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Driftwood

Gulf Islands

Wednesday, December 14, 1994 Vol. 35, No. 50

Your Community Newspaper

GANGES, B.C. 75 cents

Islanders to help prepare ferries plan

Local routes are biggest challenge, Rhodes tells Trust

Planning for ferry service in the Gulf Islands will involve island residents, B.C. Ferries president Frank Rhodes announced Friday at a meeting with the Islands Trust Council.

Rhodes invited trustees to nominate island residents to sit on a Gulf Islands advisory committee. The committee's first meeting will be held January 27 and 28.

Rhodes said the process, designed to produce a 10-year plan for the Gulf Islands routes, will continue until June 1995.

"The most significant challenge for B.C. Ferries is the southern gulf islands," he said.

The plan will include expenditures on ships and on terminals serving Salt Spring, Saturna, Galiano, Mayne, North Pender and South Pender islands.

Rhodes asked trustees to nominate one resident and one resident business person from each island to sit on the advisory committee. The committee will also include a member of the ferry scheduling committee from each island, one non-resident property owner from each island, one member of the Islands Trust, one from the Capital Regional District board, one from the school district and one from the B.C. Ferry and Marine Workers' Union.

Two staff members from B.C. Ferries will also sit on the committee.

Rhodes predicted the advisory committee will meet four times, supplemented by conference calls. All meetings will be public and observers will be welcome.

The committee is to identify issues and options, provide facts and advice, make recommendations on options, assist in sponsoring and hosting public meetings and open houses and provide a foundation for continuing consultation.

B.C. Ferries needs to develop a much more structured and mean-

ingful community planning system, Rhodes said.

There will also be displays on B.C. Ferries and information in local newspapers about preparation of the plan. B.C. Ferries will invite briefs and comments from residents and will hold two open houses or public meetings on each island.

Rhodes described planning for the Gulf Islands routes as the most complex and difficult challenge facing B.C. Ferries. Traffic to and from the islands is growing, as is the cost of providing the service.

Rhodes pointed out the ferries carry two groups of passengers: those who live on the islands and those who visit the islands as a tourist area.

Gambier trustee Ozzie Sexsmith pointed out improved ferry service is one factor which encourages population growth on the islands. He wondered if B.C. Ferries had any growth management plans.

Rhodes agreed that demand for ferry service varies from island to island and individual to individual. Rhodes pointed out some people want "one ferry a month — maybe" while others want sailings every half hour.

Salt Spring trustee Grace Byrne said some feel ferry service should be kept below demand, so the lack of service becomes a slight barrier to increased growth on the islands.

She also questioned why so many non-residents were to be included on the advisory committee.

Rhodes said there are a number of ferry users who are non-resident property owners on the islands.

Trustees also asked if B.C. Ferries could provide more parking for those who want leave their vehicles on one side and walk on to the ferry.

Rhodes said the ferry corpora-

FERRIES A14



Christmas Ship makes 44th voyage

Santa was not as gloomy Saturday as the photo makes out, even though 13-month-old Timothy Ritenour was probably about child No. 700 for the special guest aboard the Bellingham Jaycees' Christmas Ship. With special assistance from the United

States Coast Guard, the vessel made its 44th annual voyage to Canadian and American islands on the weekend, bearing gifts and candy for about 800 youngsters. Story—Page A23; more photos—Page B9.

Photo by Tony Richards

Trustees query Empress anniversary bash

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Was it a reception for government hobnobbing or was it a party to acknowledge the Islands Trust's 20th anniversary?

The holding of an anniversary reception last Wednesday evening in the Crystal Ballroom of the Empress Hotel was questioned by several trustees at last week's Trust Council meeting. Although the time and place were convenient for government employees, at least one trustee was unable to make ferry connections after work to attend the event.

Another, Catherine Milsum from South Pender, termed the party a "totally inappropri-

ate" way to celebrate the anniversary. She felt the decision to hold the reception was not discussed by Trust Council.

Although trustees were able to invite people to the party, Milsum said she decided not to invite any island residents because she felt they wouldn't appreciate the type of event.

Salt Spring trustee Bob Andrew grilled staff about the party, asking how much was spent on the reception, who decided to hold it and why it was held in Victoria.

Trust chairman Graeme Dinsdale pointed out the Trust holds a reception every time the group meets in Victoria. The reception gives staff and trustees a chance to meet with people

from the provincial government and from provincial government agencies.

"It was billed as an anniversary," Andrew remarked. Justifying the location and the timing as appropriate for a face-to-face meeting with government bureaucrats does not match the advance billing for the event, he observed.

Trust executive director Gordon McIntosh confirmed the reception was a chance to meet government representatives.

Staff reported the receptions held over the past few years in Victoria cost \$1,000 to

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Fair Change

Island Savings was buying U.S. cash on Tuesday at the rate of 1.3568

THE URBAN MORON

By Calvin Oakes



Coast Guard rescues commercial diver Monday

A commercial diver from Victoria is happier this week after being rescued from Georgia Strait by the Coast Guard. He and another diver were on a routine dive collecting sea urchins off Cooper Reef between Gooch and Moresby islands Monday afternoon.

Just before 3:30 p.m., one of the divers surfaced and returned to the boat because the current was getting strong, Dave Howell of the Ganges Coast Guard station said. The second diver surfaced but had already been carried away from the boat. The diver tried but was unable to get the attention of his colleague in the boat and he floated away south with the current.

When the second diver did not appear, a Mayday call was issued. Within minutes, a Coast Guard helicopter had brought a navy dive team from their base in Esquimalt to the scene. The Ganges Coast Guard vessel Skua, another Coast

Guard vessel and a commercial dive boat were also on the scene quickly.

An Armed Forces Labrador helicopter also came to the scene, Howell said, because it could search in the dark. Commercial airplanes flying into Victoria airport also flew low over the site in case they saw the missing diver.

The diver, Adrian Corless, was quickly found by search boats and the navy dive team's search of the water near Gooch Island was called off. The diver had realized he was being carried south and had jettisoned his weight belt, inflated his dry suit and started to slowly kick in a westerly direction, hoping to land on one of the small islands to the south. He could see the helicopters flying overhead and knew he would be found, Howell reported.

In other Coast Guard news:

- The Merle-B set off flares

Monday night about 5 p.m. and had the Bowen Queen alter her course to go to the rescue. The Coast Guard vessel Skua and the commercial vessel Sea Trader also responded to the call for help.

The Merle-B experienced engine failure and set off the flares because it did not have any other means of communication. The vessel was towed back to Fulford Harbour.

• A herring skiff was provided assistance north of Galiano Island Sunday afternoon. The skiff had run out of gas between Porlier Pass and Reid Island while in transit to a fuel station. The station they expected to get gas from was closed, and they ran out of fuel on their way back to Galiano. The Ganges Coast Guard vessel Skua and Coast Guard vessels from Ladysmith and Delta attended at the scene.

• Islanders, particularly those on Saturna and Mayne, may have noticed a number of flares Thursday

night in Georgia Strait when a number of vessels were conducting a search and rescue test exercise.

The Ganges Coast Guard vessel Skua participated with auxiliary vessels from Tsawwassen and Sidney, a Labrador helicopter

from the Armed Forces base in Comox and the navy vessel HMCS Vancouver. Within 16 minutes, the four test dummies were located in the water, after a fictitious collision between a tanker and a tugboat.

Climbing wall a bargain, says Luth, as commission puts up \$3,000 grant

A climbing wall sponsored by the Salt Spring Island Community Services Society got a \$3,000 boost Monday night from the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC).

Describing the wall as a good way to build self-esteem, programmer Ross Huff outlined the project to commission members. The climbing wall duplicates the experience of rock climbing in a safe environment.

The proposed wall will be 24 feet high and will be constructed behind the community centre near the John Fidler youth centre.

Huff said the wall will be used in youth programs and will also be open to the public in the evening. Young people are especially interested in the sport, he said. "It's the rad thing to do, as they say."

The PRC grant leaves just \$1,312 to be raised for the structure. Money already collected for the \$16,312 wall includes \$3,000 from the community services society, \$1,500 from the John Fidler fund, \$500 from the 1993 Bank of Montreal Christmas Fund and \$4,000 from the Vancouver Sun fund.

Capital Regional District (CRD)

director Dietrich Luth has given a \$3,000 grant-in-aid for the wall, and at the commission meeting Monday he backed the project.

"For \$16,000, I think it's a bargain." He predicted climbing the wall would help young people improve their posture, coordination and muscle strength. He also thought it would be a useful training ground for search and rescue volunteers.

Huff said the grips on the wall can be moved and changed to vary the level of difficulty. A club will be formed and club members will monitor users to ensure safety precautions are followed.

"We designed all the potential hazards out of the wall," Huff added.

Commission member Peter Lamb welcomed the addition of a

new activity on the island while fellow member Malcolm McLean liked the individual challenge posed by climbing the wall.

Commission member Yantra Walker voted against supporting the project. "I could understand it if we were in Saskatchewan," she said, adding that there are walking trails and natural rock faces on the island.

Huff responded that all of the rock is conglomerate and dangerous for climbing, especially for beginners.

Walker said she would prefer to see the recreation commission put \$3,000 into some other project, such as the skateboard park at the Core Inn. She summarized the climbing wall as "one more piece of odd equipment — great if we had everything else but rather far down on my wish list."

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ROYAL MAIL: Mary Houston holds letter from Buckingham Palace which came a month after her letter to the Queen.

Photo by Tony Richards

Queen, Fernwood student write after Royal visit

When you know you cannot meet the Queen, you do the next best thing: you write to her instead.

That's what Fernwood School student Mary Houston did October 25. And a month later Buckingham Palace replied.

Mary had seen Queen Elizabeth arrive at Victoria airport prior to her opening the Commonwealth Games in August.

"I thought she was really pretty," Mary told the Driftwood. "She looked very nice."

It was that chance encounter that prompted Mary to write.

"It was really, really exciting to see you come off the plane in Victoria," she said in her letter. "I was a couple of feet away from you and your husband, Prince Phillip, at the airport. I would really like to meet you, but I know I cannot.

"If you have time, please write back."

Last week, Mary received a letter from a lady-in-waiting at Buckingham Palace, who wrote to say she had been "commanded by The Queen to write and thank you for your letter.

"Her Majesty was pleased to know you were able to see her and the Duke of Edinburgh when they arrived in Victoria, and I am to say how much The Queen and His Royal Highness enjoyed their visit to British Columbia.

"It was very kind of you to write as you did and I am to thank you again for your letter which Her Majesty was pleased to receive."

Mary was so pleased at having received a reply that she plans more letters.

"I'm going to write to the White House next."

Aerator options on agenda of St. Mary Lake meeting

Options for improving St. Mary Lake water will be heard Thursday. That's when two officials from the provincial Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks will be on Salt Spring to present ideas for replacing the aerators removed from the lake earlier this year.

The aerators were installed in 1984 to help circulate oxygen in the lake water. In the summer, relative warmer water stays in a distinct layer on top of a relatively cool layer below, which prevents air getting to the bottom of the lake. Algae blooms in the summer are partly due to this lack of oxygenation in the shallow lake.

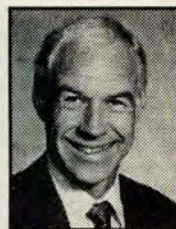
A storm in February broke up the aeration system and the lack of oxygenation caused much more noticeable algae blooms in the lake and in the water which some 3,000 island residents use in their homes.

The original aerators cost about \$130,000 and estimates for replacing them were at least half that. More precise costs for different options will be presented to islanders at Thursday's meeting, sponsored by the Ecosystem Stewardship Project. Financing will also be on the agenda.

Kathy Reimer said an option discussed locally would mean the aerators would be rebuilt, for a cost of about \$20,000. Ministry officials are likely to favour a technological upgrade which may cost more than \$90,000 but will eliminate several thousand dollars' worth of diver maintenance to the system each year.

Anyone with an interest in St. Mary Lake water quality should be at the meeting, Reimer said, so that everyone knows what the plans are. The meeting will be held in Central Hall Thursday starting at 1 p.m.

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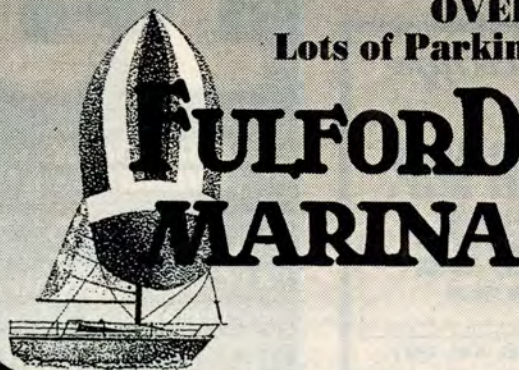
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24 HOUR EMERGENCY REPAIRS

Owners reluctantly replacing heat panels

By TONY RICHARDS
Driftwood Staff

Homeowners describe it as a super heating system, but British Columbia's chief electrical inspector wants it removed.

Aztec-Flexel, Thermaflex and Flexwatt radiant heat ceiling panels have been ordered disconnected in the wake of nearly two dozen reports of problems. And while some islanders have been quick to replace the heating panels, others are taking their time, going as far as to conduct their own tests with infrared sensors.

Electrical contractor Dave Abley said last week he believes more than 100 Salt Spring homes have the radiant heating panels installed. So far, he said, his crews had replaced the heating systems in about 30 of those homes.

All of the units in the Grace Point development had radiant heating installed, and some townhouse owners have already begun replacing them. And not all of them are happy with having to do so.

"It's a complete fiasco by the CSA," said Bob Brawn, who has had baseboard heating installed to replace what he describes as "a super system."

Last week, Ole Olsen, also of Grace Point, obtained an infrared gun and checked ceiling temperatures in his own home and in three others. On Tuesday, he reported that temperatures were for the most part in the low 40s C, with the occasional high reading of 48 or 49.

Like Brawn, Olsen is happy with the radiant heating system and is not looking forward to replacing it. "We feel we're being screwed by the government," he said.

But a speaker at a meeting in Ganges last week is convinced there's a problem with the panels. Norman Ryder of Parksville addressed a gathering of Salt Spring homeowners concerned about the panels' disconnect order.

Another Grace Point townhouse owner, Tom Wright, was at the meeting, and reported that Ryder is convinced there is a problem.

The panels are flexible sheets of mylar containing an imprinted circuit and are attached to the underside of ceiling joists, where they sit between the drywall and the insulation. More than 20 homeowners in B.C. have reported problems caused by overheating and melting of the mylar.

A spokeswoman for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs said reports have varied from charred joists to blackened Gyproc around the panels. There has been one incident where a fire emergency



TESTING PANELS: Tom Wright watches as Ole Olsen tries out infrared gun to check temperatures in the ceiling of his Grace Point townhouse.

Photo by Tony Richards

call was made, Juliette Proom said, but she could offer no further details.

She said it appears the presence of insulation and drywall around the heating panels has limited the supply of oxygen and prevented fire from breaking out.

The panels ordered disconnected are all Aztec-Flexel rated 22 watts per square foot, all Thermaflex panels rated 22 watts per square foot and all Flexwatt panels.

At present there is no indication that homeowners will be compensated in any way for having to install new heating systems. But the provincial government has appointed the dean of law at the University of Victoria to look into the matter over the next two months.

Tom Wright has been enjoying his radiant heating system for five years and likes the way it heats. But he expects to replace it soon.

Having a banned heating system in your home "is not exactly a situation that fills you with confidence."

Assistance in the form of temporary space heaters is being provided those of limited means who have no alternative heating system. Information can be obtained by calling a toll-free line, 1-800-407-7757.

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ROADSIDE SCREENING: Ganges RCMP Sgt. Lorne Bunyan holds a roadside screening device, known as an Alchemeter SL2.

Photo by Graeme Thompson

Roadside screening to nab drunk drivers

Christmas is a season for entertaining friends and family. But drinking and driving will not be tolerated. The advice from Ganges RCMP Sgt. Lorne Bunyan is to be sober behind the wheel this holiday season.

"Experience has told us if people know we're out there, they give more consideration to whether they want to drink and drive," he said.

Every year, police around the province make an extra effort at Christmas to ensure the roads are safe for the holiday-making public. This year will be no exception.

Drivers can expect to meet police officers at sporadic roadblocks at any time. The annual Christmas CounterAttack program

began last weekend and will continue until past New Year's Eve.

Police will be carrying a roadside screening device, like the Alchemeter SL2, which is a hand-held breathalyzer. Drivers whom the police have reasonable grounds to think may have been drinking blow into the small device. It registers green if the driver has a blood-alcohol level between 0 and 0.049, yellow if the count is between 0.05 and 0.099 and red if the driver is anything more than 0.10. The legal limit is 0.08.

Drivers who pass the test are released; those who get the yellow light may receive a 24-hour driving suspension. Those who fail the test may have to return to the police station for a breath sample.

Early-morning chocolate craving leads to jail cell for island man

A midnight desire for chocolate treats cost a Salt Spring man more than he bargained for Sunday morning. In the small hours of the night, a man smashed out a small window at Harlan's Chocolates in Ganges.

No other damage was done to the store or any stock inside. The culprit, who was under the influence of alcohol at the time, spent the rest of the night in the police cells at Ganges. The incident is still under investigation.

