

Mary E Davidson
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08/01/90

Classical music is on tap this week at the Festival of the Arts Page A10

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Gulf Islands Driftwood

THIRTY-FIRST YEAR, NO. 29

50 CENTS

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1990

Bill to regulate private logging

By DUNCAN MacDONNELL
The Driftwood

Provincial legislation is pending to control logging on privately-owned lands, islands MLA Mel Couvelier told a Salt Spring audience last Saturday.

Couvelier (SC, Saanich-The Islands) said "legislative action" aimed at "dealing with private-land logging" will be introduced to the House this week and could be passed into law by as early as mid-August.

"The intent of the bill is clear — to discipline logging on privately-owned land," Couvelier said. "It is the intent of government to proclaim this bill as soon as possible."

The MLA could not provide his Central Hall audience with specifics about the pending controls, however, because parliamentary etiquette prevents him from discussing details of pending legislation until it is presented to the House, he said.

But in response to questions from the audience, Couvelier dropped several broad hints about what the legislative package might contain.

It was suggested that the controls will fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Forests, that they will apply across the entire province, and that they are aimed at bringing "discipline" to private-land logging practices without disrupting either the B.C. economy or the supply of wood to processing plants.

Later speculation by audience members familiar with provincial forestland policies suggested the legislative change will be one requiring private-land logging operations

to adhere to the same forest management guidelines as now apply to Crown land. Among other things, those regulations require that attention be paid to reforestation, road-building practices, erosion potential and buffer zones for creeks.

Another possibility is that the Municipal Act would be changed to permit local governments to draft individual forestry practices bylaws. However, it was felt there is only a slight change of the controls being introduced this way, because it would likely result in vastly different sets of rules and regulations being set in different parts of the province.

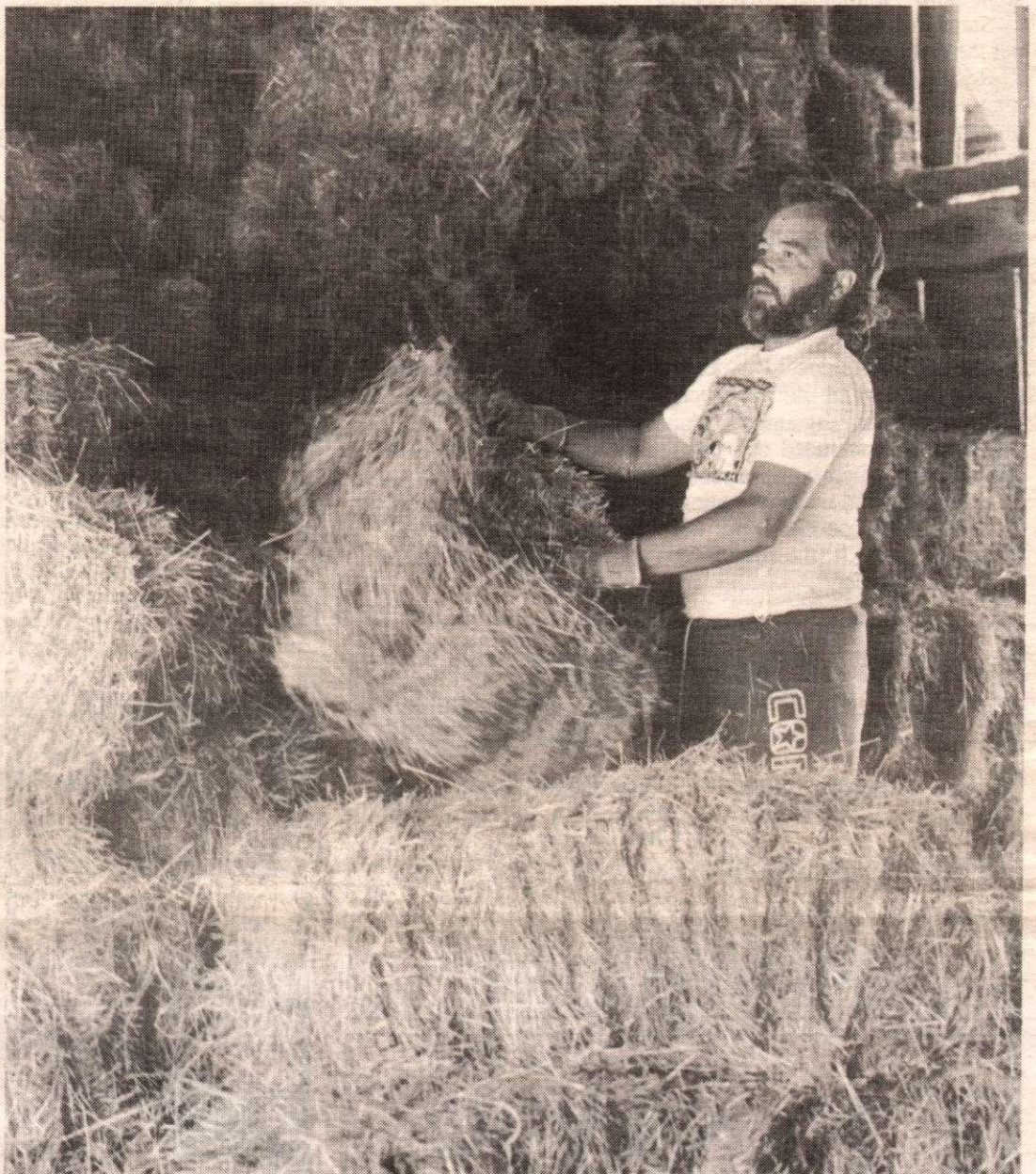
Couvelier said that while the question of controls over private-land logging was "focused" by recent opposition on Salt Spring to Weldwood's move to log in the Burgoyne Valley, the pending legislative changes were prompted equally by concerns expressed across the province, particularly in the Peace River and Kootenay regions.

For that reason, the MLA continued, the controls will apply across the province instead of being specific to any one region.

"There is a sound and valid reason that private-land logging be disciplined wherever it is," Couvelier said. "People in Victoria feel there is merit in looking at this as a universal problem. By spinning Salt Spring off, we could deal with your and my problem, but that doesn't deal with the problem in all of B.C., which I feel must be addressed. We've got a problem, and there is no merit in delay."

Couvelier said the question of controls had been "the subject of in-

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Jim Black hoists bale of hay onto steadily-growing stack in barn at Liz Armour's farm off Beddis Road. Friends and members of the Armour family

gathered last Sunday to transport almost 900 bales of hay from fields to the barn. Hay was cut and baled earlier in the week during perfect weather conditions.

Fulford post office facing early closure?

Cost-cutting efforts by Canada Post could spell the end of the Fulford post office.

Ruth Clarkson, postmaster at the Fulford outlet, recently received an offer for early retirement from Canada Post. She has about seven years more to go before retirement.

The "enhanced severance package," said Colleen Frick of Canada Post, was made because many postal employees were asking about early retirement. The post office decided to send information on the early retirement to everyone.

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) saw it in a different light, however. A spokesman noted that Canada Post's attrition program is not working fast enough and said the corporation decided to sweeten the pot.

Norm Dmytruk, of the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association (CPAA), explained the situation. Canada Post operates 5,221 rural postal outlets across the country. The corporation has announced plans to privatize or amalgamate the rural offices to save money.

Number of zones growing on island

By BILL WEBSTER
The Driftwood

Salt Spring Island is covered with 58 different land-use zones, according to the latest edition of the zoning bylaws.

The City of Victoria, on the other hand, governs itself with 40 different zones, while Bowen Island residents have only 18 zones to contend with.

Islands Trustee John Stepaniuk said of the local proliferation of zones: "I'm concerned we might be creating a monster which we won't know how to deal with down the road."

For instance, the zoning bylaws set out three different rural residential classifications. The wording of the three bylaws are identical. To discover the difference among the zones requires a check with the sub-division regulations or the community plan.

The documents are separate, said Islands Trust planner Tony Quinn, to avoid making a single document too complex.

The pattern began, both Stepaniuk and Quinn agreed, several years ago under another planner and other Trust committees. Dave Morris, who was planner for the Trust at that time, had warned the Salt Spring Islands Trust committee in the early 1980s to avoid site-specific planning.

Currently, the trend is to find site-specific solutions to zoning problems. The newly created commercial services zone, for instance, had been created to deal with a specific problem on one lot. It has since been applied to another property.

Farm land is governed by five zones, including a new zone to allow for construction of the proposed high school without each-

Decisions limit disposal options

A series of recent decisions by the provincial environment ministry has left the local solid waste disposal committee "scrambling to put together a plan" to deal with Salt Spring Island's long-term garbage disposal requirements.

Committee chairman Bob Andrew says options for finding a site to replace Norman Twa's Blackburn Road operation have been severely limited by the decisions, all of which were made or announced within the past few weeks.

The ministry has decided that:

- The Blackburn Road disposal site, which is feared to be too close to nearby lakes and water supplies for comfort, must be closed by December 31, 1991.
- Privately-operated waste disposal facilities will no longer be permitted in B.C.
- All solid waste facilities must operate in accordance with an approved regional solid waste management plan, adopted by a regional district.

What the decisions mean, Andrew

hands of government. "They want to keep an eye on operations, to assure us the environment is not being jeopardized," he said.

The result of the decisions, Andrew continued, is that his committee can no longer consider such options as establishing a community disposal site and contracting-out its operation. As matters stand now, the community would have to ask the Capital Regional District (CRD) to run a facility here, and the CRD would then have to locate and purchase the site. A private party could still operate the facility, but would have to bid for the contract.

Another consequence of the ministry decisions is that the cost of any local disposal would now likely be higher than previously thought, given administration costs borne through the CRD, Andrew indicated.

"The government is saying that if we want a safer, cleaner environment, we'll have to pay for it. And this is how they say we'll have to pay for it."

Complicating the fallout from the

News

Creation of zones causing concern

From Page A1

ing removal of the land from the agricultural land reserve. The island is growing and the Trust committee, said Quinn, wants specific controls on development of specific properties. The current method allows for more control, he added.

Harry Pickstone, a resident of the island who had been a planner in Vancouver for many years, says site-specific planning lets people know where they stand on developing properties and sets out the limits placed by the zoning bylaws.

