

Driftwood

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Your Community Newspaper

GANGES, B.C. \$1.00 (incl. GST)

Islands Trust approves 11% spending hike

• *More Trust Council coverage—Pages A11, A12*
By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Spending was increased rather than reduced Friday when Islands Trust Council completed a six-hour budget-cutting workshop, resulting in a 9.83 per cent tax hike. The increase will mean an additional \$5.65 in taxes for every \$100,000 of assessed property value.

That brings the total Trust taxes on the islands to approximately \$65.65 for every \$100,000 in assessed value.

The total 1995-96 budget is \$3,046,535 com-

pared to \$2,756,070 in 1994-95, up 11 per cent. "I tried to cut \$200,000 and I didn't cut a bloody nickel out of it," frustrated Gabriola trustee Julian Guntensperger said.

Delegations to Friday's meeting illustrated the conflict facing trustees. One speaker called for budget cuts and seven wanted increased expenditures. (See related story.)

Starting point for Friday's budget workshop was a report from the Trust finance committee, which had reviewed the entire budget and cut \$226,000, leaving a budget shortfall of \$199,465. (The finance committee was directed by trustees to review and

reduce the budget in December, after a budget workshop produced a proposed increase of more than \$500,000.)

"Each of us has certain items that are dear to our hearts which we were reluctant to see slashed but we were determined to hold to prudent budgeting," Salt Spring trustee Grace Byrne said in presenting the finance committee's report.

One item dear to many trustee hearts was the \$28,000 approved for increases to trustee indemnities. (See related story.)

Staff reported the provincial grant for 1995-96 would be \$469,435, instead of the

anticipated \$494,145. The additional \$24,710 shortfall was added to the local tax burden.

- Some budget cuts were made Friday.
- Operating reserves were reduced by \$25,000 to \$20,000.
- The committee meeting budget was reduced by \$5,000 from \$19,500.
- The Trust Fund Board property management plan lost \$5,000 from \$15,000.
- A \$16,000 budget for office and trustee equipment lost \$2,000.
- Executive committee member compensa-

BUDGET A12

Trustees spare pay from budget cuts, vote 27% increase

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Giving themselves a raise while giving islanders a tax increase was tough for trustees.

They did it — but only after lengthy debate balancing the demands of their jobs against the political backlash expected from residents.

On the line was an extra \$1,000 annually for each of 26 trustees plus an extra \$2,000 annually for the two from Salt Spring. The hikes will increase the honorariums for most trustees to \$4,700 and for the two Salt Spring trustees to \$9,400, an increase of 27 per cent.

"We deserve one hell of a lot more than that and we're not going to get paid it," said Gabriola trustee Julian Guntensperger. But he said the trustees should not measure their worth in money — they should see themselves as volunteers.

Once on Friday and again on

Saturday, he proposed eliminating the increases.

South Pender trustee Elaine Jacobson objected. "I don't believe people who support the Trust see us as volunteers," she said, noting the amount paid to trustees is well below comparable amounts paid to municipal councillors.

Several trustees argued the honorarium compensates people in part for the amount of time they may lose from work or have to pay in expenses like childcare in order to participate in local government.

"In any society, some people can afford to volunteer more than others," Lasqueti trustee Chris Ferris remarked.

Galiano's Diane Cragg said the honorarium makes it possible for some people to participate while not being high enough to draw people to the position for monetary gain. "It can go a long way to

PAY A12



Four against one

A Juan de Fuca player, second from right, is outnumbered Saturday as Salt Spring Raiders struggle to clear the ball from their end. From left are goalkeeper Jonathon

McDonald, lunging for the ball, Amoury Gregg, Eric Moulton and Oscar Venter. Raiders lost the division semi-final 4-1. Story, Page B6.

Photo by Tony Richards

Operation scheduled but family short cash

Reconstructive surgery for eight-year-old Kane Roscoe has been scheduled for April 11, but his family still doesn't know where the money will come from to pay the travel expenses.

The son of Steve and Donna Roscoe of Salt Spring, Kane was born with bladder exstrophy, a rare congenital defect. Dozens of operations have failed to completely rectify Kane's medical problems.

But Kane's family has high hopes for the operations — as many as six — which have been scheduled at the John Hopkins children's medical centre in Baltimore, Maryland.

"It's the only place they can do it," said Bill Kane, the youngster's grandfather, on Thursday. He described the surgeon who will perform the oper-

ations as "the top man."

While B.C. Medical will pay for the treatment, Kane Roscoe's family must come up with the travel and accommodation expenses, which could total as much as \$10,000. Airfare alone is expected to cost \$3,000. The remainder will cover accommodation and meals for the two months the procedures are anticipated to take to complete.

Bill Kane said \$990 had been donated since a story detailing his grandson's plight first ran in the Driftwood January 25. Much of that total was donated by the Roscoes' Churchill Road neighbours.

Further contributions are being accepted at Island Savings Credit Union, where an account — no. 975201 — has been set up for the purpose.

Officials to review operations on invitation of school district

By GRAEME THOMPSON
Driftwood Staff

Two officials from the Ministry of Education field services branch will spend two weeks in the Gulf Islands School District and offer any advice they can on how to improve operations. The two former superintendents are coming on the invitation of the district.

School board chairwoman Allisen Lambert would not say the invitation was related to the district's budgetary problems. But the visit in early April and the report which is expected before the end of that month will both precede conclusion of the school board's 1995/96 budget deliberations.

"We want to ensure we are providing relevant and cost-effective

services to students," Lambert said. "There is no additional money coming to school districts but the expectation is there that schools deliver more."

Of the ministry officials with the field services branch, Lambert said: "They have a great deal of administrative experience at a province-wide level. What is going on is educational change. They can tell us how a variety of boards are dealing with it."

"The more information we can get, the better decisions we can make."

The officials, Norm Thiessen and Oscar Bedard, have been asked to look at ways of improving efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of programs and services in the Gulf Islands. They

will be offering their "seasoned and reasoned opinions" to the board in the form of a report after their visit.

"We can't ignore the fact that there have been budgetary difficulties. We'll be dealing with that," Thiessen said. "The district has been most open with us and welcomed the opportunity for us to come and help them."

Since August last year Thiessen and Bedard have visited 10 districts to look at issues ranging from procedures to efficiency to relationships. On the islands, the pair will be setting up meetings with officials, educators and any group or individual who wants to see them. Meeting times and contact names will be available closer to their arrival.

Documents show aboriginal fishery out of control

Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin rides a white charger as he leads Canada into battle not just over declining turbot stocks off the east coast, but over the more visionary issue of conservation. How can international opinion fail to support the Canadian argument, particularly with the evidence now in that the Spanish fishing vessel seized off the east coast was taking large numbers of undersize fish.

Well, for starters international opinion-makers could take a quick look through the inch-thick collection of fisheries department memos and reports compiled by a B.C. fishing lobby group. The B.C. Fisheries Survival Coalition, always strident in its demands for better fisheries management but occasionally off the mark with its claims, has scored a direct hit with its damning documents relating to the 1994 B.C. salmon fishery.

Given that a large portion of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (DFO) responsibility relates to enforce-

TONY RICHARDS



ment, it is interesting to note that steps taken to enforce regulations governing the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) have proved utterly hopeless. Conservation, it appears, has a higher priority on the east coast than the west.

Throughout 1994, fishery officers reported on serious problems in the management of aboriginal fisheries. On major rivers and at numerous coastal locations, controls were being ignored.

"The lack of basic control in this fishery has resulted in DFO not knowing where, who, when and how many native fishermen have been out food fishing," wrote a Port Hardy field supervisor in September last

year. "When one knows nothing about an existing fishery, I would say that you have one that is out of control."

Just as the AFS was getting under way, DFO reorganized in 1993, cutting the number of fishery officers in the Pacific region from 167 to 80. The number of field-level supervisors was cut from 55 to 18.

Perhaps the department was expecting the gap to be filled by native guardians who would patrol the aboriginal fisheries. Fishery officer Trevor Fields of Duncan wrote this in October 1994:

"The two fishery officers ... are expected to train the six guardians, some of whom are functionally illiterate and have no wish to be trained ... The native guardian staff changes frequently. Only two of the six have received the native guardian training. Only one of those passed Phase I and he failed Phase II. Fishery officers do not have time to train and in some cases I am not sure whether I want some of them to have much training as it may become just a way to learn

how to poach better ...

"The most recent guardian to be hired is a full-time river poacher and I refuse to teach him how to become a better poacher."

From the Coquitlam aboriginal fishery comes a report that the head of the Musqueam fishery management team, who is responsible for enforcement, pleaded guilty to poaching salmon in 1993.

When the report on the Fraser River's missing sockeye was released last week, DFO responded by announcing the hiring of 15 additional officers. What the news coverage of the issue neglected to mention was that DFO had already announced hiring the 15 officers back on February 28, budget day.

In other words, DFO has done nothing to respond to the sockeye report and appears to be ignoring problems with the AFS. The latter course of action seems to be tried and true at DFO. It has ignored warnings from its own staff for more than a year.

It's time someone on a white charger rode in to the clean up the mess.

Residential, commercial values show increases; permits down

Commercial and residential construction on Salt Spring last year showed increases in value over 1993, though the number of residential building permits issued was down significantly from the year before.

Total value of construction last year was \$15,246,000, down from the record high level of \$28,877,899 of 1993, when several large institutional projects were completed on the island.

At \$ 1,758,000, commercial construction was up from \$1,333,384 the year before. Eighteen permits were issued both years.

Residential construction saw a 39 per cent drop in the number of permits — to 443 from 725 — but the value of the work rose to \$13,425,000

from 1993's \$12,640,491.

There was no industrial construction last year, but two permits worth \$1.7 million were issued in 1993.

In terms of dwelling units, permits were issued in 1994 for 123 single-family homes, 13 townhouses and three mobile homes. During the previous year there were 117 single-family unit permits, 21 townhouses and five mobile homes.

There were more new lots created through subdivision last year than in 1993, 51 compared to 28. There were seven new lots created by bareland strata in 1994, up from zero, and 15 strata units registered on three lots, down from 44 on nine lots in 1993.

During the last quarter of 1994, residential construction declined from the same period in 1993. Sixty-five permits worth \$1,954,000 were issued last year; for 1993 there were 194 permits worth \$2,495,513. Commercial construction also declined in the same period, to \$198,000 from \$239,400.

The only dwelling unit permits issued were 15 for single-family homes, down from 1993's figure of 29.

Figures were released by the Capital Regional District.

Building activity sees some increases in Outer Islands

Construction activity in the Outer Islands registered a slight increase in 1994 over the year before.

The Capital Regional District issued 639 residential building permits worth \$9,804,792 in 1994, up from 635 worth \$9,003,254 in 1993. Commercial permits last year numbered five with a value of \$162,764, compared to six permits worth \$158,180 in 1993.

The largest increases were seen in institutional and industrial construction. There were three permits for the former for a value of \$53,656, up from one worth \$10,000 in 1993. There was one permit for industrial construction, worth \$12,000. There were none in 1993.

The number of permits for dwelling units increased marginally to 138 last year from 135. They were all for single-family dwelling units in 1994.

Subdivision activity saw 26 new lots created, up from 11, and 35 new bareland strata lots, up from zero.

Fourth-quarter building activity saw a drop in residential construction, with 125 permits issued worth \$1,875,905. During the last quarter of 1993, there were 172 permits issued. Value of the construction was \$2,498,101.

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STORM TROUBLES: Sharlene Betts of B.C. Hydro fields yet another telephone call Friday as she sits at a desk piled with Storm Trouble Reports. Each report details trees or branches on power lines on all the islands. Crews were on duty all night Thursday, in the office and in the field.

Photo by Tony Richards

Police nab three drivers with screening device

Three Salt Spring Islanders faced Ganges RCMP roadside screening devices early Saturday morning, resulting in two impaired charges and a 24-hour suspension.

An island woman was pulled over about 1:15 a.m. when she was seen by local police driving erratically near Upper and Lower Ganges roads. She was subsequently charged with impaired driving.

When her husband arrived at the police detachment to pick up his wife up, he too was deemed to be impaired. He was charged with impaired and spent the night in custody. In a separate incident a man was given a 24-hour suspension after blowing into a roadside screening device on Upper Ganges Road about 12:30 a.m.

In other police news:

• A home on Mereside Road was broken into Thursday night or Friday morning. Several items were stolen including a seven-inch commando knife, a Russian pellet gun which no longer works and a Sanyo portable stereo.

• A 17-year-old was charged with speeding after he crashed a 1989 GMC Jimmy Sunday about 1:30 p.m. The vehicle went off the road and rolled onto its side in the 200-block Beddis Road, causing \$4,000 damage. No other cars were involved.

• A Crosswind Hybrid mountain bike was reported stolen from Morningside Road Sunday. Anyone with information about the purplish blue bike should phone Ganges RCMP.

• A islander found five rings missing from her home on Upper Ganges Road some time Wednesday or Thursday. They include a man's and woman's wedding band, a thick gold ring, a ruby ring and a garnet ring. Anyone with any information should contact police.

Record low pressure system brings high winds, heavy rain

High winds, power outages and cancelled ferry sailings followed in the wake of a record low pressure system which blew into the area Thursday afternoon.

Victoria weather office manager Jamie MacDuff said the system was heralded by strong southeasterly winds, which were especially strong on the water. More high winds, from the southwest, followed the system.

Wind speeds reached 90 km an hour in open areas on the Saanich Peninsula and up to 115 km per hour in southern Victoria. The weather office issued gale and storm warnings.

Rain came with the wind, dropping 12 mm in Victoria and 30 mm in Nanaimo.

For B.C. Hydro, the winds brought two days of problems. "The winds came, blew the trees down and the lights went out," said Hydro spokesman Murray Smith.

Two feeders out of the Galiano substation were lost, leading to power outages on all the Outer Islands. At one point, there were 5,300 customers without power.

The first outages occurred at approximately 4 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday. Some isolated areas on the islands were out of power until Saturday but most had their power restored later Thursday or on Friday.