In other police news:

- Three islanders have been charged in separate shoplifting incidents in the last week. All three incidents were at Ganges Village Market where store security was responsible for apprehending the thieves. One man and two women will appear in court charged with theft under \$1,000.

- Four young men will be charged with assaulting an island 19-year-old. The group assault took place at a party in the Fernwood area October 29 about 1:30 a.m. One 18-year-old, two 19-year-olds and a 20-year-old attacked the man and beat him. The investigation has been ongoing

RCMP REPORT

ing since then and police would like to hear from any other islanders who were at the party at which the incident took place.

- An accident downtown in front of the Ganges Fire Hall sent two islanders to Lady Minto Hospital Friday night. The vehicle they were in failed to negotiate the curve of the road around Pharmsave and it struck a power pole.

Injuries to the car's occupants were unknown and police are still investigating the matter. Liquor and speed may have been factors in the accident, police said.

- An accident between a car and a motor scooter sent the scooter

riders to hospital with minor injuries Monday. The accident occurred on Lower Ganges Road near Blain Road about 9 a.m. when the driver of the car was turning into a local daycare centre. The driver did not see the scooter, which was heading towards Central.

Police are still investigating and may charge the driver of the car with crossing a double solid line. The charge carries with it a \$75 fine.

- A 67-year-old island woman has been charged with driving while impaired. She was seen in Ganges Monday about 6:45 p.m. driving erratically and nearly hitting another vehicle on Jackson Avenue.

She was reported to police and taken to Ganges RCMP office where breath samples were taken.

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Young thieves get probation, work service

Two Salt Spring youths will spend one year on probation for stealing liquor and fishing gear from a house at Mansell Farm.

Judge Michael Hubbard sentenced the first-time offenders in Ganges provincial court December 6.

Theft of the goods was reported to Ganges RCMP by the property owner after he returned from a week's absence on September 25.

In the meantime, the mother of a third boy told police she found a Sony stereo system in her son's possession. An interview with that youth, who did not show up for court last Tuesday, led RCMP to the other two boys, aged 14 and 15.

They both apologized to the court for the trouble they had caused and said their actions would not be repeated.

One of their parents noted that the door to the residence was already broken when the pair stole the liquor and fishing gear.

Hubbard issued a stern warning to the youths and ordered each to perform 50 hours of community service work.

In other youth court news:

• A written apology to his victim was one condition of six months' probation given to a 14-year-old boy who pleaded guilty to an assault charge.

Crown counsel Steve Fudge told court the Salt Spring youth approached another island boy on September 13, pushed him after a heated verbal exchange and reportedly challenged him to a fight. Although the victim refused to fight, he suffered bruises and scrapes and a kick to the head from his aggressor.

The charged youth's mother wanted the court to know her son had been "harassed" all summer by the boy he assaulted.

While Hubbard noted the harassment could also be considered a criminal offence depending on the circumstances, he said her son's reaction was obviously inap-

propriate. Assaulting people is "a very dangerous thing to get into," he said, especially when serious harm could result from kicking someone in the head.

Hubbard also ordered the youth to complete 25 hours of community service work and take any "anger management courses" deemed necessary by probation officer Susan Langlois.

The youth also apologized to the court for his behaviour.

• A 17-year-old boy found guilty of criminal harassment by Judge Hubbard in Ganges court October 25 was put on probation for six months and ordered to complete 40 hours of community service work.

Sentencing was delayed until probation officer Langlois had completed a pre-disposition report on the youth.

Charges stemmed from a February 27 incident in which the

The charged youth's mother wanted the court to know her son had been "harassed" all summer by the boy he assaulted.

youth drove and parked a vehicle near a Pallot Way residence on four occasions that evening. One resident asked the youth and his friends to leave the area after the third appearance.

On the fourth visit the driver challenged the resident to come out of the house while he waved what appeared to be a gun. Police later identified the object as a water pistol wrapped in electrician's tape. The youths and victims were not known to each other.

Hubbard said he might have ordered a custodial period for the boy if his pre-disposition report had not been favourable, since this was his third criminal conviction.

He also ordered the youth to have no contact with the victims and stay away from their residence.



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Probation ordered for theft of cement

A Vancouver man received a conditional discharge with three months' probation after pleading guilty to theft of contact cement from Mouat's Trading Co.

Court heard that Mohiedin Ghiassi, 43, was observed on October 25 by a Mouat's employee as he carried a container of contact cement down an aisle but emerged without the container in his hand. The employee also noted Ghiassi was carrying a blue duffle bag. He was then apprehended with the \$6.70 item in the bag.

Court heard that Ghiassi returned to Mouat's the next week with an apology and flowers. Defence counsel Mayland McKimm noted the cement was needed to repair a leaky trailer of a female friend and her children on Salt Spring.

Ghiassi was also ordered by Judge Michael Hubbard to complete 15 hours of community service work.

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Court orders fines, probation for marijuana offences

David Edward McRobb, 31, of Salt Spring will pay a \$1,250 fine for possession and cultivation of 63 marijuana plants, discovered by Ganges RCMP on September 20.

Ganges provincial court heard December 6 that police received information leading them to a Duker Road property where they found plants growing in various spots on the seven-acre parcel, and some on a neighbouring lot. Seven plants were found drying in the basement of a home on the property.

Defence counsel James Pasuta noted that while the number of plants was substantial, "it was a fairly amateur situation."

McRobb was originally charged with possession for the purpose of trafficking as well, but negotiations with Crown counsel led to a stay of that more serious charge.

Judge Michael Hubbard told McRobb that considering the large amount of marijuana involved, he was fortunate Pasuta negotiated this resolution for him.

Hubbard divided the fines into

\$500 for possession and \$750 for cultivation. It was McRobb's first criminal conviction.

In other court news:

• Possession of 5.4 grams of marijuana led to a \$200 fine for Damian Woody Richards, 20, of Salt Spring.

Richards pleaded guilty to the charge, laid September 13 when a police officer pulled him over while he was driving his truck. After observing an odour of marijuana, the officer searched the vehicle and uncovered 15 marijua-

na cigarettes and several roaches.

• Judge Hubbard sentenced a Tofino woman to three months' probation and 25 hours of community service work for possession of marijuana.

Meadow Steinman, 20, was living on Salt Spring on February 20 when a separate complaint brought Ganges RCMP to a cabin she was renting with her boyfriend. Police found 28.3 grams of marijuana in the pocket of pants she was wearing.

Defence counsel Mayland

McKimm advised the court that Steinmann was not dressed when police came to the door, and put her boyfriend's pants on. She was aware the marijuana was in the pocket, he said.

• Andreas Michael Naumann, 47, was fined \$200 by Hubbard after pleading guilty to possession of one marijuana plant.

Court heard that information led police to his Salt Spring residence on October 15, 1994, where a plant was found growing in a greenhouse.

Service signs up 150

Two isolated incidents have not marred the welcome that Salt Spring residents have given Island Garbage Express since the firm started garbage pick-up October 31.

"It's going fairly well overall," said Cheryl North, who is operating the business with her husband, Chris. The couple moved from Nanaimo to Salt Spring with their four children and expect their partner in the venture, Doug Brown of Qualicum, will also move to Salt Spring with his family.

To date they have signed up 150 customers, North said.

There have been two unpleasant incidents since their arrival on the

island. One resident who did not want the truck turning around in the cul-de-sac in front of her home placed three logs on the street, blocking the truck's access.

North said the truck avoids the cul-de-sac by backing down the short street after making its pickups. "We don't want any more controversy," she added.

The other incident was the erection of a sign stating, "Go back to Nanaimo."

Island Garbage Express is the third local firm to offer garbage service on Salt Spring. The others are Norman Twa's Salt Spring Garbage Service and Laurie Hedger.

Free bus service planned

New Year's party-goers on Salt Spring will be able to enjoy a free transit service.

The Salt Spring Island Public Transportation Society is offering free bus service New Year's Eve. Called Dry Run '95, the service will run between 8 p.m. New Year's Eve and 2 a.m. New Year's Day.

The society expects the bus — or buses if demand is high enough — will run continuously between Fulford and Vesuvius. Azure Transport is providing the bus, the operation of which will be paid for through donations by local businesses and individuals.

Islanders are being urged to plan their celebrations with the service in mind. The society would like to know in advance what people's requirements will be.

"We'll do our best to accommodate as many groups and individuals as possible," the society said in a news release.

Space aboard the bus can be reserved by calling 537-9631 or 537-4301 before December 22.

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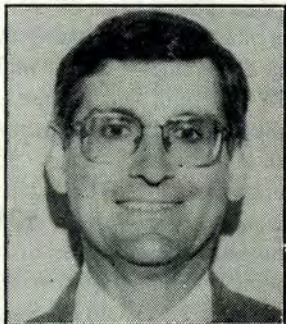
Flt #	Departs	From	To	Arrives	Routing
801	7:40am	Airport	Ganges	8:00am	direct
802	8:00am	Ganges	Airport	8:25am	stops
803	12:15pm	Airport	Ganges	12:40pm	direct
804	12:45pm	Ganges	Airport	1:10pm	direct
805	3:30pm	Airport	Ganges	3:55pm	direct
806	4:00pm	Ganges	Airport	4:25pm	stops

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402	8:00-8:30am	Mon-Fri. Islands	Vanc.	8:30-9:00am
403	3:30pm	Mon-Fri. Vanc.	Islands	4:00-4:30pm
405	9:00am	Saturday Vanc.	Islands	9:30-10:00am
406	9:30-10:00am	Saturday Islands	Vanc.	10:00-10:30am
407	2:00pm	Sunday Vanc.	Islands	2:30-3:00pm
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Designing a ferry system

Transportation planning in the Gulf Islands has never been a simple exercise. The announcement by the B.C. Ferry Corporation's Frank Rhodes that an island committee will be struck to plan future needs represents the promise of a new era in ferry service.

But the barriers are going to be difficult to overcome.

It's not only the different needs of the different islands that are going to stand in the way of reaching consensus in establishing workable schedules, but at least one big difference in the way we regard the ferry system.

The first barrier to come down must be the long-accepted premise that transportation services ought to be used as a tool to control development. The Islands Trust has been a strong supporter of restricting sailings to the point where there are never quite enough to satisfy the needs of travellers. This is the drawbridge mentality at its worst. Indeed, it is the closest thing we have to an actual drawbridge: If 50 vehicles show up for a sailing from Vancouver Island, the policy implies, pull up the drawbridge by leaving five behind to slow the pace of development.

The Trust has at its disposal all the necessary powers of land use control available under the Municipal Act. Those powers are sufficient to provide all the development control we need.

Another significant barrier is the xenophobia which many islanders seem to develop whenever it comes time to address matters of mutual concern. Constructive solutions to various island problems will only come about if the islands can work together to solve them. Of those problems, transportation looms the largest.

Overcoming that will be a challenge for the Local Trust Committees on each island as they have been asked to nominate members to the advisory committee. Those members shall have to be prepared to set aside the concerns of their individual islands in order to devise ferry links that will work for the benefit of all. An ability to see the broader picture of island ferry travel — and recognize the need to reduce costs — will be mandatory.

Cynics will charge that B.C. Ferries has already designed a plan for future service in the islands, that establishing the advisory committee is a ploy to make the process look good. We would rather think of it as an ambitious, timely and welcome opportunity for the chief stakeholders in ferry service to have a major say in its delivery.

Formation of the committee could well be the first step towards a larger role for the islands in the operation of their ferry system. Could a Gulf Islands Ferry Authority effectively run our ferries? The results of the advisory committee's work will leave us in a better position to judge.

Islanders should welcome this opportunity to become involved and do all they can to ensure the project's success.

Still secret

Two weeks ago we deplored the desire for secrecy exhibited by the Southern Gulf Islands Community Health Planning Committee. Our concern was prompted by news that a reporter would not be permitted to attend its monthly meeting.

The meeting, it turned out, was not closed to the public after all, only to this newspaper. As the chairwoman of the committee has not returned calls since, we are left wondering what is the committee's pleasure with respect to our attendance.

What remaining confidence we have in the competence of the committee to complete its task is rapidly dwindling. Its unwillingness to communicate represents a threat to the entire health planning process.

Time for giving

It is the season of giving, so give a little to the United Way.

As of this week, the annual campaign has only collected 70 per cent of its \$30,000 goal. All of the money collected on Salt Spring is returned to the island — with more money added. Last year \$45,000 of the Salt Spring Community Services Society's budget came from the United Way.

Among the programs offered by the society are counselling for adults, families and children, a residence and programs for the handicapped, adictions counselling and many others.

Many islanders also use off-island services financed by the United Way, including programs which help the disabled, encourage health and rehabilitation or aid families and individuals dealing with a personal crisis.

A gift to the United Way is a gift for a stronger community since the agency supports services for those in our family, among our friends or in our neighbourhood who are most in need.

Before closing off your Christmas list, give a gift to the United Way.



ArtSpring: an optimist has order in for next year's opening night tickets

As I write this, I have finished two years of close association with ArtSpring. The capstone was the Island Arts Centre Society's annual meeting, which adjourned a few hours ago. Reflecting on those two years and

on the meeting, I am amazed and deeply pleased at how much the project has matured.

By late 1992 the project had been conceived, the land assembled and paid for, the design adopted and the building framed. A lot of thought had gone into how ArtSpring could be run to give the best service possible to the community. A solid attempt had been made to develop a conceptual operating budget.

The new board in late 1992 (call it the class of '93) knew that the project still had a long way to go, and we plunged into the thousand tasks of fundraising, office management, and construction (to the extent the small bank account would allow). We hardly came up for air.

Slowly, though, we sensed that the community's attitude seemed to be shifting. Fund-raisers fell short.

Enthusiastic supporters lapsed into benign apathy. Critics turned up the volume. In the 1993 election a half-dozen new directors, determined to change things, took their seats. Changes didn't come fast enough, and in March the membership demanded specific new by-laws and improved operations of the society. Their concerns became abundantly clear during a two-session extraordinary general meeting held in May 1994. The board woke up — or, to the doubters who still exist, let's say it heard the alarm go off.

Meanwhile, the board had planned for months that 1994 would be the Summer of the Hammer. Another major construction effort was due, its goal being to complete the interior of ArtSpring through drywall installation. It would be a time of intense traffic of dollars to and fro, so we knew we had to upgrade our contracting, purchase, payment, accounting and financial reporting systems. As fate would have it, we hired Bob Jankura as construc-



VIEW
POINT
BY BOB
WEEDEN

Slowly, though, we sensed that the community's attitude seemed to be shifting.

tion manager. Bob, Denny Thomas (chair of the building committee), Bill Curtin (treasurer) and Carin Perrins (accountant/bookkeeper) forged a solid system of financial control. The result? At last night's meeting, members got just what they should get from elected leaders: an informative, accurate, professionally prepared statement of the society's financial affairs.

I'd be the last to suggest to the new board that we can relax. Improvements are still needed in how we run the society. Major work still needs to be done, not just in raising and spending money to finish the building, but in solidifying our future operational policies and budget and in mounting a long-term funding strategy for the time after the doors open.

In my opinion, though, the Class of '95 starts its work in a more positive climate of membership confidence and community support than did the Class of '94. The faces of our energetic members — about 80 strong — at last night's AGM undergird that hope, as did their votes to return all four "old" board members, standing in nomination, to their directorships.

When will ArtSpring open? The only person who knows is the one who at this very moment is dating a cheque to the Island Arts Centre Society for \$600,000. A pessimist, calculating how many return engagements of Quartetto Gelato it will take, is doubtful that we'll celebrate at the Third Millennium's end. An optimist, thinking of the untapped generosity of Salt Spring Island and the corporate contacts now in process, has a standing order in for the opening night tickets a year hence.

In the very long run, it doesn't matter when ArtSpring opens. What does matter is that the functioning building is understood as both message and medium of community spirit, a monument to no one's triumph, a symbol of everyone's determination.

Bob Weeden was elected chairman of the ArtSpring board shortly after he wrote this piece.



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SALT SPRING SAYS

We Asked: How would you rate the performance of Salt Spring's Islands Trust members?



Ethel Fraser

Maybe a three. I believe they're not using enough wisdom. The lifestyle of home-based businesses has to be preserved along with the economy.



Peter Haase

You may as well give them an 80 per cent with regards to inhibiting large development projects. On some points they're good and some points they're bad so it averages out.



Max Crane

I suppose you'd give them halfway — a five then.



Geraldine Wood

I'd have to give them a two — maybe. No particular reason. I'm not happy with them.



Catherine Nolan

Try 5. I'm not too impressed with what they're doing. They're looking after the money that might come to the island but they're not looking after the island.

Letters to the editor

Cottages for low-rent housing

Congratulations on your editorial comment last week regarding affordable housing. I would like to add a couple of points in favour of seasonal cottages being used as low-cost rental housing.

The first is that cottages are being used as affordable housing. Every week this paper publishes ads offering cottages for long-term rental. Many property owners on this island rightly ignore existing bylaws by doing so, and are filling a desperate need for affordable housing. The Islands Trust showed blatant disregard of this reality by passing bylaw 329, which removed basements and lofts from seasonal cottage construction. All they accomplished (besides creating more work for themselves) was to consign an unfortunate group of people to living in an even smaller area. Construction is enforceable, use is not.