When asked if site specific zoning was good zoning, Pickstone said, "Nothing in life is perfect."

Stepaniuk outlined how the matter began. "We could have put the cart before the horse," he said.

Residents of Salt Spring sat through many meetings over a long period of time before reaching a compromise on the community plan, he explained. The zoning bylaws were created and in force before the community plan was hammered out.

Many of the seemingly duplicated zones are different only in several words. An option to site-specific zoning would be to place covenants against the title of the land.

Stepaniuk doubted if covenants would be viable. He noted that such records are not readily accessible. Covenants are used by such agencies as the department of highways, ministry of the environment, local water districts and the Islands Trust, he said.

The Capital Regional District uses covenants against the title of properties which do not meet building code requirements. The covenants stay against the properties until the code is met.

Stepaniuk concluded that the Trust could offer more background information on site-specific zoning instead of just "hard facts" as are noted when re-zoning applications are publicized.

"There is a concern if we keep on creating those zones," Stepaniuk said. "It (the zoning bylaws) really should be put in some kind of order."

Fisheries orders Sansum Narrows shellfish closures

Red tide flows through the Gulf Islands again and closes beaches to shell-fish harvesting.

The federal department of fisheries has issued a closure on the taking of clams, oysters, mussels and scallops in Sansum Narrows, and in that part of Satellite Channel up from Cape Keppel.

The closure went into effect July 11 and lasts until further notice.

Butterclams are off-limits on Saturna, the Penders, Mayne and Active Pass on Galiano as far as the entrance to Montague Harbour. All of the small islands are also closed.

The butterclam closure affects that area of Salt Spring south of Erskine Point on the west and Nose Point on the east, including Ganges Harbour.

Setting it Straight

In the story about the Ganges Farmers' Market, last week, the space rental was quoted as \$25.

Vendors in the market are charged 50 cents per linear foot used.

The question was asked at the market and distractions resulted in a misunderstanding of the question and the answer given.

An article in last week's *Driftwood* incorrectly identified Neville Atkinson as a real estate salesman. Atkinson ceased selling real estate last December, when he assumed his current duties as manager of the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce.

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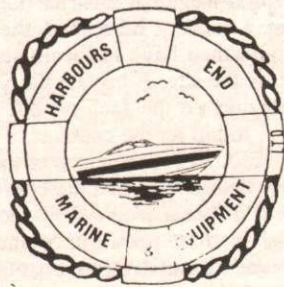
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News

Province to 'discipline' private-land logging

From page A1
tense debate in cabinet" for the past three months, and that the discussion had carefully weighed all sides of the question. The potential infringement on the rights of property owners — a point raised Saturday by Ellen Bennett and by Ken Byron — was among

the factors considered, he said. "Can society remove rights from people without compensation? You can't give to someone without taking away from someone else," Couvelier said to Byron. "This is a philosophical question society must address. It is not addressed by this bill."

Couvelier said the intent of the bill is not to impose economic hardship on land-owners, or to cause disruption to the economy. "I don't think we're talking about less jobs but about smaller cuts, about more attention to aesthetic visual impacts," he said. "I also believe you will see sen-

sitivity to the long-range needs of the fibre industry that you didn't see before." In response to fears raised Saturday that word of the legislation will prompt land-owners to accelerate logging activity before the measures become law, Couvelier said the risk

of "panic logging" is slight. "There can't be a significant number of trees downed in the next few days," he said. Another factor likely to prevent increased activity is a possible shutdown of logging operations due to hotter weather and a heightened fire risk.



Audience at Central Hall listens as Islands Trustee John Stepaniuk (standing at head table) outlines the agenda for Saturday's meeting. It was called to hear MLA Mel Couvelier (centre, at table) discuss the private-land forestry issue. Seated at the left at the head table is Melinda Auerbach, Islands Trustee for Lasqueti, who chairs the Trust Council's forestry committee.

Forest council question to wait until islanders review new rules

Possible resurrection of Salt Spring's Forest Land Advisory Council (FLAC) will not be considered until islanders have reviewed the provincial government's pending legislative controls over private-land logging.

That decision was made last Saturday by islanders who met at Central Hall to hear MLA Mel Couvelier announce that controls over private-land logging will be introduced to the House sometime this week (see story above).

The agenda for Saturday's meeting, as drafted by local Islands Trustee John Stepaniuk, called for Couvelier's address to be followed by a discussion of the need for a local group to be formed to advise the Trust on private-land logging and forestry issues. Consideration was also to be given to the group's terms of reference, its sources of funding, the interests it should represent, and whether its members should be appointed or elected.

However, the meeting agreed that no action on a forest land council should be taken until islanders have had an opportunity to review the pending provincial legislation and gauge its possible impacts.

"Let's adjourn this meeting until we get the new Act and know what we're talking about," said Ellen Bennett.

Max Soder, chairman of the Advisory Planning Commission (APC), agreed: "We can't deal with something we know nothing about. We have to wait to see what we're deal-

ing with." Before the meeting could adjourn, however, discussion centred on the forest land advisory council formed by the Islands Trust at the height of the Weldwood controversy. That council was forced to disband when four of its 12 members resigned over disagreement over its actions and direction.

Linda Laushway, one of the four members who resigned, told Saturday's meeting she was "astonished to hear John Stepaniuk say the council should be reconstructed."

Laushway said the original council failed because it was not representative of the full community. "It became untenable; we got absolutely nowhere," she said, adding that none of the members of the original council should be permitted to sit on any new body that is constituted.

"We will need a council at some time, but it has to be constituted as representative of the community," she said.

However, Deitrich Luth, who had a hand in forming the original council, disputed Laushway's version of its failure. He said the group was balanced — "we had loggers, and we had greens" — but became polarized by events.

"That's water under the bridge," he said.

Luth said he can foresee "more trouble down the road" over private-land logging, regardless of what is contained in the pending provincial legislation, and thus a continuing need for some form of advisory council on Salt Spring. But to succeed, he concluded, the council will require strict procedural rules "and no power struggles."

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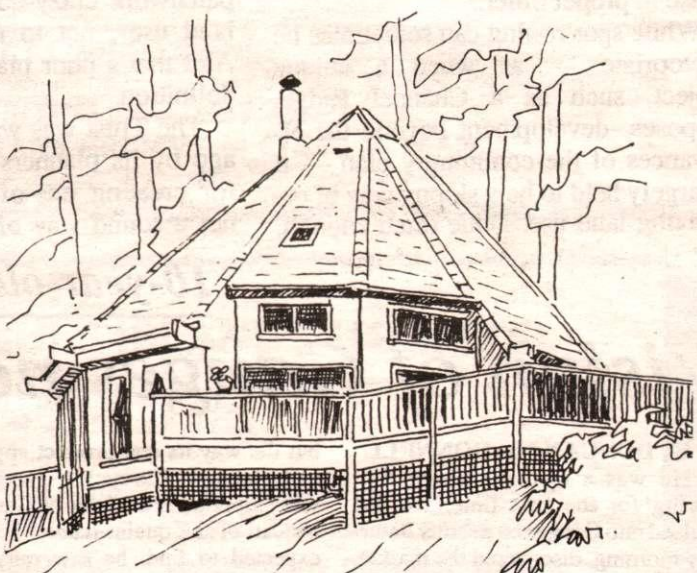
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Profusion of zones a poor way to plan

At last, we have found something to rival the population surge experienced on these shores over the past few years. The true growth, it seems, is not in people but in the number of land zoning classifications endorsed locally by the Islands Trust.

At last count, we had 58 land-use zones on Salt Spring. One zone for every 131 men, women and children who call the island their home. The much-larger centre of Victoria, by comparison, has 40 land-use zones. Bowen Island has 18.

(By definition, zoning is the classification of land according to uses. We depend on this classification system to guide different types of uses into their most appropriate locations. This, in turn, allows for orderly consolidation or separation of uses, in accordance with the dictates of our community plan.)

The (growing) number of land-use zones on Salt Spring is alarming, especially when a review of the current range of classifications reveals several cases where there are only minute differences between two or more apparently similar zones. It suggests that we do not have 58 different types of land use on Salt Spring, but 58 different ways of classifying land use. Which is not the same thing at all.

The suspicion is that the Trust, for the sake of making a deal or in the name of limiting the ways we can use the land (take your pick), is reluctant to reclassify parcels according to existing definitions. Instead, it is prone to writing new definitions applicable to one parcel only. In that way, it hopes a one-time problem will disappear.

Planners have a term for this affliction: it's called spot zoning, or site-specific zoning, and is generally regarded as a poor way of keeping a house in proper order.

While spot zoning can sometimes be appropriate — as when a unique project, such as a Channel Ridge, proposes development beyond the allowances of the community plan — it is largely held to be a sloppy way of organizing land use. Done often enough,



in enough places, it leads to a patchwork crazy-quilt of disconnected land uses, not to mention confusion. And that's poor planning by anyone's definition.

The Trust was warned several years ago by its planners that this penchant for creating one-of-a-kind zones was not a sound way of handling land-use

on Salt Spring. Why it chose to ignore this advice, and why it continues to give us yet more classifications, is beyond our understanding.

We call on the Trust to not only make do with the range of zones it has created or re-classified to date (can there really be anything new under the sun?), but to re-examine its menagerie

and, wherever possible, consolidate any zones that are appropriate for grouping. We're sure they can find more than one or two.

This is not a call for simplicity, for the sake of simplicity. It's a call to avoid the rapidly-approaching day when every household has a zone to call its own.

10-year-old handbook outlines design principles

Vision of Ganges not quite in keeping with dream

By DUNCAN MacDONNELL

He was a cyclist visiting Salt Spring for the first time. He had cruised into Ganges on a sunny Saturday morning, discovered the market, and strolled through its crowds in search of someone who would answer his questions.

He found me, sipping a coffee and contemplating the meditative qualities I might find in yet another early-morning cigarette. It must have been the air of introspection that fooled him.

Once the preliminaries were out of the way — how many people live here, and what do they do? — the cyclist and I wandered into more esoteric realms.

but the way its end-product appears to the layman. The cyclist, it seemed, was surprised of the quaint hamlet he had expected to find, he saw only the mirror-images of buildings in his home town (Parksville).

