

# Driftwood Gulf Islands

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## Mountain of trees

Scouts Garrett Copeland-Rice, left, and Ryan Laing catch Christmas trees as Ross McLeod pushes them off the truck. Several Scouts

helped out as the youths set up their annual Christmas tree sales in the Ganges Village Market parking lot last Saturday.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Search crews find men lost on Tuam

By VALORIE LENNOX  
Driftwood Staff

Two young Salt Spring men were rescued from a remote trail on Mt. Tuam Monday morning after spending a cold, rainy night in the bush.

Rescued were Richard Michaud and Stuart Anderson, two of three young men stranded when the battery in their four-by-four truck died Sunday night.

"We were anxious because it was cold and pouring rain," said Gilles Michaud, whose sons Richard, 25, and Patrick, 23, were lost on the mountain. The family was especially concerned because Richard is on medication for epilepsy.

Michaud said his two sons had initially gone for a ride in Patrick's four-by-four on the mountain Sunday night with their friend Anderson, 19. When the truck battery died at about 6 p.m., the three tried to start the truck by pushing it down a hill. Then the vehicle slid down the road.

Although it was dark and raining heavily, the three decided to hike out. They had no flashlights and lost track of the trail in the dark, Michaud reported.

"All we had was Bic lighters and they were starting to die on us," Anderson said Tuesday. He said the three walked for hours. "We went down the mountain and we ended up on the wrong side of the mountain so we had to come back up."

Around midnight Richard complained of feeling ill and briefly lost consciousness twice.

Anderson agreed to stay with Richard while Patrick continued to

walk through the bush.

Anderson he and Patrick alternately rested and then moved, trying to keep warm and stop their muscles from cramping.

Patrick walked for approximately three more hours before he spotted a light in the bush and followed it to a house. He called home for help between 2 and 2:30 a.m.

Lillian Michaud picked up her son and then the family, with help from a friend who owned a four-by-four, searched the area. They managed to find the stranded truck but could not find the two missing men.

At 6:30 a.m. they reported the lost men to police. Police conducted a preliminary search but did not find the men, so at 8:30 a.m. brought in Search and Rescue, an RCMP helicopter and the police dog section to help in the search.

At 11:25 p.m. Richard Michaud and Anderson were found near the base of the mountain. They had almost made their own way out, Anderson said.

"We were about five minutes from the nearest house and 10 minutes from the highway," he observed.

Both were transported to hospital, treated for hypothermia and released later Monday.

Anderson said future four-by-four explorations will be done in company with another vehicle.

"We're going to pack his truck up with sleeping bags, flashlights, dry firewood — basic survival needs. And we're going to have somebody follow us up in a truck," Anderson said. "It's a hard lesson to learn — never go out by yourself."

## Roads turn to ice rinks

It rained ice.

A freak storm Saturday turned roads and walkways into skating rinks as freezing rain fell on the Gulf Islands and surrounding area.

Although dozens of accidents were reported in Victoria and the lower mainland, only three minor accidents occurred on Salt Spring. There were no injuries.

Even highways maintenance crews had difficulty getting around. On Saturday morning, a four-ton truck carrying a sanding hopper slid to the edge of Stewart Road and dangled on the shoulder.

The driver climbed out of the vehicle and, some time later, the

WEATHER A2

## Cheri's future looks brighter after counselling and help

BY SUSAN LUNDY  
Driftwood Staff

*Second of two parts*

No matter how deep you go into a spiral of depression, there is always a spot of light that can guide you out.

"That's what I learned at Ledger House," says 15-year-old Cheri Phillips, who tried to kill herself three weeks ago, and who is now working through the emotions that brought her to that "lowest spot."

The option to attend Ledger House in Victoria was only made

known to Cheri after she took an overdose of household drugs at her Salt Spring home. Her stepfather, Chris Budd, is frustrated with a social services system that he believes did not offer Cheri the help she needed before she tried to take her life.

But although Gulf Islands social worker Carmen Neumann-Cohen is prohibited by professional ethics and an oath of confidentiality from commenting even indirectly on the Budd case, she says the social services situation on Salt Spring is no

different from other rural communities. And in some ways, crises are not handled much differently in cities.

As with any government official who works in "the field," Neumann-Cohen says, she is not able to receive calls, and callers are forced to leave messages. This would be no different if she was based on-island. Middle-of-the-night crises and situations needing child protection services can be attended by police, she adds.

She also notes that social ser-

vices can only be as effective as each family member's willingness to adhere to an agreed upon plan.

Budd says it would have been difficult for social services to anticipate Cheri's attempted suicide, but he feels different options and more visible resources could have averted his family's crisis.

Once Cheri was in the hospital, he notes, the public health nurse, a psychiatrist, doctors and social services were available: "All of a sudden, people started taking interest."

Ledger House, which is part of the Queen Alexandra Children's Hospital in Victoria, was recommended by a psychiatrist and a community services counsellor.

Cheri speaks highly of the Ledger House program which set her among a "group of kids (her) own age," and involved one-on-one counselling sessions. For these sessions, Cheri could pick any number of activities, including skating and horse-back riding, to do with the counsellor while they

FUTURE A5

# Market emotions running wild, despite cheery season

We like to think of ourselves as unique, a thoroughly human characteristic. It helps that we inhabit an area that is in itself considered unique. But apart from the need to ride ferries more often than anyone else, there is really very little that sets us apart from people anywhere else in British Columbia.

Fallout from the latest skirmish in the market wars is evidence of that. Thankfully, it has come at a time of year that tends to bring out the best in us. Christmas is providing something of a check against the market, which seems to be bringing out the worst.

But before I elaborate, let me confess my allegiances.

I have been a market vendor, in a different though recent life. I have been a market shopper, though my favourite wares are neither locally made crafts nor used sunglasses. I'm rather partial to Wendy's coffee and Eduardo's burritos, to tell the truth.

At the same time, I am very fond of the village of Ganges and its remarkable vari-

TONY RICHARDS



ety of stores and eating places set in one of the world's finest places. My allegiances, then, are to Ganges, to Salt Spring, to the people who live here, as unique as they might be.

My views, therefore, are not driven by any vested interest, only a deeply-felt desire that we can live together in relative peace and find fulfilment in the limited time granted to us.

That is not, however, the way one recent caller saw it.

I am driven by my own political goals, he charged, in mounting a bid to unseat regional director Luth. Attempts at defence proved to be in vain, though, as the tirade

continued, unabated.

And when a pause presented itself, it followed such a bizarre statement that words failed me. "I am not," the caller confessed, "familiar with all the issues here," but that had not prevented him from forming a strong opinion.

With that, I felt further response on my part was a waste of breath.

Another call, a more reasonable one, came from Sid Filkow, whose market position is well known. Had I, he wished to know, orchestrated the campaign that saw the distribution of letters denouncing Luth's actions regarding the Parks and Recreation Commission? An acquaintance had advised him that a local bank manager had named me as the person who requested placement of a drop-box for those letters at his financial institution.

A third call accused me of being party to the distribution of "hate mail."

Hate mail?

As you can see, emotions are running

wild out there, creating a proliferation of lies and invective that would seem more appropriate coming from a pack of marauding Bosnian Serbs.

It all tends to muddy these roiling waters and shield from scrutiny the heart of the issue. Many of us believed it was the market. Now we are advised that it's north-end versus south-end, rich versus poor, have versus have-not.

Dietrich Luth, who might occasionally appear scruffy to nattily-attired north-enders, is the champion of the underdog in this cause, a battle over class and wealth with which Charles Dickens could have had a heyday.

And me, I see Tony Hume as something of an underdog here, a dedicated servant of the public turfed from his office in shoddy disregard for fairness and integrity.

Resolution of this whole issue — whatever it is — can only come when we start being honest with ourselves and each other. Now that would make us unique.

## Emergency entrance, birthing room will benefit from 1996 funding

Two areas of Lady Minto Hospital will benefit from the hospital foundation's 1996 equipment drive.

The emergency entrance and the birthing room are scheduled for renovation, Lady Minto Hospital directors learned at their November 29 board meeting.

Following renovations, the emergency entrance will include a covered, well-lit canopy. This will complete front entrance renovations which began when the outpatient area was expanded three years ago.

The birthing room renovation is expected to "enhance maternity

services" and encourage more local mothers to deliver their babies in a "healthy, safe, home-like setting," a press release from the meeting states.

Total cost for these projects is estimated at \$90,000.

The Lady Minto Hospital Foundation will launch its 1996 drive with a brochure mailed to all Gulf Islands residents.

In other hospital news:

- Directors learned that patient activity continues to increase in the acute care unit. The occupancy rate for October increased 3.5 per cent over the same period last year.

The average length of stay for October was 5.5 days, compared with 4.8 days last year. Patient days totalled 313, up from 250 last year.

- The community wellness coordinator position held by Rhema Cossever has been extended until March 1996 due to fundraising within the community, plus the continuation of ministry funding through the hospital.

Letters of application for various grants are being sent out with the intention of finding funds to enable continuation of this program.

## WEATHER:

From Page A1

shoulder gave way under the weight and the truck rolled down the 20-foot embankment, smashing the cab.

Fortunately, no one was hurt, said maintenance foreman John Charlton. "It just shows how hard it is for us to get around in conditions like that," he observed.

B.C. Hydro crews were called out to all Gulf Islands Saturday night to repair lines broken because of the ice phenomenon. It pulled wires off poles, or caused trees and branches to topple onto lines.

"One of our biggest problems was just south of (Ganges) where lines broke off two poles," said regional Hydro office manager Murray Smith.

Some problems were remedied quickly, he said, but residents in the Cranberry Road and Salt Spring Way areas were without power for between five and six hours.

Mayne Island was also hard hit, said Smith, with the entire island without power until about 2 a.m. Sunday.

Weather services specialist Terry Duffy from the Victoria weather office said the unusual rainfall was caused by a combination of Arctic

air from the interior and a milder Pacific front. The layer of Arctic air, in which temperatures were below freezing level, was lying over the region when the milder air moved in.

When rain from the Pacific front fell through the cold air, the water droplets were "super-cooled" and froze on contact. This quickly built up a layer of ice on any surface touched by the rain.

Duffy said the last significant incidence of freezing rain occurred on Christmas Day, 1983. The previous record of freezing rain was in 1975, suggesting the phenomena occurs approximately once a decade.

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	2205	7.5		2005	2.5
15	0320	5.6	19	0400	9.9
FR	1050	11.1	TU	0750	8.9
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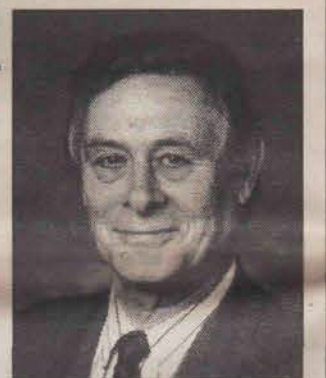
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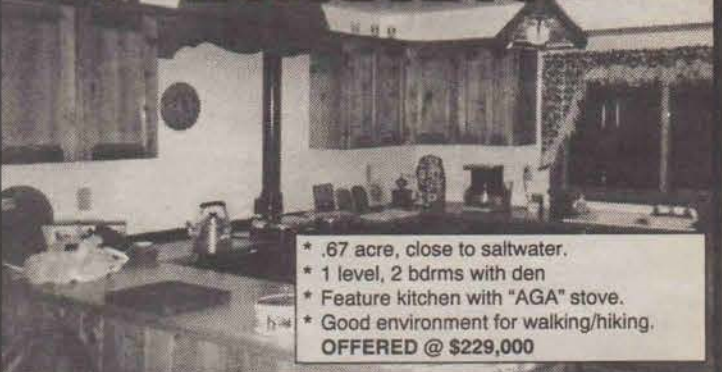
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**AN INCH TOO FAR?:** Gerry Holman measures what little remained of the shoulder near his home on North Beach Road after highways maintenance crews cleared out a drainage ditch next to the road.

Photo by Valerie Lennox

## Ditch safety questioned

Ditch-clearing may have improved drainage on North Beach Road but created a safety hazard in the process, according to residents Gerry and Joyce Holman.

After ditches were cleared and widened at the end of November, little remained of the shoulder in some places along the road.

"It certainly does create a safety hazard," Gerry Holman said.

He feared widening the ditch to the edge of the asphalt in places will undermine the road. The work also narrowed the road, creating an additional hazard for cyclists and pedestrians.

The road is one of the most scenic places on the island and

draws many walkers and cyclists, Gerry Holman said. "It just makes you shake your head when you know darn well we're dealing with narrow roads."

According to a highways spokesman, part of the problem was caused by the weight of the equipment, which pressed the asphalt edge into the ditch. Maintenance crews plan to do remedial repairs on the ditch. Sod will edge the road, creating a small shoulder.

The clearing of the drainage ditches is expected to improve drainage along the road, keeping the road base dry and eliminating broken pavement.

## Friday meeting offers opportunity to voice local government opinions

Salt Spring Islanders will have an opportunity to speak out about local government options Friday. And if enough of them do so, the second phase of a local government study might proceed.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has called the meeting to allow islanders to comment on a proposed framework for municipal

incorporation within the Islands Trust.

But Jeremy Moray sees the meeting as a means of determining support for further study of local government options.

"What we want to do is gauge the temperature on the island for going to phase two," he said Tuesday.

# Sewer changes get go-ahead, but ministry scales back plan

By **TONY RICHARDS**  
Driftwood Staff

Changes in the operation of the Ganges sewer will go ahead following approval Thursday by the provincial Ministry of Environment.

But the ministry bowed to public pressure by scaling back both the amount of sewage that can be discharged and the allowable fecal coliform level.

The 10-year-old sewer system will be allowed to increase its discharge volume to as much as 240,000 gallons (1,090 cubic metres) a day. The effluent must not contain more than 1,000 fecal organisms per 100 millilitres.

The Ganges Sewer Commission, through the Capital Regional District, decided last year to apply for amendments to the permit under which the treatment plant operates. The application sought a maximum daily discharge of 300,000 gallons (1,362 cubic metres) per day, with 5,000 fecal coliforms per 100 ml.

The ministry went along with the commission's wish to begin discharging effluent on a continuous basis, rather than on ebb tides only.

Commission chairman Tom Toynbee said Monday he was pleased with the news. "The next step," he said, "is to make a decision on what plant to build or modifications to make."

He didn't anticipate the changes making any difference in the space required by the treatment plant, which is located on Seaview Avenue.

In explaining the decision, ministry spokesman John Finnie conceded in a written notice that studies had indicated a higher discharge of fecal organisms would not reduce water quality below shellfish standards. However, he wrote, "... the ministry took note of the public concern on this issue and as per our precautionary approach issued an amendment with stricter conditions."

Finnie said the reduced discharge

amount of 240,000 gallons daily reflects current zoning.

An "extensive" monitoring program will be required "to confirm assumptions made by the CRD and their consultants and determine if stricter effluent quality requirements on the discharge are necessary."

Toynbee was relieved that the ministry did not require the application to go to a public hearing, which saved both time and money. He credited an information meeting in March with making a hearing unnecessary because it "addressed a lot of concerns" that had been expressed over the changes.

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# Parlee's passionate care for youth leads her to Gove

By SUSAN LUNDY  
Driftwood Staff

Jane Parlee was so eager to read the Gove Inquiry report that she had it in hand, and had consumed much of the 800-page document, before social workers had even received it.

Parlee's interest in Gove is two-fold. As executive director of the Salt Spring Community Services Society, she is head of the island's key child and youth services.

But Parlee is also a foster parent, and has had 34 children in her care. As a foster parent, she made a confidential submission to the inquiry regarding the suicide of one of her former foster children in a mental health facility.

Although Parlee recognized Serena needed mental health care, she said, "I was upset that when Serena decided she was ready to go back home, she wasn't able to."

Parlee says the amount of supervision Serena received in the facility became apparent after she hanged herself in a closet. Just weeks prior to her suicide, she had been "partying" heavily and was sexually assaulted at one of these parties.

She said the suicide "brought issues to a head for her," and the lack of choices Serena had, combined with the lack of supervision at the facility, were troubling.

"I was very anxious to see (the Gove report)," Parlee said.

Her "passionate interest in child and youth issues" brought Parlee to the doorstep of the Queen's Printer on the day the report was released. From here, she was told where she could get a copy. She spent most of her weekend consuming it.

"I read it with great interest — there were some excellent points. Not all the recommendations are new. He (Judge Gove) has raised issues that we have been raising for years and years."

Parlee says one of his recommendations — integration of child-related services — already has a foundation in many communities through child and youth committees.

Although these committees sometimes look at an individual situation in a "case conference," they typically "looks at community needs in a broader sense."

"Gove is right in saying (the child and youth committees) are not doing as much as (they) could be doing," Parlee said.

Salt Spring's child and youth committee meets once a month. It has representation from community services, mental health, social services, probation, public health, the school district, Family Place, parks and recreation and police.

