

Driftwood

Wednesday, January 11, 1995 Vol. 36, No. 2

Your Community Newspaper

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



What's cooking?

Gulf Islands Secondary School's new cooking class dishes up veal cutlets and hamburgers to hungry students Monday. The kitchen and cafeteria opened last week to

generous praise from staff and students. Story, more photos—Page A24.

Photo by Tony Richards

Ganges sewer upgrade project gets \$421,000 from infrastructure program

Two-thirds of the cost of a Ganges sewer system upgrade will be covered by a federal-provincial cost-sharing program.

The grant was announced Thursday when federal Revenue Minister David Anderson held a news conference in Victoria. The Ganges sewer allocation of \$421,000 was one of several grants made under the Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Works Program, most of which will upgrade sewer and water systems.

"It's what we asked for. Very few of the projects have received what they've asked for," said Tom Toynbee, chairman of the Ganges Sewer Local Services Committee. "It's a very, very big help — an enormous help — to us."

Total cost of the upgrade will be

\$632,000. The remaining \$211,000 will be financed by sewer users through taxes and user fees.

The upgrade will increase the capacity of the plant to 140,000 gallons per day from the present 90,000. Last spring the sewer committee applied to the provincial Ministry of Environment for a permit to allow the upgrade. Toynbee hopes the permit will be granted within the next few months.

Once it is approved, design work can start. Toynbee predicts work on the plant will start next fall.

The plant is already at capacity and occasionally exceeds 90,000 gallons per day, the flow permitted under the Ministry of Environment permit. However, Toynbee said, the plant can actual-

ly handle occasional flows above the permit level.

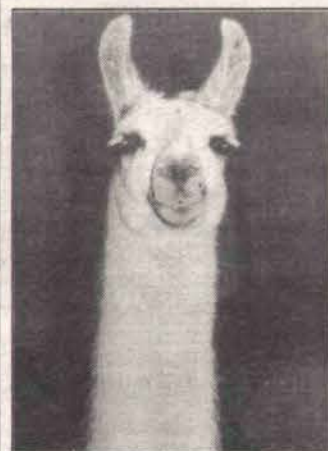
The most serious problems arise in July and August, when the many visitors on the island place increased demand on the plant. Toynbee said the summer demand demonstrates the need to expand the plant to meet future population growth on Salt Spring.

"The timing of this looks quite good," he remarked.

Plant flows can also rise above 90,000 gallons per day in the winter during heavy rainfalls, but Toynbee said those are a less serious problem since the additional water dilutes the sewage.

The Ganges system was recently judged the best of 15 plants on the coast by the Save Georgia Strait Alliance, an environmental group based in Nanaimo.

INSIDE



MAKING HISTORY: Maggie Krieger scores a Peruvian coup. **Page B1**

PILOT TURNED PAINTER: Jerry Davidson's subjects include the famous Snowbirds. **Page A19**

Gulf Islands grad gives up hospital job for drawing cartoons in Hollywood

By TONY RICHARDS
Driftwood Staff

Those sharp, clean lines that Salt Spring Cinema-goers saw in *The Swan Princess* last week were the work of a former islander and graduate of Gulf Islands Secondary School.

But it was only five years ago that Trevor Tamboline was keeping track of food stocks at Shaughnessy Hospital, and doing deejay work on the side.

Today, Tamboline is an assistant animator at Rich Animation Studios in Burbank, California, a job he fell into through a series of coincidences that began with a BCTV newscast.

"Five years ago," Tamboline recalled Sunday in a telephone interview from Los Angeles, "I really hadn't done anything with my artwork."

But a family friend saw a television news

special about the growth of animation studios in Vancouver. Knowing Tamboline's interest in and ability for drawing, the friend jotted down names and numbers of studios and passed them on.

Interested, Tamboline put on a sports jacket and tie, gathered a portfolio together and headed off for Delaney and Friends Studio.

CARTOONS A3

Ferry fares up this week

Weekend travel to Vancouver has gone up 16 per cent for Gulf Islands ferry travellers since the B.C. Ferry Corporation announced fare increases Thursday.

But islanders who travel to Vancouver on weekdays will notice that fares have gone down 13 per cent.

The new weekend/weekday rates are the most significant change in the fare schedule affecting Gulf Islanders. Vancouver Island-Mainland routes have had weekend rate differentials since last summer.

"We're attempting to better manage the traffic on that particular route," B.C. Ferries communications manager Ed McKenzie said. "One of the methods we employ to help manage that traffic . . . is to charge more when we are busier."

Effective Monday, fares went up from \$53 to \$61.75 for travel to the Gulf Islands from Vancouver on Friday and Saturday and returning to Vancouver Sunday. Travel on any other days will cost \$46.25, a reduction of \$6.75. When Friday or Monday are statutory holidays, weekend fares are extended to Thursday or Monday.

Starting June 15, all drivers and passengers to the Gulf Islands from Vancouver will pay the peak season fare of \$61.75, which is eight per cent higher than the current fare. The last fare increase was last April.

Travellers with overweight vehicles and small trucks will notice hefty increases in fares, as much as 22 per cent travelling between Long Harbour and Tsawwassen on weekends or during the peak season. Fares for a vehicle and driver have gone up from \$82.50 to \$100.50 for the round trip. The weekday or low-season rate has gone up 15 per cent, from \$76 to \$87.50.

Overweight vehicle owners travelling between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay or Vesuvius and Crofton will notice fare increases of 17 and 19 per cent for low and peak season travel. The fare for driver and vehicle in the low season has increased from \$24.75 to \$29; the fare for the peak season has increased from \$26.75 to \$31.75.

Underweight vehicles travelling the same routes will pay 50 cents more for the round trip, up to \$18.75 from \$18.25. In June that goes up to \$19.75, a five per cent increase.

Vehicles and drivers travelling between the Outer Islands and Swartz Bay will also pay 50 cents more per round trip, from \$19.25 to \$19.75. In June the rate increases 4.8 per cent from \$20.75 to \$21.75.

FARES A15

This Week

Around the IslandsB12
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Fair Change

Island Savings was buying U.S. cash on Tuesday at the rate of 1.3765

THE URBAN MORON



By Calvin Oakes

Coast Guard to offer advice to boater after rescue Saturday

A small boat carrying a family of four was plucked out of danger Saturday by the Ganges Coast Guard crews and a hovercraft from the Lower Mainland.

Officer in charge Dave Howell said the Ganges-based Skua was called out at 3:40 p.m. after a distress call was received by the rescue centre. A 20-foot cabin cruiser, carrying two adults and two young children, was battling heavy seas and southeast winds on

their beam.

The boat was reportedly taking on water and only able to make three knots on its course from Saturna Island to White Rock.

The Skua and the hovercraft reached the cabin cruiser's reported location in U.S. waters just as night was falling. Howell said he initially thought nightfall would be an advantage since it would help rescue craft spot the cabin cruiser by the boat's

lights.

But the cabin cruiser's lights were not operating, its flares were soggy and unusable and its radio was out of order. The small craft was virtually invisible in the four-foot swells, Howell said.

"That was pretty rough weather for that boat," he said. The distress call had been made by cellular phone and Howell was only able to reach the cabin cruiser by cellular. Howell noted the Coast

Guard can pinpoint another boat's location by radio transmission but cannot trace a cellular phone call.

The rescue craft set off rocket flares and directed the cabin cruise to steer for the flares and then report the compass heading to the Coast Guard. Howell followed the

reciprocal compass heading to locate the cabin cruiser.

Once the rescuers had located the small boat, they escorted the craft to White Rock. The owner, a White Rock resident, will be receiving a visit and some advice from the Coast Guard's safe boating branch, Howell added.

Average land values up 15%, Assessment Authority reports

By GRAEME THOMPSON
 Driftwood Staff

Property owners began receiving their 1995 property assessment notices last week, but the news should not be too much of a shock.

"Most properties on this year's assessment roll are worth more than they were the year before," B.C. Assessment area assessor Dave Hitchcock said in a press release. "Market movement, although significant for many properties, is typically less than in previous years."

Ron McQuiggan of Gulf Island Appraisals said the property assessments he has seen so far, though admittedly only a small sample, indicated a 10 per cent increase on average in value.

"The market started to tail off about a year ago," he said. "By the end of July, when the assessments are done, the market pretty well came to a dead end."

Galiano Islander Frank Hillier, who two years ago cut down trees on his property to pay his tax bill, said this year's assessment was 14.5 per cent higher than last. But he said he "can't complain" about the increase. It is "about what he expected" for his six and a half-acre waterfront property.

Assessments changed dramati-

cally two years ago when the assessment system was changed from a biennial process to annual to better reflect the market value of property. In 1995, the average property value on the Gulf Islands has gone from \$142,000 to \$164,000, an increase of 15 per cent.

Residential property increased in value 16.6 per cent, with total residential property worth \$2 billion, up from \$1.7 billion last year.

By the end of July, the market pretty well came to a dead end.

Commercial property on the islands rose in value 10 per cent, from \$53.5 million to \$58.9 million. The value of land assessed as farm class rose 3.4 per cent, from \$5.1 million to \$5.3 million.

In the Capital Regional District overall, property values increased from \$31.6 billion to \$33.8 billion, an increase of almost seven per cent. On the Gulf Islands, property values vary dramatically based on many variables, such as age, size of home, location and services available.

One non-waterfront property

on Salt Spring Island, for instance, Hitchcock said, was worth \$152,000 in the summer of 1993 but was assessed in July 1994 at \$170,000. On Pender Island, a lot in the Magic Lake Estates worth \$30,000 in 1993 was assessed at close to \$40,000 this year. A typical home that would have sold for \$175,000 in mid-1993 sold for \$215,000 in mid-1994.

A non-waterfront half-acre with no water system on Tumbo Channel Road on Saturna Island was valued at \$35,000 in 1993, and was assessed this year at \$47,500. In comparison, a waterfront property on Cliffside sold in August 1994 for \$145,000, when it was assessed at close to \$115,000 in 1993.

Several owners of small acreages on Salt Spring reported increases of about 20 per cent, but most agreed that the new valuations of their property were closer to what they felt was market value.

A waterfront property owner reported an assessment increase of just over five per cent.

Any property owners who feel their assessments are incorrect may contact the B.C. Assessment Authority office in Victoria. The deadline for appealing an assessment through the court of revision is January 31.

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	1140	10.5		1425	9.9
	1950	3.4		2210	2.0
JAN 12	0430	10.2	16	0625	10.8
TH	0815	9.6	MO	1125	8.9
	1215	10.3		1510	9.8
	2030	2.9		2245	2.0
JAN 13	0510	10.5	17	0645	10.8
FR	0920	9.6	TU	1200	8.6
	1255	10.2		1600	9.6
	2105	2.5		2315	2.2
JAN 14	0535	10.7	18	0705	10.9
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LAW OFFICE

CARTOONS

From Page A1

Although he was the only person there with a tie on, Tamboline was given a desk the same day and his hospital career was over.

For the next four years he worked on ads for the B.C. Lottery Corporation, CFUN radio and BC Transit. Tamboline was also involved in some half-hour television specials: Christopher the Christmas Tree and The Sandman: The Boy Who Dreamed Christmas.

(Tamboline had tried unsuccessfully to obtain a copy of the latter in Vancouver. It wasn't until he was visiting his family on Salt Spring over Christmas that he found one for sale at Mouat's.)

It was an ad in the back of the Vancouver Courier that spelled the next major change in Tamboline's life. "I saw the ad in the Courier and it looked like a lark."

The ad was for a "quite expensive" lottery whose prize was a green card, the piece of paper that the United States government issues to people who have met rigid qualifications for working in that country. But the lark turned into a win for Tamboline, and before long he was looking at a career move to Los Angeles.

A fellow artist from Vancouver had already moved there and was working for Rich Animation Studios.

But Tamboline had some apprehensions about moving south.

"I came here first to make sure it was safe," he said from his new home in Valencia. After hearing the "horror stories" about life in American cities, he wanted to have a look at the place before his family joined him.

"I didn't want to jeopardize my family's safety and well-being for the sake of a job."

He discovered that Valencia is the fourth safest community in the U.S. Wife Lori and two daughters are now preparing to join him.

Tamboline, who graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary in 1981, credited two teachers for his success. Caroline Hamilton, his art teacher from Grade 8 through 12, "didn't lose faith in me during Grades 9 and 10 when I was going through weird stages of development."

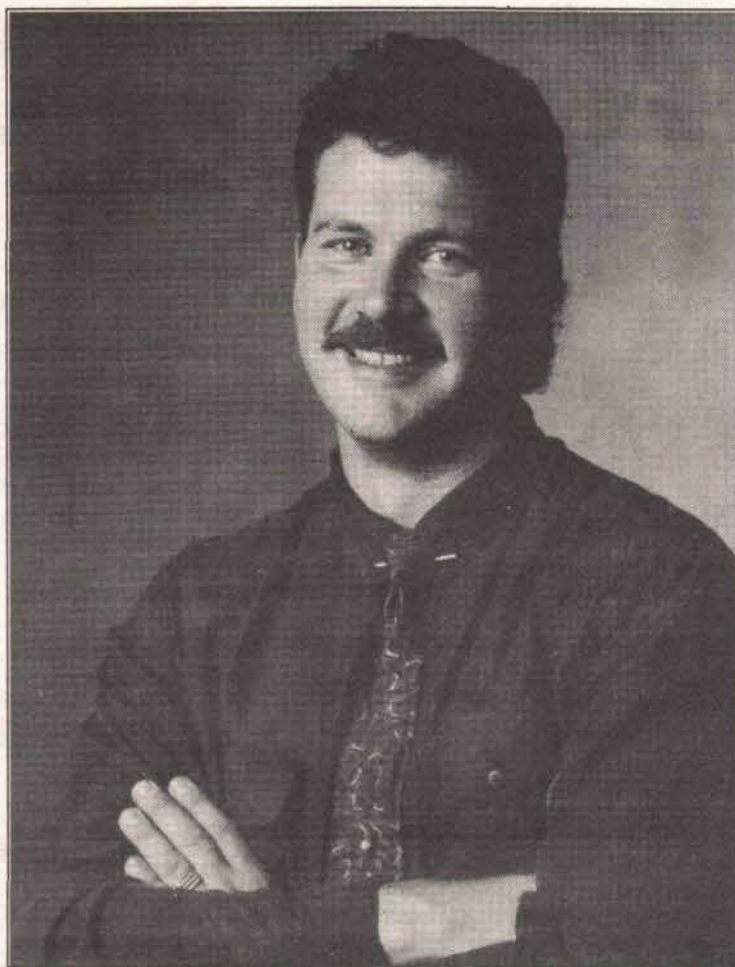
Those are years, he recalled, when "art is not important."

