

# Driftwood

Gulf Islands

Wednesday, November 26, 1997 Vol. 39, No. 48 Your Community Newspaper On the Internet at <http://www.gulfislands.net> Salt Spring Island, B.C. \$1.25 (incl. GST)

## Halted resort project gets green light

Construction at Salt Spring Island Village Resort, which virtually came to a halt about two and a half months ago, will resume by December 15, developer Brian Hauff said Monday.

Work on the project was delayed by new requirements imposed by the B.C. Securities Commission, he said.

Sales of the resort's 123 units were halted when the project came under the jurisdiction of the securities commission, Hauff said in a telephone interview. Lawyers for the resort filed the required disclosure statements twice, Hauff said, but commission officials still required additional information.

"It's all new legislation. There's a tremendous amount of disclosure required in an offering memorandum."

Hauff said the new legislation requires that any B.C. resort which has a rental pool agreement — like his Bullock Lake project — now comes under the jurisdiction of the

securities commission as well as under the jurisdiction of the Real Estate Act.

The ban on sales cut off Hauff's access to financing, since the financing is dependent on sales continuing. So with no money available to continue construction, he had to stop work.

He did keep a crew working on the main lodge roof using his own money, he said.

"It just killed us. I've been sitting here frustrating myself to death to get re-approved — which occurred on Friday."

He said his lawyer was advised verbally on Friday that the company's latest disclosure had been vetted. Hauff now expects a delay of a week or two to wrap up the paperwork before he can again access his financing and resume construction.

He described the financial impact of the delay as "huge." He

RESORT 2

## Reserve tree poaching could net fine or jail

Wood cutters who take their firewood from ecological reserves are carting out hot cargo.

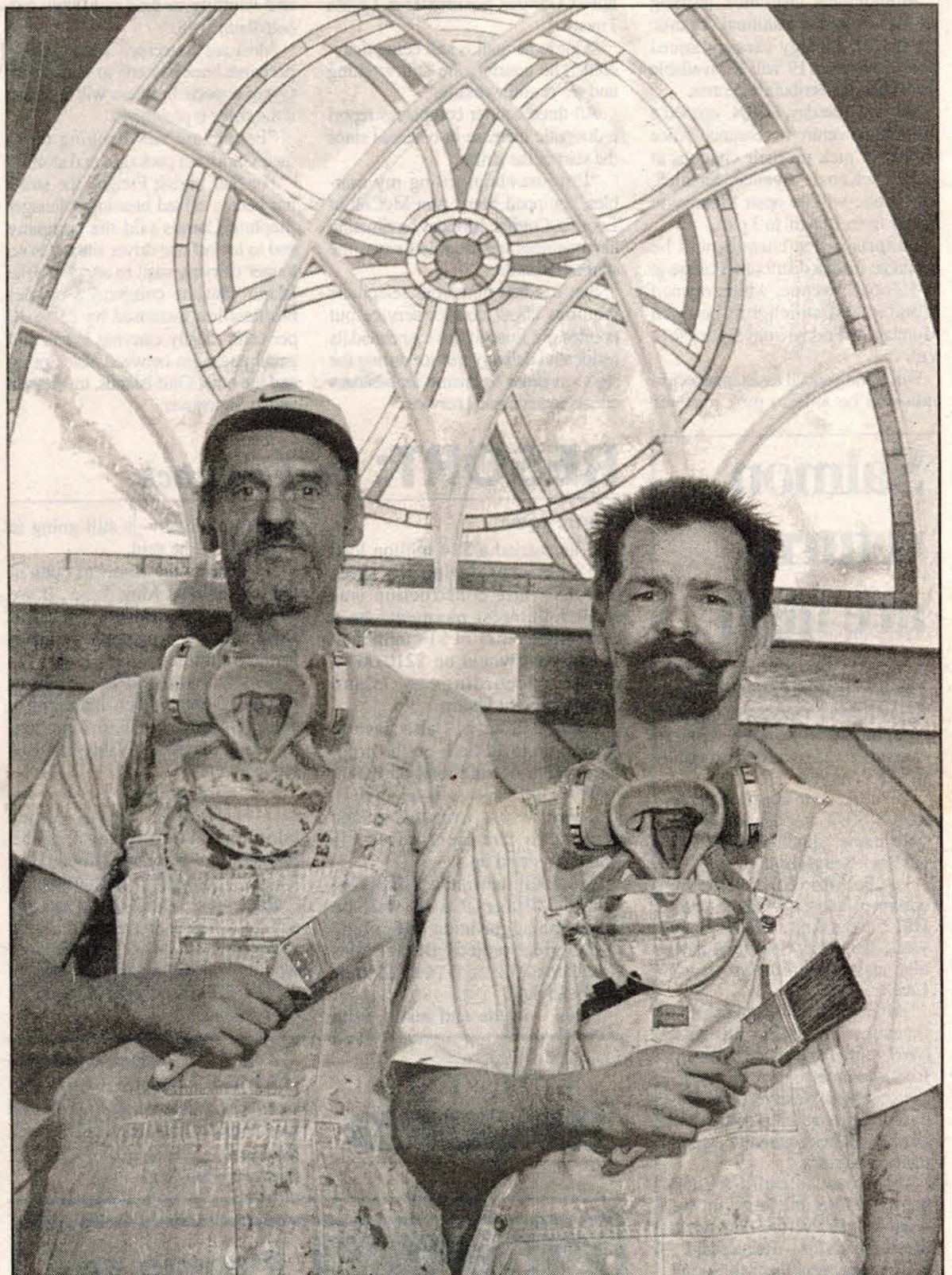
The provincial Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks is now considering charges following a rash of wood poaching from the Mount Tuam and Mount Maxwell ecological reserves.

If convicted, poachers can face up to three years in jail or a fine of up to \$1 million. Other penalties could include a \$100 to \$150 violation ticket.

Up to five or six different vehicles have been seen heading into the reserves two or three times a week, said ministry area supervisor Ross Dawson. Theft of wood is the most common problem but some people are also taking mushrooms and decorative plants, such as salal, boxwood and fern.

"We've had problems of trees being poached and all kinds of other goodies," Dawson said.

TREE POACHING A3



### Holy polyethylene rollers

Mark Hemmingsen, left, and Tony Roland pause from their busy work schedule which involves returning the Burgoyne United Church interior to its original condition after fire damaged the church last August. The two

have used 90 gallons of stripper, sanded it twice and are now applying a third application of polyethylene. Islander Dennis Marshall has repaired the glass window seen in the rear.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Parade cancelled

Saturday's Festival of Lights parade in Ganges has been cancelled due to a limited number of participants. The choral music concert which was to follow the parade has also been cancelled.

However, Light-Up activities — including a visit by Santa Claus — will proceed as scheduled.

Details — Page B1.

## Gzowski solves Spindrift kazoo mystery

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Driftwood Staff

It could have been a bestselling mystery: The Missing Kazoo of Spindrift Resort.

But instead it became a friendly exchange of wits beginning with Peter Gzowski's visit to the resort a few years ago and ending with his public island appearance Friday.

As Gzowski, the former CBC Radio Morningside host, interviewed himself for the audience at All Saints By-the-Sea, part of the mystery unfolded.

"Have you ever been accused of stealing anything?" he asked himself.

"Yes," he replied. "A kazoo."

But forget Gzowski's quaint fact-turned-fictional account of the missing

kazoo. For the real story, the Driftwood talked to Spindrift's Maureen Bendick.

Gzowski had stayed at the resort a few years ago. At Spindrift, explained Bendick, each cottage contains unique items, like the Rose's \$4 kazoo and instruction sheet. The items were there when Gzowski entered, but not when the cottage was given a thorough cleaning about a month later.

Knowing Gzowski has a sense of humour, Bendick used her own in writing a letter to him. She said she and co-owner Sharon McCollough would understand if the kazoo inadvertently got mixed up with his socks and underwear. The tongue-in-cheek tone of the letter continued: It wasn't a big deal, she told him, "but if As It

Happens calls me I'm going to have to tell them something."

Bendick said she never heard anything until about one year later when she received a call from Gzowski's assistant, Shelley Ambrose, who apologized profusely because the letter had just been found unopened in a desk at CBC Radio.

