

Driftwood Gulf Islands

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Your Community Newspaper

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Attempted suicide brings Gove Inquiry home

By SUSAN LUNDY, Driftwood Staff

First of two parts

The step-father of an island teen who attempted suicide two weeks ago is frustrated with an overloaded social services system and the lack of community care for local youth.

And 15-year-old Cheri, who took the lethal overdose of household drugs, agrees the system failed her.

"Gove is great," says Chris Budd, referring to the recently released document which examines B.C.'s child welfare system. "But what are we doing about it right now?"

Although Budd made numerous calls to his family's social worker, including one dramatic plea for help, he says Cheri only received the care she needed after she took the overdose.

"Once you try to kill yourself, or commit a crime — then

you get the help."

The Budds hope that by telling their story, others in the community will be spurred into action, realizing it could happen to them.

Budd has been a father to Cheri for about eight years, and Cheri agrees the two have been "the best of friends." But last year, as Cheri hit her teens, the relationship soured. Common teen-parent conflicts erupted over curfews, partying and overnights.

The crisis escalated last August. Cheri left the house against her parents' will and stayed away for five days.

On day three, Budd says, he called the RCMP and social services, asking what he could do. Local police told him they are not in the runaway business; social services said it could arrange counselling and meet with him in two weeks.

"Two weeks wasn't soon enough."

By day five, Budd and his wife Barb knew where Cheri was staying and went to bring her home.

"I thought we used to have a pretty healthy relationship," Budd recalls. "But she'd been screaming at me, saying 'I hate you, I hate you.' Week after week of this crap, I was at the end of my rope."

As a child, Budd was disciplined with violence. Aware of the tendency for abusive situations to repeat, he was in counselling to prevent violent outbursts.

But when they picked her up, a fight ensued. Cheri ended up with a scratch on her neck, and Budd ended up with the RCMP and social services on his front door step.

"They were there to arrest me."

GOVE INQUIRY A2

Santa ship sails this Saturday

Everything is set to sail for this weekend's 45th annual voyage of the Bellingham Jaycees' Christmas Ship.

The S.E.S. Whidbey, crew, Sea Explorers scouting group, Jaycee clowns and Santa Claus himself are set to leave Bellingham Saturday morning at 6 a.m., stopping first at Saturna Island. (See related story, page A31.)

Project chairman Rob Graham said Monday the ship will be decorated on Thursday and loaded Friday. Stormy weather could put the only hitch in the plans.

"We're at the whim of the weather," he said, adding that the trip could be delayed by a week, if necessary. That has only happened once in the last 44 years of Christmas Ship voyages. It was in 1979, he recalled, the last year the original Christmas Ship, the S.E.S. Discovery, was used.

There is a possibility that this trip will be the last, due to plans by the Bellingham-area scouting council to sell the ships used in their Sea Explorers program.

However, Graham said there are "glimmers of hope" that the project could continue in its traditional form. "A really complicated scenario" is in the works, which might result in the county government purchasing the Discovery.

The Christmas Ship is due to arrive at the Coast Guard dock in Ganges Harbour at 6 p.m. Saturday. Santa and his assistants will distribute gifts and treats to children at the Activity Centre, and visit Lady Minto Hospital patients and Greenwoods residents before enjoying some Salt Spring hospitality.

They return to Bellingham on Sunday, delivering Christmas cheer to San Juan Island residents en route.

Funds are still needed to pay for dinner for the guests, some gifts and other expenses. Donations can be made at the Ganges firehall and collection tins are in several island stores.



Heralding the season

Kara Anderson, Sandy Consiglio, centre, and Damian Consiglio were among numerous children and parents on the Salt Spring Island Pre-school float that glided through

Ganges streets in Friday night's rainy, but colourful, Festival of Lights Parade.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Power stops the show

Did James Bond beat the villain? Did he get the girl?

Seventy-seven movie-goers were left in the dark Sunday, after a power outage on the island wiped out the last 30 minutes of the James Bond flick, Goldeneye, which was showing at Island Cinema.

B.C. Hydro manager Murray Smith said a large tree was blown over a feeder line for the Central and Vesuvius area of the island at approximately 10:45 p.m. Sunday. The power was restored an hour and 15 minutes later, he said.

The tree broke the nearest power pole, which was replaced Monday. Smith said Hydro crews also dealt with scattered minor outages, caused by wind,

on Galiano and Pender islands.

Islanders also contended with driving rain over the weekend, as the skies dropped a total of 1.27 inches on the island between Friday and Sunday inclusive.

The wet start to December echoed the pattern set in November, when 10.24 inches fell during the month.

Robert Aston, who has recorded weather in the Gulf Islands for 30 years, said the November total was above the average of 7.38 inches for the month, based on his records from 1979 to 1988.

But the wet November still didn't set a record. He notes the highest rainfall for November he has ever seen was the 14.15 inches he recorded in 1983.

Loss of ferries subsidy shouldn't impact islands

Elimination of the \$12.6 million provincial subsidy for B.C. Ferries in two years is not expected to have a direct impact on Gulf Islands routes.

That was one message heard by the Southern Gulf Islands Advisory Committee for B.C. Ferries strategic plan at a meeting Thursday.

Salt Spring school trustee Ken Lee, who represents the school board on the committee, said the meeting focussed on the costs of ferry service.

"They're still chipping away," he noted. B.C. Ferries pointed out the major routes, such as Tsawwassen to Swartz Bay, make money while the minor routes,

like those serving the Gulf Islands, do not make money.

Lee said the committee was told the major routes make \$20 million profit while minor routes lose \$50 million, for a net loss of \$30 million. Southern Gulf Islands account for \$22 million of that loss, according to B.C. Ferries.

One counter advanced at Thursday's meeting is that B.C. Ferries is an overall corporation and should look at a loss as an overall loss, not as a problem allocated to specific parts of the service.

One suggestion was that the super ferries be sold to private

FERRIES A5

Ballard has praise for Sihota's new restrictions

For too many people the word "environmentalist" conjures up images of angry protesters blocking the path of a logging truck, or lazy and jobless welfare bums with nothing better to do than demonstrate.

The perception, of course, is not wholly unjustified but the reality is that environmental activism is everyone's cause.

Change comes from within, so selling an environmental cause to a cynical public is a challenging but important task. It is not assisted by the fact that human nature is as diverse as the biosystems that sustain us. The environmental movement has spawned its loonies, as has the reactive movement of cynics lined up against it.

Somewhere in the middle are you and me, wondering where the truth lies.

Last week's meeting of the Rotary Club of Salt Spring Island, of all places, attempted to shed some light on truth with a slightly dry but nonetheless fascinating report from Geoffrey Ballard. The chairman of

TONY RICHARDS



Ballard Power Systems Inc. was making his second speech to local Rotarians.

First off, he had praise for Environment Minister Moe Sihota's campaign to reduce vehicle emissions. "In my mind he's doing a really good job for us."

(To which one Rotarian added under his breath — demonstrating that politics often take precedence over policies — "I still won't vote for him.")

Granted that Ballard Power Systems will benefit from restrictions that give its engine an advantage over the internal combustion model. But Ballard said his firm won't be able to sell its technology for powering buses unless it can come close to matching

the price of a diesel-powered vehicle.

The market, after all, is much more than just British Columbia.

The speaker also noted that there were other, less evident cost considerations which he termed "externalities."

One he cited was reduced food production in the Fraser Valley, the result of air pollution caused by old technology of the internal combustion type.

It's not only buses that will keep Ballard's engineers busy for some time to come. Improvements to the hydrogen-powered fuel cells and how they work have meant a reduction in the amount of space they require in an engine compartment. Next year, Ballard said, Daimler-Benz plans to have a Ballard fuel cell-powered car on the test track.

While a Mercedes with an electric motor and hydrogen power may prove out of reach for a lot of consumers, can Hyundai be far behind?

Ballard reviewed his company's progress over the last eight years, at which time one cubic foot of fuel cells could produce one horsepower.

Today, fuel cells occupying the same amount of space produce 15 times as much power. Ballard's first test bus went on to the streets of Vancouver two years ago with fuel cells delivering 125 hp.

Today they deliver 275 hp, enough for Chicago transit authorities to put five Flyer buses with Ballard fuel cells on the road for testing.

More will soon go into California and B.C. may be next.

"Hopefully, the present government of B.C. is not too paranoid over its reelection chances" to commit to the technology.

Judging by Moe Sihota's latest edicts controlling the content of standard fuels, there's no shortage of commitment in the environment ministry.

The final link in the chain is the user.

GOVE INQUIRY

From Page A1

The ministry was eventually satisfied that Cheri was not at risk of being abused, and family counselling and mediation was agreed on.

"But the counselling moved kind of slow and Cheri was not into it."

Counselling appointments took place, most of them without Cheri, who says she felt "everyone was against (her)."

Home life was worsening. "It's so hard, because you're pissed off at her, and yet you love her at the same time."

Three weeks ago, Budd hit the roof when he received a \$235 phone bill, most of it run up by Cheri.

"I'm freaking by this point," Budd recalls. "Everything is out of control. It's affecting my work, my finances; I'm not sleeping."

Through a friend, Budd learned of a program called Care by Agreement, which places a willing child in a temporary foster home, giving everyone "room to breathe . . . a chance to chill out."

Cheri, grounded because of the phone bill, attempted to reach a compromise with Budd. The two agreed she could go out, but was to be home by midnight.

"We had a long talk and I thought maybe things were finally going to work out. I guess I kinda got sucked in because she didn't come home."

At this point Budd called the social worker and laid it on line. "I said 'Look, I'm at the point where I don't know where she is, and I can't guarantee I won't haul off and belt her . . . I'm so frustrated, I'm afraid I'm a risk factor.'"

Social services, however, determined that because he was involved in counselling to prevent violence, he was not a risk factor.

He was told Care by Agreement was not an option on Salt Spring due to lack of resources here,

unless Cheri wanted to move off-island. Today, Cheri believes a safe house on Salt Spring would have been a good solution for her.

Cheri understood the social worker to say she would hook up with her at school and arrange a family counselling session. That contact was not made and Cheri missed another chance at mediation.

A week went by and Cheri finally came home one night when Budd and Barb were dining out.

Cheri fought with her older sister and then "took a lethal overdose of everything she could find in the house."

"I couldn't handle all the fighting . . . I wasn't thinking," says Cheri. She describes herself as being

caught in a "downward spiral of depression."

"Barb found her passed out in her room. Had we not found her, she would not be here," Budd says.

They rushed Cheri to the hospital. "Once we were there, there was a whole parade of social workers and counsellors available for her."

Cheri spent a week at a youth facility called Ledger House in

Victoria, where she underwent assessments and counselling. Cheri has a better grip on her life now, and the Budds feel more positive about the future.

Budd says the experience has left him interested in the Gove Inquiry. While he knows there is no way social services could have guessed Cheri would attempt suicide, he feels something is missing in the current method of handling crises on Salt Spring.

Firstly, islanders have to deal with a Victoria-based social worker who may or may not be available to answer a call, and then the family is left "waiting for two days for a meeting."

"The social worker is working with what is available and it is unreasonable to expect her to be totally effective," Budd says, adding that each worker's caseload is immense.

And secondly, he says, the island lacks a safe place for teens to go and "chill out" during a crisis. "There needs to be a place for kids to go where no one is attaching blame . . . and it needs to be right here in the community. Maybe it is time we got together as a community and came up with a solution."

Budd notes Salt Spring offers a safe house for women, and the Core Inn acts as a preventative buffer for youth. But there is no place for youth to go once "they are beyond the Core Inn."

"Look," he says, "we almost lost one here. The next almost might not be an almost."

Through a friend, Budd learned of a program called Care by Agreement which places a willing child in a temporary foster home, giving everyone "room to breathe . . . a chance to chill out."

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KING OF THE HILL?: Al Cunningham became the unwilling owner of a mound of asphalt, dumped on the bank of his property at the corner of Park Drive and Valhalla Road. Vancouver Island Paving Ltd. has agreed to remove the asphalt.

Photo by Valerie Lennox

RCMP REPORT

Break-ins of island businesses continued last week, with thefts from Tone's Cafe and Parkside News.

Between last Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, \$300 of stereo equipment was stolen from Tone's Cafe.

An alarm was triggered at Parkside News just after 2 a.m. Monday, alerting police to a break-in. Cigarettes and cash were taken.

Police are investigating both incidents.

In other police news:

- A vehicle stolen from Collins Road on Salt Spring November 14 was recovered by Chemanius RCMP November 26 after a high-speed chase on Vancouver Island. Four people were in the 1990 cream-coloured Maxima when the chase occurred.

- A 14-year-old female and an 18-year-old male were apprehended after the chase. The two other occupants of the vehicle were apprehended later.

- Police charged a 43-year-old Salt Spring man with impaired driving and refusing to supply a breath sample after stopping a vehicle Wednesday night. The driver showed signs of impairment and was taken to the RCMP office, where he refused to supply a breath sample.

Police stopped the car after receiving a complaint about a possible impaired driver at 6:45 p.m.

With the start of the festive season, residents are warned that local police will be setting up CounterAttack check points on the island.

Shattered glass on the road cost a local resident \$250, when two tires were punctured by the broken shards on Lower Ganges Road.

The resident reports a large sheet of glass fell off a white cartage van on Lower Ganges Road opposite the Golf Course last Wednesday at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Anyone with information on the incident is asked to call 537-0659.

Paving company will remove asphalt pile

A small mountain of asphalt dumped on Al Cunningham's Park Drive property will be removed by Vancouver Island Paving Ltd.

"My guys must have dumped it there without letting anyone know," said Keith Hachey, part owner of the paving company. "I'll make arrangements to pick it up."

If a small amount of asphalt is left in the trucks after a paving job, it will harden on the trip back to Victoria and be difficult to remove, so crews may try to dump it. But Hachey said they usually try to find a willing recipient — perhaps someone who needs some fill or potholes in a driveway filled in.

Cunningham said he understood the problem and realizes there is no place designated to dump asphalt on Salt Spring. A bid for an asphalt plant on the island nine years ago was rejected by the Trust after residents objected to the project.

Cunningham became concerned about the problem when he noticed another pile of asphalt dumped this past summer at another location adjoining Ganges Village Market. He wondered if asphalt was being dumped on other island properties.

The asphalt dumped on his lot blocked a path which linked Valhalla Road with the Ganges Village Market parking lot.

Hachey said Vancouver Island Paving Ltd. usually carries unused asphalt off Salt Spring to be dumped at their site on Vancouver Island.

"We try not to bring over extra (to Salt Spring). It's \$100 a ton." Hachey compared dumping unused asphalt to "putting wings on \$100 bills."

The next time he has crew on Salt Spring, Hachey said he would arrange to have the dumped asphalt removed from both sites.

Trustees Bob Andrew and Grace Byrne both said they had not received any complaints about asphalt being dumped on the island.

Lower budget planned by local commission

A wish list fulfilled and a lower budget for 1996 were both announced by Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) members following their fall retreat and budget review.

The PRC is not going to encourage more taxation on the poor public "who are mostly here and should be happy to hear this," PRC member Malcolm Legg told the approximately 80 people who turned out to a November 27 meeting.

He said the 1996 requisition would be \$651,580, down from the \$707,540 budget in 1995, of which \$482,000 was tax requisition through the Capital Regional District (CRD). The remainder came from revenue, grants, rentals and a surplus from 1994.

"The total budget is down by \$60,000 — largely because we don't have a surplus we're budgeting yet," administrator Tony Hume said. Whether the PRC has a surplus from 1995 will not be known until the Spring.

The tax requisition for 1996 will be the same as in 1995 at \$482,000.

It is up to the CRD to approve or reject the requisition from the commission, although a provisional budget was approved last month. The budget is not finalized until March.

Starting in 1996, Legg said the PRC plans to allocate five per cent

of its recreation budget tax requisition towards arts on the island. This allocation recognizes that the PRC is intended to support recreation and culture on the island, Legg noted.

A task force will be struck in the coming year to determine the allocation of the \$17,250 for arts expenditures in 1996. That total is five per cent of the \$350,500 tax requisition for recreation in 1996.

Thanks to additional income from Mouat Park campground of \$9,410, the Market in the Park of \$4,460 and the swimming pool program of \$7,700, the PRC is able to fund some items on a "wish list" which was reviewed at the retreat, Legg reported.

These included a \$900 pool blanket for the swimming pool, a computer upgrade and replacing the office photocopier, a sod cutter for fields, an engineering study for Mahon Hall, chairs for Mahon Hall and a gasoline storage cabinet.