On Salt Spring, there were spot power outages "all over the place," Smith said. The south-end feeder on Salt Spring was tripped twice, cutting power to the south end for approximately two hours each time, Smith reported.

All nine members of the island crew were called out and were supplemented by three Hydro workers from Nanaimo and three from Victoria.

Sheltered waters kept the Salt Spring ferries on schedule but the wind-whipped open stretch of sea in Georgia Strait resulted in some delays and cancellations on Vancouver Island-Mainland routes.

The 3 p.m. sailing from Swartz Bay to Tsawwassen left on schedule but had to return to Swartz Bay. The 5 p.m. sailing from Tsawwassen to Swartz Bay was

cancelled and the 7 p.m. sailing from Swartz Bay left an hour late.

There were cancellations and late sailings between Nanaimo and Horseshoe Bay as well.

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GANGES SEWER DOWNGRADE

The Capital Regional District has submitted a request to the Ministry of the environment for permission to make drastic alterations to the Ganges sewage treatment system. The proposed changes are major, and could ultimately have serious deleterious impact on the sensitive embayed environment of Ganges Harbour.

PRESENT SYSTEM: Permit 5521	CRD PROPOSED CHANGES
FIRST: One RBC Treatment Plant: a Rotating Biological Contactor (capacity 90,000 gals. per day).	Add a second treatment plant to process the additional sewage volume.
THEN: Ultra-Violet Disinfection Unit.	
FINALLY: Holding tanks for discharge on ebbtides only.	Bypass or eliminate holding tanks — allow continuous discharge, 24 hrs. per day.
STANDBY EQUIPMENT: In case of mechanical breakdowns, then: Chlorination/Dechlorination (if used, effluent must be dechlorinated to 0.02mg/L or less prior to discharge.)	Eliminate standby emergency treatment capability.
TREATMENT QUALITY CONTROL: Effluent is limited to 70 fecal coliform organisms per 100ml of sample.	Raise the allowable predischarge coliforms from 70 to 5000. <i>(During mechanical breakdowns, discharged coliforms would be in the millions.)</i>
EFFLUENT VOLUME: 90,000 gallons per day	INCREASE TO: 300,000 gallons per day*

SUMMARY:

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Three nominated for council

Three Salt Spring Islanders have put their names forward as nominees for the interim community health council. Phyllis Bolton, Gordon English and Jean Taylor have been nominated for the position. The position will be filled through an election at a public meeting next Monday.

Nominations are not closed for the position, health planning steering committee member Pat Harris said. Anyone who is still interested can be nominated from the floor at the meeting. Interested parties should get nomination and background information from Sharon Bond at the hospital.

Phyllis Bolton has been involved with health issues since the early 1950s, when she was a nurse at Victoria's Royal Jubilee Hospital and then in the 1970s when she served on the Cowichan District Hospital board. She served for nine consecutive years, five years as chairwoman. She has also served as president of the B.C. Health Association and was appointed to be the provincial representative to the board of the Canadian Hospital Association.

Locally she wants to see home care, mental health services and hospital outreach programs continue and improve. Improved intermediate and extended care for islanders and testing of all three-

year-olds' eyes and ears are also health concerns she would pursue on the new health council.

Bolton has been weekending on Salt Spring since 1990 but moved here last August when she began selling real estate at Creekhurst Realty.

Gordon English has had a long association with island health issues since moving here in 1986. He has served six years on the Lady Minto Hospital board, three years as chairman. He has served on the Salt Spring health council and the southern Gulf Islands health plan steering committee and is also a Gulf Islands representative to the Capital Health Board. For the past three years he has been involved in committees which have examined health care issues on Salt Spring and the Gulf Islands, a process which led to the formation of the Gulf Islands Community Health Council.

"If elected my objective is to ensure that the southern gulf islands health council will conduct a logical, businesslike transition of management of our existing facilities from the boards and societies to the council," he said in a statement.

"I will also work hard to meeting the expectations of Salt Spring Islanders in the utilization of limited funds to provide the best in the way of programs and services our residents want and need."

Jean Taylor is a longtime resident of the island, a farmer and horse-breeder. She worked at Lady Minto Hospital from 1963 to 1984 when she retired as laboratory technologist. Her interest in the New Directions initiative of the provincial government, which has produced the new community health councils, began in 1990 when she was asked to edit two submissions for the Closer to Home document.

"As a long-term resident, a long-term caregiver and a long-term recipient of complex care, I believe I can contribute experience to help identify the need for change and to help implement the recommendations of the Closer to Home report," she said in a statement.

She said consultation with the community, client participation, advisory committees, input from health-related labour groups, preventative health and volunteer groups are all part of the umbrella of health and collaboration between all parties would be necessary to bring overall health to the community.

Islanders can vote for the candidate of their choice at Monday's public meeting in room S212 of the high school. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. and nominations for the elected position will be taken from the floor.

Career prep enrolls 82

Career preparation is a growing program at the high school but career education co-ordinator Scott Bergstrom plans to do more. He told trustees at last Wednesday's school board meeting that of 101 students registered in Grade 12 courses, 82 had taken career education. He wanted to get those last 19 involved as well.

"The focus has been to try to educate students, parents and other educators about the importance of career preparation," he said.

A new course, career and personal planning, is set to become a graduation requirement starting next year.

The newest addition to the career education program has been the cafeteria program in the new high school, which involves 56 students. As well, a trade mentorship program has begun, involving 19 students.

Computers at the new school are providing new opportunities in career education, such as the Stay in School game, and information about post-secondary institutions and scholarships. Four students have even enrolled in English 100 as part of the open learning advanced studies pilot program.

Bergstrom ended his presentation by telling trustees that he was looking for 120 short-term job placements for Grade 10 students during the spring break March 20-24.



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A Salt Spring youth was found guilty of possession of marijuana in Ganges provincial court last week and fined \$50. The Grade 12 student was arrested on March 18 last year by auxiliary Const. Ian Lyon outside the back entrance of the Harbour House Hotel about 9:30 p.m.

The Crown contended that police entered the rear parking lot of the hotel and saw a car belonging to another island youth with several young men inside it. As the police vehicle approached, the accused left the vehicle allegedly carrying a small black bag and proceeded towards a garbage

Court accepts police testimony, fines youth \$50 for marijuana

dumpster.

Lyon followed the youth and testified that he saw him bend down next to the dumpster and then go behind it. When Lyon approached the dumpster he found a black waist-pouch which contained a number of joints, or marijuana cigarettes.

The defence contended that the youth never had a black bag and

that he was going to the dumpster to "take a leak." The youth testified that his recollection of events was true. But Judge Alan Filmer said the youth's version of events was "stretching credulity." He said the police officer's evidence was "very solid" and that, "where the officer's testimony differs, I accept the officer's testimony. I reject (the youth's)."

In other court news:

• Michael Kitchen was fined \$300 and prohibited from driving for 12 months after pleading guilty to impaired driving. He had previously pleaded not guilty.

Kitchen had been followed by a police officer February 20 last year just after midnight when he was spotted driving erratically on Fulford-Ganges Road near Arnell Way.

• A young man was fined \$100 after he pleaded guilty of driving without due care and attention. He had been spotted by an RCMP officer doing fish-tails in his girlfriend's sports car January 26.

He lost control of the vehicle and spun off the road. He told the court that a small dog in the car had jumped on his lap and caused him to lose control.

• Another island youth was fined \$50 for being a minor in possession of an illegal substance after he was deemed to be guilty in absentia. The court was told the accused was in custody out of province.

Fire guts office, workshop

An office and workshop on Beddis Road was gutted by fire Saturday night. Firefighters were called out just before midnight to find the building engulfed in flames. The workshop was separated from the main house by a breezeway, which helped save the house from damage.

The fire was under control within 20 minutes, Salt Spring Fire Chief Les Wagg said. The fire was caused by stove ashes which had been left outside some days earlier.

Meanwhile, a fire in a furnace room at a Scott Point Drive home caused little damage Wednesday afternoon. Firefighters were called out about 1:20 p.m. when a pipe leading from the home's furnace to the chimney was discovered to be on fire.

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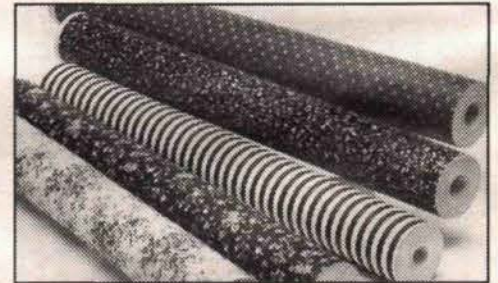
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BOTH STORES OPEN SUNDAY

Trial 'fun' for impaired driver despite \$300 fine, driving ban

By GRAEME THOMPSON
Driftwood Staff

If you're going to be convicted of impaired driving, fined \$300 and prohibited from getting behind the wheel for 12 months, you may as well have fun with it. At least that's what one Salt Spring Islander decided to do in Ganges provincial court last Tuesday.

Gilles Guay spoke to his own defence in a trial that lasted but half an hour. He agreed right off the bat, to the surprise of Judge Alan Filmer, that he had been driving while drunk July 4, 1993 when he was stopped by police. But he said he had been "forced to drive home" by "50 navy officers."

It was a tale that promised to be as erratic as the driving of which he was accused.

Ganges RCMP Const. Robert Doyle was on routine patrol around the Harbour House Hotel that July night when he saw Guay involved in an argument outside the pub entrance. The group broke up and Guay walked to his vehicle, a red van. It was just after 1 a.m.

Doyle testified that he was "quite certain" Guay was intoxicated. He warned Guay not to start the car's engine or he would have no alternative but to charge him with impaired driving.

Guay took the keys out of the ignition and put them on the dashboard. But a few minutes later, as Doyle continued on his patrol around the building, he spotted Guay behind the wheel of his van, heading

out of the parking lot on to Upper Ganges Road. Doyle followed the vehicle and after watching him drive over the centre line and onto the shoulder, he pulled him over.

Guay refused to provide a breath sample after police made three separate requests for one.

Cross-examining Const. Doyle about the course of events, Guay asked, "Didn't you know I was the shining knight in armour? I told a lady I would drive her home."

Doyle could not recall whether there were any women present. Guay told the court he had been unable to find the woman in question as a witness for the defence.

It was a tale that promised to be as erratic as the driving.

"Did I mention to you that all I wanted to do was go to sleep?" he asked Doyle. He meant that he had wanted to start the van's engine to run the heater so he could spend the night in the parking lot in comfort. Doyle could not recall that, but did recall that he told Guay if the key was in the ignition he could be charged with impaired driving. That was when Guay took the keys out of the ignition and put them on the dashboard.

"I didn't want to drive but I had to. I didn't want to kill anybody but I had to drive home," Guay said. "Don't you remember me telling you that somebody was after me?" Doyle couldn't recall.

"Don't you remember that white car with squealing tires? They were the ones who were after me."

Doyle did remember but told the court that the white car with squealing tires was related to an incident which occurred later that evening, after Guay had been taken to the Ganges police station. A white car had been stolen by a local youth and was involved in an accident. It was "completely unrelated" to the Guay incident, Doyle said.

Then Guay asked why police had no record of an incident he had reported the next day. He said all four tires on his van had been slashed with a knife by those who had threatened him the night before. He claimed that 50 naval officers who had been drinking in the bar that night made threats against his life, forcing him to flee. But the court was never told exactly what those threats involved or why they were made.

Doyle said that all incidents reported to police are recorded at the station. He could not explain why this particular one did not exist in the files.

Judge Filmer said Guay's defence of breaking the law due to threat of bodily harm was "exceedingly difficult" to defend. "On the evidence today," he added, "it didn't wash. Good try but not a defence I would buy."

Guay was found guilty of impaired driving, fined \$300 and prohibited from driving for 12 months. As Guay left the court, he said, "That was fun!"

New school receives Hydro award

B.C. Hydro has awarded a Power Smart excellence award to the new Gulf Islands Secondary School. Four new schools were in the running for the award.

The annual awards program considers a number of criteria in selecting the winners. Among them: architectural energy-efficiency measures; heating, ventilation and air conditioning; and electrical and lighting efficiency measures.

Hydro cited the new school's ground source heat pump system that provides heating and cooling; its lighting system, which includes occupancy sensors to turn off lights and daylight sensors that control lighting where sufficient natural light is available. Roof overhangs, skylights and building materials were also mentioned.

The building's energy savings are expected to run to 1.113 million kilowatt-hours per year. The Gulf Islands School Board was told last week that in dollar terms the savings would amount to about \$50,000 annually.

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Time out from fiscal responsibility

Islands Trust Council is beset from both sides. Taxpayers are massing at the petition lines, demanding an end to budget increases.

Would-be taxpayers are massing at the ferry terminals, coming to seize their piece of paradise — which they then demand the Trust pour money into protecting.

What's a poor Trust Council to do?

It's true that population on the Gulf Islands is increasing — although at 78 per cent over five years, the Trust budget is increasing even faster.

It's true that there are increased demands for services allied with increased outrage over tax increases, putting trustees in a potential no-win situation.

But it was trustees who undercut their own budget-cutting stance by voting themselves an increase in honorarium.

It could be argued — and was — that the efforts of trustees deserve far more than the \$3,700 they were receiving and the \$4,700 they will now receive. (Salt Spring trustees receive double the amount paid to other island trustees, bringing their honorarium to \$9,400 annually.)

It could be argued — and was — that in these tough economic times, a reasonable honorarium makes it possible for more people to consider serving on the Trust Council.

It could be argued — well, any argument that would make such an increase palatable to the taxpayers was trotted out last Friday and Saturday and tossed on the pile of justifications.

There was the difference in the amount paid to trustees and municipal councillors, even though municipal councillors fill a far different role from that of the 26 members of Trust Council.

There was the increased workload, the time away from work or self-owned business, the cost of daycare for those with dependents.

So bolstered by a variety of arguments supported by their fellows — rather like a conclave of foxes discussing whether to raid the henhouse — 16 trustees voted to add \$28,000 to the budget for honorarium increases.

Executive council members will also be a little better off, with an extra \$2,000 each coming into their pockets. On top of their island stipend, each of the three vice-chairmen will receive \$17,600 and the chairman will pick up \$21,500.