Ambrose said Gzowski was "horried" that this had happened and told Ambrose to call Bendick and "give her anything she wants."

Bendick's response was "I think you should send Vicky Gabereau over to Salt Spring for a couple of days."

Unfortunately, that request was never granted and Bendick said she completely forgot about the whole incident — until Gzowski reminded

her of it in front of more than 200 people on Friday.

"Until today, I have always denied taking (the kazoo)," Gzowski said. He explained that when he found he couldn't play it "even with the instructional sheet," he planted it in downtown Toronto and it grew into a ukulele. With Bendick in the audience, he was pleased to present her with the resulting ukulele.

Bendick had her own quip to make at that point. All the details in his story were correct, she said, except for one. "It was a baby grand."

While Gzowski may have lightened his load by giving Bendick the ukulele, he left with a souvenir of comparable weight — a bona fide, Fulford Morningside Drive sign.

# Government cheques available despite week-old postal strike

Island mail and some government cheques are being delivered despite the nation-wide postal strike which started last Wednesday.

Brenda Shufflita of Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) said the postal union has agreed to deliver today's Old Age Security, Canada Pension Plan and government annuity cheques as usual.

Employment insurance, training allowance and transitional Atlantic groundfish strategy cheques issued after November 19 will be available from cheque distribution centres.

Starting Tuesday, HRDC opened a distribution centre for Saanich office clients to pick up their cheques at 1359 McKenzie Avenue, Saanich. The centre will be open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Victoria office cheques will be available from a distribution centre at 775 Topaz Avenue, which opened Monday and which will be open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Salt Spring social assistance recipients will be able to pick up their

cheques from the government agent's office, 348 Lower Ganges Road, starting at 1 p.m. today.

Recipients living on other Gulf Islands will have to pick up their cheques from the Sidney social services office today, Thursday or Friday. The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Salt Spring residents will be able to mail other Salt Spring residents, noted Ganges postmistress Lynda Traer.

"Our local mail is still being delivered. The couriers are still working and we're still working."

All three courier companies report a dramatic increase in business since the start of the strike.

"I'm just about losing my marbles," quipped Mary Ann McColl of Loomis Courier Monday, estimating her business has doubled since the start of the strike.

She has had numerous telephone inquiries about courier service but pointed out Loomis has suspended its residential delivery service during the strike in order to ensure its business clients receive good service.

Courier companies cannot replace the post office and still maintain good service, she notes. "None of the couriers, in effect, can be the post office."

Telephone calls and a daily 10 per cent increase in business has been what Ace Courier owner-operator Lisa Owen has experienced since the start of the strike. "Things are pretty busy - lots of people wanting quotes and wanting to find out if we can help them at all."

Most are concerned about getting packages back east and to Vancouver. Owen expects business will increase if the strike is prolonged.

"People are still hanging on to their Christmas packages and stuff."

For Salt Spring Freight, the strike has been a mixed blessing. Manager Stephen Combs said the company had to lay off one driver since it is no longer carrying mail to and from the island. But the company's courier business has increased by 25 to 30 per cent, mostly carrying letters and small packages between Salt Spring and the other Gulf Islands, to Victoria and to Vancouver.

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## Salmon returns are high

Salt Spring Salmon Enhancement Society biologist Kathy Reimer reports that returns of Coho Salmon to Cusheon and Fulford creeks exceeded expectations for this year.

"We've now counted more than 80 fish in Cusheon Creek with many pairs above the fish ladders," Reimer said.

On Fulford Creek there are spawners below the falls on Lee's Hill for the first time in many years, she noted. Some fish have also started to return to Duck Creek.

But Reimer said conservation measures are still required. "We've had increased pressure from sports fishermen this year," she observed. Next year, she predicts closures at the mouth of the creeks will be required to protect the salmon stock.

"We want to build a good sports fishing industry but we want to preserve the runs when the stocks are low," Reimer said.

This past year the Salt Spring society received \$48,000 through the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans to upgrade Cusheon Creek, Stowel Creek, Mansell Creek and MacAfee Creek. The money also had to provide training for unemployed youth and fisheries industry workers.

## RESORT: Back on track

From Page 1

said he carried a \$14 million loan at 18 per cent during the three months while construction was stalled. Interest payments on a construction loan of \$14 million at 18 per cent would be \$210,000 a month, according to Island Savings Credit Union.

Hauff said he will also have to clear eight to 12 liens on the property, which he said total \$500,000 to \$550,000. He said he invited the contractors working on the project to file liens after his financing dried up.

Hauff still thinks the Salt Spring Island Village Resort will be worth the aggravation, describing it as a great project. Before sales were halted, he said, 14 to 18 units had been sold.

"This - in the end result, with

all the problems - is still going to be worth it," he said.

He expects the resort to open at the end of next May. "... if we can get back into construction December 15, we should be open for next summer."

Hauff is amused by the high profile of the project, including a song, Goofers Pig Farm, penned by island musicians Valdy and Bill Henderson.

The term goofers arose from one of Hauff's quotes about islanders. The pig farm is the brainchild of resort neighbour Eric Booth, who opposes the project.

Hauff said he is willing to contribute a verse or two to Valdy's song and said the two singers would be receiving an invitation.

"We'll definitely have them at the opening."

## FOR THE RECORD

A group of women mistakenly identified as Hospital Auxiliary members in last week's Driftwood was actually the Anglican Church Women, selling goods at All Saints By-the-Sea.



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# Passengers injured in single vehicle crash

A 17-year-old driver has been charged with driving too fast for road conditions, after he lost control of a 1996 Saturn and spun off Fulford-Ganges Road just south of Blackburn Road.

The accident, which caused about \$5,000 damage to the vehicle, occurred last Wednesday just before 3 p.m.

Two passengers in the car, a 16-year-old female and 19-year-old male, suffered whiplash and lacerations.

In other police news:

- Two 42-year-old men were handed 24-hour driving suspensions in separate incidents on Salt Spring last week.

On Tuesday at about 5:45 p.m., police stopped a Pender Island man after receiving a tip about a possible impaired driver.

A driving prohibition was issued and police seized 13 cans of beer from the car.

A second 24-hour driving prohibition was given to a Salt Spring man just after midnight on Wednesday.

- A 53-year-old Salt Spring

## RCMP REPORT

driver has been charged with driving without a licence and insurance after he was stopped by local police on Frazier Road last Tuesday at 9:15 p.m.

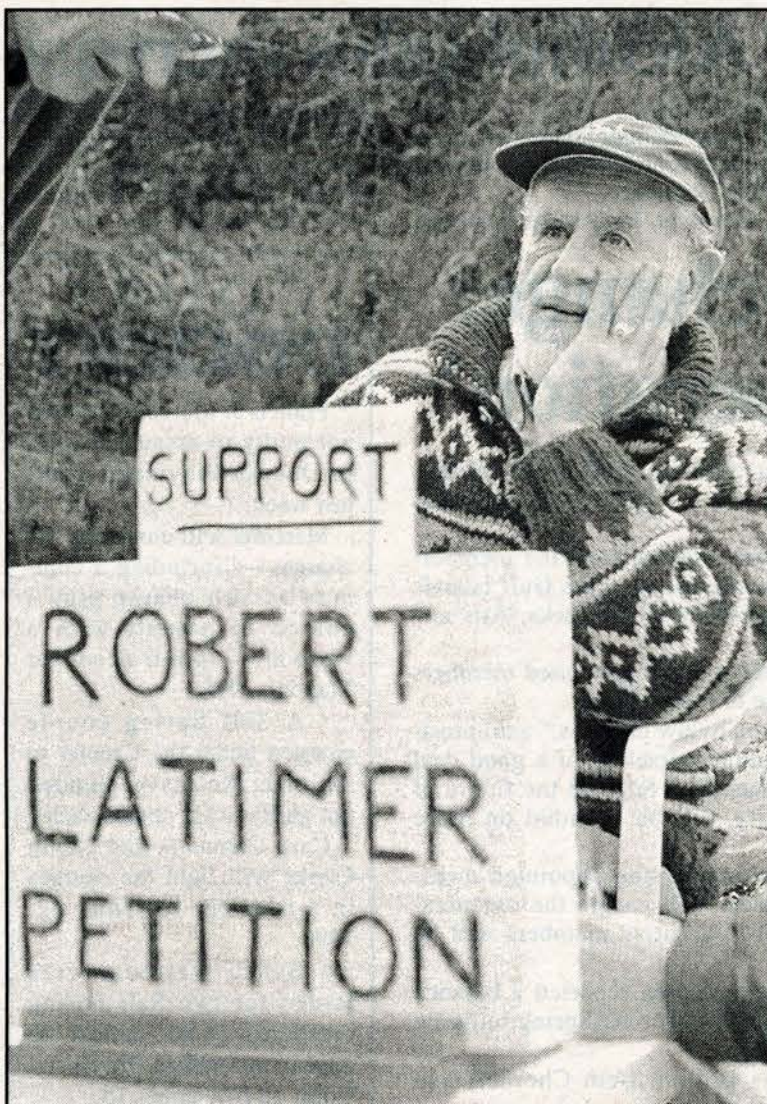
The car's licence plate was also seized as it had previously been reported stolen.