The PRC will also allocate \$3,000 for the artists-in-the-schools program, which brings local artists into schools to demonstrate their skills. The program is funded by the Community Arts Council and the PRC.

The PRC also agreed to give \$7,500 towards a skateboard and outdoor sport area behind the Core Inn, on the condition that the youth centre have enough other money available to complete the project.

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Downzoning not recommended

No change should be made to current island limits on population but future development should be subject to new strategies lessening the impact of development on Salt Spring.

That was the recommendation of the Growth Management and Settlement Patterns focus group for Salt Spring's Official Community Plan (OCP) review.

If the current four per cent annual growth rate continues, the focus group noted population on the island could double to 20,000 by 2015.

"Such growth would involve doubling the number of dwellings spread across the landscape, many in agricultural, forest, upland and watershed areas. Each of these dispersed, additional dwellings would require road access, Hydro poles, water supply and a means of sewage disposal.

"Since most of the new residents would probably depend on private vehicles for transportation, the amount of vehicle traffic on our roads would more than double," the report predicted.

Instead of being preserved as a rural island, Salt Spring would develop into a green version of suburban sprawl, with larger, more widespread lots.

Yet despite public concern over the impact of growth, focus group members agreed few individual land owners would welcome downzoning of their property in order to restrict development.

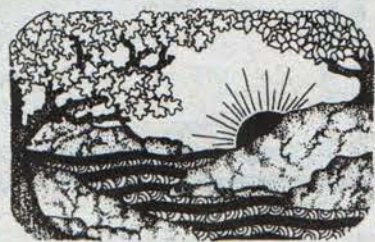
Current zoning would allow construction of 7,650 dwelling units plus 3,605 seasonal cottages. Roughly half the possible number of dwellings have been built and less than 10 per cent of the possible seasonal cottages have been constructed.

However, many of the seasonal cottages are actually occupied year-round, the report noted. In addition, there are a few hundred other unauthorized dwellings in second suites, barns and converted garages. The report suggested many of these residences are sub-standard and occupied by transient residents, who stay on the island less than one year.

All of these housing options should meet the demand for the next 20 years, the group concluded. Their report recommended retaining the limit on housing units set by the 1974 community plan while limiting the impact of those additional dwellings by transferring development rights and clustering new development projects.

The group also recommended:

- Avoiding zoning changes which would result in a net increase in island population, except in those rare instances where the zoning change would meet an OCP goal.



OCP REVIEW

- Increased density given in exchange for an amenity should not exceed 10 housing units per year, for a total of 100 additional units over a decade. Amenity zoning should be used primarily to preserve the island's rural character.

- No property should be allowed to increase density unless the additional lots have been transferred to that property from another property or properties on the island.

- No efforts should be made at present to slow the rate of development on the island but the OCP should allow for temporary measures to reduce development should a high demand

for housing threaten the island environment or infrastructure. Such measures could include restricting the number of permits or development approvals given each year.

- The OCP should include provision for housing which meets the needs of a wide range of income groups and those with special needs. The Trust should do a study of housing needs; future development projects could be required to include some lower cost units; and housing densities could be transferred to Ganges (and any other area with sewer service) to allow construction of multi-family accommodation, row housing, small homes and manufactured housing. Residential space should be permitted on a third floor of commercial buildings.

"According to estimates of the Capital Regional Housing Corporation, some 550 to 680 renters and homeowners on Salt Spring Island had housing affordability problems in 1993," the report noted. These people were spending more than a third of their household income on accommodation.

Under existing bylaws, future development on the island would follow current patterns, with homes spread throughout the island on lots of five to 20 acres.

A series of recommendations

were proposed to encourage transfer of density from undeveloped areas into settled areas. "Sending areas" could include agricultural lands, uplands and forest lands, managed forest and watershed lands, environmentally sensitive areas, waterfront property and those residential lands west of Mt. Tuam and Mt. Bruce.

Areas which could receive more density include existing villages such as Ganges, Fulford, Vesuvius and Fernwood; the proposed Channel Ridge village; residential zones other than those west of Mt. Tuam and Mt. Bruce and new villages or hamlets which could develop in the future.

Lots should be clustered together for all new rural subdivisions of more than three lots, the group recommended. For example, a 20-acre parcel would not be divided into four five-acre lots but into four two-acre lots with a remaining 12 acres undeveloped.

Benefits of clustering include lower servicing costs, less road requirements and preservation of the remaining land as green space.

Cluster development should be mandatory for parcels of 160 acres or more and for all uplands and forest land.

The focus group also recognized the benefits of tourism on the island. Members recommended a committee be established to develop an overall tourism management strategy.

Recommendations dealing with tourism included:

- No artificial tourist attractions, such as theme parks or casinos, should be permitted on Salt Spring.

- Rezoning for tourist development would only be permitted for projects which have a low impact on the community.

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School district officials estimate possible savings of \$2.7 million

By **TONY RICHARDS**
Driftwood Staff

Amalgamation of the four school districts in the Capital Region could produce savings of \$2.7 million, according to some preliminary calculations by district officials.

But a significant proportion of the savings would come at the expense of special education programs.

Gulf Islands School Board chairwoman Allisen Lambert said in an interview that consultation has begun among the four area districts — Gulf Islands, Saanich, Victoria and Sooke.

A meeting last week of the four board chairmen and superintendents identified cost savings of \$1.3 million in special education and \$900,000 in district-based administration.

The stepped formula under which special education is funded gives more money for those programs to smaller districts. The fewer the number of students enrolled, the greater is the amount of money received per student.

Lambert said savings in program costs had not been envisioned when Education Minister

Art Charbonneau announced his wish to reduce the number of school districts to 37 from 75.

She said officials from the four districts will meet again this week to look at a further breakdown of the spending implications of amalgamation.

Lambert noted that the local board is neither pro nor con on the amalgamation issue at present.

However, there are two key questions, she said: would the local voice be heard in a mega-district, and would there be further reductions at the school level in program funding?

She said further information is going to be offered at a meeting in Nanaimo Sunday afternoon. The meeting will be open to the public, but neither a location nor a time had been set as of Tuesday.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Cowichan and Lake Cowichan districts met with Gulf Islands officials recently to propose amalgamation.

Charbonneau wants the 17-member consultation steering committee — composed of ministry officials and school trustees, including Salt Spring's Charles Hingston — to report by April 15.

FERRY MEETING

From Page A1

interests and then leased back to the corporation. Private owners could write off the vessels' depreciation, earning a tax break which B.C. Ferries, as a government corporation, cannot do.

Lee feared B.C. Ferries would compensate for the loss of the provincial subsidy by eliminating programs like free travel on ferries for students on field trips.

The amount lost to B.C. Ferries by such social programs — including free student travel, free or reduced fares for seniors, medical transport assistance and half-price fares for disabled passengers and escorts — is \$7.3 million.

"More than anything, it's the philosophy behind it," said Kathy Scarfo, who represents Salt Spring on the committee. B.C. Ferries appears to be shifting into a business where the bottom line is paramount instead of acting as a government corporation which also meets social needs.

If the provincial subsidy is cut, should the provincial government then expect the health or education ministries to continue those social programs or will those social programs be cut?

"It should be recognized that is what they're funding," Scarfo observed.

Lee said he argued against eliminating the travel subsidy for students and was pleased to hear B.C. Ferries' representatives say they would rather raise every fare five cents than eliminate the youth travel program.

He was also pleased that most present at Thursday's meeting agreed with a Gulf Islands School Board proposal that drivers and vehicles for school field trips should also travel free.

But, Lee said, the ideal for B.C. Ferries would be to have the Ministry of Education fund the program by buying the ferry tickets and providing them free-of-charge to students.

Another argument raised was the provision of ferry service as a part of the highway network. "Every time we use the road, we

have to pay a toll," Lee observed.

He noted the discounts offered to buyers of ticket books varied from 45 per cent to 20 per cent. Salt Spring has the lowest discount at 20 percent.

Lee reported committee members were told the ferry corporation wants to reduce all discounts to 20 per cent by the year 2000.

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406	9:30-10:00am	Saturday Islands	Vanc.	10:00-10:30am
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Islanders sign pre-drafted letters supporting PRC, opposing Luth

More than 500 pre-drafted letters have been signed by residents supporting the community-based nomination process proposed by the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) and opposing Salt Spring regional director Dietrich Luth's bid to remove a commission member from the PRC.

The letters were distributed to all mailing addresses on Salt Spring Thursday as part of a campaign by a group of local residents.

Russ Crouse, one of the organizers, estimated Monday morning that more than 500 people had signed and dropped off the letters. A second printing has been ordered and Crouse said the organizers hope to collect 1,000 or more letters to turn into the Capital Regional District (CRD) board.

The CRD board makes the final decision on the PRC nomination

process and on Luth's motion to remove commission member Patsy Siemens from the PRC because of a philosophical difference.

Crouse said the project hit two snags. First, the letters were not distributed through the Driftwood last Wednesday as originally planned. Then local banks, designated as the collection points for letters, decided to remove the collection boxes after receiving a few objections.

One manager stressed that banks do not become involved in political issues and the collection box was withdrawn once the manager realized the petition was political. Crouse said petitions can now be dropped off at a



Jeremy Moray

number of local businesses, including Sharon's, the Photo Graphist, Ganges Village Market, Rainbow Rentals, Harbour's End Marine and NRS Realty in Ganges and Patterson's Store in Fulford. Additional petitions can also be picked up from those locations.

Crouse said a number of people have chosen to mail or fax their letters directly to the regional district office.

The committee organizing the protest invited the regional director to attend their meeting Sunday.

Jeremy Moray, another committee member, said they wanted to see if they could find some common ground with Luth. However, he said Luth decided not to attend.

Moray hopes the campaign will bring the wishes of Salt Spring residents to the regional district board. "If we have over 1,000 letters, the influence would be irresistible," he said.

Dinghy dock plight awaits decision

B.C. Lands has yet to make a decision on the positioning of the dinghy dock installed by Salt Spring Rotary Club in Ganges Harbour.

The dock is not in the location approved by an initial water lease granted by B.C. Lands in 1992, noted Phil Christie, manager of land administration for the Vancouver Island region of B.C. Lands.

Staff have yet to determine whether the dock must

be moved or how far from the original location the dock is placed.

On Monday, Christie said a field inspection would have to be done before B.C. Lands can make a decision on the dock. He did not know when an inspection would be done since B.C. Lands staff usually wait until they have several inspections to do in one area before making a field trip.

Boardwalk negotiations cleared by CRD position

Negotiations for shared access of a portion of the Ganges boardwalk can proceed now that the regional district has hammered out its position on the issue.

Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) members and the Capital Regional District (CRD) have been considering a proposal put forth by Arvid Chalmers of the Gulf of Georgia Land and Timber Ltd. several weeks ago. At the November 27 Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting, Bill Curtin summarized the CRD position.

The CRD suggests Gulf of Georgia give a right-of-way for the entire 12-to 14-foot boardwalk to the CRD. The CRD will then give a right-of-way to Gulf of

Georgia for four to six feet of the land side of the boardwalk.

This will leave the CRD with eight feet of boardwalk, in keeping with other completed sections of boardwalk.

The CRD also proposes that Gulf of Georgia maintain the structure in perpetuity while the CRD will maintain insurance on the structure. The CRD agrees to cover the legal costs of the agreement but suggests registration and transfer costs, expected to be \$3,000 to \$4,000, be split equally between the company and the CRD.

The proposed agreement has not yet been put before Gulf of Georgia. An agreement must be reached before the company can receive title to the property from B.C. Lands.

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Intent on music

Island youngsters enjoying an evening of seasonal music are, from left, Kaitlyn Pal, Katie Parker and Sage Wright. The young-

sters were seen at the carol festival which was part of last weekend's Light Up activities.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Electronic surfers sign onto Internet

Four days after opening local access to the Internet, Imagen president Dwight Jones reported 35 electronic surfers had signed into the service.

Another half-dozen were trying out the service before deciding whether to sign on, he added.

"We're very happy," he said. "People are getting on and they're praising the speed of the network." Users of both Macintosh and PC computers have been able to connect to Imagen's network.

Jones said his company is committed to remaining the island's major supplier of Internet access and will match any competing prices offered by future service providers. "Don't wait around for that because when it comes, we'll match it anyway," he said.

He also expected to be able to offer better transfer rates for data, given the high-speed connection offered by his company.

Companies or individuals seeking to advertise on the World

Wide Web can arrange through the Gulf Islands Driftwood for pages at the SaltSpring.com electronic address, which will be available for \$150 a year. There will be a \$20 fee to lay out the pages in standard HTML, the layout language used for electronic pages.

Free web pages at the address GulfIslands.com will be available for anyone using Imagen's compressed rich text format software.

Centennial Park vigil marks 1989 deaths

A candlelight vigil in Centennial Park tonight at 6 p.m. marks the sixth anniversary of the killing of 14 women at the Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal.

Sponsored by Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse (SWOVA), the vigil will acknowledge those women and all women who have died violently because of their gender.

"These young women could have been any woman in our society," said SWOVA board member Rosemary Joy. "It is important to take the time to remember women who have been killed by senseless violence and come together to work towards ending all violence against

women."

"Unfortunately, this problem is ever present," noted SWOVA spokeswoman Lynda Laushway. "British Columbia has had a number of women murdered this fall."

Among those victims were two women in the Lower Mainland who were murdered by their former partners.

December 6 is now marked each year in Canada as a "remembrance day" for women victims of violence, Laushway observed.

All members of the community are invited to attend and participate in the vigil.

'Pet Rescue' cards a Christmas scam?

Christmas cards purchased from an organization called Pet Rescue may not provide any benefits whatsoever to animals in distress.

That's what Salt Spring Islander Lois Peterson discovered last week after making some inquiries about the New Brunswick-based group.

Peterson received a package in the mail which offered her Christmas cards for sale. Proceeds would go to Pet Rescue, supporting programs of the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

But Pet Rescue is registered with neither Revenue Canada nor the Canadian Humane Society, according to the Victoria Better Business Bureau. A spokeswoman also said Monday that, according to the SPCA, there is no evidence that Pet Rescue provides any support for animal welfare.

Peterson said the package bore no telephone number, only a post office box number in Fredericton.

She suggested that giving money to the SPCA instead might be a better choice.

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OPINION

Let's have a vote and end the matter

Truth is the first casualty of war. That's certainly the case on Salt Spring, in a jumbled dispute between regional director Dietrich Luth and the majority of Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) members.

What started as a question of process — how should members of the PRC be appointed to or removed from the commission? — seems to be escalating into something approaching a class war.

In the past two weeks, the rumour mill has been spinning yarns ranging from the absurd to the ridiculous:

The entire PRC has been fired; Luth fired Tony Hume so one of his buddies could take over as PRC administrator; the rich have been plotting against the have-nots; the banks were threatened with legal action so they would remove petition collection boxes ... and so on.

Since before his election, Luth has openly fought for the elimination of regulations on the Saturday market. But over the past two years, it has become clear that he cannot achieve that goal without the cooperation of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Therefore, the dispute over who sits on the commission is entwined with the future of the Saturday market in Centennial Park. If Luth can control the appointments, he can appoint a majority of those who favour an open market to the commission.

If he does not control the appointments, he cannot control the commission.

It has been three years since the PRC adopted regulations requiring vendors in Centennial Park to produce their own products and giving space preference to island residents.

But the passions are still strong. Those opposing the regulations talk of injustice and injury and affronts to human rights.

Those in favour of the current system argue that the current regulations solved many problems. No longer do people sleep on the street in downtown Ganges Friday night to secure their market spot. Gone are the disputes over space, the carpet-baggers coming from the Mainland to sell wholesale merchandise, the perception of unfair competition with local merchants.

Those who want to create division in the community twist this dispute into a war between classes by arguing that "rich" business people are keeping the "poor" sellers of second-hand or Third-World goods from the market.

Others are seeing plots where none exists.

Neither approach recognizes the reality of the situation. Regardless of the process he chooses, Luth has always been honest about his goals.

And business people who rent space in Ganges may well be poorer than those who sell goods from a table in the park.

Both sides in this dispute claim to have community support. Neither appears willing to compromise.

We believe, therefore, that the only solution is to put the question of an open market to a community referendum, and for all those concerned with the dispute to accept the outcome.

We don't need another community war.

A Christmas weekend

National chain stores would have us start thinking about Christmas November 1, giving them seven weeks of special-event marketing. Things are done differently on Salt Spring Island, though, where the Christmas season began this year on December 1. Three seasonal events with three distinct features — spiritual, musical and the fun that is Santa Claus — combined to usher in the season in a special way.