Again, given their workloads and time commitment to the Trust, an argument can be made that they earn the money.

But whether they deserve the increase is not the issue. As several trustees have pointed out, the amount involved is relatively insignificant.

But the choice made by trustees was important. At issue is trustee responsiveness to taxpayers who have clearly demanded fiscal responsibility.

Perhaps trustees felt they could do nothing about the increased demands for service buffeting the Islands Trust. But the one decision which was clearly and totally in their hands with no impact on anything or anyone but themselves was whether to take more money from taxpayers to line their own pockets.

Aware of the pending tax increase, the majority chose to take the money. What conclusion should taxpayers draw about the rest of their budget decisions?

A silly idea

What originated as an almost insignificant little suggestion among a host of others to improve local ferry service seems to have become a fully acceptable and logical proposal.

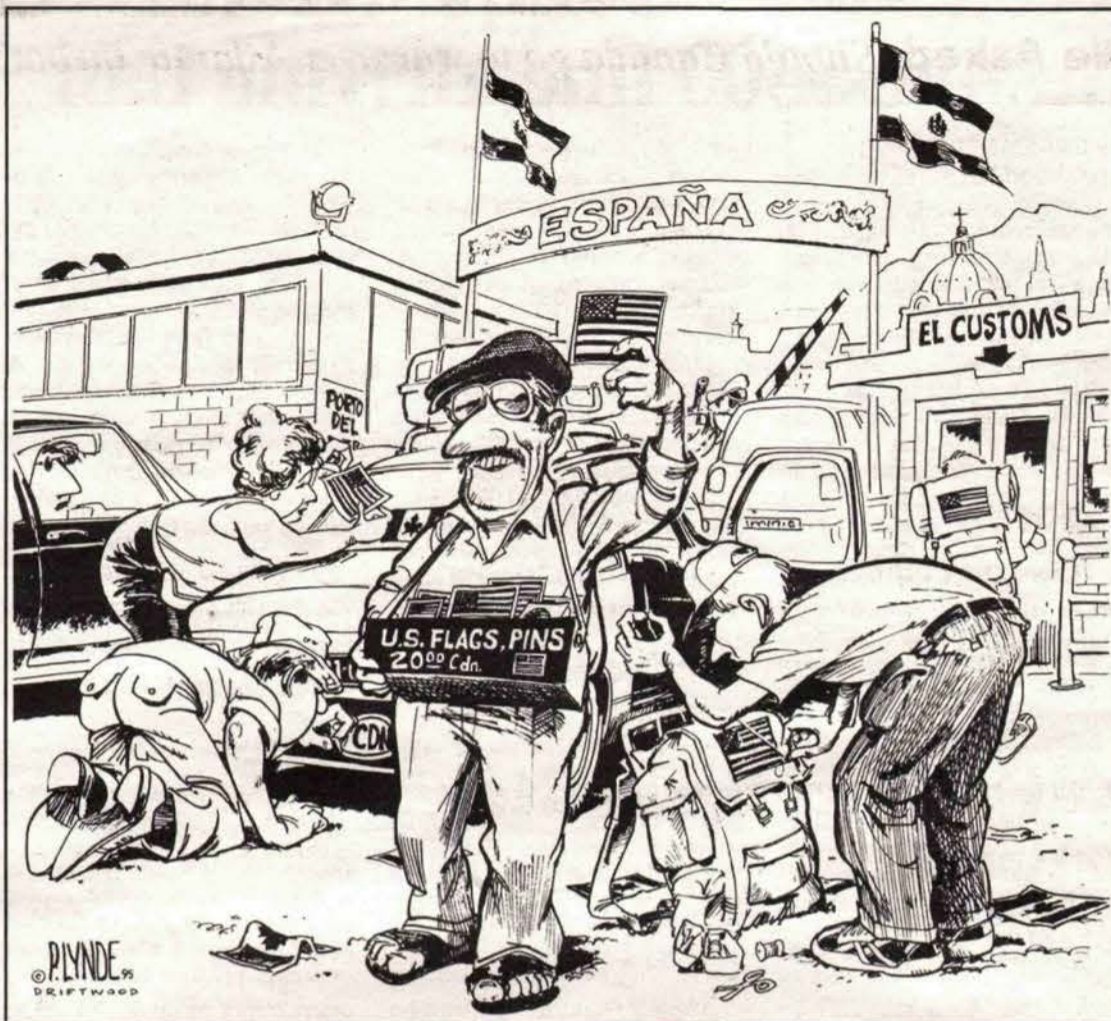
Unfortunately, the idea that a new ferry terminal should be built near Beaver Point is neither. Equally unfortunate is that it has been accorded a credible status through its inclusion on a list of options now doing the rounds at B.C. Ferries open houses.

Had this proposal been dealt with earlier and quickly dispatched into the round file of other silly ideas it would not be creating a stir at the south end. As Salt Spring slowly loses its rural character, areas such as the southeast corner become more attractive to those who appreciate the island in a natural state.

A ferry terminal would change that forever.

There is also the small matter of cost, which the ferries advisory committee has yet failed to consider. It seems likely that the committee's next meeting will hear logical arguments against some of the proposals made at the last meeting, and remove them from the list.

It would have been better had the process removed them earlier.



California leads in recognizing dangers to health posed by diesel

I have recently received the latest in a series of task force reports from the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD), air quality and source control department. This report is titled: Heavy Duty Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance Program Implementation in the Lower Fraser Valley.

Studies were commissioned jointly by the GVRD, B.C. Environment, and Environment Canada between 1992 and 1994 on the feasibility of an inspection and maintenance program for heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs), and Citizens Against Diesel Emissions (CADE) has been invited to respond to every phase.

With this report comes the resolution of CADE's greatest frustrations regarding the truth about the burning of diesel fuel oil. Finally HDVs have been divided into two categories, HDGVs and HDDVs, heavy-duty gas vehicles and heavy-duty diesel vehicles. The extremely higher danger to health posed by diesel as compared to gasoline is at last being openly acknowledged by the governments of B.C. who have been wisely following California's lead.

This from page 10 of the 50-page task force report:

"The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is currently engaged in a formal rule-making process that could lead to the designation of diesel exhaust as a toxic air contaminant under state law ...

"Regulatory agencies generally believe, based on both epidemiological and laboratory-based animal studies, that exposure to diesel exhaust can lead to increased incidence of lung cancer. These concerns reinforce the need for consideration of options to reduce excess emissions from HDVs, particularly those operating on diesel fuel."

From page 9 of the report:

"The conditions which lead to excess smoke and PM-10 (soot) emissions from diesel vehicles also result in excess emissions of hydrocarbons, which include volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and

toxic air contaminants. The most important toxics are benzene, 1,3-butadiene, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde and exhaust particulate matter (PM)."

CADE's discussion with the HDV I/M task force report manager will include the mysterious absence of sulfur trioxide from this list. The fact that SO3 production is relative to the amount of sulfur in the fuel and because sulfur level limits are pending may explain but not wholly justify sulfur trioxide's lack of dishonourable mention.

For these reasons:

1. Sulfur limits were imposed in the past and were proven difficult to regulate to the extent that random sampling yielded sulfur levels 200 times over the legal limit.

2. Millions of gallons of existing diesel fuel will continue to be burned. (And as in Cusheon Lake recently, spilled!)
3. Nothing has yet been done to discourage the sale and purchase of light-duty diesel cars and pickup trucks which frequently fuel up from their home oil heating supply. Home heating diesel oil is not subject to sulfur limit legislation or road tax.

Many people are concerned about the diesel fuel vapour and exhaust that permeates and surrounds the Bowen Queen. Captain Alan Davidson is aware that respiratory difficulties presently threatening him are due to the sulfur trioxide, aldehydes and soot constantly enveloping the wheelhouse. He has for years advocated exhaust being piped up to the topsides of the ships, instead of being pumped out at sea level.

Since my dad was shift boss in a gold mine, diesel compressors underground have had water-filled engine exhaust filtration to trap the aldehydes. Given today's technology, replaceable or serviceable smoke stack filters at car deck level go a long way towards giving the above-ground air the respect it warrants.

The writer is a member of Citizens Against Diesel Emissions and lives on Salt Spring Island.



Regulatory agencies generally believe that exposure to diesel exhaust can lead to increased incidence of lung cancer.

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Driftwood



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SALT SPRING SAYS

We Asked: Should Canada go to war over Atlantic turbot?



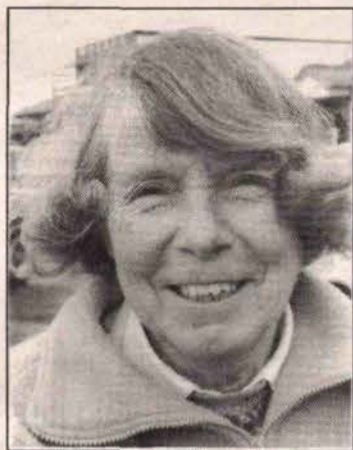
Chester Ludlow

There are more important things to go to war over, like people who force us to live in toxic houses.



Jennifer Lineger

No. Aren't there international agreements? If the Spanish aren't obeying the laws, change the laws.



Mary White

No, I don't think they should go to war over anything.



Ruth Kreissl

War is pretty serious. There should be some kind of retaliation but war is awfully serious.



Carel Souchereau

Not war. The powers that be are working against each other. They need to find a way to work together.

Letters to the editor

Parks process fair and open

I would like to respond to your article Parks Deal Under Fire (Driftwood, February 15) to clarify a number of points and set the record straight on the process for awarding provincial parks operations contracts.

The advertising and subsequent awarding of a contract is a requirement of the Financial Administration Act, Park Act and B.C. Parks policy. The majority of road-accessible provincial park campgrounds and picnic areas in British Columbia are operated and maintained under contract. In British Columbia, a provincial park operations/maintenance contract can run for a maximum of eight years before it must be re-advertised.

With regard to Ruckle and Mount Maxwell provincial parks, the term of the existing contract expired in November 1994. Accordingly, this contract had to be advertised through a public proposal call process.

Contractors are selected through proposal call and not through a public tender, which is solely price based. The public proposal call process evaluates a number of criteria, including cost, to select a successful contractor. These criteria include: background and experience, management and administration, staff training, occupational health and training, public safety and security, customer service, proposed cost.

The objective of the proposal call process is to provide an oppor-

tunity for all British Columbians to participate in the bidding process and for government to select a contractor who provides the best value, using the evaluation criteria, at least cost to government.

In the recent proposal call, the successful proponent, F.A. King Limited, scored the highest in the evaluation process. The successful proponent also offered a significant reduction in cost to government to operate and maintain these parks.

Kerry Akerman (Island Parks Services) has done a good job in operating and maintaining these provincial parks over the past five years. However, there was no option of merely renegotiating this contract at this time; since B.C. Parks staff are required by law and policy to publicly advertise this contract. Kerry Akerman submitted a proposal package in this recent process but it was not successful since other proponents scored higher in the ranking criteria and also offered lower bid prices.

I have had the opportunity to review the proposal selection process and I am confident that the evaluation process was fair and open. I believe that B.C. Parks has selected a contractor who will provide the best service at least cost to government.

I wish to assure the residents of Salt Spring Island that B.C. Parks will ensure the continuity of management, good community relations and quality service in the provincial parks on Salt Spring Island.
G. DAVID CHATER,
District Manager, B.C. Parks

Riders are out

Spring has come and horses and riders are out and about on the road again. Those of us who ride would like to thank all those considerate drivers who slow down and give us as much room as they can when going past. We would like to remind those drivers with noisy vehicles, (not on our island, surely!) rattling loads, and flapping tarps, that these can seem like life-threatening monsters to a horse. Horses have wide peripheral vision but do not see clearly. Even in a riding ring or a field they react to movement and sudden noise. Their choice of reaction is fight or flight. Either choice can put both rider and driver in danger.

It only takes a few extra seconds for you to approach and pass a horse and rider slowly and calmly. We try to acknowledge your cour-

tesy, but if two hands are needed on the horse, please don't think that lack of a friendly wave means we don't appreciate it. We do! Ditches and broken pavement may make it difficult for us to get out of your way, but believe that we are always aware of other traffic on the road and try to stay as far out of the way as we safely can.

Cyclists can avoid startling a horse with their quiet approach, by

talking, singing, whistling, or calling a cheery "Hello" before they get too close so that horse and rider both know they are there.

I would rather offer this reminder through the pages of this publication than bruised and shaken from the bottom of a ditch. Thank you to all of your patience and understanding.

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Things to get worse for Harcourt, NDP

VICTORIA — When the B.C. Legislature opens March 22, a slugfest of considerable proportions will begin.

The B.C. Legislature has never had a tradition of earnest debate and serious reflection. Ours has always been frontier-style politics. In a very real sense, the legislative chamber is the battle field for civic wars.

But even so, this coming session should set new highs, or lows if you prefer, for down-in-the-gutter, no-holds-barred and no-prisoners-taken political fighting. Short of physical blows, the government benches and opposition members will deploy every weapon in their arsenal to destroy the enemy.

CAPITAL COMMENT HUBERT BEYER



The reason is simple. The Harcourt government is in disarray. It is on the run. And the opposition is in hot pursuit.

The Reform Party and the Liberals have been hunting down hapless government ministers, including Premier Harcourt, like bloodhounds for months, and they will increase their efforts when the session starts. Watch for the nastiest question periods ever. Expect tempers to flare on both sides.

The blood the opposition has been smelling and whose trail they've been following comes from two wounds on the government's soft underbelly, one of which has been festering for years, while the other is relatively new and self-inflicted.

The Nanaimo Commonwealth Holding Society scandal is not of this government's doing. It goes way back and concerns the skimming of charity money by the Nanaimo Commonwealth Holding Society, a fundraising arm of the NDP.

The other lesion resulted from the government's close association with NOW Communications, a Vancouver-based consulting and public relations firm headed by Ron Johnson, a long-time and stalwart NDP supporter and failed candidate in several elections.