Also on Salt Spring, the community services society has been working toward better integration, and doing it with its own workers: child, mental health, and alcohol and drug counsellors gather weekly in team meetings.

Parlee said the community has endorsed creation of a child protection office which would involve a permanent on-island social worker and other child service representatives.

"Social services has agreed to fund it, but will not fund a stand-alone office," Parlee said. Such an office would also need funding from others it would employ, including mental health, public health and the Attorney General's ministry.

Parlee also commented on other Gove recommendations.

She feels Gove's suggestion to create a Child and Youth Ministry would "come with a high price tag."

"I support integration of services, but is a new ministry the answer?"

She noted the inquiry comes

down hard on social workers and said, "For the most part, social workers work hard to the best of their ability with the information they have."

She added we are lucky on the Gulf Islands to have an "excellent staff" which is "very professional and caring." We also have a ministry worker, Parlee said, who provides key services here and is "devoted" to the Gulf Islands.

"Many social workers carry high caseloads," she noted. "They can't be all things to all people."

Parlee strongly agrees with the Gove recommendations regarding the training of child welfare workers. Community services on Salt Spring has for some time been hiring workers trained in social work and child and youth care services.

Parlee also agrees with Gove's suggestion to appoint a transition commissioner to look at implementing the report's recommendations.

As she noted, the Gove Inquiry produced such an extensive report, it is crucial that it is examined closely, and that communities are consulted to determine which recommendations will be effective.

"It should be put into place, not just on a shelf."

Parlee said there are always two issues to consider when a worker

goes into a home: do you remove the child, or do you put in support services?

"Gove says the child comes first and you look at the whole family after . . . You can't predict explosive situations. That's the reality of working with families."

While Parlee agrees that you must look at the child first, and take him out of any dangerous situation, it is important to consider the entire family.

Parents need to be taught the skills to look after their children because, ultimately, that is where the child wants to be. And this has been brought home to Parlee who has comforted foster children crying in the middle of the night because they want their mothers.

Finally, Parlee said that new social services legislation due out in January might have to be re-considered, following the Gove Inquiry.



Jane Parlee

**"It should be put into place, not just on a shelf"**



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By TONY RICHARDS  
Driftwood Staff

# Local trustee leads walk-out

Salt Spring school trustee Ken Lee led the way Sunday when a group of delegates to a meeting in Nanaimo walked out in protest.

The information meeting on a Ministry of Education proposal to reduce the number of school districts in British Columbia drew nearly 200 delegates from all over Vancouver Island.

But when it became evident half-way through the meeting that there would be little new information presented, mounting frustration sparked the walkout by at least half those present.

Lee declared that the event was a waste of time, according

to an observer, and suggested people leave to convey their displeasure. Lee confirmed the account on Monday.

"It was billed as an opportunity to get information to form a position on where to go from here," he said of the meeting.

They had been promised a dialogue, Lee said. "(But) we were getting a monologue."

He described the amalgamation proposal, which has suggested paring the province's 75 districts to 37, as "probably the most important thing in education" in B.C. in 50 years.

But he said politics is getting in the way of what Lee thinks is a good idea.

Equally dissatisfied with the results of the Nanaimo meeting was Gulf Island Teachers' Association president Larry Field.

"There has been a deplorable lack of planning and frightening scarcity of information from the minister of education about his amalgamation plan and its impact on services to students," Field said in a written statement. "Considering the magnitude and potential negative consequences

of this latest initiative, one would expect to see some evidence of planning or forethought."

But the session produced no new information, he said.

Field charged that Education Minister Art Charbonneau was "hiding from accountability through this non-process. He is nowhere to be seen when hard questions are asked about his initiatives."

Field, too, suggested that politics are dictating the agenda, in which case "maybe we should forget the 'consultation process' and just let him do it to us."

Gulf Islands School Board chairwoman Allisen Lambert said she was among those who did not walk out of the meeting, though she agreed there was no new information available.

She said the session followed an earlier one for trustees and superintendents from all the districts on Vancouver Island, and was a good

opportunity to touch base.

Lambert feels that one important piece of information that has not been furnished concerns the dollar savings the ministry expects amalgamation to bring.

The minister, she said, has called for an initial \$30 million in annual savings, followed by additional savings of \$60-\$80 million.

"What is the real bottom line here?"

A preliminary study has found that joining the four districts within the capital region — Gulf Islands, Saanich, Sooke and Victoria — will produce savings of \$2.7 million. The special education budget would bear the brunt of that amount with a reduction of \$1.3 million.

District administration cost reductions would contribute another \$900,000 and various other expense areas would make up the rest.

Local school trustees are expected to discuss the amalgamation issue at their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday at the school board office.

## FUTURE: Cheri has positive outlook

From Page A1

talked. "I came out of there with a positive attitude," Cheri says. "I was happy for the first time in a long time."

According to Ledger House's special care program manager Sandy Wien (who could not comment on the Budd case), the facility offers an emergency response program which admits youths for a stabilization period. During this time, youths are assessed and either sent home, into foster care, or admitted for one of two longer Ledger House programs.

Youths are accepted into care for attempting suicide, for aggressive acting out in homes, or for family crises. Wien specified that youths can be referred to the program before they reach the point of attempting to take their lives. Some are referred by physicians, others by hospitals or social workers.

Prior to her attendance at Ledger House, Cheri missed more counselling sessions than she attended.

"I was so fed up. I was sick of

talking about it. I felt everyone was against me."

Now she is involved in counselling on a daily basis.

Care by Agreement was another option the Budd family requested as they experienced the mounting crisis in their home. Under this program, willing teens are placed in foster care for a "cooling-off period," giving both teens and parents a chance to breathe.

Cheri says if something was offered "like a safe house, where I could just leave and go, I would definitely have gone."

Cheri left her house several times and stayed with friends. But as Chris Budd points out, many of these homes were experiencing the same type of parent-teen conflicts.

A safe house, Cheri agrees, would have offered her an impartial ear — someone she could talk to.

"I don't think I would have gone down that depressed spiral. I might have waited before I fell."

Salt Spring Community Services Society executive director Jane Parlee says a list of safe

houses previously drawn up on Salt Spring was "not utilized and lapsed."

Now, she says, the society is re-implementing a list of "people in the community who are willing to temporarily house youths." Ideally, she adds, there should be five to 10 names on the list, each of whom has been through a screening process, interviewed and had a criminal record check.

Parlee says the list would provide a contact number that could be reached "in the middle of the night" should a crisis arise.

"It is important to have this on the island: we can't get ministry protection here overnight."

For Cheri, with daily counselling, Ledger House, and a determined effort to work through the emotions that brought her to the point of suicide, the future is looking brighter.

And she has words of caution for her peers: "It's not worth it," she says. "In my depression I hated everything and thought everyone was against me. I went to the lowest I could go. Now I've learned how to try and climb out."

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# Infrastructure Focus Group considers range of items

Islanders shouldn't expect the same infrastructure on Salt Spring that they would find in an urban community.

That was one of the conclusions of the Infrastructure Focus Group in its recommendations for Salt Spring's revised Official Community Plan. The group considered a wide range of issues, including provision of water and sewer services, recreation facilities, roads and transportation. Seven principles were drafted by the 12-member group. These were:

- Infrastructure planning and service delivery is most effective when there is good communication and cooperation among and between the various government bodies.

- The sustainable economic, social and environmental limits of island resources should be recognized when planning and providing infrastructure services.

- Infrastructure services should be provided at a level and form consistent with the reasonable needs of a rural, island community and not those of a large, urban community.

- Decisions affecting public services on Salt Spring should be made locally, with opportunities for public input and approval. Decisions should be supported by professional, expert advice.

- Infrastructure should be planned ahead of population growth, so that services are available to residents at the lowest cost and with minimum impact on the island environment. Infrastructure should not necessarily be built until required and should not drive growth on the island.

- As much as possible, population growth on Salt Spring should be directed into "villages" so services can be more efficiently provided. Development of areas which will be difficult or costly to service should be discouraged.

- The costs and benefits of providing infrastructure should be shared equitably. In situations where the community does not obtain infrastructure benefits from



## OCP REVIEW

new developments, the capital and operating costs of providing services for these developments should be carried by the developers and new owners, rather than by the general community.

To achieve these goals, group members recommended that the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee should secure local subdivision approval authority for the island, work on agreements to coordinate infrastructure planning with other agencies having jurisdiction on the island and encourage public input when making decisions on community services and facilities.

Sustainability should be taken into account when planning infrastructure, the focus group suggested. "Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs," the group noted.

"Local residents, aware of resource limits and sensitive to the long-term, should be involved in decisions affecting present and future infrastructure services."

The advisory planning commission should consider the sustainability of an application in its review and the mandate of the Islands Trust should be rewritten so the Trust is required to preserve and protect the area for the benefit of future residents as well as present residents.

Incentives and disincentives — including assessment values, covenants, stewardship agreements and tax rebates — should be used by the Trust to encourage sustainable land-use development on the island.

The group also took a look at

the expectations of those who move to the island from more urban areas. "The provision of infrastructure services on Salt Spring should not be dependent on a large population base or high tourist trade," the group suggested.

"This means fewer services and community facilities than those normally offered in a large urban area. It also implies that the expectations of present residents and those contemplating a move to Salt Spring about such services should not be raised."

To counter such expectations, the group recommended a brochure be prepared by the local Trust committee describing the island's community goals and their impact on land ownership and stewardship expectations.

To deal with water use issues, the group advocated establishing a water resources commission which would advise the Trust

about water use issues. Technology which would reduce water use, policies which prioritized water rights and ground water protection were all recommended.

Recreational facilities should focus on natural parks and trails, with 15 per cent of the land base of the island preserved in its natural state. The park dedication required upon subdivisions of three lots or more should be increased to 10 per cent of the total area from the current five per cent.

Access to island lakes and the ocean should be maintained. The report also backed some recreational facilities, including a large athletic park on the south end of the island and a multi-use recreational facility in the Ganges area.

Backing for cultural activities was also endorsed. The focus group recognized that residents rely on arts and crafts as a busi-

ness activity and called on the local Trust committee to support in-home craft businesses and increase allowable studio space for such businesses; to provide suitable zoning for theatres, meeting halls and a school of fine arts on the island; and support the completion of ArtSpring.

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# People on Islands forum considers the future

By VALORIE LENNOX  
Driftwood Staff

Welcome to the city of Cascadia. It stretches from the North Shore mountains south to the city once known as Olympia, east up the Fraser Valley to the start of the coastal range and west over Georgia Strait, the Gulf Islands and the east coast of Vancouver Island.

Ten million people live in Cascadia. The poorest live in the old central urban areas — the most privileged in the Gulf and San Juan islands, where there are hundreds of one-acre and half-acre mini-estates and moorage for power boats and yachts at one of the many marinas.

The average age of these island residents is 55. Most enjoy walking the local trails and are avid golfers and gardeners.

In the summer, the islands draw hordes of visitors from other neighbourhoods of Cascadia and beyond. The air is slightly more pure in the islands than in central Cascadia — which is beset by frequent smog warnings — although the influx of summer visitors in their cars, boats and recreational vehicles has led those

few islanders who stay over the summer to refer to the months from May to October as the "smog season."

Most islanders escape the influx by fleeing to their summer homes in the Queen Charlottes.

That could be a picture of the Gulf and San Juan Islands in the year 2020, judging by predictions presented to the People on Islands forum in Victoria Friday.

Drawing together provincial government, Islands Trust and regional government representatives with officials from the San Juan Islands, the forum attempted to address the overwhelming growth anticipated for the Georgia Basin-Puget Sound area in the next 25 years.

Present for at least part of the event were Premier Mike Harcourt, Minister of Municipal Affairs Darlene Marzari and MLA Joan Sawicki. From south of the border came Washington State Senator Karen Fraser, San Juan County chairman John Evans and Nancy McKay, executive director of the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority.

As parliamentary secretary

responsible for the provincial government's Georgia Basin Initiative, Sawicki outlined some of the challenges facing the region over the next 25 years.

A combination of economic opportunities coupled with one of the most attractive climates in the world has drawn a dramatic influx of residents to the Pacific Northwest. The population doubled in the past 25 years to five million and is expected to reach 10 million by 2020.

Meanwhile, automobile use is increasing twice as fast as population growth. This puts the region in danger of developing many of the same air quality problems as Los Angeles.

"We've had it easy so far," noted futurist David Baxter in his graph-punctuated presentation to the

forum. In six to eight years, he predicted there will be no uncontested areas to develop.

"We're running out of space to put people," he said.

The doubling of the population in the region is the least of islanders' worries, Baxter said. A more major concern is that the population group most likely to want to settle on the Gulf Islands — those aged 45 and older — is growing three times as fast as the overall population.

The very desirability of life on the Gulf Islands is the greatest threat to the status quo, noted Tom Johnstone, chief executive officer of the B.C. Assessment Authority.

But while desirability can push up real estate values, that is not the only value which needs to be considered.

As an example, Johnstone cited Whistler, a planned community with a limit of "70,000 pillows." Economically, Whistler is a success story but those who created it forgot that the community would include workers, who now have great difficulty finding a "pillow" of their own.

A community is diversity, with different lifestyles and different economic levels. To keep the richness of their communities, Johnstone suggested people should be willing to forego increased economic wealth.

"A community is a shared adventure of mutual responsibility," Johnstone said. "My community provides me with a social and spiritual and sociological support that I need."

## 1,000 support PRC

A thousand letters have been collected supporting the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) community nomination process and opposing regional director Dietrich Luth's bid to remove Patsy Siemens from the PRC.

Organizers of the protest plan to present the 1,000 letters to the Capital Regional District (CRD)

board before members make a decision on PRC nominations and Luth's motion to remove Siemens from the commission.

As of Tuesday morning, an additional 79 letters had been either mailed or faxed directly to the regional district. Copies of those letters are being distributed to board members.

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Display Advertising .....2pm Wednesday, Dec. 20  
Classified Advertising.....Noon Thursday, Dec. 21  
News.....Noon Wednesday, Dec. 20

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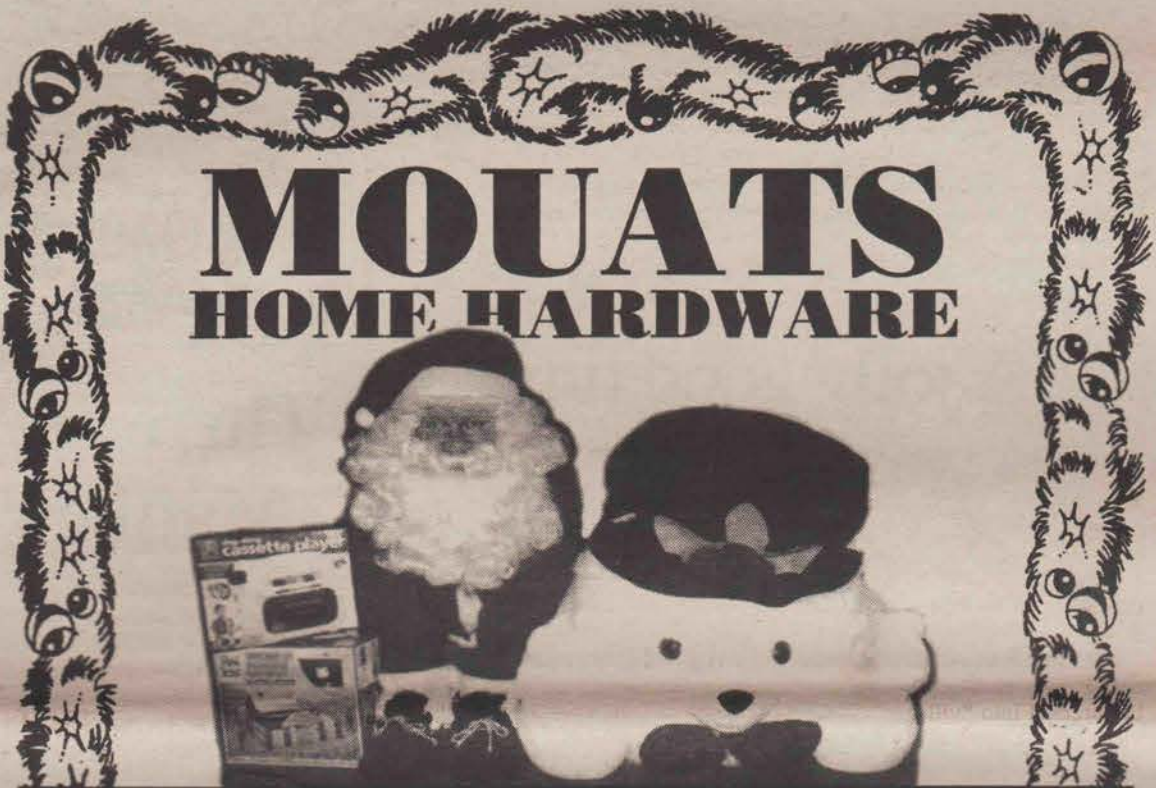
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## Taking control

Local government came to Salt Spring Island 30 years ago with incorporation of the Capital Regional District. Islanders, who numbered 2,238, went to the polls and sent their first regional director to Victoria.