Which got me to thinking. Which got me to thinking filing cabinets and desk drawers. Which turned up a little document called *Design Concepts for Ganges*, published in 1980 by the Islands Trust.

The booklet contains general guidelines the Trust hoped would be followed in development and redevelopment of the village. In many cases, it has stood the test of time: the majority of its specific suggestions

GUEST COLUMN

of rear-entrance back street parking — have been adhered to or are still being pushed for.

The same could be said for some of the broader principles drafted 10 years ago, however. We are told the guidelines are meant to encourage buildings of a "suitable design to reflect the rural and maritime nature of the community," and that the vision for Ganges is as "an attractive, small-scale, pedestrian-oriented, old-style centre on the sea."

The vision of "rural," of

fused with those found in Parksville, or any other urban strip you'd care to name, we've missed the boat somewhere.

Next time you're in Ganges, look at the buildings and try to find one or two that match the vision drafted in 1980. You'll find them, all right, but they're all veterans of the village, like Mouat's Store (the most beautiful, and more suitable, building in the core, in my opinion) or the Trading Company.

What was missed in redevelopment, I believe, is the section of the vision asking builders "to look to historic waterfront buildings for inspiration — the use of rough timbers and siding, of corrugated metal and of

flavour convey a local maritime flavour, as was a design based on, say, an old boatshed. Which would have been much more appropriate to this burg, not to mention more in keeping with the intentions of the 1980 Trust document.

Then again, that's just my opinion. I'm not an architect and I would be at a loss trying to converse with one on his or her terms. Like the cyclist, all I can consider is whether the building I'm looking at appeals to me visually.

That and the fact I have a better feeling for the broad principles of the 1980 document than I have for the reality we're seen since. Maybe when it comes time to re-develop the re-



Driftwood

More letters, pages A6, A13, A14, A15

Letters

New monster

To the Editor,
I would like to state my views on the "Farmer's Market"

When I moved to Salt Spring two years ago the market was a quaint, rustic affair, yet even then the monster of crass commercialism had begun to raise its head.

Two weekends ago when I visited the market for the first time in several weeks, I was appalled at the changes which had taken place since my last visit.

In the past, the craftsman and artist were the rule rather than the exception. Now it seems these people are being squeezed out by commercial hawkers who sell junk goods, which can be found anywhere.

The feel of the market has changed. It has become nothing but a glorified flea market like those on the mainland and elsewhere across Canada.

If you wish to keep the market unique and true to its original roots, I feel it should be closed to these off-island hawkers.

I spoke with one of the long-time vendors the other day and he agrees with me. However, he says the matter has often been discussed by the Market Committee but no decisions have been reached or acted upon.

To the Market Committee I would like to say "Wake up guys! Get off your a--s and take some action before a beautiful and unique thing is gone forever."

For once the market changes there will be no going back. Its originality will be lost forever.

To the people who visit the market and feel as I do, I suggest letting the people at the market be aware of your feelings.

We Salt Springers are people who believe in causes, who fight for what we think is right. I say don't let outsiders ruin our Saturday Market!

Let your voices be heard! Save the market now!

B. HAMILTON,
Ganges

Be willing

To the editor,
I read with pleasure your insightful, positive editorial describing the problems within our community centring on the market. It was in direct contrast to the second article, whose attitude embodied factionalism, opposition and blame. Both, however, spoke aspects of the truth (except for the \$25 fee quoted as paid by vendors for space; the correct amount is 50 cents per linear foot, a price in keeping with commercially-run markets).

There are several players in this drama — the on-island vendors, area merchants, off-island vendors, parks and rec commission, visitor and island market patrons, the community at large; all with interests to be satisfied. The one concern shared by all is parking. This problem calls for innovation and a willingness by all of us to possibly make small changes in our habits.

For the merchants, the market is a double-edged sword. The market is instrumental in drawing people downtown in droves on Saturday. I would invite the merchants to join us with tables outside their stores — part of the joy of the market is working outside in the summer.

We vendors face the very real problem of congestion. We are growing too big for our skin, our skin being the perceived physical boundaries of market space. These past two Saturdays saw the market space expand down Gasoline Alley (albeit not without the growing pains of misunderstandings and hurt feelings), providing greater freedom for movement for the patrons of the market. Shall we see if we can moults our old skin into a new one, rather

me. I have faith that with open communication and attempted understanding, we shall succeed in finding solutions.

WENDY BEATTY
Vendor

Dismayed

The following letter was filed with the Driftwood for publication by Carol Martin, vice-chairman of the Islands Trust.

Mr. Stanley Hagen, Minister of Regional and Economic Development.

As a Trustee from an Island in your riding, and as a taxpayer, I am writing to express my distress and dismay with your ministry's attitude toward the use of provincial money for funding inappropriate high density urban style resort development on the islands, such as the proposed project on one of the southern Gulf Islands.

In your May 29th letter to the Trust Chairman, responding to a letter of deep concern from the South Pender Trust Committee, you placed very high importance on "the positive impact that (such large scale resort type) developments of this nature have on the economic well-being of your region," while totally dismissing the clear majority local concern regarding the potential negative "impact on the lifestyle of the Islanders."

I would like to register my personal and political opposition to such inconsiderate use of public monies for development for private gain, especially where a community is opposed to the type and scale of such development and was unaware of the request for such public funding.

I would also like to request that in the future, concurrence with the local government as the elected voice of a community be sought before such large private handouts are being requested or considered.

I would further wish to share my displeasure with fellow local government officials and the public so that they may become aware of where their tax money is being spent.

Thank you for listening. I would appreciate an opportunity to further discuss this issue with you.

CAROL MARTIN,
Hornby Island

Elections?

To the Editor,
Mr. Borrowman's letter to the editor is in fact a straightforward account of the way political events are formed and unfold on Salt Spring.

As a senior spokesman for the Island Watch Society, he is probably kept well-apprised of the comic book tactics and thus is intimately knowledgeable of the inner workings of the Looney Tunes.

Just how Mr. Borrowman views his organization's nomination or involvement with Salt Spring's imbalanced APC is unclear. Yet, what is clear is that our beloved Bugs Bunny has never brought forward a motion to democratize our APC — like Bowen Island's elected APC. Why?

Wouldn't you agree that it's high time Salt Spring had an elected APC? Why should voters and taxpayers not have fair representation and isn't Bugs Bunny accountable?

BARRY TRUNFIELD,
Ganges

P.S. This year's election is likened to that of the race between the tortoise and the hare!

Good neighbours

To the Editor,
On Sunday night we got off the last ferry at Fulford to find the battery of our parked car was dead. In seeking help we found that Rodrigo's Restaurant was closed but the staff were still busy in the kitchen. Rod

they arranged with Joan Erickson to drive home to get her husband, Jeff, to bring his vehicle with jumper cables to our car, and after a little difficulty they got us on our way.

When we tried to express our thanks, the cheery response from all these young people was "no problem!" It's a joy to live in a community that is home to such people who care and are capable and willing to help us "Old Timers".

LIONEL & NORAH RAY,
Ganges

Skewed

To the Editor,
In response to Mr. Lynch's two letters in this paper.

Really, Steve, think about it. Following your line of reasoning, in order for anyone to legitimately question unsound policies, or major health hazards, they would have to sit

very still all their lives, lessen any harm anything at all. Since no one could possibly do this, problem solved, eh Steve. No opinions, no dissent — no democracy.

Let's face it, we're all polluting consumers on one scale or another. Intelligent people know this, environmentalists know this. The difference is in scale. If I can get by using 50 per cent less paper, electricity, meat, toxic pollutants, etc., and raise my kids to do the same, then I would have done a great deal less harm to this earth and this island than someone who does very little else than flapping their gums.

And don't forget, that's 50 per cent less than I use now — which is pretty restrained already. Also it would be quite unlikely that my family would unthinkingly clear-cut their land, or pollute the air or water, because we think about these things. We respect the land and animals, we respect the people who live here.

I'm not saying money isn't a consideration; it is. But it shouldn't be the only consideration.

Finally it is my observation that those who bleat the loudest about the environmentalists tend to do very little about the environment themselves, or indeed, do almost anything charitable. The bottom line is caring.

So Mr. Lynch, a skewed analysis such as yours could only sway those who are unable to reason up to the dead end of your argument.

Folks, just ask yourself — is my spouse griping about other people's efforts to do something good, and if so, what good for the earth, or for others, has my spouse ever done. See what I mean?

BOB KOTKE,
Ganges

W. E. SMITH

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Opinion

Capital Comment
HUBERT BEYER



VICTORIA — Does the introduction in British Columbia of the referendum concept mark a "great day for democracy," as Premier Vander Zalm claims?

Let me ask you a question: if former premier Bill Bennett's restraint program, now widely believed to have been necessary, had been put to a referendum, what, do you think, the outcome would have been? Right.

Government by referendum is no way to run a province. It gives politicians an excuse to avoid taking a stand on controversial issues by leaving the outcome to referendums. Rather than being an expression of the ultimate in democracy, the referendum concept tends to water down our tried and proven system of representative democracy.

But what about the Swiss? Don't they have a great democratic tradition and don't they make just about every decision by way of referendum? They do, indeed, and on the surface, the system seems to serve them well.

Under the Swiss system, all constitutional changes necessitate referendums. On the federal level alone, between 1948 (the year the Swiss constitution was adopted . . . by referendum, of course) and 1978, a total of 297 questions were put to the Swiss by way of referendum.

Constitutional changes need double approval, by all voters federally and by each canton, the Swiss equivalent to our provinces. National legislative changes need only approval by the federal voters.

Change could take 10 years or longer

Since the Swiss constitution is very specific, rather than a motherhood document, most important changes require the approval of both the voters federally and each canton.

Referendums can be initiated by the government or by the people. Citizen initiatives require 100,000 signatures before they can proceed to the referendum stage.

By proposing an amendment to the constitution dealing with old age pensions, for instance, the people could try to force an increase in pension payments. But pensioners would be well-advised not to hold their breath. The Swiss system doesn't produce quick change, no matter how desperately it may be needed. To bring about any important change, constitutional or legislative, can take 10 years and longer.

At times, the referendum system also fosters discrimination and gives rise to political embarrassment. Swiss women didn't get the right to vote in federal elections until 1971, and then only after a number of referendums.