- A cordless drill has been found and turned into the local police detachment. Anyone missing a drill should contact the RCMP to claim it.

- Party-goers left without incident after the host of a party called police and requested assistance last Friday night.

Police said the host invited 15 people to a party and over 70 showed up.

- Police are once again accumulating a number of found bicycles. Those who have had a bike stolen or lost in the last two months should drop by the police station and survey the collection of bikes.



### Politics of pressure

Jack Hallam of Salt Spring believes people must speak out against the law that recently gave Robert Latimer a second-degree murder conviction. Hallam gathered several signatures on a petition set up outside the Peter Gzowski reading at All Saints on Friday.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

## HOW TO REACH US

Use the telephone extension number of the person you wish to reach for calls during office hours, and after hours for faster access to our voice mail system.

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## TREE POACHING: From reserve

From Page 1

One person was seen taking wood within 20 feet from the sign identifying the area as an ecological reserve.

"We're not talking casual ... there's a lot of money involved in wood theft."

While some poachers may feel it is okay to take wood from deadfalls as long as no trees are cut, Dawson said the deadfalls are a part of the natural environment and should not be disturbed.

"When a tree comes down, it does let other wildlife eat and feast off it."

Such decaying wood is a bonanza for the rest of the forest. "These are the food for the trees, essentially."

Ecological reserves are special places which should not be disturbed, Dawson said. Even more than parks, they are designed to

allow the natural cycle of the environment to continue without human influence.

Illegal harvesting of plants, the creation of trails and hunting in ecological reserves all defeat the purpose of the reserve. Outstanding features of the Mount Tuam reserve include stands of arbutus and a variety of rare plants. The Mount Maxwell reserve includes the largest protected stand of Garry oaks in the province along with unusual species of desert-parsley and prickly-pear cactus.

"Ecological reserves are created because of their uniqueness, for scientific benchmarks and research purposes," Dawson pointed out. "Disruption to the natural process detracts from the purpose for which they have been created."

Island residents can help preserve the reserves by ensuring any firewood they purchase has not come

from a reserve.

Although the ministry had ecological wardens keeping an eye on the reserves, Dawson said those who spot suspicious activity could help by recording licence plate numbers, details of the incident and descriptions and passing that information to the ministry.

Dawson can be reached at 250-391-2300 or by fax at 250-478-9211.

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Liquor consumption was up on Pender Island last year but down on Salt Spring.

The annual report of the B.C. Liquor Distribution Branch for 1996-97 shows the volume of sales at the Pender Island liquor store rose seven per cent to

## Alcohol sales increase on Pender

160,864 litres.

At the Ganges liquor store, total volume dropped four per cent to 582,879 litres.

However, both stores recorded

increases in revenues. The Ganges store sold \$4,187,023 worth of liquor products, up slightly from the year before. Pender's revenues were up seven per cent at

\$1,016,315.

Product mix remained about the same as last year. At Ganges, spirits accounted for 11.1 per cent of sales, wine was 26 per cent,

beer 56.1, and ciders and coolers 6.8.

At Pender, consumers purchased more beer. It accounted for 62.5 per cent of sales. Spirits represented 9.4 per cent, wine 21.1 and ciders and coolers, seven per cent.

## ArtSpring change: 'more cooperation'

The Island Arts Centre Society increased the number of representatives on its board of directors from 11 to 13 at the group's annual general meeting Thursday.

The board will now have 11 directors elected from the membership and two appointed members, one representing the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council and one representing the Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission.

The society also changed its bylaws to allow appointed members to vote, although they will not be able to hold office.

"Lots of views were expressed on the bylaw changes," said president Bob Weeden. "We needed to remind ourselves of a good deal of society history. In the end, most members felt that the future of our wonderfully creative community will be founded on more cooperation among all the players."

However, Weeden pointed out that prohibiting appointed members from holding offices in the society will ensure the organization maintains its group identity since executive members will be elected by society members.

At the meeting, treasurer Raymonde Vachon reported a balance of \$23,317, not including \$36,623 added to the ArtSpring building fund.

Elected to the board were Phyllis Bolton, Beth Cherneff and Richard Moses.

Incumbents returned to the board were Patricia Fraser, Karin Weber and Weeden.

They join Jean Addison, Chris Chapman, Bill Curtin, Joan Farlinger and Vachon.

Lawrie Neish is the arts council representative on the board and Wayne Fraser represents the recreation commission.

The society is hoping to receive a \$200,000 federal-provincial infrastructure grant but has not heard if its application has been successful. In the meantime, work has proceeded on the outside of the building, preparing for landscaping, building steps and putting in bridge abutments for a bridge across the creek in front of ArtSpring.

"To open the building would take \$605,000 and to operate it for a year would be \$55,000," Weeden said.

Without a grant, the society will have to raise \$280,000. If the grant is not received, Weeden said a campaign will be held this spring to raise the remaining \$280,000.

Still to be resolved is the issue of sufficient water flow in Ganges to operate a sprinkler system. The building cannot be completed and opened until that problem is resolved, Weeden said.

He said the society will attempt to solve that problem on its own so work on ArtSpring can proceed.

"We're pursuing everything we can right now."

### COURT DOCKET

Francis J. Marcotte pleaded not guilty to assault charges in Duncan Provincial Court last week.

Marcotte will challenge the charges — including a common assault charge plus a charge of assault with a weapon — in a trial set for May 29, 1998.

• A Salt Spring couple charged under the Cruelty to Animals Act have pleaded not guilty to six counts each.

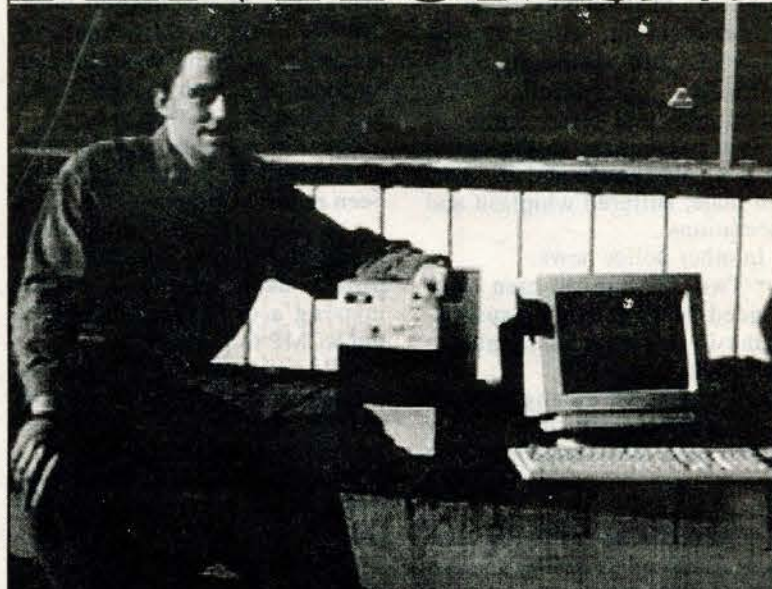
Cara Clements and Kevin Clarke will fight the charges in a trial set for June 22, 1998.