Nearly 10 years later, in 1974, we made another advance in the process of taking control of our affairs. The Islands Trust was formed to advise the regional district on land use matters. Islanders, who by this time numbered nearly 4,000, went to the polls and elected two members to the local Trust committee.

The most significant change since then has been the reorientation of the Trust from a body that advised to one that governed. In other respects, the two governing bodies, with their three locally-elected members, have changed very little in the intervening years.

And the population has climbed steadily to its present level of 10,000 or more.

Many Salt Spring Islanders have wondered in recent years if municipal government would represent an improvement over the status quo. Denied both the information and the process necessary to make a decision, they have resorted to speculation, fueled in large part by the options study three years ago.

The time has come to end the speculation. The opportunity is before us to obtain the information we need to decide the government structure best for Salt Spring.

The meeting scheduled for Fulford Hall on Friday afternoon is not intended to be a forum for those who favour incorporation. It is, rather, a chance for us to signal that it's time for us to investigate our options, to determine whether we should move to take control.

In the hands of those who attend lies the future of Salt Spring.

## A jolly good time was had by all

The Islands Trust unwrapped a shiny new experience for Christmas.

It was big, glittering and fun. It had all the right stuff: a speech by the premier, lots of important folks, motherhood statements, interesting data on graphs, pithy quotes, good ideas and scrumptious savouries at the follow-up cocktail party.

But when it was all over and the last swan-shaped cheese bit had been nibbled, not all trustees were sure last Friday's People on Islands forum was what they wanted in their Christmas stocking.

The original idea was simple: get the Islands Trust and government officials from the American San Juan Islands to meet and discuss common problems. A \$15,000 provincial grant helped fund the event. But by Friday the simple idea had turned into — in politic-speak — A MILESTONE.

Organization did the Islands Trust proud. There were tables with literature. There were name tags, signs marking their tables, folders and scratch pads with matching pens. There was an introduction and wind-up by the minister of municipal affairs, information on the Georgia Basin initiative, a blitz of graphs showing demographic trends in the area and a sensitive commentary on the need to preserve community from the chief executive officer of the B.C. Assessment Authority (who lives in Metchosin).

The content was terrific but didn't have much to do with small, rural islands.

There were an estimated 150 participants in the forum — equal to the population of the smaller islands — but hardly a number one can sit down with for a cozy heart-to-heart chat on island issues. Many of those present were provincial government bureaucrats whose only connection with island life is a vague sense that the provincial capital has a lot of waterfront property.

The all-important workshop session of the forum was squeezed into the final two hours of the day-long event. Squeezed 10 or 12 to a table in a room designed for half the number present, the workshop groups battled against the din and the tight time limit to come up with predictable variations on the need to preserve and protect the islands.

(It's clear few true Gulf Islanders were involved in that exercise. No group of a dozen islanders could come to a conclusion after only two hours of debate.)

People on Islands was a great networking opportunity, a chance to exchange business cards and improve the profile of the Islands Trust (and perhaps enhance a few resumes).

But for useful dialogue with San Juan Islanders, why not do what the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce did a decade ago: hop on a boat, go down to the San Juans and sit down over a coffee or beer.

It's a lot cheaper.



## There are two customs that make Matthew's death less surprising

By GAIL SJUBERG

Justice Thomas Gove's finding that a bureaucratic system failed to save Matthew Vaudreil's life was no surprise.

That the social services ministry dealt with 264 other B.C. children who died tragically between 1986 and 1995 is more shocking. But that it represents "only the tip of a very sad story" is something we cannot ignore.

Since Gove's report was issued, everyone has been wondering how five-year-old boys can be killed by their mothers in a civilized or caring society.

But there are at least two ideas in our belief system that make such deaths less surprising; ideas that are changing and must continue to change.

Firstly, we still condone "disciplining" children by use of physical force — not beating them senseless, of course — but systematic use of slapping, spanking and the like are not condemned as often as you'd think.

An occasional whack is a long way from the torture Matthew Vaudreil suffered, but it is certainly the start of a similar path, especially when frustration grows because the whack doesn't deter the child from repeating his sins the next day.

The second idea is that children are still somehow considered the private property of their parents or guardians, and what we do with our own property is considered nobody else's business.

Spouses can no longer strike each other with legal impunity, and for a long time it has not been acceptable to bop the careless guy who opens his car door into yours.

So how can it still be legal and even promoted by some philosophical sectors as acceptable to strike and instill the fear of physical pain into a small, immature, vulnerable person, beginning with their first expressions of will when they are unable to understand the use of physical pain for what it is supposedly intended? All they know is that someone their instincts propel them to love and trust is

hurting them instead.

And rather than view our children as "property," we should treat them with respect as individuals with legitimate feelings.

If treated well, children learn to treat others well. They are shaped and disciplined by modelling their

first "disciples" — parents.

We know that violence begets violence and makes untrusting, unhappy, insecure people who have an easier time hurting others.

We live with the violent results of a society that has until recently accepted physical force as the norm in parenting. How children are treated by everybody is clearly not a private matter, and hitting them should be discouraged, period.

I suspect most people who choose this route are simply doing what was done to them for the same reasons, and are unaware of alternatives that work.

In the past 10 years there have been volumes of excellent materials written on how to raise disciplined children without using violence. Many of these are available at a resource centre for parents of young children called Family Place (behind the Community Centre). Sharing frustrations and successes with other parents, or reading helpful words at the right time can make the world of difference.

As Justice Gove informed us last week, Matthew Vaudreil was not an isolated case.

Deaths of children are happening because parents have been sent behind closed doors to do their transforming of private property into adults — with little support from the rest of us, and often nothing but questionable parenting techniques handed down from their own parents.

Demands to end violence in our streets and schools will be futile until the demand to end it in our homes is louder.

Gail Sjuberg is a mother and a Driftwood editorial staff member.



VIEW  
POINT

**"...systematic use of slapping, spanking and the like are not condemned as often as you'd think"**

Gulf Islands  
**Driftwood**



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# SALT SPRING SAYS

**We Asked:** *Should B.C. Ferries cover costs by increasing fares overall or eliminating the social programs (free travel for seniors, medical and students)?*



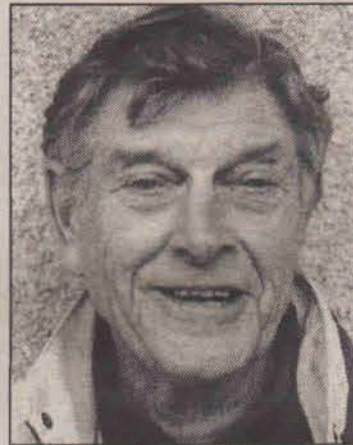
**Tony Williams**

*I think they should raise the fares. I think there's a lot of people on the island who really need the social programs. There's also a lot of people who can afford the ferry fares.*



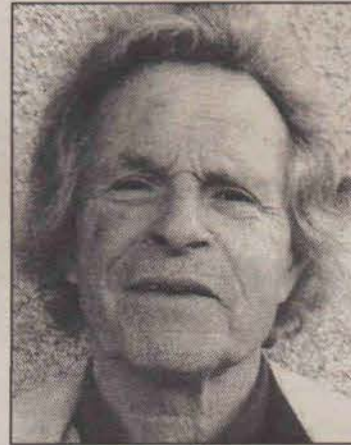
**Catherine Low**

*I suppose raise the ferry fares. I suppose (I feel that) because I'm a senior. Some seniors can't afford it.*



**Gordon Gilbert**

*I would say raise the fares overall. They have to be solvent, don't they?*



**Le Roy Jensen**

*I can't decide between the two. First, the need to be able to pay for the ferries — and there may be some people who really need help.*



**Cathy Cronin**

*Eliminate the social programs. I feel like living on Salt Spring is a privilege — that's the price we pay for living on an island.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Embarrassment

Shame on you for that childish-scheming editorial (November 29) and the hate-mail insert you are promoting.

You are an embarrassment as a voice for this blissful paradise. I've been reading newspapers from New York to Salt Spring for the better part of 65 years, and have never encountered such tactics outside of perhaps grammar school.

If you and your "concerned citizens" are reduced to this in an effort to incite a whole island, I can only think that Dietrich Luth must be doing something right.

JAN SHARKEY THOMAS,  
Dogwood Lane

### Applaud Luth

I have always known Dietrich Luth to be a courageous, honest, straightforward man.

His wealth of practical working experience makes him a refreshing change from the usual well-funded

pursuers of special interests we are so used to.

He dresses eccentric, he is eccentric, we are all eccentric here. Normal people live in concrete boxes, choke on poisoned air, drink dirty water, and go insane trapped on the freeways of Gordon Campbell's "world class city."

By jealously guarding their right to cut the lawn, the Parks and Recreation Commission has taken a vibrant free enterprise farmer's market and forced it into some kind of outdoor elitist's bureaucracy.

This market should be nurtured, not constrained. It should be allowed to expand into the park, farmers and islanders should get priority access, in that order, and all others should be welcomed and let the free enterprise system weed out the system.

I applaud Dietrich's stance on the market issue. No one on this island should be excluded from

the opportunity of earning a living by a bunch of people who don't have to.

TOM PICKETT,  
Lee Road

### Special status

I would like to comment on Jack Hallam's letter to the editor (November 29) on giving Quebec distinct society status. He eloquently expresses my sentiments.

I don't think many Western Canadians really understand that we as a nation are teetering over a precipice. I hear many people say "Oh let Quebec go, they will never be satisfied".

However, if we take a little time to think about what could happen to the rest of us if Quebec does go, we would see that our country would be very vulnerable to an east-west split and that great southern pull. It would not be a rosy future taking on the U.S.'s problems!

If we lose Quebec we lose ourselves and our identity. Quebec

makes us, the rest of Canada, distinct from our southern neighbours.

In any case, we are all fussing for nothing as Quebec has had special status since Confederation with its own language and Napoleonic code of law. All we are being asked to do is put it down on paper.

CAROL TABBERS,  
Vesuvius

### No respect

Re: Your condescending article on Nina Raginsky.

It seems clear that those who are committed to a position other than the acquisition of money and who put their money and time where their mouth is don't get much respect from your paper.

Those who care about the environment, do.

Those who can't do anything else, write ridicule.  
NANCY B. ACHILLES,  
Mt. Belcher Heights

## Correction

An editing error changed the meaning of a letter to the editor in last week's paper.

Eva Pedersen of Fulford Harbour wrote about the value of time spent with children and said, "Maybe the best things in life aren't things." However, when it was published the last word was changed to "free."



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## Things will change: a promise, Matthew

**VICTORIA** — God, it's difficult to find the right words. What do I tell you, a little boy who knew nothing but pain and suffering in his short life?

How I wish I could have done something for you when there was still time. I showed your picture to my wife. You looked so much like our kids when they were little. Had you been our little boy, we would have loved you, cared for you, seen you grow into a man and sadly but proudly have let go of you to make your own way in the world.

Instead, yours was a brief life of horror. You cried out of love and affection, even when you were screamed at, beaten and kicked. You needed someone to hug you, tell you they love you, sit by your bed at night and read you a story.

You never knew the wonderful feeling of growing up in a caring family. No camping trips in summer for you, no ski trips in winter. No one to kiss a little hurt better. Just pain, a lot of pain.

There were lots of people who could have helped you. The social workers who were supposed to look after your interests. The doctors who examined you after your mother hurt you.

I wish I could tell you why none of the grown-ups who are supposed to know when a little boy like you needs help didn't help you. It's not that they are bad people, Matthew. Some were confused about what their job should be, others maybe were reluctant to get involved.

And so you continued to suffer. How often, I wonder, did you cry yourself to sleep. How often did you wish someone would take you into their arms and just hold you? How you must have hurt.

You see, Matthew, there are a lot of good people in the world. Most parents love their children. They would rather die themselves than hurt their children. And these past few days, I saw a lot of good people cry because they wished they could have helped you.

I hope, Matthew, that you can see and feel the love and tears of so many people who wish they could bring you back and show you how wonderful life can be.

Much of the outpouring of love for you, Matthew, is because of the man who was told to find out why a little boy had to die, in spite of all the help he could have had.

Judge Tom Gove wrote an 800-page book after what he found out. He called it Matthew's Story, your story.

And when the people read the book, they were horrified to learn that you were not the only child who was let down by the people who were supposed to help you.

The judge said that in the last 10 years, 264 children died like you did. And like you, none of these children would have died if the adults had done their job.

Every doctor who saw you when you were beaten and kicked should have demanded that the people who were supposed to help you did just that.

And even though your mother abused you horribly, you desperately wanted her to love you. Every child does. But you should have been taken from your mother and given into the care of people who love children, who would have loved you.

For some reason, the people who could have done that didn't. Instead, they did everything they could to keep you with your mother, hoping that she would change. She didn't, and you had to pay with your life for that mistake.

But I promise you Matthew, things will change. Judge Gove has awakened us and made us realize that something went horribly wrong. You see, Matthew, the big people have always said that our little boys and girls are our hope for the future. And they are right.

The world is far from a perfect place, as you well know, but if we are good to our children, nurture them and give them the love they need, they will grow up to be good people who then can make the world a better place.

Grown-up people have a habit of looking for some purpose in death, something that tells them a person didn't die in vain. If you can find solace in that thought, Matthew, then you did not die in vain.

You achieved something wonderful. Hundreds of thousands of people who weren't able to help you in life are remembering you with love and sorrow. And they are demanding that never again a child die like you did.

I keep looking at your picture and it breaks my heart. Despite the horrors you must have endured, you smile. Even in a life of pain and sorrow, I guess, there are some good moments.

Goodbye Matthew. We love you.

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

### CAPITAL COMMENT

HUBERT BEYER



## More letters

### Best, not least

One of Salt Spring Island's best loved (not least loved) environmentalists, as far as I am concerned, is Nina Raginsky. (Re: Tony Richards' column in the November 29 Driftwood.)

I have seen Nina in action promoting an awareness for the well-being of animal habitat with her roly-eyed, shakey-headed, despairing and lamenting neighbours.

Nina is to be commended for vocalizing what any reasonable person with sound faculties would feel. Only a sunken kind of sailor and such could scrape paint off a boat and leave it for creatures to grovel through on their beach. Those sailors, and others, removed every tree on the beach and put in enormous rocks to stop erosion. The tension between Walter Bay with trees and Walter Bay with rocks is dramatic.

Anyone considering this operation for their beach and anyone taking up space in a newspaper with caffeine-stoked mindless complaining about environmentalists should go and experience this at Walter Bay. The rocks have destroyed creature habitat and are obviously ugly. The trees, massacred now, were holding the soil in place.

The way that you mention Nina's means is crass and boring. It would be more interesting to read about Nina's art and gain insight into the environment. Nina is an independently-standing, accomplished artist. We would be well to have more people free of the economic life and able to contribute culturally. This is not something to admit to but to aspire to.

**BRUCE ALEXANDER,**  
Cormorant Crescent

### One more show

The cast, crew, and directors of the GISS production of David and Lisa wish to thank the community for their support of our recent run of the show.

We regret having to cancel the final December 9 show, but the treacherous weather conditions posed a potentially serious hazard to all concerned. We want the public to know that the December

9 show has been re-scheduled to this Friday, December 15 at 8 p.m. in Salt Spring Middle School's band room.

We will honour advanced tickets purchased for the December 9 show on that night. Tickets are also available at the door.

We appreciate your concern for this important letter and your support of our theatrical adventures.

**LYNDA JENSEN,**  
**DOUG BAMBROUGH,**  
Class Act School of Theatre

### Right and wrong

Your editorial on Chretien's offer to Québec of recognition as a distinct society and a veto over constitutional change is both quite right and very wrong.

It is right in that it is a vote-buying strategy but wrong in that it is not to buy votes for Québec Liberals in the next Québec provincial election. It is to "buy" votes for all of Canada in the next Québec referendum.

It is also very wrong in that it can't be appeasement to do the right thing. Official recognition of the obvious, that Québec is a distinct society, is long overdue.

Is it the Rockies or the coastal range that so distorts some British Columbians' view of central Canada? Or is it the never-ending November rains that cause water to seep through so many bald and hirsute pates to settle on the brain that clouds the judgement even of editorial writers on the wet coast.

In proposing such a strategy which does not go nearly far enough, the prime minister is looking out for the interests of all Canadians including British Columbia because as sure as the sun sets on Canada over Tofino, if Québec leaves Canada, British Columbians will be poorer culturally, linguistically, and believe me — financially.

