

Mary E Davidson
RR1
Fulford, BC
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08/01/90

Gulf Islands Driftwood

The ArtSpring architect discusses island's art centre Page A7

Gordon and Lotus Ruckle celebrate 60 years of marriage. Page B1

THIRTY-FIRST YEAR, NO. 31

50 CENTS

GANGES, BRITISH COLUMBIA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1990

Logging sabotage may spark island war

Salt Spring Island is sitting precariously on a powder keg following extensive sabotage of logging equipment late last week.

By Bill WEBSTER
Driftwood staff

Ganges RCMP are investigating two incidents of sabotage, involving sand being poured into the engines of logging machinery. Police are also trying to keep the lid on threatened violence resulting from the incidents.

On Mount Bruce, 13 logging machines — including skidders, log

loaders, trucks and a grader — belonging to Hamilton Logging Ltd. of Courtenay were found to have sand in the oil.

Company spokesman Mike Hamilton told the *Driftwood* the machines had been idle for about three weeks due to hot weather and resulting fire threat.

Workers returned to the site on Thursday, July 26, to load the last of the logs for transport to Burgoyne Bay. When the machines were started up, one of them stalled.

A subsequent investigation of the

engines revealed the presence of sand in the oil.

Hamilton said at least eight, if not more of the machines, were damaged beyond repair. Mechanics will have to take apart each of the other engines to get rid of the sand.

Damage was estimated at \$200,000.

Meanwhile, RCMP are investigating a second incident of sabotage which occurred at a Stewart Road logging site. There, a bulldozer belonging to a local logging contractor also had sand in the engine.

Damage to the bulldozer is es-

timated at approximately \$1,000 but the contractor is concerned his insurance might not cover the total damage bill.

RCMP are not overruling the possibility that the sabotage might spark further violence within the community.

Some people consider the damage to the machinery as a declaration "of open season on tree-huggers," according to Ganges RCMP Constable Chris Bomford, who is investigating the incidents.

Bomford stressed that while the investigation is proceeding, police do

not suspect any particular individual or group as being responsible for the damage.

Because local environmentalists have been protesting the logging of Mount Bruce, he added, the incidents would reflect negatively on their efforts.

"They have done a lot of good," he said, "but this incident will give them a bad name."

Referring to the Mount Bruce incident, Hamilton noted that whoever put the sand into the machinery knew what he was doing. The sand was

TURN TO PAGE A3

On private land logging

Logging changes viewed as "joke"

The recently enacted amendment to the Forest Act to allow control of logging on private land is "a joke," according to Ken Renaud of Salt Spring.

The key phrasing which renders the amendment inapplicable to land in the islands is contained in the following paragraph:

"(10) Notwithstanding anything in this section, a regulation shall not be made that applies to land other than land that is, under the Assessment Act (Forest Land) Regulations, B.C. Reg. 349/87, classified as managed forest land."

Land is classified under the regulations according to its "best use." Land in the Gulf Islands contains provisions for subdivision which is the "best use" available. Tree farms are classified as managed forest land but such land is affected by other regulations.

Renaud said, "People who have the incentive to manage their forests are the hardest hit."

He noted that many private land owners in the Gulf Islands have managed their timber supply for years but the land designation allows for subdivision potential. The subdivision potential shifts the "best use" of the land from timber and in effect prevents the land from being

classified as managed forest land.

He questioned why farm land, with the restrictions imposed by the Agricultural Land Commission, and timber land which could come under the managed forest designation, have development rights applied to them.

The problem, he pointed out, comes not from such land owners but from speculators who buy up large parcels of land, cut the available timber and apply for subdivision to increase the value of the land.

The Forest Act amendment allows for regulations to be imposed on managed forest land and gives authority to the district forest manager of the ministry.

The regulations can "control the manner in which timber harvesting is done on a particular parcel of land" and allows for variance of requirements for all or part of the land in question.

Furthermore, if regulations are imposed on a parcel of land, any bylaw by the Islands Trust which attempts to control tree cutting "is unenforceable with respect to a parcel to which a regulation... applies."

Renaud noted "people will back away from the concept of woodlot management" when faced with this amendment. "Social Credit has lost credibility on this one," he stated.



Graham Kaye slam dunks two points as he hones his basketball skills in an outdoor hoop. At the half-way point of the summer holiday, students are enjoying a variety of activities beneath brilliantly sunny skies.

Photo by Clinton Helfrich

Fire-fighters respond to seven calls

As Salt Spring volunteer fire-fighters attempted to enjoy an ocean-side picnic, they were forced to respond to no less than seven calls last Saturday.

The number of local fires, combined with an extreme fire rating has caused the local fire department to ban all burning.

Saturday started off early for island fire-fighters with a call to a Fulford-Ganges Road accident at 8:10 a.m. The fire department was asked to wash off the road where oil and gas had leaked onto the pavement.

The accident took place near the Fulford Harbour ferry terminal.

At 11 a.m., as some fire-fighters

Annual beach picnic interrupted

ignited on Isabella Road. Luckily, they were able to extinguish the fire quickly because 15 minutes later they were called to the other end of the island.

Again, firemen were able to douse a Scott Point grass fire fairly quickly.

Just as crews relaxed into a picnic on the sandy shores off Beddis Road, call number four came in at 1:45 p.m. Fire-fighters raced back out to Fulford Harbour, where they extinguished a car fire.

Fire Chief Les Wagg said the car

At 4:45 p.m., the fifth call sent crews back to Scott Point Road, where a second brush fire had erupted.

Wagg said that although the two Scott Point brush fires occurred one-half mile apart, they may have been caused by the same careless use of matches or careless disposal of cigarette butts.

Wagg warns the community to please take care with matches and cigarettes — the hot weather has made the land very dry and suscep-

responded to two false alarms at Lady Minto Hospital, where smoke detectors set off the alarm.

The annual picnic, rescheduled from August to July 28 this year, entertained about 50 volunteer firemen and their families, trustees of the fire district and honorary firemen.

Although the beach was never completely cleared, a good segment of men there, disappeared periodically throughout the afternoon.

The fire hazard on the Gulf Islands is now rated "extreme." A full industrial closure took effect at noon yesterday (July 31), all campfires

Deadlines changed

The *Driftwood* office will be closed Monday, August 6 for the B.C. Day Holiday.

Display Advertising:

The deadline for real estate advertising in C-Section is today (Wednesday, August 1) at 3 p.m.

The deadline for all other display advertising is Friday at 4 p.m.

Classified Advertising:

The deadline for classified advertising is Friday at 4 p.m.

Advertising in the Too Late to Classify section will be accepted until noon on Tuesday, August 7.

News

Rec commission addresses market parking problems

The parking problem around Centennial Park may ease when suggested parking restrictions come into force.

The Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission was requested to ask for the restrictions by the vendors association.

The commission will ask the Islands Trust to consider a ban on overnight parking as well as camping on that section of Fulford-Ganges Road near the park.

Vendors bring their vehicles to the area Friday evening and sleep overnight to be sure of obtaining a good space in the Saturday market. Their vehicles remain in front of the park all day Saturday while the market is in operation.

The parking lot along the

Gasoline Alley portion of the park is covered by the park bylaw which prohibits parking from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. The no camping restriction applies to the park as well as the parking lot.

A second parking restriction would limit parking in front of the park to 30 minutes on Saturdays between the hours of 6 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Commission member Ian Fraser urged that merchants be contacted about the 30-minute parking restriction to determine if the limit should be imposed along the entire Fulford-Ganges Road in the village.

Another proposal which the commission will pursue involves closing the entire parking lot situated between Gasoline Alley and the park. The parking spaces adjacent to the park are on park property and signs warn the spaces are reserved for park users only. Those spaces near the building are on private property for the convenience of customers.

When the park was renovated several years ago and the parking spaces created on a shared parking lot, an agreement between the commission and the owner of Gasoline Alley allowed for the entire parking lot to be closed on Saturdays for use by the market.

The commission will discuss the closure with merchants in the com-

plex before reaching a decision.

Strick Aust, of NRS Salt Spring Realty explained to the *Driftwood* that the matter had been settled several years ago. The agreement reached at that time was "mutually beneficial to both sides," he noted. While the agreement had not eliminated all the parking problems around Gasoline Alley, he said, it was a flexible agreement which works and he would not like to see it changed.

Fraser noted the merchants could move merchandise outside on Saturday and effectively become part of the market. Closing the parking lot would also eliminate the "type of competition which merchants object to," he added.

The commission heard the vendors association was considering a permit system for people who want to sell at the market. The system, to be worked out at the next vendors meeting later this month or early September, will be in effect January 1, 1991.