Documents obtained by both the Reform Party and the Liberals, by way of access to information, show that the company which didn't exist before the NDP was elected to office has since received more than \$5 million worth of government contracts.

With the two opposition parties trying to beat each other to the punch for headlines and news clips, there has been a daily feast of revelations about the relationship between the government and NOW Communications.

In the latest development, Auditor-General George Morfitt informed the premier that he is investigating "certain aspects of the contractual relations between NOW Communications Group Inc. and the government of British Columbia."

Morfitt will look into three aspects: Are payments to NOW appropriately classified and reported? Has the government appropriately managed and controlled its contractual relations with NOW? And are NOW and other firms treated the same way in their contractual relations with the government when providing services?

One of the accusations levelled at the government is that some fairly large contracts were awarded to NOW without going to tender.

The government's own rules state that contracts under \$50,000 don't have to go to tender. Tendering is optional for contracts between \$50,000 and \$100,000, while anything over \$100,000 must go to tender.

The Liberals also question some bills submitted by NOW. They say that in once case, Johnson personally charged \$185,000 — at \$200 an hour — for "consultation and strategic planning on health issues."

To publicize the government's health programs, NOW received a total of \$1.14 million, according to the documents released by the Liberals.

To make matters worse for the government, Conflict of Interest Commissioner Ted Hughes is considering an investigation into the premier's connections with NOW Communications.

As expected, the premier tried to make light of his woes. Asked whether he and his government have been reeling under the relentless pressure from the opposition, he said no. What else do you expect him to say?

The truth is, it's been a couple of rough weeks for Harcourt and his government. And it will get worse.

For a premier who campaigned on the slogan "no favours for friends and insiders," the accusations revolving around NOW Communications sting. True, it's only \$5 million out of a total communications budget of about \$100 million over three years, but that five per cent is enough to make life very miserable for the government in the forthcoming session.

It's going to be a zoo, folks.

Luth angers mayors on CORE

Charges of overcutting in the forests drew a storm of protest from northern Vancouver Island mayors Saturday when Salt Spring regional director Dietrich Luth outlined a history of mismanagement.

"They couldn't deny it. They were mad that I was going to say it," Luth said on Tuesday. He made his comments in response to a motion made during the Association of Vancouver Island Municipalities' convention last weekend in Courtenay.

The motion called on the Union of B.C. Municipalities to ask the

government to halt the CORE program until the impact on resource communities is determined.

"I don't think the government is going to do it. It's just an empty thing," Luth said.

North-island mayors were not ready to hear Luth tell them that they had overestimated their timber reserves and that the CORE pre-emption of forest land for parks was not the problem.

Luth said he worked in a Tahsis sawmill in the 1960s and saw the problem first-hand. "They've been overcutting, in short. I told them

where it was at."

His frankness earned him jeers from some of those present and an offer from Tahsis Mayor Tom McCrae to take Luth into a back room.

"I was challenged in a sort of mock fashion by the mayor of Tahsis," Luth said. He felt the mayor did himself no good by resorting to such a strong-arm style.

Some of the other delegates at the meeting also objected to the motion but Luth said the meeting's location ensured a significant number of north-island representatives were present.

Library orders hardware

Computer investigation has now become computer implementation at the Mary Hawkins Memorial Library in Ganges.

The annual meeting last Wednesday of the library association learned that the library's first computer hardware will be installed in the next few weeks. Staff will then begin the task of computerizing the card catalogue.

In his report on the year's activities, library chairman Anthony Burrige told the meeting a proposal to purchase additional property for future expansion was abandoned. While the mortgage payments would have been affordable, there would have been insufficient funds to build for at least five years and the book-buying budget would have been reduced.

Potential problems created by

changes to the provincial Library Act were overcome, Burrige reported. Voluntary membership fees, introduced in response to legislation prohibiting libraries from charging a fee, have brought in almost as much revenue as the mandatory fees of before.

Treasurer Michael Wheaton presented audited financial statements which showed an operating surplus for the year of \$15,197 on revenues of \$63,141.

The library's total circulation for the year was 101,103, up 10 per cent from the year before. The year also saw the 30,000th volume catalogued.

The annual meeting elected four new members to the board from a slate of five candidates. The new members are Judith Andersen, Joanne Cartwright, Bruce Mills and Ann Shepherd.

More letters

Service from walkers

I read with interest the article on the proposed trail network (Driftwood, March 1), and while there are always a few who spoil it for the rest I would like to introduce the suggestion that people who walk trails actually provide a service!

Over the years I have put straying animals back in fields often fixing a trod down fence in the process, pulled sheep out of hedges and fences, turned over sheep that were on their backs and on one occasion spent a couple of hours in a very remote area trying to find the mother of a lamb I had rescued from a hole. The mission was successfully accomplished after making the lamb "bleat" at every ewe I could find until one answered back!

TERRY RIDINGS,
Garner Road

Women's campaign begins in September

This International Women's Day marks the beginning of a new action campaign for women around the world. Bella Abzug (now 74), a long-time activist and civil rights lawyer and member of Congress, says women from around the world will be meeting in Copenhagen this week during the World Summit for Social Development sponsored by the UN. A movement called WEDO (Women's Environment & Development Organization) is calling for:

- an end to extreme poverty and unemployment in the world by the year 1996. This sounds idealistic, but according to Bella, "you never accomplish anything unless you establish a target date."
- gender equity (equality of women and men) elected to government; at least a balance of 40 to 60 per cent of both sexes.
- reproductive rights for women (re: technology)
- contracts for corporations (who

literally move in and "take over" Third World countries)

• education to make the UN and governments accountable for promises from the Earth Summit, 1992, and International Conference on Population and Development. (There is also group of women at present working on "armaments and world peace" at the UN.) This "180-day campaign" will run through the first week in September when over 30,000 will attend the Women's World Conference in Beijing, China. And it is hoped that "as October 24, 1995 marks the 50th anniversary of the UN, it is time for women to become equal partners to men in shaping the UN's policies and institutions for the next 50 years."

For more information, contact WEDO, telephone 212-759-7982, or locally, B.C. Council for International Cooperation, Victoria, 360-1405.
SUE HISCOCKS,
Fulford Harbour

No connection

OAPO Branch 32 wishes it to be officially known that the Salt Spring Island Pensioners Society (Building Fund) is not a part of the Ganges Old Age Pensioners Organization and also has no connection to the Thursday night bingo held at Meaden Hall.

ELVIE HISLOP, President,
NAIDINE SIMS, Secretary,
Old Age Pensioners Organization

Day off for women

On Women's Day women and girls should get the day off work.

Men and boys should do all the work.

Mothers work hard.
Girls always put up with boys.
Next year I want to take the day off.

CASSANDRA PARLEE,
Age 8,
Sunset Drive

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APRIL 8TH
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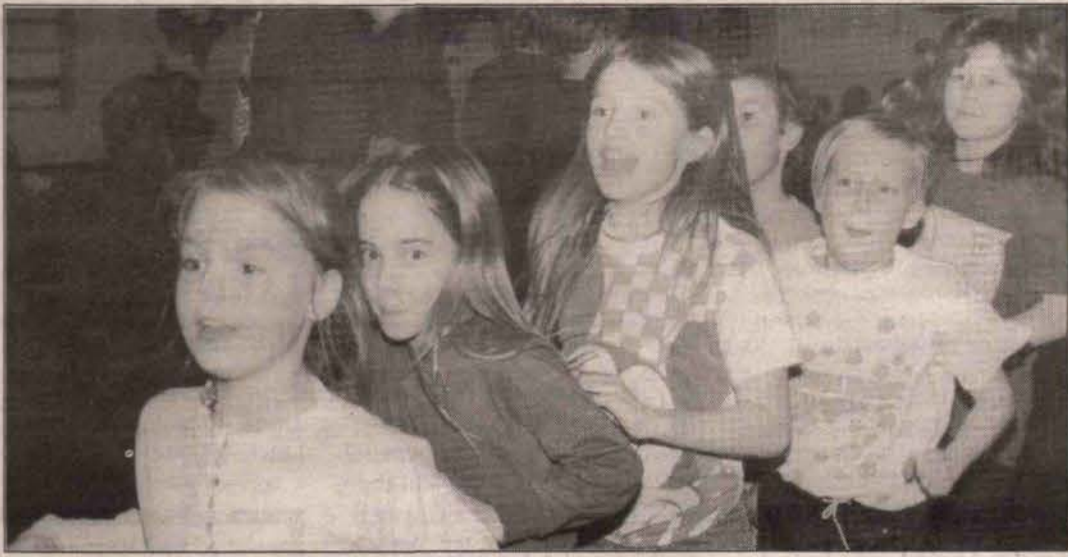
Jonathan P.M. Yardley

Dip. Arch. (Birm.) MAIBC, MRAIC, BIBA

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Healthy hearts

Happy and healthy hearts were in evidence at the Ganges Activity Centre Friday when Salt Spring Elementary School students took part in the annual heart foundation fundraiser, Jump Rope for Heart. Skipping

together are, from left, Jenny Rae McGregor, Melanie Callas, Jocelyn Langdon, John Vanginkel, Bliss Wiebe and Lindsay Urquhart.

Photo by Tony Richards

**TO MY BIKER BOYFRIEND:
Long May You Ride
Happy Birthday,
Tony!**



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Budget cuts foil Andrew's bids for increased Trust services

Bids for more Islands Trust resources for Salt Spring were lost to budget cuts at last week's Trust Council meeting with only one of trustee Bob Andrew's motions approved.

Andrew succeeded in getting the overall community plan review budget increased by \$25,000, bringing the budget for community planning to \$100,000.

Andrew admitted he hoped a large chunk of the \$25,000 increase would come to Salt Spring. But he failed to get the bylaw enforcement budget increased by an additional \$20,000 and the local contract services sum raised by another \$25,000.

"Things are falling through the cracks here," Salt Spring trustee Grace Byrne said. Increasing the contract services budget might have made it possible to hire additional help for the Salt Spring office.

Andrew noted Salt Spring planner Linda Adams has racked up 530 hours of overtime during the past four months. Describing Adams as "the most competent person in the Trust," Andrew said one planner cannot meet the demands of the fast-growing community.

Originally, Salt Spring asked for another planner. But Andrew said that request had been changed to an additional planner who would "float" between all the Trust islands, responding to where the need is greatest.

Included in the 1995-96 budget is approximately \$60,000 for hir-

ing and equipping an additional planner in June.

Although Andrew agreed other islands also need additional planning help, he maintained the new planner should be based on Salt Spring and give priority to the demand on Salt Spring. "We need that person. We need that person now and we need that person all year."

In turning down Andrew's motion, other trustees noted the additional shared planner was recommended by the Trust's manager of local planning who is familiar with the needs of all the islands.

Andrew admitted he hoped a large chunk of the \$25,000 increase would come to Salt Spring.

Trustees also turned down Andrew's bid to increase the bylaw enforcement budget by \$20,000. He argued Salt Spring is dealing with an "exploding population" and must handle a wave of complaints and bylaw infractions.

"One bylaw enforcement officer for all the islands doesn't make it," he declared, advocating hiring another.

People are now appealing property assessments on the basis of bylaw infractions on neighbouring properties while others contravene regulations by renting accommodation to tourists. "There's a mess happening here with housing,"

Andrew remarked.

Byrne agreed. "As population increases, bylaw problems increase exponentially," she remarked. "On this island, bylaw enforcement is out of control."

A third Salt Spring trustee to give the Trust more political presence on the island might be a solution, Hornby's George Buyver suggested. He saw increased bylaw infractions as a sign that the Trust is not well regarded on Salt Spring.

"Throwing another cop at it is not where I feel the money should go," Buyver said.

But Buyver did back Andrew's request for a \$25,000 increase to the community plan budget, saying Salt Spring should have all the possible resources from the Trust to upgrade the plan.

Vying for a share of the \$100,000 planning budget will be some of the lesser islands, some of which have approached the Trust for help in establishing land use bylaws. They too are experiencing development pressures but have no representation on the Trust.

For example, Byrne noted Piers Island — an island under the jurisdiction of the Salt Spring Trust Committee — now has a larger population than South Pender, which has its own committee.

Salt Spring's population accounts for 40 per cent of the entire population in the Trust area.



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Letters to be sent to: M. Clarkson, Bursaries, Ladies Auxiliary Br. 92 Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Blain Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2P7 by March 31, 1995.



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Neil Armstrong, Chairperson, Bursary Committee,
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Completed application forms must be sent to the President, Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary Society, c/o Lady Minto Hospital, 135 Crofton Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 1T1, not later than Friday, March 31, 1995.

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DFO wants out of harbours

Docking facilities at three harbours in the Gulf Islands are on a list of those whose future is uncertain in the wake of last month's federal budget.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is considering divesting itself of facilities at Retreat Cove on Galiano, Horton Bay on Mayne and Hope Bay on Pender. They are among 820 recreational harbours operated by DFO in Canada.

John McNally, regional director of small craft harbours, said the first

step is to determine if any other government department — from federal through to regional or municipal levels — wants to take over responsibility for the harbours. Community groups are next in line, and if there are no takers, the docks will be offered to the public, he said.

The process will be carried out five years.

None of the harbour facilities on Salt Spring is included because they fall under the jurisdiction of the local harbour authority. Those harbours are self-supporting

through moorage fees, though capital costs remain the responsibility of the federal government.

One of those capital costs for which funding is expected is the dredging of the Ganges boat basin. Shifting the course of Ganges Creek a few years ago has led to heavy silting on the ocean bottom.

McNally said he was looking for funding for the project in the coming year's budget. Testing of the silt has already been carried out to determine how the dredged material should be disposed of.

PAY: Trustees get 27% increase

From Page A1

making it more possible," she said.

Saturna trustee John Money disagreed with the increase. "Basically we're nothing more than volunteers. An honorarium is the last thing we should be increasing."

Mayne trustee Larry Holbrook argued turning down the increase would be the most significant thing trustees could do to show residents that the Trust is concerned about increasing taxes.

Although some trustees suggested reducing the amount of the increase by half, Guntensperger argued that a small increase would be just as politically offensive as the full one. "Since we can't save the whole thing, let's not save anything."

