

Driftwood

Gulf Islands

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Builder takes on inspection office

By SUSAN LUNDY
Driftwood Staff

Chester Ludlow is a one-man carpentry company taking on a giant.

Ludlow is fighting the National Building Code, and the Capital Regional District building inspection office which enforces it.

His building code problems are rooted in two litigation cases stemming from the rejection of his windows and doors at an Old Scott Road home (see related story).

Research to aid his court cases has opened what Ludlow describes as a "whole kettle of fish."

Ludlow takes issue with several aspects of the code: enforcement of features inappropriate for the Gulf Islands; the "self-serving ability" of the building inspection office to inflate construction prices and reap the benefits through permit costs; conflict with the Charter of Rights; and the inspection office's use of waivers of indemnity.

Responding to Ludlow's allegations, local building inspector Dick Stubbs agrees with some points and refutes others.

Ludlow says the building code requirement for deadbolts on island homes is ludicrous, and Stubbs agrees.

"In the city this may be reason-

able," Ludlow notes, but a dead-bolt is not going to prevent a break-in to a home sitting secluded in the centre of a five-acre lot. "They'll just break some other part of the house. All it benefits is the lock companies which lobby the Canadian Standards Association."

Ludlow also takes issue with rigid code regulations surrounding vapour barrier use. He says the code was established for public "health and safety,"

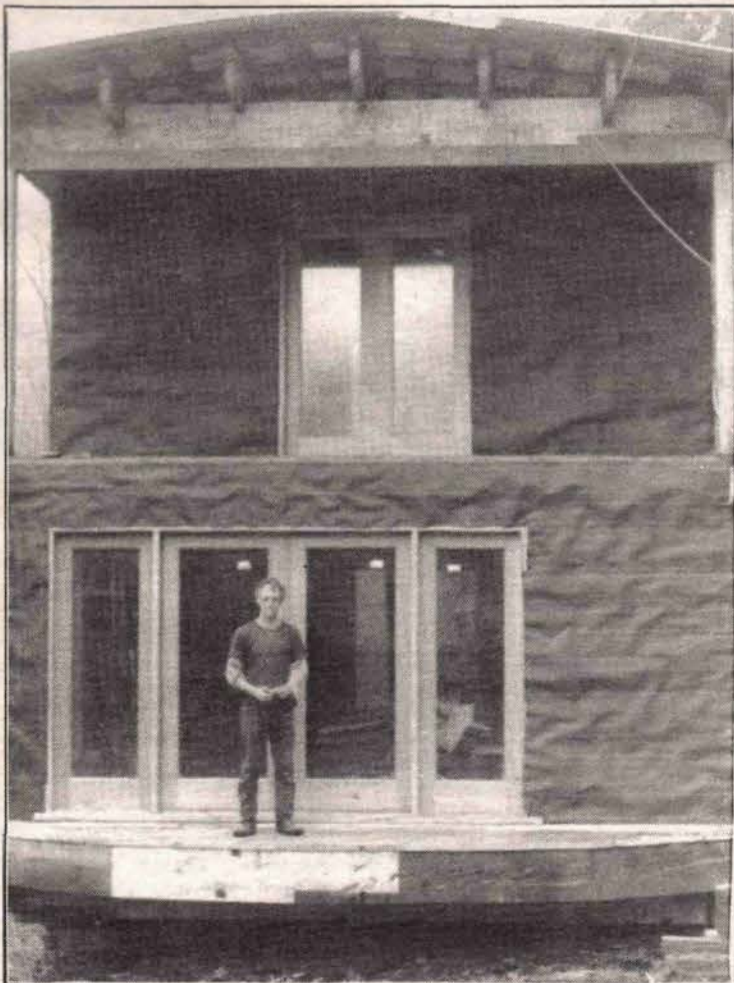
but some 20 per cent of lung cancer is attributed to household pollution trapped indoors by vapour barrier.

The term "national" is ironic, Ludlow further claims, because a house built in the temperate Gulf Islands should not be constructed the same way as a home in the Northwest Territories.

But as Stubbs explains, the National Building Code is a model document and each province "either adopts or makes changes according to local needs." Municipalities and regional districts then have the choice whether or not to adopt it. The City of Vancouver, for example, does not operate under the Municipal Act and has its own building code.

Stubbs agrees some parts of the building code are not relevant for

BUILDER A6



A HOME FOR THE WINDOWS: Builder Chester Ludlow stands in front of the floathouse that will utilize windows he says were rejected by the building inspection office. Photo by Susan Lundy



Snowfall victim

Ambulance service crews and firefighters carry 42-year-old Salt Spring man from his truck last Tuesday after it left Fulford-Ganges Road and rolled. The man was taken to Lady Minto Hospital and then transferred

to Cowichan hospital, where he was treated for a fractured hip. A passenger suffered minor injuries. The accident occurred in the 1400 block of Fulford-Ganges Road during Tuesday afternoon's snowfall. Photo by Tony Richards

More salt: John Stepaniuk assesses snow removal job

By TONY RICHARDS
Driftwood Staff

• Victoria Highways Maintenance Corporation's response, Page A2

Highways maintenance crews have long been the target of criticism by irate motorists, angry over the proliferation of pot-holes or upset by uncleared snow. And the privatization of maintenance services in 1987 did nothing to cool their tempers.

When islanders awoke to a blanket of snow on the ground last Wednesday morning, the critics outnumbered snow plows by a large margin. Among the loudest was Ian Lacey of Salt Spring Freight, who reported that two of the company's trucks had difficulty getting up the hill at Fulford after driving off the first sailing of the day.

"Useless," was his terse description of road crews who had failed to clear the ice off that section of road. It took the two semi's more than three tries to negotiate the hill, and that was after the drivers themselves applied their own salt to the roadway, he said.

But was it just as bad everywhere else? Or are road crew critics looking too hard for a convenient scapegoat?

Judging by the reaction last

week of former highways foreman John Stepaniuk, both may be true. His assessment of Salt Spring road conditions following a two-hour tour Wednesday morning was generally good.

But he repeated one observation several times: not enough salt. We left Ganges about 9:30 a.m., bound for Fulford. The sky was clear, and so was Ganges Hill. It is the policy of Victoria Highways Maintenance Corporation, the firm under contract with the province to maintain local roads, to clear the snow first on main routes, such as those which lead to the ferry terminals.

Stepaniuk's first criticism came at the top of the hill where the road became slushy. "A rubber blade could do a lot of good here," he said.

He also pointed out that effort had been made to ensure the road was cleared almost to its full width. Stepaniuk disagreed with the approach.

"I would have concentrated on a more thorough clearing in the centre, and not as wide. Widening was the last thing on my agenda."

If salt is applied in the centre of the roadway, plowing the centre will push the resulting brine solution to the sides and automatically help widen the road.

Instead of widening Fulford-Ganges Road, Stepaniuk said, the plow could have made a loop around Salt Spring Way and Cranberry Road.

Fulford-Ganges remained relatively clear until we passed Blackburn Lake, where compacted snow indicated to Stepaniuk that crews had skimmed on the salt.

Lee's Hill was looking good at 9:50 but it was slushy down in the valley. Again Stepaniuk pointed to the need to clear the centre and take off the slush.

Several times he warned that a drop in temperature or more snow could spell "disaster." The remaining slush would freeze up and create hazardous conditions.

There were several areas down Beaver Point way where the retired foreman noted the need for more salt. There was compacted snow and slush all along Beaver Point Road by Mike Byron's new fence.

Uncleared side roads such as Bridgeman Road, Bulman Road and Demitri Way should have been done, Stepaniuk said, while the truck was in the area.

We returned to Ganges via Stewart Road, whose condition Stepaniuk described as excellent.

SNOW A2

Searchers locate missing woman

A distraught woman missing in the Beaver Point area was found Friday night by a team of police and Salt Spring Island search and rescue volunteers.

The woman, who suffers from a chronic illness, had been missing since 4:30 p.m. A search team was called out at 6 p.m., said Chuck Hamilton, Salt Spring Emergency Program area coordinator.

A dozen people met at Drummond Park before moving to the search area. When the woman was not

found, extra volunteers were called in from Duncan search and rescue and an RCMP dogmaster was requested.

The dogmaster and Duncan volunteers were en route when the woman was found at approximately 8:15 p.m. in the bush near her home.

Hamilton said the request for reinforcements was cancelled just before the volunteers boarded the ferry for Salt Spring.

This Week

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Fair Change

Island Savings was buying U.S. cash on Tuesday at the rate of 1.3760

THE URBAN MORON



They were ready for snow but one truck, grader broke down

By TONY RICHARDS
Driftwood Staff

Trucks were ready with snowplows mounted and new blades installed and shifts were set up.

The Salt Spring operation of Victoria Highways Maintenance Corporation was ready for the snow when it began falling last Tuesday afternoon, foreman John Charlton told the Driftwood in an interview.

As well, all the main ferry routes and important secondary routes were pre-salted before the snow fell. "It was pretty extensive pre-salting," Charlton said, and included the entire length of Fulford-Ganges Road.

Not only that, roads were salted with every "plowing pass throughout the night," he said, as part of efforts that exceed his company's contract requirements for snow removal.

But there were some problems. Five trucks mounted with plows began work Tuesday but one was put out of commission by a broken axle. And the grader, which would have done roads such as Charlesworth, Garner, Dukes and others with steep grades, ran for

two hours before it broke down.

Charlton conceded that the loss of the grader hindered work on higher elevations. "It put us behind the eight-ball a little bit." But he was not displeased with the crews' performance during and after the snowfall, which delivered as much as six inches of snow in some locations.

He and Mike Gibbons, the company's operations manager, said many factors influence the manner in which snow-clearing operations are conducted. With main roads being a priority, crews will leave side roads such as those off Beaver Point Road if it is snowing heavily. Keeping the ferry routes clear is the first objective.

Charlton was surprised to hear that Salt Spring Freight trucks had difficulty Wednesday morning at Fulford. The hill would have been salted, he said, but wondered if runoff flowing across the road might have washed the salt away.

But he was equally concerned that no one had advised him of the problem.

Charlton was surprised at former highways foreman John Stepaniuk's criticism that some

areas had not seen any salt. All main roads were salted, and the highways yard had just taken delivery of another 51,000 kilograms of salt, he said.

He agreed that rubber blades on plowing equipment are better for removing slushy material from the roadway, but for the most part steel blades are used. "It's an ongoing debate," Charlton said, over the benefits of each type of blade.

Steel is better for lifting snow and require less maintenance than rubber, which often need adjustment.

Gibbons said the company's crews participate annually in a half-day refresher workshop on snow removal, going over matters such as where and where not to salt. Equipment is fine-tuned by mechanics and run through its paces.

To Charlton, privatization has been a success. He admitted to being a skeptic back in 1987. But it's like "black and white," he said, citing an increase in productivity.

"We're finding ways to do it more efficiently."

SNOW: Ex-foreman looks at snow removal

From Page A1

But Beddis was slushy and could have been sanded near the Cusheon Lake intersection. A glance down Price Road revealed it hadn't been plowed, though there is "quite a population in there."

Returning to Ganges, we got as far as the first major bend in Charlesworth before Stepaniuk's one-ton flatdeck would go no farther. This, he said, was "a grader job."

After sliding back down the hill in reverse, we headed north where conditions were good. The big dip on Robinson Road was good, though slushy. Much of Walker Hook was the same, but quite adequate, Stepaniuk agreed, for the volume of traffic it carries.

But again, side roads such as Fort Street, one of the island's steepest grades, remained uncleared. The same held for Langs Road, Fairway Drive and Suffolk Road.

Main roads such as North End

and Vesuvius Bay were fine (Mobrae was good too) but Stonecutter Way, Quarry Drive and other roads in the Vesuvius area were untouched.

Stepaniuk, who draws from 20 years' experience as a roads foreman in the Gulf Islands, felt better use could have been made of the trucks out plowing Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning to clear side roads.

Stepaniuk is one of those who wonder about the wisdom of privatizing the service, and notes "a fun-

damental difference" in the manner in which it is provided. The old department of highways, he says, was service-oriented. Today, highways maintenance is profit-motivated.

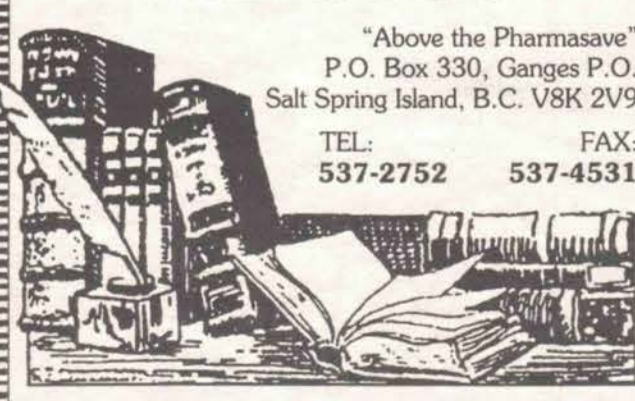
But Stepaniuk has always been something of a stickler for good roads and his aversion to pot-holes has been well documented in the past. Indeed, it was a large hole in Isabella Point Road that drew one of his harshest comments last week.

"That pot-hole shouldn't be there, not on that bloody road."

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Blah February drives video rentals down

How low can video rental prices go? How about a nickel?

Eric Manchester of Sargeant's Mercantile joked Tuesday that he might go that low, but competitor Bruce Patterson of Patterson Market indicated that 49 cents was the bottom end.

Patterson said he was charging \$3.49 for new releases and \$1.99 for other videos in December when Sargeant's offered one price of \$1.86.

"We decided to have some fun for the month of February — it's a blah month," Patterson explained. So he dropped his price on all

videos to 99 cents.

Sargeant's went to 89 and Patterson's went to 79. This week, Patterson's price is dropping to 49 cents.

Manchester said they began renting videos at \$2.75 but found they were able to reduce the price to \$1.86. "We're not making much money but we are making friends."

Will price reductions show up in Ganges? Not likely, according to two outlets. A typical price at the north end is \$3.75 for a new release and it's going to stay there, said a spokeswoman for one rental outlet.

New committee to pursue local government study

Five organizations have banded together to strike a "local government committee" on Salt Spring.

The committee met for the first time last Wednesday and agreed to continue with the next phase of the local government options study. It plans to define "a feasible administrative structure" that includes the Islands Trust's preserve-and-protect mandate.

The result of the study will be the subject of a referendum, the

committee said in a news release. The group hopes to arrange a meeting soon with the minister of municipal affairs.

Members of the committee and the organizations they represent are: John Ellacott, South Salt Spring Residents Association; Jeremy Moray, Chamber of Commerce; Tony Hume, Community Planning Association; Mike Byron, Farmers' Institute; and Pat Byrne, Island Watch Society.

Additional sailings planned

Ferry sailings between Long Harbour and Swartz Bay will be offered during the temporary closure of the Fulford Harbour terminal on February 27 and 28. The terminal will be closed following the 6 p.m. sailing from Swartz Bay and the 6:45 p.m. sailing from Fulford Harbour.

The Bowen Queen will depart Swartz Bay at 7:30 a.m. for Long Harbour, returning to Swartz Bay at 8:45 a.m. The Bowen Queen will again sail from Swartz Bay at 10 a.m., leaving Long Harbour at 11:15 a.m.

B.C. Ferries will also offer water taxi service between Swartz Bay and Fulford Harbour.

Regular vehicle service will resume with the 1:10 p.m. sailing from Swartz Bay on Tuesday.

Redirection service available despite changes—post office

Through hail, sleet, storm, etc., mail can be delivered — but not through a blank in a computer's memory.

At least, that is what Salt Spring resident Harry Warner has been told.

"Recently I discovered that Canada Post is rejecting letters with postal codes V0S 1E0 and V0S 1C0 and returning them with the message 'no such address'," Warner reported. Both postal codes were in use on Salt Spring before last year's switch to street addresses.

"I was told by Canada Post that I can not avail of their redirection service because the 'codes have been removed from the computer,'" he added.

But Ganges postmistress Lynda Traer said the codes are still in the computer and the redirection service is still available at \$19.50 plus GST for six months.

Only mail which is addressed to the old green box addresses and for which there is no forwarding address on file will be returned to the sender, Traer explained. All deliveries rely on civic address.

When addresses were changed last year, most rural routes received free forwarding of mail for four to six months. In some cases, Traer said this was extended even longer to cover Christmas, since postal staff recognized that some people only correspond at Christmas.

And some people don't receive their correspondence at all. When 1,000 mailboxes were removed from the Ganges post office, three pieces of old mail — one

postmarked 1981 — were unearthed.

Traer said she was not present when the old mail was discovered but speculated the three items may have been under the boxes, resting on the floor. The new boxes are sealed so mail cannot slide underneath, Traer said.

The three old letters were turned over to Canada Post's customer service department.

Sharon Boykovich of customer service said all three let-

ters were returned to the senders. Two of the addressees no longer live on Salt Spring.

One of the pieces of mail was returned to an A. Wermus of Edmonds, Washington, who re-addressed the 1981 letter and sent it back to Jon Korrison of Salt Spring, along with the letter from Canada Post explaining how the lost letter had been found.

Korrison still lives on Salt Spring although his address has changed since 1981.

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A passion for heritage drives search for special island places

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

In 1851, Anne Humphries' great-grandfather and a cousin both arrived in British Columbia. Robert Porter was 16, the cousin was 17 and, as Humphries describes it, both were "dirt poor." They only brought one possession to the new world: a Bible given to them by their family.

Apprenticed to the Hudson's Bay Company, the brothers gradually built a future.

Humphries' great-grandfather started as a farm worker and ended as a moderately prosperous land owner whose children were community leaders — an accomplishment which would have been nearly impossible in his native England.