Island produce growers would not be required to hold a permit but encouraged to set up their stalls each Saturday in the centre portion of the market. Many produce growers have quit going to the market because of the rush for space on Friday evenings.

Pool plans noted

The swimming pool should be in place at Portlock Park on Salt Spring by August 13, the Parks and Recreation Commission learned this week.

Linda Adams reported to the commission about efforts to install the swimming pool. The Swimming Pool Society previously requested use of space at Portlock Park for the pool and the Capital Regional District has approved.

The pool will be placed behind the park building where the children's playground sits. The society will have to cover the cost of moving the playground to a new location.

The commission has drawn up an agreement which spells out what is expected of the society in order for the pool to be installed.

The society must satisfy the commission that funding to install and to operate the pool is sufficient.

In addition, the society must cover costs of upgrading the septic field to accommodate the addition of showers and washrooms. It must provide a backwash field which would be used when the pool is emptied to change the water.

The society must provide first aid equipment, an upgraded hand-capped washroom, improve the shower stalls in place now, supply 25 additional parking spaces at the park as well as increase the hot water capacity to 227 litres (60 gallons).

The pool society is required to, and has, deposited a letter of credit with the CRD. They will pay taxes on the portion of the park which will be used by the pool as well as liability insurance to satisfy the requirements of the district.

The pool society will be applying for a lottery grant to augment the money already obtained through donations and other means.

When the conditions are satisfied, the commission will issue written permission for the society to proceed with installation of the pool.



INDEX			
Beyer	A6	Garden	C9
Black	A14	Letters	A5
Classified	B4	Webster	B2
Crossword	C2	Years	A16
Country Gourmet	A12		

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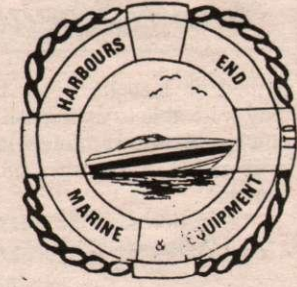
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TH	1705	10.5	SU	0955	1.4
	2205	9.6		1810	10.5
	2335	9.6		2310	8.6
3	0840	1.9	6	0250	9.4
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				1135	2.4
				1905	10.6



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News



Photos by RCMP Constable Rod Holland

This skidder was one of 13 machines sabotaged at the Mount Bruce logging site last week. Damage, which amounted to at least \$200,000 worth, occurred when sand was placed in the engines. Inset photograph shows oil filler spout from the side of a damaged bulldozer. The photo shows grains of sand inside the spout.

Following equipment sabotage

Weldwood reconsiders its island land holdings

Weldwood Canada will have to reconsider its land holding on the islands as a result of the machine sabotage on Mount Bruce, said company president Tom Buell.

He spoke with the *Driftwood* this week to express his disappointment in response to the damage to the Hamilton Logging equipment.

"You have to wonder where the world is going," he commented. The sabotage was an example to the public of the problem facing forest companies these days, he added.

Buell stressed the comment to sell Weldwood holdings in the islands was not a threat but merely "musings." While logging will not resume for a number of years, the forest company must consider its options in the face of "criminal acts."

The question of whether to hold the land as forest or to sell is one the company must deal with, he concluded.

Police looking for culprit in two sabotage incidents

From Page A1

poured into the oil spouts and forced past the baffles which keep oil from splashing out of the engines.

If the engines had not been checked closely after the first one stalled, Hamilton explained, the sand would not have been found.

Ironically, all of the logging had been completed, he said. The remaining work involves trucking the logs to water and cleaning up the cut areas in preparation for replanting.

Hamilton expressed disgust at the damage to the machinery.

"It's getting to be a funny society we're living in," he said.

Hamilton is an independent operator and his only connection to Weldwood of Canada, the timber company which owns the land, has been as the logging contractor on various jobs including the Mount Bruce operation.

Meanwhile, public opinion has focused on the logging protesters as being responsible for the actions.

Kathy Scarfo, chairman of the South Salt Spring Residents' Association which protested logging on Mount Bruce, termed the damage as "senseless."

"It doesn't make sense that any environmentalist would go up there just before the forestry legislation was initialized," she commented.

The actions will have a negative effect on the efforts of that group, she said. They spent several years trying to deal with the issue in a constructive manner, she added.

"It does hurt (the environmentalist movement)," she said.

The senseless actions hurt more than just the logging protesters, she

continued. Hamilton will suffer financially because of the incident and she expressed sympathy for his predicament.

"They obviously targeted the wrong people," she said.

The Green Islands environmental group organized and led the protest against logging on Mount Bruce. Randy Thomas, leader of that organization, has been touring various locations on the Strait of Georgia for the past month and was not available for comment.

Linda Laushway, another spokesman for Green Islands during the protest, has been away on holiday and did not know enough about the situation to comment.

RCMP have in their possession an audio tape of a meeting of logging protesters held several months ago at a south Salt Spring restaurant. On the tape, sabotage to heavy equipment was discussed as a means of stopping the logging.

The meeting was also videotaped and police are seeking a copy of that video.

Police also have in their possession a book entitled *Ecodefence: A*

Field Guide to Monkey Wrenching.

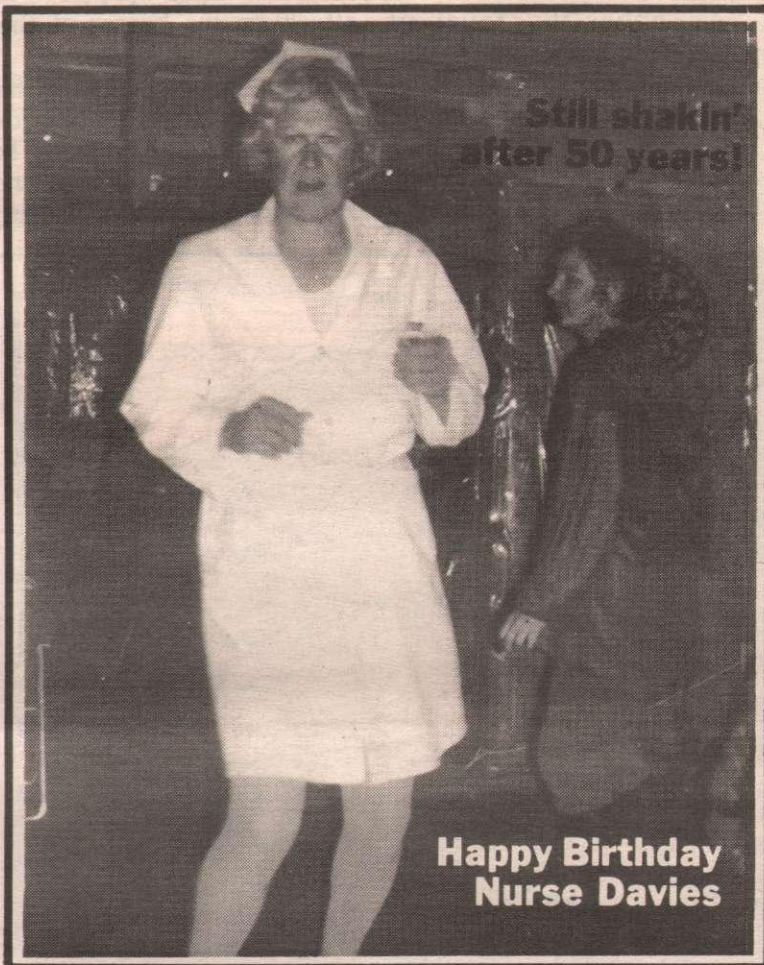
In this book, which has circulated Salt Spring Island, explicit directions are given on sabotaging heavy equipment. Someone with this book could follow step-by-step directions to sabotage the logging machinery exactly the way it was done, Bomford said.

Sergeant Larry Wendel, of the Ganges detachment, requests anyone with any information concerning either incident, Mount Bruce or Stewart Road, to contact the Ganges office, 537-5555 or CrimeStoppers at 1-800-665-8477

Announcement



The Management of Pemberton Holmes (Gulf Islands) Ltd., is pleased to announce that **Mary Woods** has joined their sales staff. Mary brings to her new profession many years of experience in retail sales and management. Since coming to live on Salt Spring Island five years ago, she has become well known in the community as a volunteer at the Tourist Information Centre, the Treasurer of the Garden Club, and an active member of the Trail and Nature Club, the Painters'



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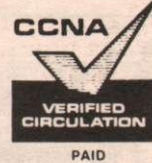
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Sabotage marks another humiliating low point

Political action on Salt Spring island may have hit a new low with the sabotage of more than \$200,000 worth of logging equipment at the Mount Bruce and Stewart Road logging sites.