Second and perhaps more important, using seasonal cottages as low-cost rental units allows the spirit of community to thrive. People helping people. Imagine a pensioner asking below market rent for their cottage in exchange for yard work. The renters get a place to live and a little dignity in helping their neighbour. The pensioner gets a little extra money towards those ever-increasing taxes, and perhaps stays in their home a little longer. Imagine ... not a bureaucrat in sight.

DIANE MELEN,
Lee Road

Rolling back their rents

In her article entitled Society has Obligation to Provide Housing for Those Who Need It (Driftwood, December 7), Jane Parlee made several important points in defence of publicly-subsidized housing for families with limited incomes. One point she made struck a responsive chord: "No public funding will be paid to private sector landlords

who rent their units for whatever the market will bear." In other words, society is already subsidizing the rents for families on social assistance. When those rents are excessively high, there is little money left for life's other necessities such as food and clothing. The resulting stress can lead to family breakdown with additional costs to society.

Perhaps as landlords we are more attuned than the average Salt Spring Island resident to changes in the rental market, but it has not escaped our notice that during the past year or two, the amount being asked for rental houses advertised in the Driftwood has skyrocketed. We soon talked ourselves into the idea that we were fools not to charge similar rents for our cottages. In effect, we decided to ask what the market appeared to bear and raised our rents accordingly.

Prospective tenants have assured us that our new rates are "not out of line" with the rest of the market. But we have also seen that those with minimum-wage jobs or on social assistance cannot afford to pay us the "going rate" and also eat properly, clothe themselves decently, or perhaps operate a car. Their limited incomes simply do not stretch that far.

Ms. Parlee's article has caused us to do some soul searching. As of January 1, we will roll back our rents to the level they were before we began to lust after the excessively high rents that others demand. This may not go very far toward solving a serious social problem, but at least we will no longer contribute to it.

HELEN HINCHLIFF,
DONALD SIMMONS,
Orchard Road

No charities at Christmas

I recently decided to try to make and sell home crafts at the Fulford Hall Craft Fair. With a neighbour, I began making crafts, baking Christmas cake, and cooking traditional Christmas items.

I realized that the dates of the fair (December 2, 3 and 4) were also conducive to selling Save the Children Christmas cards. As the Salt Spring representative, I try to sell as many cards as possible in any given year. Most cards are sold through Ganges Village Market, thanks to the generosity of store owners.

A day or two before the craft fair, I remembered that there was a 15 per cent commission from all sales payable to the organizers. I phoned to see if this 15 per cent could be waived for the cards. I was told, in no uncertain terms, that there would be no charities allowed to display and sell in this hall.

I'm appalled — no charities at Christmas! Have we gone totally commercial?

The reason given for the "no charities" rule was that the crafts people needed the space.

In fact, I was only infringing on the space provided for my neighbour and I. I only wanted to give shoppers an opportunity to get their Christmas cards and bring joy to less fortunate countries. It would really be Christmas, in my eyes, if Fulford Hall was full of volunteers selling cards, books or bobbles for charity.

If you want to bring joy to the world, buy your Save the Children Christmas cards at Ganges Village Market, or call me 653-2350.

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Dear Mr. Bouchard: Canada cares indeed

VICTORIA — Dear Lucien: In my line of work, I meet of lot of politicians, some good, some not so good, and a whole lot in between.

You and I have never met. I've never interviewed you. I've never grilled you during a press conference. I've never been with you on the hustings. Hell, come to think of it, I've written only one column about you.

And yet, I have developed quite an admiration for you. I like your style. You pursue your goals with a quiet determination. You rarely resort to empty rhetoric. And when you do get passionate, you do so rather convincingly.

CAPITAL COMMENT HUBERT BEYER



Not that I agree with your present and foremost goal, but more about that later. Right now, I would like to congratulate you on the courage with which you faced your present ordeal.

Like most Canadians, I was shocked when I heard that you had been stricken by this terrible disease. I found it hard to believe. Just a few days earlier I had watched the debate between you and Joe Clark about whether Quebec should separate, and why.

I've got to tell you, Lucien, that Joe won that one hands down. Joe was a lot more eloquent and passionate than you were. In fact, you said so much yourself. Perhaps the outcome would have been different had the debate been en francais.

Nevertheless, I found myself thinking that if this is the best you can do, you will fail at the one goal that has become your life — a separate, sovereign Quebec.

But here you are, barely having escaped death with incredible courage and determination, and your battle cry "Que l'on continue" (carry on) is instilling new and vigorous life in your cause.

I admire it, but I don't have to like it. Let me tell you where I come from. I am neither Anglophone nor Francophone. The first time I heard anything about Canada was as a 14-year-old lad in school. That was in Germany.

I remember vividly how my teacher described Canada as a bilingual country that somehow manages to make all others feel welcome, too.

It was a strange concept for a young boy in post-war Europe, ravaged by war, with no clear destiny on the horizon.

It was Canada's duality, the French presence in a sea of English, that continued to fascinate me. And when I finally emigrated to Canada, I was able to converse equally as well in French and English. I thought I owed that much to the country I would choose as my new home.

So, I understand your aspirations for a "distinct society." And even though my French has become rather rusty and wouldn't get me very far in an interview with you, I have retained my pride in belonging to a country with two founding nations.

Remember when Joe, Clark, that is, said you reminded him of a boxer in a 12-round match who wants to throw in the towel after three rounds, referring to Quebec's treatment at the hands of the constitution, which was not signed by Quebec, and the abortive Meech Lake and Charlottetown accords.

Well, maybe Joe's remarks were a little unkind, but he did have a point, didn't he? The Meech Lake and Charlottetown failures weren't a rejection of Quebec. They were a rejection of a bunch of arrogant politicians trying to do things behind closed doors. By the way, I was solidly in support of both accords. And I still have the scars to prove it.

So, while I sympathize with Quebec's aspirations of wanting to be master of its own destiny, I happen to believe that it can achieve this goal without rending asunder the most successful experiment in nation-building.

A separate Quebec is bound to be weaker than a Quebec within the Canadian confederation, both economically and culturally.

You told Joe in so many words that Canada doesn't really care about Quebec, that it is indifferent to Quebec's dreams.

I find that difficult to believe, not after the outpouring of genuine concern and admiration for one of Quebec's most famous sons. Without exception, your political adversaries put aside differences and acted as true Canadians. One of theirs was in trouble and needed support. And you got it in spades.

In the months to come, while you recover, you have the opportunity to step back from the daily grind of politics. Dig deep, as deep as you can, and see if you can't find some measures of affection for Canada. If any nation's collective identity can work out its differences and reach a compromise, surely it is Canada.

And while both of us still belong to the same country, I would like to wish you, as one Canadian to another, a speedy recovery and bonne chance.

More letters

Vivid memories of communism

No matter what the purpose of this brand new party is, its selected name — Gulf Islands Communist Party — shows ignorance and poor judgment. To me and millions of others, the word communism brings back angry, painful memories. This word has not just a "bit of stigma" attached to it. We, the survivors of this unbelievably cruel, bloody regime, associate the word "communism" with the greatest evil the world has ever known.

I was 12 years old when my secure, little world ended.

In 1939 Stalin and Molotov demanded that Russia military bases be established on my country's, Estonia's, Baltic seashore. Our government was forced to accept this proposal — what could one million Estonians do against communist Russia's 193 million? So, to avoid a terrible bloodshed, we accepted. As soon as the Red Army was firmly established in Estonia, a "revolution" was staged — Estonia's working class begging that Estonia be allowed to join the "happy, free republics of the Soviet Union."

This was the biggest circus we had ever seen — the revolutionaries were a handful of Estonian communists and opportunists, their ranks being supported by freed political and criminal prisoners, imported Russian peasants and other such rubbish. So, the Soviets gracefully accepted Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into their "free and happy Soviet family."

Then the arrests and deportations began.

Since my father had been fighting against the communists in the First World War, became one of our national heroes and was

awarded three medals for bravery, he also was marked as Public Enemy No. 1 and added to the deportation list with the whole family — his wife and two daughters, aged 8 and 14 (I was the elder). But thanks to my father's organizing, foresight and just plain luck, we were well prepared when the arrest came. We escaped.

But even now, 53 years later, the memories of this terrifying evening are very fresh and very vivid. My task was to save my sister and myself.

And so we crouched in the middle of the ryefield like two frightened rabbits, desperately hoping that the communist arresting party would not find us. They did not. I remember being so scared that at times I forgot to breathe, and at

times I bit my hands and pulled my hair, hoping that the physical pain would keep me from breaking down. It did.

So, young students of Gulf Islands Communist Party, the word "communism" should not be used in blissful ignorance.

ILME IVAND MANG,
Vesuvius

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• **One 2L POP, PLUS • One VIDEO**
Saturday, Dec. 31st, 1994 **all for \$20** plus tax (a \$25 value)

More letters

Cloud of hope

Your cartoonist's lampoon of the Bowen Queen shows quite clearly that his political agenda is Canadian (part-world patriotic, since he shows the Maple Leaf being flown and parochial issues like the deficit and the power of capital bureaucrats in Victoria, etc.)

But other cartoonists are less provincial in their agendas. For example Kreigher in the Province is being reviled for exploiting the loss of a leg by a prominent Quebec sovereignty leader.

Kreiger might well have chosen to lampoon the conflicting religions which are the main motivating agenda in Bosnia.

It is obvious that such lampoonists can influence public opinion by their basic choices of topics. The power of provincial thinking and other part-world patriotisms is so obviously operative in Canada and USA in particular that it is little wonder that we have wars between church-influenced nationalist cults like the Croats, Servs and Muslims.

But there is a tiny cloud of hope on the horizon on Salt Spring. You advertised a house party for persons with world unionism as their first political priority and I enjoyed attending their meeting where, amongst other matters, we discussed the future of the UN where Mr. B.B. Ghali showed hopeful signs of having a global democratic agenda in his mind when he told the leaders of the three separatist infant nationalisms in Bosnia that they should try to find "common ground."

In politics this means that they should try to agree on a common basis of political action to end the inter-cult wars in Bosnia. But alas Canadian nationalism, which is just as wrong as British nationalism in the EU or Serb nationalism in Bosnia, was brought home to me when I spoke to a local resident in Salt Spring who pretended he did not know what Mr. Ghali meant by "common ground" in Bosnia.

If I had my way I would advise Mr. Ghali to call a special conference of political leaders to ask them all to switch from their (mostly) part-world agendas to make a point in all schools to teach children to see themselves first and foremost as human beings. This would be a practical first political move to creating a global democratic state.

**EDWARD GRAHAM
MacFARLANE,
Farm Court**

Your letters are welcome

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 300 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication.

Piffle, balderdash and poppycock

Piffle, Mr. Moray! Piffle and balderdash. Your comments that "tourism is not an intrusive industry" (Driftwood, November 30) are poppycock. I ask — compared to what? An open cast mine? An automobile factory? True, a figure of 1,200 people in the tourist trade is probably better than 1,200 loggers but at least 1,200 down a pit would certainly quiet Ganges down on a summer day. Instead, we have what — 200,000 tourists per annum? Allowing for shoulder seasons and winter, that would mean half of them in 10 weeks of high season — or 10,000 per week. No, that's not intrusive one little bit, hardly notice them at all.

I've seen you in the market on a Saturday. Do you walk into town, or do you have parking? Do you cuss when you can't find a parking space? Do you never have to get to the ferry an hour ahead of sailing time?

But then, perhaps you could be right after all. Tourism is not an intrusive industry — it's just the tourists that are!

**PETER BLACKMORE,
Mt. Erskine Drive**

Model force in place

Now that the government white paper on military and defence is out and open for discussion, perhaps this is the time to examine the Canadian security program as a whole.

There are two concepts that could be explored. First the white paper's statement goals and policy calls among other things for a bigger ground force and less bureaucrats. Second, let's look at the Liberal Party's Red Book. It promises to: Adopt a broader definition of national and international security, encompassing such goals as sustainable development, global economic prosperity, a capable defence and the eradication of poverty and social inequality. Can these two concepts come together to provide a more workable and cost-effective security program at home and abroad?

A model is already in place, that has proved successful. Around the world Canadians are working as effective non-military peacemakers. These people have not been

trained to use weapons, rather their skills are in helping to heal mental and physical wounds, to provide training in problem solving and conflict resolution. This "force" goes to work at the grass-roots level. They are non-governmental organizations with very limited budgets.

The peacekeeping section of the military could be transformed into a peacemaking unit. The training given, though, must be appropriate for the job, rather than preparing the individual to be a soldier. This unit would foster compassion, respect for human life, values, and understanding that peace is not the absence of war, but the presence of fear, and the presence of justice.

This year the overseas development assistance (ODA) budget is considerably less than the amount for military equipment alone.

A reallocation of the global security budget taking from military and defence and giving to official development assistance would be an efficient use of our dollars. Canada has had a long-standing — but never honoured — commitment to allot 0.7 per cent of our GNP to ODA.

Albert Einstein once said, "Peace cannot be kept by force, it can only be achieved by understanding."

**MARG SIMONS,
Hilltop Road**

No pleasure from perfume

This is a request to shoppers on Salt Spring Island. As an employee in a Ganges business I come in contact with many people daily, an occasional one of whom wears perfume. Most perfumes have strong chemical components and can make those subjected to them quite sick. At the very least it gives many people headaches. In some places in Europe perfumes are banned for this reason.

If a person walks into my place of business wearing perfume first thing in the morning I can usually expect to have a headache for the rest of the day. I feel that this is a high price to pay for someone else's pleasure. Please consider others when you go into public buildings. Thanks.

**GAIL RICHARDS,
Rainbow Road**

Caution necessary

I have noticed new highway speed limit signs on Fulford-Ganges Road which read, "60 km when children are on the highway." I am very happy to see these signs, particularly at this time of year when children are

being picked up by school buses in darkness and when the danger to children is highest. This week an experience I had at this time of day illustrates this danger.

I was driving on the above road at about 7:30 a.m. on my way to the 8 a.m. Fulford ferry to Swartz Bay. A school bus approached from the opposite direction, stopped and picked up children. Both the bus and my car were stopped while children waiting alongside the road entered the bus. Having completed loading, the bus driver turned off the flashing red stop lights on his bus and started slowly moving forward. I started my car moving forward also.

Suddenly, out of the darkness, two children ran across the road right in front of my car and in front of the accelerating bus. Both vehicles stopped without problems and the children safely entered the bus.

It occurred to me at the time that it would be easy to criticize the children for having taken such a frightful risk in rushing out in front of even slowly moving vehicles, especially given the darkness of the hour. But children are children. Why should we expect them to act like adults? It is our responsibility, as adults, to drive as cautiously as possible particularly at this time of day.

**TOM GOSSETT,
Mt. Maxwell Road**

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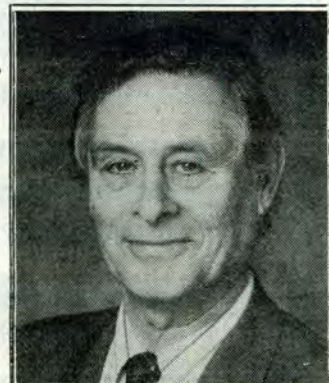
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It's that time again.....

time to start thinking about the next edition of the Lions Club
Salt Spring Island Directory...

Personal Listings:

To add your new listing or change your current one.... simply complete and return the prepaid, pre-addressed business reply card at the back of the current directory.

Societies, Groups, Clubs, etc:

a) If you are in the current Directory, do nothing - you will be called for an update;

b) If you are not in the current Directory but wish to be listed in the "Societies" pages, please call us at 537-2000.

Business Listings:

a) If you're a current advertiser and your address has changed.... please call us at 537-2000 or complete and return the prepaid pre-addressed business reply card at the back of the current directory ASAP.

b) If you are a new advertiser, call us at 537-2000 before Christmas...tell our answering machine you would like an "Advertiser info package", and give it your name, address and phone number. You will receive your package early in January.

More letters

Library changes

A new Library Act has recently been passed by the provincial legislature. One of its provisions mandates the appointment of a chief librarian.

This letter is to advise the library association's members of this appointment together with the effect it is expected to have on the library.

To help preserve and continue our library as a unique, long-established and well-run organization, providing exceptional services, the board of directors has appointed me to undertake the duties and responsibilities of chief librarian.

I will attempt to forward the above aims as well as:

- continue without change the present organization and procedures;
- continue the library as a wholly volunteer library;
- facilitate and continue the present hands-on board's management through the third persons;
- advise, supervise and recommend solutions whenever problems arise.

I would welcome members' suggestions and queries.

MICHAEL J. WHEATON,
Chief Librarian,
Salt Spring Island
Public Library Association

Spay cats

The only way we can stop the torture of cats in leghold traps is to back the SPCA financially to set in place a program for all pets to be spayed, and neutered, for free to people that cannot afford to have it

otherwise. No one needs to take their pets off-island. We have one of the best animal clinics right here in Ganges. If anyone has a better idea could we hear from you? I feel so sorry for the people trying to look after this cat. I am unable to have a dog so I am thankful I can enjoy the dogs people walk past my place, also the cat that liked to sneak in my family room and sleep. Never got to know him too well. Better luck next year when the back door is open all day for my cat to come and go.

CLEO M. WESTON,
Quarry Drive

Not logging

In response to questions from neighbours, I am not responsible for the logging being done beside and in front of my property at 443

Upper Ganges Road. It is important to me that I do not gain that reputation.