One canton still doesn't let its women vote in regional elections. Every time a referendum is before the voters (men only), they turn it down to the acute embarrassment of the government.

At the moment, the big push in Switzerland is towards membership in the European Economic Community. The government, fearing that continued economic and political isolation will hurt the nation, is favourably inclined towards EEC membership, but the people have already rejected one referendum on the question.

Swiss officials say that there is obviously an information and education problem, and they don't foresee another referendum for two or three years. They also say that, fortunately, it doesn't matter in this case because the EEC doesn't accept new members until 1999.

Legislation can be used, misused

The legislation introduced in the B.C. Legislature could put controversial issues to municipal, regional or province-wide referendums. The outcome could be binding or not, depending on what cabinet decides beforehand.

According to the bill, cabinet could call a referendum on "any matter of public interest or concern." The premier says he can see it used mainly for constitutional issues.

He added, however, that "it could be used for almost any other issue where there's a great deal of controversy and where there are strong feelings one way or the other in a community or a region or the province."

And that's the problem with the legislation and the way in which it can be used or misused. I'll give you an example. It wasn't until after the Second World War that Chinese citizens, a rather cynical description of their status in Canada at the time, were given the right to vote for the first time in Canadian history.

Difficult as it is to imagine now, public opinion at the time was against granting the Chinese the franchise, and a referendum on the question would almost certainly have been defeated. It took the courage of the elected representatives' conviction to bring about the change.

Every so often, politicians face an unpopular decision and no referendum should relieve them of the responsibility to make that decision. The proposed B.C. referendum legislation would give our elected representatives the excuse they need to shirk their responsibility every time a tricky decision needs making.

Letters

Can't go on

To the Editor,
I welcome loggers to Salt Spring. I was a logger myself early on.

I admit they do a lot of dumb things; don't we all. I won't go into how dumb the rest of us are.

All of us realize, I'm sure, we can't go on the same way. We have to change, log sensibly and replant.

Surely that's better than the other alternative; black top, bulldoze and develop condos and funky houses.

FRANK BANNON,
Ganges

Applications

To the Editor,
A recent article in *The Driftwood* (June 20), regarding the Gulf Islands Handicapped Association, mentioned that we now have 21 parking spaces (actually 23) in Ganges, "for use by wheelchair users."

There are many other types of disabilities for which handicapped parking permits are issued. Applications for permits may be obtained from local doctors' offices, or by calling 537-4386 evenings.

WILLIAM W. BEST,
Chairman, Gulf Islands Handicapped Association

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News

Landfill cleanup onus to be shared

The Capital Regional District (CRD) shares responsibility with Norman Twa for reclamation of Twa's Blackburn Road landfill site, the provincial environment ministry has decided.

Bob Andrew, chairman of Salt Spring's solid waste disposal committee, said the environment ministry has rejected the CRD's contention that Twa alone would be responsible for reclaiming the site if such action is necessary after the facility is closed. Cost of the reclamation could run as high as \$250,000, he said.

The environment ministry, in a June 19 letter to the CRD, noted that the regional district and Twa were listed as joint permit-holders of the site, which is owned by Twa.

Thus, it said, the CRD "has responsibility with Mr. Twa for the past and present condition and operation of the site and for the reclamation or rehabilitation of the site and any post-closure requirements, such as monitoring."

The Blackburn Road site, which lies close to two lakes, is to be closed by December 31, 1991. The ministry has cited environmental risks -- chiefly, the threat of harm to water supplies -- as its reason for the closure order.

Ministry moves limit choices for disposal

From page A1

waste-disposal plan from Salt Spring. If none is received by then, the CRD is expected to impose a plan -- one which could involve trucking garbage to the Hartland landfill in Victoria, an option islanders rejected by referendum in 1988.

To guide his committee in deciding possible solutions, Andrew is preparing a survey to be mailed out sometime in the next few weeks. It will ask residents if they still prefer an on-island disposal site, for suggestions for a waste-disposal plan, and outline the committee's recommendations.

Following the survey, a public meeting would be held in about six weeks to discuss the results and plot the next step.

Committee looks to recycling to answer waste disposal woes

Funding is being sought for a curbside recycling program on Salt Spring Island.

Bob Andrew, chairman of Salt Spring's solid waste disposal committee, said his group is concerned as much about "the three R's" -- reduce, reuse and recycle -- as it is with finding a new landfill site on the island.

"Our focus is to find ways to take care of our own garbage, not just to ship it somewhere else," he said.

Andrew says the committee has estimated that if a curbside recycling program is instituted locally, it would within a few years eliminate 30 to 40 per cent of the waste now being sent to the landfill. The saving could go as high as 70 per cent, he

added. "Given that a landfill is a no-win situation, recycling looks to be the obvious solution," Andrew said.

The solid waste disposal committee chairman also noted that "99 per cent" of the waste being sent to the local landfill is brought onto the island from elsewhere.

A chief culprit, he maintains, is excess packaging for consumer products. Education of consumers and retailers is necessary to reduce over-packaging, he said.

"It sounds idealistic," Andrew said, "but the fact of the matter is we have no choice."

Fulford residents prepare to fight post office closure

From page A1

upset at the prospect of losing their post office. Bruce Patterson is attempting to organize opposition to the plan but does not hold out much hope of success.

He noted that in no case of rural post office closures has public protest

been able to change the situation.

Frick said: "The town would not lose if she retires early." If Clarkson does not accept the sweetened retirement offer, nothing would happen to the post office in Fulford.

If, however, she decides to take early retirement, Canada Post would then consider awarding a retail postal outlet to a Fulford business, similar to the retail outlet at Harbour Foods in Ganges.

In any event, Canada Post is supposed to notify the union before making changes in postal service. Neither CUPW nor CPAA have received official notice of the situation in Fulford.

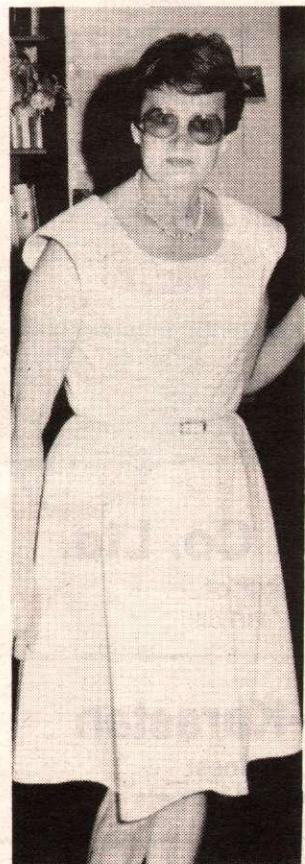
Dmytruk noted that Canada Post does not consider the closing of a rural post office due to early retirement of the postmaster to be a change in postal service when a retail postal outlet replaces it.

"It's more than just co-incidence," he said, that Clarkson received a buy-out offer for early retirement.

The Fulford Businessmen's Association has organized a letter writing campaign to let Canada Post know of its objections to the possible closure of the post office.

Lynn Hunter, local member of parliament, is also seeking answers to the questions raised.

Meanwhile, Canada Post had sent 25 rural postal boxes to Salt Spring. The boxes are to be placed around the Ganges rural routes. The post office in Ganges has no postal boxes available for customers and the cost of the post office box will rise to \$50 per year shortly.



Fulford Postmaster Ruth



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New store continues Burritts' tradition

City prices on a small island: that's the philosophy of Burritt Brothers outlet on Salt Spring.

To better serve a growing clientele in the Gulf Islands, the store has moved from shared quarters in the Home Design Centre to more spacious quarters near Ganges Village Market.

Proprietor Arlene Dashwood describes herself as a "rug rat." A member of the Burritt family, she grew up playing on the carpet rolls at the original store in Vancouver. Her grandfather and great uncle started the company in 1907 and her father and uncle followed in their footsteps. Brother Harvey took over after their father died and fourth generation Burritts now work in the business.

Arlene is the first Burritt woman to be involved but that came after her father's death. "It's in my blood. He would have loved it."

The Dashwood family members were all ready for a change at the same time some 14 years ago. After selling the family house, they began a search around B.C. for the new place to call home. Narrowing the options down to communities on the coast, they looked from Quadra Island south and finally chose Salt Spring. "It had all sorts of things for the children and ourselves", Arlene explained.

In her younger years, Arlene took interior design with an architect and she worked in fabric crafts shortly after coming to the island. She moved easily to the "craft" of designing floor layouts. Helping with the construction of two of her family's houses also gave her experience.

Initially Arlene worked out of a sample store room at her home.

"That was a challenge; talking on the phone to get an idea of what the customer wanted, going through the samples, loading up the car and heading out. Sometimes it took a few trips."

Even with a store that process continues but now it starts with a

-- Advertising Feature --



Arlene Dashwood shows off Burritt Bros. selection of Oriental rugs.

customer browsing through the many samples and then taking some home.

Surprised at how the business has grown over the past four years since the first Salt Spring store opened, Arlene is nonetheless pleased at its pace.

"When I started out, I thought I would have a nice little part-time business. It grew slowly, keeping pace as my abilities increased."

She said the growth is an indication of the growth of the island. And the business continues to grow through the ups and downs of the real estate market. When the market slows and people decide to stay in

their current home, they look around with an eye to changes and renovations.

Arlene said the key to success is versatility. She works with owners of rustic cottages who only live in them on weekends and want little to worry about as well as those with brand new houses with very deluxe products, and the full range in between.

"We've provided everything from a runner down the centre of a trailer to 200 yards of flooring."

Starting with installers who came to the island when three or four jobs needed to be completed, the local outlet now employs two installers

who have moved to Salt Spring because of the work.

Moving to a larger location, from 480 to just under 1600 square feet, allows for more room to display products, more storage and a larger section for roll ends.

One of the more exciting additions is more room to display oriental rugs, a relatively new item for Burritt Brothers. With a return to some hardwood and tile floors, people are looking for something to put down in a specific area. Now showing are the 6 x 9 sizes as well as the 3 x 5 and 4 x 6.

Arlene and her brother designed the layout of the new store using a display that had been featured at the Vancouver Home Show. It allows good use of a long, narrow space.

The new store has "an element of discovery" with its set-up. Many more customers can be in the store without feeling they are bumping into one another.