**JACK C. HALLAM,**  
North End Road

### Simplicity

Dispelling myths and opinions can free up and create some neat spaces within. Of course, in-filling will be more of the same but practicing can make the process easier and simpler to do.

Jody Haug from Seattle demonstrates a segment of society which has changed its outlook towards living a less complicated life. She says "simplicity is not just a new fad," but its time may have come. A growing number of people are realizing that working more, earning more, doing more and owning more do not result in greater happiness or an increased sense of well-being.

It's been said: "We are spending money we don't have, to buy things we don't need, to impress people we don't like."

Voluntary simplicity, living a life that is outwardly simple and inwardly rich is based on how you use the only life you will have. And if you make choices that require less money, you will need to use less of your time to earn money and you will have more of your life to do other things.

Now if I can only convince my wife.

**GARY LUNDY,**  
Ganges

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# POWER OUTAGES

BC Hydro safety team wants to warn the public about two unusual hazards created during windstorms. Both cause unnecessary danger to the public and to Hydro line crews.

On several occasions when Hydro line crews have arrived at the scene of a downed power line, the fallen trees have already been cut up, probably for firewood, even though the downed line was still entangled in the branches.

People are taking a terrible risk. They have no way of knowing if the line is not energized. Just touching a branch that's in contact with a live power line can cause electrocution.

Anyone spotting a downed line should call Hydro or the police immediately.

The other hazard created is when portable generators are used during power outages. Power from the generator can feed back into the outside power lines endangering crews working on them.

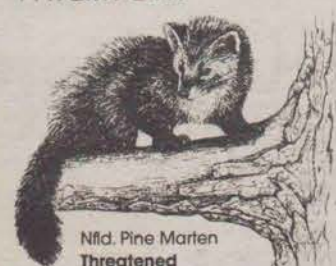
To avoid this danger, Hydro advises that generators should be used only for essential purposes, and not connected to the electrical system.

If the generator must be used to power the entire building, the main electrical switch should be placed in the "off" position. This prevents feedback.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE BC HYDRO OFFICE AT: 537-9914

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**RAKING IT IN:** Leopoldine Marcotte, 18, of St. Matthew, Quebec, is one of eight Katimavik program volunteers now working on Salt Spring. Here she is cleaning up leaves in the Peace Park. Her community is just outside Montreal.

Photo by Valerie Lennor

# Clark looking for new home: can't escape that noxious smell

Susan Clark's home still makes her sick and at the advice of her doctor she is looking for new digs.

Clark, whose rented bedroom became a toxic waste zone when her space heater melted five weeks ago, says she still can't walk into the house without being overcome with nausea.

Clark's doctor wrote her a letter advising her to change residences.

"When someone is exposed to something malodorous," Clark says, "the smell triggers all the symptoms to come back."

Although the homeowner's insurance company redid the carpets, drapes and paint in Clark's bedroom, she says the new aroma still has enough of the old smell to cause nausea, vomiting and head pain.

She has been unable to spend a night in the house since the micro furnace melted, covering the entire room — including all her possessions — with a noxious-smelling, black plastic film.

After five weeks, she says, her headaches have finally "calmed down to a lower level of intensity."

In the meantime, communication with the New York-based company that makes the Del Rain micro furnace has broken down, and Clark has started legal proceedings against the corporation.

Clark says the company sent an independent adjuster from Victoria to assess the situation.

"He came out, wrote his report and nothing has happened," Clark says. "They are just dragging their heels."

Personal cost of the fire to Clark has been high: she lost all her possessions, including a special bed needed as she recovers from back surgery last year.

Although the Tides Inn has not charged her for staying there, it is anticipating Del Rain will foot the bill.

Through island lawyer Simon Knott, Clark is filing an action

against Del Rain, with the intention of moving toward court.

Clark says she has run into erroneous rumours regarding her experience with Salt Spring Home Hardware, since that is where she purchased the heater.

"People are saying they have

abandoned me, but I haven't expected anything from them — it's not their role."

Although Home Hardware offered to refund her money for the heater, Clark says accepting the cash would work against her in court.



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## Katimavik now under way

Katimavik volunteers are now at work on Salt Spring, after arriving in mid-November.

At present there are eight young people in the group, with three more expected soon. During their

three months on the island, they will work on beach accesses, trails and at the Core Inn youth centre. Two more groups of 11 people are expected on the island before the end of the program next July.

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• Clay Pots	• Christmas Cactus	
• Garden Ornaments	• Japanese Maples	

### CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

<h4 style="text-align: center;">LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Douglas Fir</li> <li>• Grand Fir</li> <li>• Noble Fir</li> <li>• Blue Spruce</li> <li>• Colorado Spruce</li> <li>• Omorika Spruce</li> <li>• Alberta Spruce</li> <li>• Dwarf Blue Spruce</li> <li>• Atlantic Cedar</li> <li>• Tanyosho Pine</li> <li>• Blue Scots Pine</li> <li>• Vanderwulf's Pine</li> <li>• Holly Trees</li> <li>• Western Hemlock</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">FREE DELIVERY OF LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">SANTA'S ANNUAL VISIT TO THIMBLE FARMS</h4> <p style="text-align: center;">Dec. 16 2:00 - 4:30 Free gift for kids</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">FRUIT &amp; NUT TREES ARE IN</h4> <p style="text-align: center;">We have over 100 varieties to choose from</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IT'S A GREAT TIME TO PLANT SHADE &amp; FLOWERING TREES - HUGE SELECTION TO CHOOSE FROM.</p>
<p style="font-size: small;">FRASER'S THIMBLE FARMS 175 Arbutus We Give Personalized Service</p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">BULBS</h2> <h1 style="text-align: center;">30% - 40% OFF</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">HUGE SELECTION TO CHOOSE FROM INCLUDING MANY RARE &amp; UNUSUAL VARIETIES</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">FRESHLY CUT CHRISTMAS TREES</h4> <p style="text-align: center;">DOUGLAS FIR &amp; GRAND FIR</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="margin: 0;">We have wreaths, boughs and holly</p> </div>

## Water, water everywhere yet plagued by shortage

It has been a beautiful dream, but an acute shortage of water has plagued me, on and off, ever since I first arrived on the Pacific Coast.

Patricia Bay Airport was new and the engineers had drilled wells in and around the airport to provide several thousand thirsty men with water to drink and water to wash. We never ran out of drinking water while I was there, but the sensation of soap drying on the skin was a familiar annoyance to every man who took a shower; and most men did.

The water would flow profusely while you soaped yourself thoroughly. Come time to rinse off, the water was turned off. The well had run dry.

I'm put in mind of water problems after staying in Yorkshire, where water is like gold, valuable and scarce. And the scarcity of water here is just as it was at Pat Bay, the result of poor planning. On Saanich Peninsula the answer was a pipeline from Elk Lake and I not only recall the new and delightful experience of a constant supply, but I remember the contractor, Art Gardner of Sidney, dashing around from North Saanich to Elk Lake getting the water flowing.

The shortage here is a government-negotiated scarcity. The government sold all the country's water services to private companies for the benefit of the nation. This year the nation has benefitted not at all. But the water companies are not complaining.

Reports are already rife of the volume of water lost between its journey from reservoir to consumer due to poor quality pipes and services. The reports are exacerbated by the additional revelation that the company made some two hundred million dollars profit in six months.

As we sit around listening to warnings of the dire water shortage I think back to the days when water was a constant irritant to life on Salt Spring Island.

It is 30 years since I lived on Scott Road. (Those were the days before the highways ministry changed the name of the road.) Within weeks of moving to that address we discovered that water was a polite fiction and that the only way of ensuring a steady water supply was to transport it ourselves.

I had a good rig for the purpose. I had a trailer mounting two 45-gallon drums and a pump unit. I think it was an Iron Horse. I know that it would throw a jet of water high above the roof of a lofty two-storey house. During the day I would fill the water drums and in the evening take them home and set up the pump to transfer the load to a reservoir at the side of the road. From there the water found its way to the house by gravity.

If I still had the rig I would happily lend it to Yorkshire Water and help out their problems. I believe they are spending around \$2 million a day still operating what is probably the biggest water haulage scheme in British history as a constant stream of giant tankers maintains a 24-hour delivery service between water source and water reservoirs. The water users are relieved, while residents along the tanker route are climbing their Yorkshire walls as work and sleep are subject to the constant, unrelenting roar and clatter of heavy transport trucks.

I can readily sympathize with the people of Yorkshire. I know only too well what it is like to be short of water.

When I moved to my present home I had a well and what seemed an adequate supply of water from a 180-foot well.

After constant water shortage I learned that my pump, acquired and installed by myself, was a shallow-well pump and did not take kindly to pumping nearly 200 feet. I put in a submerged unit, all the way down the well, about 12 years ago. I just hope it's still there.

We had lots of water after that, until I left a garden hose running and exhausted the well for a few days. As long as we didn't draw too heavily on the system we had enough water.

In the 1970s, just about 20 years ago, we had a party. Newspaper publishers and editors and every kind of face and figure engaged in newspaper production came to the island for a summer convention. Some 80 guests spread themselves through the house and into the garden and the deck and wherever they could find room to sit.

Unfortunately, there was one place they could no longer sit when the water supply gave up the ghost. Emergency ground disposal provision was made and nobody complained.

That misfortune has not yet hit Yorkshire. With a populace accommodated extensively in strata, they couldn't resolve it our way. The prospect of a 24-hour on and 24-hour off method of rationing did not only dismay the water customers; it appalled them.

Actually, it appalled me and my family. We installed a cistern by the well, a reinforced concrete tank. Even that was vulnerable. The first summer it was in use a large rock rolled down the steel bank and punctured the tank. I fixed it. The next winter was too much for all that open-air plumbing and the supply froze. A hair-dryer resolved that on a temporary basis.

Before I left Salt Spring a few weeks ago I turned on the tap to Benjoy North Salt Spring Waterworks water. That the well would turn salty at the end of each summer was a legacy from development. There were ever more months to suckle greedily at the earth's sweet-smelling breast.

Sure! I remember a near-lifetime of water shortage, but the big difference is that I brought it on myself. I brought it on myself, but I could, and did, live with it.

We could get a bath at the home of a friend or my children. Not so in Yorkshire. There is no neighbour here to offer a supply in emergency. The neighbours are out of water as well. And he can't build a privy or use a field.

And the consumer here doesn't accept the blame. Sure! There's been a drought. Sure! The shortage is exceptional. But a water service is expected to look ahead and make provision for emergencies.

Worst of all, his government sold out profitably and left the consumer to pay the price. And the price is drought: a drought that revealed the disaster of a leaky system and spread that drought into the winter.

If we ever hear a B.C. politician suggest privatizing our public water, let's take turns in kicking him ... hard!

TO BE  
FRANK  
FRANK RICHARDS



## ArtSpring board rejects rumours

Fall-out from the controversy about regional director Dietrich Luth prompted a special meeting of the Island Arts Centre Society board last Tuesday.

Board members met to review the appointment of April Curtis as fundraising campaign coordinator.

President Bob Weeden said he called the meeting after receiving numerous questions about the appointment of Curtis to the position, which is funded by a \$15,000 grant from the Capital Regional District.

Weeden said controversy arose over the appointment because Curtis is a friend of the regional director. Given that the regional director approved the grant-in-aid, rumours had circulated that the grant was conditional on Curtis being hired for the position.

That isn't true, Weeden said. At the meeting December 5, ArtSpring directors reviewed the grant application and their decisions and concluded that no

impropriety had occurred.

"April's proposal came from a very qualified person at the right time and we said 'yes,'" Weeden said. In July, board members were looking for ways to raise the \$905,000 they estimate will be required to open the arts centre by the summer of 1996.

"Cookie sales aren't going to raise \$1 million," Weeden observed. At stake was a \$100,000 challenge grant from the Toynbee and Mouat families, which would become available to the centre if enough funds could be raised to complete the project.

Also at stake is a \$76,000 provincial grant available once the project is closer to completion.

To finish the project, board members felt they needed to approach private major donors and foundations. In order to do that, they needed to develop a projected program of activities and a budget to operate the centre.

It was difficult for volunteers to

find enough time to develop the package and then approach possible donors. At that point Curtis, who has been involved with the project since its outset, suggested a grant-in-aid could be requested from the regional director to hire a fundraising coordinator.

On July 25, the Island Arts Centre Society sent a letter to Luth asking for a \$15,000 grant towards hiring someone to coordinate the campaign. No names were mentioned in the request.

When the grant was given, Weeden said Curtis seemed to be the ideal person to organize the campaign. She was a volunteer on the first ArtSpring board, she had already organized a successful fundraising campaign for the project in 1991 and worked on fundraising again in 1993-94.

"She had a track record as a director and has a track record — twice — as a fundraiser," Weeden said.

## Hume will apply for PRC job

Tony Hume will be applying for the position of full-time Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) administrator.

The full-time position was created by the Capital Regional District (CRD) board November 22 after board members voted not to renew Hume's part-time contract as administrator.

"I am heartened by the support that I have received from the community in the past several very difficult weeks since learning that my original employment contract was terminated. It is because of this support and the fact that I am interested in continuing to work positively on parks, recreation and cultural matters for this community that I will be submitting my name into this competition," Hume stated in a report to Monday's PRC meeting.

Hume said his efforts to get an explanation of the CRD board's decision have been unsuccessful to date. Both the PRC and the regional district's finance and administration committee had recommended renewing Hume's contract.

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HERSHEY'S COCOA

**Chocolate Brownies** Pkg of 6 **2.99**

PEPPERMINT  
CANDY

**Cake** 7" ea. **6.99**

## Bulk Values

#1, CALIFORNIA,  
"ROASTED & SALTED"

**Natural Pistachios** 100g **78¢**

FOLEY'S,  
CHOCOLATE COVERED

**Almonds** 100g **79¢**

6 VARIETIES,  
OLD DUTCH

**Assorted Snacks** 511 g bag 100g **2.09**

Enter for your chance to win! A Christmas Gift Basket from Trebor Candy & Thrifty Foods

TREBOR, QUALITY  
**Assorted Candy** 100g **68¢**

## We Reserve the Right

FLEISCHMANN'S  
**Margarine** 907g **3.19**

PHILADELPHIA  
**Cream Cheese** 250g **1.98**

OCEANSPRAY  
**Cranberry Cocktails** 1.14L **2.29**

McLAREN'S, IMPERIAL  
**Cheese** 250g **2.79**

KRAFT, PHILADELPHIA  
**Cream Cheese Chip Dips** 227g **1.58**

VALLEY FARM'S FROZEN  
**Vegetables** 1kg **1.68**

GREEN GIANT, FROZEN  
**Boil 'n' Bag Vegetables** 250g **98¢**

**Stove Top Stuffing Mix** 120g **1.08**

SNOWCREST, FROZEN  
**Petite Peas** 1kg **2.39**

UNCLE BEN'S  
**Classic Rice Mixes** 170-180g **1.29**

GROWERS  
**Non Alcohol Cider** 4 pack **2.99** plus deposit

MOLSON'S  
**Non Alcohol Beer** 6x355ml **2.79** plus deposit

REG. OR LESS SALT  
**Stoned Wheat Thins** 600g **2.68**

DARE, VIVANT, CABARET OR  
**Breton Crackers** 200g-225g **1.49**

NESCAFE  
**Instant Coffee** 150-225g **5.29**

NESCAFE  
**Cappuccino Coffees** 15-23g **2.99**

McLAREN'S  
**Olives, Gherkins or Pickled Onions** 375ml **1.79**

THRIFTY, MEDIUM  
**Pitted Olives** 398ml **1.29**

REG. OR LIGHT, KRAFT  
**Mayonnaise** 750ml **2.99**

KRAFT  
**Salad Dressings** 500ml **2.19**

SIERRA MANZANILLA  
**Olives** 375ml **1.39**

MEXI SNAX  
**Tortilla Chips** 200-454g **1.89**

**MERCURY**  
from **THRIFTY**  
PRICES IN EFFECT WED., DEC. 13th THRU  
Extended Store Hours  
Effective December 13-23, our Fairfield, Quadra, Parksville and Broadmead stores will be open daily, 7am-11pm (Sundays, December 18-23). James Bay and Colwood stores will be open 7am-10pm and Sooke, 8am-10pm. All other stores will maintain regular operating hours.  
All stores will open 7am-10pm on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

AFTER EIGHT  
**Mints** 240g **2.99**

Jell-o  
**Jelly Powder** 85g **2/98¢**

3 FLAVOURS  
**Aqua Libra** **3.99**

Rose  
Dill  
**Pickles** 1L **1.49**

BITELIFE  
**Tortilla or Potato Crisps** 160-175g **1.69**

ISLAND FARMS  
**Whipping Cream** 500ml **1.49**

ASTRO, NO FAT  
**Sour Cream Topping** 500g **1.48**

ASTRO  
**Tzatziki** 250g **1.48**

OLD DUTCH  
**Potato Chips** 200-240g **98¢**

SNACKWELL  
**Potato Thins or Crackers** 175-200g **1.69**

MR. SALTY, CHRISTIE  
**Pretzels or Bits 'n' Bites** 200-225g **1.69**

CROSS & BLACKWELL  
**Plum Pudding** 397g **4.39**

MD DOFO  
**Camembert or Brie** 125g **1.99**

NALLEY  
**Chip Dips** 225g **1.49**

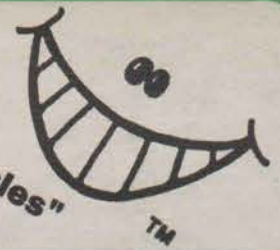
HERSHEY'S  
**Hugs, Kisses or Bridge Mixture** 227-340g **1.99**

DELMONTE  
**Vegetables** 341-398ml **68¢**

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

# ue, Service

"Smiles in the Aisles"



## ght to Limit Quantities

## Seafood

**CHRISTMAS**  
**THRIFTY FOODS**  
 DEC. 13th THROUGH TUESDAY, DEC. 19th  
*Holiday Hours*  
 All stores will open 7am-6pm on December 24 (except Mill Bay, Nanaimo, Courtenay, Sooke and Salt Spring, 8am-6pm). All stores will be open 8am-6pm on December 31 (Fairfield, 7am-6pm) and closed completely December 25, 26 and January 1.  
 you a peaceful and joyous holiday season!