It is this family history which fuels Humphries' passion for heritage. Behind the old documents, the clapboard farmhouses, the gnarled orchards and the journal entries, she sees individuals like her great-grandfather.

Through a series of ongoing and future projects, she hopes to encourage others to recognize and preserve the history of Salt Spring. "I feel our heritage belongs to everybody here."

She already works as a volunteer for the Salt Spring Island Archives. As a member of the Environmental Focus Group for the Official Community Plan review, she has chosen heritage preservation as her particular interest.

She is working with a few local artists to try to obtain sketches of notable heritage sites, such as Geoffrey Castle and Barry King did for their book, *Victoria Landmarks*. The book combines sketches with short histories of the particular building or location.

Humphries has taken that idea one step further by searching out historical photographs which show people or events related to the sketch. Eventually, she would like to see a book of heritage sites created for Salt Spring and has

approached Gulf Islands Secondary School students about the project.

One of her goals is to see a heritage advisory committee formed on Salt Spring. Such a committee could encourage heritage preservation, Humphries said.

She has already found a personal heritage project. On her Beaver Point property is a heritage orchard, planted 110 years ago after William Haumea pre-empted the land in 1885.

Land on Salt Spring was one of the viable options for poorer settlers, offering an excellent climate and being available for pre-emption at \$1.25 an acre compared to prices of \$200 to \$300 an acre for land near Victoria.

"Some of these people were desperate when they came to this island. They were dirt poor. They had nothing," Humphries observed. She sees preservation of their homes, their orchards and the land they cultivated as a way to enrich the lives of current residents on the island. "This stuff is very precious."

She has collected information about the land, including a copy of the original pre-emption which gave Haumea his farm. From her home, she can point out the cement foundations of a dock which the Haumea family used to ship fruit off the island.

With help from other residents, she has identified many of the varieties of fruit trees in her orchard. Among the strains of apples are the Baldwin, the Twenty Ounce Pippin, the Wealthy, the Rhode Island Green, the Northern Spy and the Winter Banana. Several of these varieties were developed during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Also identified were Clapps Favorite, Bartletts and Comice pear trees.

Humphries believes many residents have identified "special places" on the island which they would like to see preserved.

She sees Heritage Week, February 20-26, as a time to define heritage and reflect on preserving the past. "What we do now is really what matters. In the future, I don't want people to regret what is gone."

In a recent presentation to an Environmental Focus Group public meeting, she urged residents to take individual action to preserve the past.

"We've been told we have heritage so, let us keep it," she suggested. "Find your place of the heart and spirit — a tree, a forest, a building, a village, a wildflower, a meadow, an old rose, a garden, a hedge, an orchard — and determine to keep it for now and the future."



STANDING THE TEST OF TIME: Sara Humphries examines an old orchard ladder which was found on her family's Beaver Point property. The ladder is an estimated 70 years old.

Photo by Valorie Lennox



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16 respond to parents survey over school condom machines

If Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) students want condom machines in their school, they will have to do the political legwork themselves.

Summarizing scant response to a questionnaire sent to 660 GISS parents last spring, trustee Charles Hingston recently reiterated the school board's position that installation of condom machines should be "from the bottom up" and not imposed by the board.

Only 16 responses to the two-question form were received by the parents advisory council last May, reported Hingston. Ten of those responses were in favour of placing condom machines at the school.

GISS student council representative Caroline Dick attended the February 8 board meeting when Hingston distributed the questionnaire responses. She suggested the question should be posed to GISS students.

Parents in favour of having condom machines at school made comments such as: "Let's protect our children"; "Those who will or would use condoms will, so they should be available. Students who are not inclined at this time will ignore the issue"; "If it saves just one life - it is worth it. That life could just be your son or daughter"; "I think we as parents need to help prevent unwanted teenage pregnancies and the spread of diseases. Pretending that teenagers don't have sex is burying our head in the sand. Abstinence hasn't worked throughout history so it's unrealistic to think it will work now."

Those opposed to putting machines in the school said: "Easy availability ... might well persuade youngsters who have refrained, because of purchasing publicly until now, (to) change their minds"; "Condoms ... are a health issue not a school issue. An abstinence-based program is the

only 100 per cent safe answer"; "We feel having machines in the schools sends the wrong message. While we are liberal enough to know these practices go on with students, they should not be condoned by the school any more than drinking, smoking or drug use are"; "If students feel they are mature enough to engage in sexual activities, they should also be mature enough to purchase the needed protection from the drug-store where (it is) freely available."

The second question on the form asked if parents felt students received "sufficient instruction from the Learning for Living program?" Eight said "no," two said "yes" and six did not have enough information about the program to answer the question.

Sex education was one topic covered in the Learning for Living curriculum. The program has recently been modified and retitled Personal Planning.

New middle school to encourage parent involvement, says principal

Parents with children attending Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) in September should mark Wednesday, March 1 on their calendars.

An organizational meeting of the school's parents advisory council is set for that date, beginning at 7:15 p.m. in the former Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Bob Brownsword is the SIMS principal. He will give an overview of the school's development on Wednesday night, but he also wants to hear parents' perspective on the new institution, its operation and philosophy.

He told the Driftwood that research shows parents tend to "back away" from their children's education in the middle years. That pattern has changed in recent years on Salt Spring and Brownsword would like that change to continue.

Students with parents involved in their school are more likely to excel, he noted, and that involvement enriches the school.

"Parents should be involved in the governance of this school in a meaningful way," he said. Parents are

urged to serve on a variety of committees, and both parents and students will have designated office space at SIMS.

SIMS will accommodate 350 students from Salt Spring Island, with Outer Islands students wanting the school's French immersion program included in that number.

Brownsword said some parents have expressed concerns about the middle school being a "junior secondary" when Grade 6 students are not ready for big changes in their educational life. But SIMS is not a junior secondary at all, said Brownsword. It is an "upper elementary" school, tailored to meet the unique needs of Grade 6, 7 and 8 students.

As in elementary school, students will have one all-day teacher. When another teacher has been arranged to teach a specialized subject, the class will go as a group to another area of the school, if necessary.

Any concerns can be raised at next Wednesday's meeting, and in the meantime, Brownsword can be contacted during the day at 537-1159.

Ferry interrupts run to assist sailboat

A dismayed sailboat in Sansum Narrows Friday halted the Howe Sound Queen, which left its Vesuvius-Crofton run to assist the disabled boat.

But the sailor reported no help was required and was able to clear

away the broken gear and proceed under the boat's own power to Maple Bay. The ferry resumed its run once the sailboat was under way.

The incident occurred in high winds at approximately 12:45 p.m.

A Coast Guard auxiliary crew from Chemanius escorted the boat to Maple Bay. Ganges Coast Guard had been called out but stood down once it was clear there was no emergency, officer in charge Dave Howell reported.

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Builder mounts lawsuit against inspection office

Island carpenter Chester Ludlow has given notice of his intent to sue the local building inspection office.

Ludlow is fighting the process of inspection that took place at the Old Scott Road home of Gina Quijano, where \$27,000 worth of his windows and doors were rejected.

Separate litigation with Quijano, who is seeking restitution for payment of the rejected material, will likely be settled out of court.

In suing the building inspection office, Ludlow claims Capital Regional District building inspector Dick Stubbs "over-stepped his legal position" by "adjudicating blame" for the deficiencies rather than asking that the deficiencies be corrected.

Ludlow concedes there were several physical deficiencies to the windows and doors he installed at Quijano's home. He says he agreed to rectify all necessary problems, but was told by Stubbs to discontinue correcting the problems until he had in hand recent Canadian Standards Association (CSA) window and door specifications.

According to Ludlow, Stubbs said he would be enforcing those specifications, which include the need for use of a phenol wood preservative and a half-inch air space (rather than the previous 5/16 inch air space) in all thermal panes.

Ludlow says the phenol wood preservative is toxic — "it's basically putting the lead back in paint" — and he would not have taken on the project had he known "poisonous material" was involved.

Stubbs told the Driftwood that because of the pending litigation he cannot comment on the case.

According to CSA window and door speci-

fications, the use of phenol wood preserver is a building code requirement. However, various responses to Ludlow's allegations regarding the thermal air space requirement leave this aspect of his argument in question.

Provincial building standards officer Watson Smith says he cannot think of any inspection officer in the province who would measure the thickness of the thermal air space and rule against it.

Ludlow claims the Capital Regional District building inspector "over-stepped his legal position".

He was unable to say what the actual size specification is and, in researching building code specifications, the Driftwood was also unable to determine the required size. The code does, however, specify the need for a thermal break.

Ludlow says that B.C. Door and Nanaimo's Walker Door and Window have been installing windows with the 5/16-inch thermal air space all over the province.

A spokesman at Walker Door and Window told the Driftwood the company does install some wood windows with a quarter-inch thermal air space. He said it "used to have a lot of trouble with these wood windows" before it sent them to the Canadian Standards Association and obtained a CSA stamp.

Van Isle Windows in Victoria, however,

does not install any new windows with thermal air space less than half an inch. A spokesman there said he has not seen a pre-manufactured window with less than a half-inch air space for five years.

Watson was very clear on one question: he said neither the thermal air space requirement nor the wood preservative guidelines have changed since 1992.

Ludlow, however, takes Stubbs' position as a "personal misrepresentation of the law." He says his lawyer has a CSA paper which indicates the window specifications changed in 1994. The Driftwood was still waiting to obtain that paper at press-time.

Ludlow says he signed a contract with Quijano in February 1994 based on a set of blueprints dated November 1993.

"That's the job I bid on. Why am I being held responsible for changes made after that date?"

The building inspection office does not involve itself in owner/contractor contracts, and although Stubbs would not comment specifically on this case, he said it is generally the manufacturer's responsibility to keep up with code changes.

Ludlow has suffered personal loss due to the window situation. Not only does he have in excess of \$25,000 worth of unusable windows (installation of used windows in a new building is contrary to the building code), he is basically unemployable on Salt Spring. His business, which was once taking four to five calls a week, he says, has received no new customers since June. He has had to sell all his equipment to finance his legal action.

rural areas such as the islands. He is a member of a Galiano Island committee currently working on a pilot project to eliminate some aspects of the building code. (See related story.)

Ludlow says his "real issue with the CRD is its creation of an elitist society where no one can afford to build a house. Its ability to inflate construction values (by increasing necessary standards) is serving its own interest."

Permit fees are calculated on a percentage of construction cost based on \$60 per square foot on the lower level and \$30 on an upper level. The fees represent 50 to 60 per cent of the cost of providing inspection service, Stubbs says: the additional amount is covered by taxpayer funds.

Stubbs agrees the building code has gone beyond the minimum level of addressing safety and health concerns, looking now at liability and environmental issues as well.

He notes, however, it is the provincial government which sets the code regulations, and the dis-

BUILDER:

From Page A1

tricts and municipalities which collect the fees.

Ludlow's complaints against the code further state that it contravenes the Charter of Rights by not allowing home builders freedom of expression. The code, he feels, inhibits a builder's creativity. And he is really angry about the inspection office's use of waivers of indemnity.

Each person who applies for a building permit signs a waiver which frees the inspector from liability

Ludlow believes inspectors should have to stand by their inspections, and claims the following scenario could result: a home builder might sue a contractor for shoddy work; the contractor could waive responsibility, saying the work passed inspection, and the inspector could produce his waiver and also sidestep responsibility. This would leave the home builder without a legal avenue to restitution.

Stubbs says: "We will not be responsible for things we are not responsible for. If I am negligent,

then I'm responsible. But if you decide after an inspection to take all the vapour barrier out, for example, there is nothing we can do about it."

Stubbs says a court would look beyond waivers and finger pointing and determine who is negligent. "A contractor is still responsible, unless the negligence was on our part."

But for Ludlow, the fight against the code is all-consuming. He spends hours reading through documents and conferring with his lawyer. He is looking at it from every angle imaginable, and has yet found little good to say about it.

MILES WILSON
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Go back, go back!

Fulford Harbour's Bruce Patterson tries unsuccessfully to halt arriving ferry traffic Monday morning. But the Fulford businessman was really just trying to illustrate the need for planning in the south-end community. He wants to encourage Fulford residents to attend next Tuesday's Fulford village focus group meeting at 7 p.m. at Fulford Hall. Photo by Tony Richards

Rainfall levels not above normal

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

There's no need to break out the tools and start building an ark. The heavy rainfall of the past week is not unusual, according to the Victoria weather office.

But a record was set Saturday, when 48.2 mm dropped from the sky. That was the highest recorded rainfall on that date since the weather office began keeping records in 1941.

But that total didn't touch the highest recorded rainfall for a single day in February, 55.9 mm in 1949, or the highest recorded rainfall for any day, 92.8 mm on January 18, 1986.

"We're not outside the range of normal," said Mike Newman, weather service specialist for Environment Canada. Until last Saturday's downpour, the rainfall in February was below normal levels, Newman added.

As of Friday, 49.8 mm of rain had fallen, compared to a normal of 61.4 mm. Rain from Saturday onward pushed the total for February to 109 mm as of Monday, compared to a normal rainfall for the same period of 68.9 mm.

But the rest of the winter has not been especially wet, Newman pointed out. November's rainfall was 119 mm, lower than the normal rainfall of 139.2 mm.

In December, the total was higher than normal at 242.2 mm. But the month was relatively dry until Christmas, Newman said. "We picked up most of our precipitation in three days."

A normal rainfall for December is 151 mm.

In January, rainfall reached 107.6 mm, down from the normal of 141.1 mm.

The current flood of rain is fuelled by warm, moist winds from Hawaii, a condition which Newman said is sometimes called "the pineapple pipeline."

Snow postpones meet on parks, recreation facilities

Sliding down hills in their cars is not considered recreation by Salt Spring Islanders.

So a sudden snowstorm on Valentine's Day led to cancellation of an Official Community Plan workshop on park land and recreation facilities.

The workshop has been resched-

uled to March 7, when it will be held in the Anglican Centre at Ganges from 7 to 10 p.m.

Coming up next Tuesday is a workshop on Fulford village. This meeting will be held at Fulford Hall from 7 to 10 p.m.

All those interested in the future of Fulford are invited to attend.

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803	12:15pm	Airport	Ganges	12:40pm	direct
804	12:45pm	Ganges	Airport	1:10pm	direct
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406	9:30-10:00am	Saturday Islands	Vanc.	10:00-10:30am
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Closer to home

Penny wise and pound foolish.

That's the only way to characterize the provincial government's under-funding of services which allow seniors or the disabled to remain in their own homes.

Lack of funding forced the Capital Regional District (CRD) to cut off home support services to a number of Gulf Island seniors this month.

Government, it seems, has been happy to take the savings arising out of its closer-to-home health policy, aimed at keeping people out of expensive hospital and institutional beds.

But government has been less quick to adequately fund the services which make such a policy feasible for many of our community's chronically ill, disabled or frail elderly residents.

It is not surprising that demand for home support has been increasing. The population is aging, more so in the Capital Regional District than anywhere else in Canada.

Potential patients are being encouraged to stay in their homes for as long as possible — and in some cases, beyond that point.

In making the cuts, the CRD understandably chose to eliminate housekeeping services instead of reducing service to terminally ill clients. But for many, help with housekeeping is not a luxury.

It is essential support which allows them to maintain a healthy environment and stay in their homes, even if they are no longer able to push a vacuum cleaner, make beds or scrub dishes.

What is not spent now to keep these people living independently in their homes will be expended many times over in institutionalization once that independence is lost. So even if the dollar is the only measure used, inadequate funding for home support is a shortsighted policy.

But there is another measure which should also be used and that is compassion.

Quality of life is immeasurably better for those who age in their homes instead of in institutions. A regular helping hand can make the difference between the two options.

Clearly, home support is one area where the most compassionate response is also the most fiscally responsible.

Adequate funding is the only reasonable choice.

Protecting the victim

Conclusions drawn by some readers in the wake of a story that came out of provincial court two weeks ago were wrong. But they did provide some impetus to this newspaper's editorial board to address the issue of how we deal with what is known as "re-victimization."

Last week a correspondent charged that there was "a callous disregard for the truth" in a story that reported the conviction of a man for spousal abuse. It was also claimed that story attempted to minimize the severity of the crime. In fact, the reporter was merely covering the story as any other court story is covered.

She reported the essentials of the evidence presented in the courtroom, comments by the judge and details of the case's disposition. Case closed; end of story.

Unfortunately, that was not the end as far as the victim was concerned. Rightly or wrongly, she felt maligned by the story. It is not the intent of reporter, editor or newspaper to utilize the news columns to further any particular agenda of their own. Nor is it our intention to portray victims or perpetrators in any particular fashion.