Exclusive lines like California products, noted for their excellent colour ranges, entice customers into Burritt Brothers. For a smaller store, the Salt Spring location has a very wide selection because of its connection with the main stores. The other three stores serve much larger market areas and generate a fair amount of roll ends. And the local store is very successful in selling those roll ends. Arlene attributed that to people coming here for the weekend who decide on the spur of the moment to do some renovations to their weekend cottage. "They want to do it now and they want to do it themselves."

The store can also bind and fringe roll ends for customers.

Although it accounts for a smaller portion of the business, there also is a good selection of vinyl flooring products in almost every price range.

"In almost every price range" is a statement that covers Burritt Brothers philosophy regarding price and quality. The company handles goods in the middle range and upwards and stays away from the low

quality products.

According to Harvey the company began by doing installation work of the highest quality and as selling became more important, better quality carpet was sold to go with quality workmanship.

Burritt Brothers was the first company to offer a corporate guarantee against seam failure and restretching. In other stores the guarantee is put up by the installer who may have disappeared by the time the defect shows up.

"We've maintained that quality philosophy rather than the quick buck."

In fact at times the reputation for quality goods has created a problem with potential customers who may feel they cannot afford to deal with Burritt Brothers. "They are pleasantly surprised to find we are very competitive in all but low quality goods."

Arlene said she and her staff are not in a position of pushing stock for suppliers. "We look at ourselves as a purchasing agent for our customers rather than a seller for products."

At one time Arlene showed the samples, did all the measuring and estimating, ordering, shipping, receiving, dispatching installation crews and some accounting. She now has help from Joan Todd and Claudia Clarke.

The Burritt Brothers chain of stores has an odd marketing mix with one store for a million people in Vancouver, one for 300,000 in Victoria, one for 200,000 in North Vancouver, and one for less than 10,000 on Salt Spring Island.

"It might be odd but it sure works," said Arlene, "and we're happy to see the response here to all our efforts. Because our increasing desire to serve our customers in the best possible manner follows closely their acceptance of our service and products, we have moved to this new location."

"We're just waiting to have everyone come by to see it this week."

*Congratulations to Burritt Bros. on your expansion and relocation!
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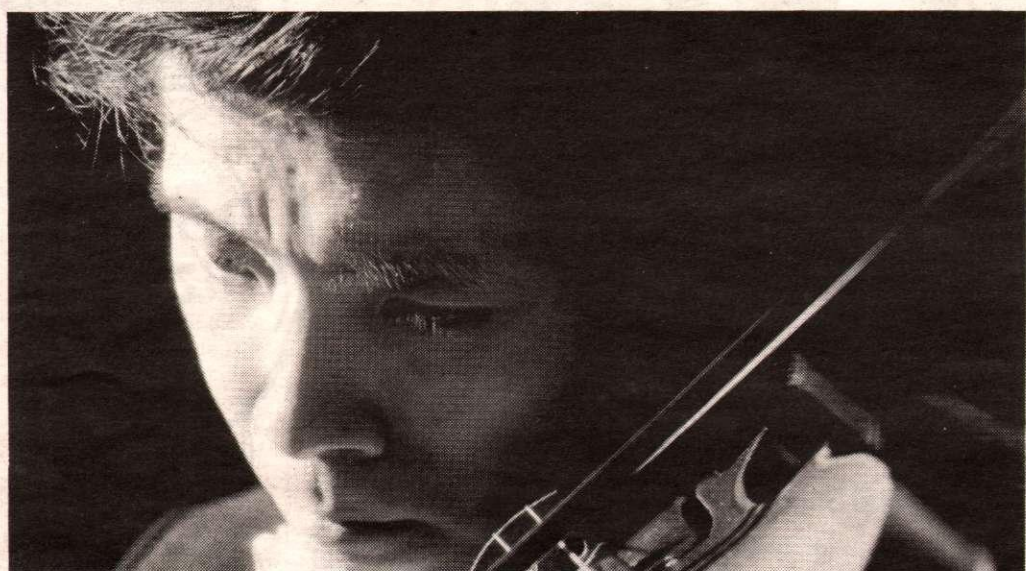
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Joan Todd, Arlene Dashwood



Driftwood

Entertainment



Violinist Yi-Wen Jiang to appear at this week's Festival of the Arts

Festival will feature classical performers

Eclectic describes this week's entertainment at the Salt Spring Festival of the Arts.

The Salt Spring Players continue their *Evening of Theatre* today, Wednesday and Thursday. Curtain time for each performance is 8:30 p.m.

The Players offer three short plays covering the range from irony through poignancy to . . . well, you have to see it to believe it.

On Friday, July 20, the festival features classical music with renowned pianist Ronald Turini and violinist Yi-Wen Jiang.

During the evening, the pair will perform works by Beethoven, Prokofief and Paganini. The Beethoven piece will be Sonata in E Flat, Opus 12, No. 3 to be followed later by Prokofief's Sonata in D.

Sonata No. 6 for solo violin, by E. Ysaye, will also be performed, as will Paganini's I Palpiti. Tchaikovsky's Waltz-Scherzo will end the evening.

Holly Arntzen returns to Salt Spring on Saturday, July 21. She brings David Sinclair, guitar, Lee Oliphant, bass, and Buff Allen on drums to perform music old and new.

Satirist Des Kennedy contributes humorous interludes during the evening.

Poetry dominates on Sunday, July 22, when Clive Pig, of St. Albans, England, performs his poetry.

Sharing the bill with Clive Pig



Dinosaurs didn't advertise... and where are they now?

will be Jim Cassidy of Vancouver, with jazz poetry, and Geoff Inverarity of Galiano, who performs sight-sound poetry. Salt Spring will be represented by Sandi Johnson, who will read from her *Wonderful Naked Man* poems.

The Festival stage will be darkened Monday and Tuesday, July 23 and 24.

Next Wednesday, July 25, Robbyn Scott offers *Stages of Descent*.

This work looks at woman from childhood through old age. "It celebrates the rites of passage and common experiences often ignored or feared in the lives of women," the program notes explain.

The Festival of the Arts continues until the end of the month with performances taking place in the Activity Centre at Salt Spring Elementary School. Tickets for each event can be purchased at *et cetera*, on Hereford Avenue; at the Saturday Market in Centennial Park or at the door each evening.

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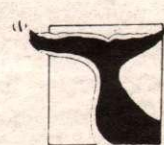
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On the Waterside in Gasoline Alley



Arts

Interpretative programs set for area parks

Interpretative programs are scheduled this week at two provincial parks and aboard several B.C. Ferries vessels serving the Gulf Islands.

The schedule of programs, sponsored by B.C. Parks, is listed below:

Ruckle Provincial Park Salt Spring Island

(Unless otherwise noted, all programs start at the meeting place in the campground.)

Thursday, July 19

7:30 p.m. **Mystery Tour.** Come explore the nooks and crannies of Ruckle Park.

9:30 p.m. **As The Tide Turns.** A look at the real-life drama of life in the intertidal zone.

Friday, July 20

9:30 a.m. **Down To The Max.** A low-tide beach exploration for the whole family. This is the last really low tide of the season.

9:30 p.m. **Life On The Farm.** An historic look at life on B.C.'s oldest family farm.

Montague Harbour Provincial Park Galiano Island

(Unless otherwise indicated, all programs start at the meeting place in the campground.)

Saturday, July 21

7:30 p.m. **Mollusc Madness.** Have you ever tasted an animal with 10 arms and a beak? Here's your chance.

9:30 p.m. **As The Tide Turns.** A look at the real-life drama of life in the intertidal zone.

Sunday, July 22

10:30 a.m. **Seashore Explorations.** A time for the whole family to poke among the rocks. Meet at the boat ramp.

9:30 p.m. **Whale Tales.** A talk and slide show about whales and other marine mammals of the Gulf Islands.

TURN TO PAGE A12

Artspring receives funding pledges

Two presentations made last Saturday have made almost \$700,000 available to assist construction of a centre for the arts on Salt Spring.

The first presentation, made by MLA Mel Couvelier (SC, Saanich-The Islands), was a cheque for \$367,667 from Go B.C., the provincial lottery fund. The second was a pledge from Capital Regional District (CRD) director Julia Atkins to provide \$200,000 for the project from the Windfall fund.

Lawrie Neish, president of the Island Arts Centre Society of Salt Spring Island, accepted the lottery fund money, and the CRD promise of additional funding, at an informal ceremony held outside Mouat Park at the site of the planned centre, which will be called Artspring.

Neish later thanked Atkins and Couvelier for their contributions, and singled out island resident Norman Mouat and MLA Terry Huberts for assistance they provided.


Norman Mouat was instrumental in securing approval from the Mouat family to allow a portion of the park they donated to the community to be used for the arts centre, Neish said. Huberts (SC, Saanich-The Islands) was minister of parks when the provincial government approved releasing that portion of Mouat Park for the centre.

In a Go B.C. press release accompanying the presentation, Huberts is quoted as saying "a well-planned centre of the arts will address the special needs of the large population of artists on the island, providing a venue for visual arts and a theatre for the performing arts."

It also quotes Couvelier as saying "Artspring has considerable merit economically and culturally for the island economy, which is heavily dependent on the tourist industry."

Construction of the arts centre is expected to cost \$1.3 million. The society is continuing its plans to raise funds to help cover the full cost. At present, it is holding a raffle on works contributed by local artists, including a painting by LeRoy Jensen, a print by Carole Evans, a quilt by Donna Johnstone, and a sabot by Neish.

The contributed items can be seen at Mahon Hall. Raffle tickets are available through ArtCraft, the Festival of the Arts, Waterfront Gallery, and the Saturday Market in Centennial Park.



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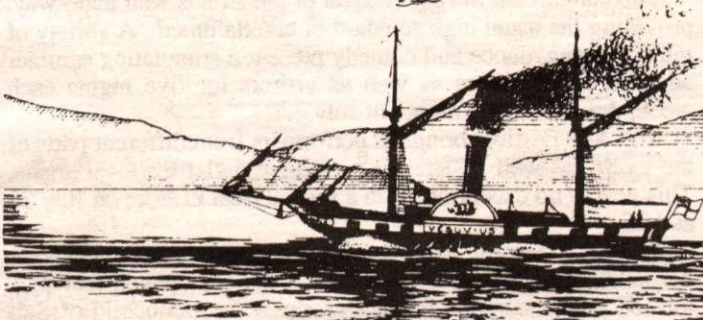
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Salt Spring Island

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Entertainment

Artsreen

LYNDA LAUSHWAY



The annual Salt Spring Festival of the Arts is well underway, providing the usual high standard of entertainment. A variety of music, drama, dance and comedy present a stimulating summer addition for islanders as well as visitors for five nights each week, throughout the month of July.