The sixth annual Festival of Lights parade was a little disappointing, but only for its size. While smaller than last year, no doubt due to inclement weather, it was nevertheless a fitting reminder that Christmas is essentially a spiritual occasion.

Efforts by the politically correct to turn Christmas into something else may yet be successful. But the fact remains that the special celebrations of most religions can be observed by anyone, regardless of creed.

And anyone can sing, too, when it comes to a carol festival such as that which followed the parade. The second event of the seasonal trinity brought islanders together in song, a warm way to end a cold, wet day. The fun that is Christmas was celebrated on Saturday, when Santa Claus flew in for Light-Up and nearly 200 children lined up to spend a moment with a symbol of the season.

So let the chain stores do their thing. Here is a community that has found its own way.



There's a better way to get value out of province's school boards

If cutting out half the school districts is a good thing, why not amalgamate municipalities in regions such as the Capital Regional District?

Probably British Columbians get the best value from their tax dollars in smaller municipalities. That is where the taxpayer is closest to what is done and who does it. That is where the impact of both benefit and cost is clearest. That is where special interest groups must make their arguments most publicly to all the citizens. That is where most people can really see how well their money is spent. In past years, school districts had to manage well because they too were spending local money.

Progressive removal of taxing power stripped school districts of their ability to manage in the best interest of their communities. Municipalities' desire for more property tax base was the force behind this. Local needs became filtered out through the provincial budget process and equalization formulas. The province fixed the funding levels and then blamed the school boards that it had emasculated for wasting money.

If either Art Charbonneau or Gordon Campbell want to get the best value for the education dollar, they should give the power to manage public schools back to school boards by obliging them to run the schools to a significant extent with money they derive from the community they represent.

Administration in the school system is basic supervision and management. The process of education involves intense and complex human relation-



VIEW POINT
BY JIM CAMPBELL

ships. Children entering the system are not standardized raw material for processing. Modern manufacturing techniques and automatic sorting systems do not apply.

Supervision and management of this process cannot be automated. Those "administrative" costs are not related to the numbers of school districts. They are related directly to the number of schools, teachers and pupils. They are a very small percentage of costs. Nearly all of the supervision and management staffs of existing school districts will have to be recycled into similarly salaried positions doing the same thing with different titles in the same places. The rest will be entitled to big severance packages or jobs in the Victoria bureaucracy which will grow naturally to supervise this change.

A structural revolution which takes decisions further away from the communities affected is not what we need. What will be lost is the vital local influence of modestly paid trustees who give to the system an accountable view of local conditions and needs.

This low-grade political gambit must be much more carefully examined than can be done within the crash schedule and ridiculous terms of reference the minister has set for its review.

The writer was a school trustee, president of the B.C. School Trustees Association, a Capital Regional District director and CRD board chairman for seven years.

Gulf Islands
Driftwood



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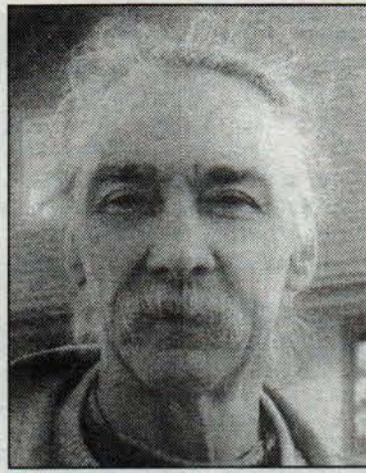
SALT SPRING SAYS

We Asked: *How would you define a Salt Spring 'distinct society'?*



Chris Chlopan

Either you have tons of money that you don't want to give up or you don't have any and you're struggling.



Ron George

It's the same as everywhere else — lost in illusion.



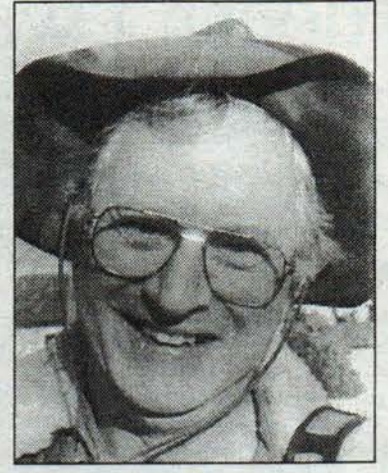
Brenda Hadden

Different. It's kind of like a world of its own, separate.



Travis Kennedy

The art. Everyone likes art over here.



Jonathan Grant

We're distinct because we're surrounded by the ocean, which keeps a lot of bad things out and good things in.

Letters to the Editor

Limited powers

It would appear from Linda Adams View Point response last week that my earlier letter (Driftwood, November 15) has ruffled a few bureaucratic feathers.

Everyone knows that the Islands Trust has staked out jurisdiction in some key areas, particularly land use regulations such as zoning. Here on Salt Spring it usually administers these well, in my experience, thanks largely to Linda's skills as planner.

However, I stand by my claim that despite its obvious appetite for more control, in actuality the Islands Trust has very little real influence over many of the other topics and agencies identified in the recent questionnaire and again in her column. This is because it is not and never was intended to be a municipal form of administration. It does not have direct control over local taxes or how the funds are allocated. Nor do I recall islanders ever giving the Trust the mandate to act as our local government.

Ironically, the Official Community Plan (OCP) review creates more expectations than the Trust is structured to deal with. In other words, the Islands Trust itself has become part of the problem in my view. This does not mean that I am trying to discourage participation in the OCP process; on the contrary, I feel that islanders should become more involved in planning issues. And we should applaud the dedicated efforts of all those volun-

teers contributing to the current review.

But we should also look ahead. Once the community plan has been revised, the Trust's very limited ability to exert influence in some vital areas (so well-described in Linda's column if one reads it carefully) precludes it from dealing legitimately with many of the issues and expectations raised during the review process.

Salt Spring deserves a much more effective and democratic form of municipal government. Why should we accept less?

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Pick the leader who doesn't want the job

VICTORIA — Conventional wisdom holds it that those who wish to be leader of a political party must have an almost psychopathic desire to become premier.

In the upcoming race for the leadership of the New Democratic Party, the winner of which will, for a while anyway, become premier, there'll be no shortage of candidates in that category.

My advice to the NDP is: change the criteria for applicants. Give the job to someone who doesn't want to touch it with a 10-foot pole, someone who gets anxiety attacks at the very thought of having to serve as premier of British Columbia.

The dividends of shanghaiing some unwilling and terrified candidate, dragging him or her to the job, kicking and screaming, if necessary, would be peace of mind for the populace.

The relief that would come with not being led by some egomaniacal, power-hungry little Napoleon would have a very soothing effect on an electorate that is getting dangerously addicted to a diet of politicians for breakfast.

Do I have a suitable victim in mind? You bet I do: Bill Barlee, Minister of Small Business and Tourism. "I wouldn't want to wish that job on my worst enemy," said Barlee when reporters asked him if he would throw his hat in the ring.

Now, that's exactly the attitude the public in general and the NDP in particular should be looking for in people who want to succeed Mike Harcourt as leader of the NDP and premier, until at least the next election.

Of course, any potential contender for the job should have some qualifications other than a general loathing for the office. Barlee has those, in spades.

Barlee is a shrewd businessman who isn't about to let the Fraser Institute run circles around him. He's a former chamber of commerce president, no less. He understands the intricacies of business, big or small. He's also financially well-off and, therefore, immune to accusations of being in politics for a regular pay cheque.

As a cabinet minister he's a tough taskmaster. He asks a lot of his staff, but they like him. Barlee is also his own man. No handlers and spin doctors will tell him what to do. He might tell them where to go.

Aside from all that, however, Barlee's biggest plus is that he thinks he'd rather swallow strychnine than run for the leadership of his party.

The idea of "Barlee for leader" isn't mine. I got about half a dozen phone calls last week from readers telling me that Barlee would make a good party leader and premier. And I should tell the cynics among you that Barlee isn't the kind of guy who would plant those calls.

I didn't buy into the Barlee draft until he said, thanks, but no thanks. Then I thought, what a great opportunity to change the whole dynamics of politics.

Just think. In the normal flow of leadership races, you've got a lineup of people who, according to the very rules of the game, must be extremely arrogant and boastful.

They will call in every marker they've collected over the years, twist arms, intimidate, woo, even beg to claw their way to the top of the heap. They promise to solve all our problems in less than a week. Miracles take a little longer, but are not ruled out.

In short, it's a rather disturbing spectacle of grown-up people immersing themselves in a dream world of their own and trying to drag the rest of us with them.

People like Barlee, on the other hand, know it's a rotten job and want no part of it. They don't embarrass themselves by trying to outdo the voluntary candidates with foolish displays of political prowess. And they are under no obligation to make promises they couldn't possibly keep.

Mike Harcourt almost got it right. He just got it backwards. He said he didn't need the aggravation when he resigned, not when he went for and got the leadership of the NDP.

So here's the deal for all you organizers of the NDP convention next February: You tell anyone who offers himself or herself as a candidate to get lost. If they don't give up voluntarily, call the cops.

On February 15, the eve of the convention, you send the shock troops to Barlee's office in Victoria. Union organizers will do very nicely. They subdue the minister, hustle him into a waiting car, whisk him to the Hyatt Hotel in Vancouver and present him to delegates as the only candidate available for the job.

If he struggles, feed him some Demerol. Just get him there. Trust me, he'll make an outstanding party leader.

Beyer can be reached at: tel: (604) 360-6442; fax: (604) 381-6922; e-mail: hbeyer@direct.ca.

CAPITAL COMMENT HUBERT BEYER



More letters

Not sheep

The following is a letter sent to Frank Leonard, chairman of the Capital Regional District and filed with this newspaper for publication.

Dear Mr. Leonard:

As I am sure you recognize, the questionnaire about CRD director Luth that Salt Spring Islanders received with their mail is meaningless as an expression of island opinion.

An appropriate wording might have been: "Having carefully considered the facts in the matter of the Ganges market controversy, do you approve or disapprove of the actions of Mr. Luth?" Islanders are intelligent enough that they don't need to be led like sheep to their responses.

Furthermore, the action of the three banks in acting as collectors in such a partisan matter seems ill-advised.

ANDREW GIBSON,
Rainbow Road

Precious time

A note of appreciation to all parents of young children who realize that one of the best gifts that can be given is that of time.

For most of us it seems that there is never enough time. Our lives are filled with appointments, meetings, classes, sports events, etc. One sometimes feels caught on a treadmill and can easily believe that time spent with children can be categorized as in quality or quantity time.

I think most adults will agree that their best memories are associated with time someone spent with them when they were children.

Maybe the best things in life aren't free.

Your role is an important one. Thank you and Merry Christmas time.

An elder,
EVA PEDERSEN,
Fulford Harbour

Sentencing

Doug Crossley has pleaded guilty to his charge of violating Section 35 of the Wildlife Act, for having destroyed the nest of an

eagle at Musgrave Point in early March 1994.

His sentencing will be held December 12 at 2 p.m. in the Ganges Courthouse, 343 Lower Ganges Road.

Your attendance will demonstrate community concern over this issue. It is important that the outcome of this case should act as a deterrent to offenders in the future.

TAMAR GRIGGS,
Sansum Narrows

Stirred pot

I am sure I shall not be the first to comment on your over-stepping journalistic boundaries in your November 29 editorial titled Luth

Must Go.

My concern is the "muddying of the waters" created by the paper with partial truths, selective reporting and subtle (and sometimes not so subtle) innuendo.

Certainly stirring the pot does sell some newspapers. But the Driftwood is not a tabloid. It is a community newspaper, and the greatest common source of information for us, islanders.

Your credibility for fair reporting has been lost in my eyes, and you now have to earn my respect back.

I look forward to this eventuality in future issues of the Driftwood.

WENDY BEATTY,
Vesuvius

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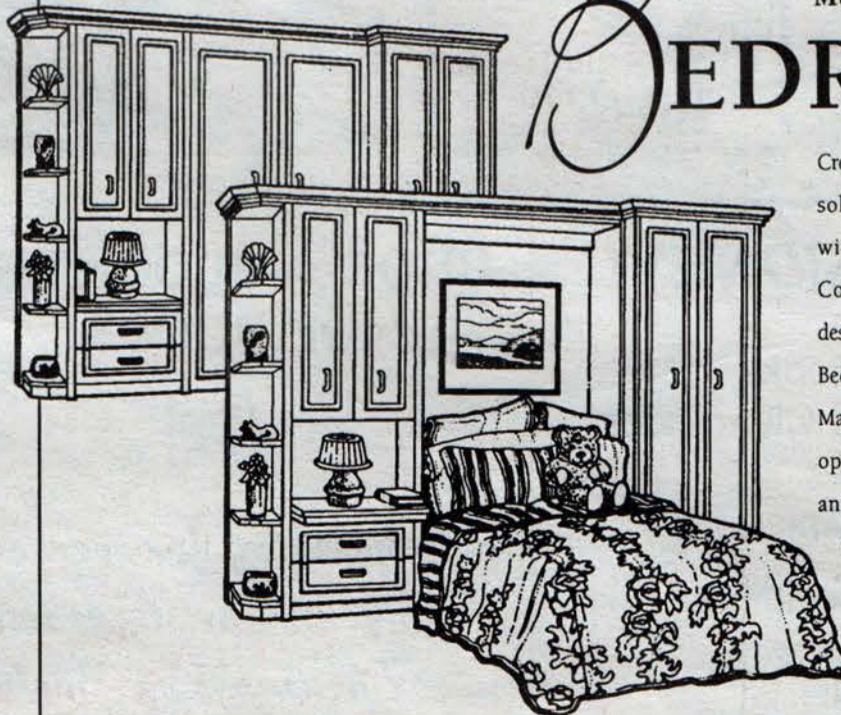
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More letters

Democracy

While I don't know Dietrich Luth, I've followed his actions as our CRD director with amusement and sometimes outrage for the last two years. However, it appears this time that Mr. Luth has sniffed out a real can of worms.

For the people sitting on the Parks and Recreation Commission and their friends, no matter how noble their intentions, to demand that they have the right to rig their own elections via their own cliquish system which does not allow the island electorate a legal vote, and then declare themselves the true defenders of democracy is not only offensive but the height of arrogance.

Real democracy demands that every citizen have a say at some point, either through being able to elect the person in charge of appointments, or in having the commission changed to a parks board like Vancouver's, thereby allowing public elections. As it is, this island elected Dietrich Luth, and it's going to have to live with him and his decisions.

The CRD has the right to decide who sits on that commission; it also has the right to ignore or to rubber stamp the commission's recommendations. In this case, if the CRD has any sense of democracy, it will sack the commission members intent on creating their own alternate and unaccountable government, and appoint new members who understand their task and position. And if we don't like Mr. Luth's rather inventive political methods, we can vote for a new CRD director when it comes time to vote. That, and only that, is democracy.

BRIAN BRETT,
Meyer Road

Valdy sings

My niece in Niagara Falls sent me the enclosed which was in some magazine she subscribes to. I thought it would be pleasant for others to read it:

"My husband and I, visiting on Salt Spring Island, attended the weekly market at Ganges Harbour. We were drawn to an empty violin case behind which a pre-teen boy was hopefully playing his violin. There were pitifully few coins in the case. We added to them but my husband commented, 'He hasn't got a chance - look to your left.'

"There, a few booths away, was an ever-increasing crowd and Valdy, an island resident, was giving a free concert.

"Suddenly a wonderful thing

happened. Valdy left his spot and moved to the boy's side, consulted with him, then sang to a violin accompaniment. Now there were showers of quarters landing in the violin case and the boy's face, tucked into his violin, was aglow with pride and pleasure.

"I've listened to Valdy ever since, and my appreciation of his music has changed from tolerance to pure pleasure."

Last night we held a gala dinner and dance in Fulford Hall to honour the artists who donated their works for a raffle to raise funds for our new ArtSpring building. Valdy emceed the event beautifully.

Early Sunday morning Valdy called our house, as my husband and I were heading up the clean-up committee and had the key to the hall. He said he had left his sound equipment in the hall and had a ferry to catch, so he was wondering how long we'd be. As we live on the north end of the island, we told him we'd be awhile, but would get there as soon as possible.

It was a misty morning and a beautiful drive through the Fulford Valley. When we arrived at the hall, Valdy's truck was there, with that famous guitar case in the back of it - open and empty! And from across the road, from the cemetery behind the church and through the semi-fog on that quiet Sunday morning, we heard singing - and Valdy's "What on earth".