On Friday, seven trustees voted to eliminate the increase. On Saturday, when trustees received final figures predicting a 9.83 per cent tax increase, trustees voted again on the \$28,000 required to increase their honorariums. Again, seven trustees voted against it. Sixteen voted in favour.

An increase for executive committee members, paid on top of their island stipend, is also included in the budget. A \$3,000 annual increase was proposed for each executive committee member but was reduced during budget debate to \$2,000.

Each of the three vice-chairmen will now receive \$17,600 annually and the chairman will receive \$21,500 annually. The increased stipends added \$8,000 to the budget.

BUDGET:

From Page A1

tion was reduced by \$4,000.

Several proposed cuts were scuttled by trustees.

- A bid to reduce contingency funds failed. Several trustees argued against the cut, recalling the 1993 struggle to find money in the budget to pay an unexpected legal bill arising from litigation with MacMillan-Bloedel.

- Delaying election of an additional executive committee member was proposed by Mayne Island trustee Sonja Taiji as a way to cut \$16,000 from the budget. Other trustees disagreed, arguing the additional executive committee member was needed to handle the workload.

- Saving \$3,000 through a 50 per cent cut in staff in-service training was rejected.

- Trustees voted against eliminating a planned \$30,000 increase in the \$62,680 bylaw enforcement budget.

- Eliminating one Trust Council meeting for a saving of approximately \$20,000 was suggested by Gambier trustee Ozzie Sexsmith. But other trustees argued against dropping from three meetings to four without studying all implications. The suggestion was referred to staff for further comment.

In addition to suggesting \$11,000 in budget cuts, Salt Spring Trustee Bob Andrew proposed adding \$70,000 to programs which he hoped would meet needs on Salt Spring. Trustees approved a \$25,000 increase. (See related story.)

When the loss of provincial revenue was included, trustees found they had cut \$41,000 from the budget but added \$49,710.

Saturday morning, trustees again debated the budget but no further cuts were approved despite bids to scuttle the \$28,000 indemnity increase and cut \$25,000 from community planning.

After adopting the budget, trustees wondered how they were going to present the increase to island residents. Taking a positive tack, Hornby trustee George Buvyer noted a proposed increase of 18.78 per cent in December had been reduced to 9.83 per cent.

Other trustees pointed out there had been no increase in 1994-95, so the 9.83 per cent jump was really over two years. South Pender trustee Catherine Milsum asked staff to produce some background figures so trustees would have answers to residents' questions.

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Islands Trust

SALT SPRING ISLAND
LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

APPLICATION TO REMOVE LANDS FROM THE FOREST LAND RESERVE FLR 01-95, FLR 02-95, FLR 03-95, FLR 04-95

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider resolutions regarding four applications that have been made to the Forest Land Commission, to remove lands from the Forest Land Reserve, in accordance with Section 20 of the Forest Land Reserve Act. The lands proposed for removal are:

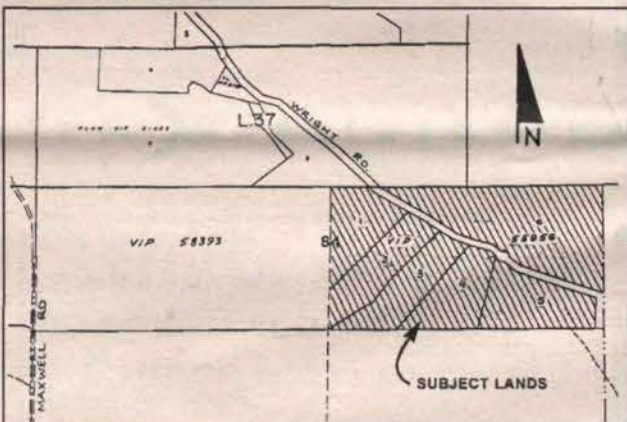
FLR 01-95. Lot 1 (3.75 ha.), Lot 2 (3.55 ha.), and Lot 6 (12.00 ha.), Section 84, South Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP55956.

FLR 02-95. Lot 3 (3.84 ha.), Section 84, South Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP55956.

FLR 03-95. Lot 4 (3.54 ha.), Section 84, South Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP 55956.

FLR 04-95. Lot 5 (3.75 ha.), Section 84, South Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP55956.

The subject properties are zoned Uplands and Forest 2 (UF2) under Salt Spring Island Zoning Bylaw 123. The locations of the subject lands are shown on the following sketch:



The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider a resolution to support the applications for removal on Thursday, March 16, 1995, in Suite 1205, 115 Fulford-Ganges Road (Grace Point Square), Ganges, Salt Spring Island, B.C.

Copies of the applications and any relevant documentation may be inspected at the Ganges office of the Islands Trust, 1206 Grace Point Square, 115 Fulford Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C., between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, from March 8, 1995 up to and including March 16, 1995. Please address any correspondence to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee at the above address.

Gordon McIntosh
Secretary

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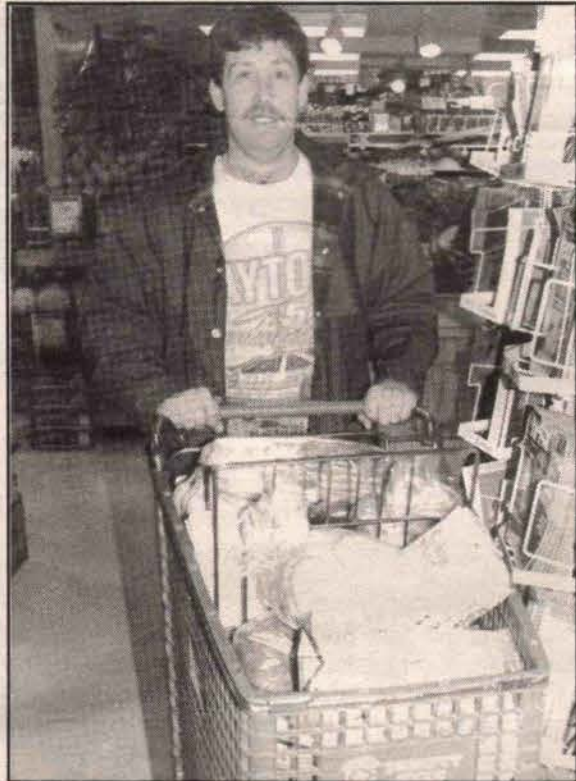
Prices in effect Wednesday, March 15 to Tuesday, March 21, 1995
FRONT PAGE - SALT SPRING STORE ONLY

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NUMBER 8048

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Salt Spring Island Branch

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Prices in effect Wednesday, March 15

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CARNATION Coffee Mate 500 g. 2.48	
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KRAFT, EXCEPT DELUXE Cheese Slices 500 g. 3.38	
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SNACKERY Pancake Mix 1 kg. 1.88	
DARE, SELECTED VAR. Cookies 300 g. 1.68	
ORIGINAL Kitty Litter 10 kg. 3.68	

CRISCO Shortening 454 g. 1.38	
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BICKS, SELECTED VAR. Dill Pickles 1 L. 1.98	
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NABISCO, REG. OR SPOON SIZE Shredded Wheat 600-675 g. 2.68	
SAFFLO Sunflower Oil 1 L. 2.68	
NESCAFE Instant Coffee 150-200 g. 6.68	

JUBILEE Bathroom Tissue 8 roll pkg. 1.68	
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KELLOGGS Rice Krispies 525 g. 2.98	
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DANISH ORCHARD Jam 750 ml. 3.18	
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SKIPPY Peanut Butter 1 kg. 4.28	
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PURITAN Texas Style Chili 425 g. 1.08	
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CAMPBELLS Chunky Soup 540 ml. 1.68	
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DUNCAN HINES Cake Mixes 500-515 g. 1.38	
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JELL-O Pudding Snacks 4s 1.68	
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Ha
St. Patri

CATELLI, SELECTED VAR. Pasta Sauce 700 ml. 1.58	
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SELECTED VARIETIES Catelli Pasta 900 g. 1.48	
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DR. BALLARDS Balanced Diet Dog Food 1.8 kg. 2.68	
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DR. BALLARDS Dog Food 652 g. 1.18	
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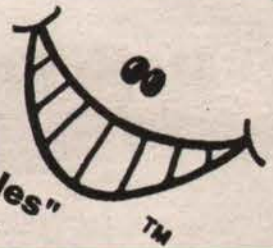
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Seafood

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Raisin Bran 475 g.
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Fresh Whole Trout
Approx. 8-10 oz.
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STUART HOUSE, HEAVY DUTY
Aluminum Foil 18" x 25'
2¹⁸

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Fresh Spring Salmon Steaks 100 g.
1³⁸

GLAD
Tie 'n Toss Garbage Bags 20s
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STUART HOUSE, CLEAR
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98¢

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Fresh Small Scallops 80-100 per pound 100 g.
1⁴⁸

PAMPERS, GIRLS & BOYS
Diapers & Trainers 7 sizes
7⁹⁸

PERT PLUS
Hair Shampoo 250-300 ml.
2⁹⁸

P.E.I., IN THE SHELL
Fresh Mussels 100 g.
58¢

COLGATE
Stand-Up Toothpaste 100-125 ml.
1⁶⁸

OLD TYME
Table Syrup 750 ml.
2¹⁸

AQUA STAR
Cooked Prawns 8 oz. pkg. Peeled & Deveined
7⁹⁸ ea.

MJB
Ground Coffee 300 g.
3³⁸

McCAIN, FROZEN
Orange Juice 355 ml.
98¢

BONED, SKINLESS, THAWED
Halibut Fillets 100 g.
1⁸⁸

Fruit by the Foot or Fruit Snacks 128-153 g.
1⁷⁸

DELNOR, SELECTED VAR.
Frozen Vegetables 1 kg.
2¹⁸

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Happy Patrick's Day!

HIGHLINER, FROZEN
Light Tempura Battered Fish 350 g.
2⁸⁸

Dwarf Rhododendrons
7⁵⁸

PLANTERS, SALTED
Cocktail or Dry Roasted Peanuts 290-300 g.
2¹⁸

COUNTRY CREAM
Ice Cream 1L.
2³⁸

Spray Rose & Alstromaria Bouquets
3⁹⁸

CORINA
Tomato 4/Paste 156 ml.
98¢

ISLAND HARVEST
Multigrain Bread 680 g.
1⁴⁸

ONE GALLON, 3 VAR.
Assorted Shrubs
5⁹⁸

Y & S
Twizzlers Licorice 454 g.
1³⁸

AYLMER
Mushroom or Chicken Soups 284 ml.
58¢

Field Daffodils
1⁶⁸

McCORMICKS
Ruffles 300 g.
1⁸⁸

CHRISTIE
Chips Ahoy, Fudge-O or Oreo 400-450 g.
2¹⁸

4" POT
Perennials
1⁶⁸

ISLAND FARMS
Cottage Cheese 500 g.
1³⁸

MD DOFO
Camembert or Brie Cheese 125 g.
1⁹⁸

6" POT
Hydrangea
8⁹⁸

ASTRO
Dome Yogurt 175 g.
58¢

JOLLYTIME
Yellow Popcorn 907 g.
1⁶⁸

4" POT
Pansies
89¢

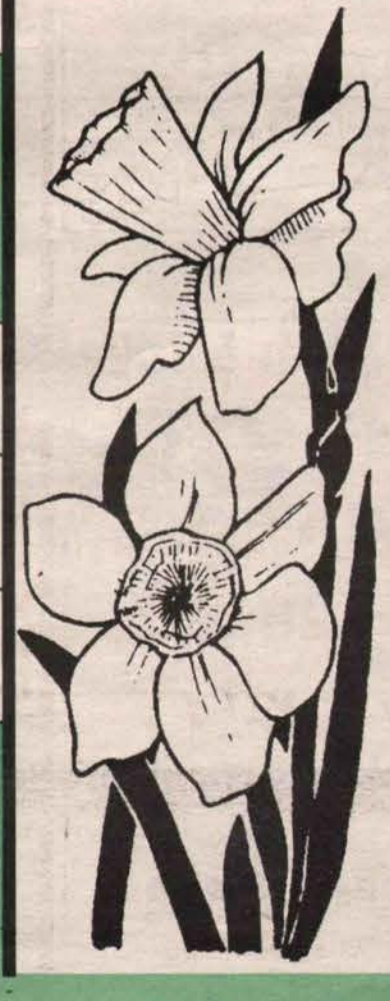
CARRS, SELECTED VAR.
Snack Crackers 125-150 g.
1²⁸

HEINZ
Tomato Juice 1.36 L.
1³⁸

4" POT
Hyacinth
1⁴⁸

6" POT
Gerbra
6⁴⁸

4" POT
Cactus
2⁹⁸



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lb.

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CALIFORNIA
Green Onions
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bunches

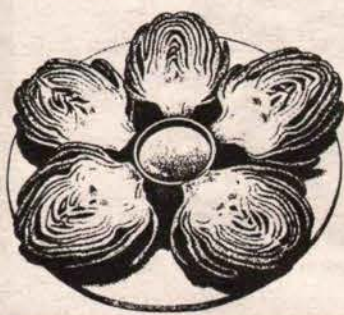


CALIFORNIA
Carrots
68¢

BC HOTHOUSE
Butter Lettuce
68¢

bunch

ea.



CALIFORNIA, SIZE 30
Artichokes
2/98¢

CALIFORNIA, SIZE 75
Organic Lemons
2/98¢



2.16 kg.

CALIFORNIA, SIZE 56, FANCY
Organic Navel Oranges
98¢

lb.

Preparation for Artichokes: Wash artichokes under running water. Pull off lower petals & cut stems to one inch or less. Cut off top quarters of artichoke, snip off tips of petals. Now you are ready to steam. Steam until tender & leaves pull out easily. **To eat:** Pluck off the fleshy ends of leaves & cut out the core. The heart is delicious when dipped in butter.

TEXAS
Grapefruit Juice
1⁹⁸

1 Litre

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88¢

1.94 kg.

lb.

Quality Meats

CUT FROM CANADA
A GRADES BEEF

GRADE A SAVINGS

CUT FROM CANADA
A GRADES BEEF

Boneless Bottom Round Steak
5.03 kg.