The Arts Festival brings in performers from different parts of the world, as well as offering a creative outlet for local artists. This year is no exception, with a special treat in store on July 25 and 26.

Stages of Descent, a multi-media dance production, will have its debut on these dates. A locally inspired, created and performed production, *Stages of Descent* is the brainchild of Salt Spring dancer Robbyn Scott. Funded by a Canada Council Explorations grant, and by the Community Arts Council, the collective production has been in the works for the past six months. A number of island women and children will take part in this unusual performance.

An original music score by Lynn Quinn, mixed with pre-recorded music, slides by Lynda Laushway, and conception and choreography by Robbyn Scott, combined with the expressions of various female participants, results in a most unique presentation.

Questioned aging process

Stages of Descent grew from Scott's questioning of the aging process and an in-depth look at our society's attitude towards women and aging, as well as the role women play in our society from birth through motherhood and eventually death.

Scott explains that "... in my career as a dancer I saw the whole age thing quite strongly. Young is better. Then I met a world of artists who were challenging that attitude. It was like entering a new dimension for me... a broader potential, full of possibilities for dance and art was opened to me, no matter what age or shape I am."

Through a collective process and the dedication of a number of community participants, Scott will bring this intriguing and important questioning of our values and views of a segment of the life process, to the spotlight at this summer's Arts Festival. Art becomes truly vital when it is combined with creative talent and skills as well as an intelligence and heart-felt expression. Historically, the art that has "lasted" through the ages is that which holds up the mirror to a society, proposes questions, and a vision for the future. This is no small challenge for any artist and Robbyn Scott's *Stages of Descent* will undoubtedly prove an exciting entry into this essential arena.

Second grant for islands

It is interesting to note that this is the second Canada Council Explorations grant received on Salt Spring for a group performance project (the Salt Spring Hysterical Society received a similar grant for *Paradise Lots*). According to Canada Council press releases, over 95 per cent of grants received in British Columbia are still going to Vancouver and area artists. This has been a subject of some contention in the past, especially given the appalling state of funding for the arts in this province, compared with the rest of Canada. It is important for artists in the outlying areas to continue to apply for funding. We have two success stories to point to and hopefully we will have many more successful grant applications in the future.

Programs offered in area parks

From Page A11

B.C. Ferries

Interpretative programs are offered aboard several ships sailing among the islands. The programs, covering natural history and cultural topics, are designed to be light and informative. They are geared to general audiences; children as well as adults.

Programs are offered this week aboard:

- the 11:45 a.m. sailing between Swartz Bay and Fulford Harbour on July 19;
- the 12:30 p.m. sailing between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay on July 21;
- the 2:45 p.m. sailing between Swartz Bay and Sturdies Bay on July 21; and
- the 11:50 a.m. sailing between Sturdies Bay and Swartz Bay on July 23.

Seniors for Seniors

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A REMINDER—

The Thursday Soup'n'Sandwich Program is taking a holiday during JULY & AUGUST. Watch this space for the start-up date in September. The DROP-IN CENTRE is open as usual all summer for coffee, tea and conversation. Come on in, check out the library, the resource file and meet a few new people.

COMING EVENTS

JULY 25, 2:00 PM: Sue Mouat and Nel Bushby will do a presentation on **ABBEYFIELD**, Safety in Housing, Preventing Falls and other things you always wanted to know.

AUG. 22, 11:30 AM: Wim Kreyenhoff leads a discussion on issues around Death and Dying.

AUG. 29, 2:00 PM: Three panelists—a pharmacist, a social worker and a doctor—talk about Drugs & Alcohol and the special effect they have on seniors.

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Ministry of Transportation and Highways
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Victoria, B.C. V8W 3E6

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Telephone: 387-1411 or 387-7879

Application packages will be mailed upon request.

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Opinion

Typewriter of

BILL WEBSTER



Success, on occasion, brings more problems than joy. Such is the case of the misnamed Farmers' Market which — depending upon your point of view — graces or disgraces Centennial Park in Ganges each Saturday.

The history of the market blends nicely with the story of growth in the village for most of the past 20 years, if not longer. It began, in the early 1970s, at the spot where the Mobile Market sits on Lower Ganges Road. The land, then, was owned by the Farmers' Institute.

The market grew. The market sprawled. Even then, in those early days, arguments erupted about the value of the market. The department of highways, concerned about traffic congestion at that spot, requested the market to relocate.

Meanwhile, a decade earlier and half mile down the road in the centre of the village, the federal boat people evolved a plan for dock space for commercial fishermen and other folk. They dug a deep hole in the harbour and piled the leftover rock, silt and clam shells on the mud bank and thus added a couple of hundred square feet to the area of the village.

The feds wanted to pave the landfill area, a large-ish parking lot, don't you know.

Islanders, anticipating Canada's 100 years of existence, wanted a park to commemorate both the event and the history of Salt Spring. Centennial Park sprung from the efforts of islanders. It was intended as a memorial to settlers of the island.

Market flourished, park deteriorated

Time passed, meanwhile, and up the road the fledgling Farmers' Market, attracting too many people for the small space available, was moved. The Centennial Park parking lot fronting Fulford-Ganges Road became, each Saturday morning, the home of the market at which local produce and garden fare as well as handicrafts from island artisans could be purchased.

As more years passed, the market flourished and the park deteriorated.

Several years ago, a group of citizens put together a plan to refurbish the park. They gathered dollars and set to work. A boardwalk fronted the water side of the park, complete with viewpoint gazebo, while the band shell was constructed and an amphitheatre dug.

The parking lot at roadside featured a mixture of gravel, asphalt and potholes which became small lakes when it rained. It was transformed to a pleasant pedestrian way by the judicious placement of paving bricks and pebbled cement, and with trees added for aesthetic reasons.

While the renovations for the park were being planned and carried out, the Parks and Recreation Commission attempted civil suicide by decreeing rules, regulations, codes, dogmas and advice on how the market should conduct itself.

Needless to say, the vendors objected.

The park is nominally a federal park under jurisdiction of the provincial parks folks, with maintenance covered by the island parks commission answering to the Capital Regional District. Got that?

Yet another self-inflicted trauma

The feds wouldn't touch the situation as long as it didn't spill over to the boat basin. The provincial parks folks didn't work Saturday and feigned disinterest in the presence of the market. The CRD attempted to exert controls through the commission.

When the vendors objected, Salt Spring erupted into yet another of its self-inflicted traumas.

Eventually, an agreement was reached to allow the market, but for Saturday only. Vendors could not set up before 6 in the morning and had to be out of there by 2 in the afternoon.

Everyone agreed that the vendors, depending upon the market as a means of making money, should be the ones to run it. They, the vendors, were granted the responsibility, but no authority, for its care and feeding.

Now, history repeats like an undigested radish.

Some vendors park their vehicles at roadside on Friday evening, the better to ensure a good spot. Other individuals, during the Friday evening, set out their tables as claim to the space.

The sad part of the entire exercise emerges when everyone, merchants, vendors, visitors, even the typewriter, agrees when extolling the benefit to the island of the market.

BUT.

Harsh words replace agreement. Anger displaces friendliness. Some merchants shout at the Parks and Recreation Commission. Vendors vent frustration.

And the market suffers.

The vendors, who at first wanted as few controls as possible, are considering a stringent set of rules and regulations. But they'll need co-operation from other agencies to ensure the thing works.

If they can get rid of the fleas, Salt Spring's pet market will flourish. If not . . .

Letters

Playful

To the Editor,
I see that Jason and Christine Hawes on Galiano are looking for the Italian for "Frisky" for their Sicilian pony.

There are a few that occur to me, though they are not to my mind particularly euphonic: *vispo*, for instance, which means "lively, quick, nimble, vivacious, gay" (of course in the good old sense of "merry" — in passing, I really lament the current use of that poor word to mean "homosexual," though the use is actually of some long standing).

Another possible word is *saltellante*, from the verb *saltellare*, "to skip or frisk about, like a child". What about *scherzoso*, "playful"? There is also *festevole* (accented on the second syllable), "merry".

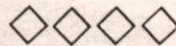
Readers who have a deal more Italian may come up with something more suitable, particularly from dialect.

MURRAY SHOOLBRAID,
Ganges



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LADY MINTO GULF ISLANDS HOSPITAL NOTICE

As recently reported in the press, the Hospital Board commissioned a survey of Salt Spring Island residents and health care agencies to assess the services currently provided by the hospital and the community's future expectations.

Copies of the report will be available to anyone after July 20th at the hospital administration office. A fee of \$10.00 will be charged for each copy to cover the reproduction of the 134 page document.

The study was conducted by Dr. Elaine Gallagher, an Associate Professor at the University of Victoria. Persons interested in health care in this community will find the report well worth reading. A copy is also available in the reference section of the Ganges Library for those who wish to examine it.

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AIR ROTARY EQUIPMENT

Opinion

Support, encouragement given to small woodlot management

By JOHN STEPANIUK
Islands Trustee

The meeting at Central Hall last Saturday was told by Mel Couvelier, MLA for Saanich-The Islands, that the province is about to table a bill dealing with logging on private lands, and that the bill will be proclaimed by the end of the current session, mid-August at the latest. He explained that this was a very difficult bill to write because it had to be province-wide and every region has a different set of problems. Mr. Couvelier was unable to answer specific questions regarding the implementation of the bill until it has been tabled in the House, but that anyone wishing a copy should write to the Constituency office in Sidney, or phone 656-6232.

Regarding the letter to the editor about my voting record on the Weldwood logging issue and the moratorium on logging, there was no vote on the Weldwood issue, but I did make a written statement to Weldwood, a copy of which was given to *Driftwood*; however it was only briefly referred to and not printed. Trust policy (1982) and the Community Plan support and encourage woodlot management and so do I.