• Bench warrants were issued for two Salt Spring residents who failed to appear in Duncan Provincial Court on November 18.

A warrant was issued for Michael Patrick Clancy, who was scheduled to make a first appearance in court to answer to a mischief charge.

Cindy L. Smith also failed to appear in court on three counts of failing to comply with a probation order.

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# Society job split in 2

Job-sharing at the helm of the Salt Spring Community Services Society is expected to benefit the agency and improve the quality of life for current director Jane Parlee.

As of January, the service society's directorship will be split in two and shared by Parlee and Paul Gregory, who is director of adult counselling.

In addition to freeing up time for Parlee's other activities, the move will aid the agency as it moves into an accreditation period.

Because Gregory is a qualified therapist, his position will add clinical expertise to the agency directorship, augmenting Parlee's administrative abilities.

"This will go along way to serving the needs of the agency," Parlee said.

In the four years she has been director, the agency has added several programs, but has not expanded its administration.

"Each is a full-time job on its own," Parlee said.

However, it is unlikely the jobs will be designated as full-time because the agency prefers to put most of its funding into direct services and not administration, she said.

Under the new system, Gregory will take on mental health services, including alcohol and drug programs, psychiatric nursing, emergency mental health, mental health housing, mental health advocates, community workers, Outer Islands crisis workers, Family Place, food bank and ASTAT (Adult Short-Term Assessment and Treatment) services.

Parlee will be responsible for McGoldrick Home, Community Initiatives, Christmas Bureau, volun-

teers, recycling depot, wellness coordinator, youth and family support workers, special services to children, Our House Group Home, child mental health, diversion program, climbing wall, affordable housing, building and grounds.

They each have some separate administrative duties and will share areas such as accreditation, strategy and planning.

Gregory, who has been with the agency for five years, currently works at two half-time jobs. He is the director for adult counselling, plus the ASTAT community therapist.

When he takes on the position of co-director, he will drop the ASTAT job.

Gregory, who has Masters degrees in education (specializing in psychology) and social work, is looking forward to his new job.

"I think it will be challenging and interesting," he said. "I also think it will be good for the agency - Jane and I work well together."

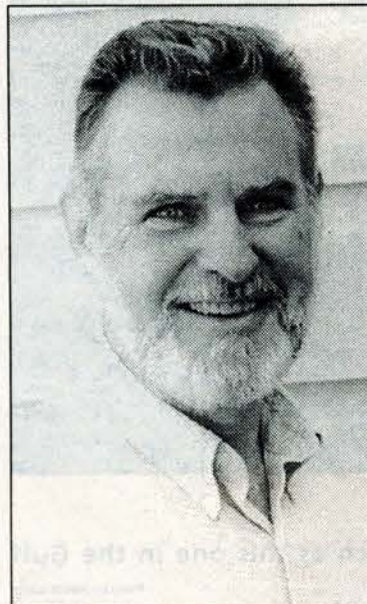
Parlee, who is also a member of the Gulf Islands School Board and sits on the provincial Children's Tribunal Panel, is looking forward to having some personal time. She also has three of her own children, a stepson and two foster children.

"The personal time part is very exciting to me," she said. "A couple of days a week, part of the day will be time for me - I've never worked half-time in all my adult working life."

She also says the change is seen at the agency as a good one: "The staff is totally positive about it," Parlee said. "I've had no negative feedback."



Jane Parlee



Paul Gregory

**JOB-SHARING:** Community Services Society director Jane Parlee will share her position with society employee Paul Gregory beginning in January.

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803	12:15pm	Airport	Ganges	12:40pm	daily
804	12:45pm	Ganges	Airport	1:15pm	daily
805	3:00pm	Airport	Ganges	3:25pm	daily
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403	3:30pm	Mon-Fri. Vanc.	Islands	4:00-4:30pm
405	9:00am	Saturday Vanc.	Islands	9:30-10:00am
406	9:30am	Saturday Islands	Vanc.	10:30-11:00am
407	2:00pm	Sunday only Vanc.	Islands	2:30pm-3:00pm
408	2:30pm	Sunday only Islands	Vanc.	3:30-4:00pm

  
\*May stop at: Maple Bay (Vanc. Isl.), Miners Bay (Mayne Isl.), Telegraph Hrbr (Thetis Isl.), Bedwell Hrbr (S. Pender Isl.), Lyall Hrbr (Saturna Isl.), Ganges (Salt Spring Isl.) One way fare to/from these islands is \$63 + GST one way  
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Is the Cusheon Lake roadwall a typical Rammed Earth wall?

Protecting the marine environment will be the focus of a two-day workshop set for this weekend.

Southern Gulf Islands Marine Protected Areas Workshop will bring together community groups, individuals, stakeholders and government agencies.

The purpose of the workshop, running this Friday and Saturday with an optional boat tour on Sunday, is to edu-

# Marine environment scrutinized

cate the public on local marine conservation issues and to canvass stakeholders on what marine resource values and interests they view as important.

Presentations from scientists and government agencies will provide an overview of the local marine environment, impacts and opportunities for

marine conservation in the region, including the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

During group sessions participants will inspect resource maps, discuss issues and identify values.

Registration for the workshop begins at noon Friday, followed by

speakers and discussion between 1 and 5:30 p.m. at Hart Bradley Hall.

The workshop continues the following day at Gulf Islands Secondary School with speakers and group sessions running between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Lunch and refreshments are provid-

ed both days.

The optional boat tour on Sunday will include a sub-tidal demonstration with audio/visual commentary from divers and underwater cameras.

Registration fee for Saturday and Sunday is \$25 for non-government groups and individuals, and \$40 for government representatives. Contact Fiona Flook at 653-9202 or Jacky Booth at 653-4761 for more information.



Picture perfect

Mirror-calm seas suggest it is not a good day for sailing. However, crisp November weather presents ample opportunity for enjoying

scenic sights such as this one in the Gulf Islands.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

# Scholarship taxi pulled off run while noisy engine examined

The water taxi Scholarship is out of service until excessive noise caused by the installation of an engine is resolved.

Water Taxi owner Jack Hughes said the boat was taken off the school district water taxi run November 18 and was sent to the Vancouver company which supplied the new engine.

Recommendations from that company to reduce the noise will be implemented, Hughes said.

"The boat is noisy and we'll fix it," he said Monday.

The action followed a November 12 school board meeting at which Galiano parents complained about exces-

sive noise on the boat. Some parents also raised concerns about overcrowding and supervision of students riding the water taxi.

Hughes said none of the boats have ever been overloaded and noted there is always a teacher on board the runs between Mayne and Salt Spring.

# SPCA auction raises \$4472

The third annual Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals goods and services auction November 15 raised \$4472.81.

More than 100 goods and services were knocked down during the evening, either in a live or in a silent auction.

Treasurer Gordon McCrea expected most of the money raised will support SPCA programs since expenses were minimal.

"Everybody worked hard and did as much as they could to make it work," he said.



