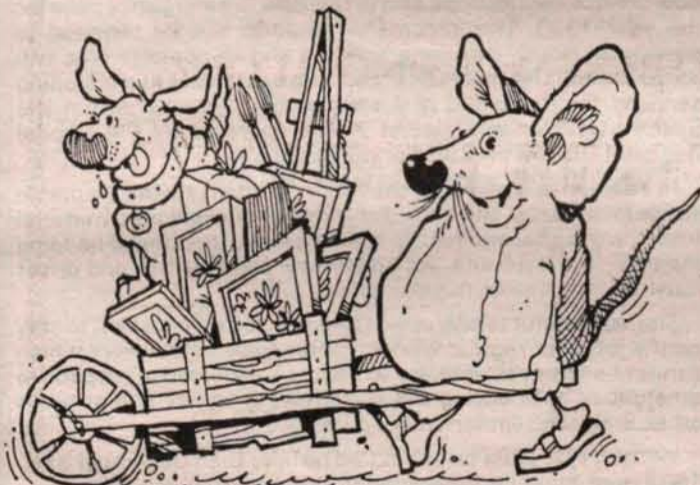
WITH
DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS
537-9933



FELIZ NAVIDAD

from everyone at

LU LU'S



Drawn by Douglas W. Penhale

Season's Greetings

See you next summer at Wildwood Crescent.
P. F. WRIGHT

SEASON'S GREETINGS
 from **Salt Spring Trail Rides**

Winter rates in effect until April, 1990. Call 537-5761 to book rides.

VESUVIUS INN

THURSDAY, DEC. 21 — 8 PM

CAROLS with TUNED AIR

FRI. & SAT., DEC. 22 & 23 — 8:30 PM

CLUB MONGO'S CHRISTMAS SHOW

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

with
Silent Treatment

and Linda's famous
BUFFET

Reserve now!

Book now for the **SUPERBOWL** in RENO — call John.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Sun., Dec. 24 ... 11:30-5:00*
 Mon., Dec. 25 CLOSED
 Tues., Dec. 26 . 12:00-12:00*
 Sun., Dec. 31 ... 12:00-5:00*

*Sandwiches only from the kitchen

POLAR BEAR SWIM

Monday, Jan. 1

537-2312



CHRISTMAS STORIES

Grade 6

First: Lorna Walde (\$45)
 Second: Ani Aloian (\$20)
 H.M.: Peter Bagi (\$10)

The Ups and Down of Christmas

By LORNA WALDE

Children singing laughing and playing,

Sharing the spirit to brighten one's day,

To help the others who haven't so much,

It's Christmas and folk on the street aren't so gay.

Children come by to sing and give love

To those less fortunate than you and I,

Christmas dinner, it's time to eat,

I look out my window onto the street

And see the people who sit there and weep,

I sit at the table and think to myself,

I leave my seat and run out the door,

And give it all up to those that need more.

Grades 7/8

First: Natasha Eyles (\$45)
 Second: Ananda Goodwill (\$20)
 H.M.: Anna Lam (\$10)

The Christmas Mouse

By NATASHA EYLES, Grade 8

T'was the night before Christmas and all through the house,

not a creature was stirring, except for a mouse.

All the children were sleeping, their parents in bed.

But that naughty mouse wanted

Busy Christmas season is not a good time to bring home pet

The B.C. Veterinary Medical Association has issued two timely warnings concerning pets and the holiday season.

While pets can make wonderful gifts, the association notes, they need time to adjust to a new home in a quiet environment. They need much care and attention and the holiday season is generally too busy for people to offer this care.

The association suggests giving the recipient a picture of the pet or a gift certificate to purchase one him or herself.

The association also warns the Christmas season may be hazardous to a pet's health.

The group suggests pet owners take care to keep plastic and foil tree trimmings away from cats; route electric extension cords carefully so pets won't chew them; keep decorative glass balls and ribbons away from pets.

Plants such as the mistletoe's white berries, the yew plant in wreaths, the Jerusalem Cherry's small fruit, and holly berries and leaves are toxic to animals and small children. One should keep and eye out for signs of ingestion — vomiting, abdominal pain, shortness of breath, dizziness, and coma — and get veterinary help immediately.

The association further warns against the dangers of feeding pets table scraps, noting the food can at the least cause obesity, may cause diarrhoea or even serious harm from splintered poultry bones.

Chocolate includes an ingredient that is toxic to small dogs and cats and should not be given to pets.



Nativity scene is part of *The First Christmas*, staged last Saturday by the Salt Spring Pentecostal Assembly.

to try his new sled.

Up to the top of the bright tree he flew, his wee scarf flailing and goggles askew.

Reaching the top he strapped himself in, and with one solid push he was off with a spin.

Jumping and bumping and laughing, "tee hee," he made his way down the big Christmas tree.

At last at the bottom he slid to the floor, and smashed with a crash into the hard wooden door.

"Owwwww!" yelled the mouse as he rubbed his sore head, "Maybe I should have just stayed in my bed."

But that wasn't enough to get this mouse down, he thought as he went to get out his paint gown.

Then up the tree he ran once again, paint brush in hand and acting insane.

The mouse settled down in front of a bauble, and was just beginning to paint when he started to wobble.

Losing his balance he started to fall and suddenly wished the tree wasn't so tall.

As he dropped to the floor, he squealed "Owwwww" once more.

But the mouse wasn't done, he could still have some fun.

For the really great thing about this Christmas tree, was that every branch held a yummy goody.

Popcorn on this one, candy on that, all these good things from which he could get fat.

Slowly the mouse worked his way up the tree, eating while singing a note out of key.

The little mouse ate 'til he got to the top, then feeling quite full he thought he would stop.

When the mouse got to the point that he had to crawl, he saw the most precious delicacy of all.

Rum cherry chocolates, ten in a row, each tied up neatly with a little red bow.

Running right over he forgot his sick tummy, and tore off the paper while yelling "Oh yummy!"

Slowly the little mouse worked his way down the row, until there was only one more chocolate to go.

When he finished them all he was feeling quite drunk, and he started to make his way down the tree's trunk.

The mouse was so dizzy he just rolled down the tree, closing his eyes all the way he squealed "Eeeeeeee!"

Then his body so heavy he felt just like lead, the sick little mouse crawled over to bed.

T'was the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.

Noel

Good health, good friends... all the best to you and the ones you love.

JULIETTE'S HAIR STUDIO

Juliette & Rick
Ryan & Niko

OUR GINGERBREAD MEN SAY
"Merry Christmas!"
 And so do we! Our thanks and best wishes to everyone.
 FROM THE STAFF AT
EMBE BAKERY
 We will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

7,200 caring dog owners purchased 1989 CRD Dog Licenses!

Animal Control Officers thank you for your support.

CRD Capital Regional District Animal Control

Headquarters: 2774 Millstream Road 478-0624
 Galiano Island: 539-5255 Pender Island: 629-6346
 Mayne Island: 539-2524 Salt Spring Island: 537-9414

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT CALL FOR QUOTATION FOR EQUIPMENT RENTAL RATES

Quotations are invited for the supply of equipment and services on an hourly basis to carry out repairs and construct new service connections and to respond to emergency calls for the year 1990. The successful tenderer will be required to provide an hourly rate for a backhoe and an operator who will assist the utilities foreman in carrying out repairs and installing services for the water and wastewater systems within the Specified Water and Sewer Areas operated by the Capital Regional District on Salt Spring Island.

In addition to a backhoe, the tenderer must provide a suitable single axle dump truck for the removal of excavated material from the job site, and for the collection and trucking of bedding material to the job site. An hourly rate for the truck and driver must be included in the quotation.

The successful tenderer will be expected on occasion to stay on the job after regular working hours to complete work which cannot be left overnight. He will also be expected to respond to emergency calls during the normal working day and at times other than the regular working day.