Sale of the 750 acres would have been detrimental to the community. Weldwood granted the further change I asked for, which was to divide the 42-hectare portion, leaving a strip of trees in between. The phone calls that I received were in support of Weldwood's plan and the amendment.

With regard to the moratorium on logging, yes I voted against it at the Trust Council meeting in Nanaimo on May 4. At the council meeting of June 1 it was replaced with a more realistic resolution with policy recommendations that the Trust act as a referral agency and permit area.

I supported the resolution, but the concern I had then, and still have, is how such a resolution could be administered and legally enforced.

I agree with Gary Holman that the forest council is a good idea and I am supportive of it. As to why it failed

Trustee Report

Mr. Holman should talk to the members and ex-members. As recently as two weeks ago I made several attempts to bring them together again and it failed.

On Saturday I asked Jim Windsor, general manager of the Trust, to take the chair and inquire of the meeting whether there should be a forest advisory council to the Trust. Again, I was criticized for the attempt to re-

activate the group. The meeting agreed to re-evaluate the need for a forest council after the new legislation has been tabled and we will know just what is in it.

On a brighter note, Ruth Clarkson, post-mistress at Fulford, informed me that the no-growth population in Fulford could not possibly be accurate. Since 1986, 80 additional rural route mailboxes have been installed and all the post office boxes are in use. She is waiting for additional boxes from Canada Post, so the statisticians will have to go back and check their sources.

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11:30	8:30 X	12:00	9:00 *
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Letters

Get real

To the Editor,

Our friend and neighbour, Audrey Buitenwerf, had a notice in *The Driftwood* recently about her problems with land classification.

Audrey's many friends know that while she, like her late husband, Jake, is the most unselfish of people, she is quite capable of fighting for what she considers to be her rights.

Whatever the disposition of her small parcel, which she, as a widow, can no longer work agriculturally, she will never be a wealthy widow.

Without going into the merits or otherwise of her case against the operations of the agricultural land reserve regulations, there is a perception in British Columbia that the present government lacks dedication to them. Farm land, for instance, may be transmuted into golf courses, then into the nuclei of upscale developments. Such pressures may extend even to Salt Spring.

Perhaps her comments about the regulating process could be allowed a little hyperbole, especially in a province the government of which regularly labels anybody to the left of Attila the Hun a Godless communist.

Finally, it isn't the Audrey Buitenwerfs of this province who threaten its ecological well-being.

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Letters

Share

To the Editor,
Further to Saturday's meeting with our local MLA:

We own property on Salt Spring Island. It has trees, a pond, water, flowers and many plants.

We will gladly covenant with our neighbours, with our fellow islanders, that we will not do anything on our land or to our land that will result in the degradation of the environment we share on this island, its water supply, its land or its air.

We ask only that other private land owners share such a covenant with us.

LOWELL and BARBARA HICKS, Ganges

Explanation

To the Editor,
In response to your article about the court case to reinstate the Electric Motors Only (EMO) regulation on St. Mary Lake (*Driftwood*, July 11, 1990) I am writing to explain the roll of the federal government in this matter.

After much community debate in 1981 and 1982 and overwhelming support by the residents of Salt Spring Island, the B.C. government recommended to the federal government, in whose hands lies the power to regulate boating (Canada Shipping Act), to prohibit the use of gas powered boats on St. Mary Lake. Such a law was enacted in 1985.

However, the owners of some St. Mary Lake resorts petitioned the B.C. Supreme Court and asked that the law be declared *ultra vires* on the grounds that the prohibition of boating was made for environmental reasons (a provincial authority) and not reasons of safety (which is clearly within the jurisdiction of the federal government). B.C. Supreme Court Justice Gibbs agreed and the law was struck down in June of 1985.

Although the Federal Justice Department could and should have appealed this lower court decision, they didn't. But in 1989 a similar case in Invermere, B.C., was appealed and the federal power to control all aspects of small craft operation was confirmed. The St. Mary Lake (Rockcliffe) case was cited in that decision as being wrongly decided.

Upon receiving this decision, the federal government should have reenacted the St. Mary Lake ban but has not done so. The provincial government, although unhelpful, has been consistent. They claimed right from the beginning that the regulation of boating was not within their jurisdiction. Their position has been vindicated in the Invermere case by the B.C. Court of Appeals.

The RCMP have refused to enforce the existing ban on gas powered engines on St. Mary Lake unless (a) the law is re-enacted or (b) there is a court order. In our view it is not fair that by refusing to re-enact the boating regulation for St. Mary Lake the federal government has prompted a legal crisis stranding the Salt Spring Community in the proverbial boat without a paddle. A lone individual, small water district and a charitable

society located on an island in British Columbia must now assume, at their own expense, the responsibility of defending the laws of Canada.

TOM GOSSETT, Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society

Proposals

To the Editor,
Surely one of the negative aspects of cyclical problems is that they keep coming back. There is a tendency, and I think your editorial supports it, to put off dealing with them until the fall, or some other future time. Unfortunately, memories of problems requiring solution tend to fade. There is, also, the easy assumption that there will be time enough over the fall and winter to address any changes needed for the upcoming Saturday Market season.

I think that Centennial Park, with all its beauty, will continue to be the meeting place, a place for children to play, a place for entertainment and community events, whether or not the so-called Farmers Market continues at the park on Saturdays.

I have been told that there is no way, under present legal circumstances, that off-island or, indeed, island vendors can be required to conform to any desired controls because Centennial Park is a public place. If this is so, competition being what it is, there does seem little that the ordinary islander or visitor can do except, I suppose, to boycott the market or certain vendors.

However, I am puzzled about the Parks and Recreation Commission's "one bylaw to control the market." If it has the power to limit vending between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, does it have the power to close the market to vending at any time? How is its power enforced?

Perhaps one way to help avoid cyclical conflicts between off-island and island vendors might be for the island vendors to lease an appropriate market space which the vendor association could control, as it sees fit. It might, then, limit the number of off-island vendors and the space allotted to them, if any. They might also sublet specific, reserved, spaces to island vendors to eliminate the ritual race for space, in the wee hours, with its accompanying stress.

Your writer notes in his article that the association tries to collect \$25 from each vendor. Does that mean a small operator working off a card table pays the same as some of the vendors who take up ten times the space? Surely not!

I am one of many who would like to see island vendors prosper and be successful. Market success usually means growth. It could be that a future move to a larger location would be a benefit for all concerned.

I won't deal with the slow traffic flow at the height of the market activity again. However, while I realize that the RCMP cannot create new parking spaces, surely it can ensure that vehicle traffic moves properly through the downtown core and that dangers to pedestrians are lessened.

LOWELL HICKS, Ganges

Messages

To the Editor,
Here it is again, Summer, sun (at last), and the tourists.

Each year it seems that visitors coming to our lovely island are expecting more and more, and somewhat act like small, spoiled, children.

These visitors come here wanting hot tubs, jacuzzi spas, private bathrooms, queen size beds, lots of water for endless showers, sewers, fast service, gourmet restaurants, and etc., etc., etc. . .

We as Islanders, somewhat, do try hard to please our guests, putting up fancy shopping areas, and in our homes putting in hot tubs, separate bathrooms, and etc., etc., etc. . .

However hard we try, we will never quite please them, because they come here with too many expectations, and fixed ideas as to how life should be for them.

A message for visitors, from me, is this: come here with an open mind, and heart, first allowing, ready to receive the island's natural beauty, peace, and friendliness, and maybe you will receive a new experience, one of joy, serenity, and peace, and go home having thoroughly enjoyed your visit here.

A message for islanders (including myself); be who you are, and want to be, peaceful, relaxed, and natural and stop trying so hard to please others, just please ourselves. If you keep trying to cater to others, all you finally accomplish is burn-out, resentment, and anger, and no one ever wins.

We came here for a different way of life: away from the crowds, and the concrete and because we love nature; so, stay as you really want to be, natural and at peace with yourselves. Here on Salt Spring Island we are closer to nature and closer to the God within each of us.

JENNIFER GILLETT, Ganges

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Invitation to Tender

In accordance with the **Ministry of Transportation and Highways Act**, Section 49(1), sealed tenders are invited for the following:

Project No. 0-7218
Location: Ganges, Salt Spring Island, B.C.
Description: Stream channel construction, riprap and culvert installation, Fulford Road to pedestrian bridge (approx. 250 m) Ministry of Transportation and Highways drainage easement.

Sealed tenders, completed in accordance with the Conditions of Tender on the forms provided, will be received by the Ministry of Transportation and Highways at 103-4475 Viewmont Ave., Victoria, B.C. V8Z 5K8, until 2:00 p.m. (local time) on July 30, 1990, when tenders will be opened in public.

A security deposit/surety bid bond will be required (in accordance with the conditions of the tender).

A pre-tender meeting will be held on site July 25/90 at 10:00 a.m. (it is mandatory to attend the pre-tender meeting as a condition of tender).

Tender documents complete with envelope, plans, specifications and conditions of tender are available at a cost of \$15.00 from the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, 103-4475 Viewmont Avenue, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except holidays.

Where required, payment for contract documentation shall be made by certified cheque or money order, made payable to the Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations. All purchases are non-refundable.

For further information contact John Marriott, Area Manager, or Mark Stevens, Area Manager, at (604) 387-5264, or fax (604) 387-4197.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

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Honourable Rita M. Johnston, Minister

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Grand opening in new location at Creekhous

It truly can be said that one of the revolutionary innovations of the 1980's was the introduction of video rentals to the public. It has changed the way people live. It's especially useful here on Salt Spring Island where alternative entertainment sources are so infrequent.

"We're a one-store operation concerned only with what appeals to the people of Salt Spring. That's why we are the oldest and largest video store here." That's the opinion of Paul Norton, one of the owners of the successful VIDEO RANCH. Coupled with the proven formula of RADIO SHACK, and recently relocated at the new Creekhous development, it has become one of the island's major businesses.

Brent Birney and Paul Norton first opened their doors seven years ago. To celebrate this, and their recent move to their larger location, they will be having a GRAND OPENING Saturday, July 21. With the coupon that can be found elsewhere on this page, a second rental is free on that day. Prepaid movie bulk cards sold on the 21st will have extra rentals included at no charge. There will be case-lot specials of audio tape being sold at near cost. Free watches will be given to the first 70 customers who spend more than \$25 at the RADIO SHACK counter. Flashlights will be cleared out at "unbelievable prices" says Birney. There will be refreshments, balloons and gifts for the kiddies, and great door prizes.