"Just singing a song for my Daddy!" he said as he crossed the road to the hall. Only on Salt Spring. **LILLIAN HORSDAL,**
Fulford Harbour

Vent rage

This letter is directed to all Salt Spring Islanders who avidly read letters to the editor while merely scanning the remainder of the Driftwood. It is particularly aimed at all those who missed last week's most heartening editorial "Luth Must Go".


"Go?" I asked myself, I thought we were saddled with this scruffy, autocratic crackpot for another

year. Not so, said the editorial. Luth's power can be undercut by writing or faxing your dissatisfaction to the CRD board, 524 Yates, Victoria, V8W 2S6. The fax number is 360-3130. Additional to that, write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, V8V 1X4; fax 387-1334, asking for intervention. Ask too for an investigation of Luth's actions.

For most of us on Salt Spring, local politics is usually nothing more than a harmless and amusing spectator sport. This is no longer the case. When someone as dedicated, hardworking and civic-minded as Tony Hume gets the axe, the entire community is going to lose. In such a move, Luth not only continues to pursue his personal agenda, he parades his madness.

Come on Salt Spring - this is not a time to re-establish our well-deserved laid-back trademark: it is time to get off our collective butt, put pen to paper, and vent our utter disgust, our humiliation and rage.

DIANE HARRIS,
Thomas Road



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Minister to spend someone else's \$\$

BRITAIN: He was spending somebody else's money, but I don't think it was his. I was listening to the minister of finance outlining his budget. He ain't called the finance minister over here. He's the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Listening to a budget when you don't have to pay and when you don't even know what it's all about is kind of taking a busman's holiday.

Here was Kenneth Clarke telling the world what the Brits will pay for the privilege of living in the coming year. You notice that over here, not only does the minister have this proper British title, but he's Kenneth Clarke all the time. No "Ken" for a Brit minister!

The Brits were to enjoy a reduction from last year when it comes to income tax. Sounds good! Wonder what they paid last year.

The rate doesn't sound like it would hurt overly much. After your allowances and deductions you pay at the rate of 20 per cent on the first \$6,500 of taxable income. On the next \$44,000 or so, you pay 24 per cent. Above that level the tax rate is 40 per cent.

I'm too far away from home: I don't know how that ranks up against ours in B.C. The chancellor was aiming at a budget that would ease the burden on a slow economy, that would delight every segment of the populace and encourage every little British voter to vote Conservative in the next election, whenever that might come about.

If the average citizen was happy with the rate of tax, the average motorist was probably less than ecstatic about his cost of driving. Up went the price of fuel. Up by a boost of close to 30 cents a gallon. Although the metric system is hovering in the wings, the old imperial measure is still the recognized and recognizable yardstick. (Not metrestick). It works out, I think, to about 7.5 cents a litre.

The license fee for an automobile goes up another \$10 a year to the equivalent of some \$310 a year.

Everything up? As I don't know what the rate has been in past years, it is difficult to make comparisons. Nevertheless, I gather that the ordinary, single man, woman, girl, boy in-the-street will enjoy a basic allowance of \$7,600. The dollar figure is an approximation of the sterling value. Over 65, the taxpayer is given a bonus and his allowance flies up to \$10,000. With another \$1,000 when he reaches the nadir of ambition, his 75th birthday.

If the taxpayer is wedded, then the allowance is increased by \$3,500. A further increase is enjoyed on the 65th birthday. These aging allowances are dried up when the income exceeds \$30,000 a year.

Now, picture this taxpayer, left with a few dollars over the odus, looking to his car. He paid roughly twice the price for his car that his Canadian cousin might have paid. He pays \$300 a year for his license and he drives over to the gas pump.

Not for him the delights of high octane gasoline. He fills up with plain, common-or-garden unleaded gas. That's only \$1.24 a litre! If his car thirsts for the good stuff, with a big appetite for the high performance, high priced fuel, he's going to pay \$1.37 a litre.

The British automobile buff enjoys one relief that would be scarcely noticed in British Columbia. The owner of a vehicle more than 25 years old, does not have to buy a license. Old clunkers, vintage autos, anything of a greater age than 25 years gets a free ride, car, motorcycle or light van. That saves the Brit car fancier a cool \$300. When I lived in Britain, a typical cynic, we used to anticipate that the chancellor, left, right, middle-of-the-road, would raise his moneys primarily by an additional levy on cars, tobacco and liquor. They ain't changed one iota. Up goes the gas tax; up goes the license fee; up goes the tobacco tax. But Scotch whiskey is cheaper!

All this is carefully thought out. The gas tax is to discourage motorists from using their cars in order to ease up the pressures of global warming. The tobacco tax is there to dissuade the nation's smokers from being the nation's smokers.

My hunch is that the globe will continue to warm as the nation smokes itself to death and drinks itself stupid.

One delight for the greenery: a wastefill tax of \$7 per ton will be levied to meet the costs of recycling and disposal. It represents the same thinking as the British Columbia point-of-sale recycling tax.

A good budget? Nobody was screaming. And nobody was crowing. No agony, just a few sharp pains here and there! What's new?

Poor fish!

The can was stamped "Alaska". And they gave it to me to open. I remonstrated with my hostess. What was she doing, buying Alaska salmon when all that good red fish was available from British Columbia? She got my point, but the Alaska fish had been on special and the Canada brands were not.

Sadly I opened the can and the fish jumped up in protest.

It opened its mouth and made its last, final charge:

"We was kidnapped!"

It made all the difference. You know, I enjoyed that salmon.

And I'll swear that's how it happened!

TO BE FRANK

FRANK RICHARDS



More letters

Welcoming Bosnians

Through your columns, islanders were recently advised of plans being made to sponsor a refugee family from Bosnia. We wish now to make known how this is being done, and how concerned persons may participate.

A formal organization with three working groups has been established: personal support, accommodation and finance. The first will assume responsibility to welcome the family and give continuing help for their comfortable settlement among us. The second will arrange for housing and furnishings. The third will arrange to receive contributions from our community for family expenses at standard welfare rates.

The Canadian government is at present, under a temporary plan for persons from the former Yugoslavia, covering refugee costs for the first three months. When a community organization is in place, this group accepts responsibility for a further nine months. However, the family we receive will probably arrive with a large debt to the government for landing fees and airfare, so we are asking those persons who can to make a pledge for an additional three months, 12 in all.

Pledge forms can be picked up, weekday mornings only, at the offices of the United Church on Hereford Avenue and the Anglican Church on Park Avenue. Pledges are payable monthly, and we will advise which month to begin and how to do this. Special donations by cheque can also be left at a church office, made out to the church's name, Island Refugee Support Group. Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued at each year end.

The accommodations group would value any suggestions for a suitable rental home.

A public meeting will be announced early January when progress in our plans will be reported. At that time we hope to be ready to make a formal application to the government in hopes of welcoming a family in the spring. Island Refugee Support Group, NANCY BRAITHWAITE, Secretary BOB WILD, Chair

Run for office

In response to the free flyer (thanks a lot!) in my mail about Dietrich Luth . . . y'know, I don't even care about yer Parks and Execrations Commission.

If you don't like the government, run for office.

KEITH MACHATTIE, Grantville Street

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To meet the spring evaluation timeframe, your proposal should be submitted to any Forest Renewal BC office by January 15th.

Proposals may be submitted in any of forest Renewal BC's key research areas:

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For more information or for copies of the handbook, contact your nearest Forest Renewal BC office or The Science Council of BC, Programs Department:

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Fair to aid local services society

Want to play Santa to folks on your gift list and help the community at the same time?

Then drop by the Salt Spring Community Services Society's Christmas Fair this Saturday and Sunday at the Community Centre, 268 Fulford-Ganges Road.

A share of the money earned by the 25 participating artists, craftspeople and vendors will go towards supporting the community society's many services. Table fees paid by participants also go into society coffers.

Services provided by the society include youth and adult counselling, drug and alcohol abuse counselling, a food bank, programs for the developmentally challenged, youth programs and Family Place, which supports families of young children.

The society also ensures everyone on the island enjoys a merry Christmas by organizing the collection of food and gifts for Christmas hampers, which are distributed to low-income families.

Volunteers and supporters from the community organize the event. Joan and Ed Price are providing appliances for the preparation of snacks, which will be made and served by the youth group, who are raising funds for their summer camp.

Coordinator Tiiu Hiibus noted the tables are supplied by the Farmers' Institute and the Anglican Centre and transported by Slegg Lumber.

Slegg Lumber also provided materials for signs while B.C. Ferries has helped promote the sale.

During the sale, the Seabreeze Inn and the Kingdom Hall will contribute additional parking near the centre.

Among the items available at the sale will be homemade candy and baking, Christmas ornaments, jewellery, gift baskets, original art, wood chimes, beeswax candles, ceramics, porcelain jewellery, dried flowers, bath salts and lotions, scarves, wooden ornaments, inspirational books and more.

"The fair itself is held at the Community Centre which provides an excellent opportunity for the public to view these facilities serving the island population," Hiibus said.

Doors will be open from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday and from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.



YUMMIE! Young Community Services volunteer beams at the prospect of eating more Rice Krispie crunch, a treat she was helping prepare in readiness for this weekend's craft fair at the community centre.

Photo by Tony Richards

ASTAR production held over

A full house at all three shows last week has prompted the A.S.T.A.R. Gallery to hold over its production of Truth or Fantasy.

Directed by Yvonne Adalian and Denise Bertrand, the play has a cast of 14 local children, aged six to 12.


There will be two additional

presentations of the hour-long performance on Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m., at the A.S.T.A.R. Gallery in Grace Point Square.


Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. Seats must be reserved by phoning 537-1067.

"It's great family entertainment," Bertrand said.

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A very special thank you...

to Debbi Toole and Liane Watson
for their vision and contribution to this Community Event.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the people who make this evening possible, to all the choirs participating, their directors and the accompanists.

The people who make this evening possible:

- Debbie Toole, *director*
- Liane Watson, *assistant director*
- Shirley Bunyan, *accompanist*
- Elaine Huser, *backstage production*
- Jill Urquhart, *backstage production*
- Chental Wilson, *backstage production*
- Sharon Wilson, *backstage production (runner)*
- Greg Watson, *juice guy*
- Ron Nordine, *risers*
- Mark Toole, *risers*
- Jerry Fitzpatrick, *risers*
- Mike Garside, *risers*
- Peter Lynnde, *chair co-ordinator*
- Stan Howard, *chairs*
- John Wilcox, *chairs*
- Ron Sullivan, *chairs*
- The Katemavik group, *chairs & security*
- Ruth Hopping and gang, *decorations*
- Trent Shouldice, *lights and sound*
- Food Bank volunteers, *front of house*
- GVM for donating all of the juice for the singers
- Greg Joly, *piano tuning 537-4286*
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The Gallery closes for winter break on Dec 16th and reopens March 23, 1996

Art is a celebration of life...a chance to reflect the goals and dreams we hold in our hearts. Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas season.

JILL

Permit values indicate 8 per cent increase in construction activity

Construction values during the first nine months of 1995 were up eight per cent on Salt Spring, but down by the same amount on the Outer Gulf Islands.

Figures released by the Capital Regional District (CRD) show that \$14.1 million worth of construction took place on Salt Spring from January to September, up from just over \$13 million during the same period in 1994.

Figures for the third quarter were up even more. At \$6.1 million, construction value was up 40 per cent from last year. The number of permits issued was also up, from 88 to 98.

For the first nine months, however, the number of permits issued was down significantly, at 273 this year, compared to 394 in 1994.

Residential building activity in the third quarter totalled nearly \$4 million, down from \$4.18 last year. There were 90 permits issued, compared to last year's 87.

Institutional construction has seen a big increase this year. Eleven permits worth \$3.25 million were issued in the first nine months, up from three worth only \$63,000 in 1994. Eight of this year's permits were issued between July and September. They were valued at \$3.9 million.

Third-quarter dwelling unit permits were down 29 per cent to 32. The total for the three quarters was 82, down 34 per cent.

On the Outer Gulf Islands, the first nine months saw a 67 per cent drop in permit numbers — from 522 to 171 — and an eight per cent drop in value — from \$8.15 million to \$7.51 million.

While there was an increase in commercial and industrial construction during that period, residential permits plunged from 514 to 161. The value of the work dropped from just over \$8 million in 1994, to \$6.9 million this year.

The drop in the third quarter was more severe. Forty-one permits were issued, down 76 per cent from last year's 169. That translated into a 23 per cent decrease in value, from \$2.7 million to just over \$2 million.

Dwelling unit permits totalled 71 at the end of September, down 40 per cent from 1994's figure of 118. In the third quarter they were down 40 per cent, to 24 from 40.

While there was little subdivision activity in the third quarter, the figures tell a different story for the first nine months of the year. Thirty-five new lots have been created — up from 16 last year. There were 18 new lots created by bareland strata this year and 25 strata units registered. There were none in either category last year.

Throughout the Capital Region, building permits during the first nine months totalled \$251 million in value, eight per cent lower than last year.

Incorporation meeting set for Friday

Whether a study into island incorporation proceeds will be decided at a meeting next Friday in Fulford Hall.

The meeting will be held from 4 to 7:30 p.m.

Information gathered to date on incorporation within the Islands Trust will be available. Residents will also be encouraged to ask questions.

Expected to attend are representatives from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Salt Spring Islands Trust trustees

Bob Andrew and Grace Byrne and regional director Dietrich Luth, as well as members of a local committee studying incorporation for the island.

"It is from gauging the temperature of this meeting that they (ministry representatives) will or will not recommend to the minister (of municipal affairs) that we go ahead with the second phase of the local government study," said committee chairman Jeremy Moray.

Money is available from the

Ministry of Municipal Affairs to conduct the study. But Moray stressed it is important for islanders to attend the meeting and let the ministry know that they want the study to proceed.

A referendum on possible incorporation can only be held after the costs and framework for municipal government are determined, Moray said.

Once the data is in, residents can then decide if they favour or oppose incorporation, he added.

BRIAN A. LERCHER

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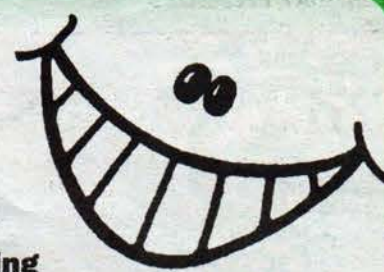


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9 PACK CHESTER

Fried Chicken

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FREE 12 pack MoJos with order

CHIQUITA

Bananas

3lbs/99¢

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Large Eggs

98¢

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SALT SPRING ONLY

FROZEN, GRADE "A" YOUNG

Turkeys

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3-6kg
size
2.16kg

lb

IN THE FLORAL DEPT.

Mumsettias

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8"

We will have a great selection to choose from



SENDIAL 537-1529 THURS. 9 AM. - NOON



45th ANNUAL VOYAGE
of the Bellingham Jaycees

CHRISTMAS SHIP

arriving
This Saturday, Dec. 9
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Join the crowd at
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Reception to follow
at the Activity Centre

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On behalf of the Salt Spring Island
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Ambulance Paramedics will be
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Prices in effect Wednesday, December 6th

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FLEETWOOD, SLICED OR SHAVED Black Forest Ham	99¢ <small>100g</small>
IMPORTED, RANDOM CUT Danish Blue Cheese	1³⁹ <small>100g</small>
CANADIAN, RANDOM CUT Medium Cheddar or White Cheddar	99¢ <small>100g</small>
OLAFSON'S Plain Bagels pkg. of 6	2¹⁹
THRIFTY'S OWN Cocktail Sausage Rolls	12/2⁹⁸ <i>Great for Entertaining</i>

THRIFTY'S OWN

Homestyle Roast Beef

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100g

In-Store Bakery

Fresh Blueberry Muffins pkg. of 6	2⁹⁹
TANGY CRANBERRY, APPLE Loaf Cake	2⁵⁹
Almond Delight Cake 7"	6⁹⁹
COUNTRY FARM Bread 454g unsliced	99¢

Baked fresh the old fashioned way, with cracked wheat, oatmeal and wholesome whole wheat flour.

Bulk Values

SATIN MIX, RAINBOW BELLS, VICTORIA MIX, FRENCH CREAMS - PIC "N" MIX Christmas Candy	38¢ <small>100g</small>
FOLEY'S Chocolate Macs	59¢ <small>100g</small>
Santa Jube Elves	34¢ <small>100g</small>
Licorice All-Sorts	59¢ <small>100g</small>
Christmas Jelly Beans	38¢ <small>100g</small>

FOIL WRAPPED
Chocolate Santas & Snowmen

78¢

100g

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The following Thrifty Foods Stores will close at 6pm on Saturday, Dec. 9th for their staff Christmas Celebrations! Mill Bay, Parksville, Courtenay, Nanaimo 5:30pm.