2²⁸

lb.

Sirloin Tip or Top Round Roast
5.91 kg.

2⁶⁸

lb.

FRESH
Pork Side Spareribs
Breast bone removed. 3.92 kg.

1⁷⁸

lb.

FRESH, ISLAND GROWN
Boneless Pork Butt Roast
Shoulder. 3.48 kg.

1⁵⁸

lb.

CUT FROM CANADA A GRADES
Peppered Eye of Round Steak
7.67 kg.

3⁴⁸

lb.

CUT FROM THE HIP
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5.91 kg. *When only the best will do!*

2⁶⁸

lb.

DEVON
Sliced Cooked Ham
175 g. pkg.

98¢

MAPLE LEAF, PORK SHOULDER
Boneless Smoked Picnic
5.91 kg.

2⁶⁸

lb.

MAPLE LEAF, REG. OR BEEF
Skinless Wieners
450 g. pkg.

2⁴⁸



MAPLE LEAF, 3 VAR.
Sliced Side Bacon
500 g. pkg.

2⁴⁸

MAPLE LEAF, REG. OR DOUBLE SMOKED
Country Kitchen Boneless Ham
9.88 kg.

4⁴⁸

lb.

MAPLE LEAF, 5 VAR.
Deli Style Meats
125 g. pkg.

1⁸⁸

MAPLE LEAF
Ham Steaks
175 g. pkg.

2²⁸

MAPLE LEAF, REG. OR ALL BEEF
Sliced Bologna
375 g. pkg.

1⁹⁸



FRESH, ALL SIZE PKGS.
Chicken Drumsticks
2.16 kg.

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FRESH, ALL SIZE PKGS.
Chicken Thighs
3.48 kg.

1⁵⁸

BONELESS & SKINLESS
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6.13 kg. *Slice or dice for stir fry!*

2⁷⁸

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2⁹⁸

6.57 kg.

lb.

Workshop participants call for basic facility with pool, ice rink

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

A pool, an ice rink and a curling rink are a top priority for several Salt Spring Islanders.

That message came out loud and clear last Tuesday evening at an Official Community Plan (OCP) workshop into parks and recreation on Salt Spring. A basic recreational facility offering those amenities was far and away the first choice of workshop participants.

Several of the other issues raised related back to provision of a recreation centre. Workshop participants voted on the most important "hopes" raised during earlier workshop discussion.

The most votes went to support building a low-end recreational facility. High on the list at fifth place was creative financing such as amenity zoning for a recreation facility; sixth was provision in the OCP for services like water and sewer needed to support a recreation centre; eighth was setting aside property within a year which would be used for a recreation centre.

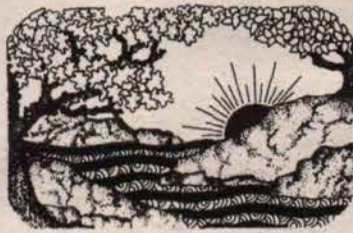
But residents weren't expecting to dig out their bathing suits, ice skates or curling brooms any time soon. "My fear is that my nine and 10-year-old boys will grow up and leave home before that (building a recreation centre) is accomplished," one speaker commented.

Another speaker pointed out those who are unable to do violent exercise can still remain physically active by swimming. As people age, they may be unable to jog or do aerobics but they can still swim. "It's a lifesaving thing. We need exercise to keep us physically alive," she said.

Residents suggested a functional but low-end facility, which would contain only a pool and ice surface.

But regional director Dietrich Luth maintained that even a low-level facility would be expensive while another speaker asked if those advocating a recreation centre had considered the cost. Workshop participants agreed such a project would have to pass a referendum.

Parks and Recreation Commission chairwoman Kellie Booth wondered if amenity zoning might provide a way to finance



OCP REVIEW

construction and/or operating costs for such a facility. Amenity zoning could also finance trail upgrades, she said.

For some workshop participants, trails and natural park land appeared to be in competition with development of a recreation centre or playing fields. Several speakers feared emphasis on one aspect of recreation would shortchange the others.

Yet hikers and bikers garnered almost as much support as swimmers and skaters. The second priority for workshop participants was to preserve 15 per cent of the land on the island in its natural state, an idea suggested by Briony Penn.

Third was development of safe cycling paths so, as Pat Byrne put it, "an aged party like myself can ride a bike to downtown without getting killed." One resident suggested a network of trails linking Vesuvius, Ganges and Fernwood.

Fourth on the list of priorities was safe walking paths and trails. An advocate of equestrian trails on the island offered free horse manure to anyone willing to back the idea.

Another popular priority, placing seventh on the list, was Sue Hiscocks' suggestion that Walker Hook be acquired and preserved as a park.

She also advocated more access for island residents to lakes and beaches.

Not enough importance is attached to providing recreational facilities for young people, one resident remarked.

Others wondered if the wishes they expressed at the meeting would lead to long-term planning for recreation facilities or if the Islands Trust would be able to enforce regulations to protect recreational areas.

More baseball parks, a south-end outdoor ice rink, a boat ramp on the west side of the island, mountain

biking trails, a skateboard park and a lakefront community park were among the recreational amenities suggested at the meeting.

But one speaker focused on past projects instead of new ventures. Parks and Recreation administrator Tony Hume thought some attention should be paid to completing facilities already under way.

"My hope is that there be a completion of unfinished projects," he said.

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Immigration common thread for IODE, League—speaker

Immigration was a big issue for Canada at the turn of the century, just as it is today.

But it was immigration that also served to bring together the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire (IODE) and the Navy League of Canada, and subsequently split them apart.

The early days of those two organizations were the main focus of a talk given Saturday at Ganges by transportation historian Kenneth Mackenzie of Salt Spring.

Mackenzie, who is writing a history of the Navy League of Canada, told the IODE's zone meeting that the organizations came together over immigration after the federal government sought to relinquish responsibility for it.

Immigration policy, he explained, was turned over to the Canadian railways "and anyone else who wanted to relieve the government of the time and expense."

The Navy League decided to help bring destitute Royal Navy personnel and their families to Canada. But it allied itself with the British Dominion Emigration

Society, an organization that Mackenzie said could be charitably described as "ruthless."

It turned out that its mission in finding emigrants to go to Canada was to "rid British slums of undesirable elements," the speaker said.

It was revealed in the 1928 annual report of the society that "a significant part of its arrangement with the Navy League" was the involvement of the IODE. That organization would provide the British emigrants with assistance once they arrived in Canada.

"But nobody thought to tell the IODE of this arrangement."

The IODE's Charlotte Whitton, who later became mayor of Ottawa, was satisfied after calling Navy League executives "on the carpet."

However, Mackenzie continued, organization was never a strong point of the league (or in the Canadian navy, for that matter, said the ex-naval officer). Administrative problems led to the IODE's national executive council cancelling its affiliation with the Navy League and its immigration scheme "died stillborn."

"The IODE went on to bigger

and better things with regard to immigration to Canada," he said, and the two organizations gradually drifted apart.

Today, Mackenzie told his audience of local and visiting IODE members, Canada continues to need immigration to maintain its population levels. But instead of looking to Britain as it did in the early years of this century, it must now look elsewhere.

He warned that the United States and Canada faced difficulties ahead with immigration pressures from refugees.

Mackenzie was critical of Canadian historians, who he claimed were "obsessed with the evolution of Canadian autonomy and identity," ignoring the "imperial experience" which he said lies at the centre of 19th-century Canadian history.

He spoke highly of the British Commonwealth of Nations, membership in which is still valuable in spite of "indiscretions" by Britain's Royal Family.

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Island couple credit their beliefs for strong 50-year relationship

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

When Bob Collings married Shirley, there was no doubt they'd celebrate many anniversaries together.

Reaching their 50th anniversary, as they did this week, was just a matter of time.

"We just never gave a thought to anything else. We both went into marriage with the thought of spending the rest of our lives together," Bob Collings explained.

Shirley Collings feels that remembering their marriage vows helped both to work through the tough times which come with every marriage. "I don't think I've ever known a day when Bob hasn't told me he loves me — it's mutual."

They also credit their shared Christian beliefs and values with helping keep their relationship strong. Appropriately, they met in a church. Bob Collings, whose father was a minister in Vancouver, was playing his violin with a church music group when he noticed his future bride among the congregation.

It was 1942. He was 21, had recently joined the air force and had been posted to Edmonton for training. She was 17 and still in high school.

Bob Collings discovered he already knew the girl's brother. "That gave me an in." His training lasted for almost a year. "That gave me sufficient time to ingratiate myself."

By the time he was posted overseas in the fall of 1943, he knew he wanted to spend his life with her. "I gave Shirley a ring on my embarkation leave," he said.

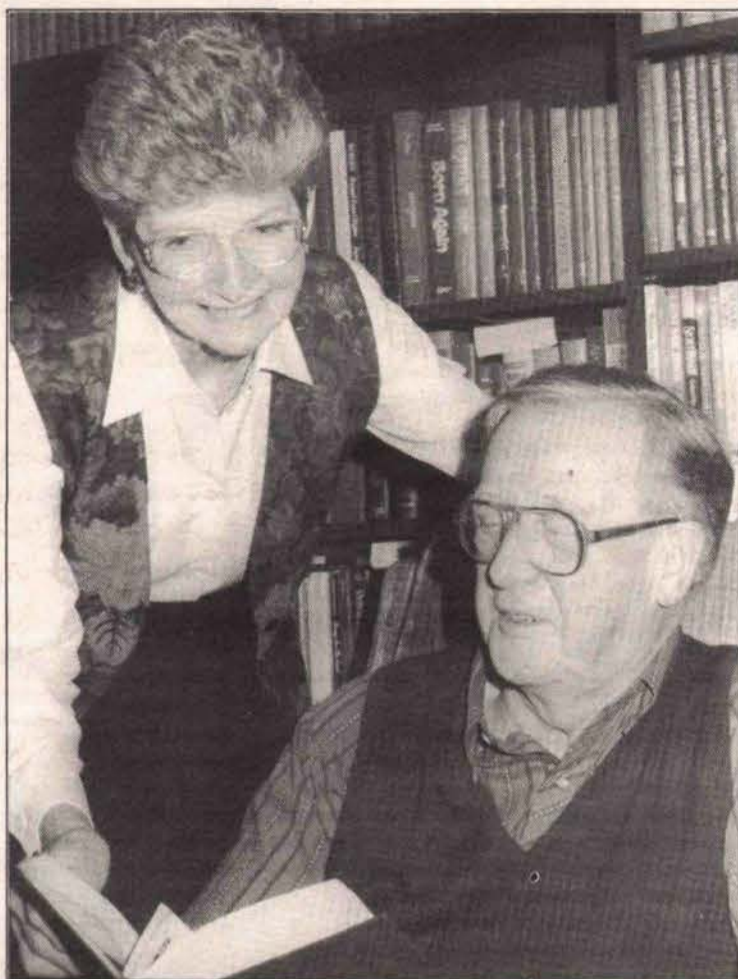
For the next 18 months, the couple corresponded. When the war in Europe wound down early in 1945, Bob Collings was sent back to Vancouver and he was formally discharged on Valentine's Day. The wedding took place exactly one month later in Edmonton.

Their eldest daughter, Joan, was born a year later. Four more daughters, Marilyn, Betty, Bev and Bobbi, were born by the Collings' 10th anniversary. Six years later their son Warren was born.

"She (Shirley) didn't work after she got married. She just raised six children," Bob joked.

"Those were the days you could do it," his wife remarked. She feels it is unfortunate that economic conditions force many mothers to put their children in daycare and return to work. "They miss so much of the delights of childhood."

There were challenges. Bob Collings remembers using apple crates for cupboards; putting down \$500 on a house and then paying



MEMORIES: A book on the Second World War sits memories for Shirley and Bob Collings.

Photo by Valorie Lennox

\$40 a month on a tiny home which was soon full of children. Making the house payments while raising six children on one income was often difficult.

They lived in Vancouver until 1961 and considered returning to the city when Bob Collings retired in 1986. But the city had changed

dramatically in the intervening years, so they decided instead to retire on Salt Spring.

Bob Collings said he has never taken his relationship for granted. "Every morning I wake up and think how lucky I am to have found the woman I want to spend the rest of my life with."



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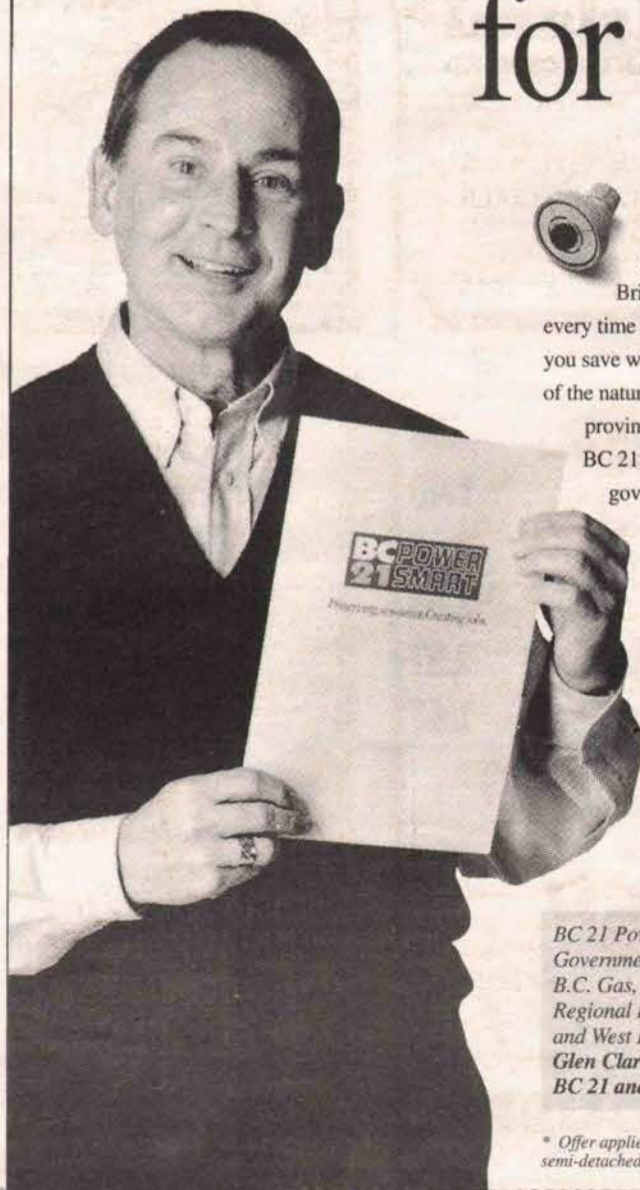
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Music of the Celts

Black Velvet Band brings Celtic airs to local audiences

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Celtic airs are irresistible. Just ask Denise McCann, a self-confessed musical "groupie" for former Salt Spring Celtic band, Spanner in the Works. At many of the band's performances, a rollicking folk tune would prompt McCann to pick up a pair of spoons and tap an accompanying rhythm.