"She hung in there and helped me maintain an interest in art."

Another influence was Jean Davis, Tamboline's art teacher at Salt Spring Elementary School in Grades 6 and 7.

In 1980, Tamboline had his work published when the Driftwood selected his entry in the annual competition for art for the cover page of the Christmas issue.

From Ganges, the aspiring artist went on to Camosun College and



MAKING MOVIES: The name of former Salt Spring Islander Trevor Tamboline was among the credits on the film *The Swan Princess*, shown last week at Salt Spring Cinema.

did one year of a two-year visual arts program. "I promptly did nothing with it," landing a job at the hospital where he spent the next 10 years.

Tamboline's work in *The Swan Princess* involved cleaning up drawings by the animators and working on the film's puffin character and the animals. The film is loosely based on *Swan Lake* and has been in production for the past three years.

The advent of photocopy machines meant major changes for animators. Now, computers are bringing yet more changes.

"Our film (*Swan Princess*) will likely be the last full-length animated film to have its characters coloured by hand," Tamboline said. The studio is installing a computer system that will be used for future work.

The drawing itself is still done by hand, though. In the case of *The Swan Princess*, 200 artists worked for two years to produce drawings for 80 minutes of footage.

At 24 frames per second, and sometimes "a pile of drawings" for each frame, that's a lot of artwork.

Tamboline says the studio's next film is in the planning stages but the next year may bring a move to Warner Bros., one of the oldest names in animation.

For now, he's content in his work and gets a lot of satisfaction from seeing his work on the screen. "I'm very happy in what I do."

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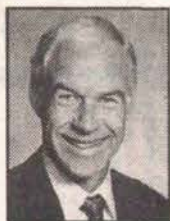
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Agriculture on agenda for next plan workshop

Options to enhance the future of Salt Spring farms will be invited at the next Official Community Plan (OCP) workshop, scheduled for next Tuesday.

"We're looking for feedback from anybody and especially from the agricultural community," senior planner Linda Adams said Monday. Invitations to the workshop



OCP REVIEW

were sent to the 221 owners of property with farm tax status,

Adams said.

Several ideas to promote and preserve agriculture have been suggested to the local Trust office. One recurring issue is the building of additional homes on farm properties.

Housing is expensive on Salt Spring and farm wages often low, so many farmers try to provide housing for farm workers.

Under current zoning, farmers can add homes to their property provided the addition is for farm purposes.

"The current wording is wide open," Adams remarked. One applicant wanted to add three houses to a 10-acre farm property, claiming the housing was needed for three farm bookkeepers.

Another issue is subdivision of farmland. If the Agricultural Land Reserve allows subdivision, the smallest possible lot is 20 acres. Instead of dividing a farm into 20-acre parcels, Adams felt it might be better to restrict the number of permitted lots and reduce the lot size.

The result would be a smaller lot subdivided off the farm but retention of a larger parcel which could still serve as a working farm.

When residential subdivisions are developed next to farmland, some type of mandatory screening has been suggested so homes do not impact on the farm. Farms should also be considered when planning trail networks, Adams said.

The workshop starts at 7 p.m. in the Anglican Centre, at the corner of Park Drive and Lower Ganges Road in Ganges.

Reporter to travel to Nicaragua for CIDA-sponsored research

Driftwood reporter Graeme Thompson is going the extra mile — 2,500, to be precise — for a story this month.

Thompson, who has been with the newspaper since August 1992, is going to Ometepe Island in Nicaragua to do some "on-the-ground" research. The month-long trip is being sponsored to the tune of \$3,400 by the Canadian International Development Agency through the Canadian Association of Journalists.

Many islanders are already familiar with Ometepe Island — even if they just drink its dark-roasted coffee which is available locally. Some, mostly members of the Ometepe-Gulf Islands Friendship Association, have visited the Central American country and shared their experience with other islanders through slide shows.

A volcanic island with about 13,000 people, Ometepe lies in the centre of the largest lake in Central America, and the 10th largest lake in the world. The lake is known for its wildlife, including the only freshwater sharks in the world.

Ometepe is not the only island in the lake. A chain of small

islands nearby houses a resident population of artists, not unlike the Gulf Islands. Since about 1987, Ometepe has been twinned with the Gulf Islands and Bainbridge Island in Washington state.

Local islanders have sponsored a multi-phase water project to bring clean water from a crater-lake on the island to several villages and Salt Spring's Voice of Women has sponsored a women's sewing co-operative.

The purpose of the program sending Thompson to Nicaragua is to allow journalists to travel to a developing country and report on an aspect of development, such as food, shelter, education or health.

Thompson will talk to Ometepe Islanders about community planning. An organization called Between the Volcanoes Foundation has been looking at aspects of development on Ometepe such as the impact of tourism and growth on health,

education and infrastructure.

How Ometepe Islanders look at the process of their own community development — there are no First World agencies involved — may be interesting to Gulf Islanders, many of whom are going through or have gone through their own community planning process with their Official Community Plan reviews.

Thompson will be gone from January 18 to February 20, spending most of that time on Ometepe — though if there is an opportunity to do some "investigative kayaking" around some of the myriad other islands in the lake, it will not be missed, he says.

While there, Thompson will try to hook up with two other Salt Spring Islanders in the Central American jungle. A story December 14 explained how Bill and Linda Brierly got involved in Project Accompaniment, which has taken them from Mexican refugee camps to Mayan villages in Guatemala.

Stories on Ometepe Island will appear in the Driftwood when Thompson comes back at the end of February.



Thompson

Drunk driving numbers dismay police; nine charged after roadchecks stop 900

There was more drinking and driving on Salt Spring during the Christmas holidays than local police had hoped to see.

During the CounterAttack campaign, which ran from December 8 to January 3, Ganges RCMP stopped 900 vehicles.

Nine drivers were charged with impaired driving as a result of the roadside checks and another seven were issued 24-hour driving suspensions. One person was charged with failing to breathe into a roadside screening device and impaired driving.

"The purpose of the CounterAttack

is to identify periods of the year when there is a lot of drinking and driving occurring," Ganges RCMP Const. Rod Holland said. "We present a fairly visible deterrent."

The fact that six people were charged indicated that "drinking and driving took a higher profile" than was expected. Local police spent 38 hours involved in routine traffic activities or on roadside checks during the campaign. Because two officers serve with two or more auxiliary police members, the local detachment put in 112 person-hours of vehi-

cle checks during the period.

In addition to impaired driving, police also reported 11 property damage collisions during the month, two injury collisions with two people injured, and two alcohol-related collisions.

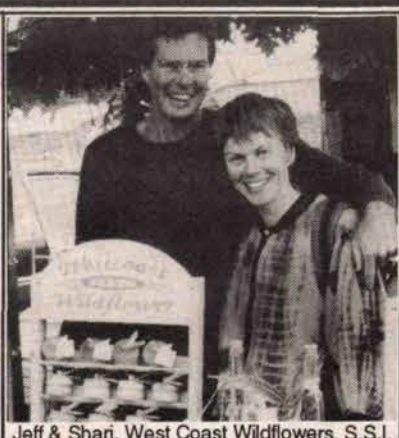
In nearby areas, Esquimalt municipal police checked 1,600 vehicles in the same period, charging 14 drivers with impaired driving and giving 13 people 24-hour suspensions. In Victoria, RCMP checked nearly 15,000 vehicles, charging nine drivers with impaired driving and giving 58 people 24-hour suspensions.

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Library busy with new member fees

Few people bought the free deal at the Salt Spring library last week.

Instead, most voluntarily paid a \$10 membership fee despite a provincial government regulation eliminating all library user fees. Elimination of the fee threatened to cut the library association's budget by one-third.

"I think that it's a good thing to contribute. There's all kinds of volunteers here and I think it's the least we can do," Peter Allan said Friday when he stopped by the library to pay his \$10 and pick up a library card.

Library volunteer Audrey Wild said she had been steadily typing out library cards since she came on shift two hours earlier. By 3 p.m. Friday, 15 people had renewed their library cards and 10 people had taken out new memberships. All 25 had chosen to pay the voluntary \$10 fee.

"It's just been constant. I haven't been able to get away from the typewriter," Wild said, indicating a small pile of incoming memberships. Only one person on Friday had chosen not to pay the fee but that person had also chosen not to renew a library card, Wild noted.

Friday's experience was typical. On Tuesday, when the library reopened after the Christmas holiday, 15 people came in to renew their memberships and two people bought new ones.

Business was steady until 3 p.m. Friday, by which time 82 people had voluntarily purchased memberships. Only seven decided not to pay the \$10 fee.

"It's heartwarming. The response is heartwarming," Wild remarked.

Library volunteer Joan Nicholson said she was pleasantly surprised by the level of support while fellow volunteer Joan Dixon said the community has been very supportive.

"We've had just incredible support," said library board vice-chairwoman Lois Slotten. Most residents recognize that \$10 a year for library service is a bargain. Some did not realize that when they paid their \$10 user fee in previous years, they had also been joining the library association.

Once they were assured that there was no change from previous years, Slotten said, many readily paid the \$10 fee. In addition, some residents have given donations to support the library, Slotten said.

Others have promised to give



SIGNING IN: Peter Allan waits as library volunteer Audrey Wild types up his new library membership card. Allan was one of many Salt Spring

residents who dropped into the library last week to voluntarily pay the \$10 fee in support of the volunteer-operated facility. Photo by Valerie Lennox

funds to the library if additional money is required. "It's been overwhelming — absolutely," Slotten said. "The library is basically safe and secure for this year."

Slotten said she had also heard from MLA Clive Tanner, who offered his help to the library association.



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The Salt Spring Island Health Planning Committee wants your input into the development of a plan for the implementation and management of the B.C. Government's "New Directions in Health Care" proposals that are intended to empower the community and bring the process...

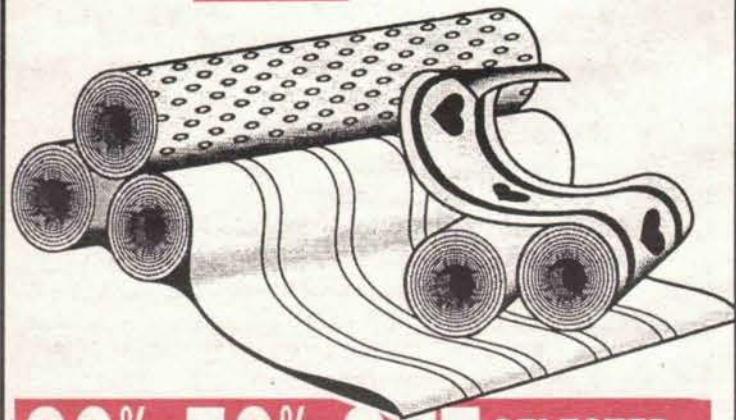
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Report has practical recommendations—Andrew

The public will call the shots on whether recommendations in the Sustainable Salt Spring report are implemented, trustee Bob Andrew says.

"I'm a politician — I have to buy what the community tells me," he observed.

But he hopes some of the community direction will include ideas from the report by the Sustainable Salt Spring Community Roundtable.

"It's a vision document. I call it fun and inspirational," Andrew said. "I agree with a tremendous amount of the vision and even a lot of the practical recommendations."

Copies of the report are being distributed to members of focus groups working on the review of the community plan. If those groups then come up with recommendations which reflect the ideas in the report — and the community backs those recommendations — the ideas are likely to form part of Salt Spring's Official Community Plan (OCP), Andrew said.

"Mostly what you can do with a community plan is encourage directions," he said.

For example, the Sustainable

Salt Spring report encourages cluster development of homes in small village groups separated by large areas of green space. At present, development on Salt Spring tends to be large, single-family lots.

Although there are environmental and financial advantages to cluster development, Andrew doubted the development pattern would be easy to change. "I can't see a wholesale slaughter of our zoning rights as they are now." Advantages to cluster development include less need for roads, shorter distances to construct infrastructure and preservation of larger areas of land in its natural state. Andrew pointed out clusters of development would be easier to serve with a transit system.

He doubted the mass transportation solution suggested in the sustainability report, a railway, would be practical.

"There are hills on this island you just can't get around. Railways don't go up hills well."

Laying the track would be very expensive and require either a meandering route to crest the hills or extensive blasting, Andrew noted.

The leading edge of planning now recommends combining residential areas with workplaces. "It is almost a revision back, 100 to 300 years ago." The concept is to have people work and live in the same area, reducing the need to commute to work or for goods and services.