UNCLE BEN'S, FAST & FANCY Rice or Pasta Mixes 130-145g	99¢
BETTY CROCKER Bisquick Baking Mix 1kg	1⁶⁸

REG. OR LIGHT Becel Margarine 907g	2⁹⁸
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LIPTON Cup-A-Soup 4 pack	1¹⁹
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THRIFTY Pineapple 540ml	79¢
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ARDMONA, SELECTED VAR. Fruit 398ml	98¢
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DELMONTE Exotic Blended Juices 1L	99¢
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THRIFTY, HAWAIIAN Pineapple Juice 1.36L	1⁴⁹
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AYLMER Tomatoes 796ml	1¹⁹
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ALL VARIETIES Jello Instant Pudding 102-113g	69¢
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FROZEN, TENDERFLAKE Tart or Pie Shells 198-350g	1⁹⁹
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ALL VARIETIES, FROZEN 5-Alive 355ml	99¢
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NIAGARA, FROZEN Orange Juice 341ml	74¢
--	------------

ISLAND HARVEST Multigrain Bread 680g	1⁴⁹
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COUNTRY CREAM Ice Cream 2L	4²⁹
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ISLAND FARMS Cream Cheese 250g	1⁴⁹
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KRAFT Cracker Barrel Cheese 454g	4⁵⁹
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EXCEPT DELUXE Kraft Cheese Slices 500g	3¹⁸
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KELLOGG'S Special-K 375g	2⁷⁹
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NABISCO Shreddies 800g	2⁹⁸
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STEINFELD'S Pickles 1L	1⁹⁹
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REG. OR LIGHT, KRAFT Miracle Whip 1L	2⁹⁸
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McCORMICK NORMANDIE Cookies 350-400g	1⁹⁹
--	-----------------------

ISLAND FARMS Sour Cream 500ml	1²⁹
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ALL VARIETIES GREEN GIANT	
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Niblet Corn

ALL VARIETIES Stoned Wheat Thins 250-300g	1⁸⁹
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Koala Springs 1L	99¢
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MAXWELL HOUSE Instant Coffee 200g	6²⁹
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MAXWELL HOUSE Ground Coffee 300g	2⁸⁸
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Healthy 7 KNUDSEN'S NATURAL Apple Juice 1.9L	3⁶⁹
--	-----------------------

Fresh pressed juice from ripe apples. 100% natural.

LITTLE BEAR Yellow Corn Tortilla Chips 454g	2⁸⁹
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Made with organically grown yellow corn and non-hydrogenated oils. Stoneground, cooked, pkg'd same day. 100% natural.

\$1 ••• SAVE \$1⁰⁰ •••

GA135-24-2 pak
Kodak Film 2 roll x 24 exposures
TWIN PACK

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EXPIRES DEC. 12/95

\$1 **6**

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Value, Service



Monday 6 thru Wednesday December 12, 1995.

Light to Limit Quantities

Seafood

79	Crisco Oil 2L	4⁴⁹	ITALPASTA	Pasta 900g	1¹⁸
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98	GOLDEN BOY Peanut Butter 1.5kg	3⁹⁹	RAGU, ORIGINAL	Pasta Sauce 750ml	1⁴⁹
99			THRIFTY, RED	Sockeye Salmon 213g	2⁷⁹

08	DAIRYMAID Apple Juice 1L	68¢	ULTRA TIDE	Laundry Detergent 6L	7⁹⁸
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99	THRIFTY Imported Cheeses	20% OFF AT CHECKOUT	CASCADE	Dishwasher Detergent 2.5kg	4²⁹
	KRAFT, PART SKIM Mozzarella 454g	4⁵⁹	PALMOLIVE	Dishwashing Liquid 950ml	2²⁹

29	ISLAND FARMS, TRADITIONAL Egg Nog 2L	2⁵⁹	DOVE BEAUTY	Bar Soap 2 pack	1⁶⁹
			ROYALE, EXTRA JUMBO	Paper Towels 2 roll	1⁹⁹

rn		68¢	SELECTED, BOYS OR GIRLS	Pamper Diapers 44-80's	14⁸⁸
			McLEANS	Toothpaste 75ml	2/1⁴⁴

39	SELECTED, PEEK FREAN Cookies 400g	2³⁹	ALL VARIETIES	Tums 50-75's	1⁹⁹
¢	RITZ Cheese Crackers 450g	2⁹⁹	TROPHY	Cashew Snacks 350g	3⁹⁹

29	NALLEY'S Potato Chips 180g	98¢	Turtles	Chocolates 400g	6⁹⁹
88	SQUEEZE BOTTLE Heinz Ketchup 1L	2⁶⁸	ISLAND FARMS Butter 454g	1⁹⁹	SALT SPRING ONLY

39	MICHELLE'S Natural Pastas 227g	1⁹⁹ ea.	6 VARIETIES PLUS	Snickers or Mars Bars 48-62g	2/99¢
			PURINA	Kitten or Cat Chow 900g-1kg	2²⁹

39		3⁶⁹ OR 6⁹⁹	FANCY FEAST	Cat Food 85g	2/79¢
			REGULAR ONLY	Purina Dog Chow 8kg	7⁹⁸

		\$1⁰⁰	ROYALE	Bathroom Tissue 24-roll	8⁵⁸
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BARNACLE BILL'S, READY TO EAT	Imitation Flaked Crab Meat	68¢ 100g
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WEST COAST	Sole Fillets Thawed	1³⁹ 100g
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IMPORTED, WHOLE	English Plaice Pan Fry	95¢ 100g
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JACO, ROLL MOPS, TIDBITS, FILLETS	Pickled Herring 200g	2⁹⁸
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FROM SALTSRING ISLAND	Smoked Salmon Pate 106g	3⁷⁹
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WEST COAST, READY TO SERVE	Fresh Cooked Shrimpmeat	1⁸⁸ 100g
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Flowers and More

2 1/4" POT	Nature's Garden Poinsettia	2⁹⁹
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4" SINGLE STEM	Poinsettia Plant	2²⁹
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7" POT	Mumsettia	11⁹⁹
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8" POTTED, DECORATED	Ivy Wreaths	14⁵⁹
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CHRISTMAS, MIXED	Cut Flower Bouquet	4⁹⁹-9⁹⁹
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2" POT	Nature's Garden Azalea	2⁹⁹
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6" POT	Azalea	14⁹⁹
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CHRISTMAS	Mini Carnation Bouquet	5⁹⁹
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ONE DOZEN	Christmas Carnation Bouquet	8⁹⁹
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6" POT	Poinsettia	6⁹⁹
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\$25 or more, (\$2 Charge Otherwise), Same Day Delivery on Orders in by 2:00 PM

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"I'm Dreaming Of A White Christmas"

Money's White Mushrooms 1.38

100g pkg MOJAVE

Mushroom Batter 89¢

3.04kg lb

REACH FOR IT!
NUTRITION INFORMATION
 Energy 12 Cal 50 kJ
 Fat 0.8g
 Potassium 160 mg
 Percentage of Recommended Daily Intake
 Riboflavin 12%
 Niacin 8% Iron 2%
 per 45g serving (2/3 cup/150 ml)

REACH FOR IT!
NUTRITION INFORMATION
 Energy 11 Cal 50 kJ
 Dietary Fibre 1.2g
 Potassium 190 mg
 Percentage of Recommended Daily Intake
 Vitamin C 6%
 Folate 8% Iron 2%
 per 60g serving (1 stalk)

CALIFORNIA, US NO. 1

Fresh Celery 28¢

62¢ kg lb

Great with Litehouse Veggie Dips 1.29
 237 ml pkg.

FRESH CUT 6' - 7' NO. 1 GRADE

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Greek Crown or String Figs 1.99

10 oz. pkg.

LOCALLY GROWN
Kiwi Fruit 10/100

Best Tasting Local Crop in Three Years!

COLORADO, BUTTERNUT, SPAGHETTI, GREEN ACORN
Organic Squash 69¢
 1.52kg lb

ALMOND, WALNUTS, FILBERTS
Christmas Nuts or Italian Chestnuts 1.99
 4.39kg lb

APPLE, GRAPE, RASPBERRY
Washington Organic Fruit Snacks 5/1.99
 14g

Quality Meats

CUT FROM WASHINGTON SELECT GRADES, BONELESS

Sirloin Tip or Top Round Roast 2.58

5.69kg lb

WASHINGTON SELECT GRADES BONELESS

Bottom Round Steak 2.18

4.81kg lb

Great for Swiss Steak!

WASHINGTON SELECT GRADES, BONELESS

Rump Roast 2.38

5.25kg lb

serve with Yorkshire Pudding

OVERLANDER, BULK
Bavarian Smokies 2.29
 5.05kg lb

OVERLANDER BULK LINK
Garlic Sausage 1.99
 4.39kg lb

OVERLANDER, BULK
Ukrainian, Garlic Ring or Farmer Sausage 2.89
 300g

OVERLANDER, BULK, MILD
Pepperoni Sausage 3.29
 7.25kg lb

MADE IN-STORE
Crown Roast of Lamb 7.39

ready for the oven 16.29kg



SEMI BONELESS
Whole Lamb Leg 3.99
 8.80kg lb

Lamb Loin Chops 6.99
 15.41kg lb

Lamb Shoulder Chops 3.49
 7.69kg lb

BONELESS
Lamb Shoulder 3.99
 8.80kg lb

BC GROWN, ALL SIZE PKGS., FRESH
Chicken Breast 1.98
 4.37kg lb

BC GROWN, ALL SIZE PKGS, FRESH
Chicken Drumsticks 1.09
 2.40kg lb

BC GROWN, ALL SIZE PKGS, FRESH
Chicken Thighs 1.49
 3.28kg lb

THRIFTY, REG OR 1% SALT
Sliced Side Bacon 2.28
 500g pkg

THRIFTY, 3 VARIETIES
Boneless Hams 3.78
 8.33kg lb

HAMPTON HOUSE, BURGERS, CUTLETS OR
Breaded Chicken Nuggets 1.59
 tray pack 3.51kg lb

Your Home Grown Food Store



DRAMATIC TENSION...

"David & Lisa" is a must-see

By GAIL SJUBERG
Driftwood Staff

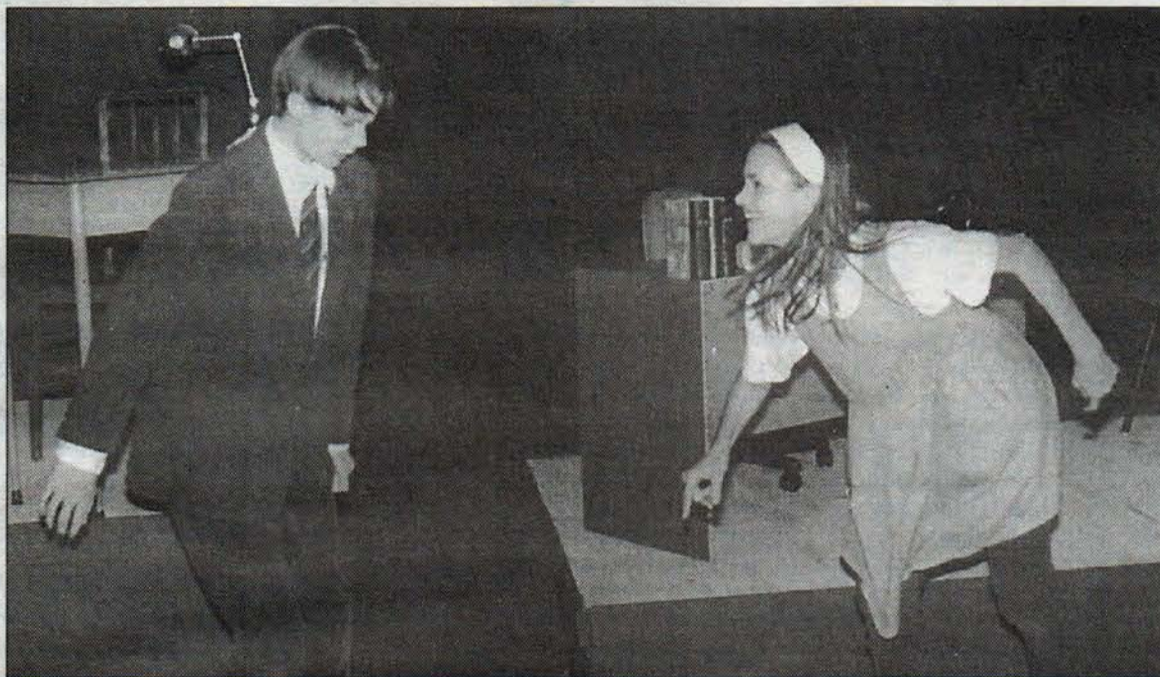
Put off Christmas baking and present making; David and Lisa is a class act; the house should be packed and that is a fact.

If you do go see Class Act's production of David and Lisa this week, you will know why I broke a cardinal journalistic rule by calling upon the muse of rhyme for that lead.

Gulf Islands young people have been doing amazing things in theatre for many years. David and Lisa continues that tradition, created by a group of dedicated people in an after-school Gulf Islands Secondary drama club.

From the opening scene in David's bedroom, it is obvious something is terribly wrong. Sixteen-year-old David, played by Joe Cunliffe, is packing his suitcase for his first term at Berkley School. Hovering over him is his witchy mother, played convincingly by Kristie Charish. David responds to her tersely and with obvious irritation. Cunliffe does this with an authenticity maintained throughout the entire play.

I wondered if David might just have problems communicating with his mother, but his inability to deal civilly with anybody is soon apparent at the school. He is intellectually bright and well-spo-



DAVID MEETS LISA: David (Joe Cunliffe) is taken aback by schoolmate Lisa (Helen Stacey), while she incites his manic fear of being touched.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

ken, but lacking big-time in the people skills department.

When we meet the rest of the students, it is obvious this private school is for kids with a truckload of emotional problems, whose parents can afford to send them there.

David's male peers are Carlos, a street-wise kid who claims to have "knocked-up" 13 females in his lifetime (played by Keanu Meyers) and the eager-for-friendship Simon (Nick Choquette), who hounds David for a chess game and an ear for his saxophone playing.

Among the girls is Sandra (Molly Phillips), who has stars in her eyes and rock-bottom self-esteem; the always-coming-on-to-the-boys Kate (Neacol Booth); and the perennially sarcastic Josette (Laura Albert). All the actors playing these students had unique characters who endeared themselves to us. They provided many of the funny lines and scenes, particularly Carlos and

Kate with their hyperbolic amorousness.

Then there is Lisa, played by Helen Stacey. I don't want to give away her moves. The surprise is just too good. Stacey probably had the most difficult part, playing a disturbed teenage girl with a vastly split personality, and not the stereotypical split one might imagine.

Stacey sometimes made me hold my breath, trying to hold back the shock of what she might do or say.

There is lots of suspense in this production beyond Lisa, too. I was dying to know what is wrong with these kids, particularly, but not only, David.

More dramatic tension comes from our desire to see things get better, which does happen. Most notably, some interesting friendships develop, with David and Lisa's providing the main focus.

Class Act members also portray several adults in the play. All did this extremely well. I had to make

myself think "yes, these are not adults." Courtney Pattison was the "adult lead" as the school's head Dr. Alan Swinford and bore the brunt of David's abuse; Travis Beals was Lisa's trusted teacher John, and really came across as trustworthy, although David sure didn't think much of him. Other school teachers and staff were Anna Squier, Emma Yardley, Michael Trump, Laura Albert, Alura Gilbert and Jennifer Charles.

Tim Lyons-Howard was David's father, and provided one of the play's most wrenching scenes as a man who cannot understand what happened to his happy little boy.

Del Esau was the last actor to appear, providing the pivot for the story's strong ending.

The production was also a technically demanding one. Following on its origins as a film, there are about 50 short scenes in the play. This kept the technical crew hopping with furniture silently gliding through the dark-

ness and Adam Deas doing magic with the lighting switches. The space between scenes is brief, however, with at least three different sets up at all times. Some scene changes required only an actor to move from one set to another.

There was only one point, somewhere around the middle of the second act, where I felt a bit "scene overloaded," but that dissipated as events gained momentum again.

Long-time island theatre person Lynda Jensen directs David and Lisa. Lara Brown is stage manager, Alura Gilbert is director's assistant and Jared Hazenboom was technical director. Sheila Stacey and Maia Vaillancourt handled make-up and props, Katie Watt was in charge of costumes, and set design was done by Jensen and Doug Bambrough.

Trent Shouldice, Jared Hazenboom, Robin Morris and Bambrough were the technical crew.