Written bids must be submitted no later than December 31st, 1989, and must be forwarded to the attention of:

Superintendent, Water & Wastewater Operations
 Capital Regional District
 Operations Division, Engineering
 524 Yates Street
 P.O. Box 1000
 Victoria, B.C.
 V8W 2S6

The lowest or any bid may not necessarily be accepted.

CHRISTMAS STORIES

Winning story: It's the Little Things that Count

Grades 9 to 12

First: Kathleen Boylan (\$50)
 Second: Michael Becklake (\$25)
 H.M.: Heron Pedrick (\$10)

By **KATHLEEN BOYLAN**,
 Grade 9

Ralph and Elizabeth were soul companions to each other. Without others to entertain them, they became very close. Ralph's dumb jokes amused Elizabeth and her warmth and supportiveness comforted him. They had spent all their lives together and knew of no one else as special as each other. Ralph was naive and many things confused him. Elizabeth understood this and helped him along as best she could. He also helped her to enjoy life and to see all the beauties of the world that surrounded her. They were a true picture of perfection and harmonious co-existence between two forever loyal and trustworthy friends.

One might think that all of this

happiness could become redundant and even boring. This is a completely reasonable thought, but for two little pine needles being happy is all there is to do. An argument can be a good tension breaker, but with no possible escape from each other, there's no point in disagreements.

They lived on the branch closest to the ground, just before the bare spot next to the trunk of the tree. This spot was comfortable and well protected, until the day that their home began to shake and violently rock back and forth. Their pine tree was being chopped down.

The tree was dragged into an over-heated room and propped up with a small dish of water underneath the base of the trunk. The two helpless pine needles leaned close together and a mutual feeling of great loss and despair overwhelmed them. They knew that they would never be able to return to the peace and quiet and cool air of the forest. For hours that seemed like days, large whining and giggling noise-

makers hung big red spheres, sparkly metallic bits of string and other shiny objects on the branches around Ralph and Elizabeth. When this was finished, bigger and slightly quieter creatures placed more shiny objects below them. This made the area seem more confined, but they knew that there was no escape.

The heat and stress of the situation began to turn Ralph a shade of light brown. Elizabeth saw this and was horrified because premature browning is a sure sign that death is near for the pine needle with this terrible affliction.

Elizabeth didn't tell Ralph of her suspicions because she felt that added worry would only increase the speed of which the illness would take effect, so she remained quiet about the subject.

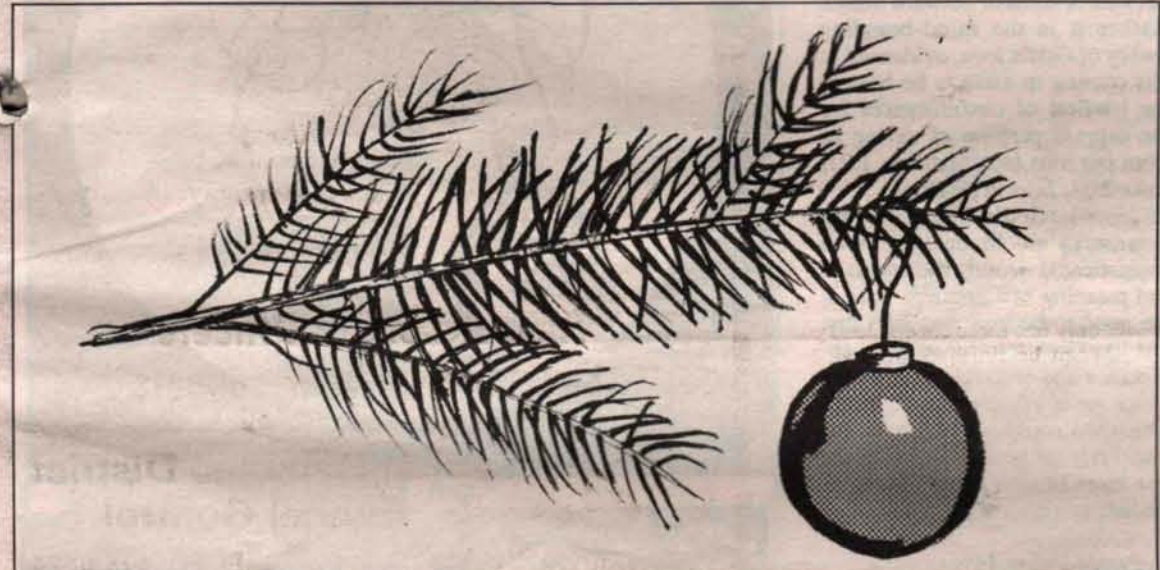
Ralph was beginning to feel weak, but Elizabeth assured him that it was nothing to be concerned about. These words couldn't postpone the inevitable, but made

him feel more secure. Elizabeth knew that her love could not stop the death, so she made plans to die with Ralph if he couldn't live forever with her.

It was the day, the day she felt that it would happen. Early that morning she touched him softly, whispered a sweet, "I love you," and leaned over to position herself so that when Ralph's dried corpse fell from the sapless branch she would be torn from the branch.

They tumbled side by side onto a bed of red and green crinkly paper.

Later, one of the children who helped to decorate the Christmas tree found a reddish brown and a green pine needle on the ribbon of her most desired Christmas present. Before she opened it, she taped the two pine needles onto a page of her diary and wrote this caption, "A memory of X-mas, 1989. It's the little things that count."



RECYCLE THIS PAPER!

Our Best Holiday Wishes

Keeping things in order is our business, but serving our customers is a pleasure. Warmest thanks.



**Ganges
 Auto
 Marine**



290 Park Drive

537-9221

MERRY CHRISTMAS

to all our friends
 and customers

ROGER & BETTY



VOLUME TWO



BOOKSTORE
 MOUAT'S MALL

Message to all Gulf Island customers:

We've been lucky so far this year with the weather. But storms are sure to come, and power outages are sure to follow.

Your local Hydro office in Ganges has some very good pamphlets with ideas of what to do when the lights go out.

JOHN LANGSTON
 District Manager

Repairing the system, step-by-step

In the wake of a storm, restoring electrical power is often a complicated process. The damage done by wind, ice and other bad weather usually occurs at several points in the distribution system. The idea is to get the power back on for everyone in the most efficient manner.

When a wide-spread outage occurs, the first location repair crews check is the substation. Then linemen work their way out on the main distribution line, restoring service to the main feeder lines, then lines serving groups of homes and finally individual consumers.

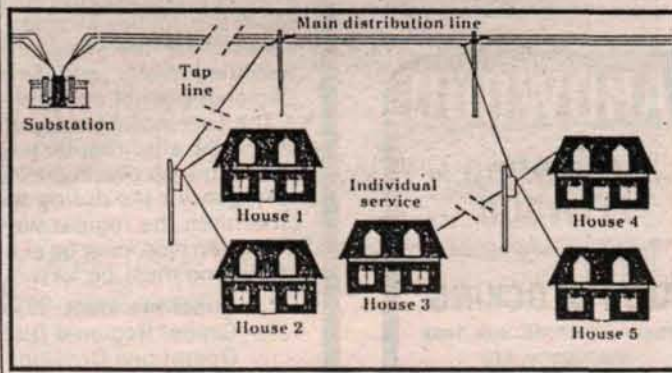
Fixing the individual home problems is useless if the main line is dead. No electricity would flow into the house. As a result,

many other consumers would be without power longer.

For example, the diagram shows that the first step would be repairing the main distribution line. Since there is no damage leading to houses 4 and 5, this would automatically restore their power. Next, the problem with the tap line leading off the main line would be cleared up. This would restore power to houses 1 and 2.

After the high voltage lines are repaired, power to individual consumers (house 3 in the diagram) would be restored. Then the entire system would again be operational.

Reprinted with permission from Rurallite magazine.