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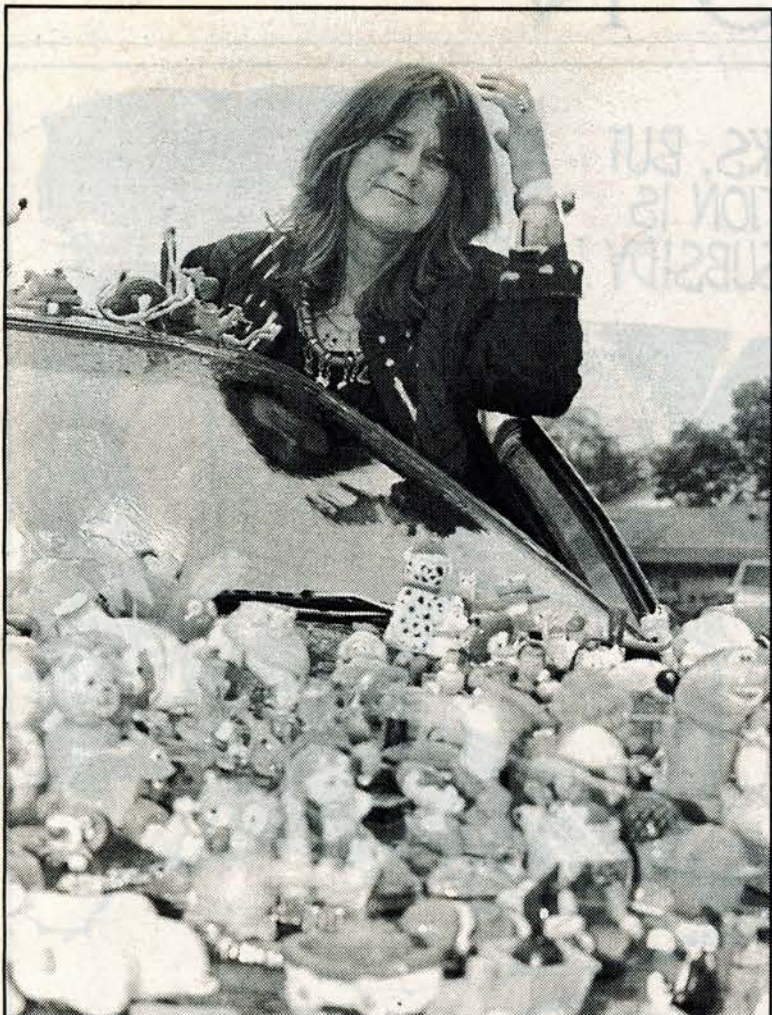
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**Toy story**

Writer Susan Musgrave's toy-studded car drew numerous glances from islanders last week as she travelled to Salt Spring to facilitate a poetry workshop. She says the car, which has toys pasted onto its hood and roof, is nowhere near completion.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

# Parents, students, school staff join in events at education day

A day devoted to learning drew together more than 400 parents, teachers and students last Wednesday.

The Gulf Islands' second community-wide Education Day offered free workshops aimed at staff, community members, parents and children. One of the most popular sessions was the keynote speech by Peter Norman, regional coordinator for the provincial Ministry of Education. His topic, *Where is Education Going: A Layman's Guide*, drew 350 listeners.

Also popular was a workshop on multiple intelligences presented by Karen Reynolds and Margaret Fulton. Salt Spring Elementary principal Kevin Vine, who oversaw registration for the day, said more than 60 people chose that session from among the 28 available workshops.

Especially popular were the sessions

for students: basketball with Tony Mason, Thomas McPhee's cartoon art class, Betty Peters' archery session and Patricia Brown's mixed media art camp.

Of those attending, Vine estimates 150 to 175 were community members, including 50 people who took advantage of the water taxi service to attend from the Outer Islands. The remaining participants were district staff, he said.

Vine felt the greatest advantage of the event was that "for one day, the entire Gulf Islands school population were in one place, focussed on learning."

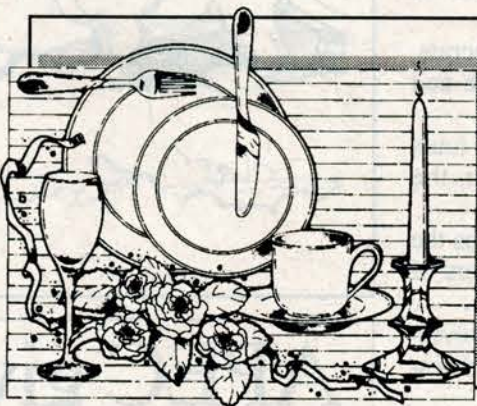
Vine said the event was organized by a "rag-tag fleet of volunteers," including school district employees, parents and community members. Each took on a job and the pieces fit together like a jigsaw puzzle, he said.

Vine said a follow-up meeting will be held to review the event and determine what worked and what could be improved for next year. He said he has not heard any criticism of the day and would like to see it offered again next year.

However, that may depend on provincial Ministry of Education funding, which financed this year's event. If that funding is eliminated, Vine said the district may want to hold a community-oriented education day instead of one of the scheduled professional development days.

Superintendent Andrew Duncan said both the informal interaction between the education system and the community was as important as the formal workshops.

"I thought it was great. It's just the kind of stuff we need to do," he said.



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# Trustees take small step towards school closure

School trustees reluctantly raised the spectre of closing Saturna School recently by approving a notice of motion which projected possible closure of the school as early as next June.

The motion, to be considered at the December 3 board meeting, states "if the projected enrolment for the 1998/1999 school year as of April 30, 1998 is below eight full-time equivalent students, Saturna Island School could be closed on June 30, 1998."

The motion also notes that, regardless of projected enrolment, if actual enrolment as of September 30, 1998 is below eight full-time students, the school could be closed as of December 31.

But trustees were not happy at the thought of five and six-year-olds riding a water taxi to school on Mayne Island, so also agreed to consider alternate ways to offer education on the island.

They also agreed a meeting should be held on Saturna to collect input from the community before the December school board meeting.

Superintendent Andrew Duncan noted existence of an on-island school is crucial to the Saturna community.

Duncan pointed out factors like high land prices and limited jobs tend to restrict the number of families able to move to the island. He projected the population of elementary school age children will likely stay at six to 10 youngsters.

"Eight is the magic number," he said. According to the School Act, the Ministry of Education can close any school with fewer than eight students.

Although Duncan doubts Minister of Education Paul Ramsey will descend on Saturna and close the school, he noted it is difficult for a district with an \$800,000-plus deficit to justify keeping a school open for six full-time students and one half-time Kindergarten student.

"We're under scrutiny due to our financial situation. We have to behave responsibly with taxpayers' money," he said.

Pender trustee Russ Searle said the motion will officially notify Saturna parents that the school could be closed and will also demonstrate to the Ministry of Education that the school board is taking action.

Salt Spring trustee Jane Parlee said she did not want to see five to seven-year-olds riding a water taxi to and from school. After visiting Saturna and the school at the November school board meeting, she said it became harder to consider closing the two-room school.

"We have a real community school on a real island," board chairman Charles Hingston agreed. Without compelling educational and financial reasons, he felt the school should not be closed.

Brainstorming, trustees proposed various ways to offer education on Saturna, including:

- A school similar to Phoenix School with children partially home-schooled and partially attending a school staffed by parent volunteers and a half-time teacher;

- Distributed learning, based on technology, which would allow students to combine correspondence courses with online computer courses to complete their schooling without leaving the island.

But Hingston said he would send a six-year-old on a water taxi to another island before putting the child at a computer to learn, citing the importance of social contacts, music, art and sports programs shared with other students.

For the moment, Hingston said, the most important goal is for the board to show the ministry that alternatives are being considered to resolve the situation on Saturna.

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# OPINION

## Park is best use

An early Christmas present was unwrapped for Salt Spring Islanders earlier this month when the Ministry of Environment finally agreed that the best use for Crown lands on Salt Spring was for park, conservation and watershed protection.

The agreement removed the last barrier to approving the island's official community plan (OCP), which had identified "public recreation, conservation and watershed protection" as the best uses for the 825 hectares (2,060 acres) of Crown-owned land.

Islanders have tried for years to convince the province that Salt Spring's Crown lands need to be preserved, ideally as part of a regional park or reserve.

But a cash-strapped provincial government has been eyeing its bank of Crown land as a possible source of revenue if the land were to be sold or developed.

Islands Trust planner Linda Adams is credited with pointing out the difficulties of developing any of the Crown lands. Access problems, terrain and location of the properties — one of which lies completely within a community watershed area — all hamper development.

It's great to see the ministry fall into line with local wishes to see Crown lands preserved but the delay in their agreement gives rise to some interesting speculation.