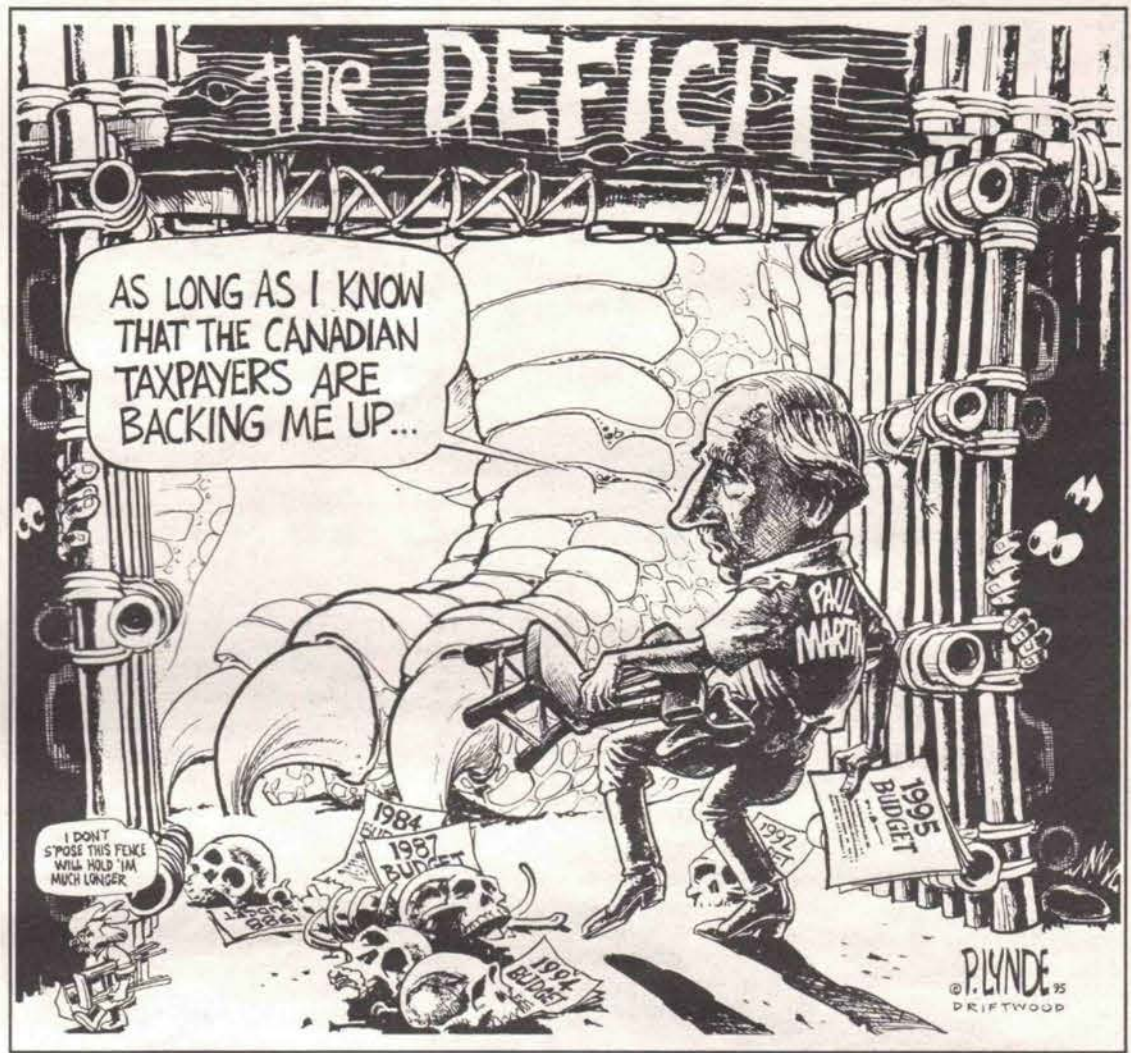
A newspaper's role is to report the truth, as unpleasant and as distasteful as it may be. And there are few local cases that fit those descriptions so well as those of spousal abuse.

Some recognition of the victim's renewed suffering brought on by the publicity generated through news reports has ushered in one recent change. Where victims wished it, court reports of spousal abuse cases contained no reference to the victim's name, or that of the accused if doing so revealed the victim's identity.

But it was left to the victim to request it. In future, where a spousal abuse case goes to trial, the victim will be consulted about revealing his or her identity.

Also considered by the editorial board was a policy that would see names automatically withheld in such cases. But we believe the serious nature of this type of crime warrants widespread publicity. And the identification of those involved serves to strengthen the story's impact.

The measure of that impact will be the manner in which our society treats such abominable behaviour in the future.



The weather getting you down? Try using laughter as a tonic

Research clearly indicates the value of introducing humour into our lives as a personal therapy technique. A friend of mine who was going through a difficult marriage separation told me that in order to help keep things in perspective and to improve the mood in her home, she bought joke books and took turns reading them at dinner with her children until everyone was laughing uproariously. The family's tension was eased and they began to smile again.

Another woman told me how during a stressful period she made an agreement with her secretary that every Wednesday morning each of them would do something funny or outrageous. Wednesday mornings were eagerly anticipated and on the Wednesday of her 40th birthday, she arrived at work to be greeted by the entire staff dressed in black. She laughed so hard she cried. Mourning 40 was a cinch!

In our culture, there is a prevalent attitude that humour is inappropriate, particularly in the midst of serious situations. If a person is facing an overwhelming crisis, the last thing we think we should do is to share something funny. Perhaps we think it would be disrespectful.

But real humour is releasing. It allows us to get close to others in a sensitive and compassionate way. We break through the barriers of fear and anxiety which distance us and, for a brief moment, communicate a special bond in laughing at life. It is possible to be playful and serious at the same time. Perhaps it is the ideal mental state.

Physiologically, we are unable to maintain muscle tension while laughing. Clinical studies show that laughter releases endorphins into our bodies which relax us and relieve pain. It is difficult to be angry, frustrated and uptight and laugh at the same time. Laughter is related to spontaneity. It seems, then, a paradox to look for it in our



**VIEW
POINT**
BY BARBARA
JORDAN-KNOX

lives and to try to wilfully create it. Experience says, however, that the more we laugh the more laughter will become natural to us.

Laughter may be an instinctive built-in mechanism to handle stress. Studies of children to age five show that they laugh 200-500 times a day, and yet, we tell our children to grow up and get serious. By the time we are adults, many of us have lost touch with our sense of humour. In fact, laughter can take the sting out of our most embarrassing moments and turn them into hilarious stories which we tell for years.

In relationships, sharing laughter is vitally healthy. If you can laugh together, although you may not be able to remove your problems, your

approach to them will be lighter in spirit. A businessman who had been happily married for 40 years came home from a trip with a bruise on his arm.

He flogged this for several days in front of his wife until she finally asked, "All right, where did you get the bruise?" He responded, "That was the brunette in Toronto. She bit me in a moment of wild passion."

His wife looked him straight in the eye and said, "You mean at your age you got one with teeth?" Couples who can tease and joke with each other in a way that is not barbed or hurtful benefit tremendously from this skill. Laughter's power to reduce tension is amazing.

In my family, we start the day with a ritual. We read The Far Side cartoon calendar and a quote from 365 Stupidest Things Ever Said and laugh together.

A wise person once ventured, "We don't laugh because we are happy, we are happy because we laugh." It's worth thinking about!

The writer operates a counselling service on Salt Spring, and enjoys a good laugh.

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SALT SPRING SAYS

We Asked: *Under what circumstances should home support be provided?*



Brian Barrett

I think it's very important and I don't think it should be cut. The government should look at ... other places to cut money.



Josh Schwartzentruber

If people are in need, and people need jobs, let's get it together.



Colleen Skelcher

(For) elderly people — anyone who needs the support of whatever age.



Lisa Unrau

I think it's totally important — to the extent that people who have some measure of independence can keep it up.



Marcus Saunders

If there's a real need — anyone that has a real need should be supported.

Letters to the editor

Serious matter

Surely Jeremy Moray's "letter from 2026" is not an attempt to ridicule far-reaching ideas about the future of Salt Spring Island (Viewpoint, February 1) and does not reflect the viewpoint of the Chamber of Commerce as a whole.

I would like to think that the chamber would want to play a more positive role in the discussions that lie ahead and that it would understand that negativism of the indirect sort expressed by Moray, even humourously, does nothing to advance substantial approaches to serious questions about our future lifestyles and our remaining alternatives.

It seems fairly clear that the status quo is unsustainable and that a great deal of sensitive planning must soon take place. Perhaps more importantly for an island population. Such planning, tangible and visionary, can and should take place, even with touches of well-intentioned humour and grace. As someone once said, "Well-planned events frequently succeed; unplanned events frequently fail."

LOWELL HICKS,
Don Ore Road

Lacto-Dollar is coming

Jeremy Moray is of course right when he says that sheep's milk will be the common currency of the island in the year 2026. Those of us with our fingers on the pulse (so to speak) confidently expect the Salt Spring Lacto-Dollar to be adopted early in the next century.

But I am afraid that he seriously overestimates the extent of udder inflation. Twenty-eight gallons to cover an armchair is nothing short of daylight robbery. Even teachers will only be getting 15 gallons a week by that time.

It may simply be that Jeremy has never milked a sheep and does not know that in the world of sheep dairying we stress quality over quantity. My advice to him is, if he wants to have 28 gallons by the year 2026, he should start soon.

DAVID WOOD,
Weston Creek Farm,
Reynolds Road

Preserve Jedediah

Jedediah Island between Lasqueti and Texada islands has been offered to the provincial government as a park for \$4.2 million. Its 243 hectares have been evaluated at \$6.5 million. Al and Mary Palmer, who have lived on the island for 43 years, would like the island to become a park and are willing to take the much lower amount to see this happen. They have been offered as much as \$14 million by American interests. The provincial government has promised \$2.6 million, the estate of the late Daniel Culver \$1.1 million. The \$500,000 remaining needed to be donated.

A news broadcast on February 7 said that a substantial part of that sum was still needed before the end of February. This is a chance for ordinary B.C. citizens to help preserve part of our province which has been described as having sandy beaches, meadow areas, old-growth Douglas fir and extensive forested areas.

It sounds like a deal to me. If everyone who could afford to donate would give a little the total would be reached. Cheques can be made out to the Jedediah Island Purchase Trust Fund and addressed to: Attention Karen Williams, B.C. Parks, Second Floor, 800 Johnson Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4.

AUDREY WILD,
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Are our forests going way of cod fishery?

VICTORIA — Future generations will look back on this decade as the time British Columbia saved its forests or destroyed them.

From all indicators, we have only a few years left during which we can place our forests on a sustainable basis. If we botch the job, our forests will go the way of the Grand Bank cod fishery.

Nowhere is the debate over sustainable forests more evident and lively than among professional foresters. Once perceived to be merely a tool in the hands of

government and industry, the Association of British Columbia Professional Foresters is flexing its muscle as an independent arbiter in the heated battle over the use of the province's greatest resource.

The last five issues of Forum, the association's bi-monthly newsletter, have addressed the question of sustainable development. The association invited contributions from its members as well as from outsiders on how to achieve sustainable development, and the response has been extraordinary.

The latest issue again features several articles on sustainable development, and while the authors may disagree on how to achieve that goal, most agree that achieve it we must.

Brian Evans is completing his masters degree in resource and environmental management at Simon Fraser University. He foresees a decline in the influence of large forest companies. And that, he argues, will lead towards better stewardship of our forests.

"Forests grow slowly, and shareholder-driven institutions, which look too closely to profit-making as their motive, will quickly conclude that forests are poor investments," Evans says.

"The creation of a diversity of smaller-scale tenures such as woodlots and community forests will allow a lot more people to apply their sweat, skill and ethics to the land. New arrangements are needed to encourage people to develop a sense of place, to manage forests with a little less economic rationality and with a bit more care and compassion."

Herb Hammond is a forest ecologist with 20 years' experience. He has worked as an industry forester and consultant to First Nations and rural communities. He is an advocate of "ecosystem-based management."

In a broad sense, that means basing extraction of resources on the ability of the forest to continue functioning as an ecosystem rather than for society's needs.

"Rather than trying to sustain development, the time has come to sustain ecosystems. In doing so, we recognize that our society is a subset of an ecosystem and our economy a subset of our society. In other words, the forest sustains us, we do not sustain the forest," Hammond says.

Gordon Murray has spent his entire career as a professional forester either as an employee or as a consultant on behalf of the forest industry. He admits that at the end of the day, his paycheque depends on his ability to assist his employers acquire timber to run their mills. His views, as he himself admits, are more industry-oriented.

Murray doesn't believe that government is able to make intelligent land-use decisions. Nor does he consider consensus to be a realistic goal. In fact, he argues, there is no way of telling what society really wants.

"We must have a process to determine for sure that sustainable development is something society really wants. My experience has been that we usually hear only from those who shout the loudest," he says.

Al Chambers is a professional forester and ecologist who became convinced years ago that the problems which plague resource managers originate in society rather than in natural systems.

Chambers points to two widely-held perceptions, one that we are exploiting our resources at a rate that cannot be sustained in the long term, and two, that the benefits derived from resource management aren't fairly distributed.

"Even the most skeptical among us are forced to admit that there is evidence that supports these perceptions. Witness the decline of privately-owned agricultural soil in Canada, for example, or the unthinkable demise of the Grand Bank cod fishery."

Chambers says the problems in the way of sustainable development of our resources are unlikely to be solved by conventional tools of science and government. Instead, he says, we need new structures that can be used to increase the influences of self-regulation.

Three things are needed to achieve sustainable development, says Chambers: The capacity of individuals and groups to innovate and nurture must be released, our inclination to over-exploit must be controlled, and the overwhelming costs associated with control by central authority must be reduced.

The debate over whether or not we will have "forests forever" will undoubtedly continue. Future generations depend on the outcome of that debate.

CAPITAL COMMENT HUBERT BEYER



More letters

Funding shortfall means opportunity

You have provided your community with a great service when you point to the skills of its inhabitants as an untapped resource (Driftwood editorial, February 8). To some degree the shortage of money for educational programs actually provides fertile ground for richer communities.

Did you ever marvel at the progressive consequences of shortage? The worldwide focus on energy conservation was spawned by the oil crisis of the '70s. The advent of recycling programs was in part the result of a shortage of natural resources and landfill sites.

Globally shortages have raised our appreciation for what we have, causing a needed change in our thinking. The budget shortfall for local schools brings with it a similar opportunity.

What we often fail to see, and what your editorial comment pointed to, is that the utilization of our own human resources — our skills, our interests and enthusiasms — can actually build better communities, enhance educational experiences and improve our local economies in the process.

Working with Salt Spring resident Randy Hooper on the Bamberton project, I have seen the enormous power of community databases at work. Sorting the directory of the Bamberton Business Network by topic of interest created instant communities of common interest.

Using this experience I have created a Parent and Community Directory for Oak Bay High. It contains the skills, interests and enthusiasms of 189 people. There are over 450 entries grouped under arts, business, construction, education, government, leisure, life skills, community services, sports. Teachers and students find experts in every imaginable area, whether to build new lab equipment, give

career advice, offer computer assistance or help at a multicultural fair.

The great benefit of this approach goes far beyond the limited arena of "education." It builds community by building interconnectivity — the very glue of community. When we know each other better our local economy works better, we keep more money in our own neighbourhood, and we enrich our own life's experience in the process. In fact we build more sustainable communities.

So Salt Spring, go for it!
ROGER COLWILL,
Victoria

They took cuts

The unfair treatment of our poorest school board employees to make up for budget mistakes that were not their fault reminds me of a similar financial crisis at the University of Southern California when I was a young girl.

My father, Dr. Clayton Carus, was a professor at that university for most of his adult life, and he was instrumental in forming the USC professors' union in the 1930s. When constraints were necessary during the Depression, the professors voted to accept salary cuts in order to prevent job losses.

What a caring action for them to take, eh?

VIRGINIA NEWMAN,
Quebec Drive

Trails preserve rural quality

We are writing to support the adoption by the Islands Trust of proposed bylaw 337 regarding the establishment of an island-wide trail system. Opponents to a similar proposed Trust bylaw in August were concerned about noise, vandalism, litter and fire. However, most hikers are quiet,

well-behaved people who have no interest in vandalizing the property of others and who are very careful not to cause fire.

Most of our existing trails on Salt Spring are maintained by the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club to ensure that they are safe for hikers of all ages and most abilities. Those of us who hike these trails will attest to the fact that they are practically litter-free.

Some people incorrectly believe that the proposed bylaw will allow trails to be put through their property against their wishes. It is important for these people to realize that this is not possible. They bylaw only allows the Trust to negotiate for trails when land is being subdivided for development in the future. This is how many of our current trails have been acquired. Contrary to lowering property values, the proximity of a property to a trail network actually raises the property's value. This is because easily accessed trails are seen as a real asset to most home buyers.

A trails system was second on the list of things islanders indicated that they most wanted in the last Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation survey. We believe that trails are an excellent way of preserving the rural quality of Salt Spring.

We hope that your readers will agree with us and will send a letter of support for the proposed bylaw to the Islands Trust.

JUDY NORGET,
CHARLES KAHN,
Lawnhill Drive.

Thanks to Hydro

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Treeco to fight \$1.7 million suit by Victoria roadbuilding firm

The Victoria construction firm that built the roads in a residential development on Galiano Island is suing the developer for \$1.7 million in allegedly unpaid bills.

JJM Construction is taking Treeco Developments Ltd. to court for what it says is the balance owing for roadwork in the new Bodega Beach Vineyards subdivision.

However, Treeco's lawyer claims the construction company's billing exceeds by more than \$1 million the original estimates of the cost of the work. Treeco will "vigorously defend" against the claim by JJM Construction, said Gordon Elliott of Thompson & Elliott of Vancouver.

Meanwhile, claims that the development's roadwork exceeded Ministry of Highways standards have been refuted by an engineering firm that has worked

on the project.

In a letter to a newspaper on Pender Island, Wright Parry Engineering Ltd. said the roads were "designed and installed according to the current requirements of the Ministry of Transportation and Highways.

"It would be completely irresponsible for an engineering company to over-design a project and financially stupid for a developer to build it," said company president R.D. Wright.

He also referred to a story in the February 9 issue of the Island Tides which contained "an underlying suggestion that the project was in financial difficulty" because his firm had placed builder's liens on it. Wright pointed out that it was common practice to do so.

Treeco Developments, he said, has met all its financial commitments to the engineering firm.

More letters

Those industrious Anglicans

At a recent celebratory feast, members of the United Church, Ganges, lamented that in the time it had taken them to decide what colour to paint their church, the Anglican Parish had been able to build a new one.

It seems appropriate, therefore, to advise the community of Salt Spring Island that the United Church has adopted a summer project (among others): to choose a new colour for a new United Church T-shirt.