An unhealthy level of polarization has existed in this community for many years. It tends to rise and fall with the issues, but it seems to remain a constant, always smouldering beneath surface.

It is useless to point fingers. Those on both sides of any issue offer some valid points. Furthermore, individuals on each of the differing sides are guilty of carrying a point too far, of changing an attack on an opinion to an attack on the bearer of that opinion.

Recent letters carried in this newspaper's letters section offer an example of this. The sentiments expressed in several letters have come close to being

personal attacks on other writers. This is unnecessary and unhealthy.

When considering the recent events at the logging sites on this island, it is useless to point a finger at any group. The investigation is still underway and the culprit or culprits have not been named.

Although the evidence seems stacked against local environmentalists who allegedly discussed sabotage at a meeting

several months ago, it seems unlikely the action was officially organized by any such group.

As others have noted, it could be compared to slitting one's own throat. It could even have been done by someone hoping to discredit environmentalists.

However, it is also unlikely the action was taken by youthful pranksters — according to local RCMP the steps taken to

sabotage the equipment by means of inserting sand into the

engines are not simple. Possibly, the culprit(s) were in possession of a book called *Ecodefence: A Field Guide to Monkey Wrenching* which offers step-by-step instructions on how to sabotage heavy equipment.

It does seem likely that an overzealous individual or group of individuals took it upon themselves to perform the task. These people should be aware of the grave consequences of their action.

On a political level, the sabotage — whether it was undertaken by an environmentalist or not — will severely discredit the "green" movement until the innocence of members can be proven.

The action could have spin-off effects on the portion of land now owned by Weldwood Canada. Should the company decide to sell off its land holdings, a less desirable owner could take possession of it.

Most importantly in some ways, an innocent individual — the logging contractor targeted on the Mt. Bruce site — could find himself in financial difficulty, as could those individuals and their families employed by him.

We deeply regret this criminal activity and hope those persons responsible will pay the price they owe.



Strange encounters on the B.C. -- ing Ya Tour

Second of Two Parts

We called it the Honeymoon B.C. -- ing Ya Tour '90. We put about 3,600 clicks onto the odometre and a truckful of gas into the tank, travelling most of the major highways in the southern interior of the province.

It was truly a fabulous trip. Full of adventures, misadventures and strange encounters. I could go on for weeks telling stories about it; however, my "friends" tell me two columns is enough. So hear are my favourite stories:

The bugs

It was a nightmare. *Attack of the Killer Mosquitoes*.

At Moyie Lake they said, "There are bugs here we've never seen before." At Skoocumchuck River, a sign informed residents of a pending Mosquito Meeting. The poster depicted a giant mosquito hovering over a defenceless town.

At Banff, they said: "Those rains brought out mosquitoes which have been lying dormant for 10 years."

Suddenly I knew why we'd been

Off the Record SUSAN D. LUNDY



welts. I won't say were D. got bit. We stopped at a gas station and store. Our repellent (purchased the day before) was almost gone.

"You could make a fortune selling bug dope," I commented, squinting over the clerk's shoulder for a stash of repellent on the counter.

"We have," he said smugly. "Sorry. We're all out."

The wildlife

We almost arrived home convinced Bill Vander Zalm and the Ministry of Tourism were the creators of a marvellous tourism ploy.

Signs everywhere: watch for elk on road; big-horn sheep next 10 km.

Okay. Keep Yogi in the mountains, I would have liked to see a moose. For days, we scanned the roadside, searching for elk, big-horned sheep, even a goffer.

The ministry was saved eventually. We saw Jerry, the Provincial Park Moose.

(Okay. We also saw elk, baby real moose, mountain goats and lots of goffers.)

The hike

Now I'm a great fan of flying. Take me up 10,000 feet in any sort of plane, and I'll be most happy. I can handle a gondola ride and a trip up the Space Needle. However, put me at the top of a ladder, and my knees

Falls, just outside of Banff. ("How are the mosquitoes?" I had asked the park attendant, who to this point had kept his face stoically void of any expression. "They're there," he answered, twisting his mouth into a sinister grin.)

"We have to see the falls," D. announces. So we smear ourselves in repellent and set off across the road. D. chooses the less "well-trodden" path, which appears to head towards the falls.

As the path begins to deteriorate, I look longingly to the other side of the violently gushing river, where a nice boardwalk carries nice sightseers towards the falls.

"We don't want to take the same route as all the tourists," D. informs me.

The path comes to a definite conclusion. "But look," D. points ahead, "There's a place where we can cross over to your boardwalk on the other side."

This means that instead of turning around and going back, we climb straight up a sheer cliff-side. At one point I make the mistake of looking

After climbing up, we must climb down. Then we have to climb up again to the jutting rock which connects to the other side. I remember to keep three points on the hillside at all times. I have momentarily forgotten about the bugs.

As I climb the last cliff, I notice D., who is above me extending his hand to pull me up, has an odd look on his face. Well, actually, no. This little mountainous hillside does not connect with the other side. However there is a log we could attempt to walk across.

Below us, a nice woman in a nice dress stands on a lovely boardwalk lookout, looking at us.

I refuse to go back up the cliff-side — which now looks even worse than before — and log jousting 20 feet above a river is not my idea of an evening stroll either. So we go down. We creep along the river side, holding onto tree roots, shouting to be heard above the sound of the river and falling into the water (which, of course, washes off the bug dope).

The entire excursion took about two hours. The following morning

Driftwood

Letters

Drastic change

To the Editor,
While reading last week's *Driftwood*, I noticed that a certain Michael de Coste is applying for 4.5 hectares of ocean bottom and sand beach, which is equivalent to 10 acres, between Prevost and Hawkins Islands.

This area is especially beautiful and untouched. It provides swimmers, sunbathers and scuba divers with a wonderful nearby location to get away from the congested, hustle and bustle of Ganges in the summer time.

I feel it would change drastically if it had a 10-acre oyster farm on it, becoming just another spot around our Islands that we'd lose to commercial ventures.

If your feelings are similar you should write to The Ministry of Crown Lands, 851 Yates St., Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X5. File No. 1406295.

(When walking on the beaches of the Fernwood area where the oyster leases are now in place, there's a feeling of trespassing on private controlled land which shouldn't exist on one of the few accessible beaches on Salt Spring.)

SHARON WHALEN,
Ganges

False advertising

To the Editor,
The Fletcher-Challenge advertisement is false, if only by omission of the fact that visits are restricted to single individuals, or two to three at the most (especially if you are from Salt Spring Island). This is not stated in any of the advertising, and can be interpreted as a "divide and conquer" policy.

When an appointment was originally made, for a group of 10, it was accepted (2 p.m., Monday, July 30). However, on learning that *Challenge Fletcher* was involved, the junior Public Relations Officer contacted me to inform the group that we could not come, the reason being that we are circulating a questionnaire asking for the public's opinions on the Crofton Mill's contribution to several problems (e.g. ill-health, pollution, noise, property deterioration, etc.). We are also asking for donations to fight what we consider an environmental disaster. (This last activity seems to irritate F-C particularly.)

Another official later told us that we would be unwelcome because we would disrupt the tour by asking too many questions (more than likely embarrassing ones).

We protest the misleading, if not false, advertising put out to the gullible by Fletcher-Challenge.

PATTI MAY-LAWSON,
Vesuvius

Garbage solution

To the Editor,
I feel that the Crown Land parcel between the two sections of Mouat Park is definitely not suitable for a garbage transfer station. This whole area drains into Booth Canal (not Ganges Creek — Solid Waste members). There are several wells below it, not to mention a chum salmon spawning creek (Okano Creek). We can live with the cement plant but we don't want to see that area become all industrial — this could finish off Booth Inlet's fragile ecosystem for good.

The five acres of Crown Land should become more provincial park.

I think there is a good common sense solution to our garbage problem on Salt Spring Island. The transfer station should be located on Norm Twa's property. Every container transferred to the new dump site could be topped up with material from the old dump. In this way the old dump site would be totally dia-

Road. It does not have any lakes or fish bearing creeks below it. Norm has offered to buy a liner for it. The only leachate would be surface runoff. This could be easily collected and controlled.

A Laidlaw recycling container could be placed on the Blackburn site, near the house. A shed could be constructed at the transfer station for people to leave their car batteries, tires, paint cans, appliances, cardboard, generally useful junk, etc., that shouldn't be buried.

A local person could be in charge of finding uses for stuff that can be sold or re-used.

I think that the Solid Waste Committee should do us all a favour and step down or become the Recycling Committee again and stick to its mandate of public education.