"Should there be a car mechanic in a local community?" Andrew asked. He doubted the downtown core of the island would ever be eliminated but he thought residential development downtown should be encouraged.

Studies now indicate the ideal size for a community is 5,000 to 10,000 people. At that population level, people tend to either know or recognize one another, yet have enough diversity to meet most needs of the community, Andrew said.

When a town grows beyond that size, people tend to naturally break apart into neighbourhoods or sub-communities, Andrew observed.

OCP discussion now projects

an eventual full-time population on the island of 18,000 to 20,000. The Sustainable Salt Spring report projects a population of 20,000, divided into several communities.

Andrew especially favoured the report's call for more participatory government, for support of agriculture and for limited amenity zoning and transfer of densities. "In their zoning area, which is our area, I really strongly agree with their recommendations."

He also agreed with amending the Islands Trust mandate to include a responsibility to protect the island for future generations as well as for present residents.

Islands Trust planner Linda

Adams has yet to study the report in depth. She read it quickly over the Christmas holidays, she said, and is now re-reading it. "It's on my bedside table."

She feels the report is useful for stimulating discussion on many issues. Many of the ideas in the report have already been raised at community plan workshops or by the focus groups.

Some may not be practical but at this stage all ideas should be considered, Adams said. "You don't want to throw anything out at this point."

Copies of the report are available at the Islands Trust office.



Andrew



Adams

Classifieds Work!
537-9933

A WAKE UP CALL FOR THE BRITISH COLUMBIA RESIDENTS LIVING ON SALT SPRING ISLAND

On the front page of the November 23rd issue of the Gulf Islands Driftwood I written the founder from a Vancouver T.V. station CKVU, Mr. Norman Klenman complaining "The Island Trust Committee" is ignoring the harbour bylaws. I am a former elderly farmland owner on Salt Spring Island. Farmland owners living on Salt Spring Island are able to tell Mr. Norman Klenman, the Island Trust Committee only enforces any bylaws when it suits their purpose for complete control.

The Island Trust Committee told me from December 1989 to April 1992 when I applied for rezoning the farm property that I previously lived with my late husband from 1956. This property in 1974 was designated under the regulations from the "Agriculture Land Commission Act" and we were never explained how the property came under this act. Thus this land, which was nothing but swampland when we arrived and no one else even gave it a second look, was changed with organic management and a drainage system through the years where the owners so much improved this piece of land. I was told my application for rezoning was refused, due to the value from the ground, this property has to be saved for farming for future generations.

The last refusal letter for rezoning for this property I received was signed by the Chairperson from the Island Trust Committee, a resident from Galiano and elected by the population from that island. The ending from this letter sent to me on April 28, 1992 stated, "Zoning amendments within the Agriculture Land Reserve are referred to the Agriculture Land Commission, given the fact that the Minister denied your appeal, it would be fruitless for the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee to encourage you to proceed with the rezoning application that would not gain the necessary approval. Sincerely, Diane Cragg."

Copies of this letter were sent to The Honorable Mike Harcourt, Premier, The Honorable Bill Barlee, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, The Honorable Robin Blencoe, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Housing, Mr. Ken McLeod, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Housing, Mr. Colin Fry, General Manager, B.C. Agriculture Land Commission, and the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee, Islands Trust, Victoria.

The GOLDEN ACRES PROPERTY was assessed under the rules and regulations from the "Agriculture Land Act," which effects all farmland in B.C. The assessment from the bank's assessor for the bank loan assessed this farm property very low. The bank in Victoria refused the full amount asked for and the purchaser was given the advice not to buy this low assessed farm property. The present owners told me these facts 2 days before moving to Courtenay. Friends of theirs loaned the remaining amount.

With the assistance from the staff of a most outstanding Law firm on the island I was able to sell my property, even though it was assessed below the value I feel it was worth, but as a widow, 73 years of age at that time I was forced under any condition to sell this property that my husband and I had put our heart and soul into for over 30 years.

But as of September 1994, Golden Acres Farm, 360 Rainbow Road, was the parking ground for 2 days for cars and trucks for the Fall Fair. Against all the by-laws, especially for this property, which all the named Committees, Premier, Ministers said in the April 28, 1992 letter and all the time I took to appeal (2 1/2 years) to the cabinet, this valuable property and the reason for the financial value was so low I had to save it for future generations?

This is the value the Island Trust Committee has for any of their by-laws, because they always are able to go back to their slogan "For all the Islands, Preserve and Protect".

Wake up residents from Salt Spring Island, attend the open meetings, do not forget with a stroke from a pen by-laws and regulations are changed, when not given attention to the open meeting from the Islands Trust Committee that is your local government. Put a stop to the legal stealing from FARMLAND with the excuse to save FARMLAND under the protection of the "Agriculture Land Commission Act," from 1974.

This statement paid for by Mrs. Audrey Buitenwerf, former resident of Salt Spring

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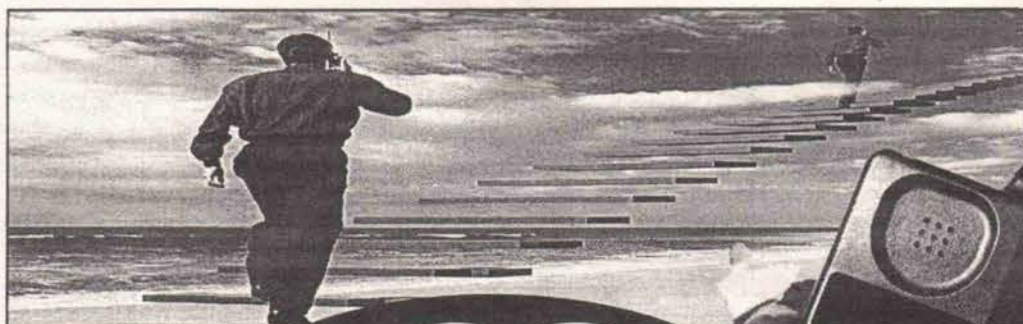
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Moray finds some flaws in report's utopian dream

"How is sustainable Salt Spring being sustained?"

That's the question Chamber of Commerce manager Jeremy Moray wants answered after reading the discussion paper on Sustainable Salt Spring.



Moray

"I have read it from cover to cover," Moray remarked. "As a dream of utopia it could hardly be beaten."

But Moray spotted a few flaws in the report's vision of an ideal, sustainable lifestyle on Salt Spring in 2025.

One feature of the vision was described in the report as an "around-the-island, double-track, narrow-gauge railway serving over three-fourths of the settlement clusters."

The railway will require building track over miles and miles of Salt Spring slopes. "It will take until 2025 just to build the bloom-

ing railway," Moray predicted. However, the project would benefit one island company, Dave's Drilling and Blasting.

"If they're going to put a track all around the island, he'll be made for life," Moray said.

He also doubted islanders would trade their five and 10-acre lots for the village clusters described in the report. Many people moved to Salt Spring to escape densities of 25-people-per-acre. Moray predicted it would be

difficult to negotiate people out of their homes and into village clusters. It would also be difficult to negotiate a right-of-way for the train tracks.

He saw another side to the proposed banning of certain products and the ban on individually packaged products coming to the island. "I imagine hosts of people rowing back and forth from Sansum Narrows carrying illicit packaged goods from Victoria."

He also doubted the proposed economy would support island residents. As an example, he outlined the process required to obtain a chair on sustainable Salt Spring.

"You ride your bike to the station, jump on the train and go to whatever stop it is to reach the builder of furniture and you get fitted for your chair. And you hope you have enough organic carrots to swap for the chair."

He suggests the island will need some sort of economic engine if people want to survive. "It's going to cost a hell of a lot to live here."

Dave's Drilling big beneficiary of rail transit

Report will gather dust on a shelf, chamber president Crouse predicts

All the work which went into producing the Sustainable Salt Spring report will likely end up collecting dust on a shelf, predicts Chamber of Commerce president Sharon Crouse.

It is typical of the island that people spend a lot of time preparing reports which do not generate action, she said. Crouse saw several ideas which she would not like to see implemented plus some which should be supported.

"It certainly talks of Utopia," she remarked. But she points out shifting the population into a self-reliant lifestyle would eliminate jobs. "You have to be very careful. When you start eliminating stores, entertainment and restaurant facilities, you're eliminating jobs." Reducing tourism would also eliminate jobs.

She also disagreed with the report's vision of no urban centre on the island. "If you're going to diminish the downtown core, you eventually diminish the

employment and security of those people who work in the downtown core.

"How many businesses thrive three blocks out of the core?" she asked.

Clusters of homes instead of large individual lots are also recommended by the report. Personally, Crouse said, she did not want to live in a cluster of homes. She moved to Salt Spring to live in a rural setting. She also felt entertainment and recreational options needed to be in place before residential units were established in downtown Ganges.

Commercial space in Ganges is expensive, she noted. "Residential downtown is going to be very expensive," she predicted.

The report noted only one per cent of work by local artists is car-

ried in local stores. As a retailer, Crouse said, she carries work produced by local people. However, her suppliers must be able to consistently produce products year-round.

She also questioned the idea of eliminating individually packaged products. A demand for bulk packaging must be driven by consumers due to concerns over sanitation and safety.

"Who's going to buy a sheet that's not wrapped up in plastic?" she asked.

She agreed with the report's recommendation for more residences on water, such as houseboats or liveaboards, provided a method was developed to dispose of waste. She also suggested some form of marine retail could be developed.

She also agreed that some form of local government needs to be developed. "We've been clearly told by the Chamber of Commerce membership that they want phase two of the government options study."



Crouse

Barbara Jordan-Knox M.S.W.

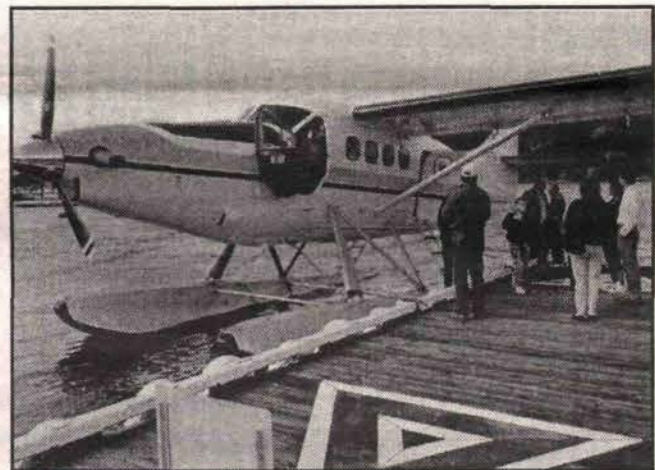
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Back to the future

A vision of Salt Spring 30 years into the future could also be a bucolic vision of a rural village 300 years in the past, judging by the Sustainable Salt Spring Community Roundtable report.

In a section entitled Future Vision, the report's authors outline an idealized Salt Spring of 20,000 residents, set in the year 2025. Many of the concepts are laudable, but remove the rose-coloured glasses and what we see is life on Salt Spring under the rule of the Salt Spring Sustainability Review Board:

We all live in small villages, homes constructed within walking distance of our work or our fields. The cheapest homes are those next to the sawmill, the solar-aquatic sewage treatment plant, the blacksmith shop and the slaughterhouse.

Those not fortunate enough to work at home or unable to find accommodation next to their job spend many hours commuting on the island railway.

Due to the small population and the high debt incurred to construct the railway, the system is barely able to afford operating costs. Fares are high and the train runs only once in the morning and once in the evening.

Delays and breakdowns are common. As a result, the train has gained a reputation for unreliability and "train problems" is the accepted excuse for businesses which don't open and employees who fail to show up for work.

Fortunately, few of us travel often. We are largely self-sufficient, growing much of our own food, raising chickens and pigs, and maintaining herds of sheep and goats which provide some food and some clothing.

We spend a lot of time in the fields or spinning and weaving to produce clothes. Our wardrobes are extremely limited.

When we need something which we cannot produce, most of us shop or barter for the limited stock in our village general store.

If we want specialty items we catch the once-a-week passenger ferry to Victoria. This schedule was implemented at islanders' request to reduce the visitor numbers. Upon our return, our packages will be inspected by the Sustainability Review Board inspector to ensure we have not brought excessively packaged or banned goods to the island.

Our locally designed education system, with multi-grade classes in each village centre, turns out students ideally suited to carry on our sustainable lifestyle. This is just as well, since they are unable to compete with urban youth, who enjoy the facilities of large central schools.

As a result, many young people stay in their village clusters and adopt the same career as a parent or friend. Even after marriage and the birth of their first children, they continue to share the family home. Due to a policy of maintaining over 90 per cent of the island as green space, there is seldom housing available.

Thanks to a review board which issues loans and licences for business proposals based on how well they match the island lifestyle, we know we will be adhering to this lifestyle for many years to come.

Until, that is, we decide to move.

Changing names

If place names are part of our heritage, we are losing it.

Salt Spring Islanders have never agreed on the spelling of Salt Spring, but other changes have crept into common usage, often through oversights by government agencies.

Take Langs and Long Harbour roads, for instance. Twenty years ago the first was Lang and the second, Scott. We assume those changes were made by the Ministry of Highways, along with the more recent addition of an apostrophe and an "s" to the Mary of St. Mary Lake.

The biggest name change of all, though, has labelled us the Southern Gulf Islands. Historically, the islands of Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, the Penders and Saturna have been known as the Gulf Islands. The name dates back to the days when they formed a community through a hospital district, school district, joint council and other organizations.