MARY C. WILLIAMSON,
Project Committee

Cutting the cord

"Be brave," my wife said as I paced the room, "pick up the phone, call the cable company — I have the number right here — give them the address, and just say, 'Please discontinue the service.'" She put her hand on my shoulder, and looked into my eyes. "Go ahead. You can do it."

I collapsed on a chair, buried my head in my hands and rocked back and forth. "But it's so final," I wailed, raising my head to look at the cable wire connected to our 1984 top-of-the-line 12-inch TV. "It's like —"

"An umbilical cord?" she prompted.

"Yes yes! No more MuchMusic! I was just getting used to King Tut and the Mummies. And Vision! How will we get uplifted? And the 1935 classic movies with Adolphe Menjou and Deanna Durbin! Without those channels my life will be a shallow hell!"

"Now look," she said, "you've got to go through with it. Didn't you drag out that old antenna and nearly kill yourself putting it on the roof? Didn't you find out that we can still get CBC and a couple of others?"

"But I won't be able to channel-surf with just those. It's no use — I can't face it."

Your letters are welcome

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 300 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name.

Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. We encourage those of you with computers and modems to write to us care of Raven Net.

Her gaze became steely. "Are you a man or a mouse? You've been beating my ear for the last month about if we get desperate a dish can get a gazillion channels and pay for itself in four years, and we can already get a little dish for the price of cable, and the Death Star will soon be here anyway. Now pick up that phone, or it's tofu morning noon and night from now on!"

I shuddered, and obeyed.

The life line has been broken for a month now. To ease ourselves out of our dependence on sex 'n violence shows we loaded the dryer with bright colours and popcorn and watched it for an hour a day. We're strong enough now to give that up too. We've dusted off the radio. My eyeballs have gone back in. When I think of the CRTC I don't grind my teeth as much. I joined the library. My tic has gone.

Things are looking up.
ANDREW GIBSON,
Rainbow Road

Multi-level marketing

Your voluminous feature about multi-level marketing (Driftwood, February 15) hit true in many aspects. The problem is the people that will get the most excited are the ones that will miss the most important facts.

Multi-level marketing, network marketing, direct marketing are all cut from the same cloth as pyramid sales. They are legitimized by a "product."

Direct marketing was successfully practised by Avon, Tupperware and other familiar companies. It provided personal contact with the

buyer and avoided the normal wholesale distribution chain and supposedly passed the savings on to the seller for spending so much time on low volume sales.

Network marketing is the old encyclopedia and vacuum cleaner sales game. Take a down-and-out, hype him on potential riches and send him out to "practise" his orchestrated pitch on friends and relatives and he will come back with a decent ratio of sales to calls. Of course when he runs out of contacts who trust him and has to venture into the real world of sales, total strangers, he usually falls down.

Pyramid sales which are illegal, is really selling a dream. They are illegal because only those that are near the top get rich. As the pyramid grows it is fuelled by the desperate attempt by participants to recruit new investors beneath them in order to recoup their investment and profit. Eventually the hype washes out and an exponential number of people lose their shirts.

Put them all together and you have multi-level marketing. All sleazy and all based on big-time riches for little-time work. If the "product" is so good, open a store, buy the stock and let the consumers judge the merits for themselves without all the hype.

Yes, I am qualified to comment. I have sold everything from can openers and vacuum cleaners to million-dollar computer systems. I have also owned, operated and managed retail stores and service companies. Been there, done that!

Don't get taken in by get-rich-quick schemes. There is no substitute for hard work, integrity, customer service and quality products.
JOHN CADE,
Ganges



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One stop before the middle of nowhere

Reporter finds islanders in Guatemala

By GRAEME THOMPSON
Driftwood Staff

Chacula isn't listed on any Guatemalan map. But if you were to take a bus leading away from La Democracia — the irony doesn't get any better — along an equally uncharted series of pot-holes thought of as a road and you were to get off one stop before the middle of nowhere, you'd be in Chacula.

Chacula, also known as Nueva Esperanza (New Hope), is new-looking because it is. This community in the far northwestern corner of Guatemala is only 13 months old. In December 1993, the 200 home sites which make up Chacula were pine-clad like the surrounding hills.

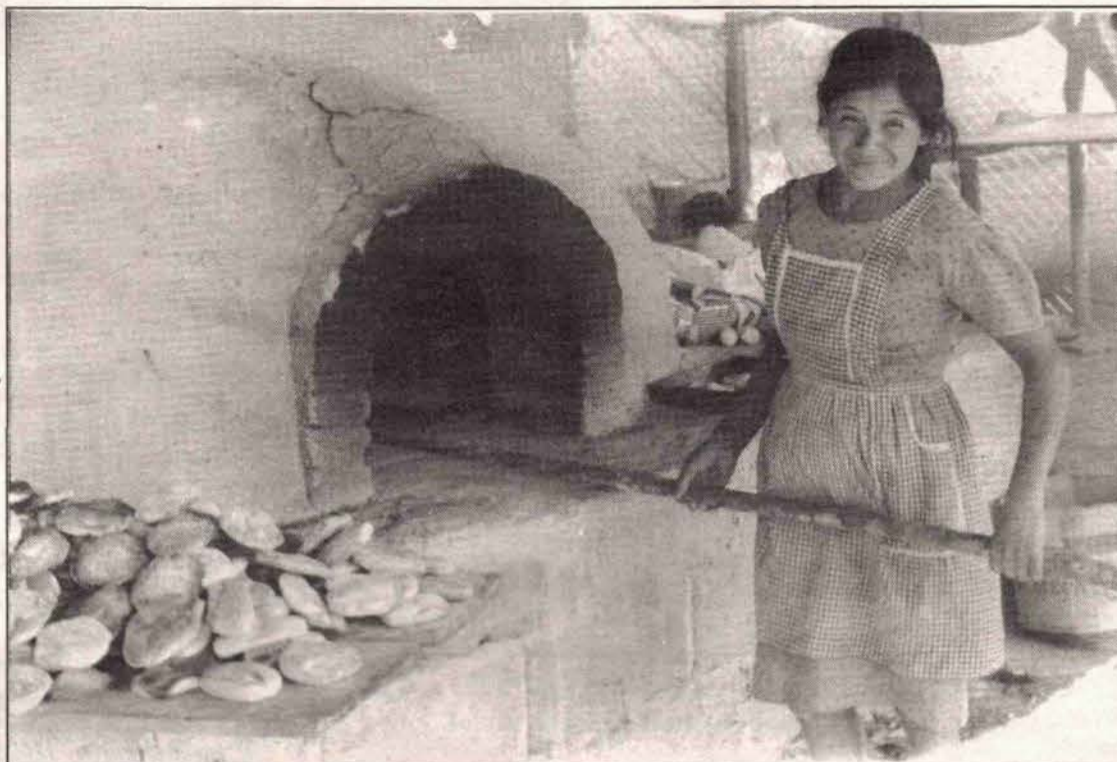
Now, some thousand people — Guatemalans who lived in forced exile in Mexico for more than 12 years — have cut down the forest, built temporary homes, schools, health posts and a soccer field and are carving out a living like true homesteaders.

Salt Spring Islanders Bill and Linda Brierly have been living in this remote settlement for a month through their involvement with Project Accompaniment. Last Monday, this reporter climbed out of a bus packed with people going on to the middle of nowhere to greet the Brierlys in their community of New Hope.

Life at the settlement was "pretty much" what Linda Brierly expected. In fact, the living conditions were better. Their house, though made of aluminum and plastic and furnished simply, is comfortable. They have their own latrine and solar-powered shower. There are no mosquitoes.

They take part in community life as they like: Bill plays with the constant stream of curious children and tends a small garden; Linda goes once a week to the communal garden with the women and takes a children's activity hour some afternoons while the usual instructor is away. Accompaniers do not have to take any more active role — indeed in some cases, like domestic disputes, they are expressly told not to get involved.

"We are just required to be here, to make our presence known," Bill Brierly explained. "It's like house



STAFF OF LIFE: This Guatemalan woman in Chacula runs the community-owned bakery. But only one kind of sweet bread, halfway between a tortilla and a bun, is baked in the large oven.

Photo by Graeme Thompson

insurance. You don't want it but you have to have it just in case."

Linda Brierly said life in this particular community, which is not in a government-declared conflict zone, is so quiet she sometimes wonders whether they need to be there at all.

Then they run across someone they have not met before who says, "Are you staying with us? Gracias a dios. When did you come? How long will you stay? Thanks be to God.

"Will someone come when you go? Gracias a dios."

The Brierlys have had to adjust their ways of looking at the world while in Guatemala, though they are seasoned Central American travellers. Bill Brierly said he is "action-oriented"

and finds the snail's pace of the returning refugee process frustrating and angering to watch. Some 100,000 Guatemalans live in exile in Mexico and only 12,000 have returned home since an October 1992 accord was signed with the government. Another one or two million internal refugees have been virtually ignored.

"I've adapted to the situation," Brierly said, "but I've not adopted it."

But any frustration at the obstacles their new-found friends have had and continue to have is tempered by the attitudes they have brought to their new community.

They are generous, in spite of

their poverty: after a rain, a neighbour brought them dry kindling; firewood is often dropped off by people they don't know; everyone asks them how they are.

"It's an incredible honour to spend a few weeks with them ... an incredible honour," Linda Brierly said. "There is a real conscientious community here, a real effort at unity.

"The sheer guts of the people to organize, to return to a place they fled, to continue pursuing health, education, housing and food needs and arguing with the government for better conditions.

"These people in spite of the odds, haven't given up. They've risen above their circumstances, through this horrendous experience they have had, and the oppression."

These attitudes the Brierlys found and admired, born of 12 years in refugee camps, may explain why this small community, carved out of the forest just one stop before the middle of nowhere, was christened New Hope. They have it in abundance.

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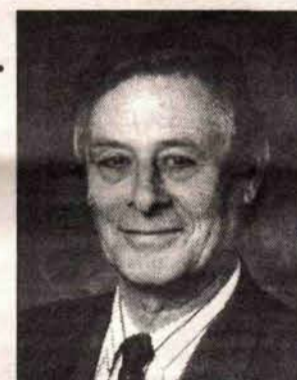
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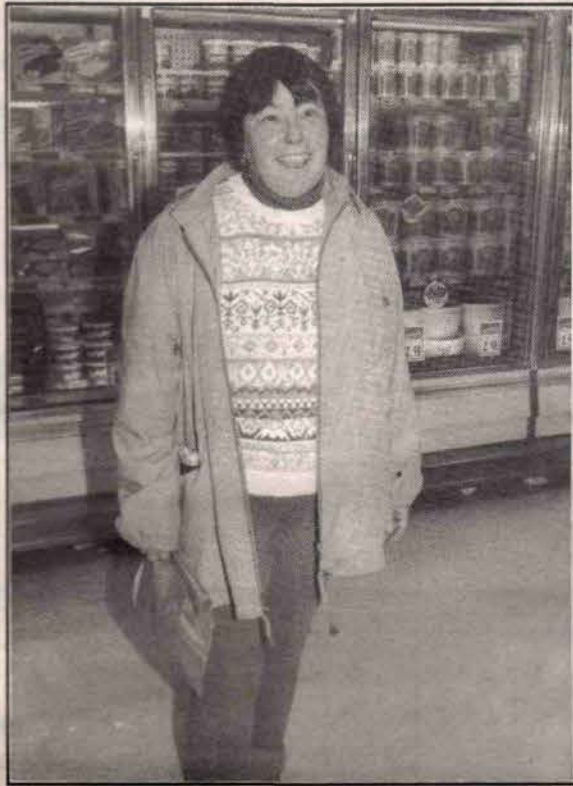
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THRIFTY'S OWN, 3 VAR.
Calzone Pizza Pocket Singles **2²⁸** ea.

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Classic Rice 170-180 g. **1²⁸**

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CANADIAN QUALITY, RANDOM CUT
Feta Cheese Tomato Basil or Tomato Garlic **1³⁸** 100 g.

THRIFTY'S OWN
Gourmet Chili **68¢** 100 g.

BAKERS
Chocolate Chips 225-300 g. **1⁴⁸**

UNCLE BEN'S
Pasta & Sauce 130-152 g. **1²⁸**

KRAFT, F...
Cheese Slices

CUDDY FARMS, SLICED
Turkey Salami or Kielbassa **88¢** 100 g.

CRIXY
Rice Cakes 185 g. **98¢**

McCAIN
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NATURE'S...
Granola Bars

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Danish Blue Cheese Random Cut **1³⁸** 100 g.

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KELLOGGS
Froot Loops 425 g. **3²⁸**

WELCH'S
Prune Nectar 1.14 l. **2⁷⁸**

ALL VARI...
Fruit Roll-Ups

CHRISTIE
Chips Ahoy, Oreo or Fudgee-O 600 g. **2⁶⁸**

ROYAL CITY
Vegetables 341-398 ml. **88¢**

PLANTER...
Peanut Nuts

OLAFSON'S, HERB
Focaccia Bread **1⁹⁸** ea.

GENERAL MILLS
Oatmeal or Nuts About Raisins 400-425 g. **2¹⁸**

MAXWELL HOUSE
Instant Coffee 150-200 g. **6³⁸**

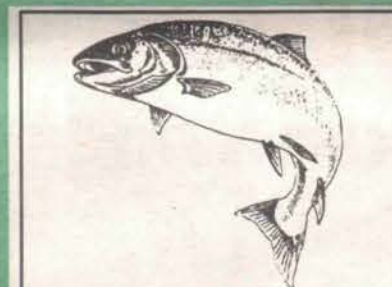
PLANTER...
Mixed Nuts

ROBIN HOOD
Flour 10 lb. **6³⁸**

MAXWELL HOUSE
Ground Coffee 300 g. **3³⁸**

CATEL...
Pasta Sauce

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NABISCO & HILLSBOROUGH
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THRIFTY
Pineapple 540 ml. **68¢**

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POLAR SEAS
BBQ Salmon Tips Ready to eat! **88¢** 100 g.

BONELESS & SKINLESS
Halibut Fillets Thawed for your convenience **1⁷⁸** 100 g.

POST
Bran Flakes 400 g. **1⁸⁸**

MONEY'S, WHOLE OR SLICED
Mushrooms 284 ml. **88¢**

GRISSI...
Melba Toast

WEST COAST
Fresh Cooked Shrimp Meat Hand Peeled **2⁵⁸** 100 g.

QUAKER
Oats 900 g. & 1 Kg. **1⁸⁸**

HEAD 'N SHOULDERS
Hair Shampoo 250-350 ml. **3⁸⁸**

FRENCH...
Pasta Mix

CORINA
Tomato Paste 156 ml. **3/98¢**

WHISKAS
Dry Cat Food 1 kg. **2²⁸**

ISLAND...
Cottage Cheese

Frozen Food

McCAIN, FROZEN
Tender Crisp or 5" Pizzas 400-530 g. **2¹⁸**

LIPTON
Herbal Teas 18-24s **2¹⁸**

PURINA
Regular Dog Chow 8 kg. **7⁹⁸**

SCARLE...
Mocha

VELVET
Ice Cream 2 L. carton **2⁹⁸**

NALEWAYS, SELECTED VAR.
Frozen Perogies 1 kg. **2¹⁸**

CADBURY
Hot Chocolate 10s **1⁶⁸**

PAL
Dog Food 380 g. **78¢**

OLYMPI...
Yogurt

SWANSON, FROZEN
Hungry Man Dinners 435-440 g. **2⁹⁸**

SWANSON, FROZEN
TV Dinners 241-326 g. **2³⁸**

ADAMS
Peanut Butter 500 g. **2¹⁸**

HEINZ
Tomato Soup 284 ml. **38¢**

WHISKAS
Cat Food 170 g. **44¢**

PURINA
Cat Chow or Meow Mix 4 kg. **6⁵⁸**

NALLE...
Thunfish

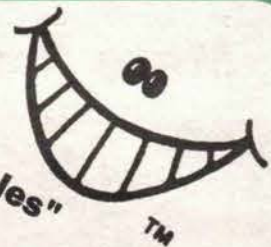
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3	ALL VARIETIES Fruit Roll-Ups 110 g.	1⁷⁸
¢	PLANTERS Peanuts & Nuts 290-310 g.	2¹⁸
3	PLANTERS Mixed Nuts 300 g. tin	3⁵⁸

KELLOGGS		Rice Krispies 350 g.	2¹⁸
CELESTIAL SEASONS		Herbal Teas 20-24s	1⁹⁸
FLEECY		Liquid Fabric Softener 3.6 L.	3¹⁸
JAVEX		Bleach 3.6 L.	1⁵⁸
PALMOLIVE		Liquid Detergent 950 ml.	2¹⁸
KLEENEX		Family Pack 300s	1⁵⁸

Island Seed & Sourdough Bread 680 g. **1⁸⁸**

Fresh Farm Bread 454 g. **98¢**

Bird's Nest Cookies Pkg. of 12 **2⁶⁸**

German Chocolate Cake 7" **7⁸⁸**



CATELLI, CLASSICO **Pasta Sauce** 700 ml. **2³⁸**

REG. OR LIGHT **Kraft Mayonnaise** 750 ml. **2⁹⁸**

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KLEENEX **Bathroom Tissue** 12 rolls. **3³⁸**

CLEEVE'S "Imported from Ireland" **Wine Gums** 100 g. **58¢**

SALTED OR UNSALTED **Roasted, Blanched Jumbo Peanuts**

W. H. VOORTMAN **Quality Asst'd Cookies** 100 g. **36¢**

25¢ 100 g.