The way to get people to do things in a free society is to educate them not to cram things down their throats that they don't want. And they voted against it! The Salmon Enhancement Society's main goal is public education, and I think that we've been very successful at making people more aware of the environment.

I would be personally willing to help the recycling committee with this. All of us on the island would like to see our garbage reduced.

KATHY REIMER,
Ganges

Thank-you

To the Editor,
I would like to thank the community of Salt Spring Island for helping to provide myself and three others with the opportunity to participate in the Chamber of Commerce Training Project.

Thanks to the knowledge and never ending patience of Susan Monahan of T.G. Agencies, and our project manager Terry Romeril, within the 20-week program I acquired the skills that enabled me to obtain a full time job on Salt Spring where I grew up.

Salt Spring Island can be a difficult place to pursue a career. Without available on-island training my personal goals would have been unobtainable in the near future. Now, I am able to return some of my knowledge into the community.

I would also like to give a special thanks to the Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring the project and to the people involved who were able to attend our "graduation." It was a special day for myself and to see the community spirit involved made it even more so.

ARDITH WALKER,
Ganges

Free condoms

The Board of Directors of the Salt

Spring Island Community Society has voted to initiate a program of free condom dispensing on Salt Spring Island.

Although the Board is aware of the controversial nature of this matter, it has decided to act now because of the need to protect the health of the youth in our community.

The Board also felt it had a responsibility to respond in a positive way to the needs of youth expressed at the very successful Youth Conference held at the Community Centre in March. One of the main functions of the Community Society is to maintain an honest, effective relationship with our young people.

The Board's action here should not be viewed as an expression of opinion regarding the sexual activity of teens, but simply as an attempt to protect them from the various, sometimes life threatening dangers of such activity.

Further details concerning the new program will be provided as soon as possible.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
Salt Spring Island Community Society

Retraced past

To the Editor,
After an absence of 49 years I travelled to Salt Spring for a visit, after our former island neighbour made contact with us. Babe Smith instigated a desire in me to return to the place of my birth.

Through the kindness of my host, Norman Mouat, whose father, Gavin Mouat, was a family friend for many years, and through Norman's lovely wife, Carolyn, I was able to retrace my past and visit many friends still living on the island.

Even a visit to the *Driftwood* office, which I enjoyed very much, was on the itinerary! Other than the surprise of seeing old friends grow gracefully older, my biggest surprise was seeing the huge progress of the island.

After reading many positive comments, usually in the travel sections of Ontario papers, I was still not prepared for the beauty of Salt Spring and can now fully understand why many celebrities decide on permanent residency. I know that my visit has instilled in me a desire to return again.

I am very proud, in my home town of Hamilton, Ontario, when wearing my jacket with "Salt Spring Island" printed on the front. I am stopped by strangers who say they have also visited your beautiful island. I am most grateful for the nurturing of my being that was given to me by the inhabitants during my four-day visit.

RUBY MATSUSAKI,
Hamilton, Ont.

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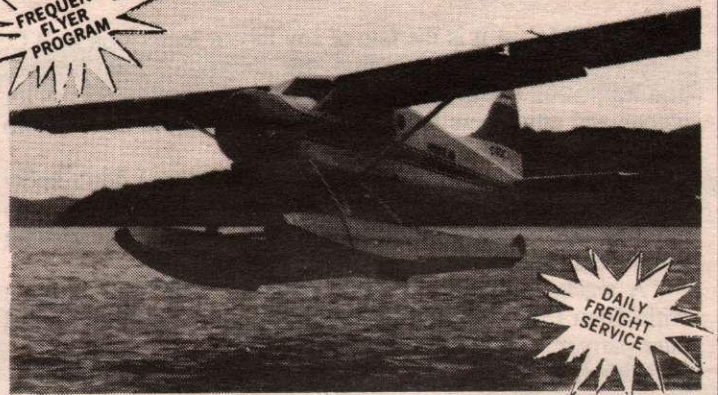
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Opinion

Demented element

To the Editor,
With the occurrence of the sabotaging of Weldwood's machinery, I wish to state this type of action is nothing short of the workings of a demented, violent element,

that has infested this island.
In an article in this past Saturday's *Vancouver Sun*, Kathy Scarfo commented it could possibly be the loggers themselves who sabotaged the equipment. Get real, Ms. Scarfo.
Do you realize the cost of damage to one machine could be anywhere from \$5,000 to \$15,000, and do you really believe a logger would do this

to his own equipment? This type of thinking is only projected by stupidity.
Believe me, loggers have great respect for their equipment, the same as fishermen have for their boats. Statements such as this only discredit your intelligence. Remember also, this is their livelihood.
I've got news for the "environmentalists" who make believe they're the only ones who care about this island.

Because we don't wave banners, protest or wish to be continually in the limelight, we are projected as "another isn't" or uncaring islanders. Well, this isn't the case. We, like normal everyday residents, work and go about our business. Many of us are longtime residents, who are also environmentalists. We chose to reside here because we not only love the islands, but also have great respect for them and care about our environment. We are all environmentalists, but perhaps not as unzealous. So please do not project us as uncaring people. You are not our saviours.

Those who do not wish to have John Stepaniuk remain on the Trust, are projecting a very selfish and childish attitude. Because Mr. Stepaniuk has a mind of his own, thinks for himself, and is not at all times in agreement with them, they don't want him.

It shows a sheer example of selfishness. In other words, these people are not here to work for the betterment of the community, only self-satisfaction and recognition.

It's about time we had more John Stepaniuks who will divulge truth and institute some common sense into the Trust.

The Trust, I feel, in conjunction with the APC, is certainly not working for the betterment of the community. The slogan of the trust is "Preserve and Protect." It now reads "Obstruct and Deter." Both the Trust and APC should be revamped as there are too many "in camera" meetings and not enough information given to the public. I wonder why?

People who use positions to gain self-satisfaction and notoriety are nothing less than legends in their own minds! They have no place being in a position to govern the island's welfare.

I blatantly say to those few who feel they are our saviours — clean up your act.

MRS. F. FRASER,
Fulford Harbour

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Capital Comment
HUBERT BEYER



VICTORIA — It is the fate of any labour legislation in B.C. to be repudiated by trade unions the moment it's introduced. The legislation outlawing strikes or lockouts until public sector unions and employers have publicly disclosed the issues is no exception.

"I'm afraid the premier is living on the moon. I don't know whether to laugh or cry when I realize how absurd this is," was the response of John Shields, president of the B.C. Government Employees Union.

"A wacko bill from a wacko premier," said NDP finance critic Glen Clark, setting a new low in political courtesy and inter-party relations.

Aside from lamenting the lack of manners the two aforementioned gentlemen display, I disagree with the substance of what they are trying to say in their own rude way.

The legislation doesn't constitute major surgery on labour-management relations in this province, but it could prove a useful tool in bringing about contract settlements between public sector unions and employers.

In introducing the bill, Finance Minister Mel Couvelier called it "sunshine legislation," that would further the public's right to know.

Provides for admittance of news media

The bill creates a registrar of public sector bargaining whose job it will be to set a public meeting before any strike or lockout begins. Notice of such a meeting must be published in a newspaper.

The legislation specifically provides for admittance of the news media to these meetings, a cute twist, considering the low opinion politicians tend to have of the media.

At the meeting, both the union and the employer must give a summary of all matters on which they have reached agreement. They must also submit a summary of issues that have not yet been resolved and their respective positions regarding these outstanding issues.

The legislation further requires public sector unions and employers to file public statements within two days of the start of contract negotiations, outlining what each side believes will be the issues in dispute and their respective positions on those issues. Similar summaries are required from both sides if strike or lockout notice is given.

New openness in negotiations

A union isn't allowed to strike, unless it has filed its summaries and the employer has responded to them. Similarly, the employer cannot order a lockout until it has filed its summaries and the union given its response.

"This act will introduce a new concept of openness in public sector negotiations. It embodies the democratic concept that the public has a right to know about public sector collective bargaining," Couvelier said.

"The public has a right to know what both sides of the bargaining table are proposing. In the end, it is the public which pays and suffers the effects of job action in our public service," he added.

I like it. As a journalist, I have often been frustrated, trying to sort out details of a labour-management dispute after it got out of hand. Believe me, it's not easy.

By the time strike or lockout notice is given, relations between the two parties usually consist of trading insults. Statements regarding the issues that brought about the strike or lockout are suspect.

Both sides will try to win support

At about the same time, both sides will try to win public support, an endeavour that usually has very little to do with the truth. Previously, of course, neither side was very communicative.

Now, if private firms and the unions representing their employees want to engage in this sort of game, that's up to them. Public sector employers and public sector unions, on the other hand, have an obligation to the public they serve.