If we are to accept this change, surely others must follow. The Southern Gulf Islands Driftwood and the Southern Gulf Islands School District come immediately to mind, but neither rolls freely from the tongue.

Call us traditionalists, but we like the old name better.



Island on way to sustainability with capacity for growing food

It was exciting to read in the Driftwood's first 1995 issue details of the report by the Sustainable Salt Spring Community Roundtable. To my mind, the most difficult hurdle in creating a sustainable community is imagining that it could happen. The roundtable has done an admirable job of envisioning the kinds of changes that would be necessary for Salt Spring to have a sustainable future. I'd like to add a few words supportive of such a vision.

Salt Spring is the place to create such a model. Being an island neatly defines our community in a way that is just not possible for places with roads that keep going somewhere else. We can easily keep track of what comes and goes.

A bottom line for sustainability is the ability to grow all our own food. Salt Spring enjoys the best climate in Canada for growing diverse food crops. Our isolation as an island also protects us from most plant diseases and pests. As growing food is my own area of expertise, that's where I'll focus my comments.

Salt Spring is quite famous "out there" because of her many special artists, writers and craftspeople. Not many locals realize that Salt Spring Island is also gaining a widespread reputation as a centre for plant genetic diversity. In fact, a good case can be made for calling Salt Spring the living gene bank of Canada! British Columbia has the most biodiversity of any province and Salt Spring Island boasts the largest commercial availability of native plant species. Salt Spring also offers the largest commercial selection of beans and grains in North America. It houses the national garlic collection as well as the national back-up collection of Jerusalem artichokes. We also have over 350 varieties of heritage fruit trees.

With some promotion and further development, Salt Spring could benefit from its rich biodiversity in a manner similar to what Chemainus has done

with its murals. People would come to this island to find plants, animals, seeds and food unobtainable elsewhere.

Apart from a somewhat benign way to acquire tourist dollars, however, biological riches

could enable us to meet all our food needs. As I write this in early January, with many sub-freezing nights, I can go out to my garden at Mansell Farm and see fava beans popping out of the soil. Varieties of wheat, barley and peas sown in November are green and radiant. In my greenhouse are lush new lettuce and mustard greens.

My research and growing experiments have revealed the potential of providing a most exciting and varied diet for ourselves. And all with food grown right in our front and back yards. Indeed, I have built up a successful seed business by supplying gardeners and farmers across North America with seed for such crops.

If one counted the number of people presently making a living from farming on Salt Spring, there would be less than a dozen. But it is my opinion that local agriculture is about to come on strong. The time is ripe; the place is ripe. There are all manner of seeds being sown. The article on drying fruit in the last Driftwood is an inspiring example. So is the community shared agriculture project begun on Salt Spring last year. A friend of mine juiced 6,000 litres of apples this past season. Another friend has begun a year-long diet of only locally grown or harvested food. There is serious talk about shared crop storage facilities, a cannery and co-ops for garlic and processed wool.

I think the roundtable prediction of 2025 as the date we meet all our own needs locally is a conservative one. My prediction is 2012.

Dan Jason operates Salt Spring Seeds and is co-author of *The Really Whole Food Cookbook*.

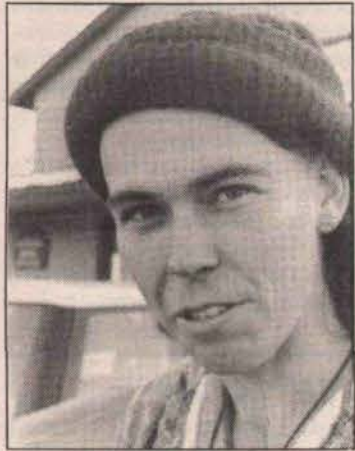


A bottom line for sustainability is the ability to grow all our own food. Salt Spring enjoys the best climate in Canada for growing diverse food crops.



SALT SPRING SAYS

We Asked: Have you ever kept a New Year's resolution?



Glen Bruce

I've never made any. I never find anything that I wanted to change. If it needed changing, I'd do it at the time.



Elizabeth Sorochan

I've never made one because I wouldn't have the will power to keep it. There would be no point.



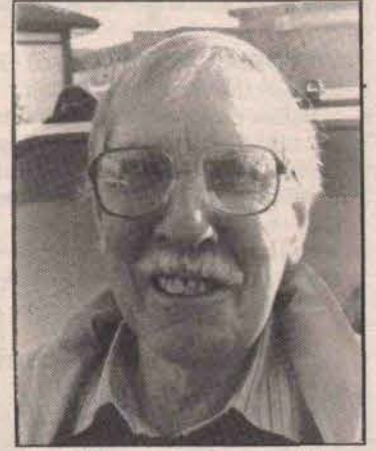
Clemency Perrins

I don't make them. I've never thought about it very much. I just try to live each day as well as I can.



Lydia Cheng of Vancouver

I've never made one. It's not in Chinese culture to make New Year's resolutions.



Allen McConnell

I've never made a New Year's resolution so therefore I've never kept one. I've never seen a point in it.

Letters to the Editor

Don't blame the practice

Communism is not about dictatorships, cruelty, or military regimes. It is not about evil. It is like anything else derived from civilization.

Like fur, communism can be used to produce warmth for many, as a beneficial tool. But in the hands of an arsonist, such as the Soviet Union government, it can be used to aid the implementation of some very sinister causes. Without fire we would be free from the threat of being burned; however, we would still be left in the cold. It is better not to blame the practice in question, but those who misuse it.

JASPER NIELSON,
Minister of Internal Management,
Gulf Island Communist Party

(though possibly not control) of the Library Services Branch.

Why did you legislate:

1. Library associations may not collect an annual fee;
2. Library associations may not own real estate;
3. No new library associations will be permitted?

Specifically I have asked the minister whether these provisions are NDP policy, or were they invented by Library Branch staff for reasons connected with the building of the empires and demands for higher pay.

Clearly it is time that Ms. Marzari applied the reins to some of her staff, if only to preserve the fiction that we are being governed by the NDP and not by the "clerks who govern us."
COLIN NICHOLSON,
Kings Lane

who can't afford to buy hundreds of cards like the privileged group of "addicted devotees" who played with your reporter.

Sorry, Mr. Klenman, but I cannot support this scam, this thinly veiled trick which is milking big money out of trusting kids. I feel we have a responsibility to our kids to avoid fads that encourage discrimination on the basis of disposable income.

CONNIE ADDARIO,
Byron Road

Not worth it

You're not worth a dollar. And my better half says you weren't worth 75 cents.

R.C. HOMEWOOD,
Ganges

Cancer's dread

A very close friend of mine has recently been diagnosed with liver cancer. Needless to say, this is a very emotional and frightening time for him, his family and friends.

The doctors act like they're at his funeral already; some people (who don't know him) when I tell them about it, physically recoil and want to get as far away from me as possible; others say things like, "Oh, the liver, well he doesn't have much longer then." (Are they trying to reassure me that his suffering will be limited? How do they know?) Some ask a lot of questions; others make suggestions, books to read, herbs to take, alternative treatments to try, stories of people they've heard of

who have survived. It's very interesting, people's attitudes and assumptions about cancer, the mythology and dread that surrounds it.

The truth is, it's just a disease! Yes, it is a horrible one, but still; just a disease — not some weird, supernatural demon.

The other truth is this: thousands of people beat it and survive for years longer than predicted. Just because medical treatment is not always possible or effective doesn't mean there aren't other ways to fight it and live.

Here's my point:

When someone tells you that someone they love has cancer, the appropriate response is: "I'm sorry to hear that. I hope they get better soon." Then if you have other positive suggestions or success stories, tell them. Otherwise, be quiet. No one needs to hear more negatives.

Instead, you can support them and their friends and family in putting all their energy into healing themselves. We, as a society, need to re-educate ourselves. As the baseball player said, "It ain't over till it's over."

RACHEL JACOBSON,
Ganges

Minister: apply the reins

As a library member, I really appreciated your masterly leader on the subject of the Mary Hawkins Library (Driftwood, December 28).

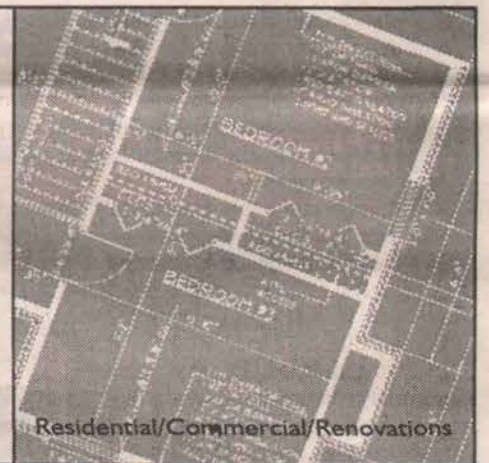
Some of the more draconian aspects of the new Library Act are a little hard to understand. Like some others, I thought that the NDP would be a mildly-socialist, citizen-friendly administration: like some others, I have been disappointed.

I have been corresponding with Darlene Marzari, MLA, who is the minister of municipal affairs and has responsibility

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Gulf Islands Secondary School Career Development — Alternate Programs TRADES MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Gulf Islands Secondary School Trades Mentorship Program is now in operation for motivated young people wishing to get into the work force. If you are between the ages of 16 and 24 and are disenchanted with what is happening in your life and want to work towards a specific career, then this program is for you.

The program works as follows:

The program matches tradespeople with students in a combined program of relevant studies and meaningful work experience. Much of the learning is done in the workplace. School credit will be given for both the in-school and work experience components. Credit of work experience hours towards an apprenticeship may also be possible. Career counselling and personal support are an important part of the program.

How to become involved:

Recruitment of students and employers is now underway. If you are interested in becoming involved in this unique program, call Joe Nitsch at 537-1174 or Scott Berstrom at 537-0044

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Abortion inevitable in imperfect world

VICTORIA — I met Joan and Frances Greenlay in passing. It was the baby that drew my attention.

Babies evoke powerful memories in me of a time, long ago, when our four children ate and drank, smiled and cried their way through the first stage of their lives' adventure.

This baby girl turned out to be four months old. Her name was Caitlyn. Caitlyn was working on the last drops of a bottle of milk when her mother told me that she and her husband had just come back from China with their adopted baby.

CAPITAL COMMENT
HUBERT BEYER



The adoption proceedings took the better part of a year. They involved Chinese as well as Canadian federal and provincial authorities. But finally, the day came when they received a picture of Caitlyn, who had begun her life in a Chinese orphanage.

The mother told me they took one look at the picture and knew this was destined to be their baby girl.

They flew to China, took care of the remaining paper work, and left for Canada on Christmas Day.

"Whenever she woke up, I wished her Merry Christmas," the mother said. "She's the most beautiful Christmas present imaginable."

And here she was, taking time out from her bottle to smile, having no idea of the momentous turn her little life had taken. Born, taken in by an orphanage, journeyed half-way around the world to bring joy to a couple who went through all that to have a child, all in the first four months of her life.

I didn't ask how Caitlyn came to be in an orphanage. It was none of my business. But whatever the reason, Caitlyn is a lucky human being. For one thing, whoever her birth mother was, she decided to give her life.

From pondering the story of little Caitlyn, it is a short mental leap to one of the most agonizing issues societies the world over are grappling with — abortion.

Aside from ethnic warfare, there is no issue that has divided society more than that of abortion. And I continue to find myself caught right in the middle, unable to support either side.

How can I even contemplate the thought of abortion, having raised four children, having gone through all the pain and joy parenthood brings, and proudly showing photographs of our four grandchildren to total strangers?

How can I rationalize abortion with being unable to walk past a baby carriage without taking a look at the little passenger and feeling warm all over?

Yet, how can I tell a mother of three, living below the poverty line, that she should carry and give birth to yet another child, in all likelihood destined for a life of poverty, too?

How can I deny an abortion to a woman who knows that her child will be born mentally or physically disabled?

But how can I side with the lunatic fringe to whom anyone not opposing abortion is a sworn enemy?

Surely, the madmen who would resort to killing doctors performing abortions do not speak for life. And neither do the religious fanatics who equate abortion to murder but have no qualms about calling for the death penalty.

To those I would say, you can't have it both ways. If life is, indeed, sacred, then its sanctity applies to the unremorseful criminal as it does to the unborn child.

In the end, those who pursue their anti-abortion belief with unrelenting zeal, scare me as much as those who look at abortion as just another medical procedure. And, once again, I find myself hopelessly lost in the no man's land between two warring factions.

Outlawing abortions is not the answer, but then, neither is total and unimpeded access to it. In a perfect world, no woman would ever feel compelled to have an abortion. In a perfect world, no woman would bear a deformed child. And no woman would have to fear that she could not feed another mouth.

Alas, the world is not perfect. Some women live in destitute circumstances, even in Canada. And mental and physical deformities will remain a fact of life. Abortions will, therefore, continue to be performed.

But I can hope that, someday, abortion will be the exception to the rule. I can hope that medicine will, someday, triumph over birth defects. And I can hope that society will develop such a caring support network that poverty need no longer be a reason for abortion.

I can hope that, someday, all new life will be accepted and nurtured with the same love that surrounds little Caitlyn.

More letters

Protect watershed

I think it needs to be pointed out that there is more to the discussion of aeration of St. Mary Lake (Driftwood, December 21) than meets the eye. The fact that the lake needs aeration should not be overlooked. Of our four potable water producing lakes, all but one, Maxwell Lake, could use aeration treatment to stem the tide of ongoing eutrophication.

Human activities (i.e. housing, recreation, farming, road building, all having to do with the removal of the natural vegetation cover) in the watershed of St. Mary, Cusheon, and Weston lakes are accelerating these lakes' natural aging process.