FOLEY'S **Yogurt Covered Raisins** 100 g. **38¢**

THOMPSON **Raisins** 100 g. **28¢**

DAD'S, SELECTED VAR. **Cookies** 400-450 g. **1⁹⁸**

PAMPERS **Jumbo Diapers** 4 sizes **14⁹⁸**

GRISSOL **Melba Toast** 175-200 g. **1³⁸**

FRENCH'S **Pasta Mixes** 43 g. **88¢**

O.B. **Tampons** 24-27s **4⁹⁸**

ISLAND FARMS **Cottage Cheese** 750 g. **1⁹⁸**

ISLAND HARVEST **Sesame White Bread** 680 g. **1³⁸**

SCARDILLO **Mozzarella Cheese** 340 g. **2⁷⁸**

GREY POUPON **Mustard** 500 ml. **3²⁸**

OLYMPIC **Yogurt** 175 g. **58¢**

CAF LIB **Coffee Substitute** 150 g. **3⁷⁸**

NALLEY'S **Thunder Crunch Chips** 175 g. **1⁴⁸**

THRIFTY **Drinking Water** 4 L. **78¢**

GOLDEN DRAGON **Reg. Soy Sauce** 455 ml. **1¹⁸**

SWANSON, FROZEN **Meat Pies** 200 g. **88¢**

GOLDEN DRAGON **Dark or Light Soy Sauce** 455 ml. **1⁵⁸**

Flowers and More

Spring Cut Flower Bouquet 4⁹⁸ **Mixed Cut Flower Bouquet** 3⁹⁸

6" POT **Reiger Begonia or Kalanchoe** 5⁹⁸

5" POT **Hyacinth Plant** 4⁹⁸ 8" POT, HANGING **Strawberry Begonia Plants** 8⁹⁸

4" POT, SPRING BULBS **Hyacinth, Tulips, Crocus or Mini Iris** 1⁹⁸
4" POT **Dwarf Tulips or Table Ferns** 1⁹⁸

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CALIFORNIA
"NEW CROP"
1.48
Strawberries 3.26 kg. lb.



Nutritional Information

per 150 g. serving
(8 medium)

Energy 40 cal/170 Kj
Protein 1.2 g. Fat 0.3 g.
Carbohydrate 8.4 g.
Fibre 3.9 g. Sodium 2 mg.
Potassium 274 mg.

Percentage of RDI
Vitamin C 159%
Folacin 42%
Magnesium 8%



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MEXICAN GROWN NO. 1

Large Tomatoes

Vine Ripened

68¢
1.50 kg. lb.

CONTROLLED ATMOSPHERE
EXTRA FANCY



Golden Delicious Apples 1.28 kg. **58¢** lb.



CALIFORNIA NO. 1

Iceberg Lettuce

58¢ ea.

TEXAS NO. 1, "NEW CROP"

Cantaloupes

1.50 kg.

68¢ lb.

TEXAS NO. 1

Spinach

bunch

78¢

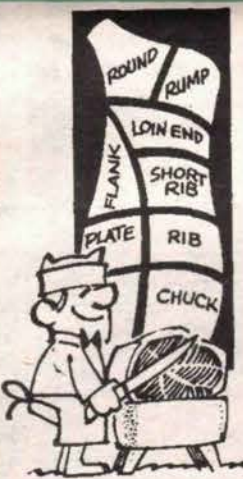
"Looks like Spinach" TEXAS, RED OR GREEN
Swiss Chard
TEXAS, SPRING
Bulb Onions

Your Choice!
98¢ bunch

TEXAS
Baby Dill
TEXAS, RED OR GREEN
Fresh Kohlrabi

"Huge bunches"

Quality Meats



WASHINGTON, SELECT GRADES

Baron of Beef Boneless Bottom Round.
5.03 kg.

2.28 lb.

WASHINGTON, SELECT GRADES, EASY TO CARVE

Eye of Round Roast 6.57 kg.

2.98 lb.

FRESH, GREAT FOR STIR FRY!

Chicken Breast Fillets 7.67 kg.

3.48 lb.

FROZEN, NO BREADING OR FILLER

Chicken Breast Patties 5.69 kg.

2.58 lb.

HERTEL, BULK

Sliced Side Bacon Tray pack. 3.70 kg.

1.68 lb.

HERTEL, "NO MILK OR WHEAT PRODUCTS"

Breakfast or Pork Sausage 3.93 kg.

1.78 lb.

Cook up something tasty for breakfast!



THRIFTY FRESH

Hot or Mild Italian Sausage 5.03 kg.

2.28 lb.

BREADED, HAM & CHEESE FILLING

Chicken a la Swiss 6 oz.

2.88

OVERLANDER, TRAY PACK

Bulk Pepperoni 7.89 kg.

3.58 lb.

MAPLE LEAF, FROZEN

Sausage Rounds 500 g. pkg.

3.28

DEVON, VACUUM PACK

Old Fashion Hams Halves. 7.89 kg.

3.58 lb.

More Smiles...



ISLAND GROWN, FRESH

Side Spareribs

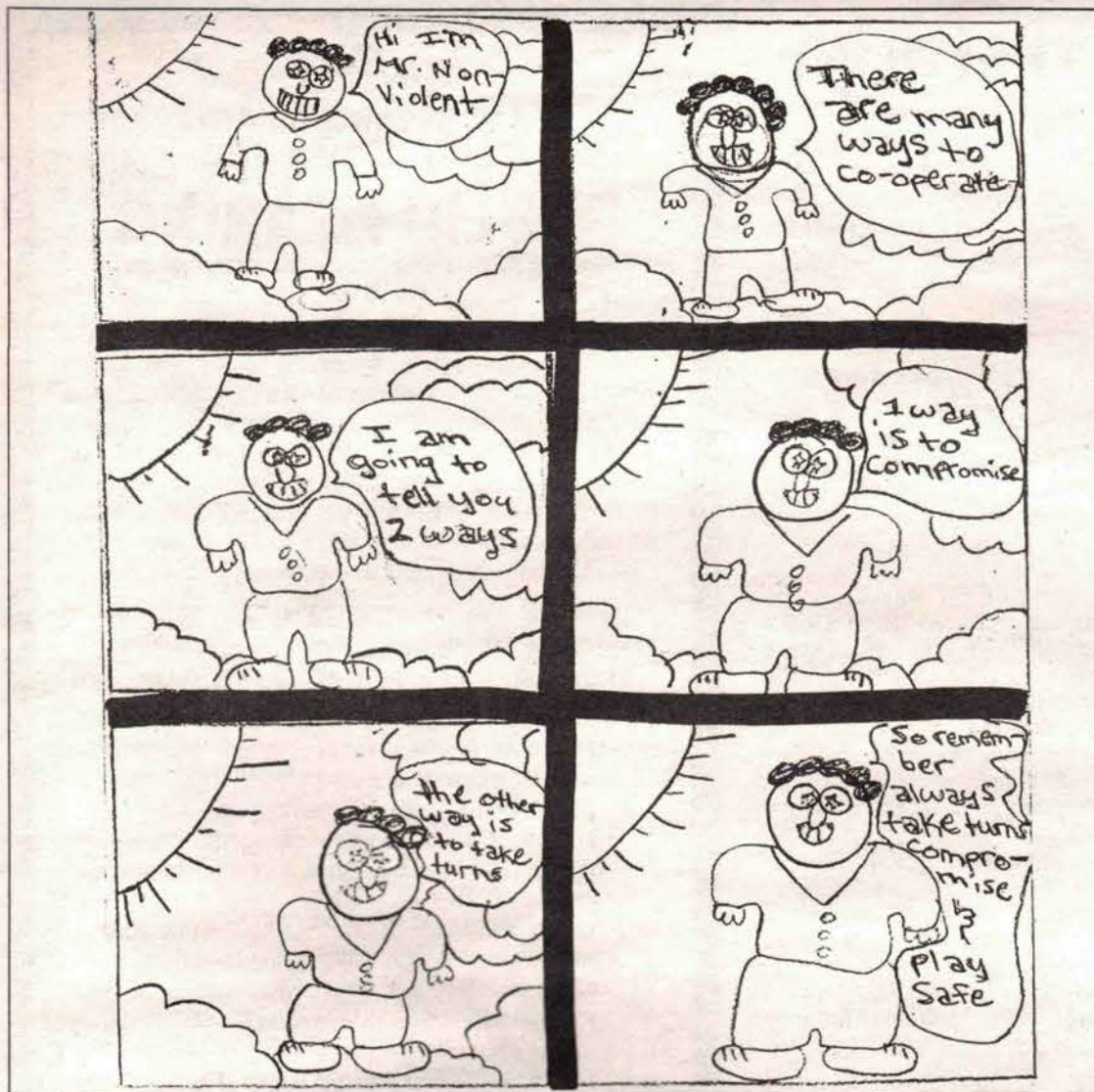
1.98

Breast Bone Removed

4.37 kg.

lb.





TAKING TURNS: Student artist Susan Mailey's cartoon encouraging cooperation was one of the winners in Salt Spring Elementary's cartoon contest on violence prevention.

Elementary school's contest is campaign against violence

Playground bullying is no fun for kids.

So it was students who brought the problem to Salt Spring Elementary School's healthy school committee and suggested something be done to promote non-violence within the school.

On the committee were two student volunteers from each class, one teacher, one counsellor and one public health nurse. Together, they planned a campaign against bullying called Stamp Out Put-Downs.

Part of the campaign included

a contest to create cartoons promoting non-violence. From the 53 entries turned in on Valentine's Day, three winners and two runners-up were chosen.

First prize in the junior category went to Grade 1 student Eric Sigmund; first in the intermediate division went to Grade 4 student Susan Mailey; and first among the senior entries was Grade 6 student Katy Simpson.

Chris Langdon and Krysta Oczkowski were runners-up. Prizes were donated by local

stores and presented at a school assembly this week.

All of the students who entered cartoons will receive ribbons, public health nurse Chris Smart said.

In addition to the cartoon contest, students have been doing skits in their classrooms which allow them to role-play problem-solving skills.

Smart said the healthy schools committees are an attempt to involve students in creating healthy, happy and safe schools. All of the students volunteer to serve on the committee, she said.

Awareness campaign launched at high school

A pebble of change will be dropped among Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) students later this spring through a violence awareness project sponsored by Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse (SWOVA).

A \$3,000 grant from the Canadian Women's Association is financing the project, which is expected to include a professional development day for school staff, one or two days focusing on violence awareness for students and two weeks of activities.

Coordinator April Curtis said the ability to reach all secondary school students in the district through GISS should give the campaign significant impact throughout the community. "We hope we're dropping a pebble in a pool to ripple out," she said.

Approximately 600 students in Grades 8 to 12 will be involved in the campaign. Dates and details are being finalized, Curtis said.

Supplementing the \$3,000 grant is \$500 from Pemberton Holmes and a \$1,000 grant obtained through regional director Dietrich Luth. Curtis is seeking more funds

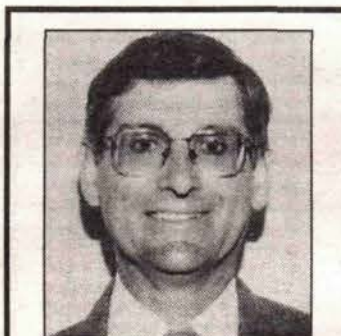
to support other parts of the proposed program.

She noted district professional development funds will help support the pro-d day, during which staff will work on a coordinated approach to dealing with the issue of violence.

Curtis also hopes to work with the parents group to arrange an evening discussion of the issue for parents and the community. She notes the Ten Days for World Development coalition of church groups may also participate, since their focus this year is on gender equity.

To qualify for the Canadian Women's Association grant, Curtis said, the proposal had to focus on gender equity and attitude changes. The SWOVA project is one of 50 across Canada chosen for funding and is the only project occurring in a secondary school.

The grant money was donated by the Body Shop and the Ryka Rose Foundation. More than \$1.5 million worth of applications were received for the \$80,000 in available funds.



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Chamber spearheaded study for Ganges sewer engineering

Thirty years ago

February 11, 1965

A sewage system for Ganges was to be planned by a new committee sponsored by the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce following a survey of homes and businesses in the projected sewer area. Approximately \$1,200 was required for an engineering study and cost analysis of the project. The North Salt Spring Waterworks District was suggested as an appropriate body to manage the sewer system.

A flatbed truck packed full of bags of oysters, seen in a photograph on the front page, underlined residents' concerns over the commercial harvest of oysters on Salt Spring. Large numbers of oysters were apparently being scraped up in large quantities and shipped off-island. The harvesting method was to rake an area clear of all oysters, leading to suggestions that the minimum size regulations were not being followed. The Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club and Legion had all objected to the practice.

Twenty-five years ago

February 12, 1970

Salt Spring residents called for toll-free calling service in the parent zone at a Chamber of Commerce annual meeting. Those at the meeting voted to send a letter to BC Tel protesting the lack of toll-free calling to the Victoria exchange.

Residents of Walker Hook Road complained to the Chamber of Commerce about the amount of litter and garbage dumped along their road. President Gavin Reynolds noted dumping garbage was an offence punishable by a maximum \$500 fine. The ferry authority had removed its garbage cans from the wharf after local residents began using the cans as a free garbage service. Reynolds said he had observed people throwing packages overboard off the ferry and promised to take car licence numbers and report the offenders the next time he saw the practice.

Twenty years ago

February 12, 1975

A new subdivision bylaw gained unanimous support from the 80 residents who attended a public meeting the previous Monday. The bylaw conformed to the island's community plan.

DOWN THE YEARS

Several areas were designated in the bylaw. Area A allowed an average of one-acre lots in the village communities of Ganges, Fulford and Vesuvius. The lot size could drop to 7,500 square feet where community water was available. Since there was no sewer system, no provision was made in the bylaw for the size of sewered lots. Area B allowed for average lot sizes of five acres and minimum lot sizes of 1.5 acres in other areas throughout the island. Those areas above 800 feet were limited to 20-acre lots.

Fifteen years ago

February 13, 1980

Seeking votes in the February 18, 1980 federal election were Liberal candidate Leo Gervais, Communist Ernie Knott, Rhinoceros Louis Crowbird Lesosky, New Democrat Jim Manly and Conservative Don Taylor.

Salt Spring regional director Yvette Valcourt made an unsuccessful attempt to stop work on the Ganges sewer project. At a meeting of the solid waste management and sewage disposal committee of the Capital Regional District, she moved for a suspension of work on the project. She was told such a motion would have to go to the board. Meanwhile, Valcourt had met with the minister of municipal affairs to protest the project and also planned to meet with the attorney-general.

Mouat Park in Ganges was approved as a possible site for a Salt Spring recreation project by the Islands Trust, the CRD and the deputy minister of lands, parks and

housing. The project was to go to a referendum the following November and, if passed, the required lots would then be rezoned to allow construction of the facility.

Ten years ago

February 13, 1985

A \$794,376 grant from the province was expected to lead to installation and operation of the Ganges sewer system by early in 1986. The grant was expected to reduce the user fee for the sewer system by \$430 annually, reducing the projected fee to \$300 a year. The system was to serve 130 properties, including the school complex, Lady Minto Hospital and Greenwoods. The sewer area stretched from the Upper Ganges shopping centre in the north to Embe Bakery in the south.

An as-yet-unidentified cougar was the suspect in the slaying of several lambs and ewes on a Beddis Road farm a few weeks earlier. The previous weekend, several sheep were killed at a farm on Mereside Road. As of February 13, eight lambs had been killed and a number of other sheep severely injured. A hunt for a cougar was under way.

Five years ago

February 14, 1990

Representatives from almost 20 environmental groups met on Salt Spring over the weekend and called for a stop to further logging in the Carmanah Valley. At the time, MacMillan Bloedel owned the 6,700-hectare site and planned to log all but 538 hectares.

CRD director Julia Atkins released \$30,000 to the library association and \$10,000 to the stream enhancement society from the provincial government's "windfall grants."

GLORIA OLSON

Chartered Accountant

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Islands Trust

SALT SPRING ISLAND TRUST COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING

All those who believe their interest in property is affected by the following proposed Bylaws will be given the opportunity to be heard by the Salt Spring Island Trust Committee at a **PUBLIC HEARING** to be held on Thursday, February 23, 1995, beginning at 7:30 p.m., in the Multi-Purpose Area of Gulf Islands Secondary School, 232 Rainbow Road, Ganges, Salt Spring Island, B.C. A **PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION** will be held on the same date and at the same location, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

In general terms, the intent of the following proposed bylaws is as follows:

1. PROPOSED SALT SPRING ISLAND BYLAW NO. 337:

- a) amends the Official Community Plan by adding, as a goal, the securing of an island-wide trail system made up of both independent neighbourhood trails and of interconnected trails that link major island destinations, recreation areas, interest points, public lands and residential areas;
- b) amends the Official Community Plan by adding, as Appendix A, the "Salt Spring Island Trail Network Policy and Plan", which describes how the trail network may be secured.

PROPOSED BYLAW TO BE CITED AS:

"Official Community Plan, Salt Spring Island, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 1995"

2. PROPOSED SALT SPRING ISLAND BYLAW NO. 336:

- a) amends Section 22, Commercial 4 Zone, by adding a new Section 22.5, Density Provisions, which limits the number of transient accommodation units to 15 units per hectare (6 units per acre), excepting specified sewage collection areas, where the maximum density shall be 35 units per hectare (14 units per acre); and
- b) amends the zoning classification of part of the Maracaibo Estates property, in order to correct an earlier mapping error, as outlined on the following sketch:



EXISTING ZONE: Commercial 4 (C4)

PROPOSED ZONE: Rural (R)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Part of Lots 68, 69 and 70, Strata Plan VIS905, District Lots 9, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District

PROPOSED BYLAW TO BE CITED AS:

"Zoning Bylaw, Salt Spring Island, 1985, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 1995"

Copies of the proposed Bylaws and relevant background documents may be inspected at the Ganges office of the Islands Trust, Unit 1206, Grace Point Square, Ganges, Salt Spring Island, B.C., between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, from Monday, February 13, 1995, up to and including Thursday, February 23, 1995.