BC Hydro

Salt Spring ministers offer seasonal message

Each year, it seems I receive more "X-mas" cards and I have noticed more "X-mas" sales in the stores as well. Now, being a Man of the Cloth, I understand that the "X" in the Greek language represents Christ. I am concerned though that in our country not enough people know that "X" at Christmas means "Christ."

Most people have learned in school that "X" is the unknown quantity or factor, i.e. in math, $x=y+a$. Christmas is the celebration or mass of Christ, (the Messiah). Our society seems to be neglecting the very reason for the season. Let's look at the "X" factor in "X-mas."

Aside from job security for one such as myself, I have other concerns to share. When "X" is considered the unknown, substitutes fill the significant place of Christ, such as: "Santa-mas."

Now there is nothing wrong with this fictional character, he represents all things good on Christmas, giving of presents, the joy and the peace, and busy schedules that seem to be overwhelming. Although I have often wondered why his face is always red and his eyes are watery, I hope it is only as a result of the cold weather.

Then there is television advertising, they would like us to celebrate, "Nintendo-mas," "Barbie-mas," "golf-mas" and "computer-mas."

Many parents celebrate "Debt-mas," finding that this season is really only the kick-off to another year of the lingering power of Visa and Mastercharge.

My observation is that Christ is being removed from Christmas and I am concerned that over the last few decades, He is missing in our schools, our governments, our homes and even some of our places of worship. Without Jesus Christ as the focus of Christmas, it becomes no more meaningful than another day off with pay, and God meant it to be far more than that.

Maybe you are struggling with the Joy, Peace and Love of Christmas again this year, the reason may be that you have in the past celebrated "X-mas," the unknown focus of Christmas. This year open your heart to Jesus Christ and make Him the reason for the Season. This year celebrate "Christ-mas."

Pastor Jim Caruso,
Salt Spring Pentecostal As-
sembly.

☆ ☆ ☆

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Almost anybody you meet will tell you about the frantic activity of getting ready for Christmas. There is shopping to do, cards to send, presents to wrap, decorations to put up, a tree to find and place and trim and endless parties. And almost anybody you meet will later tell you about the frantic activity of Christmas itself. There are children at unacceptable hours of the morning; there are presents to unwrap — and return — an enormous meal to prepare and eat, sales and still more parties.

But it is not everybody who will remark on the strange, almost unearthly, interlude of tranquillity in between. Quite suddenly, on Christmas Eve, the little children have fallen asleep, no doubt with sugar plum fairies in their heads; and even the older ones have settled down. The stores are closed so last minute shopping is finished; the parcels are wrapped and either under the tree or ready to take to the gathering next day. It is as though we, and perhaps all of creation, pause to take a breath; the activity matures to rest; the anxiety softens to calm or at least to resignation; the silence is so all encompassing that we can perhaps hear the angels sing, or at least the inner voice of our own heart and memory. It is, perhaps, the magic moment when, says the legend, the animals can speak.

In a sense, this phenomenon of late Christmas Eve is a microcosm of all of history. On the one hand we see the tumultuous unfolding of the world's life with the rise and fall of empires and — in biblical terms — the mounting expectation of a Messianic age. On the other, we see a latter age, equally tempestuous, full of hope and hopes dashed, of empires — of politics, philosophy, religion, commerce — coming and going. But in between, there stands this wondrous moment when eternity breaks into time and God is born as a human child. Indeed, as the carol says, the world in solemn stillness lies, to hear the angels sing.

And if you, in your world, need to find that focus of tranquillity; or if, at the heart of the comings and goings of Christmas, you need to hear the silence and centre down on the light; then stop for a moment,

take the risk and kneel at the manger. You might even go to church — you will be very welcome.

The Right Reverend Barry Valentine
Anglican Parish of Salt Spring.

☆ ☆ ☆

"The best things in life are free," we are told. Now that may be true, but don't forget to buy my Christmas presents! After all, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without presents... and punch, and turkey, and trees, and music, and mistletoe... If all of this means that Christmas isn't free (check your wallet) then Christmas wouldn't fit into the category of being one of the best things in life.

But don't despair, because when you think of it, if you could strip away all of the external trappings and trimmings, Christmas would still be Christmas! In fact it would be *really* Christmas because the spirit and message of Christmas isn't the X-mess of outward things. Rather it is the mind-boggling reality of God's love, evidenced in His coming to earth to be born in the lowliest of circumstances for the express purpose of saving us from our sins (see Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:11; John 3:16-17).

Jesus is God's free Christmas present to us. In our high-tech sophisticated world, the message and meaning of Christmas sounds too good to be true. But isn't that just like God, to offer us love, acceptance and forgiveness... things which are of infinite value... things which we could never buy... for free. Truly the best things in life are free and Christmas *is* at the top of the list.

Pastor Brian Joyce,
Salt Spring Island Baptist Church.

☆ ☆ ☆

*Joy to the world!
The Lord has come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,*

And Heaven and nature sing...

The popular carol reminds us that Christmas is to be a time of joy. Yet, for so many the Christmas Season is anything but a time to rejoice and be glad. I would guess that there are more Scrooges trudging through our stores today muttering "Ba Hum Bug" than ever before.


Who has stolen the joy out of Christmas? We blame unemployment, rising housing costs, the Crofton Mill, crowded stores and long lineups at the Post Office. Have we missed something?

The carol reminds us of the real reason for the season. Christmas is the time of year when we reflect on

and rejoice in the birth of Jesus Christ. A child born in a stable, wrapped in white strips of cloth and laid in a manger. This child was the greatest gift ever given as God "gave his one and only son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NIV)

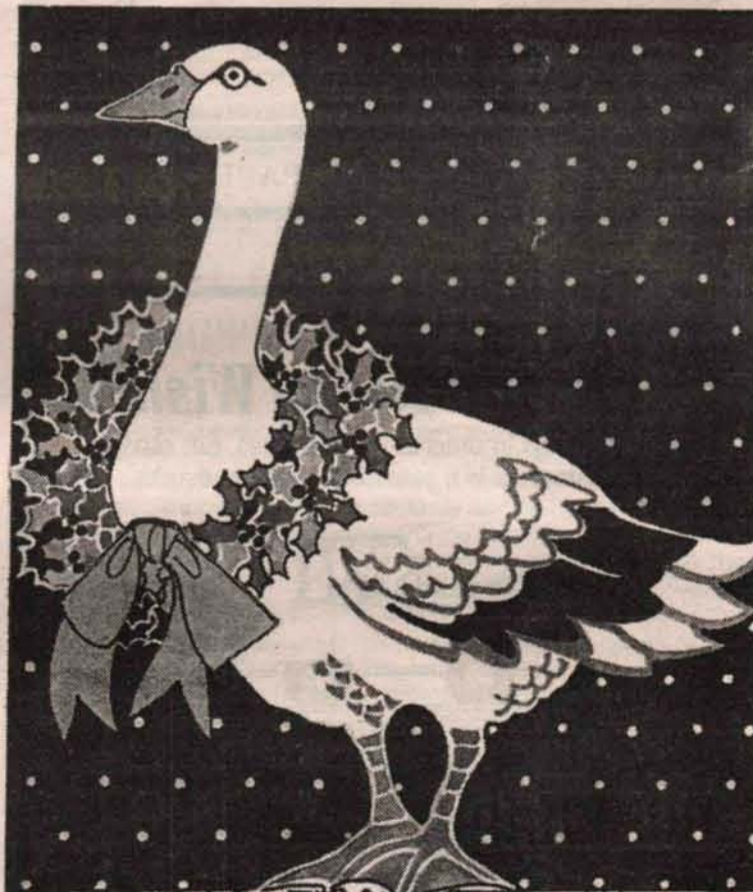
As you head to the store with your shopping list, as you stand in the lineup at the Post Office, as you hurry to prepare the Christmas pudding and the turkey dinner, take a moment to remember the child born in a stable and with "Heaven and Nature sing,".....

Rev. Chris Cormack,
Pastor, Community Gospel Chapel.



May your holiday be joyous in every way.