This legislation, I believe, would give both sides an opportunity to serve the public a little better. Since the public elects the employers and underwrites the paycheques of the employees, it should have a chance to influence the collective bargaining process.

The legislation would do just that, but more important, it might even prevent the two sides from becoming victims of their own rhetoric.

The fact that both sides must publicly and without rhetorical

News



Driftwood photo by Derrick Lundy

A group of Japanese exchange students write their names out in Japanese outside Ganges United Church. The students, who were billeted in various island homes, were brought to the island by Cultural Homestay Institute. The students' stay on the island, organized by Bill and Heather Gardam, lasted just under three weeks.

Salt Spring's art centre

ArtSpring gaining momentum

ArtSpring moved another step closer to reality as plans for the Salt Spring arts centre gained momentum last week.

Centre designer Bob Hassell and architect Henry Hawthorne met with the planning committee last week to discuss suggestions presented by potential users of the complex.

Hassell noted the discussions of the theatre portion had gone smoothly but problems in design occurred in the visual arts wing where various guilds on the island seemed to expect too much.

Hawthorne warned the committee not to get too fancy with expectations. Each small addition to the arts centre would cost money, he said.

He gave as example the efforts of Cranbrook to create an arts centre. The original budget for the complex had been less than \$2 million but various additions to please potential user groups eventually doubled that amount and the town was unable to raise the extra money.

"Every single thing added had a logic to it," he said.

"Cranbrook doesn't have a theatre. It has a full set of working drawings," he concluded.

Hassell explained the changes to the theatre section. With adjustments to various spaces, the theatre will have a capacity of 235 permanent seats with space for up to 50 extra seats.

Also, several seats will be removable to allow for at least four wheel-chairs.

With an adjustment to the roof line, a fly loft could be incorporated in the design. The doors, which would lead to the amphitheatre stage, will be relocated to allow easier access to both stages.

The theatre will not be suitable as a cinema, Hassell noted. The configuration of the seating would result in poor sight lines. To accommodate motion picture equipment would mean the theatre would have to be used full-time as a cinema to cover the cost.

By using provisions of the build-

ing code, the theatre would essentially become the main floor of the complex with the visual arts wing being considered the basement.

Under such provisions, the building would not be confined to size but the theatre would be limited to 300 seats with the requirement that the top row of seats not be more than 5 metres (16 feet) above grade.

The major changes proposed to the visual arts wing would be a shuffling of location for various rooms. The lounge area would move adjacent to the patio, while the kitchen and office space would be moved to the inside wall.

Dressing rooms for the theatre would be in the space under a portion of the seating.

The visual arts wing would be mainly a multi-purpose hall with a smaller room for meetings and such. Storage space for chairs and tables would be needed as well as storage space for the various guilds which

would have access to the area.

Future expansion of the visual arts wing would be limited by the lay of the land. Further space for the visual arts would be created in future phases of the arts centre when classroom and workshop space would be created.

The multipurpose space would be required as a large hall to allow for various money-making efforts of the centre such as art shows.

The space would be designed to allow "casual access to art" said Hassell. Art displays would be presented in conjunction with other uses of the centre but no space would be available to make it a permanent art gallery.

To that point, Hawthorne urged consideration be given to planning "now for an art gallery in the future."

When Hassell and Hawthorne work out the details of design, they will bring the plans back to the committee for approval.

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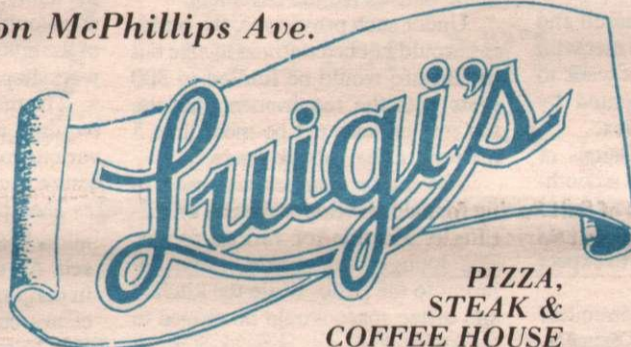
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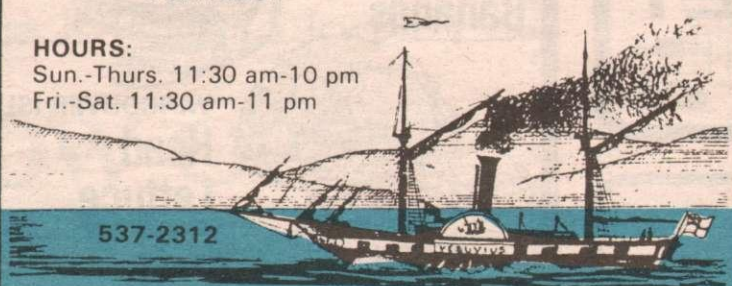
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Driftwood

Entertainment

Stages of Descent provides much joy and exuberance

Stages of Descent, performed at the Festival of the Arts last week, offered joy and exuberance but left the critical observer with a feeling of a promise unfulfilled.

By BILL WEBSTER
Driftwood staff

Robbyn Scott created and choreographed the dance-movement production and utilized the efforts of up to 31 people to present her vision. Her efforts, over the months, to coordinate the presentation deserved the applause of audiences.

The Activity Centre, for the two performances, was transformed into

an intimate theatre space by the judicious use of props. The audience sat in bleacher seats while the dance unfolded on the floor. A wall, created by the interesting juxtaposition of clothing helped transpose the space from a gymnasium to a theatre.

Scott appeared several times during the evening to weave a narrative thread through the show. Her movements at such times left one wishing she would offer just one dance sequence to showcase her obvious talent.

The ensemble, composed of women, girls, babies and fathers of Salt Spring exhibited great charm and enthusiasm with their movements on stage.

The show began with a slide presentation. Then a troupe of women and children, in matching outfits, performed an intricate sequence to illustrate the bonding of mother and child.

Throughout the evening, the various segments were well presented and performed.

A drawback to the promise showed itself by the seeming lack of continuity from birth, through the formative years into the adult years ending with old age and possibly death.

Yet despite the shortcomings of the evening, the cast — and Scott — deserve kudos. Perhaps she can be prevailed upon to present Stages of Descent again to highlight the talents of "the unspectacular, the common, the greying, the plump and the natural moving female."



Women and children of Salt Spring formed the cast of Stages of Descent performed at the Salt Spring Festival of the Arts last week.

Movies scheduled

Oscar award-winning *Driving Miss Daisy* will be featured this weekend at Island Cinema on Salt Spring Island.

Driving Miss Daisy, which won an Oscar for best film at the 1990 Academy Awards, is the story of a 25-year friendship which develops between two unlikely personalities.

Jessica Tandy plays Miss Daisy — a white, Jewish matron from the deep American south. As the film unfolds, Miss Daisy and her chauffeur (Hoke Colburn) — an illiterate, black widower — develop a grudging friendship.

The film also features Dan Aykroyd as Daisy's son Boolie.

Driving Miss Daisy was filmed on location in Georgia where the story takes place. It is based on a Pulitzer prize-winning play by Alfred Uhry, and focuses on the differences and similarities between people with disparate social, economic and religious backgrounds.

It achieves this with "humour and solemnity."

Driving Miss Daisy, showing August 3 to 8 at 9 p.m., is rated "G" with occasional swearing.

Island Cinema is also featuring *RoboCop 2* this weekend. This film, which promises "nonstop action and a dazzling array of special effects," is showing August 3 to 8 at 7 p.m.

In *RoboCop 2*, a supercop tries to defend a Detroit of the future against a "terrifying" new drug. He fights a plot to "reprogram" him and fends off an enemy robot.

Peter Weller, who played the part of the original *RoboCop*, stars again in the sequel.

The film is rated "R" with frequent violence and very coarse language.

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Arts

Interpretive talks planned at Ruckle, Montague parks

Interpretive programs are offered at two provincial parks in the Gulf Islands this week.

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

RUCKLE PARK, SALT SPRING ISLAND
(Unless otherwise noted, all programs begin at the meeting place in the campground.)

Thursday, August 2:
• "Ruckle Ramble" — a scavenger hunt to acquaint participants with Ruckle Park. Begins at 7 p.m.
• "Rocky Beach Picture Show" — a slide presentation, depicting intertidal life. Begins at 9 p.m.

Friday, August 3:
• "As the Tide Turns" — a low tide beach exploration. Starts at 9 a.m.
• "Lullabies and Lies" — Songs and stories of life in the Gulf Islands. Begins at 8 p.m. — bring a mug for tea.