Secretly, she hoped to be invited to join the band. "I have always wanted to play this music." She studied a book of Irish ballads and folk songs, trying to learn all the songs.

Similarly, Jo Lundstrom was another Spanner in the Works fan, although she refrained from accompanying the band's performances. A singer with Tuned Air and Women of Note, she began singing Celtic music last spring at the Waterside Bistro.

Her singing partner was Harry Warner, a singer and banjo player for Spanner in the Works. A trace of brogue still clings to Warner's speech and tells of his Irish beginnings.

Both Lundstrom and Warner were also members of a neighbourhood song circle, which met Sunday nights. When Spanner in the Works began winding down last spring, Lundstrom and Warner joined up for a busking gig at B.C. Ferries terminals last August.

Meanwhile, through the shifts which are common to musicians, a new Celtic band was being formed from the nucleus of Spanner in the Works. That has evolved into the Black Velvet Band.

"I more or less recruited myself into it," McCann says. She and husband Randy Bachmann, a well-known Canadian recording artist, are in the process of moving their family to Salt Spring. They still live part-time in Vancouver but travel to the island for the summer and on weekends. Eventually they want to live on Salt Spring full-time.

McCann's musical background is so extensive that had she not recruited herself, the other band members might well have rushed to draft her talents.

She has been a professional musician throughout her adult life and a singer since childhood, when she performed in church choirs.

In Vancouver, she performed with a series of bands. Often she formed the band and attempted to establish a unique image for them. At McCann's direction, the male members of Denise McCann and the Dead Marines performed in mock uniforms and painted their faces.

McCann was also the original singer for the rock band Headpins, which built a significant following. She recalls the music was wonderful but the performance volume was staggering. "I went deaf every night."

She was unable to talk during the day following a performance and tried to protect her hearing by wearing an earplug in one ear. As a performer, she could not wear earplugs in both ears without jeopardizing the music.

After a year she learned she was in danger of damaging her vocal cords and left the band. "It wasn't really worth the price I was pay-

ing." As part of the Black Velvet Band she sings — although not at ear-shattering volume — plays mandolin, guitar, spoons and dulcimer.

Lundstrom is another lifelong musician. She started voice lessons when she was three years old and sang in both secular and church choirs. She plays a wide variety of musical instruments, including accordion, violin, penny whistle, spoons, mandolin and bodhran.

"She just picks up things and starts playing. I'm amazed," McCann remarked.

All three band members play the bodhran, a Celtic drum. McCann points out the bodhran is "tuned" by the amount of moisture in the drum's skin. At folk music festivals, it is common to see bodhran players using spray bottles and hair dryers to adjust the sound of their drums.

Warner sings and plays guitar and banjo. A former college professor, he came to Salt Spring four and a half years ago after falling in love with the place sight unseen.

He has played guitar since he was 30 and used to sing "here and there." He first played in a Celtic band when he joined with friends to play at the old Cheshire Cat in Ganges in 1992. That group evolved into Spanner in the Works.

The Black Velvet Band got its name when McCann suggested



CELTIC AIRS: Music from the auld sod comes to Salt Spring via the talented trio of the Black Velvet Band. Band members are Harry

Warner, left, Jo Lundstrom, centre, and Denise McCann.

Photo by Valorie Lennox

it after reading the title on a list of Irish folk songs.

"We were just joking around and it stuck," Lundstrom remarked.

Naming a band is often a last-minute challenge. "I've been in bands where we threw the I-Ching for a name," McCann recalled.

Her suggestion gave the new band a name and a signature tune: "Her eyes they shone like diamonds You'd think she was queen of the land And her hair hung over her shoulders Tied up with a black velvet band."

Rendered in Warner's rich brogue with back-up by Lundstrom and McCann, the song either opens or winds up every Black Velvet Band performance.

For those "groupies" of Celtic music seeking a St. Patrick's Day dose, the Black Velvet Band will be

performing at the Tides Inn Friday starting at 7 p.m. In addition to Irish musical fare, the restaurant plans to

present a special St. Patrick's Day menu of Irish favourites as well as their regular menu.

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Paul Bryans' influences range from the Charlottes to Nigeria

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

Paul Bryans is a painter, first and foremost.

Any of the myriad other jobs he has held — library clerk, cook, gardener, carpenter's helper — have helped support himself and his family while he pursued his passion for art.

"I've just got this incredible drive to paint and paint and paint," he says, gesturing to a few of his works on display in Alfresco's Cafe. Those earlier works illustrate his bold, dramatic style and striking colour combinations.

Starting Friday, his more recent works will be on display in the Grace Point Square cafe until the end of the month. A reception will be held Friday evening and Bryans will be demonstrating his techniques Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The show is the second for Bryans on the island. He held his first show late last September shortly after he, his wife Susannah and their two children moved to Salt Spring.

Moving to the island had been a goal for the previous three years. "Every time we came to Salt Spring, it felt like we were home," Bryans noted. The opportunity came when long-time friend Matt Steffich, who co-owns Thunderbird Gallery, offered Bryans a job.

Susannah found a job at Island Savings Credit Union. "We had work before we came here. Just finding a place to live was the difficult thing," Bryans remarked. Now settled into a home in Vesuvius Bay, Bryans is finding Salt Spring an endless source of painting inspiration.

"You just have to turn around to find something to paint," he noted.

Many of his works are abstracts. He also creates interpretative works which are stylized impressions of west coast scenes.

"I paint mostly abstract, expressionist painting but I paint everything else as well. I paint every day — every single day."

Depending on his work schedule, he estimates he spends between four and 16 hours a day working on his art. "I do lots that are experimental and I toss a lot away," he said. Water, rocks, stormy seas, light and movement are often elements in his abstract works.

Influences on his art include Tom Thomson from the Group of Seven, Emily Carr and contemporary artists Brian Moreau and Robin Lambert, with whom he worked while living in Victoria. "They studied my technique, I studied their technique," he summarized.

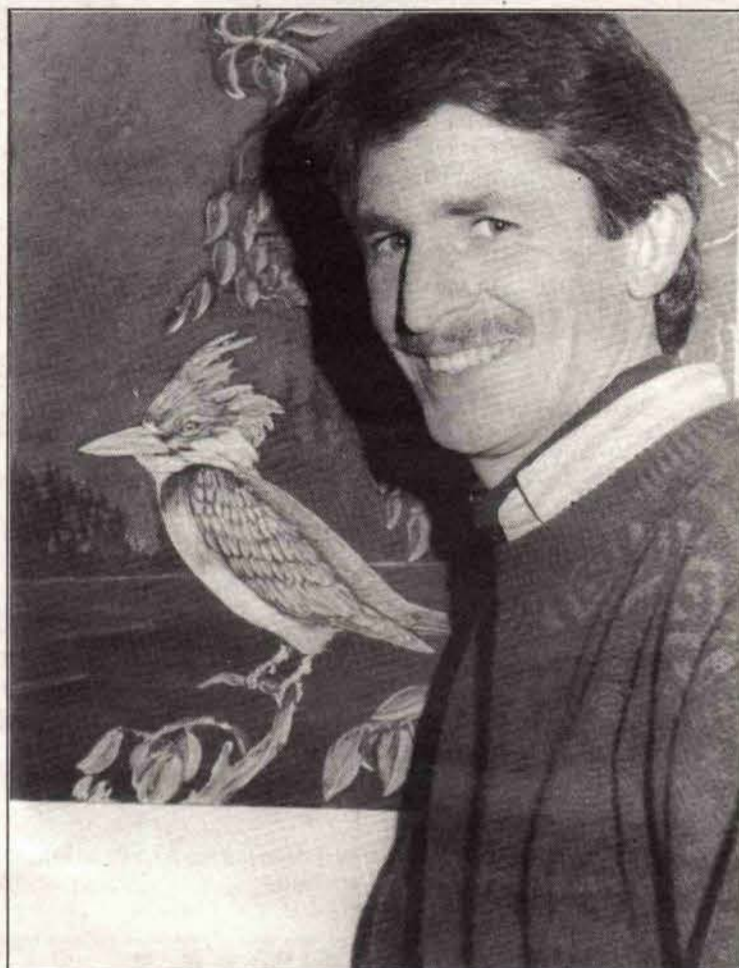
Childhood influences ranged from the west coast to the tropics. Bryans grew up in the Queen Charlotte Islands and remembers starting to paint when he was nine years old. When he was 11, the family moved to Nigeria where they stayed for the next five years.

After returning to Canada, Bryans earned a diploma in fine arts from Okanagan College. He is continuing to take courses, hoping to complete a degree in fine arts and move into teaching.

His father and grandparents were teachers, he noted, so he expects to eventually merge his art with a teaching career.

Recognition for his work is growing. He recently sold 15 paintings in one year, an accomplishment which encouraged him to continue focusing on his work. "People like what I do, that's why I continue."

Such encouragement is important for an artist, since trying to



BOLD STYLE: Artist Paul Bryans with one of his creations, illustrating his bold, semi-realistic style.

Photo by Valorie Lennox

build an artistic career can be an uphill battle. "No one thanks you for being an artist. They wonder what your day job is," Bryans said.

On Salt Spring, there is more support for the arts in general.

Bryans has also discovered many people on the island are willing to work together to create a special lifestyle. "We find this community a very supportive, very caring place."

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ENTERTAINMENT

This week at the Cinema

THE BRADY BUNCH: Anyone who has grown up with the long-running sitcom or has watched the reruns on late-night television will get most of the points made by this latest film-from-television movie. If you weren't around to see what clothes people really did wear in the 1970s, how people were fixated with gadgets and how plastic life became, the movie is a good reality-check. The language, the attitudes and the decor will raise more than a knowing chuckle even if the plot and the circumstances of the remake are implausible. In this genre it's the familiarity — and the thankfulness that the age is past — that is irresistible. Mature, Friday to Wednesday, 7 p.m. Saturday matinee, 2 p.m., Tuesday matinee 2 p.m.

BOYS IN THE SIDE: Whoopi Goldberg, Mary-Louise Parker and Drew Barrymore star in this travelling-across-the-country, all-women's flic in the vein of *Thelma and Louise*. Goldberg plays a New York lesbian club singer who is travelling with a heterosexual real estate agent who has AIDS (Parker) and an abused, pot-smoking drug-dealer's moll, played by Barrymore. They talk and they laugh and they learn as they drive through urban and rural America. 14 years, some very coarse language, occasional violence, nudity and suggestive scenes. Friday to Wednesday, 9 p.m., Tuesday matinee, 4 p.m.

Island Video Hits

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Natural Born Killers(1) | 6. Timecop(3) |
| 2. Exotica(-) | 7. Princess Caraboo(5) |
| 3. Milk Money(-) | 8. It Could Happen To You(-) |
| 4. Lion King(2) | 9. Summer House(-) |
| 5. Clear and Present Danger ... (6) | 10. Barcelona(8) |

On Tap at the Pubs

MOBY'SKen Hamm and Doug Cox, Mar. 17
.....Salt Swing'n Dixie, Mar. 19, 7 p.m.

VESUVIUS INN, Barley Bros. Open Stage, Mar. 16
.....Celtic Heart, Mar. 17, 5 p.m. with Irish fare

HARBOUR HOUSE HOTEL (Pub) Basics, Mar. 17, 18

Community TV Schedule

Mar. 16, 5:30 p.m.Islands Trust public hearing
Mar. 16, 8:30 p.m.Islands Trust meeting
Mar. 18, 3 p.m.Keep Fit
Mar. 18, 3:30 p.m.Storytime
Mar. 18, 3:45 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 17
Mar. 18, 5 p.m.Paul Marciano's Interviews with
.....Famous Unknowns
Mar. 21, 11 a.m.Keep Fit
Mar. 21, 11:30 a.m.Storytime
Mar. 21, 11:45 a.m.Islands Trust workshop 18

Foundation names scholars

Two musicians have been chosen by the Johann Strauss Foundation to study in Austria this summer. The foundation is a Salt Spring-based charity which raises money each year from a charity ball to send music students to Austria.

Since 1987 the foundation has awarded 16 scholarships worth \$60,000. This year the foundation has chosen to help two classical vocalists.

Aviva Lacterman is a Vancouver-born soprano who has pursued mostly private voice study in Canada and France. In 1992 she won a "most promising young vocalist" award in a competition in Warsaw. In 1993 she was a semi-finalist in the International Belvedere competition in Vienna. This summer, with the help of the Johann Strauss Foundation scholarship, she will attend master classes at the Mozarteum in Salzburg.

Susan Platts is a Victoria-resident mezzo-soprano studying with Alexandra Browning at the voice department of the University of Victoria. In 1994 she placed first at the senior voice competition at the B.C. Festival of the Arts and later studied at the Mozarteum in Salzburg and in London. A Johann Strauss Foundation scholarship will enable Platts to study at the

Mozarteum in Salzburg and to take private voice lessons in Vienna.

Foundation chairman Joseph Kandler said both applicants showed a high degree of professionalism already in their singing and were also both familiar with living and studying in a foreign country. These two aspects gave them an edge over seven other applicants for scholarships.

Islanders will have a chance to see both vocalists at the annual tea dance in Victoria April 9. Sponsored by the foundation, the event offers a chance "to enjoy fine music and dance with a chari-

table purpose," Kandler said.