The one remaining potable water source not yet greatly affected by human activity is Maxwell Lake. The reason is that the watershed is largely intact. How long will this be the case? Over 60 per cent of the watershed is in the hands of private interests. The North Salt Spring Water District and the Water Preservation Society own the balance. Our tap water is still excellent (it was pristine until the provincial government ordered the water chlorinated two years ago). Does it not make sense to preserve and protect this last remaining major source of good quality drinking water on our island?

In spite of efforts by some island environmental organizations, little has been done to preserve the watershed. Several initiatives along these lines over the years have failed. Fortunately for the community, the watershed lands are in large tracts. Two of the private owners of these lands are dedicated to watershed preservation and the other is a responsible forest company. In addition, a 30-acre minimum lot size is in effect for this area.

So what's the problem? The problem is that this community cannot count on the good will of land owners forever. A rare opportunity for preserving water quality at the source is before the community now with the Islands Trust community plan review. Good potable water is the lifeblood of all communities. Let's make sure the protection of the Maxwell Lake watershed is ensured.

TOM GOSSETT,
Mount Maxwell Road

Literate citizens

Thank you for the excellent article, cartoon, editorial in support of the Salt Spring Island Public Library.

The residents of the island are definitely readers of the Driftwood

and literate citizens. The varied and positive support offered by the users of the library indicate that your reports in the Driftwood told a meaningful message.

The volunteers who staff the library believe so much in the library. The support generated by your reporting has warmed and encouraged all of us.

LOIS SLOTTEN,
Vice-Chairman,
Salt Spring Island Public
Library Association

Correction

Please allow me to make a correction in my last letter. MMT was banned in California as it was found to be a health hazard. It is being banned in Canada because of the damage it does to automobiles. This is the information I received from our local MP's office.

Sorry for any inconvenience from the misinformation.

BOB WALDE,
Neilburg, Saskatchewan

Your letters are welcome

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

GLORIA OLSON

Chartered Accountant

539-5152

Site 19, Comp 8, RR1
Galiano Island, B.C., VON 1P0

Loving Presence in Healing Relationships

with **DONNA MARTIN M.A.**

Friday, February 3rd at 7 p.m.
Saturday, February 4th all day
\$125 each or \$200 per couple
Old Scott Road, Salt Spring Island

*For therapists, health care professionals,
those in healing arts, or anyone in a relationship.
We'll explore "How do we have the kind of presence
that inspires healing and wholeness?"*

Registration and \$50 deposit
deadline January 25

Call **Marlene McGinn**

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SALT SPRING
MINI STORAGE

347 Upper Ganges Road
"Safer than Someone's Old barn"

RESERVE TODAY CALL **537-5888** FOR SIZES & RATES

Pat Barnes invites you to her

1st BIRTHDAY

SALE

at the **Tangled Web**
Mouat's Mall

20% OFF

all knitting
yarns plus
unadvertised
specials

JANUARY 14 - 21



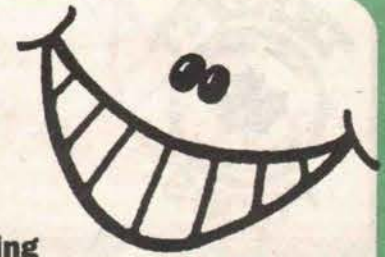
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THRIFTY FOODS™

VISA
Friendly Carry-out Service!

MasterCard
Lots of Parking Available!



Customer Service
537-1522

Prices in effect Wednesday, January 11 to Tuesday, January 17, 1995

Quality

Value

Service

Smiles in the Aisles...



Smiles in the Aisles are back BIGGER and BETTER!

If you spot your photo in our Driftwood ad or in the store on our "Smile Board", then notify a staff member and we will enter your name to win

A TRIP FOR 4 TO DISNEYLAND IN CALIFORNIA!

Contest ends March 31/95.
See details in store!



SUPER SPECIALS OF THE WEEK!

CHIQUITA
Bananas
1⁹⁸
5 lb. bag
* SALT SPRING STORE ONLY!

THRIFTY
All Purpose Flour
3⁹⁸
10 kg.

LAKELAND
Brick Margarine
58¢
454 g.

ISLAND FARMS
2% Milk
2⁹⁸
4 L.

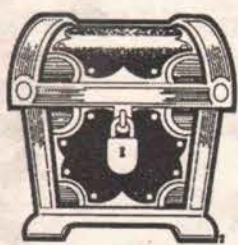
FRESH-MADE IN STORE
Beef Sausage
12⁸⁸
10 lb. pkg.
* SALT SPRING STORE ONLY!

FRESH
Ground Lamb
18⁸⁸
10 lb. pkg.
* SALT SPRING STORE ONLY!

SUNLIGHT, REG. OR SUPER
Laundry Detergent
5⁶⁸
3-8 L.

PUREX
Bathroom Tissue
2³⁸
8 roll pkg.

Community Chest



NUMBER 8036
Salt Spring Public Library

You can help support the Salt Spring Public Library or any of the other 44 registered groups when you shop at Thrifty Foods, Salt Spring. Simply tell your cashier your preferred group at time of purchase and we will donate 1% of your total bill to your selected group.

DID YOU KNOW...
Volunteer Firefighters respond to the call in their own vehicles using their 4-way flashers to signal an emergency. Please remember to give them a BRAKE and let them pass.

Sendial 537-1529



Thursday
9 AM - NOON

If you are a senior and/or disabled person who can't get out to shop, let us do it for you! A special group of volunteers will be standing by to take your telephone order. Then we'll select the items, pack them up, and deliver them to you the same day.

FREE Delivery on orders of \$25 or more (\$2 otherwise)



Quality, Value

Prices in effect Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Service Deli

We Reserve the Right to Change Prices Without Notice

OLYMPIC, SLICED OR SHAVED
**Black Forest
or Honey Ham**
88¢
100 g.

FLEETWOOD, SLICED
**Bavarian Meat
Loaf**
58¢
100 g.

PRODUCT OF CALIFORNIA, THRIFTY
**Fruit Cocktail,
Peach Slices
or Halves** In Pear Juice
98¢
398 ml.

THRIFTY
**All Purpose
Flour** 10 kg.
3.98

CANADIAN, RANDOM CUT
**Smoked
Gruyere**
1.28
100 g.

FLEETWOOD,
SLICED OR SHAVED
Roast Beef
1.08
With or Without Garlic
100 g.

THRIFTY, ALL VAR.
**Canned
Pop** 6 x 355 ml.
1.28
Plus Deposit

THRIFTY,
DICED, WHOLE, STEWED
Tomatoes 398 ml.
68¢
DELISLE,
ASSORTED VAR.
Yogurt 175 g.
68¢



IMPORTED, RANDOM CUT
**New Zealand
Cheddar**
1.08
Coloured 100 g.
THRIFTY'S OWN, BULK
**Ham & Cheese
Salad**
58¢
100 g.

THRIFTY, REG. OR NO SALT
**Tomato
Sauce** 398 ml.
58¢

IN LIGHT SYRUP, THRIFTY
**Apricot
Halves** 398 ml.
1.28

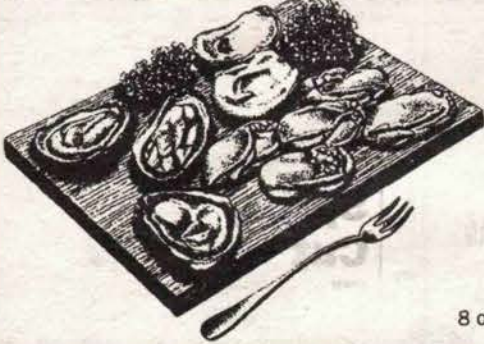
**coupon OFFER GOOD ONLY WITH COUPON. VALID
LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER. E**
**Buy any 5 tins of Alym
and receive FREE
of Paulins C**
coupon

Seafood

THAWED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, NORTH PACIFIC
Halibut Steaks 100 g.
1.28

"WILD", PACIFIC CAUGHT, SKIN ON
Coho Salmon Fillets 100 g.
1.18

IMPORTED FROM SCOTLAND, COOK BEFORE EATING
Smoked Cod Fillets 100 g.
88¢



VANCOUVER ISLAND
**Fresh
Oysters**
3.28
8 oz. tub

THRIFTY, REG. OR LIGHT SYRUP
**Mandarin
Oranges** 284 ml.
78¢

THRIFTY
**Pink
Salmon** 213 g.
1.28

SQUIRREL, CREAMY OR CHUNKY
**Peanut
Butter** 1.5 kg.
5.38

SUNBURST, ALL VAR.
**Cup
Noodles** 64 g.
58¢

ITALPASTA
**Tomato
Paste** 156 ml.
38¢

**Kraft
Dinner** 225 g.
78¢

McCAIN, ALL VAR.
**Fruit
Punches** 3 pack
78¢

LIBBY'S, ALL VAR.
**Canned
Vegetables** 341-398 ml.
68¢

STOKELY, ALL VAR.
**Kidney or
Baked
Beans** 398 ml.
58¢

BUY BIG - S

BUSTERS
**Dog
Food** Case of 12 x 709 g.
6.98

ITALPASTA
**Spaghetti or
Pasta Elbows** 5 lb. box
1.88

ITALPASTA
**Macaroni and
Cheese Dinner** Case of 12 x 200 g.
4.68

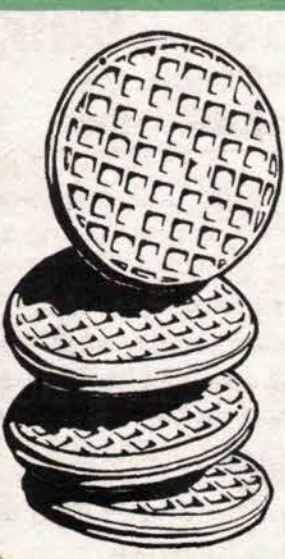
KRAFT
**Parkay
Margarine** 12 lb. case
11.58

CAMPBELL'S
**Tomato
Soup** Case of 12 x 284 ml.
5.68

CAMPBELL'S
**Chicken Noodle
or Vegetable
Soup** Case of 12 x 284 ml.
8.58

CAMPBELL'S
**Cream of
Mushroom
Soup** Case of 12 x 284 ml.
7.98

Frozen Food

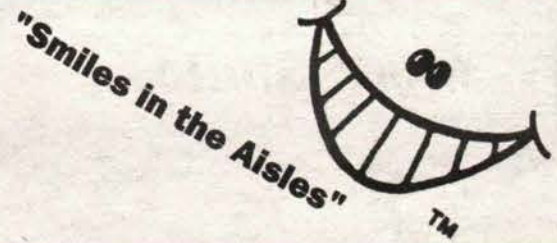


THRIFTY, FROZEN
Waffles 48s
5.98

VELVET, ALL VAR.
Ice Cream 2 L. Carton
2.88

Free Delivery Anywhere on Salt Spring, Mon - Sat on Orders of \$25 or more

Special Service



Monday 11 through Tuesday, January 17

Limit to Limit Quantities

In-Store Bakery

NIAGARA, FROZEN
Orange Juice All var. 341 ml
68¢

SUNLIGHT, REG. OR SUPER
Laundry Detergent 3.8 L.
4.98

UNCLE DAN'S
Salad Dressing Mixes 21 g.
68¢

THRIFTY, ALL VAR.
Rice Cakes 170 g.
68¢

ISLAND FARMS, 1 OR 2%
Cottage Cheese 750 g.
1.98

SUNLIGHT, REG. OR ENVIROPACK
Dishwashing Liquid 700-950 ml.
1.88

VALID AT ALL THRIFTY FOODS' STORES. MER. EXPIRES JAN. 17/95.
Polynesian soups 284 ml.
Free a 450 g. package of **Crackers**.

SCOTTIE, CHAMPAGNE ONLY
Facial Tissue 100s
3/98¢

HUGGIES, BOYS & GIRLS
Jumbo Ultra Diapers 4 sizes
15.98



Farm Bread
88¢
 454 g.

12 Grain Bread
1.88
 680 g.

Oatmeal Raisin Cookies
2.68
 Pkg. of 12

Butter Tarts
2.28
 Pkg. of 6

LAKELAND
Brick Margarine 454 g.
58¢

PUREX
Bathroom Tissue 8-roll pkg.
2.38

SAVE BIG!

STUART HOUSE
Garbage Bags 40s
3.68

MONEY'S
Pieces & Stems Mushrooms 284 ml.
88¢

NABISCO
Jumbo Shreddies 1.35 kg.
4.98

MRS. SMITHS, FROZEN
Apple or Pumpkin Pie 737 g.
2.88

THRIFTY
Giant Block Cheese 700 g.
6.98

MAINSTAY
Cat Food 8 kg.
5.98

SUNLIGHT
Laundry Detergent 24 L.
13.98

BLASKO'S
Water 4 L. jug
98¢

SUNLIGHT
Dishwasher Detergent 3.3 kg. pail
4.98

CHRISTIE, SELECTED VAR.
Chips or Chunks Ahoy, Oreo, or Fudgee-O 400-450 g.
2.28

PUREX
Bathroom Tissue 24 roll pkg.
6.78

CHRISTIE
Date, Fig or Apple Newtons 350 g.
1.98

VIVA, JUMBO
Paper Towels Case of 6
4.68

ISLAND HARVEST
Multigrain Bread 680 g.
1.38

Bulk Savings

PRE-PACKAGED
Peace River Clover Honey
26¢
 100 g.