Unfortunately, the triangle of cedar, fir and arbutus in front of my driveway and house belongs to the neighbouring farm.

I offered them a covenant, that I would pay them not to cut down any trees, but they told me that either I purchase the land at the non-negotiable price of \$180,000 for the two acres — with no permission to get an appraisal — or they would log.

I am very sadly missing the trees, one of which I am told was 350 years old. Any sensitive person would be affected.

GITTA GOVINDA
(**JENNIFER LITTLE**),
Upper Ganges Road
P.S. I had it appraised anyway, and the fair market value is \$60,000!

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1994 HOLIDAY PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

		DEADLINES
December 14	Regular	
December 21	Real Estate	Dec. 15, 3:00pm
	Display	Dec. 16, noon
	Classified	Dec. 19, noon
	Editorial	Dec. 19, noon
December 28	Real Estate	Dec. 20, noon
	Display	Dec. 21, noon
	Classified	Dec. 22, noon
	Editorial	Dec. 22, noon
January 4	Real Estate	Dec. 20, noon
	Display	Dec. 29, noon
	Classified	Dec. 30, noon
	Editorial	Dec. 30, noon
January 11	Regular	

OFFICE HOURS

Dec. 23-26, CLOSED
Dec. 27, 28, 29, 30, 8am-5pm
Dec. 31-Jan. 2 - CLOSED
Jan 3, 8am-5pm

Gulf Islands
Driftwood

FERRIES: Advisory committee will develop 10-year plan for ferry service

From Page A1

tion had little money available to spend on parking. However, the corporation is trying to offer more space for bicycles on ferries.

Galiano trustee Diane Cragg, referring to the advisory committee process, thought it would be difficult to arrange public consultation "that won't generate more heat than light."

She also suggested B.C. Ferries request some input from those islands which do not receive ferry service.

North Pender trustee Joy Ridley said she hoped B.C. Ferries would also consult the

ferry committees already on the islands.

"B.C. Ferries is firmly committed to an open, inclusive and thorough planning process which will involve many individuals, community-based groups and public agencies," Rhodes stated. "We value the Islands Trust input into this process and look forward to hearing from you by January 12 regarding the nomination of a representative."

Overall, Rhodes said, B.C. Ferries is experiencing an annual two per cent growth in traffic.

Demand for service is increasing while

funding from government is decreasing. The reduction in federal payments to the province has reduced the subsidy paid by the provincial government to B.C. Ferries.

Increased traffic brings more revenue but also results in faster depreciation on ferries, Rhodes noted. B.C. Ferries has not added enough new ferries to keep pace with the demand or the depreciation.

Even if the corporation added one new ship a year for the next few years, Rhodes said, the average age of ships in the fleet would still be 24 years.

Later in their meeting, trustees passed a

resolution welcoming the B.C. Ferries initiative and authorizing the executive committee to appoint a Trust representative to sit on the advisory committee.

Trustees also agreed to submit some names for the committee. However, several trustees noted they would submit names and expected B.C. Ferries to make the final decision on advisory committee membership.

Saturna trustee John Money recommended trustees consult with the transportation committees already on the islands before submitting names.

ANNIVERSARY: Trust celebrates 20 years

From Page A1

\$1,500. This reception was more elaborate and cost \$4,000. The additional expenditure was absorbed within the Trust meeting expense budget.

The \$1,500 for the open bar was covered by five companies which do business with the Trust: lawyers Lidstone, Young, Anderson; computer suppliers Concise Systems; insurance brokers Alexander and Alexander; the Bank of Montreal and accountants K.P.M.G. Peat, Marwick, Thorne.

Gabriola trustee Julian Guntensperger said a reception held in the Crystal Ballroom of the Empress does not present a good image during a time of fiscal restraint.

Dinsdale said the space in the Empress cost no more than equivalent space in the Coast Harbourside, where the Trust has met in the past.

Trust Council did not specifically approve the reception but did direct staff to recognize the 20th anniversary in some way, Dinsdale noted. Initially, the Trust approached the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to help fund the event.

The ministry could not sponsor a reception but agreed to help finance a symposium. Dinsdale said it was not possible to organize a symposium, so the reception was organized with the Trust picking up the cost.

The symposium will likely be held in 1995, during the Trust's 21st anniversary, Dinsdale said.

McIntosh said 350 to 400 invitations were sent out for the reception and approximately 200 people attended. Usually, the Trust receptions in Victoria only draw 80 to 100 people, he said.

Among the guests was Municipal Affairs Minister Darlene Marzari, who made a

short speech congratulating the Trust.

Also at the party, Trust vice-chairwoman Diane Cragg paid tribute to former trustee Bob Allison, who died last summer. She presented a bound copy of the North Pender Official Community Plan to Allison's widow, Helen.

Meanwhile, two trustees supported the decision to hold the reception. Galiano's Elisabeth Boshier said it made sense to hold the event in Victoria the evening before the council meeting, since many trustees were travelling to the city anyway.

Bowen trustee Claus Spiekermann said he resented people constantly questioning any benefit trustees enjoy, given that he donates hours to serving as a trustee. "I'm sick and tired of being told I should wear a hair shirt," he remarked.

He congratulated staff on the affair.

Islands Trust Council sets meeting dates for 1995

Victoria and Salt Spring's Islands Trust offices will be closed from December 24 to January 3, it was announced at last week's Trust Council meeting.

Trustees also approved the meeting schedule for 1995.

The first quarterly Trust Council meeting will be

held March 9-11 in Nanaimo at the Inn of the Sea.

The second meeting will be held June 8-10 on Keats Island. The third meeting will be held September 14-16 on Saturna Island.

The December meeting will again be held in Victoria.

Salt Spring Island Foundation

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

"What is the Salt Spring Island Foundation?" ...you may well ask. It is a community foundation...YOUR community foundation...one of 50 or so members across Canada of the Community Foundations of Canada.

Our foundation's mission is "to enhance the quality of life in our island community...by providing a steady stream of income for the support of a wide range of worthy island organizations". This is accomplished by attracting, managing and distributing only the earned income from gifts of capital from thoughtful citizens.

By preserving capital, the income disbursed annually enhances the quality of life for current and future generations, in perpetuity.

The analogy is sometimes made that a community's United Way functions as a bank chequing account, while the community foundation's endowment funds are the savings account.

This is the first time the Salt Spring Island Foundation has published a financial statement. On one hand, the assets may appear modest by some standards, but on the other hand a solid base has been established. It will continue to grow as more and more thoughtful citizens come to recognize the role of their community foundation...the Salt Spring Island Foundation. In addition to the current funds administered by your trustees, we are aware of at least 5 individuals to date who have made bequests in their wills.



Salt Spring Island
FOUNDATION

GRANTS WERE PROVIDED LAST YEAR TO THE:

- Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, for school educational materials
- Fernwood Elementary School, towards construction of their greenhouse project
- Island Arts Centre Society, towards construction of Artspring
- Fulford Harbour Child Care Society, towards construction of the Treefrog Daycare Centre
- Salt Spring Library Association, towards new display shelving at the Mary Hawkins Memorial Library

While it is anticipated that not all islanders will necessarily agree with every single grant, the trustees believe they reflect the community's interests when looked at overall.

Referring to the \$22,219 figure for "designated funds" in the accompanying financial statement, it is made up of the following individual "named" (min. \$5,000) funds:

Nels Vodden	\$10,000
Anonymous #1	\$5,000
Hector Perry	\$3,000*
Dr. Raymond Rush Family Fund	\$2,219*
Dick & Barbara Toynbee	\$2,000*
*Plus pledges	

The \$28,420 for "unrestricted" funds is comprised of donations ranging from \$10. to \$1,000.

The Salt Spring Island Foundation is open to all wishing to give and receive through a stable community-centred plan. Further information about the Salt Spring Island Foundation may be obtained from any of the undersigned trustees, or by phoning 537-2501, or writing to #2-110 Purvis Lane, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2S5

Tax deductible receipts will be issued for all donations of \$10 or more.

Ron McQuiggan, Hector Perry, Les Ramsey, Robert Rush, Edith Sacker

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BALANCE SHEET As at December 31, 1993

ASSETS	
Cash in bank	\$ 12,214
Term deposits	48,338
Shares, Credit Union	167
Accounts receivable	50
	<hr/>
	\$ 60,769
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Accounts payable	\$ 1,350
Grants payable	8,780
	<hr/>
	\$10,130
Funds:	
Designated funds	22,219
Unrestricted funds	28,420
	<hr/>
	50,639
	<hr/>
	\$ 60,769

FINANCIAL STATEMENT For the Year Ended December 31, 1993

REVENUE	
Donations	\$ 4,534
Interest Income	3,368
	<hr/>
	7,902
DISBURSMENTS	
Grants:	
— Scholarship	500
— Other	1,900
Printing and postage	1,429
Fees and general expense	17
	<hr/>
	3,846
	<hr/>
	4,056
ENDOWMENT FUNDS	
Beginning of Year	46,583
End of Year	50,639

Bowen revisits incorporation

Incorporation is again being considered on Bowen Island, after residents turned down the concept in a 1991 referendum.

Islands Trust member Graeme Dinsdale said Municipal Affairs Minister Darlene Marzari will visit Bowen in February to discuss incorporation. Meanwhile, a group will examine the reasons for the referendum failure in 1991.

"One of the reasons the referendum failed last time is because there were too many unanswered questions about how a municipal government would function within the Islands Trust," Dinsdale said.

The incorporation review is being spearheaded by trustees Dinsdale and Claus Spiekermann and by Greater Vancouver Regional District director Ross

Carter. Dinsdale said a town hall meeting was held at which residents generally supported the incorporation review.

The focus this time will be development of a new municipal style of government which still exists within the Islands Trust. Dinsdale said the local government could meet the needs of the community while the Trust would continue to manage growth and maintain the quality of life on the island.

Bowen Island now has over 2,500 full-time residents, Dinsdale said. Many commute to Vancouver to work.

Tony Hume, who has been involved in researching incorporation for Salt Spring, met with Dinsdale Wednesday to discuss

Bowen's plans.

"My concern is knowing what is going on in Bowen. I would like to know what Municipal Affairs and the Islands Trust are working on together with respect to this special municipality."

Hume noted there has been a lot of discussion about incorporation on Salt Spring. If Bowen, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Islands Trust devote time and effort to preparing a municipal model for Bowen Island, the same model could be the basis for other islands which decide to incorporate.

"This is not necessarily a bad thing," Hume observed. However, he hoped there would be public discussion among all the islands before a municipal model is finalized.

Gabriola land deal set for hearing

Gabriola Island trustees are trying to seize the Weldwood deal — if the clock doesn't run out before the required bylaws are passed.

Debate has divided the community over the deal, which would see increased density on 600 acres of Weldwood land in exchange for a 2,000-acre land dedication to the community.

First and second reading has been given to the required bylaws for the trade and a public hearing is slated for January 13, trustee Susan Yates said.

One bylaw will allow Weldwood to develop 353 lots on 600 acres, including waterfront property. Another will establish provisions for amenity zoning on Gabriola, to allow the Gabriola Trust Committee to make the trade.

"This is what we call progres-

sive planning," Yates remarked. But she could not predict the outcome past the public hearing.

She also hoped Weldwood would give the trustees enough time to hold the hearing and pass the bylaws. Weldwood's original

deadline for the deal was December 31.

But Yates said the forestry company may extend the deadline. "In three years of dealing with them, they have been incredibly cooperative."



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'Shock and despair' follow Marzari meeting at Galiano

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Municipal Affairs Minister Darlene Marzari wasn't riding a white horse when she went to Galiano Island Thursday night.

There was no provincial government rescue for those islanders who wanted development on their island halted until the Official Community Plan (OCP) review is completed.

At last week's gathering of Trust Council in Victoria, Galiano trustee Diane Cragg noted that the 100 residents at the meeting were disappointed by the government's lack of action. "It was just very sad to see the despair in the community, the shock and despair."

The Galiano Trust Committee had asked the provincial government to freeze all development on the island until the community plan review is completed. Galiano trustee Elisabeth Boshier said the request was sparked by the development of Treeco's Bodega Beach Vineyard project, a subdivision of 32 20-acre lots.

Construction of the main access road to the project gave islanders their first look at the impact that roads built to Highways standards would have on their island, Boshier said.

She noted that the developer exceeded the requirements for roads outlined under the Ministry of Transportation and Highways/Islands Trust 1992 roads standards agreement. However, Boshier felt the Bodega Beach road did not significantly exceed Highways standards. She felt the problem lay with the standards.

"This was our first look at how these standards looked when applied to our topography. The road is too large for our island," Boshier said. Due to the amount of rock, construction of the road required deep cuts into the rocks and large culverts to allow the flow of streams under the road.

The sight of the road prompted outrage in the community, Boshier said. Galiano is on the third draft of a community plan review while development is proceeding on properties sold over the past few years by MacMillan Bloedel.

Boshier noted there are 14 properties which have preliminary layout approval from the Ministry of Highways for subdivision. Subdivision applications have been made on more than 5,000 acres purchased from the forest company, Boshier added.

"There was great concern that the subdivision development was overtaking the OCP process," said Melinda Auerbach, chairwoman of the Galiano Trust Committee.

The issue was taken by the trustees and by island residents to the Ministry of Highways and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Residents were cheered when Marzari took up the cause within Cabinet.

But instead of offering concrete help, trustees felt the minister rehashed a number of initiatives which were already under way.

"The wand didn't wave,"



Darlene Marzari

Boshier said. Although all trustees appreciated Marzari delivering the news in person, they felt the government had not supported the islanders' request.

They recalled Marzari giving several reasons for the government decision not to halt development on Galiano until completion of the

"It was just very sad to see the despair in the community, the shock and despair."

community plan review.

The government felt a development freeze would not be effective since developers would still have a year from the time a freeze was announced to complete their projects.

Government members also feared setting a precedent and the probability of legal action if they stopped all development on the island.

"I feel as if we've been patted on the head and told we're good

children and not to bother the adults," Boshier remarked.

The measures announced by Marzari were:

- Changing the minimum road standards established by Highways for the islands to become the maximum standards for new Gulf Islands roads. The standards will also be reviewed by the ministry and the Trust to see if they can be scaled back.
- Completion of the road network plan for Galiano Island, which is now being done by Highways and the Galiano Transportation Committee.
- An agreement between Highways and the Trust giving the latter input into subdivision approvals.
- Tough conditions for subdivisions, including a requirement for hydrological reports to ensure the project will not adversely affect the water supply to other properties.
- A long-term ground water assessment for Galiano Island.
- A planning grant for Galiano to complete the community plan.
- Priority will be given to working on the protected area proposal for Bodega Ridge.

Marzari noted the government had heard from the Islands Trust, the Galiano Conservancy Association, the Galiano Ratepayers Association and many residents about the development process on the island.

"I believe the government's action plan, together with these and other pieces of legislation, will make a real difference in the nature and extent of development on Galiano," Marzari concluded. "It will do so over the long term by increasing the cooperation and coordination between long-time and new Galiano Island residents, the Islands Trust, developers and provincial ministries."



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Debate negates need for hearing

Transferring a non-conforming use from one property to another without a public hearing has raised the ire of some residents on North Pender Island.

But trustee Joy Ridley defends the action, saying the Sh-Qu-Ala Inn pub property has already been extensively debated in the community.

Under section 956.4 of the Municipal Act, a public hearing is not required when the rezoning fits within the Official Community Plan. The pub rezoning application regularizes the pub's new septic field, installed on a parcel of rural land next to the pub.

"We rezoned the parcel where the septic field is — just the field," Ridley said. The rezoning was given third reading at the North Pender Trust Committee meeting December 5.

Ridley said the history of the property dates back to 1968, when a commercial use was first established on the unzoned land. When zoning came to the island in the mid-1970s, existing commercial operations were permitted to continue as non-conforming uses.

At the time, the pub's septic field was on an adjoining piece of rural land. In 1991, the property owners were ordered to replace the septic field, Ridley said.

In 1992 a new septic field was constructed on another adjoining rural parcel. The new field was required by CRD Health and the Ministry of Environment, Ridley noted. Both approved the new septic field.

Although the property was not zoned for a septic field, the CRD granted the permit and the field was built. "Lack of communication between two government bodies," Ridley observed.

To regularize the new septic field, the North Pender Trust Committee created a special zone, Service 2B, under which a septic field is the only use permitted on the property. The rezoning applies this designation to the lot containing the septic field, ensuring that will be the only use on the property, Ridley said.

Ridley said the Trust committee invited letters and phone calls on the application. She recalled receiving 22 phone calls, of which 20 were in favour of the rezoning.

In the past there have been attempts to rezone the pub property which have gone to public hearing. None has succeeded but Ridley said the pub property itself and the adjoining septic field site have been thoroughly discussed by the community at those public hearings.

"We felt there had been a lot of discussion over the last five and a half years," Ridley remarked.

But she has learned some residents feel another public hearing should have been held before rezoning the septic field property.

"Nobody was upset about the rezoning," Ridley remarked. "The concern was not going to the public hearing."