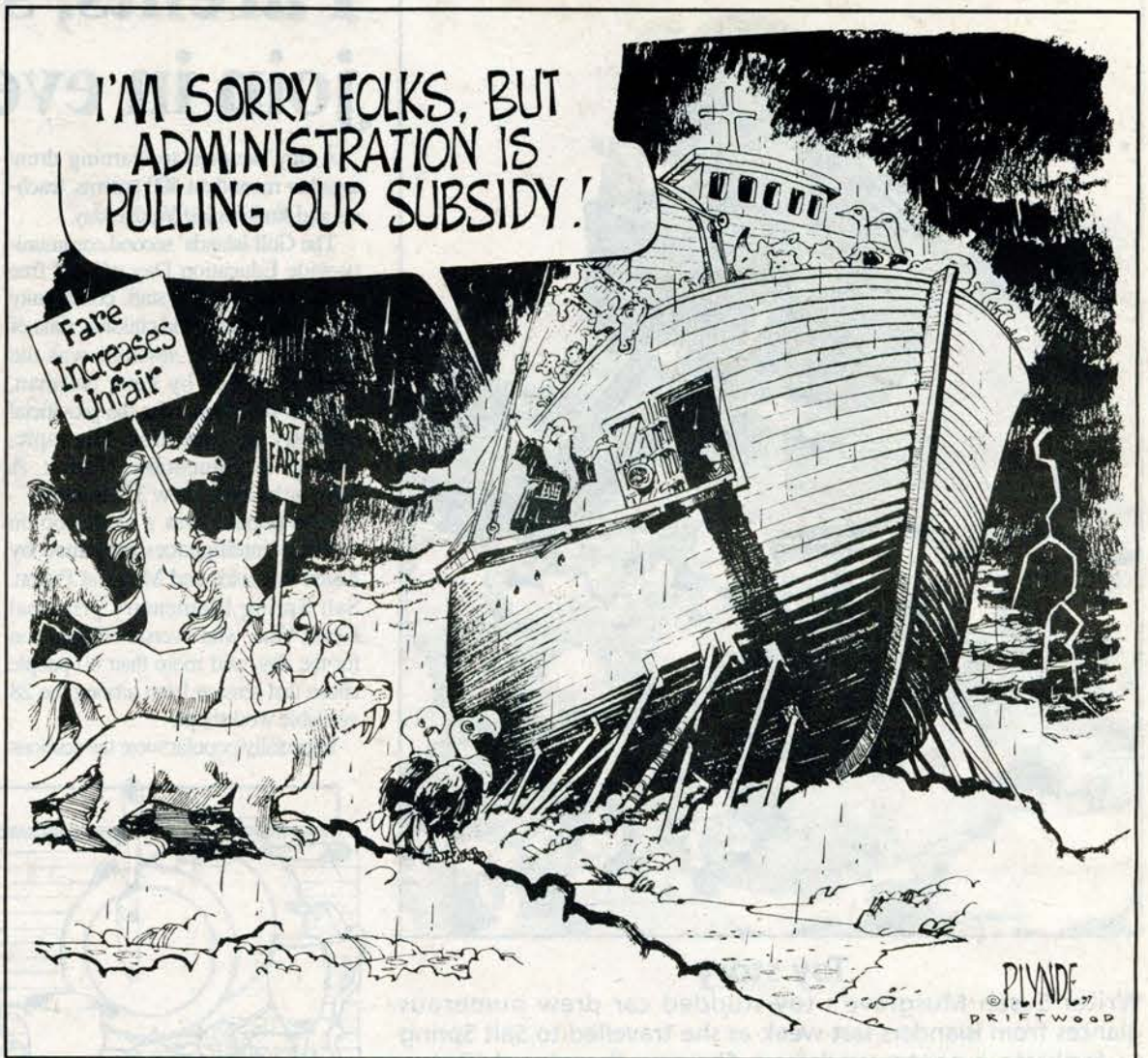
Just what other options did the province see for those parcels of land?

Development of retirement condos for provincial bureaucrats, tiered in rows like those which march up the slopes of North and West Vancouver's hills?

Site of a destination resort, accessible only by helicopter, with tours designed to display the quaint local wildlife like the deer, the Saturday market shoppers and the Centennial Park drummers?

From a mountaintop patch of Crown-owned property, perhaps the world's largest water slide, with users dropping into the waters of Satellite Channel?

Fortunately not. Park is better. Now it only remains for the provincial government to take their acknowledgment a step further and designate Salt Spring's Crown land as parkland.



## Doing without the post office

Bring on the e-mail. There's nothing like human interference with the cogs of mail delivery to make technology look good. Computers may be cold, unfeeling and socially isolating but they don't go on strike.

And if everyone sent all their correspondence through a stream of on-off computer pulses, think how much wear and tear would be saved on the tongues spared the licking of those vile-tasting stamps.

Users can even send their Christmas cards via e-mail, complete with animation and music. Admittedly, such cards look a little silly strung up over the mantle — unless the recipient is willing to add a little glitter and spray paint to the computer disks.

Joking aside, technology is cutting into traffic once handled through the Canadian postal system. In the past three years especially, as Internet access and use has boomed, an increasing number of companies and individuals have switched to e-mail.

Fax and courier services offer other alternatives for those unwilling to wait for traditional snail mail, the name given to stamp-borne letters by aficionados of electronic delivery.

But snail mail is still an important part of the Canadian economy. Mail-order businesses are being hit hard by the pre-Christmas strike as are the charities which rely on seasonal good will to fill their coffers.

And on the home front, thousands of Christmas cards, letters and packages are waiting for the end of the strike to be sent on their cheer-bringing way.

Although wage increases figure in the unresolved dispute, part of the issue is job protection and trying to convert more of the postal service's part-time employees to full-time work, an understandable goal for the union.

For Canada Post, the issue is flexibility and cutting costs by allowing the postal service to reduce jobs where necessary.

But the strike may backfire. Two decades ago Canadians were regularly held hostage by the pre-Christmas postal strike.

Now new technology and a competitive marketplace make such tactics risky. A shutdown of the postal system pushes more people to look to other options: e-mail, courier companies, and banking services such as direct deposit and others.

The longer this strike lasts, the more Canada Post customers will discover alternative delivery systems. And after the strike ends, some may never switch back to stamps.

## APEC gives Sukarta red carpet despite atrocities in East Timor

By DAVID MASSY

I find it difficult to understand how our government ministers were able to sit down this week at the APEC conference in Vancouver and hammer out trade agreements with representatives of some of the world's most brutal regimes, without requiring from them a drastic improvement in human rights.

I refer particularly to the government of Indonesia and the genocide which is taking place in East Timor, a situation described by Noam Chomsky as "the most obscene abandonment of world moral order since the holocaust."

East Timor was invaded in December 1975 just nine days after declaring its independence from Portugal. An estimated 100,000 Timorese were slaughtered within six weeks. Since then human rights groups and UN agencies have documented massive human rights violations including rape, forced abortions, sterilizations, mass executions, torture and the napalm bombing of whole villages.

By the 1980s the death toll had reached more than 200,000. Indonesian authorities concealed the genocide by closing the territory to foreign journalists. On November 12, 1991, the mask slipped when Indonesian troops massacred over 250 unarmed mourners in Dili, capital of East Timor. And this month there was a confrontation between East Timor university students and the police. The latter wounded several of the students, dragging one forcibly from an International Red Cross ambulance, severely beating him. Others were taken to a military hospital in Dili and reportedly tortured.

President Sukarta, now enjoying a warm welcome in Vancouver from our government, is directly responsible for the latest events in East Timor. Indeed it is an insult to the Canadian people that he has been given the "red carpet" treatment by our leaders who, in turn, will present the bill to the Canadian taxpayers, a sum amounting to about \$50 million.



Sukarta also goes back with new trade agreements at the expense of human rights. Were these mentioned at all? Mr. Chretien did say that he would raise the matter during the APEC meetings — "maybe at dinner or breakfast, I'll talk to the

guy but I can't tell you what meal it will be!"

And when Lloyd Axworthy was asked the same question, he obliquely referred to improvements in human rights made during his visit last January. This was a promise by the Indonesian government to move the National Human Rights Commission from Jakarta to Dili to allow the East Timorese to report violations more quickly. Apparently Mr. Axworthy neglected to check the new location of the commission — unfortunately in full view of the Indonesian police headquarters.

Meanwhile the torture and terror goes on while we do our Christmas shopping. My neighbour said to me this morning, "You know there are so many reports of violence in the papers that I find my well of compassion going dry."


What can the average person do to support the people of East Timor? One suggestion is to write to our government asking why Canada continues to support the genocide of the Timorese. Letters can be sent free of charge to both the prime minister and to Mr.

Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs, c/o the House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6. Letters can also be sent to Premier Glen Clark with the same concern. (B.C. governments have consistently downplayed human rights while promoting trade.)

What we should be most ashamed of is that Canada and other western countries allow Indonesia to continue its genocidal war against East Timor by providing economic and military aid. If we do nothing as individuals to protest this, we are sending a message to President Sukarta that we condone what he is doing in East Timor.

The writer is a member of the Salt Spring East Timor Group.

**If we do nothing ... we are sending a message to President Sukarta that we condone what he is doing in East Timor.**



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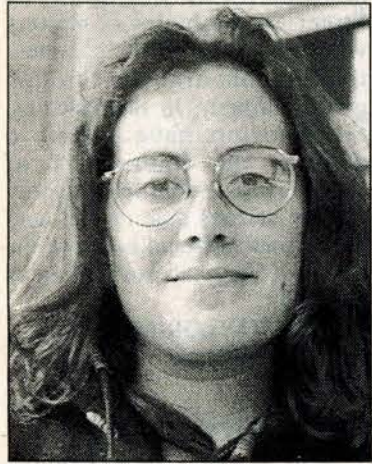
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# SALT SPRING SAYS

## We Asked: What book are you reading?



**Alison Came**

*I'm actually reading about four. Probably the most interesting one is a book about millennium and how the world and media react to the end of the century.*



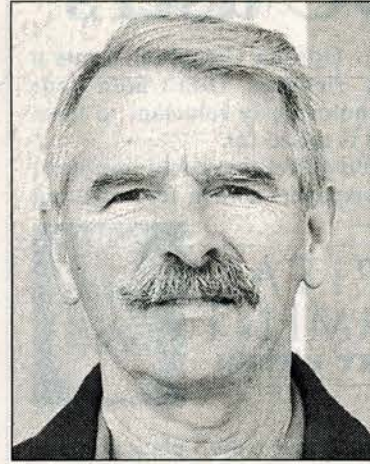
**Kevin Hughes**

*None, just haven't had time.*



**Jim Andrews**

*Len Deighton's Winter. It's a fictional book about events leading up to World War II but it is all based on facts.*



**Gary Fletcher**

*I don't have one I can tell you. I'm not reading a book right now.*



**Lorien Hammond**

*I'm reading the Robert Jordan series called The Wheel of Time. It's probably one of the best ones — I rate it up there with the Lord of the Rings.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Majority?

You're right, something needs to happen to protect our chosen island lifestyle. And, you're absolutely correct, increased publicity has encouraged all kinds of people to make Salt Spring Island their home. However, as far as the opinions and feelings of the majority of us islanders are concerned, I beg to differ!

A great population of this island are newcomers of the past 5 years, of which I am one. Why am I here? Not because of the likes of Arthur Black. I'd never heard of Arthur Black (my apologies Arthur!) until friends raved about his CBC radio program.

Growth is simply a part of the cycle of life. We all need somewhere to live and who are we to protect this precious lifestyle we enjoy from others to equally enjoy!

Arthur Black is an institution. He's proud of his island home and loves to share it with others. I hardly think the rest of Canada will drop what they are doing and move to Salt Spring Island because Arthur likes it here.

God forbid it ever gets out that someone would actually consider Arthur a "bubbling recent arrival in our midst!" Whose midst might that be, Ms. Poole? Certainly not the "majority of us islanders."

**JOHANNA BOOY,**  
Salt Spring Island

### True justice

Spokespersons for the disabled do a great disservice to those disabled persons whose condition might deteriorate to the point where they have severe intractable pain and are truly suffering. This was Tracy Latimer's condition.

The psychiatrist who was the last witness to testify at Robert Latimer's trial stated categorically that Latimer was a loving father who only ended Tracy's life because of her suffering which doctors had not been able to remedy. He further added that the Latimers had 13 years to end her life if they wanted to because she was disabled. She had not been put into an institution but had received loving care at home.

The operation in 1991 which severed her leg tendons and the spinal fusion operation in 1992 had not ended her pain. Her left hip had become dislocated and

she faced another operation and was on inadequate pain killers. Adequate pain killers such as morphine evidently interfered with the medication to control her frequent spasms.

Finally the pathologist testified that Tracy's brain had been deteriorating, probably since birth, which confirmed the Latimers' observation that Tracy's condition was steadily worsening.

Latimer did not end Tracy's life because of her disability but because of her intense and increasing pain. The guilty of murder verdict is unacceptable and the mandatory sentence is an affront to all those who believe in true justice.

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

### Travis loss

The sudden death of Esther Travis has considerably diminished the island's visual arts community. As the shock recedes we begin to realize how much we have lost.

Those who met Esther could never forget her. Those who never knew her came face to face with a part of Esther as they peered through tiny fish-eye lenses into the micro-environments of the boxes she crafted.

No project or idea was too big for Esther and she was always ready to take that extra step over the line of conventionality into the bizarre.

During the few short years we have known Esther her endeavours have evolved from the generalized exploration of subject and media to a specific consideration of the circumstances, which could place any one of us on the corner of Hastings and Main.

Her multi-media work exhibited clever solutions to technical problems. At exhibitions, people would line up to peer into the inner worlds she created. Any one of her pieces could evoke feelings of pathos, humour and beauty ... all at the same time.

With Esther so much has gone, all those dreams, all the art she had conceived but not yet created.

**MICHAEL ROBB,**  
**JUDITH BORBAS,**  
Alliance of Salt  
Spring Artists

## Obligatory nature of gift-giving spoils season for Christmas lover

By **SUSAN LUNDY**

Christmas. I love it; my husband would rather have a root canal.

Each December I happily move through yuletide rituals while he ignores them. At the solstice, he emerges from his misery momentarily for a brief celebration and then quickly retreats into his black shroud. Then, magically, on Boxing Day he awakens with a smile and I sink into an after-hype depression.

Many people have misgivings about Christmas and, I confess, even this ardent supporter is discovering aspects of the jolly season that dance in my head like prickly holly leaves.

In a Ganges store two weeks ago, someone confessed to starting her annual Christmas splurge early this year. The store proprietor nodded in understanding: it's easier to absorb the expense that way, he said.

Last year, I stood in line behind a woman at a department store check-out. She plunked down several plain blouses, netting a total cost of close to \$400, and claimed the nasty Christmas shopping deed was complete.

Also last December, I watched two adults move through a toy store, randomly shoving things into a cart and ticking names off a list.

Their conversation was spiced with comments like "not that she deserves a gift," and "I'm not even sure how old he is now."

The sense of duty was oppressive and my misgivings go on:

Sometime ago my family moved my grandmother from her condominium into a personal care situation. After she selected the items that would move with her into the smaller space, my cousins and I surveyed the remaining material. Much of this consisted of meaningless Christmas gift-type trinkets given in the spirit of "well, it's Christmas, she doesn't need anything, but we are obligated to find something."

My children truly delight in the gifts they receive at Christmas. But with gifts showered on them from every side of the family, very few emerge as "special." Many are forgotten once the next batch arrives.

And every year, I watch as items I cannot really afford are added to my MasterCard bill which is never fully paid off by the following Christmas.

It is not the Christmas season that is problematic — I appreciate the way community consciousness and caring is heightened during this period.

My misgivings centre around obligatory and unaffordable gift-



giving that is spurred by society's need to consume and measured by a process that equates "good gifts" with high price tags.

Sometimes, gifts are given to massage the gift-giver's ego rather than as a simple offering to another.

My husband's deploring of the Christmas season is not uncommon. As a child from a large family he recalls how the gifts he received did not match up to his peers'. He dislikes the obligatory nature of giving at Christmas and would prefer to see gifts given spontaneously at other times of the year. The consumerism and lack of spirituality (although he is not religious) drives him crazy. He also has a hard time with the sight of dusty, unused toys (and really hates stepping on toys in the dark — but that doesn't have much to do with Christmas.).

When I consider my own misgivings, I have to look closely at what it is that inspires me about the Christmas season.