PACKAGED PRODUCT AT BULK PRICING
Thrifty Pack JuJubes 1 kg. bag
2.88

YOUR CHOICE
Rolled or Quick Oats 10 kg. bag or 5¢/100 g.
4.98

Sunkist Natural Pistachios
88¢
 100 g.

Flowers and More

Mini Carnation Bouquet
3.98

Spring Cut Flower Bouquet
4.98

Mixed Cut Flower Bouquet
3.98

4" POT, ASST'D.
Spring Bulb Plants
1.98

4" POT
Tropical Plants
1.98

5" POT
Hyacinths
4.98

6" POT
Kalanchoe
4.98

6" POT
Cyclamen
6.98

10" POT
Boston Fern
9.98

5 or more, (\$2 Charge Otherwise), Same Day Delivery on Orders in by 2:00 PM

Fresh Produce

More Smiles...



CHILEAN "OH SO SWEET"

Onions

"Slice them, dice them, toss them in your salad, soup or stir fry; these onions will not make you cry!"

98¢

2.16 kg.

Produce Partners:
French Onion Soup Mix, 34 g. pkg. - 98¢

CALIFORNIA FANCY, SIZE 138

Navel Oranges



4 lbs. / 98¢

\$8.88 - 40 lb. box

Nutritional Information:
per 160 g. serving (1 med.)
Energy - 55 cal./230 KJ
Protein - 1.4 g. Fat - 0.2 g.
Carbohydrate - 12 g.
Fibre - 7 g. Sodium - 1 mg.
Potassium - 270 mg.

Percentage of RDI
Vitamin C - 135% Folicin - 21%

CALIFORNIA GROWN, U.S. No. 1, ORGANIC

Fresh Celery

1.94 kg.

88¢

lb.



OREGON FANCY, ORGANIC

D'Anjou Pears

2.82 kg.

1 28

lb.

PERUVIAN, SIZE 12

Sweet Mangoes

98¢

ea.

OKANAGAN

Fruit Snacks

4 / 98¢

15 g.

BC GROWN, FANCY

Red Delicious Apples

2 48

7 litre box

BC GROWN

Red Potatoes

4 88

20 lb. bag

"Let Us" Slim You Down!

CALIFORNIA

Green or Red Leaf or Romaine Lettuce



98¢

Many thanks to California growers for supplying us in difficult times.

Nutritional Information:
per 56 g. serving (1/6 head)
Energy - 10 cal./40 KJ
Protein - 0.9 g. Fat - 0.1 g.
Carbohydrate - 1.3 g.
Sodium - 4 mg. Potassium - 162 mg.

Percentage of RDI
Vitamin A - 14% Vitamin C - 22%
Folicin - 34%

Quality Meats

CUT FROM CANADA "A" GRADES

Baron of Beef

Boneless Bottom Round. 4.37 kg.

1 98

lb.

ISLAND GROWN, TENDERLOIN OR RIB HALF

Half Pork Loin

Cut into Chops. 4.37 kg.

1 98

lb.

BREAST BONE REMOVED, FRESH

Pork Side Spareribs

4.37 kg.

1 98

lb.

THRIFTY QUALITY, ALL SIZES

Lean Ground Beef

4.14 kg.

1 88

lb.

CUT FROM CANADA "A" GRADES, BONELESS

Eye of Round Roast

Easy to carve. 5.69 kg.

2 58

lb.

THRIFTY FRESH, NO ADDED MSG

Pure Pork Sausage

1 58

3.48 kg. lb.

FLETCHER'S, SELECTED VAR.

Sliced Lunch Meats

1 48

175 g. pkg.

BURN'S

Breakfast Grill

2 38

Chicken or Turkey & Bacon 375 g. pkg.



GRIMM'S

Mennonite Farmer Sausage

3 88

Or Old Country without garlic. 500 g. pkg.

BONELESS & SKINLESS

Fresh Chicken Breast

3 98

8.77 kg. lb.

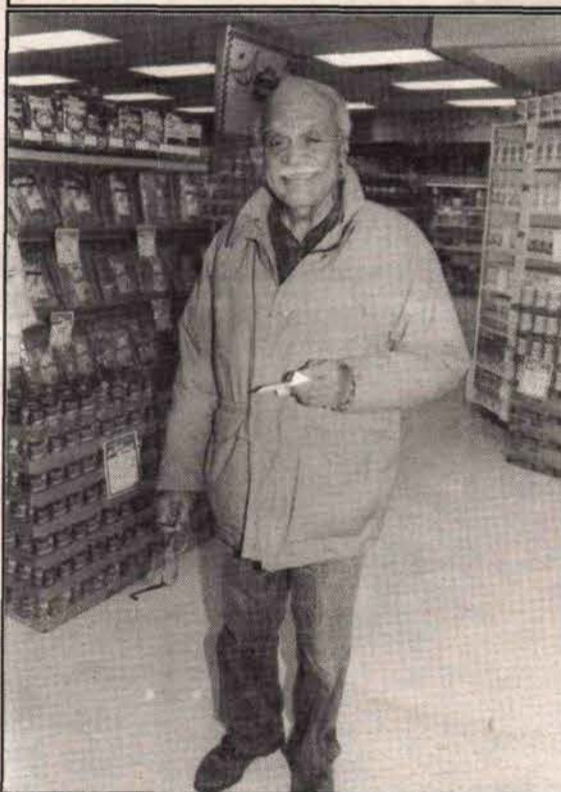
BURN'S, CAMPFIRE

Sliced Side Bacon

1 78

500 g. pkg.

More Smiles...



Forced to sell?

Two years ago, we purchased an acreage on Salt Spring Island, zoned Agricultural Land Reserve, in the belief we had found our little piece of retirement heaven. So, we put up our life savings and took the plunge.

The property tax assessment for our 10 acres in 1992 when we purchased was \$132,000, which meant \$13,200 per acre. In 1993 it suddenly leapt to \$216,000, and suddenly a few days ago the 1995 assessment tells us in 1994 it jumped another \$56,000 to \$270,000.

We do not believe the value per acre, of ALR-zoned land, with all its restrictions, can possibly have more than doubled in value inside two years. The Assessment Authority says the onus is on us to prove different; how convenient for it.

Should this pattern continue, and in the knowledge that the tax rate will increase over the years, we estimate that one year prior to retirement we will be forced to sell our little dream. Taxed out of house and home, so to speak.

The insidious policy of taxing based on a property's market value, which can be wildly manipulated, will destroy the hopes and dreams of many people, particularly the pensioners and retirees, who will be least able to afford it.

It is furthermore obvious that it is in the government's interest to see property prices skyrocket, regardless of the misery to the young and old, forcing senior citizens out of the market, and making it increasingly difficult for young people to even hope to purchase their own home.

It is not possible for a citizen to appeal the tax rate, which is a whole other issue, but it is possible to appeal the assessment.

As the Assessment Authority is essentially a tool in the hand of the Ministry of Finance, the odds against us are huge, as individuals.

We are sure we are not the only ones facing this dilemma, and would like to hear from others, so that perhaps an organized approach would help alleviate this problem.

DON FRENCH,
Lower Ganges Road

Communism an ideal

Recently there has been a number of letters in the Driftwood concerning the Gulf Island Communist Party at the high school.

Certain views were expressed

FARES:

From Page A1

McKenzie said the ferry corporation is anticipating revenue increases of between \$6.6 million and \$9 million as a result of the fare increases, based on its traffic projections. In 1993/94, ferries serving the Gulf Islands took in \$14,399,000 in fares and catering revenues. But the corporation spent \$37,084,000 providing the service, including depreciation on the existing vessels but not including capital expenses. That made a cost recovery ratio for the Gulf Islands services of 38 per cent.

"There is no doubt we are moving to less reliance on taxpayer subsidy," McKenzie said of the second fare increase in less than a year. "We are moving more toward a user-pay system, but we're not going to do it overnight."

More letters

that the students in the party were ignorant of the horrors the Russian government inflicted upon its people during its communist rule, and that the students seemed to regard it as some sort of joke.

It cannot be denied that this totalitarian rulership was indeed one of the harshest to come out of the 20th century. I don't feel it appropriate, however, to place the blame for these atrocities on communism. Communism is an ideal, in the same way that capitalism is an ideal. It is with this ideal (com-

munist) which we have developed social programs and medicare. It is the responsibility of the government which attempts to carry out the ideal to make sure it is done correctly — not the ideal itself.

Indeed, in a perfect communist government, the needs of everyone would be taken care of, and the evils that western society associates with communism would not be valid. Russia's was not a perfect government, however.

The students involved are pro-

active, intelligent youth who feel that young people are smart enough to make decisions themselves about their own education, which is really their future. We don't think guns, nuclear bombs and tanks are "cool," but are instead trying to make young people examine why they do.

Perhaps we were ignorant to not take into account the horrific associations the word communism could have for some members of the community. Perhaps some members of the community were

ignorant to make assumptions about our opinions of tanks and guns before the party has even had a chance to make its purposes known.

A small amount of diplomacy would be all that is needed to create a unity between young and old, conservative and radical. Hopefully then we can get back to the task at hand, which is giving the students a chance to have a say in what happens in their own education institution.

BRETT GAYLOR,
Ministry of Media,
Gulf Island Community Party,
President, Student Council

FIRST BIG SALE

OF THE YEAR

Tremendous Savings

throughout the store on our entire selection of quality home furnishings, appliances and televisions — Every single item on our 3 floors is specially priced with YOU in mind!

Better hurry though...

Sale ends 6pm January 14, 1995

THE JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

on now at:



2513 Beacon Ave., Sidney, By-the-Sea
Monday-Saturday 9am-6pm



FREE DELIVERY / CALL COLLECT 656-3724
Trades Welcome - Financing Available

WE WILL BEAT ANY PRICE!
ADVERTISED BY ANOTHER AUTHORIZED DEALER BY 55%
OR ITS YOURS... FREE (SEE IN-STORE FOR DETAILS) **OF THE DIFFERENCE**

NEW YEARS PRICE CRASH SALE

HELD OVER
 WED., THURS., FRI. 10-9

GUARANTEED EVERYDAY REGULAR LOW PRICES 7 DAYS A WEEK

NO PAYMENTS TIL JULY 1995

O.A.C. NOMINAL ADMINISTRATION FEE PAYABLE AT TIME OF PURCHASE

AUDIO VIDEO APPLIANCES COMPUTERS HOME OFFICE

SAMSUNG
AM/FM CASSETTE CD PORTABLE



FANTASTIC PORTABLE CD SOUND!!

- CD to tape transfer capability
- 16 program memory
- Auto scan/reverse/shuffle play
- Multi function liquid crystal display
- Auto reverse
- Great sound!

ICD-222 3412020
\$139⁹⁹

SONY 27" Trinitron "V" STEREO MONITOR/RECEIVER



DEEP BLACK SCREEN MAKES COLOURS LOOK MORE VIVID

- Dynamic acoustic channel (DAC) surround speakers deliver high-power quality audio
- Pre programmed remote is compatible with most brands of VCRs

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\$898

MOFFAT

FAMILY SIZE REFRIGERATOR

FROST FREE TOP BRAND NAME REFRIGERATOR

- 2 full-width shelves
- A large wire crispers
- 2 full door shelves
- A spacious freezer section

MP1804T 05324180
\$529⁰⁰

AST 486 DX2/66 MULTI-MEDIA COMPUTER WITH 420 MB HD



• 4 MB HD
 • 1 MB local bus video
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 • 16-bit sound card
 • Microphone, Speakers
 • DOS, Windows
 • AST multi-media experience
 • 101 keyboard & mouse
 • Mouse pad
 • 1 year on-site warranty
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MONITOR SOLD SEPARATELY
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SALE \$1699⁹⁹

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RED HOT PRODUCT!

- INCREDIBLE QUALITY!
- HOTTEST VALUE!

CANON'S LATEST MARVEL GIVES YOU UNSURPASSED QUALITY!

- 360 DPI resolution
- 248 CPS in high speed mode
- 49k buffer
- 84 nozzles
- Bi directional printing

IC200 1046200
SALE \$294⁹⁹

SHARP BRAND NAME BLOWOUT

5-DISC CD CHANGER with extra bass, graphic EQ, double cassette, & much more!

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Legislation would raise cable rates

Outlawing negative billing by cable companies will lead to higher cable television rates in the future, predicts Salt Spring Cable co-owner Linda Phillips.

A promise to outlaw negative billing made Thursday by B.C. Consumer Affairs Minister Joan Smallwood was prompted by angry reaction nation-wide to introduction of new channels by Rogers Cablesystems Ltd.

One Salt Spring cable subscriber sees similarities between Salt Spring Cable's actions last fall and the furor over Rogers.

"It was the same darn thing as what is going on with Rogers," remarked Louise Windsor. "To me, that's exactly what happened."

Like Rogers, Salt Spring Cablevision introduced the new channels under a negative billing plan which required subscribers to notify the cable company if they did not want the additional channels.

But Phillips points out that negative billing is common in the cable industry. The majority of Salt Spring subscribers agreed last year to accept the new channels. Forcing the cable company to individually sign up and hook up each of those subscribers to the new service would only increase the cost to the consumer, Phillips said.

She felt eliminating negative billing would deprive many cable subscribers of a chance to see a new channel and discover they would like to keep it as part of their cable service. "It's bad because people will miss out on things they like."

Negative billing is not a horrendous marketing technique when people want the product, she said. Requests by subscribers prompted the addition of the new channels.

The basic service was introduced as a lower-cost option. "What we did this year was something Rogers and Shaw did four years ago to keep basic cable

affordable," she explained.