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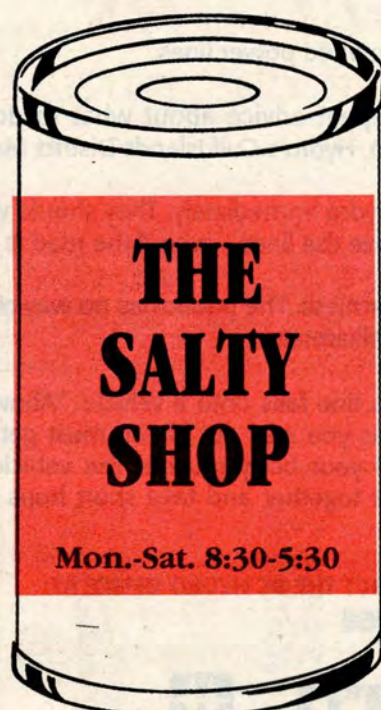
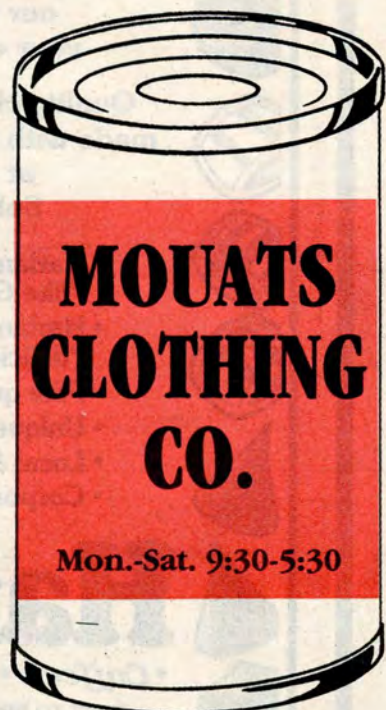
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Health, safety complaints at top of list for trust's bylaw enforcement officer

Have a complaint about a health hazard? Islands Trust bylaw enforcement officer Larry Olafson will put it at the top of his list.

Worried about soil removal on your neighbour's property? That goes to the bottom of the list of investigation priorities approved by the Island Trust Council Friday.

Breaking a bylaw? Olafson may show up on your property with a municipal ticket book in hand — but not until the spring of 1995.

In a presentation to Trust Council Thursday, Olafson outlined a proposed list of priorities for investigations on the Trust islands.

Topping the list are complaints about health and safety issues. Olafson noted other agencies — such as CRD Health — have jurisdiction over such issues. If an island resident calls the Trust with a complaint, Olafson said he would immediately relay the matter to the appropriate agency.

Second on the list are bylaw infractions which will have an environmental impact. Olafson said his definition of "environmental impact" includes bylaw infractions which could affect the rural environment being protected by the Trust.

Olafson said such complaints should be handled quickly, ideally the next day. In some instances, failing to take immediate action can lead to a home, business or activity becoming illegally established.

At that point, Olafson said, it is almost impossible to obtain a court order forcing a home to be vacated or moved or forcing a business to close, regardless of the bylaw infraction.

Cases before the court will also have priority in Olafson's work schedule.

Routine complaints will come next on Olafson's list. The majority of cases are routine complaints and take time to resolve, Olafson said.

Usually he receives a complaint, investigates it and writes the prop-

erty owner once and then again, seeking voluntary compliance. In 90 per cent of the cases, Olafson said the property owner stops breaking the bylaw once notified.

Given the time involved in travelling to different islands, Olafson said he usually won't visit an island unless he has more than one complaint to investigate. Therefore, it could take some time for a routine complaint to be handled.

Last on the list are complaints arising from the soil conservation act, which prohibits the removal or moving of soil in the Agricultural Land Reserve unless a permit is obtained. Given his workload, Olafson said he felt soil conservation complaints should be investigated only when he has nothing else to do.

It is almost impossible to obtain a court order forcing a home to be vacated or moved.

"Unfortunately, in reality, that means it is not going to happen," he said, adding that enforcement of the bylaw could be directed back to the Agricultural Land Commission.

Salt Spring trustee Bob Andrew said he often sees soil being moved on Salt Spring. He said the land commission should be compelled to take some action. "All too often the Ministry of the Environment leaves the Trust to deal with environmental problems."

Asked about the cost and time involved in taking cases to court, Olafson said all court actions are approved by the executive committee. He stressed that cases do not go to court unless Trust staff feel that legal action will be successful.

"The bylaws are a living, growing entity. It takes them time to

reach a bulletproof stage," Olafson remarked.

One trustee remarked that some island residents believe the Trust doesn't enforce its bylaws.

Trust vice-chairwoman Diane Cragg noted some Local Trust Committees were asking Olafson to approach other agencies on their behalf about bylaw infractions. She suggested the committees deal with the other agencies themselves.

Olafson also gave trustees an update on the Trust's adoption of municipal tickets, which will be handed out for some bylaw infractions.

A sample bylaw, which will have to be passed by each Trust committee to permit ticketing on their island, was approved at the Trust Council meeting.

Olafson hopes the legal measures will be in place by the March Trust Council meeting to allow bylaw infraction tickets to be handed out in the Gulf Islands. A sample schedule of ticket offences from the central Okanagan was included with the bylaw. The sample showed fines from \$100 to \$150 for offences like dumping garbage in the wrong location, failing to pay fees, misuse of a transfer station and failing to cover a load.

"The tickets are intended to be punitive. They're intended to be leverage to get people to comply voluntarily," Olafson remarked.

But he expected he would not have to hand out many tickets. The Capital Regional District only issues about 10 tickets a year under its municipal ticketing bylaw.

"Most people, if you give them a little time, a little grace, they'll come around," he remarked.

Hornby trustee George Buvyer wondered if the ticketing system could be used as a weapon in neighbourhood feuds, with one neighbour reporting offences to

the Islands Trust in hopes that a ticket would be issued.

Olafson said municipal ticketing systems are used by 47 jurisdictions in B.C. and there have been no serious problems. If there is any doubt in a case, Olafson said he would not proceed.

"I think if there's any doubt whatsoever, it should go to the person on the island, not to us as an organization," he said.

Once he has resolved a situation, Olafson said, he keeps an eye on former cases when visiting the different islands.

"I carry around a bag of old files, some of which are concluded, just to make sure they stay concluded."

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Leonard beats challenge from Campbell

Regional director Jacques Campbell of Saturna Island failed to unseat Frank Leonard last week as chairman of the Capital Regional District board.

Leonard, a Saanich councillor, won election to the chair, a position he has held for the past four years by acclamation.

Campbell was also defeated in a bid for the vice-chairman's seat. View Royal Mayor Bill Camden was named to the post.

In other regional district news, the board has approved a \$3,000 grant-in-aid to the Salt Spring Island Home Support Services Society.

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Motorists should be advised that in the event a line falls onto a vehicle. "Above all else, stay in your vehicle! You will be safe as long as you stay put. If you must get out, leap free from the car. Leaping ensures no part of your body touches the vehicle and the ground at the same time. Then keep your feet together and take short hops or shuffle until you are at least 10 m (or 30 ft.) away".

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CHRISTIE, SELECTED VAR.
Crackers 200-300 g. **1⁷⁸**

ALL VARIETIES
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**Nuts &
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- Mincemeat Tarts
- Fruit Cakes
- Christmas Cookies
- Almond Stollen
- Mincemeat Pies
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**Jelly
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 or Bud's** 100 g. **58¢**

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7" POT **Mumsetia** **10⁹⁸** 4" POT **Azalea** **4⁹⁸**

8" POT **Norfolk
 Pine Tree** **16⁹⁸** 5" POT **Azalea** **7⁹⁸**

4" POT **European
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6" POT **Amaryllis
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 Spruce Tree** **11⁹⁸**

**Fresh Cut
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1.50 kg. lb.

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Cut an X in the stem end of each Brussels Sprout. Steam until cooked yet firm (about 7-8 mins.) Keep warm in a steamer, but with the heat turned off. Toss in butter and serve with main course. Enjoy!



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1.50 kg. lb.

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Mint, Basil, Sage,
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98¢
ea.



CALIFORNIA

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1⁴⁸
ea.

CALIFORNIA

Red or Green Chard

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bunch

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48¢
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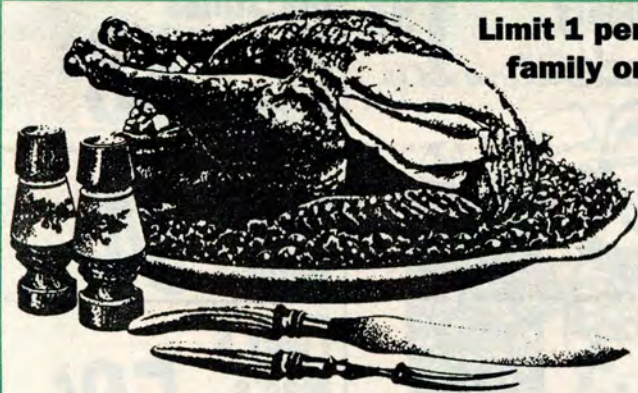
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Chocolate Fondue **5⁹⁸ 4⁹⁸**
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3⁷⁸
lb.

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or whole 18.69 kg.

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FRESH, PORK, BREAKFAST OR HONEY GARLIC

Cocktail Sausage

4.81 kg.

2¹⁸
lb.

GRIMMS, BULK

Ukranian Smoked Sausage

300 g.

2⁷⁸
lb.

GRIMMS, VAC PACK

Farmer or Garlic Sausage

250 g. pkg.

2¹⁸
ea.

CUT FROM CANADA A GRADES BEEF

Boneless Top Round Roast

2⁵⁸
lb.

Baron of Beef 5.69 kg.

FLETCHERS, FULLY COOKED

Boneless Western Ham

1⁷⁸
lb.

Whole 3.93 kg.

Coast Guard delivers Santa

What could have been a delay for the Christmas Ship Saturday turned into an act of good will on the part of the United States Coast Guard.

The SES Whidbey was about to cross the Canada-U.S. border Saturday morning when it was approached by a Coast Guard cutter, which was set to do a random inspection of the vessel.

But when the Coast Guard crew learned the decorated ship was en route to Saturna Island with Santa Claus for a passenger, they changed their minds.

According to Christmas Ship spokesman Rob Graham of Bellingham, the Coast Guard decided "it was probably a bad time for an inspection," especially as the Whidbey was running 20 to 30 minutes late.

Instead, the cutter suggested it might be able to help out.

A Zodiac was dispatched to the Whidbey to collect Santa, Mrs. Claus, some helpers, toys and candy. The small boat delivered its passengers and cargo to the cutter, which set a course for Lyall Harbour on Saturna Island.

"Mrs. Claus wasn't all that thrilled about climbing down into the dinghy (the Zodiac)," Graham said, but the Coast Guard's help got Santa to Saturna on time. The Christmas Ship was late in the first place, Graham added, because Santa has a bad habit of sleeping in.

The Coast Guard could do 25 knots to the Christmas Ship's nine, he said. The latter arrived at Saturna just as Santa Claus had finished visiting with island children, and was ready to depart for the ship's next stop at North Pender.

The voyage was the 44th for the Bellingham Jaycees' Christmas Ship, which makes 10 stops in two days at islands on both sides of the border. It visited North Pender,



ALL ASHORE: Santa Claus and his helpers arrive at Ganges Saturday aboard the SES Whidbey from Bellingham, Wash.

Photo by Tony Richards

Mayne and Galiano after Saturna on Saturday, finishing up at Ganges where it stayed the night.

A member of the Jaycees for 20 years, Graham said the crowds were down a little this year, and estimated that Santa saw about 800 children at the 10 ports.

Next year the club hopes to have the 86-foot Discovery back after a restoration project that so far has taken three years. More comfortable than the 65-foot Whidbey, the Discovery was designed as a yacht, Graham said.

Operated by a division of Boy Scouts called Sea Explorers (as is the Whidbey), the Discovery has had tens of thousands of dollars' worth of work done already, Graham explained.

"It was looking good for being ready this year but the well ran

dry." The project needs another \$10,000 to complete, he said.

Too old now to be an active member of the Jaycees, Graham has become involved with the Sea Explorers, an involvement that grew from the Jaycees' connection with the organization and the Christmas Ship.

He was unable to make the voyage this year, but is looking forward to being on the 45th sailing in 1995. He said long-time Santa Tripo Costello, who retired a few years ago, may accompany his successor and the rest of the crew next year.

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Christmas Soy Nog, featuring Vitasoy

1 cup peeled & cubed butternut squash	1/4 tsp. nutmeg
2 cups of VANILLA VITASOY soy milk	1/4 tsp. vanilla extract
2 1/2 tbsp. lecithin granules	4 tsp. unsalted mirin (optional)
	Sweeten to taste (1-3 tbsp)

Steam squash for 20 minutes or until soft. Drain and let cool for about 5 minutes. Add remaining ingredients and blend until smooth. Refrigerate for 30 minutes. Yields 4 servings.

Mocha Grain Coffee, featuring Vitasoy

2 cups boiling water	1 tablespoon cocoa
2 tablespoons grain coffee substitute	1/2 cup soy milk

Measure the boiling water in a large measuring cup. Add the coffee substitute and cocoa and stir until the powders are dissolved. Pour the drink into four large coffee cups. Add the soy milk to each cup, distributing equally. Sweeten as desired. Serve hot. Yields 4 servings.

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PIERRE BERTON

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDRÉ GALLANT

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LADIES Patchwork VESTS 16⁹⁹	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Enter to win a \$500⁰⁰ SHOPPING SPREE with your purchase Ganges Store only to be drawn Dec. 24th (contest details in-store)</p> </div>		LADIES STANFIELDS LONG UNDERWEAR Top or Bottom 17⁹⁹
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WORK WORLD 3 pair pack THERMAL SOCKS 14⁹⁹			TURTLE NECK & MOCK TURTLE SHIRTS Long sleeves, asst. colours 12⁹⁹
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SALMON CREEK: Work was under way during recent snowfall on Okano Creek, where a pond and fish ladder have been constructed. Photo by Kathy Reimer

'Wildly ambitious' creek project benefits spawning coho salmon

Okano Creek, which empties into Booth Inlet on the east coast of Salt Spring Island, has had some major enhancement work completed by a combination of property owners, government and local salmon enhancement volunteers.

The Booth Inlet system, with its long mud flats, is "perfect" for salmon, Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society president Kathy Reimer said Friday. Four pairs of coho salmon were seen in the creek recently as they returned to spawn. Since 1992, the island salmon enhancement group has stocked the creek with fish from the Cusheon Creek hatchery.

This year, Okano Creek has had a large pond put into it on property belonging to Conhor and Isabel Hunt, and has had a fish-ladder placed downstream of the pond to help the fish make the four-foot jump up a small bank. It is the latest work in a series of improve-

ment projects dating back to 1986.

"It's rather nice now," Conhor Hunt said of the "wildly ambitious" project. He and his wife have been boosters of Reimer's work in the salmon enhancement society.

"She's worked so hard," he said. "I don't think her feet touched ground more than once in 24 hours."

The creek habitat is good for coho salmon, Reimer said, and is the kind of fish-rearing ground which is increasingly hard to find on the islands. The area is marshy and there are even one or two salty springs oozing out of the ground under the power lines near Atkins Road. Fresh water springs and an old well contribute water to the creek year-round.

"This year's returns prove the creek is suitable for salmon and worthy of more attention," Reimer said.

Okano Creek was officially given its name in 1989 in honour of a Japanese family which farmed land at the head of the inlet at the turn of the century. The land was expropriated at the end of the Second World War.

The recent work on the fish-ladder and the expanded fish-rearing pond was completed with money from the property owners, Environment Canada's Environmental Partners Fund and the local enhancement society's casino fund. Labour was provided in part by society members and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's community salmonid enhancement and restoration fund, which paid wages for island youths working with Reimer.

Contractor Larry Bader donated "loads of great rock" for construction of the fish ladder, Reimer said.

Special Band offers Christmas concert

In the best tradition of Christmas carol performances, Salt Spring's Special Band is putting on a Christmas concert Wednesday (today). Organizer Denny Thomas said the band had prepared a number of upbeat songs for the event, all played with the rhythm instruments the band uses.

The band was formed some two years ago by islanders with mental and physical handicaps. Members practise weekly and have expanded their

repertoire of songs for the Christmas season. The band features music played with instruments like the maracas, bongos, triangle and a range of rhythm sticks.

This is its first concert on the island open to the general public, though Thomas said the United Church Hall will likely be filled with visitors from Duncan and Victoria coming to hear the show. It starts at 1:30 p.m.

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537-4222

Miller gets to know poverty as insurer withholds payment

By GRAEME THOMPSON
Driftwood Staff

Instant poverty can be very disorienting, Salt Spring Islander Godfrey Miller has discovered in the month since his vintage Vesuvius Bay home was destroyed by fire.

On the night of November 2, the 1924 wood-panelled home he moved from Ganges two years ago caught fire from a spark in the fireplace and burned almost to the ground. Miller lost everything, including the cat which saved his life by waking him in the middle of the night.

To make matters worse, he has received no insurance money because of problems with the policy, held by the British Columbia Automobile Association. Miller has hired a lawyer and a private assessor to look into the case for him. Association vice-president Len Kelsey said the corporation was waiting for further information from Miller and would not comment further on the claim.

In the meantime, Miller has been living off the charity of others, something he says he is not used to.

"I've always been one who's done my darnedest to be self-sufficient," he said. "I find this new situation a real challenge."