Wednesday, August 8, 2 p.m.
• "S.O.S." — children have the opportunity to join the Red Cross Water Safety Crew for some games and skits in the park. Meet at the picnic area at Ruckle Park, at 2 p.m.

MONTAGUE HARBOUR, GALIANO ISLAND
(Unless otherwise indicated, all programs begin at the meeting place in the campground.)

Saturday, August 4:
• "The Tidal Touch" — participants will have the opportunity to view what scuba divers bring up from the waters off Galiano Island. Begins at 7 p.m.
• "Marine Wilderness" — come cruise the coastal parks with special guest Rick Seark. Begins at 9 p.m.

Sunday, August 3:
• "Between the Tide" — a low tide beach exploration for the whole family. Wear old shoes and meet at the boat ramp.

• "Lullabies and Lies" — come and watch the sunset, and listen to songs and stories of life in the Gulf Islands. Meet at the boat ramp. Begins at 8 p.m. — bring something to sit on and a mug for tea.

Tuesday, August 7:
• "S.O.S." — children have the opportunity to join the Red Cross Water safety crew for some games and skits in the park. Meet at the picnic area at Montague at 2 p.m.

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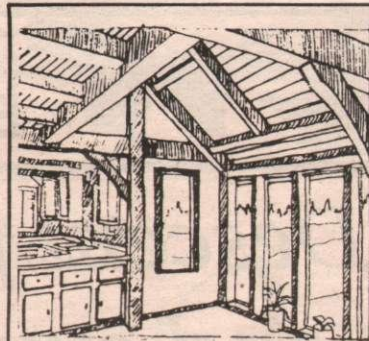
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Island actress obtains degree

A Salt Spring woman was one of 59 actors and actresses who earned degrees from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in California.

Carmen Casanova received her degree with eight other Canadians at a ceremony held in the Historical Pasadena Playhouse.

The American Academy of Dramatic Arts was founded in 1884. It is considered one of the premiere conservatories for actors in America.

In 1974, the Academy opened a campus in California.

Alumni from the Academy have won nominations for 89 Oscars, 62 Tonys and 156 Emmys.

Having completed the two-year Professional Actor Training Program, Casanova joins an alumni roster which includes Spencer Tracy, Grace Kelly, Robert Redford, Hume Cronyn, Stephanie Kramer, Jason Robards and Kate Jackson.

Actress Carmen Casanova graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

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Community



Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

The Salt Spring Centre presents the Ramayana once again, August 10 and 11 at the Activity Centre. The large cast of island youth is busy rehearsing the epic. Pictured above Glorpy (Nayana Filkow) helps Monhey (Uma Meyer) overcome Demon (Sunmoon Perreault).

Annual fair is scheduled

Who remembers trained dogs directing sheep, separating them, rounding them up, herding them into sheep folds?

By OLIVE MOUAT
Driftwood Contributor

Who is old enough to remember the Go-Go Dancers of long ago? The green hens that laid white eggs among the carefully arranged green ones? The clowns? The monkeys? The one-and-only elephant?

August 11 is the date of a fair. It is not like any of those that have been mentioned. There will be no elephant. Not even a monkey. But it should be fun.

One family that visits Salt Spring Island every summer hurries from the

ferry, loudly asking, "Will there be a summer fair?"

Another keeps track through friends so that the children can visit Grandma at fair time.

What might there be at this year's Summer Fair? There will be a fish pond, of course. There will be darts to throw at balloons. Perhaps there will be nail-painting. Who knows what there might be? Children (and their parents and their grandparents) are invited to come to see.

Adults may enjoy the garage sale or the home baking or the crafts. Men especially will enjoy hot coffee and hot dogs and muffins.

Please write the date on your calendar — Saturday, August 11, 10 a.m. Then come and bring your

friends and your children and your friends' children. Entrance is free.

All this takes place on the grounds of the United Church in Ganges.

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Salt Spring Island



First Peoples Festival will focus on natives

The First Peoples Festival unfolds at the Royal B.C. Museum, August 4, 5 and 6.

Organizers at the museum encourage Gulf Islanders to "come share the pageantry and hospitality, the traditions and history, the warmth and colour of British Columbia's Native Indian peoples.

"Learn the customs, enjoy the legends and music, taste the foods, admire the artistry and crafts. You'll come to a better understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of the First Peoples."

Opening ceremonies, with greetings from Tom Sampson, chairman of the First Nations of the South Island Tribal Council and Chief of the Tsartlip Band, begin at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, August 4.

Over the following days, speakers, storytellers and singers offer glimpses into the wisdom of their traditions in song, story and myth. At the same time, each day, artists and craftsmen exhibit their skills.

Music, dancing and a salmon barbecue as well as canoe rides around Victoria Harbour beckon visitors to the festival. Activities begin as early as 10 a.m. each day and unfold until 5 p.m.

The Royal B.C. Museum is located near the harbour in Victoria, next to the Legislature buildings.



SALT SPRING COMMUNITY SOCIETY NEWS

268 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-9971

★ **CENTRE HOURS:** 9-4 Monday through Friday. After Hours Crisis Line - Zenith 2262.

★ **FOOD BANK** - Provides emergency food during Centre Hours (except noon hour).

★ **COUNSELLING SERVICES:** Crisis and short-term counselling is available as a direct service operating out of the Community Centre building. Long-term counselling is available through the Community Centre on a referral service basis to private practitioners. Assistance may be available in special cases (sorry, no funds left).

★ **ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM** - prevention and treatment service is free and confidential. For more information contact Garry Hogan.

★ **MEDICAL PREMIUM ASSISTANCE:** Call the Community Worker at the Centre for information on who is eligible, or call Medical Services Plan direct, 1-800-663-7100 (toll free).

★ **2 RECYCLE LOCATIONS:** Cardboard, office paper, paper, glass and cans at GVM; paper, glass and cans behind Fulford Inn.

★ **RECYCLE FACT:** A combination of 3 R's education, curbside recycling and materials recovery/composting facilities are the immediate future for reducing municipal solid waste. Many government bodies in North America, including all Canadian Ministries of the Environment, have set goals of 50% garbage reduction by the year 2000.

★ **WANTED:** People interested in puppetry and children's shows. Phone 537-9971



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Islands

Lettuces have a honourable natural history

Chief among wild varieties is goat lettuce. If you throw some into the sea all the fish in the neighbourhood will die.

—Pliny

Perhaps they all fell asleep from the narcotic qualities of this plant. On the other hand, maybe there was a papyrus factory at the water's edge.

Lettuces do, however, have an honourable natural history. Galen, doctor to Marcus Aurelius, prescribed a lettuce salad for the royal insomnia. Pliny the Elder, a naturalist before this was a chic occupation, accorded the lettuces in his garden almost as much power as that contained in a modern drug store. Lettuces, he thundered, reduced toothache, cured sword wounds, improved eye site, ameliorated the embarrassing effects of indigestion, and got rid of acne.

It's necessary to read these claims *cum grano salis*, with a grain of salt. Lettuce seeds were prescribed as medicine for scorpion stings in the Natural History. But what was it? So were basil, rue, cummin, marjoram, aniseed, sorrel, mustard, thyme, fenel and parsley.

Either everyone nervously rushed around gobbling herbs as they dodged the attacks of these ubiquitous and malicious spiders or, (dare I say it?) the father of modern naturalists was simply repeating a cliché. That's the trouble with books like that, then and now. There is not enough time in one life to get sick often enough to test all the cures they promise.

It's important to check the facts, but sometimes there are too many facts. Take lettuce seeds, for example.

Lettuce seeds, crushed in wine, prevented libidinous dreams. But how did Pliny know? The situation reminds me of something Premier Vander Zalm might say on hearing that the leader of his opposition had quit: "How can they tell?"

And why cure libidinous dreams anyway? I wouldn't want a salad censoring the best part. I always thought that you should eat salubrious foods like lettuce in order to be fit and active enough in the daytime to deserve those kinds of dreams at night.

Perhaps the elder Pliny resented the passing of his salad days. Most people praise food for its erotic properties, not the reverse.

Lettuce, through the Latin *lactuca*, came from the word for milk, a reference to the milky appearance of its juice. By cutting the stem it is possible to harvest this liquid like that of the poppy, but behaviour of this kind is not acceptable in my garden.

Not only does lettuce have no real connection to the word milk, from which it is derived, but the leaves are most commonly put into a green salad, which shouldn't have too much to do with the word salt, either.

A lot of food writing these days is concerned with explaining the linguistic hiccups and associations of the words we use in the kitchen. Years ago most people didn't have the time to quibble (except for Pliny and his friends). They just ate. Many of us still do. Take a Caesar salad. Logically it should be a dish of salted lettuces taken with a glass of milk by Julius Caesar after he was stung by a scorpion while hoeing the vegetable patch with Calpurnia.