Orcas Gallery
Wolfgang &
Necitas Kranz
& Cherry
Nestman



Christmas is...

A time of joy and gladness. May it hold many happy moments for you.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL OF US AT
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CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT CALL FOR QUOTATION FOR EQUIPMENT RENTAL RATES

Quotations are invited for the supply of equipment and services on an hourly basis to carry out repairs and construct new service connections and to respond to emergency calls for the year 1990. The successful tenderer will be required to provide an hourly rate for a backhoe and an operator who will assist the utilities foreman in carrying out repairs and installing services for the water and wastewater systems within the Specified Water and Sewer Areas operated by the Capital Regional District on North Pender Island.

The successful tenderer will be expected on occasion to stay on the job after regular working hours to complete work which cannot be left overnight. He will also be expected to respond to emergency calls during the normal working day and at times other than the regular working day.

Written bids must be submitted no later than December 31st, 1989, and must be forwarded to the attention of:

Superintendent, Water & Wastewater Operations
Capital Regional District
Operations Division, Engineering
524 Yates Street
P.O. Box 1000
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 2S6

The lowest or any bid may not necessarily be accepted.

Solution for left-over trees

When Christmas 1989 fades to memory, a forlorn reminder remains for disposition.

The Boy Scouts of Salt Spring are offering one solution of what to do with the sad, fading tree once its duties of festivity end.

In conjunction with the local firefighters, the Boy Scouts will stage a burn-in, inviting Salt Spring residents to bring their used Christmas trees to the parking lot at McPhillips and Lower Ganges roads on Saturday, January 5.

The boys will be there from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to accept the trees for fiery, season-ending fun. Hot

chocolate and hot dogs will be offered as hedges against the cold.

Meanwhile, a Victoria group will be offering slightly different disposal methods.

Sheila Harrington, publisher of *Positive Vibrations* magazine has launched an effort to encourage people to purchase potted evergreens for Christmas use and to plant the trees when the season ends.

The group will be holding a "tree-in" at Copley Park, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on January 6.

Earlier this month, Harrington urged people to buy the potted trees

and apparently met with some success. The Saanich parks department has agreed to help plant the trees and peninsula businesses have positioned themselves behind the idea.

Copley Park is located at Vanalman and Park Ridge in Saanich. Trees for planting can also be left at the Victoria parks maintenance yard in Beacon Hill Park, the Saanich municipal yards at 1040 McKenzie or at the Capital Regional District's Beaver Lake Park. Trees can be dropped off from January 2 to 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Grade 9 students Alwyn O'Brien and Kathleen Boylan express their feelings about the Christmas season, as the GISS drama class presents *A Christmas Carol* (and a few extras).

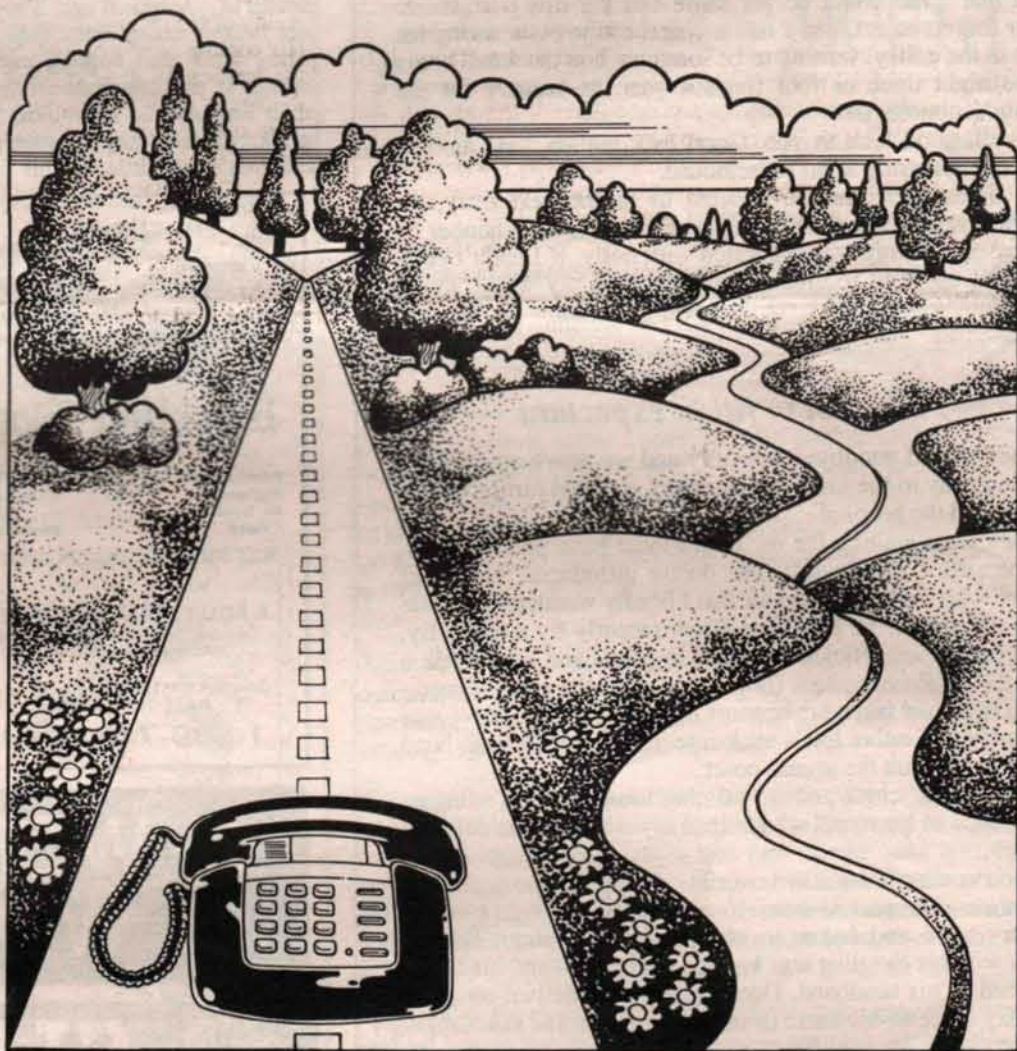
Production was staged twice last Sunday in Mahon Hall.

At side, Brian Magnus reads a poem he wrote about a horse.

The events were well attended by receptive audiences.

Driftwood photos by Derrick Lundy

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Do you have questions about programs and services offered by the Government of Canada?

Reference Canada will steer you to the right person in the right office where your inquiries will be answered.

Avoid the long and winding road - take the easy, direct route to Reference Canada.

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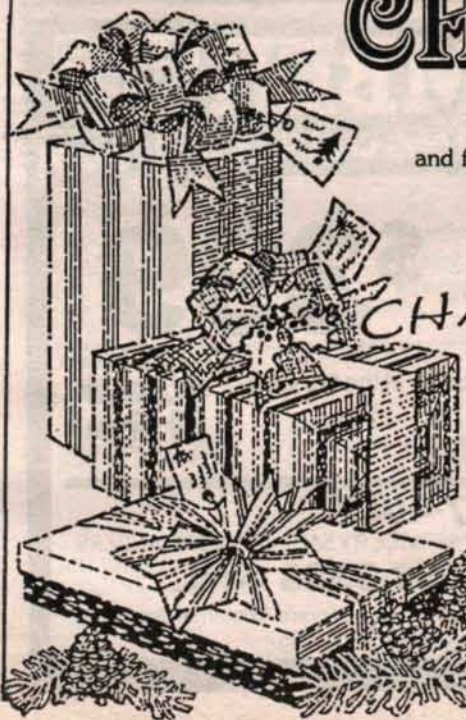
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CHRISTMAS CHEER



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CHANGING HABITS

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Dec. 24
noon-4 pm

country gourmet

by john edwards



Second of Two Parts

After casting off into Baines Sound, James, the master, plodded up the white car deck wearing a grin that would have put a Cheshire cat to shame. He carried a tray on which sat steaming mugs of coffee and, to my astonishment, a plate of digestive biscuits. The humour of the situation was lost on G. who was looking, well, strained. She waved off his hospitality. James took absolutely no notice of this and installed himself on the back seat. He gave me a broad wink and then announced he'd called out the Denman ferry for us, which, of course, I'd neglected to do.