David and Lisa plays this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Salt Spring Middle School drama room beginning at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children, available at the door or in advance at et cetera. Seating is fairly limited, so advance tickets are recommended.



Courtney Pattison plays Dr. Alan Swinford



Joe Cunliffe (David) opens up to Alan

STONE WALRUG GALLERY

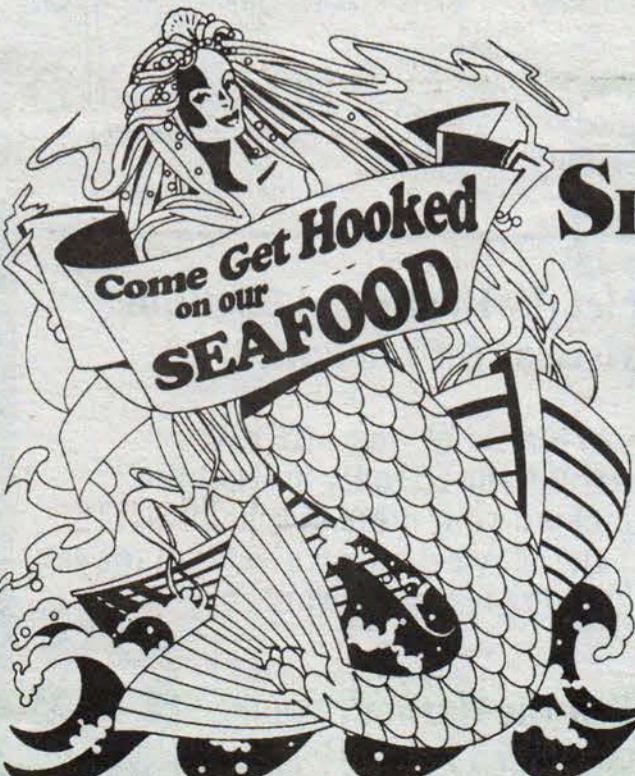


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(Sundays 11-4 in Dec.)
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Seafood Restaurant

Mon.-Thurs. 10 - 7:30 pm
Fri. Sat. Sun. 10 - 9 pm

Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner

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RE-NEGOTIATED FOLK MUSIC: Reid Collins at piano, Doug Rollo, centre, and Jerome Jarvis are part of the Dead End Kids, playing their original music this weekend at the Fulford Inn.

Musicians reunite after 20 years

By **SUSAN LUNDY**
Driftwood Staff

"It was perfect timing, as musical fate would have it."

So says Doug Rollo, who was recently drinking coffee in Rodrigo's with fellow musician Reid Collins. The two were discussing a musical reunion of sorts: a re-gathering of musicians who played island halls 20 years ago.

Songwriters Rollo and Randy Miller had already connected. Collins was all for it.

"All we were lacking was a percussionist," Rollo recalls. "And Jerome walked in."

Jerome Jarvis, back "home on Salt Spring" after a busy stint in Vancouver, says he leapt up and said "yes" at the opportunity to jam with old musical friends.

The resulting product — the Dead End Kids — will play three nights of "progressive West Coast, or re-negotiated folk music" at the Fulford Inn, this Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The four musicians did not actually play together 20 years ago, but all were performing in Gulf Islands bands, and each has played with Rollo.

Islanders will remember Rollo as the lead guitarist for a Jesus Christ Superstar production on Mayne Island and his Midnight Moonlight Band with Rick Dodds. Rollo has continued writing and playing music throughout the intervening years.

Collins, who used to be a solo pianist, has been teaching music and playing in bands. He continues to organize musical and comedy events on Salt Spring, and helped produce a tape called *Ridin' It*, which includes several of his piano solos.

Jarvis says locals will remember him from the "semi-legendary" band Island which was composed of former members of the Perth County Conspiracy. He has recorded with Susan Cogan, and while he was liv-

ing in Vancouver, he "kept coming back" to perform here.

Over the past several years, Jarvis has been playing drums and piano for dance classes in Vancouver, and recording and performing with various artists.

"I've been busy, busy, busy," he says, adding that it is great to be living on the island again.

Like Rollo, Miller has continued writing original music, formerly living on Saturna Island and now on Mayne.

Their weekend performance will see Rollo on the guitar, mandarin and fiddle; Collins on piano and keyboard; and Jarvis at the drums.

Miller plays the guitar and bass, and is the "most amazing"

whistler. He and Rollo will take on vocals with Jarvis, who "might throw in a note or two."

Their "very danceable" cross-section of music is all original. Rollo describes it as "Latin-flavoured music; rock 'n' roll with jazz flavouring, and a bit of bluegrass."

In other words, it offers lots of variety.

And how does it sound? "Great. It's really good so far."

The four chose the name Dead End Kids (a TV show in the 1950s) as a "memory trip" reflecting their united return to the island music scene. They are anticipating a party atmosphere this weekend as old friends join them in their 20-year reunion.

ENTERTAINMENT

This week at the Cinema

STARTS DECEMBER 1

Movies run from Friday to Tuesday.

ACE VENTURA: WHEN NATURE CALLS: Critics say this is Jim Carrey's best yet. "Unlike so many superstar comics before him, Carrey has retained a raw hunger for The Joke — the killer punch line, the ultimate sight gag — that seems insatiable, and this gives his work a furious, omnivorous energy." The flick finds pet detective Ventura in Africa searching for a rare white bat. Ian McNeice plays the English diplomat who accompanies Ace on his bat quest, and Tommy Davidson is "terrific" as a battling member of the Wachootoo tribe. Mature with occasional violence, nudity and suggestive scenes. Fri.-Tues. (Dec 8-12) 7 p.m.; Tuesday matinee at 4 p.m.

POWDER: The story of a teenage boy (Sean Patrick Flannery) born an albino and kept in a basement since birth, who possesses an exceptional intellect and supernatural powers. Powder's teachers are impressed, but his classmates aren't: If there is one thing you don't want to be when you're a teenager, it's different. Mature with occasional very coarse and suggestive language and nudity. Fri.-Tues. Dec. 8-12 9 p.m.

Island Video Hits

1. Apollo 13(1)
2. Crimson Tide(2)
3. Johnny Mnemonic(3)
4. Forget Paris(-)
5. Dolores Claiborne(5)
6. Santa Clause(8)
7. Fall Time(-)
8. Search and Destroy(-)
9. Mad Dogs and Englishmen(-)
10. Rob Roy(6)

On Tap at the Pubs

- Harbour House Hotel** (Wheelhouse Pub)
Promo Thursday, Dec. 7
Live DJ, RFM Productions, Dec. 8-9
Moby's Pub,Wednesday Night Live, Nov. 29
Sunday Jazz with Ray Newman Quartet, Dec. 3
Fulford Inn (pub),
Doug Rollo & Randy Miller Quartet, Dec. 7-9
Vesuvius Inn,
Open Stage with the Barley Bros., Dec. 7
Gone Clear (Reggae band), Dec. 16

Community TV Schedule

- Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.
Debut: Isle of Views (with Dietrich Luth)
 Dec. 7, 6 p.m.Isle of Views
 6:30 p.m.Summer Visions #2
 Dec. 10, 3 p.m.Keep Fit
 3:30 p.m.Isle of Views
 3:45 p.m.Summer Visions #2
 Dec. 12, 11 a.m.Keep Fit
 11:30 a.m.Isle of Views
 12:15 p.m.Summer Visions #2

Bah! Humbug! Scrooge is back in Newman musical rendition

Scrooge is back! And this will be the second of the 40 years that actor Eric Booth plans to play Charles Dickens' famous character. Most other cast members are returning, although a few kids have outgrown their parts.

Ray and Virginia Newman have written original music to this familiar tale, including Ebenezer's crotchety rendition of "Bah! Humbug!" when asked to donate to a Christmas charity fund. The old miser changes his tune at the finale and invites the audience to join the cast in a little holiday party at the back of the church.

For the stage is a church — the Salt Spring United Church, which is the co-producer of the Newmans' family-style show.

Curtain time is 7 p.m. and audience members will be on their way home early, since several school-age children are part of the cast ... as well as some others who like to retire by 9 p.m.

Dates are Sunday through Tuesday, December 17, 18, 19 and tickets are at et cetera.

If you've seen the show before, you will be pleasantly surprised by a few small additions this year.



A FEARFUL CRATCHIT: Bob Cratchit, left, (Bill Webster) cringes in fear as a reformed Scrooge (Eric Booth) is about to advise his pay is being doubled. The Christmas classic opens this week.

Photo by Tony Richards

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Lions dinner
 Susan McNair serves dinner to Edith Odlum, who happened to serve McNair as a child from her store in Vancouver. Coincidences abounded at the annual Lions Christmas dinner Sunday night: seated next to Odlum is Edith Davidson, who not only shares the same first name, but the same birth month. And both were born in England. Seated beside Davidson is Santy Fuoco.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Weeden remains president of local art centre society

Bob Weeden will serve another term as president of the Island Arts Centre Society. The ArtSpring society's nine directors selected Weeden during a board meeting Thursday.

Bill Curtin will serve as vice-president, Pat Fraser as secretary and Raymonde Vachon, treasurer.

Karin Weber will chair the administration committee. One of its responsibilities is to develop plans for staffing and volunteers when the arts centre opens. Chairman of the building committee is Richard Bremer.

Vachon will head the finance committee, which will develop a long-range financial plan for the centre. Chris Chapman remains at the helm of the fundraising committee.

Pat Fraser will chair the new program development and public relations committee.



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MOUAT'S CLOTHING COMPANY

Centre stages Green Christmas Craft Faire

What do a thingamabob, a deadly chocolate and Kirtan tapes have in common?

They are all things which will be offered for sale at the Salt Spring Centre's Green Christmas Craft Faire this Saturday and Sunday.

The family-oriented fair will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Sunday at the centre, 355 Blackburn Road.

Available at the fair will be Kirtan (chanting) tapes, the Salt Spring Centre cookbook, books by centre spiritual leader Baba Hari Dass and T-shirts.

Rajana Rock will be selling her "deadly chocolates" and the face creams and massage oils she creates from organic materials, some of which are grown at the centre.

Aura and Susan Cogan will sell Susan's music tapes and CDs along with Aura's drawings, jewellery and "thingamabobs".

There will also be postcards, organic jams and jellies created by Tangachee Goebel, the tuneful Chimes for Peace wind chimes created by Anuradha and Frank Ens, photo cards and photographs by Osman Phillips and Pamela Thornley and natural beeswax candles and Christmas ornaments by Salt Spring-based BeesWaxWorks.

Sid Filkow will have a collection of exotic rugs available while Fenton Loyola will bring in wood carvings from Thailand and bronze antique reproductions of East Indian deities.

A magic touch will be added by Theresa MacKay's flower fairy tutus, jungle vines and cushions. Caroline Thibault's colourful hair wraps will add an exotic accent to any locks.



CRAFTS IN PROGRESS: Young crafters, left, nine-year-old Serena Hayes and 10-year-old Mamata Kreisler-Rock work on their products for the Salt Spring Centre Green Christmas Craft Faire this weekend.

Photo by Valerie Lennox

Dan Jason will have some seeds, books and his cookbook available. Cam Ringland's photographs will reflect his travels around the world, as will his unique soapstone carvings.

Jewellery lovers will want to check out Prem Margolese's collection, which ranges from inexpensive to "really outrageous"; Simone Rompre's original designs and, on Sunday only, the sterling silver West Coast and realistic pendants and chains by Judy McPhee.

Embossed prints by Thomas McPhee will also be available on Sunday.

Several of the youngest vendors

will also be selling jewellery. In the children's section will be copper enamel jewellery created by Marieke Voorhoeve, colourful fimo jewellery (and boxes) by Mamata Kreisler-Rock and Serena Hayes, and beadwork by Sammy and Leila DePledge.

Also in the children's section will be origami boxes, created by Joah Clophan.

For children attending the fair, there will be The Pocket Lady, with treasures hidden in the pockets of her voluminous skirt. There will also be a fish pond and a kid's room, so parents can browse alone.

For those seeking health treatments, Celeste Mallett will offer reflexology and Lyz Snidal will provide shiatsu.

A raffle and candy count will add to the fun. To tempt taste buds, Connie Addario and daughter Carmen Addario Berry will be selling various flavours of biscotti, made from an original, old family recipe. They will also sell trivets. Salt Spring Centre will serve lunch, snacks, tea and coffee.



with Salt Spring Singers



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Gail Noonan's 'mini-masterpiece' selected for presentation at festival

Your Name in Cellulite, the hilarious six-minute animation by Mayne Island artist Gail Noonan has been chosen for the 1996 Sundance Film Festival.

Only five Canadian productions, two shorts and three features, were chosen for the festival, which is held from January 18 to 28 in Park City, Utah.

Festival programmer John Cooper invited Noonan to enter her animation in the prestigious festival after he saw the piece while jurying the Northwest Film and Video festival. Noonan's film won a judge's award at that festival.

"In six hilarious animated minutes, you rocket through a travelogue of the female body as it tries to conform or deform itself to the images put forth by modern culture. Using outlandish wit and exhilarating images, Noonan has

crafted a mini-masterpiece on the subject of letting go," Cooper observed in the festival program.

The Sundance Film Festival is considered one of the most important of the year for U.S. independent film makers. This year, 110 feature films and 54 shorts will be exhibited. Noonan's creation will precede the feature film debut of Female Perversions.

Noonan is a graduate of the animation program at Emily Carr College of Art and Design. Your Name in Cellulite is her third animation.

Another short animation, by Burnaby based Carol Halstead, was also chosen for the festival. The 12-minute film Why? will be presented as part of a program of short features.

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Scary Santa

Santa Claus tries unsuccessfully to soothe young Sofia Dammel who, despite waiting in line for an hour with grandmother Maria, refused to have anything to do with the North Pole visitor. Sofia was one of 150 children at Santa's visit during Christmas Light-Up Saturday. Photo by Tony Richards

Christmas comes to Salt Spring

YUM, YUM: Diane Piercy enjoys vegetarian chili prepared by the Special Olympics committee for consumption after the Festival of Lights parade Friday night. Photo by Derrick Lundy



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Songs for Christmas

Salt Spring Singers help welcome the Christmas season during Friday's carol festival at Gulf Islands Secondary School. The event drew 500 people and raised \$1,700 for the Christmas hamper fund. Seven choirs performed. Photo by Derrick Lundy

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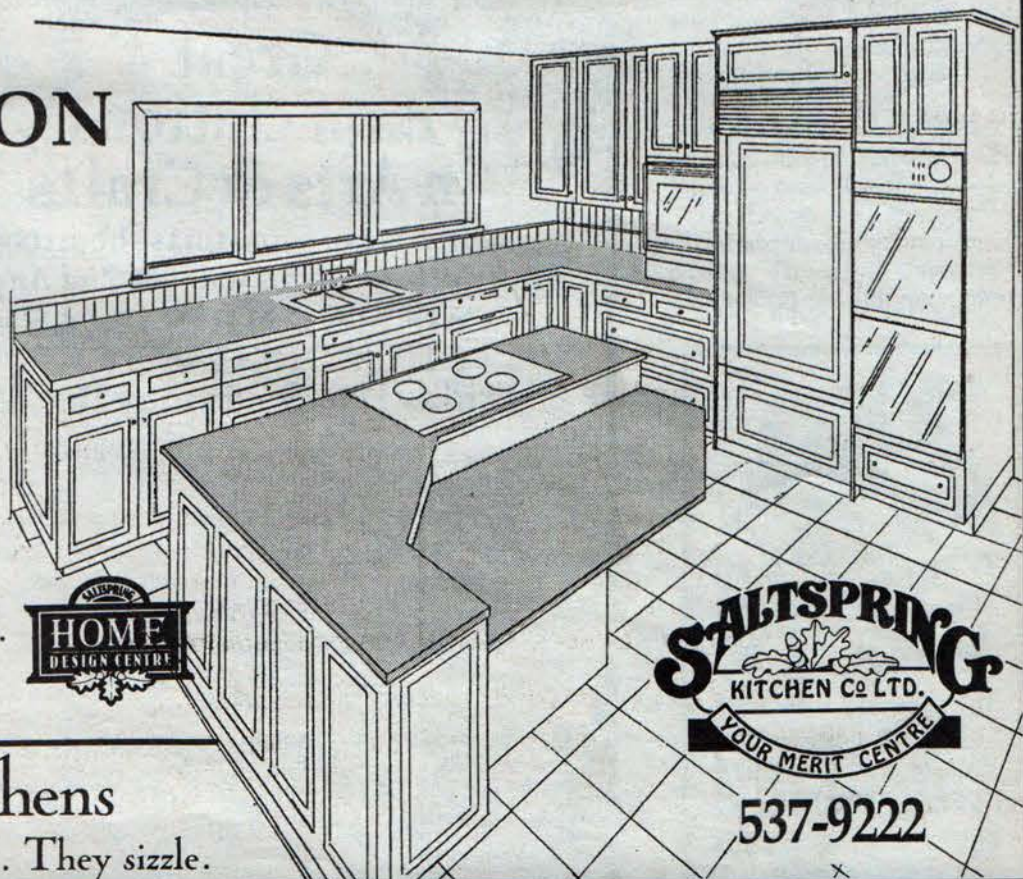
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SPORTS AND RECREATION



Dubious off-side call overturns late striking Corbin Scott goal

By ALAN WEBB
Driftwood Contributor

Oak Bay 0, Mouat's FC 0.
Mouat's FC, who along with Sooke and Gorge represented the league's pace-setters entering into Sunday, dropped a crucial point against bottom-feeders Oak Bay at Henderson Park.