The proposed Bylaws may also be inspected at the Victoria office of the Islands Trust, 2nd floor, 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, from Monday, February 13, 1995, up to and including Thursday, February 23, 1995. Further enquires may be directed to the Salt Spring Island Planning Unit of the Islands Trust, telephone 537-9144.

Gordon McIntosh
Secretary

Investing hard on low income but advisors have some ideas

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

There are two points of view about the future for low-income earners.

One is that careful budgeting and regular saving of small amounts of money can make a difference upon retirement.

The second is that such people will be poor — period. Start saving those dog food recipes.

Pamela Russell-Nyren, an investment executive with Scotia McLeod, had the most negative view when asked what advice she would give an individual earning \$20,000 a year or a family earning \$30,000 a year.

"There's nothing you can tell someone like that. The investment industry is geared for higher-income people," she remarked. "You need money to make money."

She expects such people will have to rely on some type of government pension program, which she predicts will still exist for those truly in need. "People who are living right from dollar to dollar and just living will have to rely on the government later," she said.

In some instances, a low income is a lifestyle choice, said Martin Hoogerdyk of Investors Group. He encourages people to save 10 to 15 per cent of their income but admits that may not be possible for many low-income people.

"Even if they put a little bit aside, it's not likely to be enough or to grow enough for retirement," he said. Retirement may never be possible for some people, he said. Instead, they may gear down to a less strenuous job but continue working throughout their lives.

Longer life spans are adding to the challenge. At one time, people who retired at age 65 only had to finance five or six years of retirement. Now, they can often live for 15 to 25 more years.

"Most people are not prepared and will not be prepared," he remarked.

Anyone who cannot find money to save for retirement has to either decrease expenses or increase income. Since lower income people do not have much discretionary income, there is little room to decrease expenses.

Such people may have to examine the lifestyle they have chosen. They may have to consider retraining for a new career, moving to an area where there are more job opportunities or finding a better paying job.

Smoking is one lifestyle target. For someone who smokes a pack a day, cutting the habit may save \$150 a month which could go into savings, Hoogerdyk noted.

The Wealthy Barber ought to be required reading for low income investors, according to several investment counsellors.

"The simple principle it uses is pay yourself first," explained Pam Pirie, who does investment counselling for Island Savings Credit Union. Although she knows that concept can be frightening to people who are afraid they cannot pay

all their bills, she stressed its importance.

Island Savings will set up a monthly savings plan which will automatically deduct as little as \$25 a month from a chequing account. Or, if the employer is willing, an automatic deduction towards an RRSP can be taken off the paycheck before tax is levied.

Once \$500 has been saved, mutual funds which give a better rate of return can be purchased.

Pirie also advocated setting a budget, an idea also endorsed by

At one time, people retiring at 65 only had to finance five or six years of retirement. Now, they often live 15 to 25 more years.

Bruce Foerster of Vantage Securities. For him, the first step in working with low income clients is to do a cash flow analysis which measures income against expenses.

If there is some discretionary income, Foerster recommends investing a third of that amount into a global mutual fund, using a pre-authorized chequing system.

If left untouched, over 20 to 30 years the invested money can grow dramatically. "A little bit of money, given time, will add up to an enormous amount of money," Foerster said.

How much?

Nigel Seale, an investment planner with Victoria Asset Management Group, said the total could reach half a million dollars if the investor started putting in \$50 a month before age 30 and could find a fund paying 15 per cent for the next 35 years.

When working with clients, he starts by drawing up a budget to identify disposable income. "Often it is a minus situation."

But a sharp pencil on the entertainment budget — including movies, dinner out, lunches and a visit to the pub — can turn that around.

Even though older investors will not get the dramatic returns of someone 30 years or younger, they should still start saving and investing as much and as often as they can.

"It's unlikely you can trust Canada Pension plan to cover you off," Seale said.

Secure investments are the best route for lower income people, says investment advisor Steve Somerset of Nesbitt Burns. High risk investments with their dramatic returns and equally dramatic losses are only for those who can afford to lose the money.

Somerset likes the advice in The Wealthy Barber, which recommends putting 10 per cent of net income into savings every month.

It's tough to do but Somerset says the discipline is essential. Once enough money has been saved, it can be put into other options, including federal and provincial government bonds, good quality mutual funds and guaranteed investment certificates.

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— Mark Twain —

Islander recalls years in North

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

It was 1934, the height of the Depression. The only available jobs for a young doctor were in the bush. So Dr. Oliver Lawson Stanton and his new bride, nurse Ruth Stanton, headed north from Toronto to the mining town of Kirkland Lake.

"He loved it," Ruth Stanton recalled 60 years later on Salt Spring Island. For the rest of her husband's career, he would treat miners in Canada's north.

As a nurse and trained occupational therapist with a degree in art, Stanton added her talents to the primitive hospitals and the community.

At Kirkland Lake, Dr. Stanton found only part-time work with a local doctor. During the Depression, Stanton noted, "you could work your head off and there was no money."

Prospects were a little better at another northern mining town, in Chibougamau, Quebec. "This was right in the bush. We lived in a log cabin, with pails of water."

Gradually, they began to build a life in the community. Then, abruptly, it was over. "The mine closed. Just one afternoon, the mine closed," Stanton recalled.

"We'd just bought new furniture and we had to walk out and leave it." The cost of moving the furniture out of Chibougamau was prohibitive.

In 1937, they went to Yellowknife, another mining town. They oversaw a tiny, four-bed hospital, sleeping in a private bedroom which they frequently had to give up to critically ill patients.

But the hospital did boast hot and cold running water and the only shower in the camp.

For meals, they went to the cookhouse. Patients were also expected to eat the cookhouse meals but by the time a full plate was carried from the cookhouse to the hospital, the food was cold.

Anxious to give patients hot meals, the Stantons asked the mine administration to buy an \$85 steam table for the hospital. The administrator turned them down but said a carrying container for food would be provided.

A short time later, Ruth Stanton was invited to inspect the container. Made from cast iron, it was shaped like an old-fashioned carpenter's toolbox. "You couldn't lift it. It took two people (to carry)."

The heavy container vanished that afternoon but Stanton won't reveal its location. "Some day, some archeologist will get in and find it," she said. The camp was near a lake ...

When the Stantons first arrived, the population of Yellowknife was approximately 350. Most were miners and a handful were women, including a group of prostitutes.

"They were rather nice girls,



A LONG THREAD: Spinning out her days with art, crafts and remembrances of her life in the North is former nurse Ruth Stanton, who celebrates her 90th birthday this week. Photo by Valorie Lennox

really," Stanton recalled. One of her husband's duties was to regularly check the health of the girls to curb the spread of venereal disease.

When he went into town to check the prostitutes, the Stantons' two cocker spaniels followed, as they did on all his rounds. They waited on the porch of the brothel, broadcasting to all the doctor's location.

Later, one of the mine managers forced the prostitutes to leave Yellowknife. "That started trouble because then the men started visiting the Indian women," Stanton said. Until then, sexually transmitted diseases had been unknown among the native population.

Dr. Stanton had been able to control the spread of venereal disease by keeping track of the prostitutes. But once the men began sleeping with native women who had no access to health care, there was no way to control the disease.

Most of the Stantons' patients were victims of mine accidents. Eventually, the mine also hired a nurse, who arrived from Trail after the usual two-day, eight-hour flight.

Ruth Stanton still recalls that nurse's introduction to the north. The night she arrived a murder occurred in town. The nurse's first case was dealing with the killing of a young, newly arrived bride by her miner husband.

In 1960, Dr. Stanton's health forced him to retire. The couple came to Salt Spring, where Dr. Stanton practised a well-honed interest in painting until his death in 1970. Ruth Stanton became involved with the IODE, the Spinners and Weavers Guild, the Community Arts Council and a needlework group.

She celebrates her 90th birthday Thursday but age has not dulled her interest in the arts. There is a project on her loom and examples of her skills, including wood carving, copper tooling, leather tooling and china painting, fill her home.

Displayed on one wall is a special link to the North, a photograph of a modern hospital known as the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital.

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Crafts marketing is seasonal

But local retailers are finding that the season is getting longer

By VALORIE LENNOX
Driftwood Staff

They may be out of season but there are still a few tourists wandering island streets.

Even in the depths of February, retailers Sharon Crouse, Sandy McNeil and Jennifer Rosling report encounters with out-of-town buyers seeking local arts and crafts. Many visitors come to Salt Spring expecting to find a unique handcrafted memento or a piece of art which reflects the island's creative image.

"The chamber puts out so much information out there that this is the craft centre — and there's so much press that this is the craft centre — that many people come into the store seeking items made on Salt Spring," said Crouse, adding that many buyers want items identified as such. Her store, Sharon's, is one of several downtown outlets for local crafters.

If the creation of arts and crafts is part of Salt Spring's ambience, the year-round marketing of that work is the other necessary half of the equation.

Waterfront Gallery is one of the busiest craft outlets and a must-see stop for many visitors. "Anyone that is visiting here, they always bring them to the Waterfront Gallery," says staff member Sandy McNeil. "There's still lots of tourists. I just had six ladies from Ontario here."

Work for the gallery comes from 75 to 80 local artists. A quick survey of other downtown stores and galleries suggests a significant amount of creativity is occurring in Salt Spring studios.

Sharon's stocks work from approximately 40 people; Naikai Gallery represents just over 50 Salt Spring residents; Thunderbird Gallery has work from 24 local artists; Heritage Boutique has work by 30 people; and Hereford

Avenue Craft Gallery displays work by 90 local artisans.

Although some sell in more than one place, retailers note many of their suppliers are exclusive to their store.

"We've tried not to overlap," says Lois Codd, who operates Hereford Avenue Craft Gallery. Even if some of the people in her gallery have work in other outlets, she asks them to produce unique items for her store. Codd also estimates 15 to 20 of the artisans selling through her store also sell their work at the downtown Saturday market during the summer.

Crouse also tries to ensure those selling through her store do not have work in other local outlets. In return, she does not stock similar items from different artisans.

"I have such a nice bunch of people who have been with me so

If the creation of arts and crafts is part of Salt Spring's ambience, the year-round marketing of that work is the other half of the equation.

long." For Crouse, one of the greatest challenges is finding artisans who will produce a consistent supply of work, regardless of the season. Sales drop by approximately one-third over the winter, she said, but stock still must be replenished. "The winter is a good time for the artists to regroup and get busy," she said.

Some store owners become especially creative over the winter months, finding new ways to promote the work of their clients.

"There's more than one way to skin a Visa card," quipped one retailer — who quickly asked not to be identified.

Hereford Avenue Craft Gallery has hosted displays of craft work in progress. Crouse held an after-Christmas sale, with some craft items marked down 50 per cent. Thunderbird Gallery sends notices to previous clients, advising them of new works or special displays. A number of their clients have international reputations, so sales are consistent year-round.

Local shoppers also favour made-on-Salt Spring labels. "A lot of them (crafters) are pretty consistent in their year-round sales," Crouse notes.

Nearby Heritage Boutique also draws local shoppers. "It's slower," staff member Sue Baldwin admitted.

Across Grace Point Square, Faye Yoneda of Naikai Gallery oversees an eclectic mix of works.

Some of the work is purchased outright and some is on consignment. "We'd like to be all purchased but it's a dream so far," Yoneda said. In the winter they do not order as much work since sales are slower.

How do their artisans manage over the slow winter months?

Yoneda notes 12 to 15 per cent are retired and presumably living on a pension or investments. She estimates 45 per cent either have another job or a spouse with a full-time job. Others rely, in part, on sales from craft fairs or the Saturday market.

"Forty per cent are right into the craft fairs and that is what supports them during the dry times," Yoneda said. But she feels the "dry times" are becoming shorter. The visitor season is extending and she finds there is increased traffic



FINAL POLISH: Jennifer Rosling, co-owner of Thunderbird Gallery, rubs a glow into a west coast native carving by Lorne Pambrun. The carving was purchased by a couple from Seattle earlier this month.

Photo by Valorie Lennox

through the gallery year-round.

Gallery owners and artisans alike have to make the most of the summer season, she said. "All of us have to be smart with those months because they're so finite."

After a decade as a retailer, Codd is philosophical about the winter slump in sales. "It's an understanding among anyone that

has anything to do with retail that January and February will be slow months," she said.

But while other retailers are waiting for warmer weather and the return of flocks of tourists, Codd's favourite selling season has little to do with off-island visitors.

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Five theatre pieces form unique show

Is Theatre of the Norm normal? Salt Spring audiences may be asking that question after the new company's first production, *Are You Nuts?*, plays at Beaver Point Hall from March 1-4.

The title covers five short pieces of unique theatre. Opening will be *The Problem*, by A.R. Gurney Jr., author of the celebrated *Love Letters*. In *The Problem*, a husband and wife spice up the marriage bed by discovering the mind is the most mysterious erogenous zone of all.

I was a Presbyterian Love Slave, by Charles Bogle, is about a young woman who seeks companionship through video dating but who leans too heavily on the pause button.

Naomi in the Living Room by Chris Durang is described by the group as "Neil Simon on Prozac." Featured are mood swings, pigs dressed in Santa suits and cross-dressing husbands.

Twilight Zone hits the summer cottage in *Linda Her* by Harry Kondoleon. On a hot summer night, three women at the cottage can't sleep — one is too happy, one is too confused and the third

wants to bite off executive heads. The only male present is dead to the world. Adding mystery to the mix is the memory of a strange girl called Linda Her.

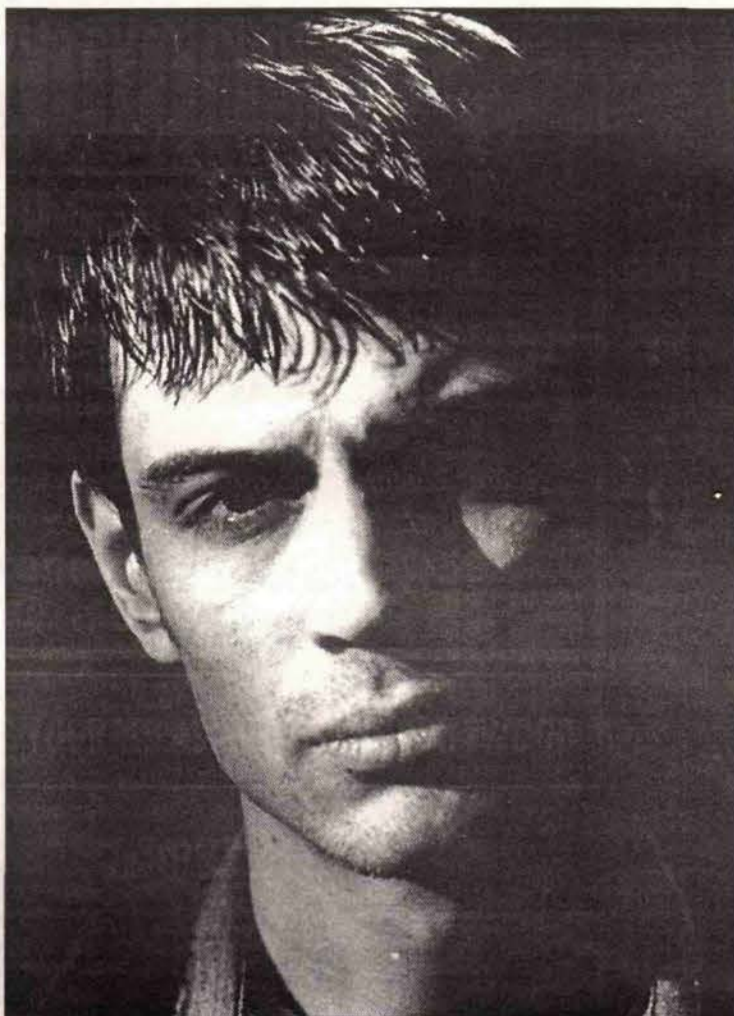
The final offering is the side-splitting *Coyote V. Acme* by Ian Frazier. In this stirring courtroom drama, Wile E. Coyote seeks redress against Acme for numerous injuries suffered while using that company's products. Check out old Roadrunner cartoons for pre-trial evidence.

All plays are 20 minutes or less. Actors wondering *Are You Nuts?* include Jeremy Davis, who definitely is; Kelly Hayes, who wants a second opinion; and Laurie Clarke, who didn't understand the question.

Heidi Scott, who appears in *Linda Her*, is convinced that her fellow thespians are a few pillows short of a slumber party.

At intermission, tasty delicacies by Catherine Trudell will be sold in the Nuts 2 You Cafe.

The play starts at 8 p.m. each night. Tickets will be \$8 at the door or can be purchased in advance at et cetera. For more information, call 537-5801.



PLAYING AT MOBY'S: Matthew Good and his band perform at the Ganges pub next week.

Enigmatic band at Moby's next week

Matthew:Good:Band, self-described as the enigma, shows up at Moby's Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25.

A self-written biography of the band is long on interesting phrases — "Social revolution can be a tricky thing, not to mention a full-time job, so why not get paid for it?" and "Trying to describe Ariel would be like trying to ring the truth out of the JFK assassins with a wet nerf baseball bat" — but short on actual information.

In addition to Matthew Good, band members are Steven Codling, who plays piano and organ, cellist Judy Renouf, and Eran Vooy and Ariel Watson, who handle the rhythm section as well as cello and trumpet.

What do they play? The band apparently prefers to keep that a secret.

"For all you musicians out there, this is what finally happens when your manager asks you to write your own bio," Good concludes after 400 words strung into rambling sentences.

Country rock band at hotel

Country rock backed up by a variety of musical styles and a flair for comedy will be presented by musician Todd Butler in the Wheelhouse Pub of the Harbour House Hotel on February 24 and 25.