"They all forget," he grinned. "Got other things on their minds I suppose."

I muttered thanks and then scalded my tongue on the coffee. It tasted wonderful nevertheless. A good quality Columbian, I noticed absently.

Free passage for life

He immediately launched into the inevitable account of how he once delivered a baby, himself, in nearly identical conditions. This remarkable feat had entitled the child to free passage for life between the islands. To my huge relief, his services were not required on this morning and the ferry began to swing into the slip at Pebble Beach. James retrieved the tray and the untouched biscuits. The thought flashed through my mind that these could be the same biscuits every expectant father forgets to eat, and I had a vision of the plate sitting for years in the galley, waiting to be summoned in the small hours of the night three or four times a year, as scenery for the captain's monologue.

"Well, good luck to you. Good luck ma'am." He ambled away complacently to his wheelhouse.

A similar performance awaited us at the next ferry, although this time it was tea and fig newton, and, in honour of the season, the tray was decorated with holly. If I hadn't been so keyed up from receiving bulletins from my wife, "every four minutes now!" I'd have sat down in the snow and howled with laughter.

Talk a lot to fill in expectant

They waved goodbye cheerfully and we drove up the slippery highway to the town of Courtenay and then turned east to Comox and the hospital.

They were waiting for us. James must have phoned them, too, because I sure hadn't. The doctor introduced himself as "Dave" with such a languid air that I briefly wondered, in spite of the latitude, if he had been bitten recently by a tsetse fly. Some people are efficient and glib in crises and others talk a lot to fill in the expectant (if you'll excuse the pun) silences, but this guy had taken his honours degree in Casual. Dave was extremely tall, rather like a stick-insect, and wore a head-band as if he'd just quit the squash court.

He pried the clock and the painting loose from G.'s fingers and nodded to his nurse, who helped my wife into the delivery room.

"You coming?" he asked over his shoulder as he sauntered after them. He parked himself on a chair across from the delivery table and began to chat negligently about hockey scores with his gangling legs knotted underneath and his hands entwined in his headband. Occasionally he'd deliver an order in a lazy voice to his nurse or to me, or give some encouragement to G.

Not much any of us could do

After a while I got the message. There wasn't much any of us could do since it really was up to her now and it seemed she was doing magnificently according to the comments of his nurse. Dave must have been contagious, or a closet hypnotist, because I, too, soon began to relax. The hours passed. At some point the snow stopped falling and the brilliant sunshine of a winter's morning began to stream through the windows.

It was just ten o'clock when our son had his birth day. At the last moment Dave uncoiled himself and strolled over. A minute later he put the baby in G.'s arms. John's face bore an uncanny resemblance to Winston Churchill's, but no doubt they all do at that stage.

"Enjoy him," Dave said to me.

I began to stammer out a memorized speech of thanks. A sense of occasion is important (isn't it?), and I like to observe the formalities. Dave held up a hand for me to shut up.

"Don't thank me, thank her. We didn't do anything."

Newspaper responds

Yes, Virginia, Santa Claus exists as certainly as love and generosity

Cynicism often rears its head at this festive season, speaking negatives which wound a young heart and confuse a young mind.

Bah! Humbug! Christmas is cross and commercial. Santa Claus doesn't exist.

But wait. Is there no Santa Claus?

Before the turn of the century, eight-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon posed the question to the *New York Sun*.

"Dear Editor:

"I am eight years old. Some of my friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says *If you see it in the Sun*, it's so.

"Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

"Virginia O'Hanlon"

In the edition of September 12, 1897, editorial writer Francis Pharellus Church penned the answer to the childhood quandary. Over the years, his answer has become the classic explanation of the Christmas spirit.

"Virginia:

"Your friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great

universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

"He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.

"Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus? It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in friends! You might get your Papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see

Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's not proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"You tear apart the baby's rattle to see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, not even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus? Thank God, he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, may 10 times 10 thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

DAVE ROLAND JANITORIAL

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SALT SPRING COMMUNITY SOCIETY NEWS

268 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-9971

The Community Centre will be closed from December 23 to the morning of January 8. EMERGENCY CALLS can be directed to the NEED CRISIS LINE—dial operator and ask for Zenith 2262.

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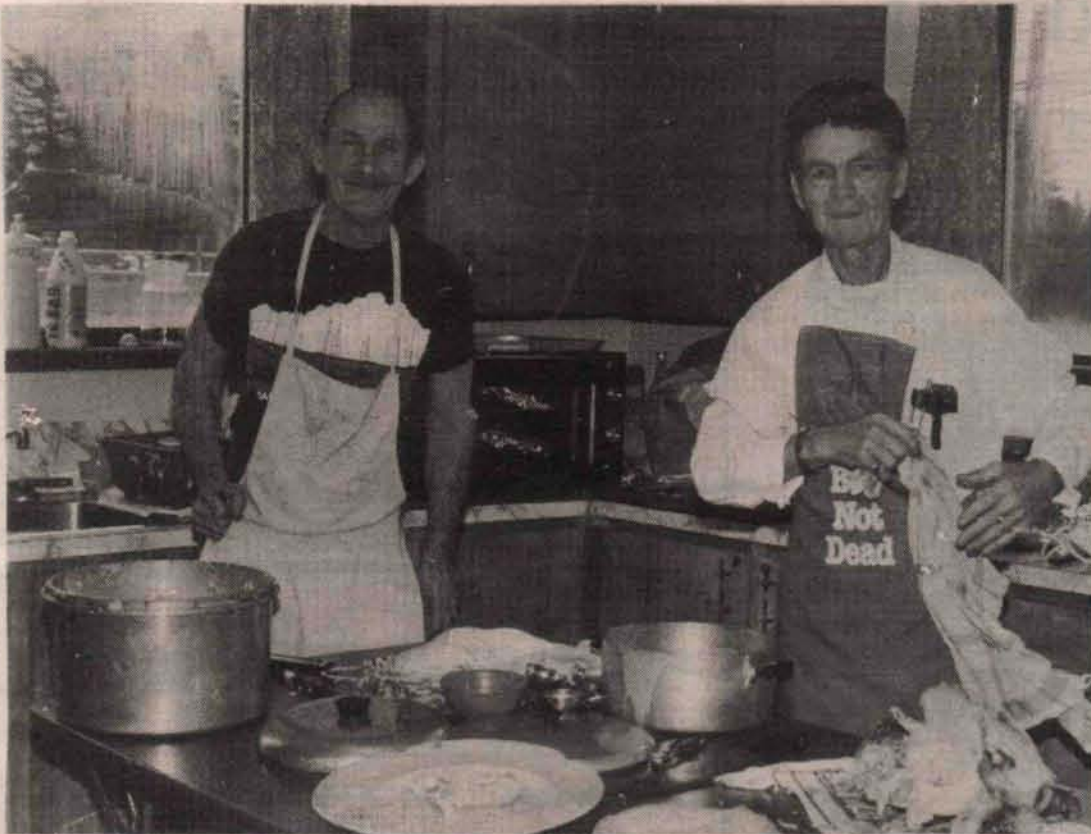
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John Henry (left) and Tom Lomas good up a fine turkey dinner -- complete with all the trimmings -- as Salt Spring OAP members gather at Central Hall to enjoy the Christmas dinner. The group gathered for the mid-day meal last Wednesday.

Driftwood photo by Susan Dicker

Good cheer and hard work

When Santa arrived on Salt Spring from Bellingham recently, the event unfolded smoothly but was the result of many long hours of preparation.