Corbin Scott scored an apparent winner with 10 minutes to play but later had the tally overturned on an off-side call which could have been called, most charitably, dubious.

It was an afternoon like that for FC as players returned to the road for the first time since September. There were several calls of the pungent variety against them on the day but they could have been well-advised to save the grumbling for the post-game analysis. Officials are just another element to be contended with in a match, much like weather or field conditions, both of which were awful as well.

However, it's no use cursing the heavens for raining on you, or remonstrating with the grass for its

slickness; some things just are. Though FC was not abusive in any way, there was still far too much distracting dialogue after whistles. It doesn't do us any credit and, indeed, may have cost us the two points.

One player who is noted for equanimity both on and off the field is keeper Chad Little. Little was superb, making several spectacular saves late, as FC gambled for goals. If he had donned son Colby's super-hero cape in the second half, no one would have thought it inappropriate.

Apart from the above-mentioned chances, the Mouat's defence was solid despite the slippery footing.

The toughest place to be in conditions such as these is midfield, and the FC linkmen found it heavy work on the slick sod. Duncan McGuffie was the pick of the litter on the day, springing Corbin Scott away intelligently in the first half, and earlier hitting a fine volley powerfully but minutely wide.

Dave McColl worked well

down the left side with Eric Byron and the dangerous Harrison Jason, while Justin Scott had his hands full marking a player of singular truculence in the number 11 shirt.

Up front Corbin Scott, Josh Byron, and the aforementioned Jason all had their chances. Jason sent a shot cannonading off the crossbar; Byron nearly netted the rebound, and then sent Scott away for the goal that should have stood up as the winner. But, oh well, mustn't grumble.

Fisher brings home bronze

Salt Spring's Jonah Fisher continued his ascent of athletic peaks with a bronze medal win at the Canada West Open judo tournament Saturday.

Held in Burnaby, the event saw competitors from Washington State and Ontario meet B.C. athletes in pre-Olympics and Pan-American Games-level competition.

Coach Shaun Adams said Fisher almost won the gold medal in his division — one higher than he needs to enter according to his weight — but was forced to retire when he suffered a soft tissue back injury.

Fisher, 16, faced athletes up to 21 years of age who are aiming for the highest possible achievements in judo.

Adams hopes Fisher's injury heals quickly so he can continue chalking up points to qualify him for a spot on the B.C. team

at the Canadian nationals next spring. He placed fourth in his weight class at the nationals last year.

Seven-year-old Calum Adams also entered the tournament, scoring against athletes two years older than himself.

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Reynolds performs Stojko act

By JIM BLACK
Driftwood Contributor

The Christmas season is upon us and the Salt Spring Slugs, being the New Age caring sensitive bunch that we are, gave the visiting Parksville Eagles an early Christmas present in the form of a 4-2 win for the visitors.

Confusion was the name of the game for the Slugs in the early going of this match, leaving netminder Derek Topping to do the lions share of the work, which he did in his normal superb fashion. The rest of the team was, to say the least, not on top of their game. Wandering all over the ice, missing passes and not picking their checks, it looked like they had taken a page out of Deadstop's playbook. Despite all of this, Topping held us in the match for the first 20 minutes and only let in two goals in spite of the numerous scoring chances the Slugs gave the Eagles.

The second period saw a slightly improved Slug team take to the ice. The boys started mounting attacks out of our end of the rink and were putting some sustained pressure on the Eagles for the first time in the game. This was when the Eagles started using their tactics for slowing us up, namely

SLUG TRAIL

clutching and grabbing and more hooking than you see on East Hastings, Saturday night.

While this initially steamed the Slugs, it also made them play that much harder and this paid off with our first goal of the night. Kevin Porteous dug the puck out of the corner and fed a perfect pass to Danny Akerman, playing in his first match after returning from the Jenny Craig Weight Loss Clinic. Now that Dan can once again see the end of his hockey stick while standing up, he wasted no time unloading a beautiful snap shot past the netminder before he even knew what happened. The cheering didn't last too long, unfortunately.

Just a minute after Akerman's goal the Eagles, using Deadstop's eclipse-like size to wire a screen shot past Topping to restore their two-goal lead. But once again it was the Akermans to the Slugs rescue. This time it was Dan's much younger brother Paddy who scored from just inside the blue-line with a bullet drive while the Slugs were on the power play.

Assisting Paddy were Andy Naumann and Claude Deschamps, who moved the puck out of the Slugs' zone.

The pace had picked up considerably by this point and both teams were getting some good scoring opportunities, but the Eagles added the next goal when the Slugs failed to clear the zone.

Starting the final period, both clubs went at it fast and furious, but the final 20 minutes turned out to be a goaltenders' duel, as both netminders shut down every attack thrown at them. While this made for an entertaining game, Bernie Reynolds decided to add a little levity to the proceedings.

Following a quick shot at the net, Reynolds performed one of his rare but patented Elvis Stojko meets Hulk Hogan routines where he spins around, leaps in the air and then slam-dunks himself to the ice. After several minutes of oxygen, he was able to return to the lineup.

While the Slugs racked up another one in the loss column, the boys did have a lot of fun and a number of the Eagles have said they are looking forward to our next encounter in the new year, but only if we bring Reynolds along.

HIGH ROLLERS

The following are high scores for last week's bowling league play at Kings Lane Recreation:

RCMP League: Lorne Bunyan 215, Ken Sampson 215, 201, Danny Bedford 243, 250.

Parents Morning Out: Angela Anderson 232, Sharyl Watkins 229, Andrea Steere 221.

Circus League: Ken Barnes 224, Bunny Cooper 221, Glen Hewitson 205, Fred Eves 207, Inez Farr 226.

Tuesday Afternoon Seniors: Gwen McClung 228, Ken Robinson 222, 246/650, Walter Nicol 230, Conrad Flebbe 230, 209/608, Reg Winstone 228, 241/664, Bill Baker 231.

Golf Ladies: Lorraine Toller 236, Jean Haines 202, 265/615, Shirley Parsons 206.

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Bowling spurs Slasher game

By MALCOLM LEGG
Driftwood Contributor
Salt Spring Slashers 6, Cowichan 1.

It was one of those days when the Slashers could do not wrong, or maybe it was that they were pumped up because the girls were going bowling after the game, but the local under 16 girls squad rolled over a stunned Cowichan side 6-1 last Saturday at Portlock Park.

Bowling you say? Well, something had these young lassies fired up against a Cowichan team that just dropped out of A level.

The Slashers pressed hard for a full 15 minutes, but try as they may, forwards Joelle Morrison, Aslan Sinclair and Sheila Stacey just could not find their first strike, as they would say in bowling.

Cowichan slowly came back in the game and started to create a few chances but goalie Lisa Baker was equal to every challenge. The defence then tightened up as Stephanie Collette, Hannah Smith, Amber Rockcliff, Carmin Osborne and Maia Vaillancourt closed the alley on any more Cowichan opportunities.

Special mention should go to Smith, who played her best game of the season, especially in checking Cowichan's best forward out of the game.

Late in the first half the Slashers made a positional change that seemed to turn the game their way as Alanna "Speedy" Scott (related to the famous FC striker Corbin "the Low" Scott) moved to center forward for the first time.

Her speed seemed to unnerv the Cowichan defence, allowing the Slashers midfield of Cory Schwagly, Launi Legg, Robin Morris, Andi Nelson and Kate McNair to move more into the attack, with Schwagly scoring on a lopping 20-yard shot with 10 minutes left.

The Slashers kept coming and, with only three minutes left in the half, Morrison lazily rolled a soft shot at their goalie, who somehow missed it, and the Slashers had a 2-0 lead at the half.

The second half started just where the local gals had left off — with more goals — as "Speedy" Scott picked up a loose ball, raced in and scored her first goal ever. Morrison followed that up with her second of

the game and a 4-0 lead. (Boy, that going bowling really gets them going!)

Cowichan did finally rally and after several chances, a cross-bar and a goalpost they scored a goal with 15 minutes left.

But that would be all they got as the goal only seemed to spur the Slashers back into action. First Launi "Head Pin" Legg scored from a Collette cross and then Collette scored one herself on a fine pass from Alanna "Speedy Center Pin" Scott.

The rout was complete and the girls had a convincing 6-1 win over Cowichan. It would be a perfect game in bowling.

With the win secured, the Slashers headed for their Christmas party at Kings Lane Recreation Centre and an exciting evening of bowling, but even with all the strikes, gutter balls, fun and laughter, one had to look back and reflect on how well the girls played and how far they have come this year.

And we all know it's not just from going bowling, something we hope to prove this Saturday as the Slashers travel to Victoria to play Gordon Head in their last game before Christmas.

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Crowned queen
Bowler Andrea Steere was crowned queen of the lanes last week, and shows off the trophy to prove it. Steere's business, the Natural Beauty Centre, donates the prizes to the winners of the competition. So Steere passed hers along to the fourth-place winner.

Photo by Tony Richards

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Old Boys respond

The Old Boys soccer team had a bye this past weekend and a lucky break from the action it was.

After last week's devastating report card from coach Malcolm Legg, the lads were in turmoil as they struggled to cope with the damage. An emergency meeting was held at the Harbour House and player after player stepped forward to deflect criticism of his play. Alvaro Sanchez was incredulous: "Only a C+ for all the flair and drama I bring to this game? I can't believe this!"

Fellow striker Chris Cottrell quipped, "Does Malcolm even comment on how attractive I look on the sidelines smoking these trendy Cuban cigars? I don't think so."

Bill Lea was furious: "A low mark just because my all-weather pantyhose doesn't colour code with my Cooper knee pads?"

And so it went on through the evening as copious amounts of beer disappeared down the throats of broken men.

At last from under a table came a Scottish lilt: "I say we revolt". McNutt then fell silent as he rolled over, but the Old Boys had been inspired to new-found courage and a plan was hatched.

The team's strategy to topple their long-time coach was simple — they would trick him.

Quickly, computer expert Drew Lindsay put out on the Internet an offer for any European team to sign Legg (now renamed The Boy from Brazil) for only \$10 and a free year's supply of Salt Spring bottled water. No one replied.

Jack Braak faxed Anaheim an embellished resume attempting to land Legg a job as the hockey team's new mascot. "He can transform from sitting duck to Mighty Duck with one airplane ride," exhorted the Bulldozer.

Alas, as the evening stumbled to a close, the Old Boys couldn't swing a deal with any team. Organizers of Concerned Citizens of Salt Spring couldn't help. Even CRD Director Dietrich Luth wouldn't appoint coach Legg to a job with the soon to be opening Sunday winter market.

By press time, the disillusioned troops realized that their venerable coach was still at the helm. There was only one thing they could do. Next week the Old Boys and fans will reveal their "report card on the coach".

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CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT NOTICE

ASSENT OF ELECTORS - COUNTER PETITION (SECTION 797, MUNICIPAL ACT, R.S.B.C. 290)

BYLAW NO. 2299: SOURCE CONTROL LOCAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Board of the Capital Regional District proposes to establish a local service for the control of the discharge of contaminants to sewerage facilities operated by the CRD within portions of the Electoral Areas of: Sooke (Port Renfrew Sewer Local Service Area), Salt Spring Island (Ganges Sewerage Local Service Area and Maliview Estates Sewerage Local Service Area) and Outer Gulf Islands (Magic Lake Estates Sewage Local Service Area).

Source control is a pollution prevention strategy that is aimed at reducing the amounts of chemical contaminants that industries, commercial businesses, institutions and households discharge to sewers. Source control focuses on point-of-discharge reductions of contaminants in order to protect the receiving environment, public health, collection and treatment systems and sewage sludge quality.

The purpose of Bylaw No. 2299 is to give the CRD authority to charge permit and codes of practice fees to businesses and institutions connected directly or indirectly to all (core, peninsula, islands, Port Renfrew) sewerage facilities operated by the CRD. Permits will be issued to high volume and high contaminant loading dischargers and codes of practice will be used to regulate

groups of smaller businesses such as restaurants, automotive and dry cleaners.

Residences will not be asked to pay permit or code of practice fees. It is planned that revenue from the business and institutions permit or code of practice fees will, over time, reduce the annual residential charges outlined below by up to 75%.

Pursuant to Section 797 of the *Municipal Act*, please be advised that after thirty (30) days of the last publication of this Notice, if the number of elector's signatures on counter petitions, or accurate copies of counter petitions, against the proposed Bylaw received by the Board represents fewer than 5% of the electors in the relevant participating areas within the local service area of the Capital Regional District, then the Capital Regional District Board may proceed to adoption of the Bylaw. **Those persons wishing to oppose this Bylaw are required to submit counter petitions, or accurate copies of counter petitions, against the proposed Bylaw on or before Friday, January 5, 1996.**

Counter petitions have been prepared by the Board and will be provided to all persons who request them. Persons wishing to receive a counter petition or inspect Bylaw No. 2299 should contact one of the following CRD office locations (Monday through

Friday, excluding statutory holidays):

Corporate Secretary, Capital Regional District, 524 Yates Street, P.O. Box 1000, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 (Telephone: 360-3128, or toll free 1-800-663-4425, local 3128) during office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; or

CRD Sooke Building Inspection offices, #209 - 6642 Sooke Road, Sooke, B.C. V0S 1N0 (Telephone: 642-5270) during office hours: 8:30 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. until December 3, 1995. AND THEREAFTER AT: 2205 Otter Point Road, Sooke, B.C. V0S 1N0 (Telephone: 642-1616) during office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; or

CRD Salt Spring Island Building Inspection offices, #206 - 118 Fulford Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2S4 (Telephone: 537-2711) during office hours: 8:30 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; or

CRD Pender Island Building Inspection offices, 4605 Bedwell Harbour Road, North Pender Island, B.C. V0N 2M0 (Telephone: 629-3424) during office hours 8:30 a.m. to Noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

The proposed bylaw is as follows:

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BYLAW NO. 2299

A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH A LOCAL SERVICE FOR THE CONTROL OF THE DISCHARGE OF CONTAMINANTS TO SEWAGE FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

WHEREAS the Regional Board of the Capital Regional District may, by bylaw, under section 788(1)(a), establish a local service for the collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal of sewage;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board under section 18 of the Waste Management Act may by bylaw regulate the direct or indirect discharge of wastes into any sewer connected to a sewage facility operated by the Capital Regional District and has enacted such regulation under Capital Regional District Sewer Use Bylaw No. 1, 1994

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board wishes to establish a local service for the purpose of controlling the discharge of contaminants to sewage facilities operated by the Capital Regional District;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board has obtained the consent on behalf of the municipal participating areas under section 799 of the Municipal Act and the assent of the electors in the electoral areas under section 797 of the Municipal Act;

AND WHEREAS the approval of the Inspector of Municipalities is required under section 795(1)(a);

NOW THEREFORE, the Regional Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1. Local Service

The service for the collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal of sewage is estab-

lished as a local service.

2. Boundaries

The boundaries of the local service area shall be coterminous with the boundaries of all municipalities in the Capital Regional District and with the boundaries of Port Renfrew Sewer Local Service Area, Ganges Sewerage Local Service Area, Magic Lake Estates Sewage Local Service Area and Maliview Estates Sewerage Local Service Area.

3. Participating Areas

The participating areas for the local service include the electoral areas of Salt Spring Island, Outer Gulf Islands and Sooke and municipalities of the Capital Regional District.