CARR'S <b>Table or Savoury Crackers</b> 125-150g	<b>1 39</b>
DIJON ONLY, FRENCH'S <b>Mustard</b> 175ml	<b>1 39</b>
OCEANSPRAY <b>Cranberry Sauce or Jelly</b> 398ml	<b>98¢</b>
BRUNSWICK <b>Sardines</b> 100g	<b>79¢</b>
THRIFTY, 50% LEG MEAT <b>Crab Meat</b> 120g	<b>3 59</b>
THRIFTY <b>Smoked Oysters</b> 142g	<b>1 79</b>
NO SUGAR ADDED, SELECTED <b>Delmonte Fruit</b> 398ml	<b>1 19</b>
<b>Coke or Sprite</b> 2L	<b>98¢</b> PLUS DEPOSIT
DOLE <b>Exotic Fruit Juices</b> 1L	<b>1 19</b>
SATIN CARE <b>Shaving Gel</b> 200ml	<b>2 99</b>
GILLETTE <b>After Shave or Shaving Gel</b> 100-250ml	<b>2 99</b>
SCOPE <b>Mouth Wash</b> 710ml	<b>2 39</b>
THRIFTY, RANDOM CUT <b>Cheddar Cheese</b>	<b>20%</b> OFF AT CHECK OUT
GILLETTE <b>Anti-Perspirant or Deodorant</b> 70-90g	<b>2 59</b>
FUJI <b>24 Exposure Film</b> single roll	<b>3 89</b>
SELECTED, BOYS OR GIRLS <b>Huggies Diapers</b> 9-40's	<b>7 99</b>
Brita Water <b>Filter System</b>	<b>15 99</b>
BRITA, 3 PACK <b>Replacement Filters</b>	<b>14 99</b>
VIDAL SASSOON <b>Conditioner or Hair Spray</b> 200-300ml	<b>2 79</b>
STUART HOUSE <b>Aluminum Foil</b> 18" x 25'	<b>2 49</b>
EVEREADY, ENERGIZER, AA, C, D OR 9V <b>Batteries</b> selected sizes	<b>3 89</b>

<b>V-8 Juice</b> 1.36L	<b>1 69</b>
6 VARIETIES AND <b>Caramilk or Fruit &amp; Nut Bars</b> Family size	<b>99¢</b>
SAROTTI <b>Chocolate Bars</b> 100g	<b>1 49</b>
ALL VARIETIES <b>Egg Nog</b> Salt Spring Only	<b>1 39</b>
FRENCH'S <b>Gravy Mixes</b> 21-57g	<b>69¢</b>
ALL VARIETIES <b>M&amp;M's Candies</b> 310-454g	<b>2 79</b>
Black Magic or Nestle <b>Dairy Box Chocolates</b> 450g	<b>6 99</b>
TROPHY <b>Blanched Peanuts</b> 350g tin	<b>1 79</b>
<b>Schweppes or Crush</b> 2L	<b>98¢</b> plus deposit
TROPHY <b>Dry Roasted Peanuts</b> 700g	<b>2 99</b>
PLANTER'S <b>Roasted or Cocktail Peanuts</b> 290-310g	<b>2 19</b>
ISLAND HARVEST <b>Sesame White Bread</b> 680g	<b>1 49</b>
ISLAND FARMS, YUKON CLASSICS <b>Krazies For Kids Ice Cream</b> 2L	<b>3 99</b>
CORTINA <b>Mozzarella</b> 454g	<b>2 89</b>
HANSEN <i>Healthy Hint</i> <b>Natural Sodas</b> 354ml	<b>59¢</b>
MOTT'S <b>Clamato Juice</b> 1.36L	<b>1 88</b>

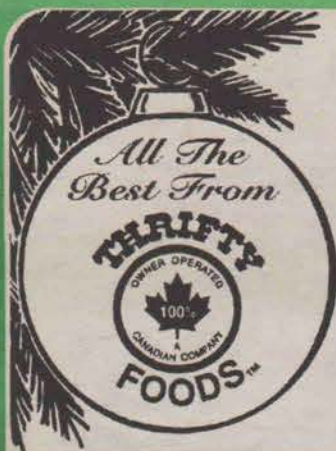
POLAR SEAS, READY TO EAT <b>Barbequed Salmon Tips</b> 100g	<b>88¢</b>
VANCOUVER ISLAND <b>Fresh Oysters</b> 8oz. tub	<b>2 98</b>
TREASURE ISLAND, SLICED <b>Smoke Lox Sockeye Salmon</b> 100g pkg.	<b>3 99</b>
PEELED & DEVEINED <b>Cooked Prawns</b> , approx. 46 to 1 lb 100g	<b>2 99</b>
FROM SALT SPRING CEDAR BOX GIFT PACK <b>Smoked Sockeye Salmon</b> 8oz.	<b>18 95</b>
POLAR SEAS, FROZEN <b>Small Scallops</b> 1 lb. pkg.	<b>5 99</b>
CHILEAN, HAND PEELED <b>Cooked Shrimpmeat</b> Thawed	<b>1 98</b> 100g
RAW, HEADLESS <b>Black Tiger Prawns</b> Approx. 6 per 100g	<b>2 28</b> 100g

### Flowers and More

2 1/4" POT <b>Nature's Garden Poinsettia</b>	<b>2 99</b>
7" POT <b>Mumsettia</b>	<b>11 99</b>
8" POTTED, DECORATED <b>Ivy Wreaths</b>	<b>14 59</b>
CHRISTMAS, MIXED <b>Cut Flower Bouquet</b>	<b>4 99-9 99</b>
2" POT <b>Nature's Garden Azalea</b>	<b>2 99</b>
6" POT <b>Azalea</b>	<b>14 99</b>
CHRISTMAS <b>Mini Carnation Bouquet</b>	<b>5 99</b>
ONE DOZEN <b>Christmas Carnation Bouquet</b>	<b>8 99</b>
<b>Potted Spruce Tree</b>	<b>12 99</b> 2 gallon pot
<b>6" POT Poinsettia</b>	<b>6 98</b>

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

# Fresh Produce



U.S. NO. 1

## Fresh Cello Head Lettuce

# 38¢

ea.

FRESH FROM THRIFTY FOODS FOR YOUR FAMILY TRADITION

We Have **JAPANESE MANDARINS!**

Our buyers have looked the world over to buy you the best selection of:  
Papayas and Pineapples from Hawaii, Cherries from Chile,  
Sweet Peppers from Spain, Raspberries from Guatemala,  
Chestnuts from Italy, Mangoes from Brazil and Starfruit for Malaysia.

CALIFORNIA, NO. 1

## Yams or Sweet Potatoes

1.28kg

# 58¢

lb

Our yams are the best variety.  
They are called Premium No. 1 Jewels.  
Choose firm, well shaped yams with bright  
uniformly coloured skin.  
Allow 1 medium to large yam per person.

CALIFORNIA, NO. 1

**Fresh Shallots** 2.18kg

# 99¢

lb

CALIFORNIA, RED, GOLD, WHITE

**Boiler Onions** 8 oz. pkg.

# 1.99

CALIFORNIA, JUMBO

**Medjool Dates** 11.00kg

HERSHEY  
**Fondue Chocolate**  
300g **1.99**

# 4.99

lb

SNOBOY, U.S. 1

**Radish or Green Onions**

4 bunches/

# 1.00

REGULAR ONLY

**Litehouse Dressings** 385ml

# 1.99

BC NO. 1

**Fresh Rutabagas** 42\* kg

# 1.99

lb

U.S. NO. 1

**Jumbo Onions** 86\* kg

# 3.99

lb

BC FANCY

**Macintosh Apples** 1.30kg



# 5.99

lb

## Quality Meats

CANADA GRADE 'A', FROZEN, ALL SIZES

**Young Turkeys** 2.60kg

# 1.18

lb



CUT FROM CANADA A GRADES

**Beef Tenderloin Steaks**

# 8.48

lb

OR BY THE PIECE  
18.69kg

CUT FROM CANADA A GRADES, BONELESS

**Top Sirloin Roast**

# 2.58

lb

5.69kg



P. BURNS & CO. 1890

"When Only The Finest Will Do!"



**Boneless Ham** 9.88kg

# 4.48

lb

THRIFTY, ALL SIZE PKGS.

**Extra Lean Ground Beef** 5.03kg

# 2.28

lb

FREYBE

**Cocktail Wieners or Cocktail Smokies** 500g

# 4.69

FULLY COOKED, TOUPIE STYLE

**Boneless Hams** 1/2's or 1/4's 5.03kg

# 2.28

lb

BC GROWN, BONELESS & SKINLESS

**Fresh Chicken Breast** Fillet Removed 8.55kg

# 3.88

lb

BC GROWN, BONELESS & SKINLESS

**Fresh Chicken Thighs** 6.57kg

# 2.98

lb

SUNRISE, GREAT FOR HORS D'OEUVRES

**Bacon Wrapped Chicken Tenders** 500g

# 4.49

GRIMM'S  
**Farmer or Garlic Sausage**

# 2.29

250g

GRIMM'S  
**Ukrainian Rings**

# 2.89

300g

GRIMM'S  
**Pepperoni Sticks**

# 2.69

200g

PORK, BREAKFAST OR HONEY GARLIC, HERTEL

**Fresh Cocktail Sausage** 5.27kg

# 2.39

lb

Your Home Grown Food Store



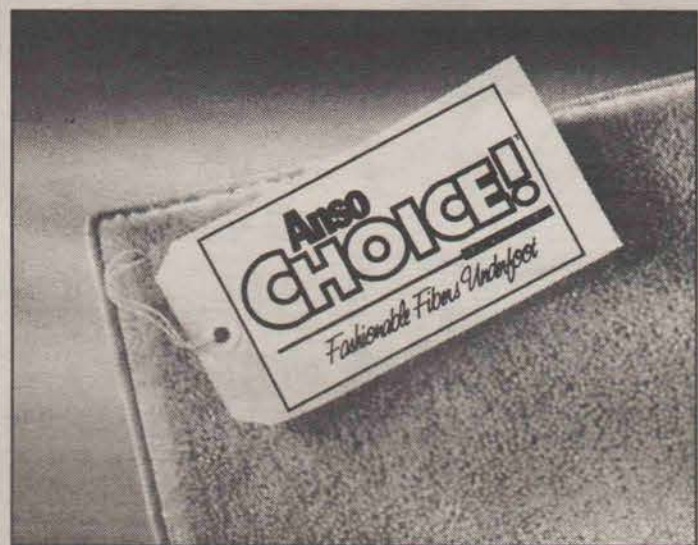
**Donations of food, toys wanted**

The Harbour House Hotel's Launi Middleditch has launched a campaign on behalf of the Salt Spring food bank. Donation boxes for food and unwrapped

toys have been placed in the hotel pub, lounge and bistro. Salt Spring Community Services will distribute 150 Christmas food hampers next week.

Photo by Tony Richards

**CARPET THAT RESISTS AT PRICES YOU CAN'T.**



Hurry in now and save on our beautiful selection of Anso Choice nylon carpets. You'll find the perfect color, texture and style for your home. Anso Choice carpet resists food and beverage stains like never before, so your carpet will continue to enhance your home year after year.

*Visit our showroom today, while we're still enhancing the deal.*

*Harmony*

A "trackless Saxony" in a beautiful colour range from Tuffex Reg. 35.95 sq. yd.

**\$29<sup>80</sup>** sq. yd.

**Burritt Bros. Carpets**

120 LOWER GANGES RD.

•Vancouver •Coquitlam •Salt Spring

ARLENE DASHWOOD  
FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE  
FOR THE GULF ISLANDS

**537-5533**

**DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS - 537-9933**

**CRD elects Clark as new chairman**

Sooke regional director Bob Clark was elected chairman of the Capital Regional District board at the board's meeting last Wednesday.

Vice-chairman for the coming year will be councillor Geoff Young of Victoria.

Outer Gulf Islands regional director Jacques Campbell had also been nominated for the chairman's position — a role once filled by her father Jim

Campbell when he was CRD director for the Outer Gulf Islands.

Clark has been briefly involved with Salt Spring as he volunteered to mediate in the disagreement between regional director Dietrich Luth and the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) over nomination of people to the commission.

He withdrew from mediating the dispute when he was unable

to get the PRC to stop its community-based nominating process for PRC members.

**BURGERS**  
**\$1.99**

6 am.-Midnight  
Sargeant's - Fulford

**Santa's helpers are working SUNDAYS**

That's right... we're now open **SUNDAYS 10-4** through December 24 to make your shopping easier.

**SEE YOU THIS SUNDAY 10-4 IN GANGES**

**MOUATS CLOTHING COMPANY**  
Harbour Bldg. 537-5551

**STELLA'S Boardwalk CAFE**  
seaside, Mouats Mall 537-1436

**Jitterbug BRIEFS**  
Across from Mouat's 537-5551

**SALTY SHOP**  
537-5551 Harbour Bldg.

**Country Casuals**  
128 Lower Ganges Rd. 537-5844

**West of the Moon**  
"No ordinary toy store" 124 Lower Ganges Rd. 537-1966

**STONE WALRUS GALLERY**  
"Animal art from around the world" 122 Lower Ganges Rd. 537-9896

**off the waterfront gallery**  
Excellence in Island Crafts  
next to the Post Office 537-4525



# GIVE THE WORLD FOR CHRISTMAS

**OPEN** Sunday, Dec. 24  
9am - 5pm

LEVIS RED TAB  
**Shirts**  
blk/wht/stonewash  
**49<sup>99</sup>**

LADIES LEVIS  
**Jackets**  
wht/stonewash/bleach  
irregulars  
**39<sup>99</sup>**

**Gift  
Certificates  
Available**

MENS OR LADIES  
Hooded fleece  
**Parka**  
Full zip  
**49<sup>99</sup>**

WOMENS BRIEFS  
wht/blk/beige  
**5<sup>99</sup>**  
LONG UNDERWEAR  
& SHIRTS  
**19<sup>99</sup>**

GENUINE AUSTRALIAN  
Oilskin  
**Jackets &  
Coats**  
**179<sup>99</sup> - 199<sup>99</sup>**

ALDERBAY COTTON  
irregular  
**Canvas  
Pants**  
**19<sup>99</sup>**

ONE LITRE  
VACUUM INSULATED  
**Thermos**  
**39<sup>99</sup>**

J.B. FIELDS 2pr.  
**Sock Gift Box**  
**12<sup>99</sup>**  
CODET  
**Wool Pants**  
**39<sup>99</sup>**

KAUFMAN  
**King  
Treads**  
**119<sup>99</sup>**

XMAS GIFT PACK  
**Molson CDN**  
**16<sup>99</sup>**  
3 PR. PACK SPORT OR TUBE  
**Socks**  
**7<sup>99</sup>**

T-Shirts  
Ski Gloves  
Molson-Canvas  
12 can Cooler Bag  
100% Wool Touque  
Coors Light Tote Bags  
Thermos Lunch Kit  
Mini Pocket Tool  
3 pr. Pack Gloves  
3 pr. Pack Briefs  
2 pr. Pack Briefs o/s  
3 pr. Pack Work Socks  
3 pr. Pack Athletic Shirts



LADIES THERMAL  
**Socks**  
**14<sup>99</sup>**  
FLEECE FINGERLESS  
**Mitts**  
**14<sup>99</sup>**

CASUAL COTTON  
**Jackets**  
**39<sup>99</sup>**  
GWG BLACK STRAIGHT LEG  
**Jeans**  
Irregulars **24<sup>99</sup>**

VULCAN 15"  
**Rubber Boots**  
**24<sup>99</sup>**  
LARGE CANVAS  
**Back Packs**  
**17<sup>99</sup>**

ALPEN MOUNTAIN WEAR  
Fleece lined  
water resistant  
**Jackets**  
**64<sup>99</sup>**

LONG SLEEVE  
Pocket or without  
**T-Shirts**  
**14<sup>99</sup>**

LADIES SHORTY  
Heart Trap Door  
**Long Johns**  
**39<sup>99</sup>**

**Your Choice  
9<sup>99</sup>  
EACH**

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LUCKY WINNERS...