Dee Kinney, of the SS Chamber of Commerce was selected to co-ordinate the event this year. She spent upwards of 40 hours planning, talking, cajoling, and undertaking plain hard work to get things rolling.

Bruce Patterson, of the Fulford detachment of the SS Firemen's Association, spent as much time trying, successfully, for a smooth visit.

The flotilla of boats which went out to greet Santa, was one of the more visible aspects of the visit. Kurt Hengsler, Dick Larson and Gary Greico led the local navy which grew to 12 vessels escorting the *Discovery* up the harbour.

Meanwhile, on the wharf, Diane and Bob Hele, of Applecoft Bed and Breakfast supplied the cider which was heated and served to the public by Lias Craig, of Rainbow Towing.

The island fire-fighters stood by with Engine No. One to chauffeur Santa to various locations. The jolly clowns, Santa's helpers from the Bellingham JayCees rode in Judy Kelly's familiar island bus. Patterson's Store of Fulford got into the act by donating the fuel for the vehicles.

The Bellingham bunch had spent many hours collecting donations to buy gifts for island children, many more hours wrap-

ping those gifts and bagging candy for treats.

Island organizations helped by replacing the candy which was used. The Salt Spring Lions Club, among others, donated bucks to help defray expenses.

And in the background, Bill and Beth McDonald, Mae and Vern Densmore, Jim and Dorcas Morrison helped by Sheila and Webster MacDonald bagged candy, fruit and nuts supplied by Ganges Village Market.

To help with the expenses, Branch 92, Royal Canadian Legion, Golden Hands Arts and Crafts and Pemberton Holmes Realty gave money. Pharmasave donated the wrapping paper and Siona Rook of the Chamber of Commerce wrapped the gifts for the extended care wing of Lady Minto Hospital and Greenwoods.

In the Activity Centre, the clowns were aided in efforts to keep the excited children moving to Santa in an orderly fashion by Helen Tara and Elsie Marshall. Kevin Vine had support from students in his class to decorate Santa's reception area of the centre.

When all the visited had been made, Santa and his clowns retired to the Ganges fire hall for supper and relaxation.

The food for the 50 hungry United States visitors was supplied by Harbour Grocery, Alicia Catering, Golden Island Restaurant, Embee Bakery, Harbour House Hotel, Breadwinners, the Deli Shoppe, Mobile Market, Beth Mc-

Donald, Pearl Graham and Jill Edwards.

Serving the hungry crew were Sherry Irwin, Pam Ellacott, Judy and Glenn Moores as well as Lloyd Kinney. And to wind down their efforts, Dee Kinney acted as "go-for" while Bruce Patterson ensured that all were fed and happy.

The co-ordinators offered this added note: "Many other people assisted in minor -- but important -- ways. To all, thank you for assistance -- large or small. "Merry Christmas."



Good cheer to each and everyone at this Yuletide season!

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AFRAID OF THE DENTIST?

It may be nothing more than a case of sweaty palms and butterflies in your stomach as you announce yourself to the receptionist. Or it may be a terror that keeps you away from the dentist year after year despite your aching, disintegrating teeth and receding gums.

However bad you've got it, you're not alone. Approximately one million Canadians, suffer from full-blown dental phobia -- a fear of dental procedures so acute that they never go to the dentist. A far greater number suffer from dental anxiety -- a fear that keeps them out of the dentist's chair until the pain of dental disease forces them into it. At that point, more extensive, uncomfortable dental work will be required -- further reinforcing patients' fear of visiting the dental office.

Most commonly, dental phobia develops at an early age and is due to expectations of an unpleasant early experience created by family members. The procedures people fear most are having a tooth drilled and having anaesthetic injected.

Fortunately, dentists have many new techniques at hand to help fight dental phobia. Chief among them are the many new painless procedures and instruments -- like high-speed drills and super-accurate, single-tooth anaesthesia -- which have replaced older, more painful techniques. Today, prior to anaesthetic injections, a numbing solution can be applied on the gum by aerosol spray, Q-tip or gauze.

Dentists can use mild sedatives to calm particularly over-anxious patients before treating them and many are now using techniques developed by clinical psychologists to help overcome patient fears. These can involve special relaxation exercises to help patients remain calm, hypnosis, and distraction techniques designed to take the patient's mind off what the dentist is doing.

In one experiment dentists installed video screens on their ceilings and video-game controls on the arms of their chairs. Patients got so involved in the game that they forgot about what the dentist was doing (except to complain when he or she got in the way!).

What should you do if you have dental phobia or anxiety? The best thing is to make a consultation appointment with your dentist and talk frankly to him or her about your fears. Dentists today are much more than just mechanical cavity fillers: they are professionals trained in caring. Very often just talking about your anxieties with your dentist will be all you need to do to relieve them.

This column is provided by the Canadian Dental Association. Information within is not intended to diagnose or plan treatment; readers should consult their dentist for individual dental care. Readers' questions are welcome. Please write: Word of Mouth, College of Dental Surgeons of B.C., 1125 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3N4.

New technology could just take the bite out of dentistry

By NANCY VAIL

A Salt Spring Island dentist has experimented with a machine that promises to be a "real breakthrough" for people who tend to stay as far away as possible from the dentist's chair.

Usually it's the noise and vibration of the drill, combined with the freezing process that stops people from getting the dental work they require.

But an American company, called American Dental Laser, has recently come out with a new laser treatment which eliminates the need for much of the drilling and freezing that has gone on in the past.

It's called the YAG laser and it relies on a system which transmits energy from ultra-red light into the tooth in pulses, lasting one-tenth of a second. That energy is absorbed by and destroys cavity-causing bacteria, but at the same time, the pulses are short enough that the heat, which produced in the process, does not build inside the tooth and damaging healthy pulp.

Dr. William Lea, a local dentist who experimented with the system twice in the last few weeks, says that although the laser isn't perfect, it represents a real breakthrough in the practice of dentistry. It also shows that the technological advances that have affected so many other fields are having their impact in dentistry as well.

"Everything is becoming more complex," says Lea adding that the idea behind the new system is to eliminate decay and keep patient discomfort to a minimum.

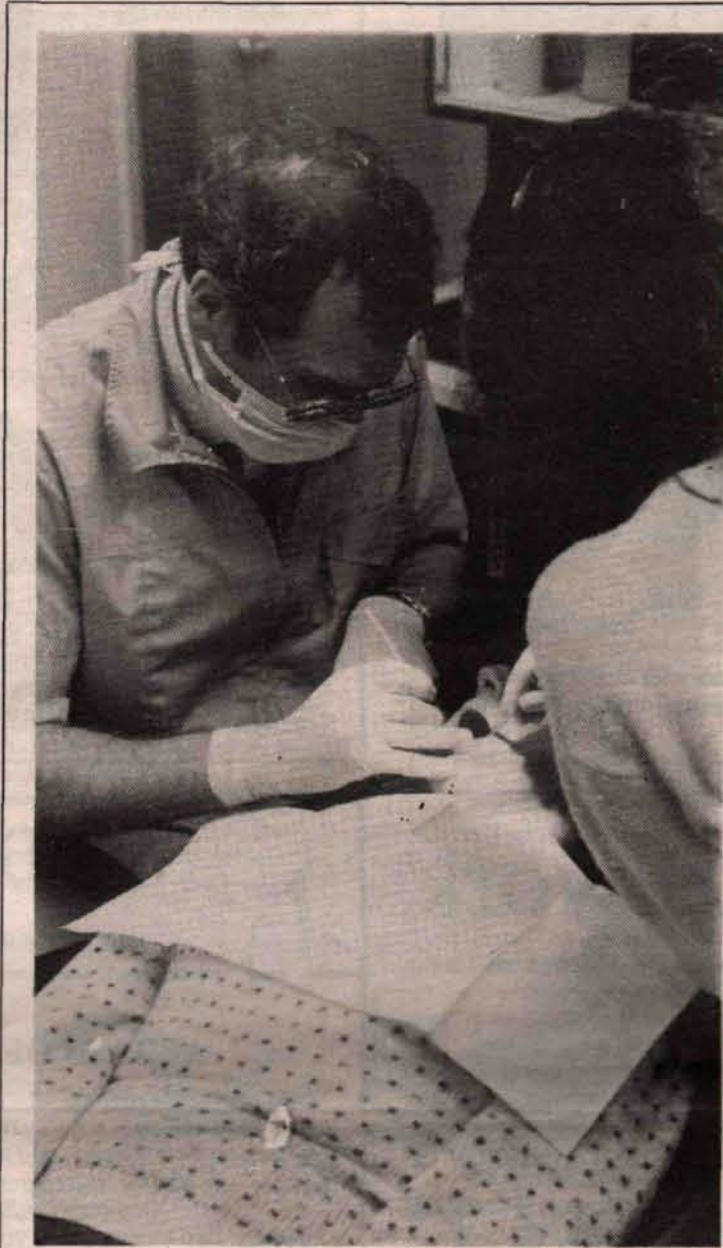
Lasers are, in fact, nothing new to the field of medicine where they have been used to remove eye cataracts or by dermatologists for corrective work. But in dentistry, the only type of laser available in the past was one which operated using the carbon dioxide (CO2) as its source of heat. The way that system was administered though, limited its use to gum surgery.