VIDEO RANCH offers computerized rental service. The speed and accuracy of this system has allowed them to reinstate the popular weekend reservations. Their depth of selection in new releases and their great library of oldies and foreign movies has been a major factor in their success story. The Nintendo rental section has recently been expanded to include literally hundreds of games, with multiple copies of the hottest ones. It is also possible now to order Nintendo games to buy. Game decks, VCRs and TVs can be rented by the day or week.

From July 23 until the end of August, all movie rentals except "New Arrivals" will be priced at only \$2 for the first day's rental on weekdays. That's way over two thousand movies at bargain rates!

It's been a dream for quite a while at VIDEO RANCH to expand the music division, and it seems that this will be at long last a reality. Dealing with several suppliers on the mainland and Vancouver Island will allow them to bring in a great assortment of alternative music and stay more on top of the current Top '40 offerings. If they don't already have it, they'll take orders and attempt to get just about anything a customer might want. They hope to expand the guitar strings section to encompass more music accessories in a similar manner.

More than three years ago, it was decided to diversify into the RADIO SHACK line. "They're a proven success story and make high quality products. We are proud to be associated with them," says Brent Birney. "We stock most everything that Radio Shack carries. All stores have the same prices, so it's no longer necessary to go off the island to get the best deal. If we happen to be out of something, we can get it in for you quickly."

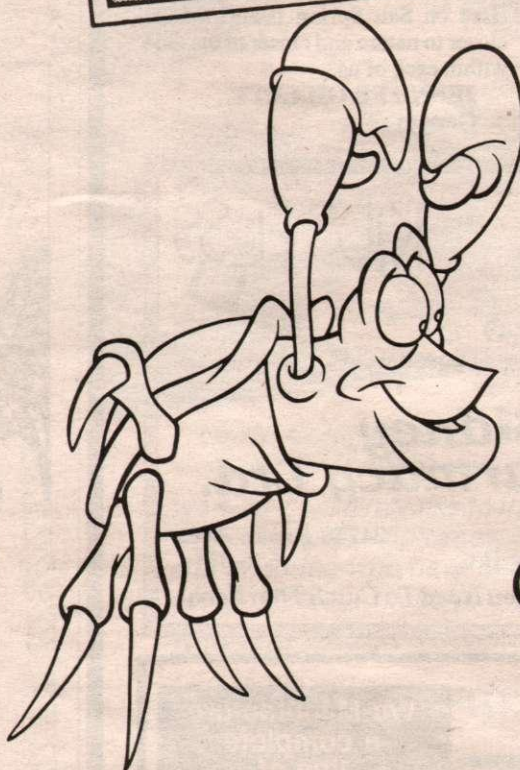
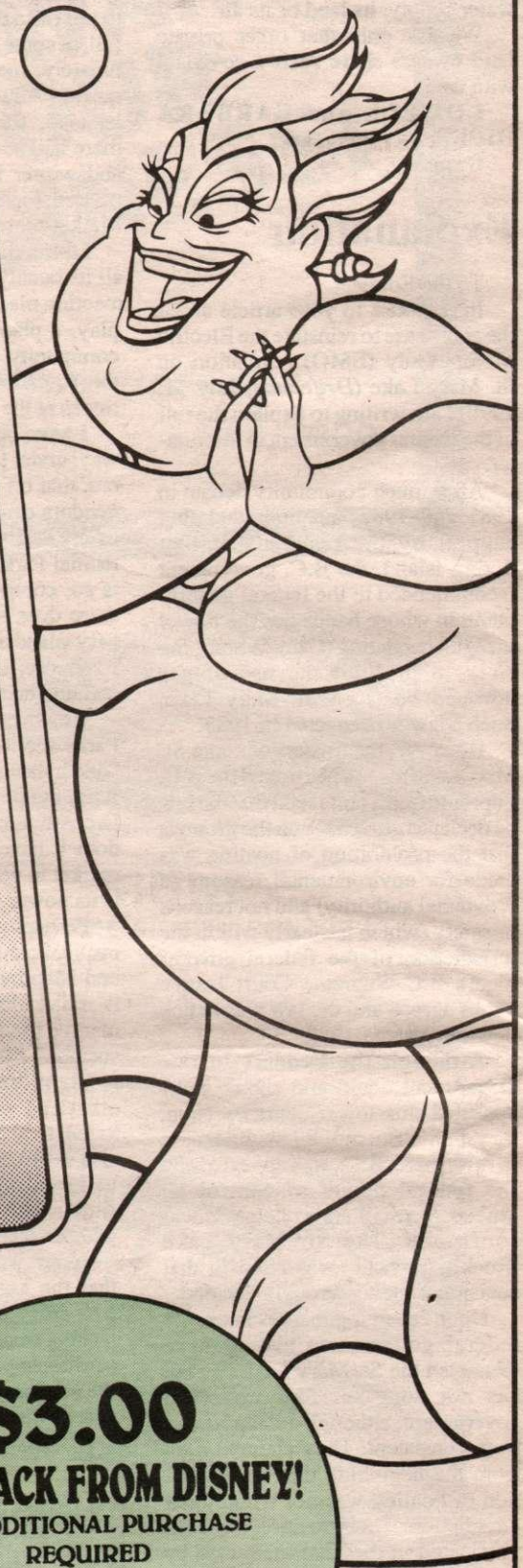
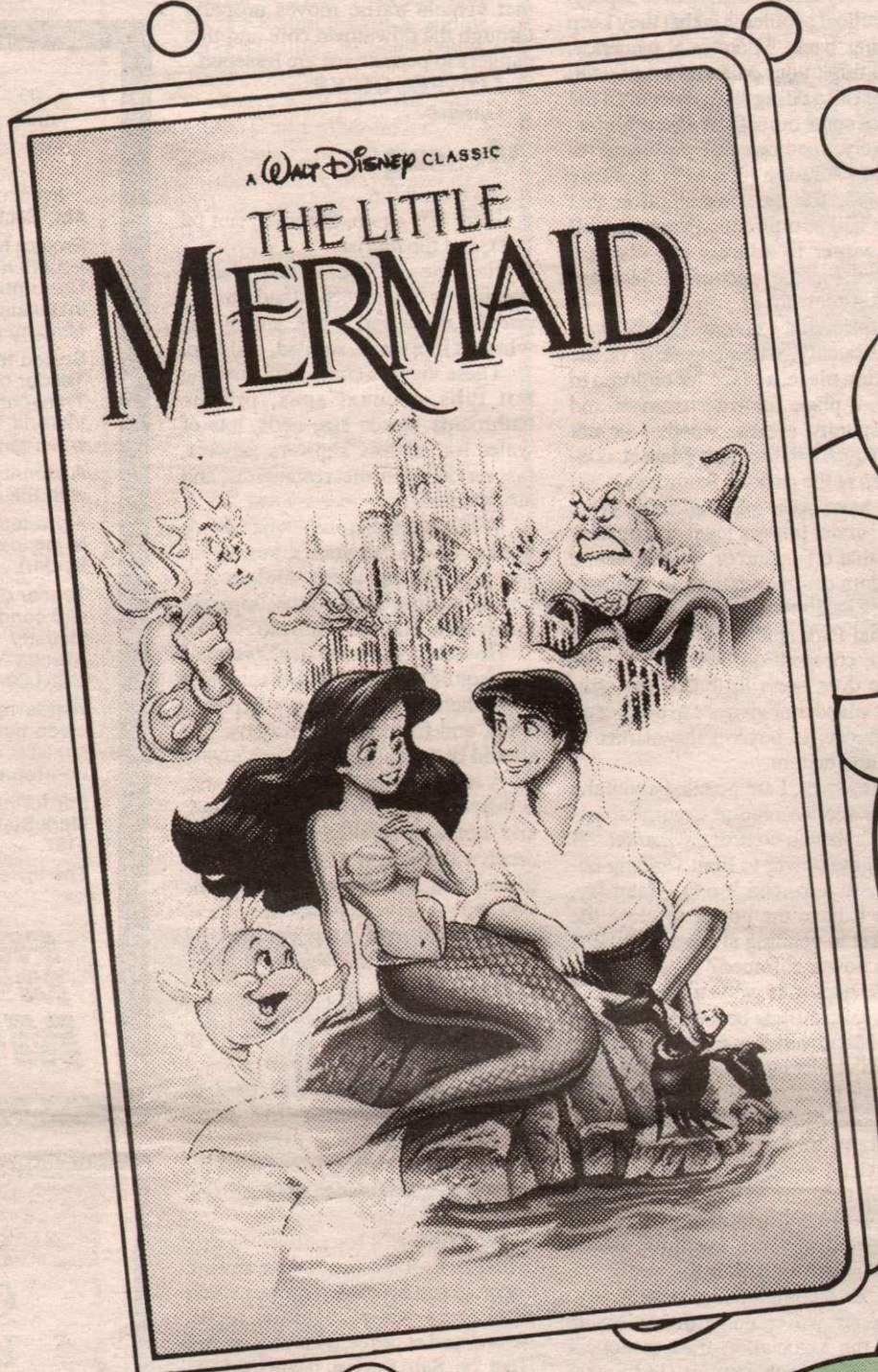
Near the end of each month, the RADIO SHACK sale flyer is included in the DRIFTWOOD. This is an event many people watch out for since it is the source of great bargains. Items are discounted by as much as 50 percent in the flyer. The great buying power of this organization allows for these huge savings which are passed along to the shopper.

RADIO SHACK is well known as being one of the top sellers of computer equipment in Canada. Customers can buy the hardware and get the knowledgeable support that is needed right here. There is a large selection of games and business oriented programs for IBM compatible or MacIntosh. "In addition, of course, you can get everything electronic that your heart desires. Guitar strings to VCRs. Telephone answering machine tapes to marine VHF radios. Walkman headphones to CD players. RADIO SHACK sells them all," says Paul.

The VIDEO RANCH and RADIO SHACK GRAND OPENING is happening Saturday, July 21, all day. Both Paul and Brent have an invitation for people. "Don't miss it. Drop into Creekhous and say hello. Bring your coupons!"

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