4. Cost Recovery

The annual operating costs for the service and the debt servicing costs shall be recovered:

(a) by the imposition of fees and other charges by bylaw;

(b) the balance, after deducting the revenue obtained from fees and other charges, shall be recovered by the requisition of money under sections 809 and 809.1 of the Municipal Act to be collected:

(i) by a property value tax to be levied and collected under sections 810(1) and 810.1(1); and/or

(ii) by a frontage or parcel tax under sections 810 and 810.1 of the Municipal Act.

5. Apportionment

The net annual cost attributable to this local service shall be apportioned among the participating areas on the basis that each municipal participating area or electoral area sewer local service area shall pay that proportion of the annual operating cost that the total annual flow of sewage into a sewage facility, owned or operated by the Capital Regional District, from that municipal participating area or electoral area sewer local service area represents as a proportion of the total annual flow of sewage from all municipal participating areas and electoral area sewer local service areas into sewage facilities of the Capital Regional District.

6. Maximum Requisition

The maximum amount that may be requisitioned under section 804(1) of the Municipal Act for the local service shall be the greater of:

(a) six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) or

(b) an amount equal to the amount that could be raised by a property value tax of two cents (2¢) per one thousand (\$1,000) dollars which, when applied to the net taxable value of land and improvements within the local service area, will yield the maximum amount that may be requisitioned under sections 804(1)(a) and (b) for the local service;

7. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Source Control Local Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 1995".

INFORMATION FOR ELECTORS

It is estimated that the number of electors in the relevant participating areas located within the local service area, calculated as required under Section 797(10) of the *Municipal Act*, are as follows:

	Estimated Electors
Port Renfrew Sewer Local Service Area (Electoral Area "D" Sooke)	129
Ganges Sewerage Local Service Area	578
Maliview Estates Sewerage Local Service Area (Electoral Area "F" Salt Spring Island)	170
Magic Lake Estates Sewage Local Service Area (Electoral Area "G" Outer Gulf Islands)	1063
TOTAL NUMBER OF ELECTORS IN RELEVANT PARTICIPATING AREAS:	1940
5% COUNTER PETITION:	97

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

The qualifications for Resident and Non-Resident Property Electors are as set out below:

Resident Elector: You are entitled to submit a counter petition as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on the day of submission of the counter petition, are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months and in your community for 30 days.

Non-Resident Property Elector: If you are 18 years or older on the day of submission of the counter petition, are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months, have owned and held registered title to property within the boundaries of the local community for 30 days, do not qualify as a Resident Elector, have registered on or before December 22, 1995, you may submit a counter petition as a Non-Resident Property Elector. **Notes:** Only one Non-Resident Property Elector may submit a counter petition per property, regardless of how many owners there may be; if you fail to complete your registration as a Non-Resident Property Elector you will NOT be entitled to submit a counter petition

against Bylaw 2299. Application packages for registration as a Non-Resident Property Elector are available at the CRD Building Inspection offices noted above or by calling the Corporate Secretary at 360-3128 or Toll Free: 1-800-663-4425, local 3128.

TAXATION IMPACT

The estimated annual operating cost of the local service to a residential property owner is:

Ganges	\$2.69
Maliview	\$1.91
Magic Lake	\$1.50
Port Renfrew	\$3.16

Please address any technical enquiries to the CRD Hotline 360-3030 (1-800-663-4425, local 3030) and advise that your enquiry is about Bylaw No. 2299, Source Control Establishing Bylaw, and provide your residential location.

Carmen I. Thiel,
Corporate Secretary

Saturna PRC starts budget work aims to obtain island parkland

By GAIL TRAFFORD
Driftwood Correspondent

Saturna's Parks and Recreation Commission met this month to begin setting up a budget for next year. At this time the group is working with the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy Fund to obtain parkland on Saturna.

During the past year Thompson Park, located on Saturna Beach, has had a sign posted with rules for park users. Although there are no facilities at present, outhouses and a water source should be installed by the summer. In anticipation of Lighthouse Park, which has been under negotiation for several years, the commission had John and Ian Gaines re-roof the second house at the lighthouse.

The commission is looking for recreation possibilities for the coming year. The group is able to sponsor some activities such as seminars, sports or the greatly successful day camp that ran last summer. They are open to suggestions. Please call chairwoman Jeanne Crerar, vice-chairwoman Lisa Turner, secretary Bill Douglas or treasurer Lois King with your ideas.

Saturday the hall was filled to brimming with a delightful array of Christmas gift possibilities as local artists and artisans gathered for the Christmas craft fair. On display were wood turning, hunting bows, original artwork, prints and cards, jewellery, stitchery, ornaments and a tantalizing choice of jams, fruit leathers, bean jars and seasonal goodies.

Many shoppers stopped and enjoyed coffee and treats while admiring all the wares. It seems there must have been something for everyone because most visitors smiled as they crossed another name off their shopping list and left clutching at least one parcel under their arms. At the end of the day, Judy Altree, Marjorie Blaine's niece, won an afghan raffled off by the Women's Service

SATURNA NOTES

Club.

• Geri Crooks has returned from surgery in Victoria and sends her thanks to all those who sent her gifts and cards and especially those who took the time to visit her in hospital. She is now back to work at all her jobs, including selling tickets for B.C. Ferries, since this past Sunday.

However, Crooks is still unable to do any heavy lifting so she is not yet back to carrying the 911 first response pager. She asks islanders to keep in mind that the Occupational First Aid course will begin in January on Mayne Island. The course lasts for five weekends, Saturday morning to Sunday night, and is available to any resident.

Tuition and accommodation will be arranged for any islander interested in carrying the pager. In the past the Lions Club and the Women's Service Club have sponsored first-time students while ambulance attendants who need upgrading have their tuition paid for by BC Ambulance. Give Geri a call at 539-5423 for more information. The team is badly in need of new volunteers.

• Margaret Fry thanks everyone for their support during her annual Red Cross campaign. She reports that although the number of donors is fewer this year than last, the total amount collected is the best yet. Margaret collects every year for this worthy cause. If you would like to be on her list for next year, please give her a call.

• The quarterly meeting of the Saturna Community Club is scheduled for December 18 at the community hall at 8 p.m. Everyone with an interest in the good and welfare of Saturna is welcome to attend.

• The congregation of St. Christopher's Anglican church

invites everyone to attend the Christmas pageant at 2:30 p.m., December 10, and the Christmas carol and reading service December 24 at 1 p.m. Refreshments will follow both services.

• On Christmas Eve, Saturna's carollers are invited to come out and join the community door-to-door sing-along.

This year, organizer Neal MacDonald has been unable to find a truck and wagon suitable for the hay ride. Any readers who could provide such a vehicle are asked to contact Neal at 539-3240. In the event one isn't found, the singing will still go on but people will have to drive from door to door in a large convoy of vehicles.

• The Lions Club New Years Eve bash plans are well under way. Tickets will be available at all the usual outlets. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. A live band will entertain from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. Finger food will be served and mystery and door prizes will be awarded. There will also be a raffle, a cash bar and non-alcoholic refreshments.

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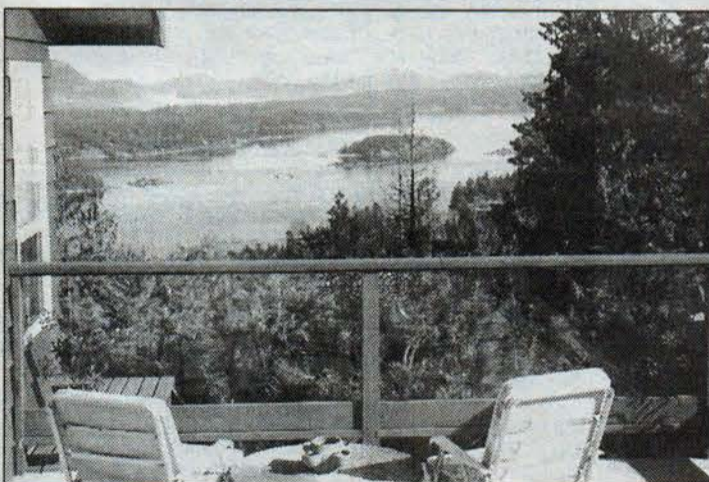
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Islanders consider green spaces

By ALISTAIR ROSS
Driftwood Correspondent

Meetings were held here on Friday, November 24 to explain, and hopefully to raise interest among the general public for the Capital Regional District's (CRD's) developing Green Spaces Strategy.

At the two meetings from the CRD were district parks administrator Lloyd Rushton and Jeff Ward, CRD supervisor of park planning services. Also present was Outer Gulf Islands regional director Jacques Campbell and, at the first meeting, all members of the Galiano Parks and Recreation Commission.

The local commission, with eight appointed members, meets regularly to deal with park matters. The current table officers are Sheila Anderson (chairwoman), Linda Millard (vice-chairwoman), Anne Nicholls (treasurer) and Bill Jones (secretary). Other members of the commission are Pam Freir, Andrew Loveridge, Debbie Holmes and Alistair Ross.

CRD parks are many and varied throughout the district. Galiano, although it has many parks and

GALIANO NOTES

conservation areas, has at this time no CRD park. Local committee members see themselves as knowledgeable on-islanders who can talk to those who hold parkland here, whether it be British Columbia Parks, Islands Trust or those lands held by our own Galiano Club.

An information sheet and questionnaire published by the CRD was distributed at the two meetings — the evening public meeting was not well-attended — and is now available for those interested at a number of commercial outlets on the island. The CRD speakers were anxious to have as many island opinions as possible in order to create a comprehensive decision in their Green Spaces Strategy.

All comment sheets should be in the hands of the CRD by December 15. A drop-box is in place at the Daystar Market for the collection of Galiano questionnaires.

Remembrance Day service

Terry Wishart missed the Remembrance Day Service on November 11. Fighting cancer for well over a year, it was about that day he took to his bed, unable to cope. It was very hard for Terry not to be present at the annual service of remembrance, he never missed it.

More than 60 went to the Activity Centre for the service — an excellent turn-out, according to organizer Jim Ripley. A small choir from Saint Margaret's Church, Jeanne Pletz conducting, led the singing of anthems. Reminiscences of the role of our 300 year-old Canadian Militia — through war and peace — was topic for speaker Ripley. The Militia's cadet core's place in the life of the Canadian nation was reported as well. "Lest We Forget" was recited by two former Militia members. Constable Jim Pletz, in his RCMP scarlet, participated in the ceremony. "God Save The Queen" ended the service, after which tea and coffee was enjoyed by all present.



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154' frontage, with great views and easy access to the ocean. **ONLY \$129,500**
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BUILDING LOT
Over half an acre sloped lot on quiet cul-de-sac served with sewer and water, and is in an area of good homes. **\$46,000**
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OCEANVIEW ACREAGE
This 3.88 acres property features a great ocean view, south west exposure, privacy and is zoned for house and guest cottage. New well, driveway and small cabin. Walk to ferries and marina. **\$179,000**
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GALIANO


LAKEVIEW ACREAGE
Watch the bird life on Galiano's only private lake. Over two acres, driveway roughed in and a rustic cabin to stay in while you build your island getaway. Power & phone on road. **\$129,900**
CALL JANET 539-2002

DELIGHTFUL FOREST COTTAGE
This is an excellent investment for someone looking for a peaceful retreat with plenty of sunshine, room for a garden and ocean beaches a walk away. A small but cute 11 x 11 studio can act as temporary shelter while you build. Currently the elected board of directors is looking into estimates for power and water distribution and installation for all members. Community meetings occur on the second Saturday of each month at the community house located at "Therah". **\$66,500 MLS**
CALL JANET 539-2002

- CENTURY 21 THE SIGN OF QUALITY SERVICE -

Former mail carrier dies quietly at home

By ALISTAIR ROSS
Driftwood Correspondent
Galiano Island lost one of its finest early Saturday morning, November 25.

Former North Galiano mail courier Terry Wishart passed away at home that morning, attended by his loving wife Edith Wishart. This was the home they built together on Terry's retirement, 24 years ago, always a warm and welcoming place.

Terry was born in Winchester, England, on June 10, 1910, but considered himself more Irish than English. Terry came to Canada with his family as a two-year-old. The family settled in Vancouver. He lived and worked there until his retirement to Galiano in 1971. Terry was an employee of American Can Company in Vancouver for about 45 years. Many summers were spent away in the cavalry in Calgary or Kamloops — he loved horses.

Prior to the Second World War he was a member of the Royal Canadian Army Service Core Militia. Called up in 1939, he was sent first to Prince Rupert, then overseas. Based in England, he suffered a serious accident and returned home to Vancouver. After his recovery, Terry remained on the mainland teaching driving for the Canadian Women's Army Core, and worked at other transportation duties. Too tame a life for Terry, he obtained his discharge and then joined the Merchant Navy where he served

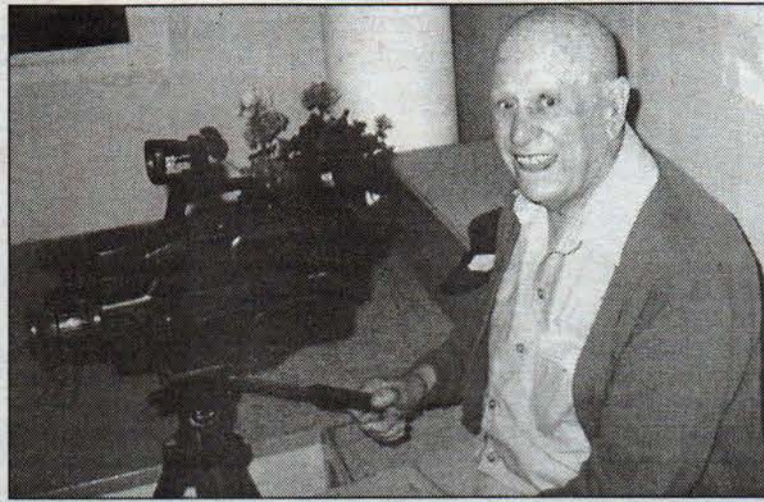
in various capacities on an oil tanker on the Atlantic between Canada, the U.S. and South America. At war's end Terry returned to civilian life and went back to his old job at American Can Company where he remained until his retirement in 1970.

Terry was a fun-loving soul. He is remembered here with respect by his "Rural Route 2 Galianoites," for whom Mondays and Thursdays were special (delivery was not an everyday event at that time). Terry was the fellow who "went out of his way to make certain the mail got through."

He enjoyed fishing with his friend Arne, although he never took the sport too seriously, and was known to have deposited a fair amount of fishing gear on the lake bottom. In his last years Terry created many unique items in his basement workshop for North Galiano Craft Fairs. Even in last month's sale there were items made by Terry. On September 28, at a party held to honour the departing Russells, Terry was there as the official video man.

Terry was a former member of the Galiano Lions Club and was, until his death, a participating member of the North Galiano Community Association.

A service of remembrance will be held in Saint Margaret's Church this Saturday, December 9, at 12 noon. It will be followed by a reception in the North Hall. All are welcome.



VIDEO MAN: Former North Galiano mail carrier Terry Wishart, who died November 25, is pictured here as the official video man at a farewell party earlier this year.
Photo by Alistair Ross

The **British Columbia Seniors Medication Information Line (SMILE)** has been established to assist seniors, their families and caregivers to use medications in an effective and rational manner. It is a joint effort of the Ministry of Health and Ministry Responsible for Seniors (Pharmacare Division), B.C. Drug and Poison Information Centre, the Pharmaceutical Industry, the Science Council of B.C. and U.B.C. Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

SMILE is staffed by licensed pharmacists and is intended to support the care provided by other health care professionals. Seniors, their families and caregivers can call this information hotline with any medication-related questions, including side effects, drug interactions and the misuses of prescription and non-prescription drugs when it is not possible to direct such questions to their regular pharmacist or physician.

SMILE can be reached at 822-1330 in the Lower Mainland and toll-free at **1-800-668-6233** from other parts of B.C. Hours of operation are from 10am to 4pm, Monday to Friday, except statutory holidays.

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Christmas Ship visits Saturday

As if anyone — especially children — could forget, the Bellingham Jaycees' Christmas Ship S.E.S. Whidbey and Santa Claus visits the Outer Gulf Islands Saturday.

This is the 45th consecutive voyage of Santa and his assistants bringing presents, candy and cheer to hundreds of island children.

The Whidbey arrives first on Saturna Island at Lyall Harbour at 10 a.m. It departs 10:45 a.m. and anchors at Hope Bay on North Pender Island at 11:30 a.m.

Next stop is Miner's Bay on Mayne Island, set for 1:45 p.m. The ship leaves Mayne at 3 p.m. and docks in Montague Harbour on Galiano at 3:45 p.m., leaving for Salt Spring at 5 p.m. All times are approximate.

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- NEWS RELEASE -

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