Casual Canvas Vest - *Barb Slater*  
HiTec Hikers - *Karen Williams*  
Pioneer Storm Buster Jacket - *Debbie Magnusson*  
Mug Set - *Dawn Morrel*  
H.H. Brown Prospector Boots - *Brenda Akerman*

HiTec Hikers - *Lianna Hingston*  
California Best Ladies Jean Jacket - *Maya Hoffman*  
California Best Ladies Jeans - *Lisa Lawrence*  
Lee Stormrider Jacket - *Elaine Theunisz*  
Lee Jeans - *Doris Harvey*  
Fleece Ladies Jacket - *Hope Williamson*

Mug Set - *Josh Clarke*  
Flannel Workshirt - *John Woodward*  
Flannel Sportshirt - *Joyce Weir*  
Mens Casual Shirt - *Roger Donnelly*  
Mens Casual Shirt - *Wolfgang Kranz*

### Many thanks to these local sponsors of prizes!

SEAHORSE HOBBIES - 10" christmas wreath - *Joy Brownsword*  
SS. THEATRE - 2 complimentary tickets - *Corey Johnson*  
BEVAN - haircut by Bevan - *Gillian Mouat*  
SSI BOTTLE WATER - 1 month supply bottle water - *Melodie Dupuis*  
WINDSOR PLYWOOD - Kury's utility tool belt - *Leah Little*

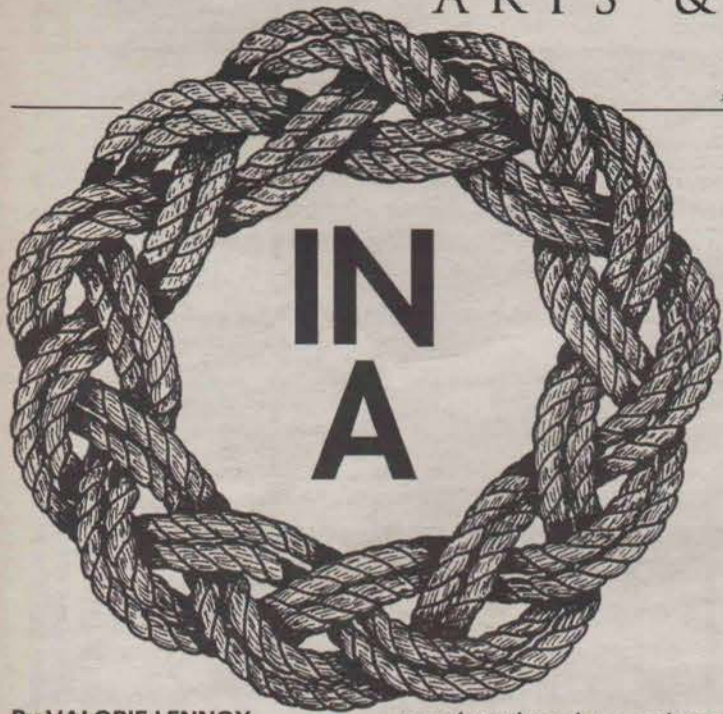
VIDEO VISIONS - 2 complimentary movies - *Richard Avedon-Savage*  
LEISURE WORLD FURNITURE & GIFTWARE - 15% off next purchase - *Elsie Thurber*  
W. KRANZ JEWELLERS - 15% off next purchase - *Sheila Johnson*  
*Our apologies to W. Kranz Jewellers for omitting them for last weeks ad.*  
*Thanks to Glitterbugs the clown for entertaining our little friends!*

**WORKWEAR  
A WORLD**

**NOW LOCATED IN "CREEKHOUSE"**

152 Fulford Ganges Rd., 537-2999 Mon.-Fri. 9-6 / Sat. 9-5  
OPEN SUNDAYS 10-4 THROUGH DEC 24





# KNOT

## TERRY RIDINGS' ROPES ARE WORKS OF ART

By VALORIE LENNOX  
Driftwood Staff

Terry Ridings' dream is to be tied up in knots, with nothing more to do than to explore the intricacies of entwined and braided rope and the lives of those who created the craft.

"I live for the day when an unknown rich relative dies or I win the lottery," he jokes. Then he could dive full-time into his research of maritime history.

But he does more than read about sails and rigging and sailors. A member of the International Guild of Knot Tyers, he is expert at recreating the works of master craftsmen who turned lengths of canvas and rope into art while filling the hours on the decks of 18th and 19th century sailing ships.

Knot tying was more than a hobby. The work on the ditty bag in which a sailor carried his possessions aboard served as his resume. Able to hold as much as a small backpack, ditty bags were sewn out of canvas and decorated with drawn threadwork, fringe and fancy, knotted lanyards.

An exceptional ditty bag proved the sailor's skill with his hands and could secure a better bunk and a certain level of respect aboard ship. "If you signed on board and you had an interesting ditty bag, you might get preferential treatment," explained Ridings.

Another testament to a sailor's skill was a hanging canvas pocket which he placed over his bunk to hold a few small items in easy reach. Ridings' replica of such a pocket is decorated with a Turk's head knot and drawn threadwork which would do credit to a Victorian needlewoman.

But the sailors were creating their masterpieces between setting rigging and battling swells. "These guys probably had hands twice the size of mine and calluses a quarter of an inch thick," Ridings said.

His examples reflect his research in maritime museums around the world, uncovering the best of what was created on-board. "There were people around who could do very fine work and very good work," he observed.

Unfortunately, not enough examples have survived. Rope and canvas are perishable and the creations of the sailors were used, not preserved in glass cases. Ridings said he once hoped to trace the history of knots from examples in museums, until he realized there were too few surviving examples and too little information available to complete the task.

Still, he has learned a great deal about the lives of the men who turned knots into an art form.

Starting with the ditty bag ... the ditty bag is small enough to be

towed to shore by a swimmer. Many sailors didn't own much, including loyalty to the ship on which they sailed. Their contracts were for the duration of the voyage. But if the ship's captain treated the men brutally or a personality conflict developed, some sailors would grab their bags and jump ship as soon as they came within reach of a shore.

"The men didn't have any rights as such," Ridings said. How they lived during the long months at sea was at the whim of the captain. Technically, leaving the ship was a crime but prosecution was unlikely. The captain would pull into the nearest port and obtain more sailors.

How? That question leads to another of Ridings' replicas: an intricately knotted loop of rope ending in a surprisingly heavy ball. It's a blackjack, Ridings explained, and the ball is a lead weight.

For a sailor, it would be protection against the press gangs and crimps who would "recruit" able-bodied seamen for ships seeking crew. Press gangs were notorious for kidnapping men for the navy.

The crimps performed the same function for civilian ships. Sailors coming ashore from their just-completed voyage would be lured into a local bar, perhaps with the promise of cheap drinks and female companionship. In the morning they would wake up aboard an outward-bound ship, having been knocked out and then sold to a captain who needed crew.

"The time ashore was often very short," Ridings said, adding that the crimps made a full-time business out of kidnapping and selling sailors.

Large navy ships needed crews of 600 to 700 men and the mortality rate was high, so there was always a demand. At times, Ridings said, a navy captain would waylay an incoming civilian ship and seize the sailors right off the deck.

Under those circumstances, crew loyalty was not high, so navy captains rarely approached close enough to shore to give the men a chance to escape. Some shanghaied sailors spent the rest of their lives aboard the ship.

"Once you went aboard a navy ship you rarely got ashore, so there was a strong argument for not going aboard."

The type of knotwork produced on board varied according to the type of ship. The best work came from whaling vessels. These ships were often at sea for two to three years and carried especially large

crews, some to man the ship and some to hunt whales.

Since months could elapse between whale hunts, the sailors had plenty of time on their hands. They also had plenty of discarded rope available. The harpoons required a very fine rope which was not re-used if its fibres were strained or broken. The combination of fine rope and time produced especially elaborate work.

By contrast, on the navy ships there was a policy against handing out rope to the men since there was not enough to go around and favoritism was discouraged. So men on a navy ship would create an intricate needled pattern on whatever short length of rope they could acquire.

Ridings re-creates them all: needle patterns, Turk's knots, canvas drawn work, rope, ditty bag and tools. His skill has led to many special commissions: the rigging and rope-work in the Commonwealth pool in Saanich; replicating the bell rope for Captain Scott's Antarctic exploration ship Terra Nova in Cambridge, England; and creating bow fenders for three productions of the hit musical, Showboat.

Ridings created the first bow fender for the show on Broadway in New York and the second for the production which just opened in Vancouver. On Sunday, he finished the third, which is destined for a Showboat production in Chicago.

Each fender takes 30 hours to complete and weighs approximately 50 pounds. The most recent fender required 716 feet of rope entwined into the 76-inch long crescent. "One develops a lot of strength in your hands," he said, adding that properly tightening a knot is as important as tying it.

The creation of such bow fenders is the culmination of a life-long interest in knots and a gift of the 50-year-old Ashley Book of Knots 30 years ago.

His other treasure is an antique rope-making machine, which he discovered in a shop in Australia. He later learned the machine had been owned by another knot tying enthusiast.

He has shared his skill in fancy rope work — more formally known as Marlinspike Seamanship — with demonstrations at world's fairs, museums and boat festivals world-wide. Closer-to-home,

he recently conducted workshops on Salt Spring which led to participants transforming a Turk's head knot and a length of rope into a Christmas wreath.

Naturally he has a boat — a 50-year-old, 14-foot wooden rowboat he is restoring — which is decorated with fancy knotwork.

The ship he'd really like to see come in is one bearing a winning lottery ticket. "I'd love it (knot tying) to be a full-time occupation."



**KNOT A STAR:** A bow fender for a Chicago production of Show Boat gets some final tightening from creator Terry Ridings, who uses a wooden point known as a fid to manipulate the rope. Ridings has also created bow fenders for Show Boat productions in New York and Vancouver. Photo by Valerie Lennox

... he is expert at recreating the works of master craftsmen who turned lengths of canvas and rope into art ...

... there was a policy against handing out rope to the men since there was not enough to go around.

*Fulford Inn*

**COMEDY CLUB #3**

Thursday Dec. 14 - 8pm  
arrive early for the best seating

**SUNDAY BUFFET**  
featuring SSI Lamb  
& Roast Turkey

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We'll have you dancing  
to rock and R & B  
**"THE MAROONS"**

FRIDAY & SATURDAY DEC. 15 & 16  
653-4432



**Christmas concert next week**  
Salt Spring Singers pose for a group photo before rehearsing for next week's Christmas concert. The community choir performs December 15-17 at All Saints by-the-Sea. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children and students, and are available at Love My Kitchen, Sharon's, NRS, et cetera and from choir members.

Photo by Tony Richards

## Pianist entertains at Alfresco's

Soft jazz and show tunes by the gentle piano fingers of Barrington Perry are now presented at Alfresco's every Friday and Saturday evening.

The Salt Spring resident moved to Canada from Chicago in 1982, after performing there in clubs and restaurants for 30 years.

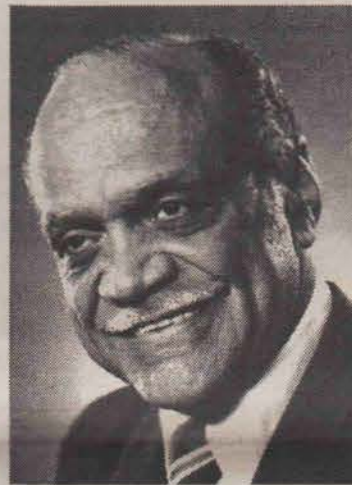
In recognition of Perry's contribution to the music of Chicago, May 11, 1982 was declared Barrington Perry Day by the city's mayor and council.

Originally from British Guiana, Perry spent his early years working in New York. Between New York and Chicago, Perry developed his extraordinary repertoire of

popular music, from early Tin Pan Alley, George Gershwin, Cole Peter, Duke Ellington, and Kurt Weill, through to present-day composers.

His style could be called "soft jazz," but he includes arrangements of show tunes in his performance — from Porgy to The Phantom of the Opera — and he is rarely stumped by a request for a tune from any musical period or style.

Organizers of the weekly event at Alfresco's say, "Barry's skill at the piano, and his personality, have made friends and fans of travellers from across Canada."



Barrington Perry

**S.S.I. GOLF CLUB**

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16**  
Cocktails 6pm / Dinner 7pm  
MEMBERS AND GUESTS  
for reservations call:  
**537-1760**

## ENTERTAINMENT

### This week at the Cinema

**STARTS DECEMBER 8**

Movies run from Friday to Tuesday.

**HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:** A critic says, "In Jodie Foster's bittersweet family valentine, Claudia Larson (Holly Hunter) returns to Baltimore to spend Thanksgiving at her parents' house. There, she is treated to what the movie regards as America's real family values: dread, bickering resentment, faded dreams. Foster insists on dramatizing this emotional crazy quilt in a way that is almost as unstable as the Larsons themselves." Rated mature. Fri.-Sun. (Dec. 15-17) 7 p.m.; Mon.-Tues. (Dec. 18-19) 9:15 p.m.

**TO DIE FOR:** In Gus Van Sant's black comedy, Nicole Kidman is Suzanne Stone, a small-town girl whose only desire is to be a famous T.V. personality. Suzanne has been conceived as a camp icon of celebrity psychosis, and Kidman plays her deftly. Rated 14-years with some very coarse and suggestive language, nudity and suggestive scenes. Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.; Mon.-Tues. 7 p.m. Tuesday matinee at 4 p.m. (\$4).

### Island Video Hits

1. Secret of Roan Inish .....(-)
2. Apollo 13 .....(1)
3. Dolores Claiborne .....(5)
4. Species .....(-)
5. Crimson Tide .....(2)
6. Johnny Mnemonic .....(3)
7. Rob Roy .....(10)
8. Redwood Curtain .....(-)
9. Search and Destroy .....(8)
10. Body Language .....(-)

### On Tap at the Pubs

- Harbour House Hotel (Wheelhouse Pub),** .....Auntie Kate, Dec. 14-16  
.....Ladies Night — California West Coast Males — Dec. 21
- Moby's Pub,** .....Friday Night Live, 9 p.m.  
.....Sunday Jazz with Salt Swing, 7 p.m.
- Fulford Inn (pub),** .....The Maroons, Dec. 15-16  
.....Comedy Club #3, Dec. 14, 8 p.m.
- Vesuvius Inn,** .....Gone Clear, Dec. 16, 8 p.m.  
.....Open Stage with Barley Bros. Dec. 21 8:30

### Community TV Schedule

- Dec. 14, 6:00 pm** .....Isle of Views  
**6:30pm** .....Scorpions vs. Duncan Christian Sch. Basketball Gm.
- Dec. 17, 3:00 pm** .....Keep Fit  
**3:30 pm** .....Isle of Views  
**4:00 pm** .....Scorpions vs. Duncan

*Some Celebrate Christmas*  
with  
**Salt Spring Singers**



Fri. Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sat. Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sun. Dec 17 at 2:00 p.m.

All Saints by the Sea  
Anglican Church

Children/Students \$4.00  
Adults \$8.00

Tickets at et cetera,  
Love My Kitchen NRS,  
Sharons. Choir members



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Celebrate with...

## "CLYDE ROULETTE"

DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>

DINNER: 6PM - 10PM  
DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY 9:30PM - 2:30AM  
MUNCHIES 6PM - 1AM

COMPLIMENTARY  
LATE NIGHT SANDWICH BAR

**PARTY FAVOURS!**

**NO COVER CHARGE!!**

# MOBY'S

marine pub

# Brosseau predicts Fulford Inn could be hottest island venue

Salt Spring's musical entertainment is on the verge of a growth spurt.

Fulford Inn owner Alf Reda recently hired Paul Brosseau to be the pub's entertainment manager, and Brosseau, true to form, is gung-ho about the prospect. The goal is to have bands playing at the pub every weekend, making it a regular choice on islanders' cultural menu.

Brosseau owns island recording studio Nomad Music and has brought popular bands to Beaver Point Hall dances in recent years. He has connections with some of the best innovative rock, blues, jazz and world beat bands on the West Coast, and is always on the look-out for more.

He recently spent three nights in Vancouver listening to about 10 bands at the city's top clubs, like Harpo's, Steamer's, the Town Pump, the Commodore and the Yale.

It's that calibre of music he's out to capture for island audiences.