He only just got out of the top floor of the burning house in time to save himself. All his possessions were destroyed. He stayed for a few days with one set of friends, then with another on Charlesworth Road. A friend on Cusheon Lake had him for a while and then he went to another cou-

ple near Ganges, where he is staying now. He is staying in a basement suite usually reserved for visiting family.

"They're really special in a really wonderful way," Miller said of the friends who have helped. "I don't know how to verbalize the effect these people have had on me, people I've known all over the place."

Since he no longer has the money to put a car on the road, he has relied on others to get him around.

"It's really special to find people so forthcoming from the community. People who say, 'Yes we understand.'"

The change from home to home has been "somewhat disorienting," he said, sleeping in someone else's house, eating someone else's food, wearing someone else's clothes.

"You wake up in the morning and you don't have a toothbrush. You don't have a comb. All those stupid little things like toothpaste and nail clippers. They just aren't there."

He has felt like he has had one foot on the street and one foot in the community centre. The island's Provincial Emergency Program has kicked in for Miller, too. A crisis grant, funded by the Ministry of Social Services, allowed him to get some badly needed clothes and other essentials from participating island stores, like Thrifty Foods, Workwear World and Pharmasave.

But Miller has not been inactive in the month since his house burned down: he has started up a garden service.

"It's at least something at which I can maintain my dignity," he said.

Anyone who would like to hire Miller can contact him at 537-5304 during the day and early evening.

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Herring sale raises \$500

Salt Spring Islanders took home 2,500 pounds of herring Friday morning in a fundraising drive organized by the Hengstler family. But while each five-gallon pail, holding some 20 pounds of fish, went for a \$10 suggested donation, the four-hour sale raised only about \$500 in total.

Of that some \$300 went to the Diabetes Foundation in Victoria. The rest was split between the Salt Spring Island Home Support Services Society and the Salt Spring Island Community Services Society.

"It was a success in that all 2,500 pounds of fish sold in four hours," Julia Hengstler said Monday. "But we raised substantially less than we hoped."

Long-time island fisherman Kurt Hengstler said herring fishermen used to go out with hand-nets, first lowering a weight tied to piano wire. Vibrations from the fish passing next to the piano wire would indicate that the boat was over a large school of fish. The nets would go over the side and then be hauled up filled with fish.

Today, herring as food fish can only be made available through a charity sale, such as the one Kurt, Arnie and Julia Hengstler organized.

"There are so many people that want herring," Arnie Hengstler said.

Several islanders of Scandinavian descent lined up to get pailfuls of herring for tradi-



tional dishes like pickled herring.

"It's good fun preparing the herring," Leon Aptekman said. "My wife loves herring. We fry it in butter."

"We have it for breakfast, lunch and dinner and then it's all over with."

Jim Moulton said his five-gallon pail would end up "mostly pickled."

"We've been doing pickled herring for years," he said. "We fillet them and then pickle them with olives or pickles, jar them up and give them out for Christmas."

FISH APLENTY: Fishermen Arnie, left, and Kurt Hengstler were selling herring Friday to raise money for different charities. The 2,500 pounds of fish sold raised \$500. Photo by Graeme Thompson

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BEEF BONELESS REG. OR PEPPER Eye of Round Steaks 5.91kg 2.58 lb	HERTELS FROZEN PURE PORK Sausage Meat 500g 1.37 lb	MAPLE LEAF vac-pak reg. or all beef WIENERS 450g 2.28 lb	MAPLE LEAF reg. or Wise Choice SLICED SIDE Bacon 500g 2.38 lb
BEEF TENDERLOIN Steak or Roasts 18.25kg 8.28 lb	OVERLANDER BULK: • Ukrainian Sausages • Garlic Rings • Farmer Sausages 300gr each 2.68 lb	MAPLE LEAF SLICED Cooked Ham 375g 3.28 lb	PREV. FROZEN Shrimp Meat 5.99lb 1.32 100g

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Mixmasters wins retailer award in lottery corporation contest

A Ganges store has been named Best Overall Retailer in its category by the B.C. Lottery Corporation.

Mixmasters Mixer Shop in Grace Point Square was among five award recipients from all over the province. The local store won the award in the news/smokes/confectionary category.

According to the lottery corporation, criteria for winning are displaying excellent product knowledge, reaching or exceeding sales quotas, actively promoting products, providing excellent customer service, successfully participating in incentive programs and running a clean and effective Lotto store.

Other winners were the Eaton's Centre in Burnaby, Pharmasave in Nanaimo, Park Avenue Corner Store in Prince Rupert and Quick Stop Submarine in Prince Rupert.

Mixmasters is operated by Dennis and Caroline Anderson.



WINNERS: Caroline and Dennis Anderson of Mixmasters Mixer Shop with their award from the B.C. Lottery Corporation.

• Deluxe leisure furniture for patios and pool areas is offered by Leisure World Furniture, which has a new showroom at 105 McPhillips Avenue in Ganges.

Operated by Barry Winsor as a division of PVC World Manufacturing Ltd., Leisure World Furniture features "rain through" cushions in 11 decorator patterns and eight and a half foot umbrellas.

In addition to its indoor-outdoor furniture, the company sells residential awnings with 136 European and North American patterns from which to choose. It also manufactures patio and privacy screens.

Winsor has lived on Salt Spring for more than five years. He can be reached at 537-5408.

• Reflexology massage is being offered by Carleen Mutch at her office in the Lancer Building. The office will open December 15 with an opening special. The first in a series of four treatments is free. Mutch can be reached at 537-4588 to make an appointment.

"Your feet deserve it," she says.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

• Kids Only Clothing Co. has a new local sales rep.

Debbie Hamilton is taking over the job from Marlie Kelsey effective January 1.

Made in Calgary, the clothing is sold through direct sales and is not available in stores.

Kelsie has operated the Salt Spring business for the past three years.

• A new Salt Spring business is offering free portrait photographs to the first 100 visitors before Christmas. The Creative Edge, a portrait studio/gallery/snack bar opened December 12 next to et cetera on Hereford Avenue.

Buck Buchan has been in the business off-island for more than 40 years. His studio and gallery will exhibit his own work and that of seven island painters and sculptors. Food like soup and muffins will be available to feed the stomach as well as the eye.

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Big on bingo

Dot Hedger double-checks her cards, top, while Marilyn Tamboline waits for the next number during Rotary bingo at Ganges Thursday. Along with Jessie Wagg, above, these players are among dozens of confirmed bingo players who play every second and fourth Thursday at Meaden Hall.

Photos by Tony Richards



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Chamber will be fiscally prudent—Crouse

Fiscal responsibility will be a keystone of Sharon Crouse's term as president of the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce this year.

Elected earlier this fall following the chamber's annual meeting, Crouse said in an interview that the 248-member organization will operate within its budget. That means plans for adding space at the chamber office in Ganges will have to wait.

The chamber has shelved a plan to raise the building and create new space on the ground floor. The office doubles as the Tourist Information Centre.

But at the same time, the chamber is approaching regional director Dietrich Luth and Small Business, Tourism and Culture Minister Bill Barlee to seek new funding. Crouse said other chambers have the advantage of operating with \$50,000 to \$60,000 in fees provided by municipal governments.

The funds are paid as a "fee for service," Crouse stressed, not as a grant.

On Salt Spring, the chamber gives "a lot of service" to visitors and information and help to existing and prospective business oper-

ators, Crouse said. But no local support is available because Salt Spring is unorganized territory.

"We're the only chamber (in B.C.) that doesn't get any."

The bulk of the chamber's revenue comes from membership fees, grants and profit from brochure advertising and the annual home show.

Other matters that Crouse would like to concentrate on include finishing the seawalk, lobbying for a Customs port-of-entry in Ganges Harbour, and coordinating mixers, events at which islanders can gather and network

with each other.

An Ottawa native and nurse by training, Crouse has lived on Salt Spring for 15 years. She has operated Sharon's, a linens and gift store in Ganges, for the past eight years.

Other chamber directors are Bob Kirkpatrick (vice-president), Dee Kinney (treasurer), Duart Campbell, Joyce Carlson, Barry Green, Simon Knott, William Maarsman, Bruce Rogers, Lee Sawchuk, Mary Small, Ellie Thorburn, Jeremy Moray (manager) and Debera Taylor (office assistant).



Crouse

Trading Co. building earns heritage award

Salt Spring's newest old building, the Salt Spring Trading Company building on the corner of Lower Ganges Road and McPhillips Avenue, has been nominated for a region-wide heritage award.

The annual Capital Regional District Industrial, Commercial and Investment Division awards are sponsored by the Victoria Real Estate Board. The Mouat's-owned building, renovated earlier this year, was nominated in the heritage renovation category. Jensen and Associates were the architects on the project, which was completed by Hazenboom Construction.

"We are very pleased about it," Mout Trading president Tom Toynbee said Monday about the award. "It has recognized our attempt to maintain the style of the general appearance of the corner and to make it work . . . into the 21st century."

The island company first heard about the award in October, when the building was nominated by an island realtor. A representative from the board came to the island, viewed the building and took a number of pictures. Toynbee showed the man some pictures of the building as it looked last year, before the renovation and some pictures of the building as it looked in 1912 when it was built.

"It was really important for us to try to maintain the building as one of the financial cornerstones

of the community. The architects captured our desire to maintain the integrity of the original structure while at the same time adding the section next door.

"The trick," he said, "was to make it compatible, but not dominate."

The north extension of the original building, which had a restaurant, a realty office and part of the expanded Red and White food store, was added after the Second World War. With the changes, the new main floor of the whole building is only 1,200 square feet larger than it was before. And the porch on McPhillips Avenue, which had been filled in when the building was a grocery store, gave another 700 square feet of porch than was there before.

Toynbee will attend a lunch at the Empress Hotel in Victoria Tuesday to receive the award.

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RECORDERS CAN MAKE GHASTLY SOUNDS

*But the Early
Music Consort
has had 20 years
to perfect its style*

By GRAEME THOMPSON
Driftwood Staff

"Part of life and part of play." That's how Maggie Schubart describes the role of the flute-like instrument known as the recorder in medieval times. But it fulfills that same role for five women today right here on Salt Spring Island. The quintet is known as the Early Music Consort.

Early music is music that was written before about 1650. Renaissance styles predominated from about 1400 to 1650; before that were medieval styles of music. While early music encompasses many kinds of instrument, Salt Spring's Early Music Consort plays only with recorders.

The recorder is a wind instrument which was known from at least the 14th century, the Encyclopedia Britannica says. It is also called the English flute because of its medieval popularity in that country, and the fipple flute because of the name of a plug or block in the instrument which helps direct air over a sharp edge, to produce the whistle sound.

The recorder was indispensable in the medieval and Renaissance world. Recorder music was played in churches and at dances; it was played at special occasions — a recorder was found on the wreck of the Mary Rose, Henry VIII's flagship which sank in the mid-16th century just after it was launched. It was an integral part of musical life until the mid-18th century when it all but stopped being played.

After more than 150 years, a man named Arnold Dolmetsch started making and playing the recorders again in Europe. That was after 1919. Since then, and especially after the 1970s when things medieval became more popular, the recorder has revived. The Early Music Consort — made up of Sheila Stacey, Maggie Schubart, Carol Young, Gisela Alderson and Mallory Pred — has been part of that revival right here on Salt Spring.

"There's a whole wealth out there of early music," Schubart said. "So much music has surfaced. Since World War II, archive material has been more and more available. The world of early music has just burgeoned.



IF YOU'VE GOT IT FLAUT IT: That's not exactly the attitude of Salt Spring's Early Music Consort, and they play recorders, not flutes. The quintet's five members are, from left, Mallory Pred, Maggie Schubart, Carol Young, Sheila Stacey and Gisela Alderson.

Photo by Graeme Thompson

"There's also a vast array of new music," Pred observed.

There is also a vast array of different recorders. They range in size from eight inches long to eight inches wide and five feet long. They come in different sizes to cover different vocal ranges: soprano, tenor, alto, bass. Unlike more complicated instruments — the piano, for instance — the recorder has a range of two octaves, which means there are many more sizes of recorders than the basic four.

In addition, Schubart said, individual instruments are very different in different people's hands. She bought a sopranino — a very tiny soprano — recorder which "just didn't fit" her largish hands.

"She gave it to my little hands," Pred added.

The Early Music Consort started more than 20 years ago when sisters Sheila and Joan Stacey "just started playing together," Sheila Stacey recalled last week. Other interested islanders gradually found out about the recorder group and joined. Schubart is one

of the longest-serving members.

"I wanted to be able play outdoors," she said, explaining why she was drawn to the recorder as an instrument. "You can't really do that with a piano.

"The recorder has a special sound," she added. "I like the sound of medieval music. It has a character which is expressive."

Carol Young has played the recorder — she also plays guitar, flute, piano and bagpipes — for nearly 35 years, ever since sampling the instrument in an Ontario public school.

"It's portable and inexpensive," she said of the hand-held, wooden instrument. The "versatility of the repertoire" also attracted her. She can play Renaissance and Celtic music on the recorder, which she cannot do with the flute.

When relative newcomer Gisela Alderson was young, the recorder was used in schools to teach children to read and play music. It was an inexpensive instrument for parents to invest in. But she took the instrument up again for another reason.

"It's social. I like to be with other people."

Mallory Pred gave yet another reason for playing the recorder in the Early Music Consort: "The absolute goose-bump pleasure of the moments when we make beautiful music together."

She started playing the recorder with a friend who was interested some 30 years ago, but put it down after a few years and only recently took it up again.

"I had a wonderful time slogging through some wonderful stuff," she recalled of her experience learning recorder music. "I

was very wobbly when I came back to it. This group put up with my wobbles."

Curing the wobbles is another reason the recorder has grown in popularity. It has been used to teach children how to read and play music from an early age. It is not expensive — many child's recorders are now made of hard plastic — and not difficult to use.

The recorder group does not just get together and jam each week. Far from it. They take their music seriously — in an amateur way. The group was left "piles and piles" of early music by a friend, now deceased, who played the recorder for more than half a century. Guests occasionally come to the island and give workshops and the group also goes to off-island events and workshops from time to time.

Schubart recalled the group played for a medieval day banquet at Beaver Point Hall once. They played tunes named after different kinds of dances from the Middle Ages, such as the pavan, a stately dance, more walking than dancing, Alderson explained. Another, the galliard is brighter, faster, more happy.

Islanders will have heard the Early Music Consort from time to time in concert. Recently, it played medieval music for an Anglican production of a play in October. In November, it recorded a Christmas cassette with the Salt Spring Singers. Later this month it will be playing in the Christmas Eve service at All Saints by-the-Sea.

"We've done a lot of work lately and we're sounding better for it," Stacey said. "You can blow into a recorder and make a pretty ghastly sound. To make it sound nice takes a lot of hard work. After 20 years, we're really starting to feel good about it."

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CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Members of Salt Spring Singers at the start of matinee performance Sunday at All Saints by-the-Sea. Photo by Tony Richards

Singers herald Yule season with warm, stirring concert

By TONY RICHARDS
Driftwood Staff

Why are some pieces of music more stirring than others? The question remained unanswered in my mind at the end of an hour and a half-long concert Sunday by the Salt Spring Singers. It was a stirring event.

From a somewhat jazzy arrangement of Rise Up Shepherd to the uplifting and exhilarating performance of Franz Haydn's Gloria, the matinee concert was a wonderful heralding of the Christmas season.

There is nothing quite so effective as song to help one shed worries and cares, to discard heavy garments of gloom and be left with a light-hearted and carefree view of the world. And what better way to begin Christmas?

Skilful and tuneful voices, in unison and in harmony, can trigger an emotional release much like humour triggers laughter, and fill the soul with a warmth as few experiences can. The Singers exuded that warmth on Sunday with their third and last performance of Christmas on Salt Spring.

Under the direction of Lloyd English, the choir had a lot of help from its surroundings. Unlike the cold gymnasium that is the Activity Centre, with its basketball hoop decor, where one might expect to hear a concert such as this, the new Anglican church provided a setting that was perfect for the Christmas theme. The spiritual nature of much of the music was enhanced by the warmth — and good acoustics — of All Saints by-the-Sea.

The concert was also aided by its variety. Far, Far Away in Bethlehem, whose finish was marked by a tremendous, rising crescendo of voices, and a yawning Silent Night and other serious pieces had Jingle Bells, Frosty the Snowman and others for contrast.

That contrast contributed to the

informal air of the occasion, as did the pieces offered by the children's choir, directed by Diana English. They offered a pair of tunes, to the delight of the capacity crowd, and then joined the Singers in leading the audience in Jingle Bells.

But not until one of the youthful voices spoke up in protest when it was suggested they should be given copies of the carol sheets first. "We don't need sheets," came the indignant response.

(They didn't indeed. After all, the song has required no change in wording to make it conform to the modern-day, politically-correct celebration of a secular Christmas.)

There were other opportunities for audience participation: O Little Town of Bethlehem and It Came Upon the Midnight Clear gave everyone the honour of performing with the celebrated community choir. Fortunately, the Singers' 50 voices were strong enough to drown out the feeble attempts at

vocal art made by those of us who should not be permitted such disturbances of the peace in public places.