Until September, the only option Salt Spring Cablevision offered was a package of all the channels carried by the company, except for specialty channels like SuperChannel or The Family Channel.

Phillips felt most of the problem with Rogers' change in channels was their decision to put popular channels, such as The Sports Network (TSN) and Arts & Entertainment (A&E), in two different channel groups. Subscribers who wanted both channels were forced to pay for basic service and two extra groups of channels.

On Salt Spring, Phillips said residents who wanted both TSN and A&E only had to pick up one additional group of channels beyond the basic service.

Windsor saw similarities between the repackaging of channels by Rogers and the repackaging of channels by Salt Spring Cablevision last September. She said those who had been receiving TSN as part of their cable service had to subscribe to the three new channels if they wanted to continue watching TSN.

On Salt Spring, TSN and MuchMusic were eliminated from the cable company's basic service and incorporated into what Salt Spring Cablevision described as a "full cable service." This service included three new channels: Vision TV, the Cable News Network and A&E.

The monthly fee for "full cable service" went to \$22.67 from \$18.05. At the same time, the company introduced a "basic service" of 15 channels for \$17.72. The cost of the basic service was reduced by the elimination of TSN and MuchMusic charges. A five per cent increase in basic service costs was levied at the same time.

Phillips said some subscribers opted for the basic service. Most of the reaction from her customers to the changes has been positive, she said.



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Scabies outbreak no epidemic, district health officials advise

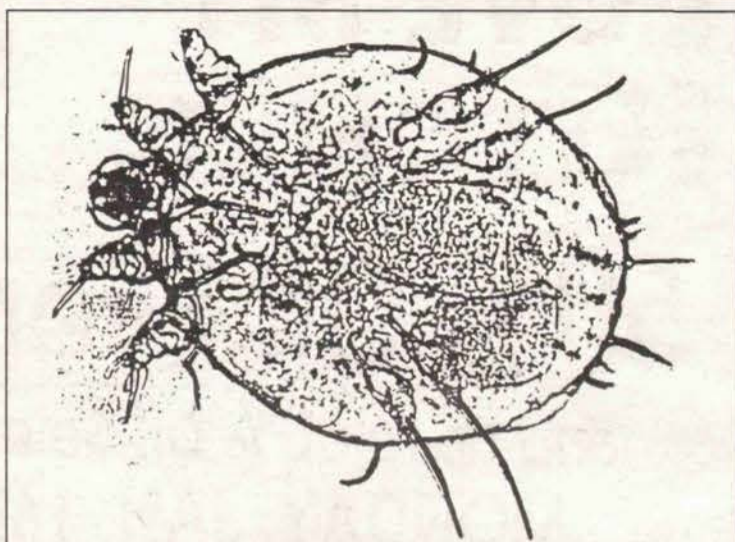
While one parent claims there is a scabies epidemic on Salt Spring, local health officials can only confirm four cases of the body lice on elementary school children.

"Epidemic is a gross exaggeration," Capital Regional District health nurse Chris Smart said of the presence of scabies in children at Fernwood Elementary School. "There were two confirmed cases in December and two in January."

Tim Johnstone, the CRD deputy medical health officer said that scabies is "more or less around all the time" and that there have been one or two "outbreaks" in Victoria-area hospitals in the last three years. There have been no epidemics of the body lice anywhere in the CRD, he said.

Fernwood resident Marilyn Marshall is concerned that the scabies might get out of hand in Fernwood school, where one of her children came into contact with the disease. While she has bought an anti-body lice cream for her children and herself, she is concerned that the school might not have been properly disinfected to prevent her children getting scabies again.

But Fernwood principal Bruce Stewart said carpets and furniture in high-traffic areas like the library had been cleaned. Scabies does not "float through the air," he



SCABIES MITE: A magnified drawing of the scabies mite, which is actually barely visible to the naked eye.

said. It can only come from skin-to-skin contact. A notice warning parents to look for symptoms and what to do if symptoms are discovered went out to Fernwood parents last week.

Scabies can infect anyone, regardless of age, gender, socioeconomic background or degree of personal hygiene, according to information provided by the CRD health office. The condition continues to be a "significant and persistent problem in settings where close personal contact is unavoidable."

One of a number of kinds of body lice, scabies is a mite which lives under the skin. The females lay their eggs under the skin, particularly in warm, moist places on the body. The laying of eggs causes intense nocturnal itching.

There are commercial creams sold at pharmacies to kill the mite, and washing of clothes, bed linen and towels is usually recommended when scabies is found in the home. Specific questions about the condition should be directed to the CRD health office or family doctor.

Bibs to be given non-smoking babies though none expected during week

Babies are born non-smokers. That's the message the B.C. Lung Association and Lady Minto Hospital want to get out next week for National Non-Smoking Week. From January 16-22, every baby born in the hospital will receive a bib inscribed with the words "I'm a born non-smoker."

The B.C. Lung Association hopes the bibs will emphasize that everyone is born a non-smoker and can choose to remain smoke-free.

"Most smokers start the habit by age 12 but chances are people who don't start will never smoke," says Shirley Thompson, B.C. Lung Association health educator. "At least one-third of adolescents who try as few as two cigarettes go on to become regular smokers. In other words, they are addicts, because nicotine is as hard to beat as heroin."

Lady Minto nurse Margaret Pickard hopes there will be some babies born during the week to

receive the bibs. "I don't know of anyone who is actually due within that time," she said.

"It might be more helpful to send the bib to a home that's really puffing up a storm. They might get the point," Pickard added.

Thompson noted more than 5,000 British Columbians died from tobacco-related diseases last year. Thousands more suffer from chronic illness and disability related to cigarette smoking, she added.

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From pilot to painter

Jerry Davidson likes to paint, draw and photograph the Snowbirds

By GRAEME THOMPSON
Driftwood Staff

Nothing is ever as it seems. And that is as it should be, at least in the world of art. Salt Spring painter Jerry Davidson firmly believes that a painting should "involve the viewer."

"It is incumbent on the artist to stimulate the audience," he said last week in his Sky Valley Road studio. "A painting should always ask a question or leave you wondering. It should never be exactly as it seems."

Davidson's paintings reflect this sense of activity between viewer and painting, between artist and audience. One painting, which was recently hanging in Pegasus Gallery, is titled *Don't Go Near the Water*. It is a bright acrylic work, of a woman diving off a lakeside platform.

But on closer inspection, a branch can be seen protruding from the water just below the diver. Does she know it's there? Is there danger under water? What will happen?

The viewer doesn't know and can only guess, but that is what makes the painting interesting.

In another nearby work, a summer-dressed woman in a straw hat sits in a canoe on a lake. An open book is in her lap, but she is looking up and out of the painting, at something which has clearly caught her off guard. What has disturbed her? Something pleasant or something not? There is no pat answer. It is left to the viewer to decide.

Although Davidson has painted for nearly 20 years, he has not been an artist full-time all his life. He recalled he was once told that everybody should do two things in

their lives. For 37 years, Davidson flew airplanes: first for the Canadian military, then for Canadian Airlines.

But the "gold watch" at the end of a career was not something Davidson wanted. He retired early seven years ago and moved to Salt Spring with his wife. He has never looked back.

The house is filled with paintings and drawings and photographs. Davidson is not restricted to one medium: he paints in acrylic, egg tempera and graphite.

"Drawing tells you a lot more about the artist than a painting. It's more spontaneous."

"Drawing is highly underrated as an art form," he said, looking at a sepia-toned lithograph of a nude woman sitting on a cloth-draped stool.

"Drawing tells you a lot more about the artist than a painting. It's more spontaneous."

He compares Rembrandt's paintings, which are sombre and dark, to his etchings, which are more light, more humorous. The less formal medium, demanding less refined techniques, illuminates a side to the great painter which would not otherwise be seen.

In addition to painting and drawing, Davidson is also a professional photographer. The stairwell down to the studio is lined with prints of ballerinas in various attitudes and stages of rehearsal. A decade ago he took a great num-



PLANE ART: Island artist Jerry Davidson has turned his brush on Canada's famous aeronautical squadron, the Snowbirds, for the team's 25th anniversary this season. Even

though he is one of the Snowbirds' official photographers, this is the first time he has painted the team.

Top photo by Graeme Thompson

ber of pictures of the Pacific Ballet Theatre, later to become Ballet B.C.

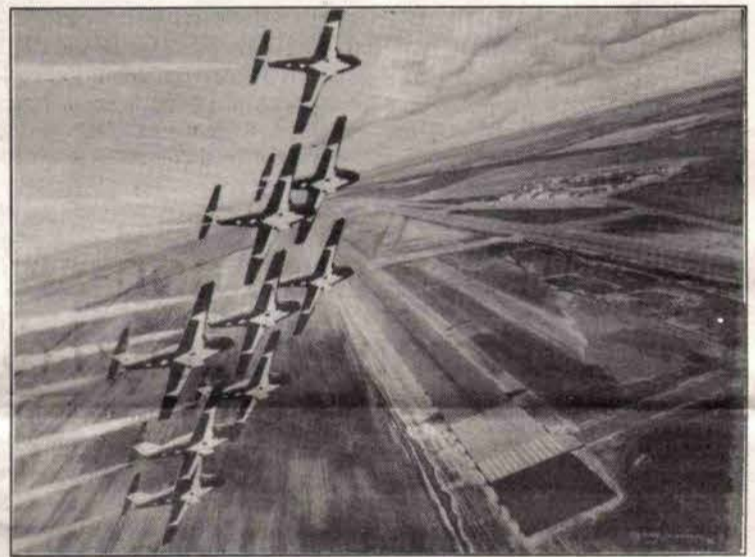
Dancers make "perfect models," he said, because they are so narcissistic. "They love to be looked at and they love looking at themselves."

The series on the wall is vibrant but touching because so many of the scenes are clearly unanticipated. In one, a ballerina has been caught doing a solo disco-hop with her Sony Walkman on; in another, a ballerina holds a cigarette whose long ash rivals the length of her own heavy eyelashes.

Davidson's studio is filled with light — the house looks east and seems to perch right over Ganges Harbour. Artist's models, a mannequin, a sculpture of a human head line shelves and fill corners. His work desk is covered with sketches and drawings and the initial work towards his next painting. In one corner stands his most recently completed work: an acrylic painting of Canada's premier aeronautical acrobatic team, the Snowbirds.

It is going to be made into a special lithograph celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Canadian Forces team. The nine aircraft fly in tight formation — the more remarkable when you think how fast they are going — over their home base of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Davidson is one of four official Snowbird photographers who gets to fly with the team regularly. As



an experienced pilot himself, of course, the rigours of flight at high speed are not new. He spent three days with the team recently in Moose Jaw, talking to the pilots and looking over the countryside around the base.

In the finished painting, every detail of the planes and the base is meticulously included: exact colouring and numbering of individual craft, each of half a dozen hangars on the ground, correct numbers on the airstrips.

"Knowing pilots as I do, technical detail is very important to them," he said. "They would notice the correctness of the formation, the positioning of aircraft in relation to the aerodrome, technical de-

tails of the planes — whose plane was in which position. Everything has to be exactly right."

But his artistic perspective takes over in the studio from the pilot's attention to accuracy, once he has all the details correct. He tilts the horizon. He brings the formation in at an angle. The cloud formation at the left and the runways on the ground are placed so as to bring the eyes zooming in toward the lead plane.

These changes are done deliberately to add "tension and imbalance" to the image. That's what adds the artistic interest. That's what makes the image more than what it seems. That's what Davidson's art is all about.

Unique problems to shooting Snowbirds

Mementos of his aeronautical experiences line the walls of a small room in Jerry Davidson's Salt Spring home. These "trophy" include posters, photos, framed prints and lithographs from various flying stunt teams and military squadrons.

Some of the earliest pictures follow the Canadian Airlines acrobatic flying duo, known as The Canadian Reds. Davidson used to go all over North America to different air shows as the photographer for the group.

Davidson no longer takes pictures for the Reds, who later expanded to a foursome and changed their name to the Ray Ban Golds. But he is one of four official photographers for Canadian Forces 431 Squadron, better known as the Snowbirds. It is a distinct honour, and the only bit of flying photography he still does.

With a 37-year career of flying behind him, Davidson is no stranger to a life above the clouds. Most of the stunt pictures he takes are from the back of a Buffalo, a big military carry-all kind of

carry-all kind of plane which has a large rear door. The door is dropped open and Davidson takes his photos from this makeshift platform — tied down with a very secure lanyard, of course.

But the photographer in the air has some unique dilemmas to ground-based picture-takers. There are constant and erratic vibrations, both from the massive engines and the movement of the aircraft. To get around this, most professional aeronautical photographers invest some \$3,000 in a camera gyro.

The gyro is about half the size of a football, Davidson explained, and is encased in a box which bolts onto the bottom of the camera. A cord leads to a battery pack on the floor. The gyro moves at about 30,000 rpm and creates a stable platform in space in which to take pictures.

With this device, a Buffalo aircraft and a strong harness, photographers like Davidson can take those breath-taking pictures of close formations and smoke-streaming stunts which have brought the drama of stunt flying down to earth for everyone to enjoy.

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Two award-winning poets to read Saturday at Ganges

The poetry-reading season starts early on the Gulf Islands. Theatre Alive! holds its first reading of the new year this week, when Patrick Friesen and Patricia Young read from recent work. Their visit is sponsored by Canada Council and Theatre Alive!

Island poet Brian Brett — whose extensive connections in the writers' world have made many of the Salt Spring presentations possible — said Friesen is "one of the most powerful readers" he has heard. He is also one

of Canada's poetic stars.