"The Fulford Inn could potentially be the best venue on the island," predicts Brosseau.

He is aiming for 30 per cent each of local, Vancouver Island and Lower Mainland-based bands, with the remaining 10 per cent from further afield.

The Wingnuts, Rootabeggars, Gypsy Land, Gene Grooms, Auntie Kate, The Peelers, Ngoma and People Playing Music are some of the names he has lined-up to play.

Brosseau is really excited about a January 5 and 6 gig by Shazzam, an eight-piece "acid-jazz" group from Gastown.

The first event he is organizing is set for Boxing Day, which revives an old Fulford Inn tradition.



**BRINGING YOU ENTERTAINMENT:** Fulford Inn pub manager Lisa Reda and Paul Brosseau are working on bringing the West Coast's best bands to the pub.

Photo by Gail Sjoberg

Acoustics are good in the pub, says Brosseau, and the room's rectangular shape lets everyone see the band easily.

Why are top bands so willing to come to Salt Spring? Brosseau says members like getting out of the city to play somewhere different, some use Nomad Music for recording purposes and the island has a reputation for "tough" audiences.

"Every band I have ever brought here says they love it and they'll come back any time," said Brosseau.

The island is also lucky simply because of its location near Victoria and Vancouver. "We can dip into both pots."

The benefits for Salt Spring are obvious.

"There's not many towns of 9,000 people getting the level of entertainment we do."

The Fulford Inn is also hosting Reid Collins' Comedy Club, with the next one set for Thursday night beginning at 8 p.m.

According to pub manager Lisa Reda, a bus service linking the inn with Ganges during summer months is planned, and ideas for an outdoor concert have also been discussed.

Brosseau said the Reda family has been open to new ideas — from providing space for a Sunday market last summer to bringing in top entertainment — since buying the business at the end of April.

**SALT SPRING CINEMA**  
Central Hall / 24 HOUR INFO LINE 537-4656

<p>MATURE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A JODIE FOSTER FILM</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Fri, Sat, &amp; Sun. 7:00pm Monday &amp; Tuesday 9:15pm</p>	<p>14 YEARS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NICOLE KIDMAN</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">TO DIE FOR</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Fri, Sat, &amp; Sun. 9:00pm Mon. &amp; Tues. 7pm. / Tues. matinee 4pm (\$4)</p>
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**FRIDAY DEC. 15 - TUESDAY DEC. 19**

SUN. & MON. EVES - GET MOVIE BUCKS \$4.00 TUES. ADULTS ASK ABOUT OUR "DOUBLE FEATURE SPECIAL"  
Separate Admission: Adults \$7 Students \$6 Children under 14 \$4.00

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## NEW YEAR'S DINNER at

# alfresco

Sunday, December 31  
5 - 10 p.m.

Entertainment by  
**Barrington Perry on piano**

Choice of:

- Alsatian caramelized onion tart with smoked red pepper sauce
- "2 soups in 1 bowl"
- Prawns, french brie & artichoke hearts in phyllo pastry with lemon basil sauce

Choice of:

- Live atlantic lobster with saffron cognac sauce
- Oriental duckling confit with orange, honey, garlic, ginger & hoisin glaze
- Fillet of lamb in puff pastry with fresh rosemary, dijon mustard & cinzano sauce
- A trio of vegetarian flans with morel mushroom & madeira sauce

Choice of:

- Orange Crème Brulée
- Tiramisu...whipped mascarpone cream cheese layered with espresso & frangellco-soaked ladyfingers & belgian chocolate
- Chocolate truffle torte

Coffee, Tea

**\$30.00 per person**

Reservations please  
537-5979

# MOBY'S

friday night live

9PM - A Band Called Wanda

10PM - Derek Duffy & Co.

11PM - Carrot Revolution

## SUNDAY JAZZ

**Salt SWING**  
7 PM

WE'RE COOKING!

Kitchen open 11am - midnight  
...always!

LUNCH: 11am - 5pm / DINNER: 5pm - 10pm  
LATE NIGHT: 10pm - midnight!

## marine pub

537-5559 - 124 Upper Ganges Rd.,  
"at the head of Ganges Harbour"



**Carpet display**

Uma Meyers busily knits a toque while manning the carpet booth at Salt Spring Centre's Green Christmas Craft Faire. The event was held last weekend at the Centre on Blackburn Road.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

# Dance party set for Vesuvius

A worldbeat dance party will shake the Vesuvius Inn this Saturday as Gone Clear takes the stage.

Gone Clear specializes in turning out original reggae, ska and worldbeat tunes, and is a large part of Vancouver Island's music scene. Most of their songs are written by Allen Rayne (vocalist, percussionist, guitarist) and Jonathan Beckwith (keyboardist and vocalist).

Through more than a decade of performances, Beckwith has shared the stage with such international recording artists as Sugar Minott, Eek-A-Mouse, Foundation, Donovan and Sarah McLachlan.

Rayne has performed his brand of music on the West Coast for numerous years, touring Canada with bands featuring a wide variety of musical styles.

The two are joined in Gone Clear by drummer Allan Cameron, who studied jazz and Latin percussion at Saint Francis Xavier University, and bassist Michael Cowan, who has been playing music since childhood. Cowan is also a DJ on CFUV radio in Victoria.

Gone Clear has been busy performing in the festival scene, including the World Spirit Festival, the Island ReggaeFest in Duncan, and Victoria's Sunfest.

The band has also played several Vancouver Island venues, and appeared at special community events.

The band features original style music, but it also showcases the popular rhythms of UB40, Bob Marley, Joe Higgs and Bob Dylan — reggae style.

Gone Clear is described as a "crowd-pleasin', roots-rockin', happiness-inducing rhythm machine."

Gone Clear starts playing at 8 p.m.

## United Church presents Christmas variety show

Salt Spring Island United Church will stage Christmas Presence on December 22.

All participants are members of the church's regular congregation and include Shirley Bunyan as choir director and accompanist to other performers.

Sharon Moore-Cooke, United Church reverend, says the event will be a "good old-fashioned Christmas variety concert." Reverend Barry Cooke will act as master of ceremonies.

The event will include singing, skits and "a lot of music."

Some participants in the

Friday night performance will entertain Greenwood residents during the evening of December 21.

The church concert begins at 7 p.m.

Admission is by donation.

This Saturday, Dec. 16 / 2pm  
**THE VICTORIA CIVIC ORCHESTRA**  
 65 musicians  
 A Magnificent Celebration of the Season!  
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 Tickets \$15 at ArtSpring or et cetera  
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**VESUVIUS INN**  
 Donations to the Food Bank gratefully accepted thru December for under the tree at Vesuvius  
 The wonderful designated driver in groups of 4 or more guests, will eat free with unlimited pop & coffee  
**Saturday Dec. 16 / 8pm**  
**"GONE CLEAR"**  
**Reggae Band**  
**REMEMBER** Kitchen open till 9pm and...  
**NEXT OPEN STAGE:**  
 Dec. 21st / 8:30pm  
 Hosted by the Barley Bros.

Come join the fun with the gang at the Vesuvius Inn for Christmas Carolling Saturday, Dec. 23rd / 8pm you're sure to have a Merry Good Time!!

Name the Vesuvius Inn Christmas Ducks, Vesuvius Inn Wear awarded for names chosen. Put on your best carolling outfit for a chance at a great prize!

**Vesuvius Inn Gift Certificates**  
 MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!  
 Available in \$20 denominations

**The Vesuvius Inn**  
 NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB  
 It's An Island Tradition  
**537-2312**  
 PUB HOURS: Daily 11:30-11:30 / Sunday 11am-11pm

**HARBOUR HOUSE**  
 Salt Spring Island Canada  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS LADIES...**  
 on Thursday Dec. 21 at 8pm the Wheelhouse Pub presents  
**LADIES NIGHT**  
 featuring  
**"CALIFORNIA WEST COAST MALES"**  
 Ticket available \$5 in advance \$8 at the door (doors open to men at 10:30pm)  
**ALSO IN THE PUB**  
**AUNTI KATE IS HERE**  
 Thursday-Saturday Dec. 14, 15 & 16  
*If it's happening on the island it's at the*  
**HARBOUR HOUSE**  
**537-5571**

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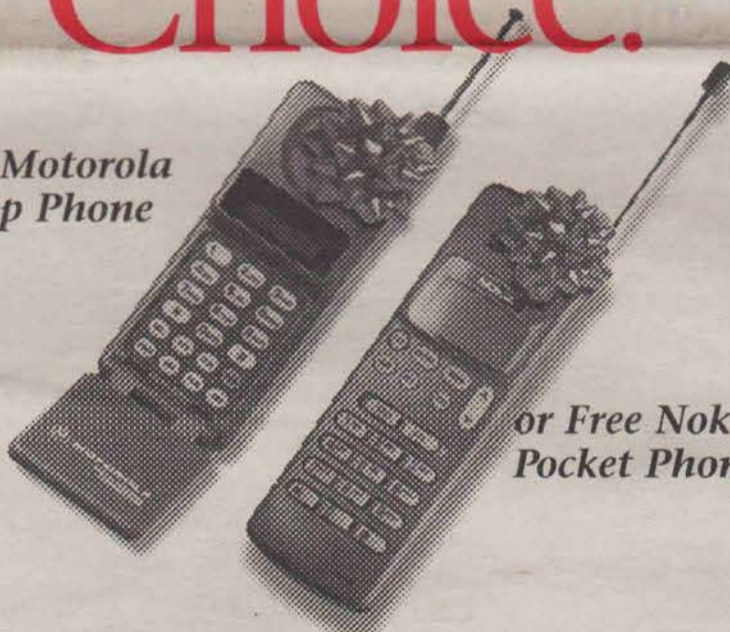
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# Jensen art show at Old Manse recalls visit to southern France

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Driftwood Staff

If anyone is wondering what LeRoy Jensen has been doing this year, drop into the Old Manse gallery on Hereford Avenue and have a look.

Jensen has emotionally revisited southern France and a group of Spanish people in voluntary exile from the Franco regime he met while living there as a young man.

The paintings of human figures are predominantly done in oil on canvas, formed with Jensen's characteristically rich strokes.

What is most striking about these people he has portrayed is their courage. Even the children, enveloped so lovingly by their mothers or other women, as in Down from the Pyrenees, seem stalwart in the face of such a challenging life. Their collective passion also burns through in the portraits and group scenes.

In La Belle Catalon, a large pastel portrait work, we see the histo-

ry of one woman and an entire people in her eyes.

We cannot delve into the eyes of most of Jensen's Catalons, but we can definitely feel them.

Daughter Gabrielle Jensen owns the Old Manse and Gulf Islands Picture Framing located at 112 Hereford Avenue.

She explains that Return to Catalonia "has been with him a long time." The work did not start as a theme, but gradually evolved into one.

Her show favourite is Meal Before the Journey, which depicts smaller-than-usual-for-Jensen figures gathered around a table. She likes it for its technical merits and effect as a large painting, but also



LeRoy Jensen

because an image of the family's recently-deceased dog worked its way into the scene.

Jensen was brought up in China and Japan, and studied at the Academy of Fine Art in Copenhagen and with Andrew L'Hote in Paris. He has taught art at the University of British Columbia and at the Banff School of Fine Arts and worked on Salt Spring for many years.

"These extraordinary people were living in voluntary exile, whether because of threat of death or because they simply would not participate in Franco's world," he writes in an artist's statement. "To these people I have always owed a great debt, they inspired me as a young person in a way that has always remained with me. Their strong spirits, their firmness of purpose, their resolve, together with their longing for home."

The show continues through the month of December.

# Tickets going fast for New Year's voyage on 'Pride of Vancouver'

There's only 30 tickets left for a deluxe New Year's Eve charity ball, but organizers are hoping for a sell-out.

Party-goers set sail on the luxury yacht Pride of Vancouver at 8 p.m. on December 31, with a five hour cruise through the Gulf Islands. A sit-down buffet dinner, party favours, live entertainment and dancing all take place on board the yacht, which has a 180-person capacity.

Afterwards, ticket buyers can go to a private after-cruise party at the Harbour House Lounge, where a

blues band will entertain until 3 a.m.

Complementary bus service to the lounge and people's homes, until 5 a.m., will also be provided.

Treeco Developments is sponsoring the evening. The company's Mark Consiglio said the Pride of Vancouver is a four-year-old boat built especially for these kinds of events.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Salt Spring Co-operative Pre-school. Tickets cost \$149 per couple and are available at Ganges Stationery, next to Harbour Low Cost or by calling 537-1682 or 537-1640.

# Class Act production rescheduled

Saturday night's icy roads foiled theatre-goers, but they will get one more chance to see Class Act's production of David and Lisa.

Because of the weather, producer Doug Bambrough and director Lynda Jensen decided to cancel the Gulf Islands Secondary School drama group performance. It has been re-scheduled for this Friday at 8 p.m. in Salt Spring Island Middle School's band room.

Advance tickets bought for the December 9 show will be honoured Friday. Tickets are available at et cetera or at the door.



## SEASIDE KITCHEN

Seafood Restaurant

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

Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner

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DINNER RESERVATIONS ADVISED

Located across from the Vesuvius Ferry Terminal



## DAGWOOD'S

SALT SPRING ISLAND

# 20 YEARS OLD!



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Join us on Thursday  
December 14th  
for Birthday Cake & 30¢ Coffee

OPEN FROM 6:30AM DAILY  
537-9323 LICENSED / TAKE-OUT

Barrington Perry invites his friends to join him for coffee, dessert, appetizers or dinner...at Alfresco's every Friday & Saturday night 6:30 - 10:00pm



6TH ANNUAL  
LAST MINUTE

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Fri. Sat. Sun. / Dec. 15, 16, 17

Over 45 participants with a tempting array of affordable gift ideas...luxury lotions & oils, jewellery, xmas ornaments, paintings, pottery, delectable collectables, candles, gourmet condiments, jellies and jams, medieval games, clothing etc. Hot festive food by Shindigs

Fri. 4 to 8  
Sat. 10 to 6  
Sun. 10 to 4

Mahon Hall

Presented by Off Centre Stage



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## Last minute Christmas fair offers local, hand-crafted gifts

There's one last chance to play Santa with hand-crafted gifts from Salt Spring, thanks to Off Centre Stage's sixth annual Last Minute Christmas Craft Fair.

Organizer April Curtis said the show will feature work from a variety of island artisans "who return home to finish their craft fair season in a relaxed festive atmosphere."

The hall will be decorated with greenery, ornaments, starry lights and garlands by the creative hands of Off Centre Stage, who certainly know how to create a backdrop.

Curtis said the fair will include some work not available elsewhere and some last-minute specials from the more than 45 craftspeople participating.

Among the items available will be clothing, hats, luxury lotions

and oils, paintings, pottery, gourmet condiments, medieval games, rhythm sticks, candles, candlesticks, jellies and jams, Christmas decorations, jewellery, woodwork, wreaths and more.

Curtis predicts some spontaneous carolling will occur as local musicians perform throughout the weekend. Among the musicians expected at the fair are Susan Cogan, Oscar Riley, Myranda O'Byrne, Lynn Quinn and Black Velvet Band. Island-produced CDs and tapes will be available for sale.

Tempting treats and tasty meals will be served by Kate and Shirley Bragg of Shindigs Catering in the fair's on-site cafe.

The Last Minute Christmas Craft Fair is open Friday from 4 until 8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event raises money for the Off Centre Stage Society, which provides entertainment and theatre resources to the community year-round.

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Restaurant  
and B&B

375 Baker Rd.  
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REGULAR HOURS:

Dinner 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday Brunch

11:30 - 2:30

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Christmas Eve

Christmas Day

and through-out until January 2nd

Two private dining rooms, woodburning fireplaces in both. They are available for lunch or dinner functions by reservation only. We are now accepting reservations for private Christmas parties, lunch, dinner. In-house catering available.

To book please call

Mirjana at

537-2247

Thank You.

## Barley Brothers release new 'Go to Town' CD

Following the success of last year's tape released in December, the Barley Brothers have done it again.

Their new CD, called The Barley Brothers Go To Town, is now available. To celebrate, they will be hosting a party at the Vesuvius Inn on Friday.

The group says last year's tape was well-received and opened up many opportunities for them. In 1995 the Barley Brothers played gigs in Vancouver, Chilliwack, Courtenay, Yellowknife, Seattle, Tacoma, Puyallup and elsewhere.

Where their first tape was "live" and featured just the Brothers — Dave Roland, bass and vocals; Brian (Buck) McDonald, guitar and vocals; and Graeme Maltby, banjo and vocals — the CD includes the talents of guest vocalists and instrumentalists Valdy and Kathleen Horsdal, the Stack Sisters, Auntie Kate, Tom Bowler, Calvin Cairns, Mike Brooks, Doug "The Pirate" Noel and more. The CD features a variety of original and cover songs delivered with the Brothers' mix of bluegrass, folk and country influences.