Butler received the 1992 judge's choice award in Vancouver's Demo Listen Derby Contest for his hilarious song, *Half a Brain*. Another of his compositions, *Chicken Lady*, will appear on the newest Muppet CD, *Kermit Unpigged*, which is due for release this spring.

Butler has a repertoire of more than 350 songs. During his career, he has performed in rock n' roll bands, country show bands, jazz combos, blues revues, stage musicals and comedy troupes.

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ENTERTAINMENT

This week at the Cinema

FAR FROM HOME: The Adventures of Yellow Dog: It's close to home week at Salt Spring Cinema ... both films showing this week are family-oriented, both were partially filmed nearby and there are some familiar island faces appearing in both. *Far From Home* tells the tale of 11-year-old Angus McCormich, who is washed ashore in the wilderness of the Pacific Northwest after a storm at sea separates him from his father. In this family adventure, Angus has only his wits and the help of a trusted canine friend to survive. Partially filmed on Mayne Island. Rated: General. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. (Early start to allow young children to attend) Matinee Sunday at 1:30 p.m. and Monday (a pro-d day) at 3:30 p.m. Regular prices apply.

LITTLE WOMEN: Another family film, this one is faithful to the classic story of the four March sisters as originally told by Louisa May Alcott in her 1868 novel. Victoria stands in for sites in Civil War-era New England in some of the scenes, which beautifully recreate mid-19th century ambiance. Sisters Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy are charmingly portrayed by Trini Alvarado, Winona Ryder, Claire Danes and Kirsten Dunst. Together and separately, they learn about life, death and love, drawing on the unfailing guidance of their mother, played by Susan Sarandon. Winona Ryder has been nominated for an Academy Award as best female actor for her role as Jo, the aspiring writer. The film has also received nominations for best original musical score and best costume design. Rated: General. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:15 p.m.; Monday at 7 p.m. Sunday matinee at 3 p.m. and Monday matinee at 1 p.m., regular prices.

Adults wanting to see both films will be admitted at student ticket prices. Movie bucks will be given out Sunday and Monday evenings.

Island Video Hits

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Natural Born Killers (-) | 6. Color of Night(6) |
| 2. Clear and Present Danger ... (1) | 7. Client(8) |
| 3. Mask(2) | 8. Little Giants(10) |
| 4. It Could Happen to You..... (3) | 9. Rapi Nui(9) |
| 5. Little Rascals(-) | 10. In the Army Now(-) |

On Tap at the Pubs

MOBY'SMatthew Good Band, Feb. 24 & 25
Sunday Jazz, Scott Neilson Trio, 7 p.m. Feb. 26
VESUVIUS INN.....Blues Jam, Gene Groomes Returns,
Feb. 23, 8:30 p.m.
HARBOUR HOUSE (Wheelhouse Pub),
Todd Butler, Feb. 24 & 25
(Lounge), Karaoke, Feb. 24 & 25

Community TV Schedule

SALT SPRING TELEVISION: FEBRUARY 22 - MARCH 1
THURSDAY, 6 p.m.....Islands Trust workshop 13, What's Special on Salt Spring?
 7:30 p.m.....Islands Trust workshop 14, Shorelines
SATURDAY, 3 p.m.....Keep Fit
 3:30 p.m.....Storytime
 3:45 p.m.....Islands Trust workshop 14.
TUESDAY, 11 a.m.....Keep Fit
 11:30 a.m.....Storytime
 11:45 a.m.....Islands Trust workshop 16, Commuting

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Marimba band to share stage with Peelers at Beaver Point

Islanders can shake off those winter blues with a blend of music and energy fuelled by the sunny skies of Africa.

Shungu, Salt Spring's lively marimba band, will perform at Beaver Point Hall for a dance Saturday. The band last played in Centennial Park during the Saturday morning markets, introducing islanders and visitors to its music.

Members have been playing together for 18 months and are part of a flourishing west coast marimba movement stretching from Salt Spring to Oregon. Group members have studied with teachers from throughout the west coast who are spreading the songs they learned from Dumisani Maraire, a master mbira (thumb piano) player, composer and musi-

cal arranger from Zimbabwe.

Their music is drawn from the Shona people, who are concentrated in the northern half of the country. The band's name, Shungu, is a Shona word meaning "to be moved by deep emotion."

In Zimbabwe, marimba music reflects and enhances the cooperative communal structures and ceremonies of village life. Each villager, each musician and each instrument has a role to play, leading to a saying that "the leader is often the follower."

Shungu members have made their own instruments, which range from the small soprano marimbas to the enormous bass. The musician playing the bass must stand on a bench.

The band will be playing old favourites plus new material on Saturday, and will be joined by the popular Salt Spring blues band, The Peelers.

The band plays original electric dance blues and some cover tunes. Members are Chris Dixon on bass, Tom Graham on electric guitar, Barry Hunter on vocals and harmonica, Paul Mobraey on electric guitar and Doug (Father Time) Rhodes on drums. Dave Astill makes guest appearances on sax.

The dance begins at 8 p.m. Shungu will open the dance with music suitable for the entire family.

Tickets at the door will be \$8 for adults and \$4 for those aged four to 14.



THE BEAT GOES ON: Sticks flying, Shari Macdonald keeps the bass rhythm for Salt Spring's marimba band, Shungu, which plays for a dance at Beaver Point Hall Saturday. Photo by Valerie Lennox

Secondary school budget cuts victim to offer six-week tile-making course

A chance to make decorative tiles and trivets will be offered by Melissa Searcy during a six-week introductory course in her Bittancourt Road studio.

Searcy became enthusiastic about tile-making while working on the murals for the new secondary school. She has since obtained a slab-roller for her own studio.

When recent budget cuts eliminated her job as an art room paraprofessional at the high school, Searcy decided to share her tile-making skills and equipment.

"There are so many different ways to make and use tiles," she said. "They're beautiful and last forever."

During the course, she will teach participants how to create three-dimensional, carved and glazed tiles as well as embedding flowers in tiles. Her studio is

already full of sample tiles, tile trivets, wall plaques and molds for tiles.

Creation of the tiles is easy enough that even novices can succeed, she said. "Making tiles is a simple, exciting way of using clay that everyone can enjoy."

The course starts March 9 and continues until April 13. Two sessions are offered, one on Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3 p.m. and one on Thursday evening, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The \$95 fee includes basic materials.

The evening classes will fit into the schedule of working people and the afternoon classes will suit those who don't like driving at night or seniors who are retired, Searcy explained.

For information or to register, call 537-2897.

Work by Margaret Toulmin on display

Four sculptures by the late Salt Spring artist Margaret Toulmin are included in an exhibit honouring 11 members of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

Toulmin, who became a member of the academy in 1972, lived on Salt Spring from 1976 until her death five years ago. Many of her works were originally modelled in clay, then cast in plaster and painted to look like bronze.

The exhibit is at the Michelle Frost Gallery, 2188 Oak Bay Avenue, Victoria, until March 4.

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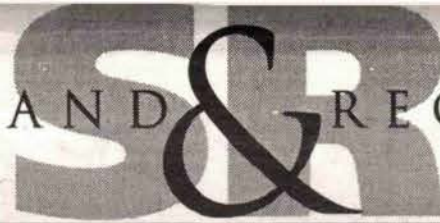
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537-5571



They'll be climbing the wall

Four-year project approaches completion

By GAIL SJUBERG
Driftwood Staff

When Salt Spring Islanders start "climbing the walls" next month, their motivation will be purely recreational.

As of Friday, the climbing wall located between the Community Centre and John Fidler Youth Centre was beginning to resemble the plans and facility Jack Rosen has been working on and talking about for the past four years.

Building "a wall" might seem like an easy project. But a climbing wall is more than a vertical assemblage of cement and mortar. The Salt Spring facility is a 16 by 16-foot building with 24-foot high walls, a door and roof. Each interior wall mimics a different rock climbing milieu, from a gently sloping "novice" surface to steeper pitched ones with a ledge and "chimney" to crawl behind. People will also be able to climb from one wall to another across the ceiling.

Climbing walls are known to do much more than provide a practice spot for people who get their thrills by inching up mountain faces like tenacious longhorn beetles.

Rosen has taken youth program participants to use climbing walls in Victoria and Vancouver. He said the kids not only learn practical, physical skills, but accomplishing a challenging feat enhances their confidence and self-esteem. Climbers learn to trust those holding and operating

the ropes through belay points on the ground, and the ground "troops" practise trustworthiness. Everyone learns the importance of teamwork.

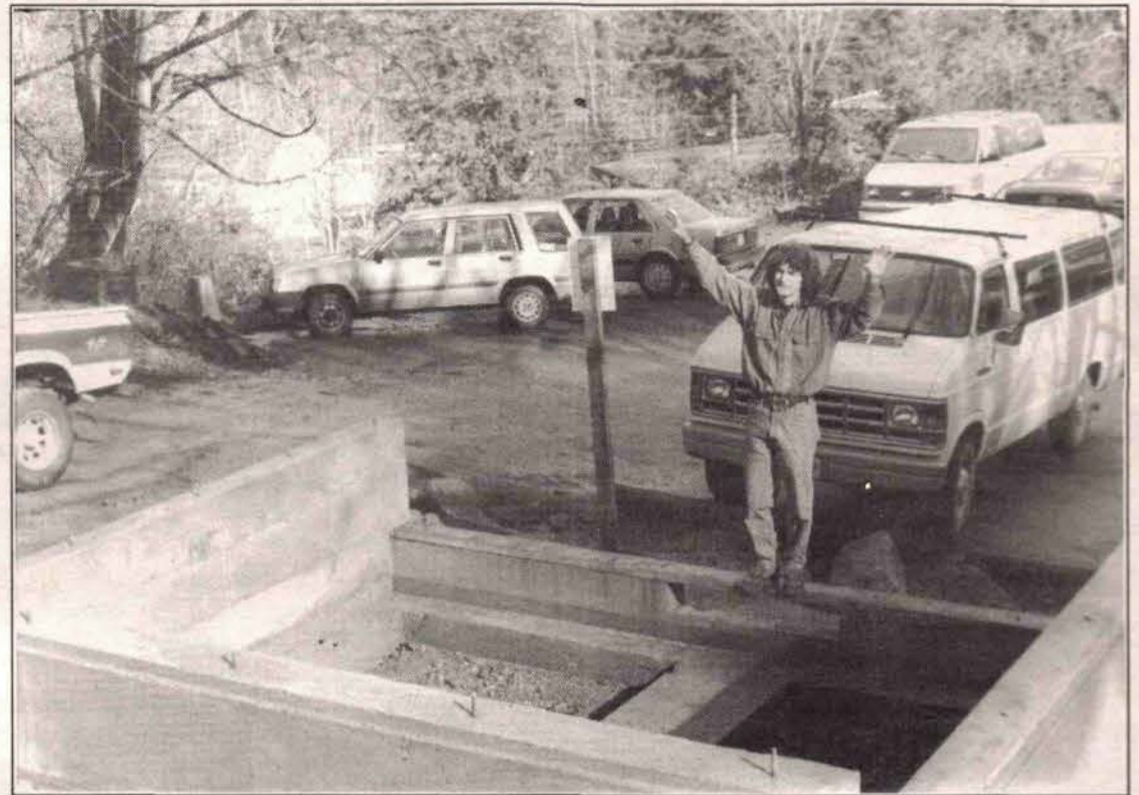
"It's a great experience for them," said Rosen.

In addition to being used by those in Rosen's youth programs and climbing wall club members, the facility will be open to the public for a small user fee. It will operate only with trained climbing wall club members in attendance, beginning three or four nights weekly during the spring and up to six nights and a few days each week in summer months.

Wall climbing might sound physically dangerous, but climbers are always secured by ropes and are closely supervised.

Project cost was about \$16,312. The first \$4,000 came from the Vancouver Sun Fund, which was followed by \$3,000 from Salt Spring Community Services. The Capital Regional District, Parks and Recreation Commission, John Fidler Foundation, Ganges Bank of Montreal's Christmas fund and miscellaneous donations brought the project to within striking distance of completion. Salt Spring's Rotary Club recently topped off the cache of needed funds.

Because extra costs were incurred by changing the wall's planned location on Community Services property, a further \$750 is needed, however. Local businesses are now being canvassed to sponsor various "routes" com-



RAISING THE WALL: Jack Rosen at work on the Community Services Society building in building that will house climbing wall near Ganges.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

prised of the "holds" climbers use to ascend the walls. Sponsorship will be acknowledged at the facility, as will the major donors.

Rosen said several businesspeople have provided crucial project support by volunteering or discounting goods and services, while Ross Huff, Andrew Young, Peter Erickson, Gary Quiring, John Gossett and Jamie Alexander were a strong core of volunteers.

Community Services and executive director Jane Parlee have also been "very supportive," he added.

"It should be a great recreational facility for the community. I think people will be impressed with the finished product."

Hikers' March schedule announced

The Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club has released its March schedule.

March 7

- Meet at Drummond Park at 10:15 a.m. to walk Isabella Point with Jean King.

- Stalk Sea Lions at Dodds Narrows with Bill Harrington. Take 9 a.m. Vesuvius ferry and arrange your own car pools. This is an easy hike. Bring binoculars and hearing aids.

March 14

- Meet at Drummond Park at 10:15 a.m. to walk China Beach with Nancy Holcroft.

- Hike Mount Maxwell with Brian Radford. This is moderately steep. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

March 21

- Walk Southey Point with Carol Williams. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

- Hike Maple Mountain with Susan and Frank Monahan. Meet at Portlock Park at 9:30 a.m. to arrange to travel as foot passengers to Crofton.

March 23

- Monthly meeting will be held at the United Church hall at 7:30 p.m. From the fleshpots of Bangkok to the opium dreams of the Golden Triangle, Patti May-Lawson's slides tell it all! Tickets for spring trip to East Sooke Park will also be available to members.

March 28

- Walk a new route through Channel Ridge if John Myers can find it.

- Hikers take a "snip trip" up Mount Bruce with Fred Powell. We will lash out at salal as we tramp along. Not a work party...this is fun. Bring shears or loppers.

Both groups meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

Olympians to attend bowling tourney

Five members of the Salt Spring Special Olympics will participate in a district bowling tournament in Victoria on March 4, members learned at a recent meeting.

Following the three games of bowling, the group will attend a presentation banquet and a dance. Members of the team are Terry Swing, Stuart Elliott, Sharon Way, Mahjor Baines, and Gloria Dales.

Chaperoning the group will be John and Rene Sutherland. Program coordinator Yolande Leger has arranged for Special Olympics members to participate in a one-hour fitness program every Saturday morning at Salt Spring Elementary School, starting April 8.

The Special Olympics committee has learned that a representative, Carol Carddick of Choices, an ongoing sponsor, is coming to Salt Spring to organize a district

bowling tournament on April 1.

Prior to the business part of the meeting, Bob Rush, representing the Salt Spring Island Foundation, presented the organization with a cheque for \$300 "to assist in financing the purchase of equipment for ongoing programs."

The Salt Spring chapter of Special Olympics is a member of

an international organization founded by the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation in Boston in 1968.

The organization's objective is to provide quality athletic and sports training programs for mentally challenged individuals. In the local group there are 19 adult members, ranging in age from 18 to 72, plus six children.

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Deadstop does glacier routine, helps lose 8-7 to Chemainus

By JIM BLACK
Driftwood Contributor

Neither fog nor rain nor flu bugs could keep the Slugs from their appointed rounds this week, as the boys took to the ice for a game against the Chemainus Old Boys.

Despite the valiant efforts of Slug netminder Derek Topping, the Old Boys were first on the scoreboard. The problem wasn't with Derek, who played brilliantly, but with one of his defencemen.

As difficult as it may be to conceive, Deadstop was moving even slower than normal due to the after-effects of the flu bug. Fortunately for the Slugs, however, Paul "Cyclone" Sinclair was really flying on this night and he put the Slugs on the board.

Once Sinclair got things going the lads really picked up the pace and a mere two minutes later it was Todd McIntyre's turn in the spotlight.

The Old Boys managed to tie things up with just a few minutes to go in the opening frame. The play started with a faceoff in the Slugs endzone, and the Old Boys winning the draw. Had Deadstop picked up the man he was supposed to, things might have been different.

Instead, he wandered up into the corner and watched his reflection in the glass. The player he was supposed to check was about the size of Manitoba, so Topping was screened on the play and didn't have a chance on the shot from the point.

The second period started off as quickly as the first had ended. Both teams were moving the puck really well and the Slugs nearly took the lead again when Bernie Reynolds slid one just wide of the post from right in front. But once again it was the Old Boys who opened the scoring.

This time an Old Boy managed to sneak around the Slugs' defen-

SLUG TRAIL

sive pairing of Claude Deschamps and Paddy Akerman. Akerman almost managed a poke-check with sweeping dive, but the player hung on and managed to sneak one past Topping. While the Slug bench wasn't too happy about having another goal scored on the team, they did give Paddy a 9.3 score for his swan dive.

The Slugs knew we had to regroup quickly. So following a quick session on the bench, which consisted of much yelling, arms flailing and pointing fingers, the Slugs fielded their best line of the evening, which consisted of McIntyre, Peter Huser and Andy Naumann. When McIntyre managed to lose his check out front and Huser laid the puck right on his stick, which he quickly dispatched into the net. While the boys were still celebrating this, they didn't notice Deadstop stagger out on to the ice for another shift.

Unfortunately, though, the Old Boys did and right off the following faceoff they came down his side and went past him like he was a glacier. The opposition notched another marker.