The distributors of the YAG laser, which was developed by a team of brothers from Oregon in 1983, suggest that this system can be used for a variety of dental procedures including the elimination of cavity-causing bacteria, treating gum disease and "desensitizing" teeth. Though the goal is to completely eliminate the need for drills and anaesthetic, Lea said that while the laser will reduce the need for both of those, drills will be needed but in a more limited way.

For example, the laser can be applied to the top and sides of teeth but not to cavities between them. And in cases where cavities have formed around existing fillings, a drill is needed to create a new shape inside the tooth so that the old filling can be removed. Where fillings are being implanted for the first time, an appropriate shape for the filling might have to be created which will again require some drilling.

However, the drills that will be used in those operations and along with the laser can be run at a slow speed causing only a minimum amount of discomfort to the patient.

Some practitioners have suggested, however, that the laser does



Salt Spring Island dentist William Lea describes the new YAG laser (shown above) as a real break-through in the field of dentistry.

not "desensitize" as well as its manufacturers suggest, a process which describes how the dentin grains close as a result of the energy emitted by the laser. The closing of those grains, in theory, would protect sensitive areas near the receding gum lines. However, while the laser may in fact affect the dentin that way, there can be a variety of other reasons why the area is sensitive.

In terms of replacing the need for freezing, though, Lea noted that he did not freeze any of the patients the laser was used to treat and only one of them complained of discomfort.

Finally, the manufacturers also suggest that the YAG laser can cure gum disease by treating bacteria which collects in pockets under the gums. No consumer reports are available on how effective the machine is in that work.

Lea notes that the laser will be tremendously helpful for such things as root canals where many canals need to be treated. The laser is more predictable and more effective at destroying bacteria in hard-to-reach places, he suggests, while at the same time causing only a minimal amount of discomfort.

Concludes Lea, "In a limited way, it has very good potential. There are people out there who are

terrified and because they are terrified they are not coming in. But (dentistry) is not like that anymore. "There is an effort on everyone's part to make (treatment) more agreeable."



A Sparkling Season to All!

Thanks and happy holiday.

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Christmas tradition

North end residents gather to decorate Christmas tree

For the past eight years, the people of the Southey Point area of Salt Spring have gathered at Christmas time to decorate the Neighbourhood Tree.

In the early 1980s, Marguerite and Pat Lee had just moved to the north end of the island, when they noted the fir tree at the junction of North End and Southey Point roads, and Sunset Drive.

"It just seemed like a nice tree to decorate," she reminisced. The Lees gathered 10 of their neighbours and added decorations to the 10-foot tree. They decided to use recycled materials such as hand-painted oyster shells, orange juice tins sporting surveyors tape and colourful spray paint as well as bladders from wine kegs blow up as silver balloons.

The tradition began. Each year, on the first Sunday of December, neighbours gather to decorate the tree. The decorations stay up until the first Sunday of January.

When the decorations come down, the Lees store them in their basement for reuse but each year, more recycled decorations are

added. To reach the top of the tree this year, a 24-foot extension ladder was needed.

"I don't know what we'll do in future," Marguerite said. "The tree keeps growing."

Each year, on the first Sunday of December, neighbours gather to decorate the tree. The decorations remain until the first Sunday in January.

An added touch this year is the wreath constructed from flexible hose for a dryer vent.

The star on top was created by Gil and Gill Mouat. It is the branches taken from an aluminum Christmas tree which would nor-

mally decorate a city apartment.

The dozen decorators of the first year have grown to 75 people who showed up earlier this month. After the tree was brightened, everyone retired to the Lees for a social.

One of the north end residents had gone to visit family in Calgary one year. She told the children about the tree and urged them to create decorations. Those efforts are part of the tree still.

Santa came to encourage the folks this year as well. Constable Gary Styles escorted Santa (Drew Curry) in the RCMP patrol car, sirens wailing and lights flashing, much to the enjoyment of all.

The Lees agree the Tree is more than just a decorated fir tree. The event draws residents together, young and old. It allows people to get to know each other and to become part of the neighbourhood.

And each year, hundreds of people arrive to see the tree, take pictures of the family grouped about the base of it. Christmas Day afternoon and Boxing Day, they arrive to share the spirit created by the folks of Southey Point.

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Flu hits 105-year-old relation

The English Flu wrecks havoc 'over 'ome, and many residents of the Gulf Islands have concerns about relatives.

The nasty virus presumptuously invaded the Royals, and having reached such epidemic proportions, recently made its way into Canadian news cast.

Effie Odium, of Salt Spring, caught the noon news recently and heard the commentator say that even the oldest person in the British Isles had been affected by the flu.

Ethel Baird is 105 years old. She is also the aunt of Effie Odium and Larry Scarfe of this island.

Odium has not seen her aunt since 1912 although the two Ethels have been in touch by mail. Baird, at her tender age, was officially notified this year that she has the distinction of being Britain's oldest resident.

"She's never been ill for years," Odium said, "and now she caught that flu."

She went on to explain that her aunt remains active and lives in a rest home in North Shields. The town is in the border country just south of Scotland.

FESTIVE GREETINGS

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We hope all twelve days of
Christmas bloom with
merriment for you!

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SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL

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Thank you for the support you've given us.
We look forward to serving you in 1990.

CLOSED
DEC. 23-JAN. 3

more letters

Medication available

To the Editor,
The Lady Minto Hospital board would like to clarify some areas of concern expressed by Ms. Dabbs in her letter to the editor, Nov. 29/89, concerning availability of medications.

Although Lady Minto Hospital does not provide Pharmacy dispensary services, we do provide 24 hour emergency coverage. This requires that the patient come to the hospital to be seen by the physician on-call, who can prescribe and provide enough of the required medication to last the patient until the Island drugstore is next open.

Because the Lady Minto Hospital does not have a Pharmacist on staff, this system is in place to ensure the safety of the patients by providing for physician supervision for issuing emergency medications.

KAREN DAVIES,
Assistant Administrator.

socialism would have the electorate set limits on our consumption and production consistent with what we have learned about justice and the planet's well-being.

Capitalism is the opposite of the above: factories, resources, land, business are privately-owned and operated for the profit of the owners and for the wages paid to the workers for their share of production; limitless growth and limitless competition are basic tenets.

Democracy is the rule of the people — all of the people. *Totalitarianism* is the rule of all the people by one party and/or a very few leaders.

History teaches us that all systems are constantly changing. The Russian revolution started as a mass movement to establish more just society than the Czarist regime had been. But a small group of powerful men co-opted the people's revolt and left them

with a new set of "Czars."