In fact it was invented by a Mexican chef, is regarded as a Californian specialty, and relies heavily on garlic, anchovies, and Worcestershire sauce.

Oddly, the Californian Caesar salad DOES contain a significant quantity of salt, and milk too, in the form of Parmesan cheese. The Romans had an extreme fondness for garlic and anchovies, but they didn't invent Worcestershire sauce because

Country Gourmet



JOHN EDWARDS

And Hollywood seems to thrive on the business of libidinous dreams... Maybe Pliny was right after all.

The Julius Caesar Green Salad
1 Romaine lettuce
Two hands full of spinach, watercress, mustard, plant, sorrel, dandelion leaves, etc.

1/2 cup chopped celery
2 tsp lovage
Some freshly torn mint leaves
A sprig of rue, if you grow it
2/3 cup best olive oil
1/3 cup cider vinegar

1 tsp coriander
2 tsp crushed rosemary
1/4 tsp black pepper
A sprinkle of salt
3 hardboiled eggs in rounds
1 cup grated white cheddar

Take all the greens, tear them up and throw the pieces into a salad bowl. Mix briefly with celery, lovage, mint and rue. Make the dressing from olive oil, vinegar, coriander, rosemary, black pepper and salt. Pour over the greens and toss for two or three moments. Garnish with eggs and cheese. Watch out for spiders. Take a cold shower before going to bed. No videos.

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JUST NORTH ON THE ISLAND HIGHWAY

News



Driftwood photo by Bill Webster

The Auxilliary to Lady Minto Hospital donated television stands to the hospital's extended care unit (ECU). Ruth Williams (seated), Nona Brack, head nurse, ECU, and Diane Horovatin, administrator, accept the stand from auxilliary president Bea Carr.

Minto reports compared

The Gallagher Report is the second look at Lady Minto Hospital commissioned in the past three years.

Elaine Gallagher, associate professor at UVic, was asked to prepare a report on the hospital. The report was released recently and Lady Minto offers it for sale at \$10 per copy.

In 1987, the Capital Regional District commissioned its health planning department to look at health care facilities in the Gulf Islands including Lady Minto and Greenwoods on Salt Spring.

Gallagher, in her report, outlined several shortcomings of the earlier report. It did not focus on Lady Minto or Salt Spring but looked all the Gulf Islands. The sample, 53 residents, used to generate information about Salt Spring, was considered to be too small.

However, Gallagher noted: "There were... sections of the report

which were valuable and it is suggested that the Board review these in its strategic planning.

"In particular, the section concerning the need for plant upgrading should be examined for progress-to-date."

The CRD report identified the need for 19.1 acute care beds by 1994. Gallagher, on the other hand, found a need for 19.2 acute care beds by 1997. Lady Minto currently has 19 acute care beds. Both reports concluded that no additional acute care beds would be needed.

The extended care wing was another story. There are 31 extended care beds at Lady Minto. The ministry of health estimated the expansion to 32 beds by 1990 with a further seven beds added by 1995.

The CRD report, based on 1986 census figures, estimated the need to be 38 ECU beds by 1991 and 44 ECU beds by 1996. Gallagher suggests 38

ECU beds by 1992 and 44 beds by 1997.

She also recommends "consideration should also be given for three or four swing beds by 1997." Swing beds would be used by home care patients when the home care worker was in need of a break.

The Gallagher report noted that use of Lady Minto Hospital by residents of the Outer Islands was minimal. In the 1987/88 fiscal year, 39 patients from the Outer Islands were admitted to Lady Minto. That figure represents 5.43 per cent of the total of 718 admissions.

The majority, 31, were from Galiano with two from Pender and six from Mayne.

By 1988/89, the figure had dropped to 21 patients of total admissions of 682. Only two came from Mayne while the other 19 were from Galiano.

Thermal plastic application

New application makes road markings tougher

Road markings in the Ganges area should remain visible for longer than usual, following work by a department of highways crew last week.

The markings — for crosswalks, direction arrows and such — were heated into the road through a thermal plastic application.

Highways department spokesman Ritchie Harrold told the *Driftwood* road markings using the thermal plastic generally last about five years, depending upon the traffic use of the road.

Even though the highways department has used thermal plastics in other places for some time, the process is expensive, he said. The highways crews did not visit the island because the truck had to use the dangerous cargo sailings on B.C. Ferries.

The centre lines and road-edge markings will be repainted later in August or early September. Ordinary highway marking paint will be used for those markings.

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News

Road standards in Trust area are scrutinized

Proposed road standards for the Islands Trust area are being refined by the Trust Executive before being submitted to the ministry of highways.

Salt Spring Islands Trustee John Stepaniuk said planning officials at the highways department have been "very accommodating." The Trust has been discussing proposed island road standards for a couple of years now.

Throughout negotiations, trustees have balked at having similar road standards on the islands as those set on the mainland or Vancouver Island. Essentially, the Trust is asking that the cleared portion of the highway right-of-way be kept to a minimum.

While ministry planners agree with the concept, they also express

confusion about who they should be talking to, and what group they should be listening to.

In addition to the Islands Trust highways committee, the ministry has heard from the Salt Spring transportation committee as well as another groups urging bicycle paths be placed along both sides of island highways.

Indeed, Stepaniuk noted, safety is the prime factor in the Trust submission as well as in ministry of highways planning.

The transportation committee, which is supposed to represent a cross-section of the islands, speaks for itself, Stepaniuk noted. The group does not represent the authority of any elected officials.

Highways, said Stepaniuk, has

been willing to listen to proposals setting "reasonable standards" for island roads. Constraints on the cleared width, from tree line to tree line, can be attributed to B.C. Tel and B. C. Hydro which need access to the poles carrying their lines.

The two corporations have, in the past, shown a willingness to share poles strung along one side of the highways. The sharing allows for a lessening of the cleared width for the right-of-way.

But the contradictions coming from the various groups making submissions to the ministry of highways, said Stepaniuk, creates confusion in the process.

The Trust seeks minimum right-of-way clearance of trees, roads of sufficient width to ensure safety and

the utilities sharing poles along one side of the road.

Other groups have asked for wider roads, bike paths, pedestrian walkways and such; all of which would add to the cleared area.

In addition, Stepaniuk noted, the process of reaching agreement with the ministry has been hampered by the length of time needed to overcome the "philosophical differences of road standards."

The talks have been going on for 14 years, said Stepaniuk. As trustees have changed in that time, the con-

cept of acceptable road standards have also changed.

Stepaniuk outlined a fundamental problem: how does the Trust accommodate the road needs of Lasqueti Island compared to the road needs of Salt Spring Island?

He suggested the ministry of highways and the Islands Trust reach a "flexible" agreement which would allow certain basic standards, governed by safety, to be applicable while subject to change as the population and road needs of each island change.

Wit and Whimsy

ARTHUR BLACK



You noticed how grim and grouchy your fellow Canucks are these days?

There's a good reason for it. We're all living through a collective "morning after." Canada is suffering a national hangover.

We feel bad. Ernest Hemingway once wrote something useful about feeling good and feeling bad. "What is moral" he said, "is what you feel good after." It follows that an immoral act is something which makes you feel lousy — which I believe is the situation our country finds itself in.

Canadians have drunk deeply at the Lake called Meech, and we have a sea-to-sea bad taste in our mouths.

Ah ah! Don't turn that page. I don't intend to write about the M-word. Too many Canadian forests have already been sacrificed to produce the paper to describe that sleazy spectacle. Suffice to say that when you've got a Prime Minister who compares statesmanship to a crap shoot, that's reason enough for citizens to reach for the Listerine.

A splendidly witty message

But there's more than Meechophobia in Canada's hangover. We've witnessed other un-classy acts. On our TV's we've watched cretinous bigots shredding and burning and trampling flags for the TV cameras.

In both official languages.

Out in Alberta we've seen other redneck yahoos smear and deface the welcoming signs to Consort, Alberta. Why? Because country singer k.d. lang hails from Consort. And k.d. has had the temerity to appear in television ads promoting vegetarianism.

EAT BEEF, DYKE reads the splendidly witty message spray-painted on the Welcome To Consort sign.

Oh, make no mistake about it — Canada is hurting. And overdue for a class act or two.

So what is a Canadian class act? Well, I've always thought Gordie Howe qualified. Off ice, that is. I've never had the misfortune to meet Mister Howe cruising along the boards of a hockey arena, which I'm told is something like being bludgeoned by a burlap sack full of tire irons.