Friesen is a Winnipeg-based poet who has garnered a reputation as "one of Canada's finest lyric poets," according to the jacket of his latest tome, *Blasphemer's Wheel*. As well as poetry, Friesen works in documentary film, theatre and dance. This background in performance art lends itself well to public readings.

Friesen, who has won the MacNally-Robinson book-of-the-year award, will read from

his latest book.

Patricia Young has written six books of poetry and is going "from award to award," Brett said. She recently won the Pat Lowther award and the B.C. book prize for poetry as well as being short-listed for the governor-general's award for poetry.

Young is about to publish a new book of poetry.

Both poets will be at All Saints by-the-Sea Saturday. Admission is free to the reading, which starts at 8 p.m.

Diana Dean to hold show prior to shipping work to Toronto gallery

Salt Spring painter Diana Dean is having a pre-packing show of work one day only this week. Islanders can see her latest work Thursday, just before it is sent off to Toronto.

The paintings include the 10-foot by 12-foot, five-sided oil painting entitled *Artist's Workshop* — The Annunciation, which was also on show at the Christmas Fabric Guild show in Mahon Hall. Salt Spring is represented in the canvas, Dean said, and was a contributing source of inspiration for the work.

Her paintings are to be crated and shipped to the Nancy Poole Studio in Toronto Friday for an annual show there by the artist in February.

Diana Dean has been painting on the island for the last decade and was most recently awarded a juror's choice at the Look '94 exhibit. She has donated many works to various projects and organizations including Clayoquot Sound, ArtSpring and the Western Canada Wilderness Committee.

Islanders are invited to her studio at 135 North View Road between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday.

Retreat planned for fibre artists

Gulf Islands weavers, spinners and other fibre artists are invited to attend a spring retreat sponsored on a non-profit basis by the Deep Cove Weavers and Spinners Guild.

The retreat, scheduled for March 31 to April 2, will take place at Tigh Na Mara Resort in Parksville. Workshops will focus on weaving, spinning, colour, basketry, felting, design and shiatzu.

Registration is limited and forms must be mailed on or near February 1.

The registration package and additional information can be obtained by contacting Dianne Cross at 656-4201.

Book promotes agriculture among students

Ten copies of a book on B.C. agriculture have been purchased by the Salt Spring Farmers' Institute for distribution to local schools. Entitled *Grow B.C.*, the book is designed to create a greater awareness among students of the agricultural industry in the province.

The book and an accompanying map provide an area by area review of B.C. farm production.

High school students are getting hands-on experience in agriculture through the school's locally developed agriculture program. The students have built a barn on school district owned land across from the school and are growing a herb garden to supply the school cafeteria.

Eventually, students in the program will be growing food for the cafeteria.

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ENTERTAINMENT

This week at the Cinema

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET: A Christmas remake of the well-loved classic which starred Natalie Wood. This one follows the original script pretty well scene for scene. The most endearing qualities are found in the endearingly sincere little girl who wants so desperately to believe in Santa (Mara Wilson) and the jovial would-be Santa (Richard Attenborough). General, Friday to Monday, 7 p.m., Sunday matinee, 2 p.m.

CAMILLA: This is Jessica Tandy's last feature role before her death last year. It is a touching comedy-drama about the relationship between an old woman and the younger woman whose life she transforms. Mature, Friday to Monday, 9 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

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| 3. Little Buddha (3) | 8. Blown Away (-) |
| 4. North (-) | 9. Spanking the Monkey (7) |
| 5. Renaissance Man (-) | 10. Ride Me (-) |

On Tap at the Pubs

MOBY'SWednesday Night Live, Jan. 11, 9 p.m.
.....Larry Miller Quartet, Jan. 15, 7 p.m.

HARBOUR HOUSE (Pub)Swallow, Jan. 13, 14

Community TV Schedule

Jan. 12, 6 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 6
Jan. 12, 8 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 7
Jan. 15, 11 a.m.Keep Fit
Jan. 15, 11:30 a.m.Islands Trust workshop 7, 8
Jan. 15, 1:30 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 9
Jan. 17, 11 a.m.Keep Fit
Jan. 17, 11:30 a.m.Islands Trust workshop 9
Jan. 17, 1:30 p.m.Islands Trust workshop 10

Constitution of health council one of meeting's agenda topics

How will health decisions be made in the future? That is the question which will be discussed at a public meeting Thursday at Ganges United Church. The meeting has been called by the Salt Spring Island Health Planning Committee.

The committee has been looking at how changes in provincial health care will affect Salt Spring Island and the Gulf Islands, and has been discussing how a single health council for the five Gulf Islands might work. The group is looking for community input to its recommendations for forming and running such a health council.

The committee recommends a council be made up of three representatives from each of the five islands — Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Pender and Saturna — for a total of 15 members.

Bill 45, which will create community health councils in April, legislates that one-third of council seats will be elected, one-third appointed from elected bodies and one-third appointed by the minister of health. The Salt Spring committee recommends that one of each of the three island representatives be appointed from the community at large; one be appointed by the minister from a list supplied by each island's health planning committee; and one person appointed from people elected by the community.

The committee considered that a locally elected official such as an Islands Trust trustee, a school board trustee or a regional director might be appointed to the health council from each island, if that person was available and was

willing to serve. But the preference of the Salt Spring committee is that appointments from elected bodies be from local health care societies.

These people have already shown a "commitment and a high level of interest in the health and wellness of their friends and neighbours" and deserve the chance to assist in the implementation of the concepts of the New Directions initiatives, the committee said in a press release.

Decision-making on the 15-member health council would be by consensus, the Salt Spring committee recommends, except for matters of capital expenditures, where weighted voting is proposed.

Thursday's meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at Ganges United Church hall.

Order-in-council is last approval for Mouat Park transfer to PRC

The Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) acquired 58 more acres of park land January 1 — almost.

The commission was due to take over Mouat Park at the beginning of the year but is still waiting for the final paperwork on the transfer from B.C. Parks.

A series of approvals were required for the transfer, Parks and Recreation administrator Tony Hume explained.

The Ministry of Parks, the minister of parks, the PRC and the Capital Regional district have approved.

"The only thing we're waiting for is the actual order-in-council to be signed," Hume said. He doesn't know how long that will take but he says contingency plans are under way. "We're making provisions for taking over the park for this summer."

If the order-in-council is not signed by the summer, Hume said, the PRC will probably lease Mouat Park from B.C. Parks. He noted B.C. Parks has no money budgeted to operate the park this year and the government is willing to turn the park over to the PRC.

The PRC has already done work in the park through upgrading of trails by the PRC-sponsored Environmental Youth Team, Hume said.

He expected the park will continue to be operated as a campground although there may be some changes in the actual operation. For example, additional camping space for cyclists may be provided.

Operation of the park will be discussed during either the January or February PRC meeting, he said. "No decisions have been made."

The next PRC meeting will be January 30.

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'Corporate farm' organization, B.C. plan registration—Wilcox

Farm assessment changes and B.C. Federation of Agriculture resolutions over the past few years could be a prelude to a farm registration program, says Salt Spring farmer John Wilcox.

"It seems that a picture is beginning to emerge," Wilcox said. He attended the B.C. Federation of Agriculture (BCFA) convention in Harrison Hot Springs December 5-7, where delegates passed a motion to establish a system which could lead to farm registration fees for those farmers who want to maintain farm status.

Wilcox said the motion echoes the situation in Nova Scotia and Ontario. In Ontario, the registration fees are collected by the province and allocated to either the Ontario Federation of Agriculture or the Christian Farmers' Federation of Ontario.

In Nova Scotia, where the legislation is to take effect April 1, the fees are expected to go to the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture.

Wilcox's conclusion is dismissed by Mary Dean, director of communications and operations for the B.C. Federation of Agriculture. "I wouldn't be that definitive and say that is the system the BCFA is working towards."

She said the federation is seeking changes in provincial legislation so farm groups can fund themselves. But she felt there still needs to be a lot of consultation with farmers and with commodity

groups on the funding method.

Wilcox suggests events in B.C. over the past few years echo the steps which led to farm registration and registration fees in Ontario and Nova Scotia.

The first step, he said, was a BCFA motion recommending that farm tax status only be given to farmers earning at least \$5,000 gross annually from their farm.

Then, under provincial legislation, the level of income required

Before the change, farmers only had to earn \$1,600 annually from farming to maintain farm class on their property.

for farm tax status in B.C. was increased. Farmers must now earn \$2,500 from their first 10 acres and five percent of the land value for each additional acre, Wilcox explained. Before the change, farmers only had to earn \$1,600 annually from farming to maintain farm class on their property.

"What we have been fighting all along is farm registration," he said. "The same organization did the same thing in two other provinces and now they are doing it here."

Dean said she was not familiar with the entire tax assessment issue. However, she felt changes in

assessment regulations and BCFA funding were unrelated issues.

Wilcox hopes the provincial government in B.C. will not follow the lead of Ontario and Nova Scotia. At present, he noted, many farms do not belong to the federation. "The Federation of Agriculture represents the corporate farming industry of B.C., which is perhaps a third of B.C. farms," he observed.

He also felt the smaller farms had lost some of their representation on the BCFA when the board was cut to nine members from 28. Among the positions eliminated were the directors representing the province's farmers' institutes.

The move left the 300 Salt Spring Farmers' Institute members, who are also members of the BCFA, without direct representation on the board, Wilcox said. The Farmers' Institute delegates did not endorse the reorganization of the board, he added.

In response, Wilcox said farmers' institutes throughout B.C. are calling on B.C. Agriculture Minister Dave Zirnheldt to reinstate the annual general meetings of the farmers' institutes. Those meetings had been discontinued in favor of participation in the BCFA.

However, Dean said the institutes still have representation on the board through one of the delegates, who is responsible for all farm services. The number of directors was cut to produce a more efficient, working board.

Twenty-eight directors scattered all over the province was, Dean observed, "a large number of people."


Due to the reduced numbers on the board, each director now represents a group of groups, instead of each director representing one group. For example, she noted, one director represents all organizations involved in poultry farming.

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LEVY FEARED: Salt Spring farmer John Wilcox checks out a passage in an article on farm registration fees in Ontario. He fears the same system will be implemented in B.C. to benefit the B.C. Federation of Agriculture.

Photo by Valerie Lennox

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Winter layover

If it's not too cold, it's too wet. Winter weather has been keeping most island sailors ashore, their boats safely moored like these craft at the Ganges Boat Basin. Photo by Tony Richards

Spinning, weaving, sheepdog trials among events scheduled for May 28

Spinners may want to practise revving their wheels this winter for the next Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners Guild Sheep to Shawl competition.

Slated for May 28, this event is expected to draw teams from Salt Spring, Vancouver Island, the San Juan Islands and the Mainland. During the day, each team of spinners and weavers will start with raw

fleece and end with a complete, woven shawl.

The competition will be held in the Farmers' Institute hall. In conjunction with the event, the institute will sponsor a display of fibre producing sheep, goats, llamas and alpacas, a display of a wool study done by the Island Sheep Breeders Association, a display by the 4H Club, sheepdog trials and a lamb barbecue.

First lambs reported December 10; farmers plan lambing discussion

The lambs are coming.

The birth of lambs is already being reported on Salt Spring by Farmers' Institute members. On Mike Byron's farm, the first set of twins arrived December 10. Malcolm Bond reported the birth of 10 lambs on his farm by the end of the year.

In keeping with the season, Bill Vanderwekken will host an evening discussion and a video presentation on lambing later this month. The presentation is sponsored by an informal sheep producers' association which operates within the Farmers' Institute.

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LUNCH TIME: Preparing for the lunch crowd at Gulf Islands Secondary School's cafeteria are, from left, T.J. Scigliano, Jeff Kempling, chef instructor Mike Austin and Kai Jensen. At bottom, students chow down for inexpensive and tasty lunch while chef assistant Susan Lercher, middle left, and Jeff Kempling, with tray, keep the food coming. Photos by Tony Richards



Soup's on at GISS

There were no complaints about the food Monday when several Gulf Islands Secondary School students were asked how they enjoyed lunch at the new cafeteria, which opened last week.

In fact, responses were complimentary not only about the quality of the food but about the prices as well.

Chef instructor Mike Austin is in charge of the \$200,000 teaching kitchen, which is serving up light

breakfasts and lunches to school students and staff, and teaching the basics of food preparation.

Eight students are currently enrolled in the pre-apprenticeship program, but Austin expects to have 45 in the next semester. He describes it as a career prep chef training program that will provide employees for local food service businesses.

"A lot of the kids will be employable here in the summer," he said.

On Monday, the fully-appointed kitchen was preparing breaded veal cutlets, sauteed zucchini and tomatoes with garlic and herbed orzo pasta, all for \$3.50. But the traditional lunch fare of a burger and fries was as popular as ever at \$2.50.

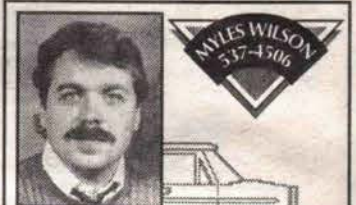
Diners could start with a bowl of minestrone or split pea soup for \$1 (50 cents for a small bowl) or choose a Greek salad for \$2.

Austin said the kitchen is self-sufficient in that prices are set to cover food costs plus 20 per cent. School funding pays only the salaries of one part-time and two full-time instructors. The kitchen will work in cooperation with the agricultural program to plant a herb and vegetable garden behind the school.

The 20 per cent profit on cafeteria sales will be used to fund school purchases. The money will also be used to fund field trips for cooking students, such as a proposed culinary arts tour to California.



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