The Leighton Noble Orchestra plays music to "suit every taste" and the limited number of tickets, about 150, keeps the event down to a sociable number.

"It's a very nice atmosphere. It's a very civilized atmosphere. The Crystal Ballroom (in the Empress Hotel) is a gorgeous place to have it," Kandler said. "You don't have to be a skilled dancer and you don't have to dance every dance."

Islanders interested in the tea dance should phone Melitta Kandler at 537-2559 for more information.

Telethon musicians have local connection

Timmy's Telethon will have some Salt Spring connections this weekend.

Former islanders Kathy Roland and Gene Groomes are among the musicians performing for the event. Their bands will perform at the Royal Theatre in Victoria, with a live broadcast on BCTV.

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On stage at Rodrigo's

Lisa's Beast is the name of this group, which performed at a recent open stage at Rodrigo's Restaurant in Fulford Harbour. Singing are Sam Mitchell, left, and Lisa

Unrau. Josh Schwartzentruber is the third member of the group. The open stage is held every Friday evening at 8 p.m.

Photo by Valerie Lennox

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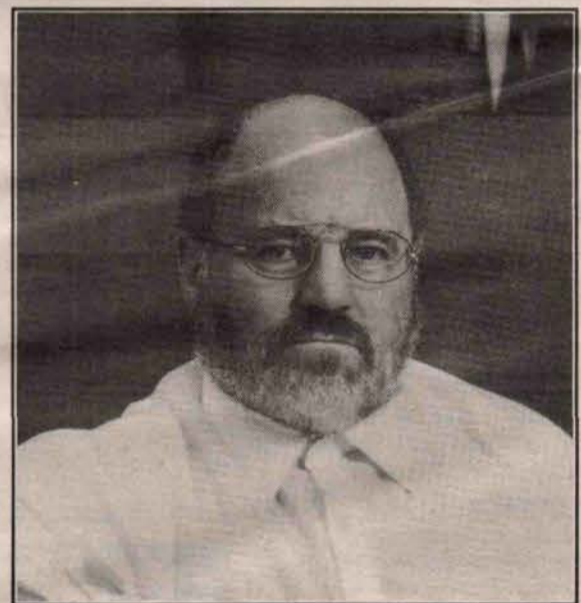
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Radar trap planned at school as students to race dragsters

By NEILL ARMITAGE
Counsellor Coordinator

Kelly Knister's students in Technology 9 will be turning the hallways in the new school and the old gym into drag strips Thursday and Friday when they test out the miniature dragsters they have been building. These "cars" are powered by carbon dioxide capsules, and the students' main objective is to modify them to get the best speed possible.

The RCMP will be bringing their radar along on Friday to get an accurate reading of these "speeders." Parents, these trials will be held from 9:15 to 10:15 and from 11:20 to 12:20 if you'd care to drop in and cheer on your favourite.

Parents of students in Jean Sisson's class will want to make special note of the date of April 27. On that day, Jean is taking her class to observe the law courts in Vancouver and to see two features at the IMAX Theatre. One is a 3-D film entitled Into The Deep. There are only five theatres in the world that are capable of showing 3-D movies like this. Your children are in for quite an experience.

Jack Barclay's students are winding up debates on science issues such as euthanasia and the use of drugs in sports. Jack's students are also studying many first aid skills. Right now they are focusing on proper CPR on infants. Many of the students are bringing in dolls to practise on, but the class could use more dolls if you have any that you could donate. Woolen blankets

INSIDE GISS

that could be used for these first aid courses are also needed. Call Jack if you can help out. (537-0777)

Doug Bambrough's English students are beginning a study of lyrical poetry. All students will be arriving home with a set of lyrics that they are expected to commit to memory.

A new computer program called Plato has just been installed on the school's computer network. It is meant to offer learning assistance and program enrichment primarily for Grades 9 and 10, but it may also be useful at the senior levels. This Friday, we are having a training session for staff.

The Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary is offering a new \$500 bursary. To be eligible, students must have served as a junior volunteer. Application forms can be obtained from Terry Simard, coordinator of volunteer services at Lady Minto. Deadline for applications is March 31.

Parents of senior students, you may want to remind your children to review the scholarships that are listed in the back of the local scholarship book that went home with the last report card. Several, like the one offered by the Friends of Music Society, have a deadline that is fast approaching.

Students who wish to apply for

a three-month French immersion exchange program to Quebec should submit applications to Nancy Macdonald now. All expenses (except pocket money) are covered in this program. Students who are presently in Grade 9 or 10 French immersion are eligible.

We are still in the process of sorting out the new graduation requirements of the ministry and the courses that will satisfy those requirements. During the week of March 27-31 we will be meeting with parents from all grade levels to review the course selections. Next week, I will provide the details of times and places for the meetings with the parents of the students in each grade.

Parent alert! Midterm reports are being mailed home this week. Do we have your current address?

Dr. Richard P. Anderson
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New Landfill Restrictions

April 3, 1995

Effective April 3, 1995, the following materials will be restricted from landfilling at the Hartland Landfill:

- Scrap Metals
- Aggregate
- Asphalt Paving
- Clean Soil
- Concrete
- Rubble

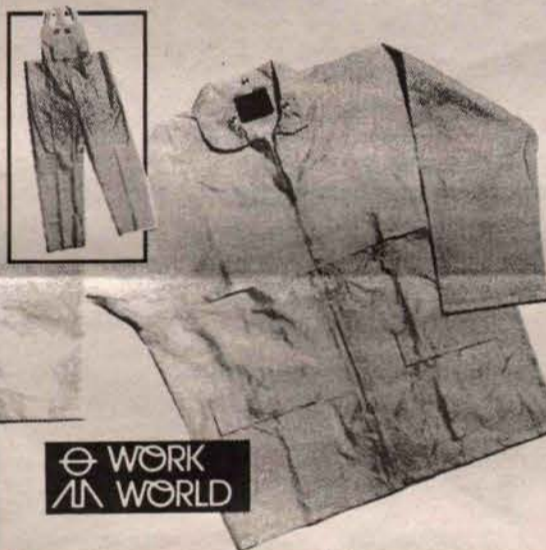
The restrictions apply to only those items or materials which are recyclable "as is" and do not require extensive effort to separate from other materials.

There are many locations throughout the region that accept these materials for reuse or recycling. Please refer to your CRD Recycling Directory for locations of alternate disposal facilities or call the CRD Hotline for more information.



CRD Hotline 360-3030

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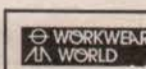
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Farmers looking for help in fight against tansy ragwort

Noxious weed control is high on the agenda of the Salt Spring Farmers' Institute this year.

Spokesman Chris Schmah said this week that farmers are on the lookout for tansy ragwort, or senecio jacobaea, a poisonous plant that has already invaded pastureland elsewhere in B.C.

Native to the British Isles, tansy ragwort is a biennial plant in the sunflower family. It grows from one to four feet high and has green stalkless leaves that are deeply cut into irregular segments, giving it a ragged appearance.

Bright yellow flowers, similar to daisies, appear from July through September, and produce large numbers of seeds. One plant can produce more than 150,000 seeds, which can lie dormant for as long as 20 years.

Schmah said the plant has been sighted on the roadside in about 10 different places on Salt Spring. Areas in which the plant has been seen are no more than about 10 feet square, he said. The institute plans to record sightings and physically remove the plants.

Schmah ruled out both pesticide and parasite control of the plant, saying it would be more cost-effective to use "direct action."

Tansy ragwort can reduce forage to grazing animals by as much as 50 per cent, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. As well, the plant can cause a liver dysfunction and sometimes death. Cattle and horses are the most seriously affected, followed by goats.

Most poisonings of cattle and horses are caused by eating small amounts over an extended period, a ministry document warns.

Controlling tansy ragwort can be accomplished by not letting the plants go to seed and by maintaining a healthy forage stand.

Local farmers are getting some assistance in controlling the weed from the Ministry of Highways. The ministry says it has had good results from the use of particular types of moth and flea beetle for limiting spread of



Common ragwort, or stinking Willy

the plant on roadsides on Vancouver Island.

But in a letter to the Farmers' Institute, the ministry notes hand-pulling stands of mature weeds will enhance long-term control. While the ministry does not have the resources to pull the weeds, mowing highways rights-of-way is scheduled to take place before the plants produce seed.

Schmah said more than half a dozen other non-native weeds, such as burdock, knapweed and tarweed, are gaining a foothold

here and should be controlled. But tansy ragwort, he said, is the worst.

He encourages islanders who have seen tansy ragwort to call the institute at 537-2849 and leave a message describing the location. Farmers' Institute members plan to go out and remove the plants before they go to seed.

"We'll put the muscle to them this year," Schmah said.

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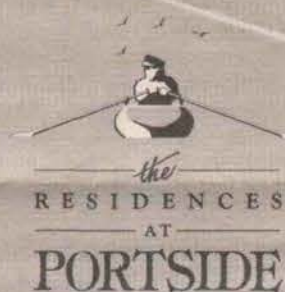
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Hummingbirds, swallows sighted as March roars in

March's lion-like weather has not stood in the way of the arrival of hummingbirds and swallows.

Alice Bundock of Mount Baker Crescent was the first of several callers to the Driftwood this week with reports of hummingbird sightings. She spotted the bird on Friday.

A Maliview Drive resident reported seeing the first swallow of the season at 8 a.m. Saturday.

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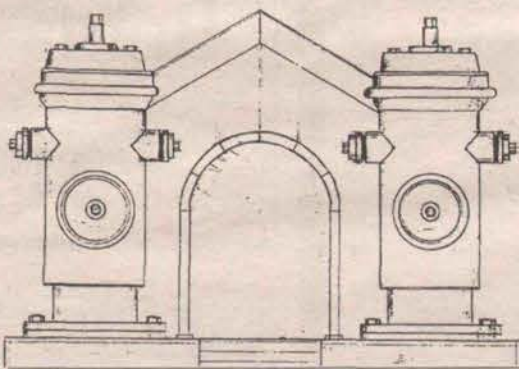
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RIBBIT: Pacific tree frog is one of three frog species found on the islands. Photo by Jonathan Grant

Pacific tree frogs set to begin spring chorus

By LINDA CANNON
Driftwood Contributor

Perhaps by the time this column appears more signs of spring will appear as well. As I write this, though, the trees are struggling against the wind, and the sky is loaded with storm clouds – hardly a harbinger of spring.

During the evenings, however, you may have heard the Pacific tree frogs starting to sing, or caught a glimpse of them with your car headlights as they dash madly across our island roads. The frog prom is about to begin, and they're all frantically headed for the water – and a spring romance.

By April, the courting's done, the eggs are laid, and by July, the young ones will leave their watery home to spend most of their lives in shrubs and trees – hence the name.

There are three frog species native to this region, but it's the Pacific tree frog that holds the record for the loudest singing. Like most islanders, I love to hear their spring chorus and look forward to it every year.

It's sad to note that frog species all over the planet are in decline and no one really knows why. Our species is the suspected culprit, of course, but it's no longer thought that pesticides, chemicals, and habitat destruction are just to blame.

R C M P REPORT

Recent studies suggest that the thinning ozone layer is exposing frog eggs to ultraviolet radiation, and they just can't take it. Oddly enough, the eggs of our Pacific tree frogs seem to have a superior ability to repair UV-damaged DNA, and their numbers remain strong.

So listen and enjoy this year's froggy concert, and remember how lucky we are to have them performing for us once again.

P.S. The hummingbirds are on their way back home – put out those feeders!

Seniors mark St. Patrick's Day Friday

Salt Spring seniors will celebrate St. Patrick's Day Friday.

Entertainment, including live music and singing, will be offered along with refreshments at Seniors for Seniors in Ganges between 2 and 4 p.m.

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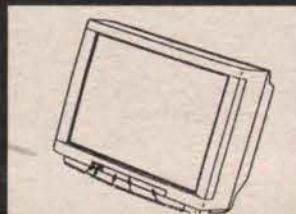
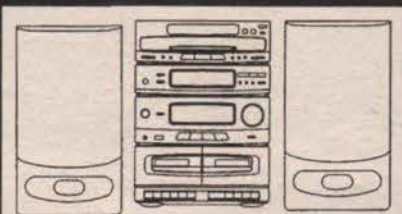
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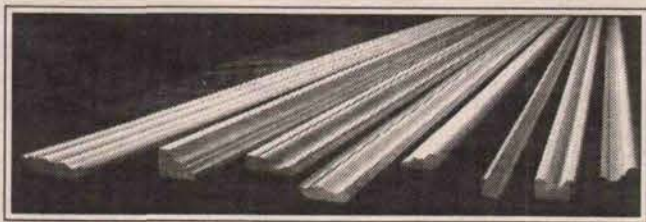
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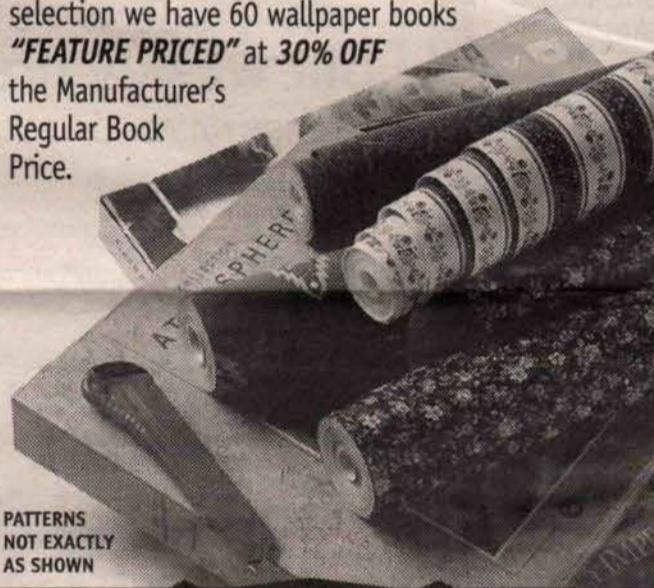
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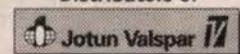
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