The CD is a local production, using local musicians, Paul Brosseau's Nomad Music studios, David Borrowman's photography and Paul Marciano's computer wizardry. The Barley Brothers invite you to join them at the Vesuvius Inn December 15 at 7 p.m. to hear their latest effort. Door prizes and treats will be part of the fun.

The Barley Brothers Go To Town is available on Salt Spring at cetera and Radio Shack.

**BURGERS \$1.99**

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# 'Sharing, sharing, sharing' — 50 children sign up for scouts

By VALORIE LENNOX  
Driftwood Staff

Strong community support makes a strong scouting program — and a strong scouting program builds a strong community.

That balance is being demonstrated this year. Thanks to volunteer leaders and community support, over 50 island youngsters are enjoying the benefits of scouting as Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or the newest group, Venturers.

In return, young people are enhancing their skills, developing character and helping out in the community.

The Beavers, aged five to seven, have a motto of "sharing, sharing, sharing." The Cubs, aged eight to 10, have "do a good deed" as their motto, while Scouts, aged 11 to 14, are reminded to "be prepared." For Venturers, aged 14 to 17, the watchword is "challenge."

Salt Spring's Royal Canadian Legion is a major supporter of scouting, both as a Scouts Canada community sponsor for the past 63 years and as a contributor of financial help to the youth organization.

In return, young people have helped maintain the legion grounds and worked on the concession at the legion's garage sale this fall.

"We're looking for ways to liaison, giving something back," said First Ganges Scouts group committee chairman Ross McLeod.

The legion is also working with the young people. Representative John Teagle notes he is directly involved with scouting activities.

So far this year, the legion has donated \$1,200 to the scouts. Half that donation was seed money for a new Venturers Company, aimed at young people 14 to 17 years of age. To date, nine youths have indicated interest in joining the new program, which held its inaugural meeting last Thursday.

Unlike Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, which follow a pre-determined program, Venturers take a greater role in determining their own program, McLeod said. Adults involved with the company are advisors, helping the young people learn organizational skills.

Venturers elect their own slate of officers and conduct their own meetings. They can also choose the focus of their group. McLeod noted the Salt Spring teens are considering a "search and rescue" focus, which would allow them to explore areas like first aid, boating and rock climbing.

"That decision is up to them," McLeod observed. "They choose whatever activity or theme they want to follow."

There are many resource people in the community willing to help the young people achieve their



**TIED UP IN TEAMWORK:** Legion representative John Teagle, left, gets some hands-on first aid from new Venturer Glen McLeod. Support from the Legion helped start the Venturer group on the island.

Photo by Valorie Lennox

goals, said Sue Rock, secretary of the First Ganges Scouts group committee.

Teagle said the 700-plus legion members support the program as a community service which directly helps young people.

Among the most important supporters are the few who volunteer as leaders.

For example, he noted there is some interest in establishing scouting groups in the Fulford area. This would especially help the

younger children who find it difficult to attend the meetings in Ganges. But to start a program in Fulford, leaders will be required.

Scouts Canada offers training for new leaders in Victoria, McLeod added.

Scouting groups are open to both boys and girls. There are now girls in the Beaver and Venturers groups and there were girls in Cubs last year.

Activities are matched to the participants' ages and skills. For the scouts, one of the most exciting activities occurred almost two years ago, when they went on a two-day camping trip to Mayne Island.

The first part of the event was staged as a mock marine disaster. The scouts came ashore with a minimum of supplies — as if they had escaped from a sinking ship — and managed to find solutions to their problems.

The next day, they played the role of victims being sought by

Salt Spring and Mayne search and rescue teams. The Coast Guard also joined in the exercise.

"I was the last one to get found — sitting out there, shivering in the bush," McLeod said. "The kids still talk about that. They had a whale of a time."

At present, there are only six Scouts. The small troop is still involved in a range of activities, including kayaking, archery and bowling. "It's a small group but it's really active," McLeod said.

He hopes the start of the Venturers company will not only involve 14 to 17 year olds but will also encourage older Scouts to remain with the program, since they can then take their skills into Venturers.

Cubs are also a very busy group. On November 24 and 25, they went on an overnight trip to the Vancouver Aquarium. Last month they worked on rocket ships at their regular meeting and this month's schedule includes making Christmas tree edibles for wildlife, a visit to Greenwood and Lady Minto extended care, Christmas tree decorating and a campfire sing-song to which parents are invited.

On December weekends, local Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers might be spotted helping with the annual Christmas tree sales in the Ganges Village Market and Thrifty's parking lots. The sale started December 2, with the arrival of semi-cultured trees from Bob Akerman.

Cultured trees from a Duncan tree farm will be available starting December 8. Prices start at \$8. There will also be table top trees available. All can be purchased during store hours.

**... young people are enhancing their skills, developing character and helping out in the community.**

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## ISLAND MUNICIPALITIES

Currently, there is no practical experience of how a municipality in the Trust area would work in relation to the Islands Trust as no municipality has yet been incorporated even though amendments were made to the Islands Trust Act in 1989 to enable incorporation.

The idea of incorporation has been studied on both Bowen and Salt Spring Islands. These studies were supported by the Province as there was sufficient interest by local elected officials, communities and individuals to investigate the issues related to local government structure change. These issues include such things as enhancing local political representation, maintaining lifestyles in the context of managing future development, improving the level of local services and providing for efficient and effective government. Neither effort resulted in incorporation, although the question was the subject of a referendum on Bowen Island in the Fall of 1991. One of the major issues that arose in both cases was a lack of understanding about the role a municipality would have in relation to the Islands Trust since some of their responsibilities would overlap.

The Islands Trust and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs have been working jointly throughout 1995 to try to define more clearly the relationship between a municipality and the Islands Trust as there is some interest being expressed for incorporation on several islands. The starting point for discussions was the statement from Municipal Affairs Minister, Darlene Marzari, that opportunities must be provided for communities to achieve an increased level of local autonomy and responsibility. At the same time, she said that municipal incorporation must occur within the framework of the Islands Trust Act so that the Trust could be strengthened as a result.

Progress has been made to the point where a draft protocol agreement has been developed which provides a framework to govern the roles and responsibilities of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, the Islands Trust and a municipality. However, before the protocol agreement is finalized, the Minister wants community input into the document. Public meetings on several islands are being organized for this purpose. The intent of these meetings will be to discuss those aspects of incorporation that relate to the Islands Trust and its mandate, but not the full ramifications of incorporating a municipality on any particular island. The latter will have to be addressed by a locally initiated and sustained restructure study process.

The framework that has been developed recognizes the unique mandate of the Islands Trust or preserve and protect the features and amenities of the islands that are so valued by their residents and by the public in general. It also recognizes that many islands may desire a higher degree of local autonomy and the opportunity should be provided for those islands to achieve municipal status if that is desired. The framework would reaffirm the current features of the legislation in terms of the relationship between the Trust and a new municipality. Specifically:

- a municipality will assume responsibility for local planning;
- a municipality must refer all official community plans to the Trust for approval;
- a municipality can appeal the Trust's refusal to approve a bylaw to the Minister;
- a municipality will contribute to the costs of the general operations of the Trust and;
- a municipality will appoint two members to the Trust Council.

In addition, the framework makes a number of additional proposals:

- a municipality should have regard for the Trust Policy Statement and the Trust objective in respect to all of its actions;
- if a municipal official community plan bylaw is not approved by the Trust Executive Committee or Trust Council, the Minister can employ the dispute resolution methods contained in the Growth Strategies Statutes Amendment Act;
- the two members of municipal council appointed to the Trust Council could be directly elected by the residents to those positions rather than be appointed by council and;
- a municipality would be required to contract with the Trust for planning services for at least three years after incorporation in order to ease the transition to municipal status.

It is important for the residents of the islands who are interested in the idea of municipal incorporation to have an opportunity to review and comment on the framework. You are invited to attend the nearest public meeting which is being sponsored by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

The meetings have been set for:  
Salt Spring Island at the Fulford Community Hall from 4:00 to 7:30 on December 15. Open House will be from 4:00 to 5:00.  
Bowen Island at the Community School from 1:00 to 4:30 on December 16. Open House will be from 1:00 to 2:00.  
A meeting on North Pender Island will be held in January at a time and place that will be announced at a later date.

As well, residents may provide comments directly to the Ministry by mail or fax to:

**Local Government Structure Branch**  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs  
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DRAPERIES AREA RUGS HARDWOOD VINYL FLOORING AREAS RUGS

# Vet celebrates 20 years of helping island pets

One Salt Spring doctor has seen more than his share of nervous patients in the past two decades.

But owners of the island's cats, dogs, horses, goats and rabbits have been glad there was somewhere to go when their beloved pets and livestock needed the services of a vet.

Dr. Claus Andress and the Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic celebrated 20 years on Salt Spring last week, with an open house on Saturday afternoon and a Sunday evening wine and cheese party.

The island's first full-scale veterinary clinic began in what is known as "the old Driftwood building" on Rainbow Road, where the parking lot now sits across from Salt Spring Elementary School.

Andress recalls renting three rooms in the building in 1975, and sharing all facilities, including the fridge, with a barber. His daughter Mary was his first help in the office, which was open six hours a day, four days a week.

A couple of years later he bought and renovated premises closer to the water on Rainbow Road, which housed the clinic until three years ago.

It was only 700 square feet, he said, "but we thought we had all this space."

Nancy Hedger was the receptionist and assistant for a number of years, followed by Susan Hartwig, then Chris Woodriddle.

Dr. Bill Vanderwekken spent several years as the clinic's second vet, until health problems forced him to leave the practice.

Dr. Derrick Milton has been with the clinic since 1991. He met Andress at a wedding in Ontario, where Andress' nephew was marrying a friend of Wendy Milton.

Andress purchased the clinic's current Lower Ganges Road property and, owing to some good timing, was able to make it as up-to-date as possible. He had maintained ownership of 10 acres of land around his first clinic in Hanover, Ontario, and just as he was considering a move of GIVC, selling the Hanover property was suggested to him.

"So my very first clinic gave me the start of this clinic."

In addition to Andress and



**ANIMAL HEALTH EXPERTS:** Sporting Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic shirts at Saturday's open house were, from left, Caroline Andress, Barb Hack, Dr. Claus Andress, Lynda Wilcox

and Cathy Cronin. Missing is Dr. Derrick Milton. The clinic recently marked 20 years of service to the Gulf Islands.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

Milton, the clinic's current staff are daughter Caroline Andress, who runs the office, and Barb Hack, Cathy Cronin and Lynda Wilcox, all with a variety of training and years of experience in the animal health field.

He notes that while none of his children pursued veterinary medicine, two young people who worked at the clinic have. John Woodriddle is now a vet, and Rose Alkoff is currently studying in Edinburgh.

Andress achieved a degree in agriculture and then graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1962. He operated the "busy mixed practice" in Hanover, Ontario, and later returned to university to acquire his Masters degree in veterinary sciences. After teaching at the college, he moved to B.C. and worked at a provincial government laboratory in Abbotsford.

His family had a cottage on Salt Spring and despite "many other opportunities" in other parts of the world, they decided to open a clinic here.

Veterinarian Don Scott, who Andress says practiced on a "small scale", was his predecessor.

"People were so appreciative and caring," he recalls.

The island's character was much different from today, with

proportionately more people delving into agriculture and animal husbandry. That meant Andress spent more time helping people with their goats or sheep than treating their cats and dogs.

There have been many highlights over the years, but Andress remembers one which garnered national news attention. When the Queen of Alberni ran aground in Active Pass in August 1979, Andress was called in to check on the animals on board. They included "a very valuable horse."

Jack Hughes transported Andress to the site in his water

taxi, and the vet climbed onto the listing ship, only to find he was the sole human there. Because of its dangerous position at that point, he should not have been on it.

There have been other "firsts" over the years, including an eagle he treated ending up at a zoo in Hamburg, Germany, and performance of a caesarian section on a cow done in 1978.

Andress and GIVC staff have always worked closely with the island's Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals group, of which Andress was an organizer and is now a life member.

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# Roots and Shoots now on Salt Spring

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Driftwood Staff

Haida Kristiansen probably didn't need any more inspiration to do some good for the world, but she got it anyway.

Kristiansen was always interested in wildlife and conservation issues, and fed those interests with travels through 25 countries.

But being able to meet a woman she greatly admired — not once, but twice, by being in the right place at the right time — has led to the establishment of a conservation-oriented group for youths on Salt Spring Island.

The Roots and Shoots program is sponsored by the Jane Goodall Institute. The woman she admires is Jane Goodall, known worldwide for her 35 years of studying chimpanzees in Africa.

The first time Kristiansen met Goodall was in Africa in 1991. A series of coincidences put the pair en route to observe chimpanzees in Gombe National Park at the same time.

Soon after, Kristiansen joined the Jane Goodall Institute.

On Salt Spring four years later, Kristiansen showed slides of her African travels at a speakers club meeting. Three days later, she called her friends Pat and Rosemarie Keough, and found herself invited on a nature walk with Robert and Birgit Batemen and Goodall.

One incident exemplified what is so special about Goodall. She had come across a bumblebee and crouched down to get closer to it. She put out her finger, the bee climbed onto it and stayed there while being observed.

"It shows her approach," said Kristiansen, "If you are calm and approach nature gently, it is not threatening."

She was also able to talk more with Goodall that day, who suggested Kristiansen write directly

to her.

One result has been setting up of a Roots and Shoots club at Fernwood Elementary School, and Kristiansen's hope that more people will get involved. To help inspire others, she is showing the video Chimpanzees: So Like Us and giving a presentation on Monday night. The video summarizes Goodall's work with a backdrop of beautiful scenery and music.

According to Roots and Shoots literature, the program is dedicated to teaching young people "to observe and understand the world around them while becoming actively involved in environmental and humanitarian issues. They will learn the interconnectedness of all life on earth and, above all, will realize the great importance of each individual's worth as they join hands for a common cause."

Beginning in a Tanzanian high school in 1991, Roots and Shoots has since spread to all school levels throughout Europe, Asia and the Americas.

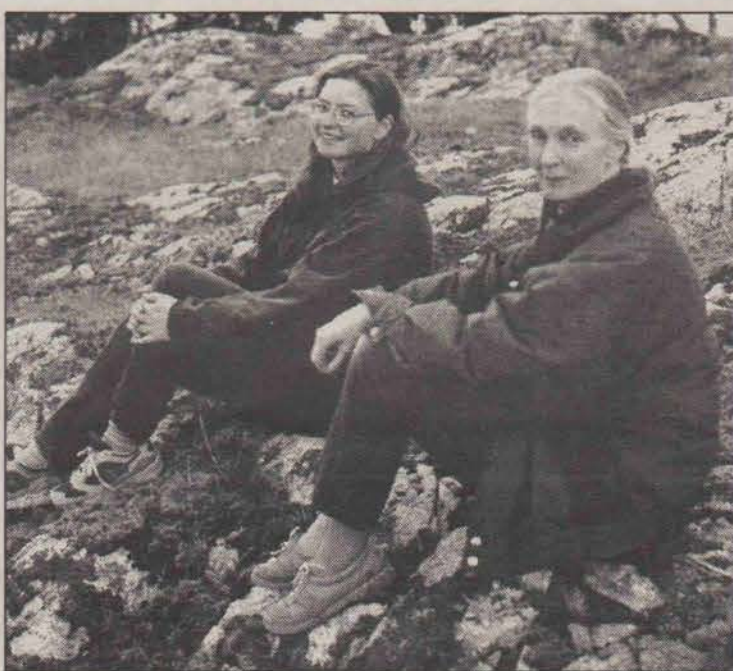
One of the most important parts of Roots and Shoots is that members learn how "every individual has a part to play" and "every individual can make a difference."

Kristiansen also said the club respects the natural pacing of the children involved, letting them tackle as big or small a project as they choose. "Like Jane says, it takes time and patience from caring, committed adults."

The Fernwood group meets every two weeks, and plans to have a project determined by the end of February. They may also meet with Vancouver clubs whose members are eager to visit Salt Spring.

Kristiansen points out that Goodall is a great role model and inspiration for young people.

Why is the program called Roots and Shoots? Goodall



**OBSERVING NATURE:** Haida Kristiansen and Jane Goodall take a rest while on a Salt Spring walk with others in April. Kristiansen is showing a video and making a presentation on Goodall's work this Monday night at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

explains: "Children and students are the fertile ground where seeds, once planted, grow. The roots creep underground everywhere and make a firm foundation. Shoots seem new and weak, but to reach the light they will move boulders and break slabs of concrete. Hundreds and thousands of roots and hundreds and thousands of shoots around the world can change the world."

Kristiansen's video and presentation takes place at room S212 (upstairs, south wing) at Gulf Islands Secondary School beginning at 7 p.m. on December 18. Anyone interested in Goodall's work is welcome to attend, and can contact Kristiansen at 537-0620 for more information.

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