The group's last four offerings took us from the wood-panelled church to the stone-walled cathedral of a medieval city. The polyphonic Mirabile Mysterium by Tomas Luis de Victoria, written in the 15th century, Mozart's Alleluia, Agnus Dei by Thomas Morley and Haydn's Gloria filled the church with glorious music with only one fault: the selection was too short.

The Singers saved the very best of the concert for last, but did not give us enough.

Perhaps that was intentional: to hear more you have to purchase their new cassette tape, a \$10 bargain whose proceeds go to the food bank. I hope those who receive food hampers are as stirred by their repast as I shall be by the music on the tape.

If Christmas isn't stirring you, the Salt Spring Singers will.

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WHALE MUSIC: Based on Paul Quarrington's Governor-General's Award-winning novel, Whale Music is a comedy/drama about a reclusive musician who is composing an opus for whales. His manager and former wife have tried to coax him from self-imposed exile, but it's only when a young runaway named Claire shows up that he is forced to come to terms with his past. Original music by the Rheostatics, directed by Richard Lewis. 14 years, some nudity, suggestive scenes, and very coarse language. Friday to Tuesday, 9:15 p.m., Thursday, Friday, 7 p.m.

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4. Lady in Waiting(-)	9. Little Buddha(2)
5. Wyatt Earp(3)	10. Favour(8)

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.....Dec. 16, 17

BREAKFAST WITH SANTAFulford Hall, Dec. 17

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Dec. 15, 6 p.m.Brad Magnus
Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 8
Dec. 17, 3 p.m.Keep Fit
Dec. 17, 3:30 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 8
Dec. 17, 5:30 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 9
Dec. 20, 11 a.m.Keep Fit
Dec. 20, 11:30 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 8
Dec. 20, 1:30 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 9

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A tradition is born: choir fest a special addition

By MARY WILLIAMSON
Driftwood Contributor

It's always momentous to be present at the birth of a new tradition. That was part of the excitement December 2 at the multi-purpose room of the new high school. The Festival of Lights parade was over, the lights of Ganges were lit and now it was time to sit back and listen as three elementary school choirs and three adult choirs made their contribution to the beginning of the Christmas season on Salt Spring Island.

Well, not quite! We didn't just sit back and listen. We jumped to our feet and sang: carols, Christmas songs and the Hallelujah Chorus. The MC, Rev. Barry Cooke, said God's voice can be best heard in the voices of children, and that was certainly

true. We've been late getting into the musical training of our children, but now we're there, let no one hinder the excellent work that is being done.

The Fernwood School choir was directed by Mary Rockcliffe and accompanied by Shirley Bunyan. The Fulford School choir was directed by Lynne Quinn and accompanied by Angela Funk. The Salt Spring Elementary choir was directed by Linda Mills and accompanied by Kevin Vine. They all performed delightfully.

Hopefully by next year their parents will have learned not to bob up and down and distract their little dears by waving and pointing — it's hard enough for kids to concentrate on the job at hand!

The fairly recently formed Women of Note, directed by Dawn Brooks and accompanied by Angela Funk, is a small but well balanced and focused group.

It gives one pause to realize that here on "Paradise Island" over 100 families are in such dire need.

They will long be remembered for their contribution to this year's Remembrance Day service in Centennial Park. The United Church choir, directed and accompanied by Shirley Bunyan, and Tuned Air, directed by Bruce Ruddell and accompanied by

Chris Kodaly, were the other adult groups on the program. They were joined for the finale by individual members of the Salt Spring Singers.

Debbi Toole had the dream which was realized on Friday night, and it is to be hoped that next year she will be persuaded to perform as a soloist (if her commitments at Blue Gables, as a singing teacher and as a member of the Pacific Opera Company will permit). She was assisted in the mammoth task of co-ordinating and assembling by Liane Watson.

The concert raised over \$1,000 for the community food bank. It gives one pause to realize that here on "Paradise Island" over 100 families are in such dire need.

Judging from comments I heard, the concert provided a

first-time visit to the high school for many islanders, and most important of all, it brought young, middle-aged and older members of this diverse community together in a "kick-off" to the Christmas festivities.

The rafters rang, the children laughed (and a few cried) and hopefully everyone arrived home safely before the first snowfall of the season. So make a note in next year's diary: the first Friday in December will see another community choir fest.

If you missed it this year, make up for it by arriving early next year: take your reading glasses with you and polish up your vocal cords between now and then by singing in the bath or in the car: Hallelujah, hallelujah, halle-e-lu-u-jah!

Ultralight pilot set to publish cross-Canada flight photos

A hang gliding accident in 1981 left Carl Hiebert with a broken back, an injury that has left him wheelchair-bound ever since. But a flight on an ultralight aircraft soon after the accident introduced the Waterloo, Ontario man to mobility of a different sort.

Hiebert was visiting Salt Spring last week to put the finishing touches to a book containing 140 photographs taken from an ultralight during a cross-country flight.

A former senior hang gliding instructor with 1,300 flights behind him, Hiebert said in an interview he suffered a spinal cord injury after "a fluke hang gliding accident." A gust of wind stalled his glider at an altitude of only 10 feet, and he crashed.

Just over two months later, a friend took him for a flight in his ultralight. "As I buzzed the field and saw my empty wheelchair I was suddenly overwhelmed by the significance of the moment. Even if I couldn't walk, I could still fly."

Hiebert describes that flight as the best therapy any-

one could have given him. It led five years later to an ultralight flight across Canada in conjunction with Expo 86 in Vancouver.

A motivational speaker who does about 40 events a year, Hiebert repeated the cross-country flight over the past two summers, completing the journey in two legs. Equipped with a 35 mm camera, Hiebert took more than 14,000 photos from the ultralight cockpit, the best of which will appear in his book, Above All ... A Gift of Wings.

The book is being published with the help of the Rotary Club of Guelph, Ont., which — along with Rotary clubs across Canada — will benefit from the proceeds.

"The goal is to raise a minimum of \$1 million," Hiebert said, adding that represents one book for every Rotarian in Canada, about 30,000 in total.

Hiebert was on Salt Spring to solicit the aid of local writer and photographer Cathy Young in writing the photo captions for his book.

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NO SCROOGES THESE: Lynda Jensen and Alex Macauley play Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig in the recent production of Christmas With Scrooge. Their annual Christmas ball, where drinks and entertainment are plentiful, is one of the musical highlights of the show. Photo by Graeme Thompson

Scrooge warms heart's cockles with Newmans' Yule favourite

By GRAEME THOMPSON
Driftwood Staff

"It's a night for family, friends and Christmas cheer," Mr. Fezziwig declared Friday night from the temporary stage in Ganges United Church. But while Alex Macauley was just reciting his lines in the annual production of the Newmans' Christmas With Scrooge, his words rang true for the audience as well.

The show was sold out Friday and an extra pew was brought in for the extra-large crowd. Familiar faces in the roles, audience participation in Christmas carols at several judicious moments and treats afterwards for all were just the kind of amateur show devices that would warm the cockles of anyone's heart.

Rapturous applause at the end — and at the beginning and several points in the middle — were an indication how warmed most people's cockles were by the performance.

The adapted, abridged and set-to-music version of the Charles Dickens classic Christmas tale opened with the Christmas Faerie (Sue Bowler) gliding down the centre aisle like a figure on a music-box, tapping members of the audience — especially kids — with her glowing wand. She throws a little magic dust on three children reading a Christmas story in front of the tree on Christmas Eve and poof! — the audience is whisked back in time to Olde London Towne, where lives one Ebenezer Scrooge.

It is hard to single out characters in the show, partly because there are so many and partly because so many people played more than one character. But Scrooge (Eric Booth) deserves special mention because of his fearful humbugging and Alistair Sim-like grumbling to himself. Poor Bob Cratchit (Bill Webster) shook like a leaf every time Scrooge asked a question. The two charity ladies (Olive Clayton, Lynda Jensen) were also kept at bay while Scrooge complained bitterly about wanton charity above saving and paying off debts.

Of the four ghosts in the show

— Christmas Past, Present, Future and Jacob Marley — Morgan Donnelly's Marley was the most memorable and also the most audible. Not that the others were not. Marley rattled his chains and said he had had "no rest" and "no peace" and I for one believed him. Scrooge cowered and quaked beautifully in response.

Muzz Holmes as Christmas Past helped Scrooge begin to see the errors of his hard-hearted ways.

Marley rattled his chains and said he had had "no rest" and "no peace" and I for one believed him.

Christmas Present (Morgan Donnelly) taught Scrooge how to have fun at little cost; Christmas Future (Bill Webster covered in sack-cloth) showed Scrooge his own soon-to-be gravestone, a powerful incentive to change.

One of the highlights of the show was surely the Fezziwig Ball, presided over by the jolly pair of Lynda Jensen and Alex

Macauley. The diminutive Dalmatians, in the form of spotty dogs, were once again a hoop-jumping hit with the crowd. The Spanish dancers were a special treat, as was the special appearance by guest nobility, in the form of graceful waltzers Claus and Alice Andress.

Lillian Horsdal, reprising her renowned interpretation of the Topsy Maid, did not disappoint. She was feeling "giddy and peculiar" once again, to the obvious delight of island Christmas With Scrooge fans.

The Cratchit scenes were touching, apart from the one outburst by Mrs. Cratchit (Margaret Jardine) that Scrooge should be "boiled in his own plum pudding." That's a seasonal wish, if ever there was one. Curly-haired, cute-as-a-button Tiny Tim (Joss Krayenhoff) was as tiny and waifish as last year and repeatedly exhorted blessings on everyone, as he is supposed to do.

Mrs. Cratchit surprises again towards the end of the short musical by kissing Scrooge and tripling her husband's wages. Those wicked Victorians. All in all, another delightful presentation of a seasonal favourite.

VIDEOS!

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GONE FISHING: Kirti Janyk enjoys herself Saturday fishing for gingerbread at Sharada Filkow's booth at the Salt Spring Centre craft fair. Photo by Tony Richards

Last Chance is original, old-fashioned craft fair

As of today (Wednesday), Christmas is 10 days away ... and counting.

But there's still time to pick up hand-crafted gifts or stocking stuffers at the Last Chance Craft Fair, being held in Mahon Hall this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Sponsored by Off-Centre Stage, the fair has attracted approximately 45 crafts people who will spread out their wares in Mahon Hall.

"This is the old-fashioned, original Christmas craft fair," organizer April Curtis said. She expects visitors will find bargains and treasures among the one-of-a-kind items.

The hall will be decorated and there will be holiday music playing as well as performances by some of Salt Spring's musicians. Original island recordings by Peeter Prince and Susan Cogan will be for sale.

A Christmas cafe will be set up in the kitchen, offering coffee, tea, snacks and meals.

Among the available crafts will be silver jewellery, photo cards, oils, incense, planters, beadwork, pottery and sketches and watercolours by local artists.

Designer clothing, hand-painted miniature jewellery, folk art, needlework, inlaid wood, poppy pod earrings, block printing, games, preserves, Christmas decorations, cookies, bath salts, children's benches and flower presses will also be available.

Also among the original offerings will be computerized astrological charting, hand-painted porcelain jewellery, wreaths and brightly painted candlesticks.

Curtis noted the fair will raise money towards the purchase of a new light board, which will be part of the community theatre pool and available to all performing groups on the island.

The fair will be open from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday in Mahon Hall. Admission is free.

Driftwood is accepting donations on behalf of the Salt Spring Food Bank until Dec. 20. Please bring in a non-perishable food item or cash donation when you come to see us.

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Island gymnasts

found in a swirl of ribbon and graceful body movements

By GAIL SJUBERG
Driftwood Staff

It is regular Saturday practice time for a dozen gymnasts in Gulf Islands Secondary School's gymnasium.

But instead of blue plastic mats, rings, benches and bars, the girls are creating mesmerizing effects with ribbons and precision body movements, graceful leaps and turns, all in time with modern dance music.

In another corner, 13-year-old Mallika Hutchings is waiting for a private session with coach Mireille Rosner. She curls her body in and out of fluid knots, and then, with a peaceful look of relaxed concentration, lifts her right leg so the foot rests poised above her head.

These are some of Salt Spring's rhythmic gymnasts, who will treat islanders to a Christmas display this Saturday, December 17, starting at 2:30 p.m. in the Gulf Islands Middle School (former secondary school) gymnasium. About 30 island athletes will participate, along with a performance by one-time Canadian national team member Rosner from Vancouver.

Three island groups will perform routines: One using ribbons, another with scarves and the youngest group with balls. Salt Spring competitive gymnasts Naomi Jason and Mallika Hutchings will also do some solo work.

Combining gymnastic and dance movements with "apparatus" is one characteristic of the artful sport. Hutchings' mother Kishori Hutchings explains that ribbons, hoops, balls, clubs and ropes are the five objects officially recognized as apparatus at the Olympics. Outside the competitive realm, ribbons, hoops and balls are most commonly used to create a dramatic visual and technical display.

Kishori Hutchings describes rhythmic gymnastics as a terrific all-around sport demanding strength, flexibility, accuracy in handling apparatus, speed and agility.

It has origins in ancient Greece, but since the 18th century has developed most vigorously in Eastern Europe and Russia.

The first world championships were held in 1963 and the sport first appeared at the Olympics in Los Angeles in 1984.

While Canadians have made strong showings in international competition, Eastern Europeans and Japan still dominate the field.

The head coach for two Salt Spring gymnasts is in fact from Bulgaria. Kamena Petkova provides training to Mallika Hutchings and Naomi Jason through Vancouver's Club Adagio, where the girls train every second weekend. Their trips to the Mainland are made possible



IN A WHIRL: Josie Ball and friends practise ribbon routine as part of Christmas display of rhythmic gymnastics at the middle school this Saturday afternoon.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

through the generosity and sponsorship of Harbour Air.

"It has made a huge difference for them to be able to fly," said Kishori Hutchings.

She describes both her daughter and Naomi as "driven" in their desires to excel at their chosen sport. Naomi is currently training to secure a spot on the 1995 B.C. Winter Games team. She and Mallika will also be aiming for spots on the Western Canadian Summer Games training team.

The only thing stopping many others from competing in rhythmic gymnastics is Salt Spring's lack of coaches and facilities.

"There are lots and lots of talented kids here," she said.

Hutchings and others are tackling the obstacles, however. The local group is applying to the Commonwealth Games society to receive one of four special carpets being made available to communities.

The Salt Spring group receives excellent coaching from Rosner and Kari Long from Victoria, she said, but as university students they can only work with the club on weekends. A coach residing on the island would dramatically increase opportunities for the rhythmic gymnastic program.

Finding a regular training space with a high enough ceiling is also a concern, she said. Although they can use the GISS gymnasium on Saturdays, they can be "bumped" by other groups.

Still, the program has been thriving despite those problems.

Kathleen Sinclair had taken sev-

eral dance classes before trying a rhythmic gymnastics camp during the summer of 1993. She loves weekly classes and occasional performances and feels rhythmic gymnastics is the "best" activity she has tried. Kathleen turns eight years old in January.

"It's because we've got good coaches and they make it fun to do it," she explained.

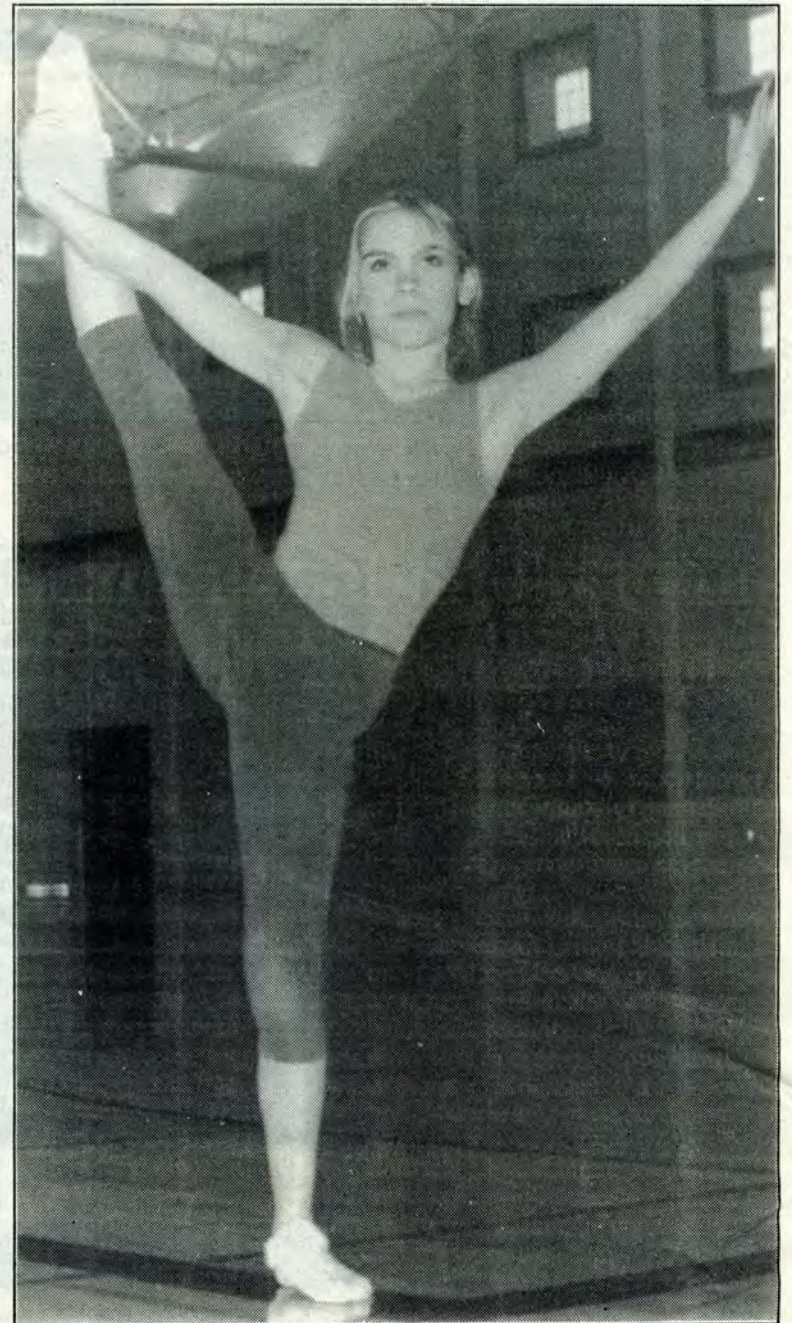
Her mother Milly Sinclair said the sport is "really exciting for them, especially when they can see the older girls." They feel real accomplishment executing some moves done by Naomi and Mallika, their coaches or gymnasts seen at off-island events.