Capitalism started small, broke up the old feudal system of kings and dukes and serfs, but, over the 200 years of its development, it has gobbled up smaller competitors and left the world with a well-hidden ruling class of transnational corporations which now controls the global economy in a more powerful way than any monarchy ever did.

And what happens to democracy? When almost all the media and almost all the politicians are either influenced or controlled by the new economic oligarchy, the citizens become misinformed, then disinterested, and ultimately powerless.

So what's the answer?

Revive our democratic rights, increase our knowledge of the world: How this global economy operates *now*, and how it *could* operate if the people and the planet really mattered.

VIRGINIA NEWMAN,
President of the NDP Club.

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Merry Christmas

to all my customers
& friends, best wishes for
the holidays, and a Happy New Year.

ISLAND PLUMBING

As if people mattered...

To the Editor,
Hooray for the people all over the world crying out for democracy! But let's not confuse *political systems* with *economic systems*.

- Sweden is both a democracy and a socialist state.
- The Soviet Union is both socialist and totalitarian.
- The United States is both capitalist and democratic.
- Many Central and South American countries are both capitalist and totalitarian.
- And, of course, most states have "mixed economies," part public, and part private enterprise.

Socialism is built on the concept that all the people should share nature's bounty as well as the human-made infrastructures: natural resources, factories, business, land, etc. Democratic



*It's
Christmas*

JUST WANT TO ADD
OUR BEST WISHES
TO YOUR HOLIDAY

Dorothy, Bill,
Gordon, Rob &
Cindy Hitchcock

Thank You All!

Barnie and Bill Cowan wish to thank the following companies and employees who participated in the construction and finishing of our home:

Walter Huser & Sons Contracting, Robert Huser, Mike McCormick, Ross Braiden, Hank Schubart, Ann Paige, Brian Wolfe-Milner & Assoc., Philip Grange, P.Eng., Ken Tara Excavating, Blain Mathews Bobcat Service, Windsor Plywood, Slegg Lumber, Domi Manufacturing, Mike Reynolds, K.B. Cabinets, Burritt Bros. Carpets, Dave's Blasting, Gulf Coast Materials, Trelawney Contracting, Guilbault Electric and Steve, John Fraser Plumbing, Glacier Insulating, Kevin C. Marks Painting and Decorating, Saltspring Interiors Drywall, Ernst Heuft (Master Stove Builder), Rudi Caspar Masonry and Ryan, Ron Maxwell, Rob Pringle, Gunther Palberg Masonry, Frank Lucarellie Marble & Tile, Euro-Pools, Andrew Currie, S.S.I. Glass, Pat Byron, Rick Andrews, Wescraft Mfg., Allied Glass, Ron Calbery Roofing, Wilf Tyler Sheet Metal, Gordon Swan & Gulf Island Aluminum, Patricia Gray Interiors, Sculpture Sound and Greg Pauker, Van Isle Paving, Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply, Hallman Nursery, Leaf and Limb, Ryan Burch, B. Reynolds Janitorial Service, McCully Moving and Storage.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ROB HUSER
FOR A JOB VERY WELL DONE.

**We wish you all a Merry Christmas and
a Happy and Prosperous New Year.**

Barnie and Bill Cowan

more letters

Dear Minister...

The following is an open letter to the Honourable John Reynolds, Minister of the Environment, filed with this newspaper for publication

The number of environmental tragedies in B.C. is growing at an exponential rate, the latest one being the shellfish closures due to water pollution, mostly due to pulp mill effluents. Fanned fishes are next?

What I wanted to tell you is this:

I don't think that you, as a minister and politician, together with your colleagues in government, fully appreciate to what an abysmally low level public trust in public figures has sunk. Ministers, politicians, by and large are dismissed as untrustworthy, full of words but no actions.

As the most recent example I refer to the recent CBC news when Kevin Evans interviewed you, Ron Roznow and Bill Andrews on the subject of pulp mill pollution, just after the shellfish closure announcement. You simply didn't address public anxieties about the extremely important matter discussed but descended aggressively into other issues attempting to change the focus of conversation. This ploy, perpetually used by politicians who have no answers or don't want to level with the public, escapes no one.

Secondly, the constant throwing about of dollar figures — not even very impressive ones, given their levels of profits — that pulp mills (and other industries) supposedly spend or will spend on cleaning up after themselves, fools no one either. Neither does the flaunting of the large penalties that politicians say will be imposed on polluters, because they are never levied and industry knows it. We, the citizens, have become quite inured to those ruses and I assure you that such tired old fibs turn people off at once.

The representative (Woznow) of a powerful foreign corporation (powerful courtesy your government's policies — or lack

thereof), must have been delighted by how nicely you took the heat off him and his employers, Fletcher-Challenge.

Mr. Minister, when are you and your government going to smarten up and give us — the people you represent and whose health and wellbeing is your *only* responsibility — a clear demonstration that you are indeed serious about regulating and policing polluters?

Why do politicians like yourself never tell the public the whole story? Why don't you even attempt to prove what you always talk about, namely the great things that industry is doing to combat pollution? Why do we only get words of the great co-operation between industry and government in pollution control and words about "industry policing itself"? Why do you always talk about government "working with industry"; why don't you seem to be working with (for) the people?

Corporate industry exists for no other reason than to maximize profits. You know that and we know that. And you should be in the business of government for no other reason than to maximize healthy environmental conditions for us all, including you, your children and children's children. You know that too — we certainly doubt we are sorely disappointed in the performance of your task.

Show us that you are running your business well too, for the purpose you were appointed in it. Try and run it as well as Roznow and company run their business — for their purposes. The rules of the marketplace dictate that you over ask and underbid — your government begins with under-asking and then lowering the price even more.

Start with closing Fletcher Challenge's dismal dinosaur, the Crofton mill, mentioned by the Federal Government — not yours — as one of the worst polluters along the B.C. coast. Yes, shut them down. And preferably relocate the mill too. Apply state-of-the-art regulations if they want to re-open. They will tear down that mill and build a non-polluting one so fast I guarantee it will make

your head swim. If properly persuaded they will even find jobs for their employees in the interim or, in the interests of your mandate and responsibility for us all, your government should devise special measures to carry them over.

You know as well as Fletcher Challenge that there is such big money to be made in pulp and paper in the future that it will surely offset a temporary setback of building a modern plant. The

world population will increase by another billion paper users in the next decade and trees are becoming scarce. If your government practically gives away whole forests for pulp production to foreign owned corporations, don't you think that it has the clout to dictate terms? Industry will not let the relatively small problem of stopping pollution once and for all stand in the way of future profits. If your government shows iron

determination industry will fall over itself to comply.

Mr. Minister, surprise us. Don't let everybody be poisoned any longer. The buck stops with you. Take a stand, show some will, crack down on the rascals.

And recover some votes too. You and your party need them.

JOHN LAMMERS,
Fulford.


o holy Night



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Season's Greetings



Dear Friends:

Another year has almost come and gone, and each of us looks forward to the challenges of a new decade just around the corner. Over the last year I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve you, along with my colleague Mel Couvelier, as one of your MLAs, and to share with you concerns which affect our quality of life here on the Peninsula and on the Gulf Islands. With your encouragement and support, I look forward to continuing to ensure that our way of life is preserved, not only for ourselves but for our children's children as well.

I particularly want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your confidence and support during the past year. Representing the interests of my constituents has always been my first priority.

If at any time I may be of assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact me. You can reach me either at my constituency office (656-6061) or at my office in the Parliament Buildings (387-5732). My Constituency Assistant, Jayne McCurrach, and my Caucus Secretary, Vickie Shillington, are available to help you in any way they can.

May I extend to all of you my very best wishes during this festive season. My wife, Dale, and sons, Jason and Shaun, join with me in wishing you and yours a very blessed Christmas and a happy and prosperous 1990.

Terry

Dr. Terry Huberts, MLA
Saanich and the Islands

Budget

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