Canadian class acts

In politics, I'd finger Dalton Camp as a class act, 'though I'd never admit to it in downtown Prince Albert. The Cape Breton thrush Rita McNeil always struck me as a class act, as does the dapper, deft and deliciously droll sports writer Trent Frayne. Of course in Frayne's case, it doesn't hurt to be married to writer June Callwood, one of the classiest acts this country's ever dished up.

Wayne Gretzky . . . the swimmer Vicki Keith . . . Rick Hansen . . . Elijah Harper . . . that that's about it for Canadian class acts these days.

There's one other class act I want to tell you about.

Kathleen Gooley doesn't really qualify for my short list, because she's not Canadian. She lives in Connecticut. Last month, she was going to marry a psychologist at a fairly posh do. They'd rented a huge room at a well-known catering hall. Then they plunked down a little over \$6,000 just for the reception.

And that's when the psychologist got cold feet.

He backed out. Called the wedding off. Panic stricken, broken-hearted Kathleen Gooley called to cancel the reception and get her money refunded. No dice, ma'am. The caterers would only refund a fraction of the fee.

Which is when Kathleen Gooley unveiled her class act. She went ahead with the reception. But instead of friends and well-wishers and relatives and would-be relatives Kathleen invited all the homeless people from the greater Stamford area. So it was that on Kathleen Gooley's aborted wedding day, 150 outcasts and indigents came to be sitting down at a feast of stuffed chicken breast, string beans amandine, cake and ice cream.

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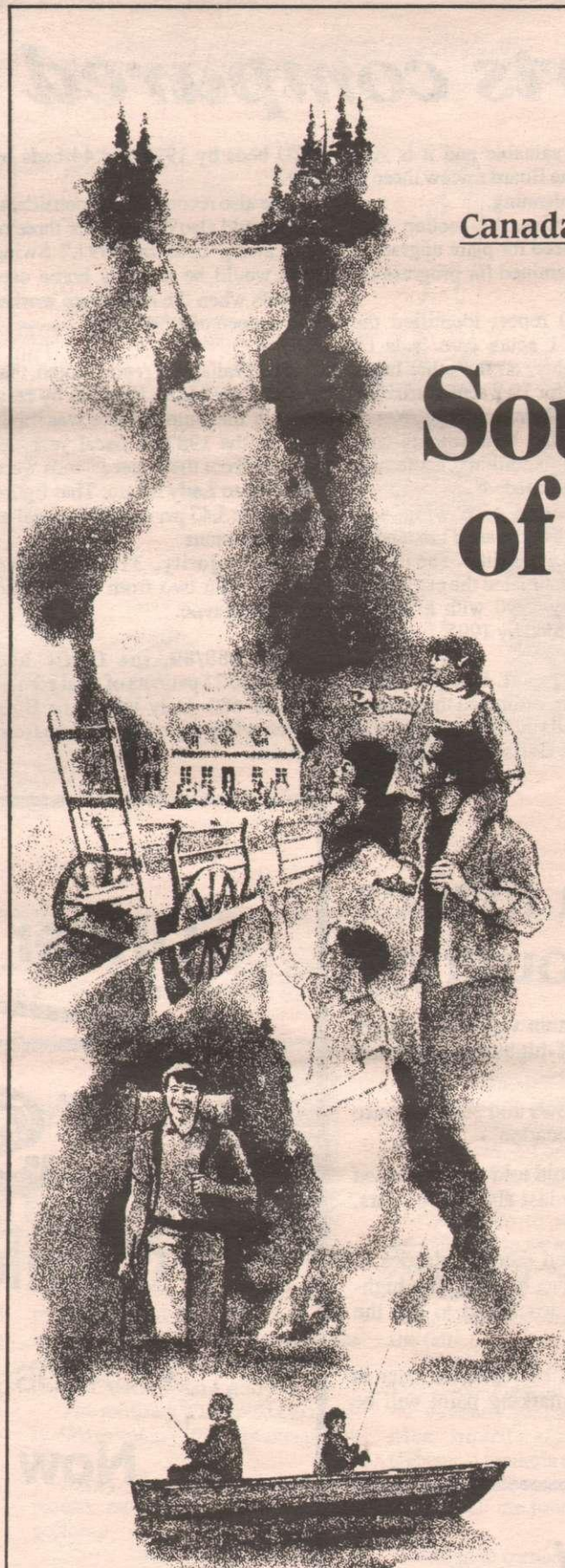
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Driftwood

Thirty Years Ago

• The *Salt Spring Island Driftwood* published on Thursday with W. Fisher as editor. The post office received mail for the newspaper at Box 250 and the telephone number was 176.

• News items contained in the eight page, mimeographed edition included information culled from the guest registers of various island hostelry noting who had signed in and where they had come from.

• Advertisement from the provincial department of social services informed people holding valid health services identification cards to obtain free canned port from the island civil defense headquarters. Distribution would occur from Mouat Bros.' Feed Shed Monday, August 8 and Saturday, August 13 between the hours of noon and 2 p.m.

• Alsam Manufacturing Co. Ltd., which ran the shale plant at Welbury Bay on Salt Spring, had filed for bankruptcy. The plant ceased production several months earlier and a Vancouver trustee had been appointed to arrange the sale of the business by tender.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

• The *Salt Spring Island Driftwood* published Thursday each week with James D. Ward as editor. Mail continued to come into Box 250 but the telephone number had changed to 537-2211.

• Residents of the island were urged to have "a clearly legible sign put up to locate their property for visitors." Such signs would assist emergency vehicles, delivery-men and firemen "if they are needed at the place."

• News from Fulford and Fernwood noted who was visiting whom and where the visitors came from.

• A public meeting to discuss sewerage in Ganges was slated for Friday evening at 8 p.m. and would be held in the Legion Hall.

• Burgoyne Dairy advertised raw milk for sale at 25 cents per quart. It would deliver Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Twenty Years Ago

• The *Gulf Islands Driftwood* continued to publish on Thursday. Frank Richards was editor. Letters were to be mailed to Box 250 and the telephone number remained 537-2211.

• The Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce planned to finish the toilets in Centennial Park in Ganges. Money from the provincial department of recreation would allow the work to be recommenced and the facilities would be open to the public soon.

• The Gulf Island school board would be renting two portable classrooms to fill the need for class room space at Salt Spring Elementary School. The round portable would be set up at the Kanaka Road end of the school grounds.

The board required the portable because the ministry of education refused permission for a referendum for a capital budget to expand the school.

• Sheep dog trials set for Fulford the past weekend were delayed due to rain. When the trials began in late afternoon, only five dogs competed. An observer, noting younger farmers use a different method of herding sheep, lamented the possible passing of trained sheep dogs and handlers.

Fifteen Years Ago

• The *Gulf Islands Driftwood* was published on Wednesday by editor Frank Richards. The post office box, 250 and telephone number, 537-2211, remained the same.

• Papajohn reported from Saturna

that outside fires should not be lit without a permit. He warned the "nincompoops or idiots" of the severe penalties involved in breaking the fire law.

• Salt Spring fire chief Kelly Hanke reported on the 79 calls answered by his volunteers in the previous year. There was one fatality, he noted, and property valued at \$90,700 was destroyed.

• A resident of Salt Spring received a letter from Seattle. It had been sent by his daughter. The daughter had arrived home long before the letter arrived. It had been posted in 1971.

Ten Years Ago

• The *Gulf Islands Driftwood* published each Wednesday with Tony Richards as editor. The address and the telephone number remained the same.

• Capital Regional District chairman Jim Campbell, of Saturna, was considering a veto on the CRD decision to exclude the islands from the transit district. Residents had complained loudly about having to pay for transit when the islands were not served by buses.

• Cleanup day occurred at Lady Minto Hospital. Volunteers cut the grass and generally cleaned up the area around the facility. Lunch was prepared and served by members of the Auxiliary to Lady Minto Hospital.

• The lady golfers of the Salt Spring club brought the Royal Colwood-Salt Spring Challenge Trophy home to the island. The Colwood ladies had won the Trophy in each of the past three years. The Salt Spring ladies were victorious for 1980.

• The new ladies golf champion of Pender Island was Marje Bowerman. She won the Healey Trophy for low gross over 54 holes. Ann Fairweather took the Ward Trophy for low net.

Down through the years

Five Years Ago

• The *Gulf Islands Driftwood* continued to publish on Wednesday under editor Tony Richards. While the address remained at Box 250, the telephone number had changed to 537-9933.

• The Salt Spring Ladies Softball

Association honoured Molly Akerman for her years of dedication and service to ladies softball on the island. The Molly Akerman Trophy would be awarded annually to the player judged most valuable to her team.



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