"We're really lucky to have this program on Salt Spring Island," she added.

Even without top-notch facilities and only weekly classes, the girls are enjoying their sport and excelling at the same time. The island's younger group was praised by coaches and judges at the provincial finals held in Nanaimo last spring, said Sinclair. Although they were in a non-competitive display event, judges said they would have won their division if they had entered as competitors.

Hutchings also feels her daughter's involvement in rhythmic gymnastics has been a truly positive experience. "It gives her a real focus. And if we develop this program it could give other kids a focus, too."

Salt Spring's rhythmic gymnasts are looking forward to performing at Saturday's show, and everyone is welcome to attend.



POISED: Mallika Hutchings makes the impossible look easy. She will join other rhythmic gymnasts at Saturday event. Photo by Gail Sjuberg

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Under 14.....Salt Spring Strikers.....Lakehill..... Postponed
Under 15.....Salt Spring Raiders.....5.....Peninsula.....2
Under 16.....Salt Spring Rangers.....1.....Bays United.....1
Under 17.....Salt Spring Spurs.....2.....Juan de Fuca.....0
Under 19.....Salt Spring Kicks.....1.....Cowichan.....2

GIRLS
Under 14.....Salt Spring.....3.....Oak Bay.....1
Under 17.....Salt Spring Strikers.....Cowichan.... Postponed

MEN
Division 3.....Salt Spring F.C.....Castaways... Postponed
Over 30's.....Salt Spring Old Boys.....Pro Patria.... Postponed

NEXT WEEK
Christmas break, League play resumes Jan. 14th and 15th.



Girls' team still undefeated

Coach Sue Spencer cheers a goal by her Salt Spring under-14 girls' soccer team Saturday in game at Ganges. At right, Spencer's daughter Helen dribbles the ball down the field as

an Oak Bay player attempts to intercept. Salt Spring won the game 3-1, keeping its no-loss record intact.

Photos by Tony Richards

Course will teach the 'laws'

Anyone interested in the "laws" of soccer should reserve January 7 and 8 to attend a course on Salt Spring.

The Laws of Soccer is geared for people who might like to become soccer referees, but is useful and enjoyable for players, parents, coaches and spectators. Participants should be at least 14 years of age.

The course includes 16 hours of classroom and field time directed by a British Columbia Soccer Association instructor. A slight fee may be charged to cover course material expenses.

Terry Stringer is the person to contact for more information or to register for the course. He may be reached at 537-9294.

Controversial call leaves Kicks on the wrong side of 2-1 loss

A disallowed goal made the difference between a tie and a loss for Salt Spring Kicks in soccer action Sunday.

The under-19 division game between Cowichan and the Kicks was at least as close as its 2-1 outcome.

Morgan Cuddy, Chris Jason and Eric Byron were strong on defence, said coach Don Morrison, and Carl Ensminger and Richard Avedon-Savage also excelled on the field.

Harrison Jason was the Kicks lone goal scorer. He was also involved in Eric Byron's disallowed goal, by being ruled offside during the play. However, the call

was somewhat controversial since Jason was unable to move at the time because the Cowichan goaltender had fallen on top of him.

Several Lower Island Youth Soccer League games in Victoria and on Salt Spring were cancelled due to wet fields this weekend. Morrison said his team was fortunate to play in the Cowichan Valley instead. Snow put fields out of commission last week.

Kicks get a seasonal break from league games until January 15, but hope to stay tuned up with at least one exhibition game on the Mainland before then.

SCHOOL DISTRICT # 64 (Gulf Islands)

The report card process and use of Ministry letter grades is very similar to current practice in our secondary schools. In Grades 11/12 percentages are used for ALL courses numbered 11/12. This does not apply to the letter grades used in Grades 8 - 10. Secondary reports are based on the following format:

INTERMEDIATE REPORTS (Grades 8 to 10)

Formal reports for each student in Grades 8 to 10:

- provide Ministry-approved letter grades as set out in the Provincial Letter Grades Order to indicate the student's level of performance as it relates to the expected learning outcomes for each course or subject and grade
- include written comments, where appropriate, that describe, in relation to the expected learning outcomes set out in curriculum
 - (a) what the student is able to do
 - (b) areas in which the student requires further attention or development
 - (c) ways of supporting the student in his or her learning
- include written comments to describe student behaviour, including information on attitudes, work habits and effort.

GRADUATION REPORTS (Grades 11 and 12)

Formal reports for each student in Grades 11 and 12 must:

- provide Ministry-approved letter grades as set out in the Provincial Letter Grades Order to indicate the student's level of performance as it relates to the expected learning outcomes for each course or subject and grade
- include percentages for all courses numbered 11 and 12
- include written comments, where appropriate, that describe, in relation to expected learning outcomes set out in curriculum
 - (a) what the student is able to do
 - (b) areas in which the student requires further attention or development
 - (c) ways of supporting the student in his or her learning
- include written comments to describe student behaviour, including information on attitudes, work habits and effort.

Please contact your local school for further information.



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SCORPIONS BEAT SHAWNIGAN: Shawnigan Lake player, in black, gets his hands on the ball despite attempts by Gulf Islands

Scorpions' Andy Vickers, left, and Chris Jason, right. Scorpions won the game, played last Thursday at Ganges, 66-59. Photo by Tony Richards

Fatigue hurts GISS play

Gulf Islands Secondary's senior boys basketball team had eight all-stars at a high school tournament in Comox last weekend.

But since they were also the only eight team members attending, their reward was minimal rest and lots of sweating.

"They played their hearts out," said coach Myles Wilson. "Player of the tournament was all eight players."

"It was not having a bench that killed us."

The boys trounced Frances Kelsey by about 30 points on Saturday, but fatigue was a definite factor in the team's two losses.

They were the stronger squad in a Friday night game against North Island Secondary from Port McNeill, but watched victory slip away as NISS put fresh legs on the court and edged past them for a 61-58 win. GISS was ahead 34-30

after the first half, and the score see-sawed its way through the third quarter, ending with NISS ahead 46-45.

GISS created numerous chances to score in the last 10 minutes, but a NISS team with twice as many players capitalized on a few of their own.

They also lost to Nanaimo's John Barsby in a Saturday game.

Highlands Secondary was the host school, but based on the antics of its welcoming committee, might have trouble getting teams to visit them again.

NISS and Frances Kelsey played against Highlands and had their vehicle tires slashed. FK team members also suffered taunting by local students, reported Wilson.

Other teams at the tournament were Campbell River's Robron, Port Hardy Secondary and Claremont from Saanich.

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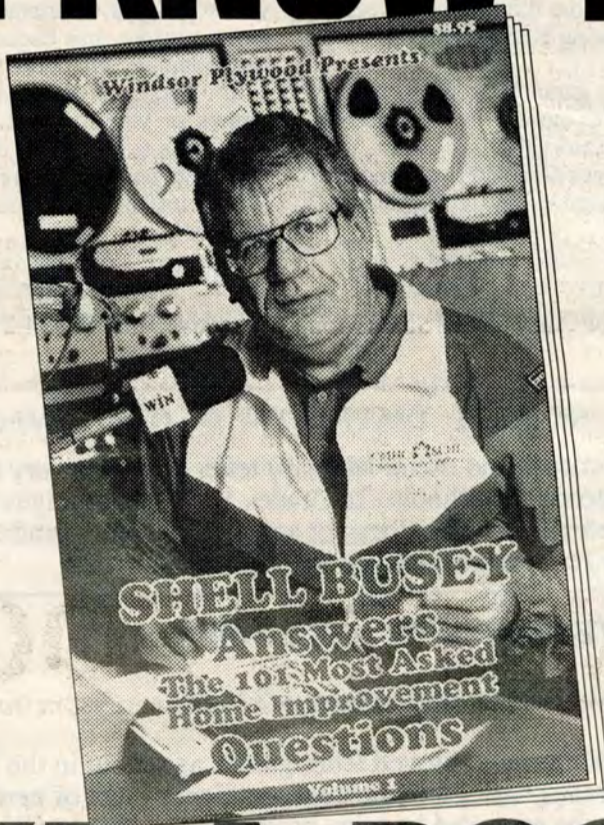
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Merry Christmas

21 goals slam Slugs' defence

By **JIM BLACK**
Driftwood Contributor

Well, so much for red toe nails. Last season's elixir has proven utterly useless as the Slugs lost both matches this week and were slammed for 21 goals in the process.

The first game of this extremely long week took place in Esquimalt, on Wednesday versus the T-Birds. This game would be the only meeting of the season between the two clubs, and we're thankful of that. The match started off slowly for both clubs; the ice conditions were dreadful. But the T-Birds, more accustomed to playing under these conditions, were first on the scoreboard, at the five minute mark.

This goal came as the Slugs had the man advantage — always a dangerous time — as we usually get scored on. Once the T-Birds got a taste of that first goal there was no stopping them. They swarmed the Slugs' netminder, Mark Hughes, time and again, and while Hughes did his best, he is only human and after a while the goals started going in.

Add to that the fact the referee was hampered by a lack of skates for his seeing-eye dog and was forced to make calls on the only things he could see, which happened to be our dark jerseys. You can get some idea of how things were going for us. By the end of the first period, (in both matches this week our games consisted of two periods, each 35 minutes long), we were trailing distantly by a score of 6-0, and feeling quite glum about the whole matter. Hughes suggested we put that period behind us and start anew in the second frame.

The theory seemed to work. Just two minutes into the period Andy Naumann snapped a low shot under the goalie's pad to put us on the scoreboard for the first time. The play materialized following the hard work and forechecking of Paddy Akerman, who drew the defenceman over before setting

Naumann up with the perfect pass.

The Slugs continued to take the play to the T-Birds, and thought they had scored a second time, only to have the goal called back by the highly suspect referee. After this, the play moved from end to end with both clubs getting a number of good scoring chances, only to be stoned by the netminders.

Then the T-Birds added one more after Deadstop's clearing pass went directly onto the blade of a T-Bird players' stick, who happened to be parked right on Hughes' doorstep.

Even though we lost this match 7-1, we didn't feel too badly about it. Granted, we had one disastrous period, but we also had one tied period.

Once the T-Birds got a taste of that first goal there was no stopping them.

Things could be worse, and became worse when we faced off against the Sportsman's Sharks of Chemanius on Sunday. This club, which we usually take on a few times a season, always gives us a good run for our money. Sometimes we win, sometimes they win. But what we weren't prepared for was the fact that they have added three new young, healthy, versatile players to their lineup.

The game started off well enough for the Slugs. We had an equal number of good scoring chances during the first few minutes, only to be stopped by a hot goaltender and a defence which could actually move the puck out of the endzone. But it didn't take the Sharks long to discover the Slugs' weak point — Deadstop..

Just past the five-minute mark, a Shark forward blew past Deadstop like he was carved in stone and went in alone on Hughes. Having no defenders to worry about, the Shark had plenty of time to deke

Hughes and put Chemanius on the scoreboard.

The Sharks liked this play so much they decided to try it once again about 10 minutes later. Only this time, not one, but three Sharks shot past Deadstop and beat Hughes for another marker.

But the Slugs weren't going to roll over and die in this game, at least not yet. Rodney Challborn, who has forsaken his defensive post for the glamour and bright lights of left wing, decided enough was enough, and made a beautiful rush from his own blueline into the Sharks' endzone. Beating back both defencemen, Challborn snapped a quick shot away, past the netminder.

This seemed to upset the Sharks. They came back less than two minutes later and restored their two goal margin, after a wild goal-mouth scramble in which the Slugs couldn't clear the puck from their zone. No, Deadstop wasn't on the ice for this goal — it only seemed like it.

At the end of 35 minutes of play the Slugs trailed the Sharks by a score of 3-1 and despite being out shot by a fair margin, the boys felt they could still pull a rabbit out of the hat and win this one. The only problem was — we brought the wrong hat.

The final period started off with a bang for the Sharks. In the first one and a half minutes they scored three times. By the five-minute mark they had added two more.

The only bright spot in the period for the Slugs, other than the final buzzer, was Paul Sinclair's unassisted goal at the 15-minute mark.

But without question this period belonged to the Sharks, who scored six more times to leave the Slugs on the embarrassing end of a 14-2 drubbing, our worst loss in over two years.

So much for the silly superstitions. What this team needs, according to Paddy Akerman at least, is not more painted toe nails but a good weight loss program. Are you listening Santa?

HIGH ROLLERS

By **RUTH HUME**
Driftwood Contributor

Smurfs: Justine Walker 84
Bantams: Dylan Hume 172, 148;
Corine Taylor 151.

Junior & Senior: Lee Johnson 164;
Tony Sevoid 160; 155, Dennis
Anderson 223, 207.

Special Olympics: Gloria Dale 145;
Mahjor Baines 159; S. Elliot 172.

Tuesday morning Golden Agers:
Audrey Illingworth 232; Shirley
Parsons 204; John Richardson 203,
240/618; Helmut Losch 214, 225/602;
Cliff Jory 210; Loft Houghton 206.

Tuesday afternoon Golden Agers:
Jean Nicol 226; Reg Winstone 211;
June Webb 247; Dorothy Sloan 211;

Murray Anderson 204, 280/677.

Friday afternoon Golden Agers:
Dave McRoberts 221; Catherine
McFadyen 250, 221; Don Goodman
229/624; Marg Baker 229, 218/630;
Anne Isbister 200; Bill Baker 216;
Cliff Jory 203; Gene Graham 219,
215/606; Deke Noonan 220, 229/627;
Ken Robinson 215, 207.

Circus: Tony Farr 209; Fred Eves
232; Ben Cooper 271/604; Glenn
Hewitson 214; Sam Cochrane 213.

Ladies Wednesday afternoon:
Margaret Baker 252, 211; Shirley
Bunyan 226.

Wednesday evening: Dennis
Anderson Jr. 203; Dennis Anderson Sr.
238; Dennis Kaye 205; John Sutherland
252, 242, 205/699; Lucille Marcotte
212, 227; Linda Schwagly 281.

Golf Ladies: Maxine Whorley 208,
247; Connie Hardy 209, 277; Lorraine
Toller 229; Becky Armstrong 231;
Josie Aleksich 215; Thelma Carey 217;
Ruby Webster 241; Mary Kirkpatrick.



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Rangers tie with Bays United

Tom Langdon, right, races a Bays United player to the ball during game Saturday at Portlock Park. Langdon's under-16 team, Salt Spring Rangers, tied the game 1-1. The

Rangers have been struggling since a mid-season move into A division from B, where they were at the top of the standings.

Photo by Tony Richards

Basketball players unite for tourney

Almost every male basketball player on Salt Spring will be found dribbling this weekend.

Juniors, seniors, 1981 graduates and even older guys are gearing up for the Gulf Islands Secondary School alumni basketball tournament which starts Friday night.

The first game in the GISS gym December 16 sees youth meet wisdom at 7 p.m. when the junior GISS

Scorpions play the Salt Spring men's team. That will be followed by the senior GISS Scorpions playing the Grad 1981 Scorpions.

Arnie Hengstler is one player from the 1981 team, which qualified for the provincial finals that year. He stresses that a 1981 team reunion is not exactly in the works, but a core of players will be joined by other select island athletes.

Four games are set for Saturday. Junior GISS boys meet the 1981 team at 9 a.m., the senior Scorpions play the men's team at 11 a.m. Senior boys are sent back out at 1 p.m. to play the junior boys and the final game between the 1981 Scorpions and men's team starts at 3 p.m.

The tournament is a must-see for basketball fans.

BRIDGE TRICKS

Gulf Islands Duplicate Bridge Club winners on December 5 were as follows:

Peter Jacquet and Jane McAllister; Ian Chisholm and Bryan Dawson; Mona Conlter and Jenny McDonald.

Tuesday night winners were: NORTH/SOUTH — Jan Conlan and Blanche Poborsa; Ian Thomas and Conhor Hunt.

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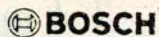
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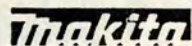
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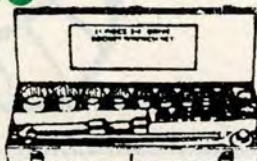
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