But this was when the boys decided to put things in motion. The Slugs took the play right to the Old Boys and kept them trapped in their endzone. It paid off in spades when Naumann batted home the puck following attempts by both McIntyre and Akerman. Just after this goal Paul Sinclair got a two-minute minor for impersonating a centreman. With him in the box we thought we were in trouble. Wrong. Along came the dancing duo of Johnny Procter and Claude Deschamps. These two man-

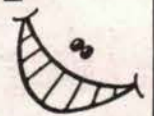
aged to break through the defence and work the give-and-go perfectly, with Deschamps getting the short-handed marker.

The Slugs seemed to run out of gas at this point and the Old Boys added two more goals before the end of the period. The Old Boys started off the final period the same way they had the other two, with a goal. This put us down by a pair and things weren't looking too good until McIntyre and Huser went at it again. This time it was Sinclair moving the puck up to the blueline and Mac feeding Huser the puck and Pete beating the goalie on the shortside. Just two minutes later they were at it again. This time Sinclair carried the puck all the way in and taking a shot, which McIntyre scored on, on the rebound, for his third of the night.

This tied the game at seven apiece, with less than six minutes to go. The Slugs felt they had the momentum on their side and were confident they could win. The Old Boys, however, knew that the Slugs also had Deadstop on their side.

In the end they were right, scoring with just four minutes left to defeat the Slugs 8-7.

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Temporary Closure Fulford Harbour

BC Ferries must implement a brief closure of its Fulford Harbour terminal in order to carry out some much needed dock maintenance.

The closure begins on Monday evening, February 27, following the 6 pm sailing from Swartz Bay and the 6:45 pm sailing from Fulford Harbour.

Regular operations will resume on Tuesday, February 28, with the 1:10 pm sailing from Swartz Bay.

While vehicle service will not be available between Swartz Bay and Fulford Harbour during the closure period, arrangements have been made to provide passenger only sailings on the route.

A 40-passenger water taxi will run on the regular schedule, between the Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay (Barnacle Road) Government docks. If overloads occur, extra trips will be made.

To supplement this service, the Bowen Queen will provide some sailings between Swartz Bay and Long Harbour throughout the morning of February 28th. The first departure from Swartz Bay will be at 7:30 am, and the first departure from Long Harbour will be at 8:45 am. (Note: maximum vehicle weight at Long Harbour terminal is 24,000 kg/gvw).

Another option is BC Ferries' drive-aboard service on the Crofton-Vesuvius crossing (Note: maximum vehicle weight on this route is 22,500 kg/gvw).

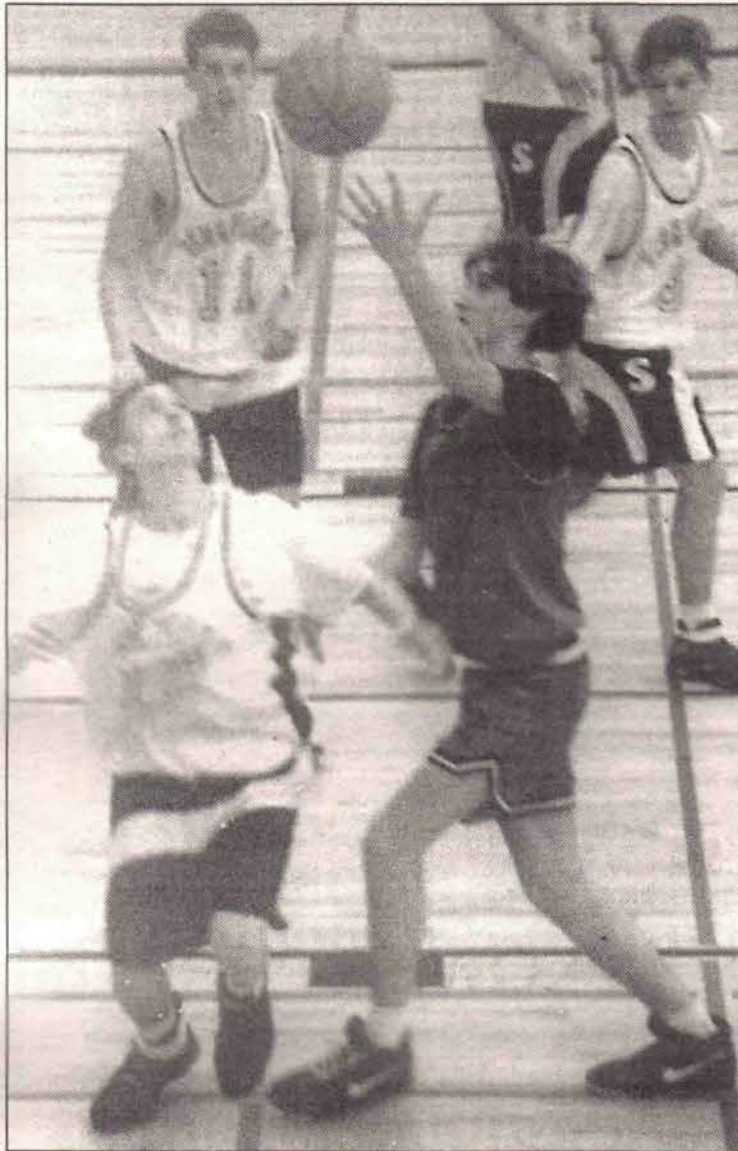
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BC FERRIES

CLIP AND SAVE

Scorpions fifth at tournament after two single-point losses



SCORPIONS BEAT BRENTWOOD: Brentwood is about to take the ball but LeRoy Smith of the Scorpions prepares to jump for it during game Thursday at Gulf Islands Secondary School. Behind the play are Niegel Ramer, left, and Mike Campsall. Scorpions won by 19 points.

Photo by Tony Richards

Losing a basketball game by one point happens often enough.

But the Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) senior boys team did it two games in a row at a Campbell River tournament last week.

Scorpions buried their first opponents by a 101-50 score in a Friday game. North Island Secondary School from Port McNeill could not curb the scoring onslaught of several GISS players.

Niegel Ramer, Harrison Jason and Eric Baker each netted 18 points, while Peter Locke added 14 to the team's highest scoring game this season.

GISS then lost 78-77 to host school Rob Ron Secondary, under questionable circumstances. Scorpions coach Myles Wilson said Rob Ron has been using one over-age player in tournament situations. That individual scored 45 of his team's 77 points against GISS.

Scorpions high scorers were Harrison Jason with 20 and Andy Vickers and Chris Jason with 15 each.

The boys' third game saw Campbell River's Southgate squeak by with a 76-75 score, giving GISS a fifth-place tournament finish.

Scorpions also played their last league game at GISS on Thursday, beating Brentwood by 19 points. That win gave them a perfect 8-0 record in league play this year.

The team meets all Vancouver Island double A senior boys teams at the island championships this week in Victoria, with the top three teams qualifying for the provincial finals.

Bird counters' tally is 17,235 birds, 97 species in annual island count

Salt Spring's annual winter bird count identified 97 species and a total of 17,235 birds.

Although the local count is not "official," results have been sent to the Royal British Columbia Museum, the B.C. Ornithologists Society and the University of B.C.

Some 144 people took part in the count, held in December. The island was divided into 12 zones, each with a coordinator, who rallied the "birders" and recorded the results.

To be official, the count area has to have a central point with a 25-mile radius. In the case of Salt Spring Island, this would result in the inclusion of surrounding waters.

The other deterrent to staging an official count is the \$4 or \$5 cost charged per birder.

The most uncommon bird sightings included a northern goshawk,

a wood duck and an Anna's hummingbird.

The Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club organizes the annual event.

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Kitchens top the list of renovation projects

The Appraisal Institute of Canada recently conducted a survey of residential appraisal specialists across Canada. The survey reinforced what many designers emphasize to their clients: kitchen renovations come at the top of the list of common projects that will return value for money spent on the renovations. The appraisers estimated that kitchen renovations could earn a 50 to 200 per cent payback, to be recovered at the time of sale.

Further, appraisers said that the goal of any renovations project should be to improve appeal and utility. Projects that homeowners undertake to improve their own lifestyle, such as swimming pools, or basement recreation rooms should not be counted on to improve or maintain the resale value.

The appraisers also commented that do-it-yourself projects should be embarked on with caution. Nearly half the appraisers commented that the quality of DIY projects they saw in their experience was not high enough to improve value. In fact, it was noted that a poorly finished job could actually have a negative effect on a home's value.

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Here comes the bride

A model at Sunday's bridal fair shows a white wedding gown to a crowd at the Ganges Activity Centre. Sponsored by Thrifty Foods, the event attracted more than 100 people during the day, reported the store's Dan Lee. In addition to a fashion show, the fair featured display booths by local and off-island exhibitors. Photo by Tony Richards

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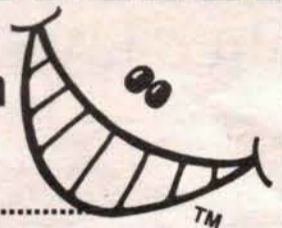
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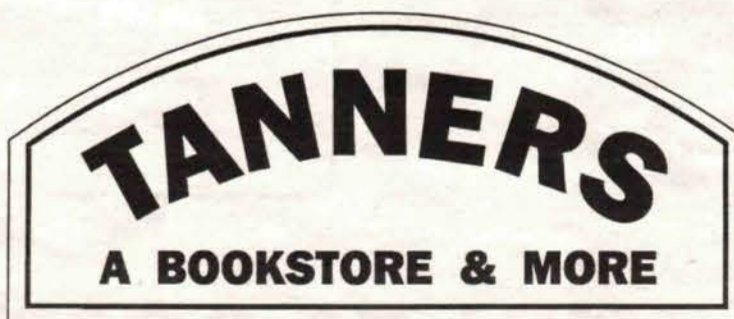
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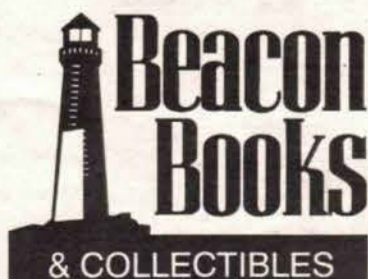
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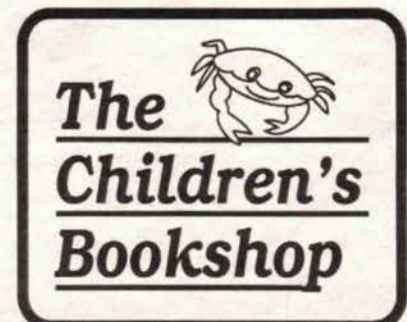


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Former island boat breaks up on reef in central coast storm

The death February 7 of Salt Spring's Darrell Georgeson was followed less than two weeks later by the loss of a boat he named. While Georgeson's friends and relatives were paying him their last respects at a memorial service Saturday, the 75-foot packer Salty Isle was heading for the rocks.

Former owner Herk Roland said Tuesday the weather came up and blew the vessel off course at Higgins Pass on the central coast. The Salty Isle was blown up on a reef in 60-mph winds.

Owner and skipper Ron

Belrose of Vancouver managed to feed a line to the beach, where crew members of another boat, anchored in sheltered waters nearby, waited to help assist the crew off the rocks and on to dry land. Roland said none of the three people aboard was seriously hurt.

Its masts and wheelhouse were swept away by 20-foot seas before the crew were able to get off.

The Salty Isle was called Choice One when Roland and Bruce Hildred bought it about 10 years ago. When they decided to change the name, Georgeson

suggested Salty Isle. Built in 1954, Roland described it as a "classic North Sea drifter." It was one of two such boats on the west coast.

But its ending was a noble one.

"It died a proper death at sea, with nothing left but bits and pieces on the beach," Roland said. That, he added, was preferable to being left as a hulk on the beach.

The vessel had been extensively rebuilt by Belrose, Roland said, estimating the value of work at \$100,000. The boat was insured.

Police lay charge of resisting-arrest

A young woman has been charged with resisting arrest and being unlawfully in a dwelling house after police were called to the residence at 2 a.m. Sunday.

While being escorted from the home, the woman began to fight police. She was taken to the police station and charged.

In other police news:

POLICE REPORT

• A guest cabin on Mobrae Avenue was broken into between 4 p.m. Saturday and 3:30 p.m. Sunday. Approximately \$100 in

cash and some liquor was taken. Anyone with information on the break-in is asked to contact Ganges RCMP.

• A 31-year-old Salt Spring man was charged with impaired driving and driving with a blood-alcohol level over 0.08. The driver was stopped at a roadblock on Kangro Court at just after 1 a.m. Sunday.

Accident, winds and chimney fires keep Salt Spring firefighters on their toes

Snow, wind and flaming chimneys were the emergencies handled by Salt Spring's volunteer firefighters during the past week.

Firefighters responded to a Valentine's Day accident in the 1400 block of Fulford-Ganges Road, when a vehicle slid off the snowy road and rolled. Firefighters helped ambulance crews get the driver and passenger out of the vehicle and to the road. The accident occurred at approximately 4:50 p.m.

At 11:20 p.m. last Wednesday, firefighters were

called out to a chimney fire on Cranberry Road. The fire was out by the time firefighters arrived and there was no damage to the home.

The next day, at 8:37 a.m., firefighters were called to a chimney fire on Byron Road. Although the fire burned for a short time after firefighters arrived, there was no damage.

High winds Friday blew a tree across a Hydro line on North Beach Road just after 2 p.m. Firefighters attended until Hydro crews arrived to deal with the problem.

BRITISH COLUMBIANS TURN IDEAS INTO ACTION WITH HELP FROM PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

All over the province, ideas that benefit the agriculture, fisheries and food industries are becoming realities with the help of Partners in Progress—a program of the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

By teaming up with industry or community partners, cooperative partner groups are achieving their goals of solving problems, creating new markets, expanding opportunities, increasing profitability and improving overall viability.

Partners in Progress is helping industry and community partner groups by contributing funds to provide opportunities to put good ideas into action.

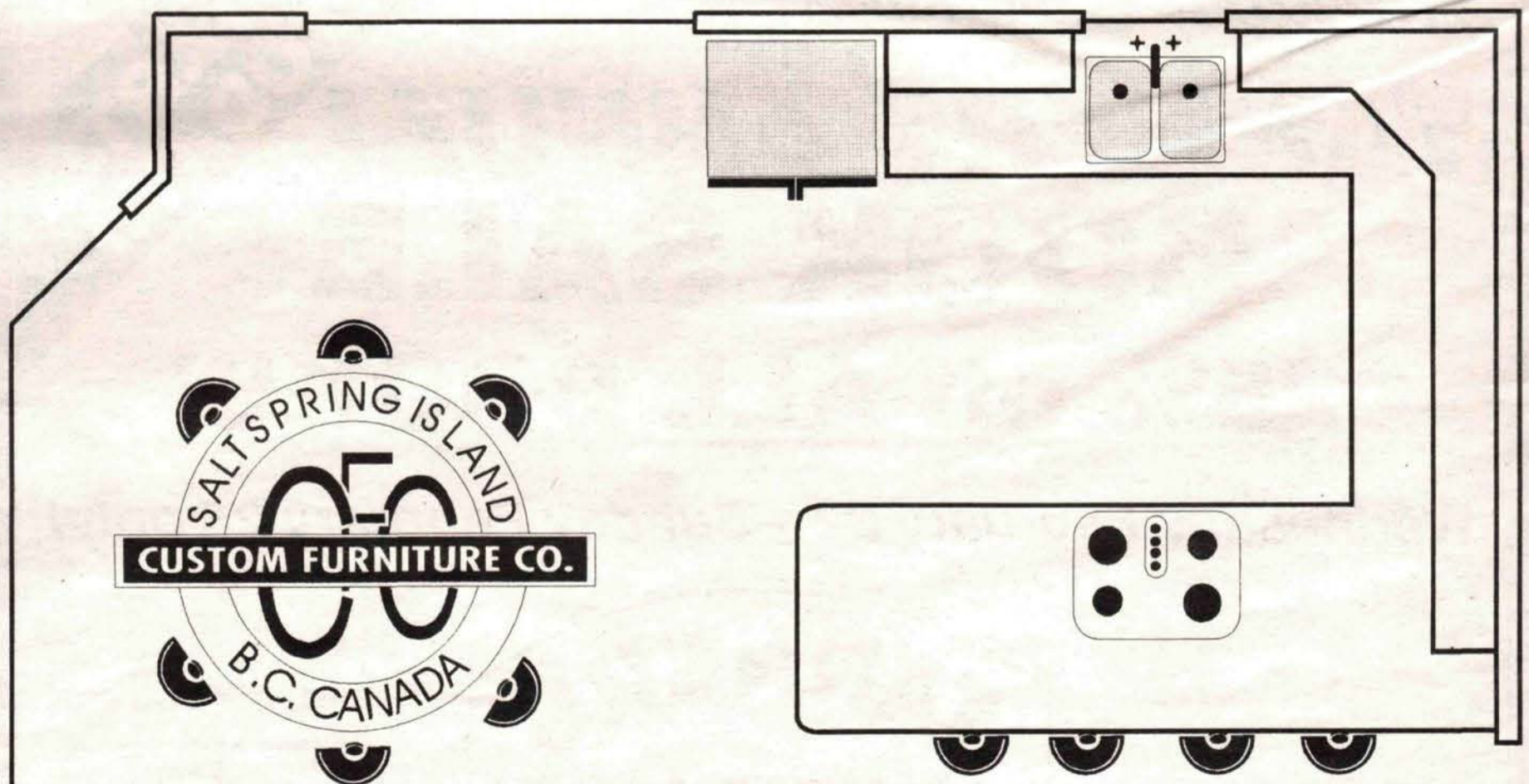
Eligible applicants include: farmers, fishers, food processors, distributors, associations, local businesses, community groups, and others who want to work together in partnership with B.C.'s agri-business, fisheries and food sectors.

If you want to know more about this program and don't want to miss your opportunity to apply for 1995/96 funding, contact your local Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food office or call the Ministry office in Victoria at 387-5122 and we'll send you an application package.



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