I have a passion for bundling up the kids at night and driving into a blazing, colour-lit Ganges. I love tromping through the woods with an ax searching for a fallen tree, cutting off its top and dragging it back home to illuminate it with lights and handmade ornaments.

There's the Christmas carols, children's Christmas pageants, the smell of cooking turkey (despite the fact I've been a vegetarian for half my life), and the traditions my family follows year after year: Christmas dinner — unchanged except for the addition of a meatless stuffing — Christmas crackers and the coin-stuffed Christmas pudding.

Every year my now-deceased grandfather would "find" a watch in the Christmas pudding. It's a simple memory but one that sticks with me.

It is this essence of Christmas tradition and ritual that I wish to bestow upon my children — not the "importance" of trudging through a mall to buy an un-needed gift.

So as I began gathering gifts for Christmas this year, I decided to twist my brain and take a new look at gift-giving.

My brother is one person on my list that, I realize, falls into the category of obligatory gift-giving — not because I don't care for him (I do) and not even because we have little

in common and rarely see each other. My brother recently married into a wealthy family; he had a huge wedding and received every gift imaginable. He needs nothing I can afford to buy him.

So I have decided not to buy him anything. Instead, I have determined to be creative in either compiling, crafting or baking something.

As I consider this, I realize that although it takes a lot more effort to create something, I still feel uncomfortable about presenting a non-purchased item. It feels like I'm being cheap, when in fact, I'm giving it a great deal more thought, time and energy.

The purchasing of second-hand items also falls into this "uncomfortable" category. For the last few years, I've bought the most beautiful used dresses for my nieces and daughters. I spend hours seeking out these items and feel really good about the results. New, these dresses would cost \$50 or more each.

But I haven't managed to extend second-hand giving to the adults in my life. Despite environmental consciousness which urges us to reuse and recycle, and despite the many people who comb garage sales, "junk" stores and antique shops for personal use items, used goods just aren't seen as acceptable gifts.

I have, however, refrained from dropping any sort of "trinket" under the tree for my grandmother since her move several years ago. Her favourite gift is a hand-made calendar on which I paste photographic collages for each month.

I don't want Christmas to be drudgery. I don't want to "get the gift-buying over with so I can enjoy the rest of the season." I don't want to be broke in January and I don't want to buy into the Christmas flyer theory that I have to spend hundreds of dollars.

I would not take the gift-giving aspect away from Christmas. I have too much fun giving. But by putting some thought into it — money if you can afford it, creativity if you can't — the essence of giving reverts to its natural state. The obligatory nature disappears and it becomes more joyful.

And maybe some of the Christmas Grinches, like the humbug who resides in my home, will be magically transformed into Christmas cherubs.

(But somehow, I doubt it.)

*The writer is assistant editor at the Driftwood*

# Make ferry service free for BC users

**VICTORIA** — So Liberal leader Gordon Campbell wants a public inquiry into B.C. Ferries' finances. Don't hold your breath, Gordo. Governments are notoriously reluctant to have public inquiries. Nor am I sure one is called for.

What about the finances of the ferry fleet that could rout most of the world's navies if the B.C. taxpayers sprang for outfitting the ships with a few guns and missiles? Like navies, B.C. Ferries is costing us a lot of money.

With a fleet larger in numbers than the Canadian Navy, B.C. Ferries is caught between a rock and a hard place. On the one hand, it needs to continuously upgrade its aging fleet and terminal facilities; on the other hand, it is unable to break even, leave alone turn a profit.

The first time I travelled on the ferry was in 1969, after pulling up stakes at the Winnipeg Free Press in favour of a job at the Daily Colonist in balmy Victoria. Smart choice, eh?

Back then, the ferry vessels were tiny compared with today's super ferries, holding less than 200 cars. The Swartz Bay terminal in Sidney, near Victoria, was little more than a wooden shack. But at the time, the facilities sufficed.

Then the travel explosion happened. Tourist flocked to Vancouver Island in ever-increasing numbers. More islanders visited the mainland more often. B.C. Ferries responded by making its existing vessels bigger, extending them in length and, in some cases, cutting the ships lengthwise and adding a car deck.

That was sufficient for a while, but demand soon outstripped the Crown corporation's infrastructure. It became clear that more new vessels were needed. Eventually, two super ferries were added to the fleet and work is in progress on a number of catamarans.

All that is costing money, a lot of money. The corporation's latest annual report, released earlier this week, showed a \$76.5 million loss for the last fiscal year, compared with \$39.4 million the previous year.

To stem the tide of red ink, B.C. Ferries last week raised fares for the second time this year. That, however, won't be the answer. If fares are too high, passenger use will drop off, causing losses to go even higher.

There's one solution to the problem. Stop demanding that the ferry service has to operate on a break-even basis. Make the service free to British Columbians, but continue charging tourists.

To keep travel-happy British Columbians from abusing the free service, a quota system of free trips, based on the current average usage, could be established. Anyone using the ferries beyond their allocated quota would also pay. I'm sure a workable scheme could be hammered out.

A radical idea? Not at all. With the exception of the Coquihalla Highway, we travel on our road system free of charge. Even tourists don't pay to use our highways. The whole shebang is paid out of general revenue and nobody is asking for a public inquiry because keeping up the highway system costs a lot of money.

Dan Miller, the cabinet minister responsible for B.C. Ferries, seems to have come to a similar conclusion, saying that the ferries are an important and integral part of our transportation system and can't be expected to entirely pay for themselves.

Still, for some years now, governments at every level have been flirting with the user-pay philosophy. But isn't one of the government's basic functions to level the playing field, to make sure that costs are spread as evenly and equitably as possible?

Some people never set foot in a public library, but part of their taxes pays for libraries. People in Victoria pay their share for highways maintenance up north, even if they don't own a car. So what's the preoccupation with B.C. Ferries' operating losses?

The cost of operating the ferry system will keep going up. Losses will be unavoidable. And eventually, some government will again dust off the old proposals of a fixed link between Vancouver Island and the mainland. And sooner or later, the idea will make so much economic sense that the link will be built.

In the meantime, no public inquiry is going to change the fact that it costs more money to run the ferries than they can possibly generate in revenues.

Beyer can be reached at: tel: (250) 920-9300; fax: (250) 385-6783; e-mail: hubert@coolcom.com

## CAPITAL COMMENT HUBERT BEYER



# More letters

## Prototypes

I am taking the time to set down a few words in hopes that I can communicate a few of my ideas.

There are times when I sit and read the paper (maybe that was my first mistake) and I read reports of water shortages, flooding of valleys to harness more energy, logging of pristine watersheds to facilitate our raw log exports, sewage and other noxious elements seeping onto our groundwater and oceans, etc.

Like some of you, I sit back and take a sip of my coffee and turn to the sports page, slowly shaking my head. I guess it is a feeling of helplessness, really, that brings on the head shaking.

So far, living on Salt Spring has been most enjoyable and my family and I have felt encouraged by the strong sense of community here on the island. Looking at it objectively as a relative newcomer I see the polarity and diverseness of the islanders and their various forms of posture. What a positively wonderful mix of people we have here.

It is my wish to develop proto-

types for single and multiple dwelling that will incorporate ideas of the past with technology of the future. Sounds good, huh!?

Well, there are a few difficulties inherent with these ideas and I look forward to networking with others with similar goals to discuss solutions to the obstacles that lay ahead. In the meantime I wish to put out the word that I would appreciate any opportunity to learn about the following: various forms of solar installations, primary and secondary water system installation, Powersmart program work, alternate building shell-type construction, independent sewage systems. I can be reached at 537-8170 (pager).

**DION HACKETT,**  
Salt Spring

Stephen Leacock in Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town and Mordecai Richler with St. Urbain Street are examples of writers who immortalized their respective neighbourhoods through gentle humour. In their stories, these writers have helped to counter the impression of Canadians as a dour lot who only see the serious side of life, and we as readers would be much the poorer if they had not written as they did.

**SHERYL TAYLOR-MUNRO,**  
North End Road

## Big turkey

Well, so much for welcoming public comment. (David Borrowman's November 19 Driftwood letter.)

As for relish, at this time of year I am leaning towards cranberries and now that Victoria seems intent on giving us a really big turkey for Christmas, I guess all that's left is to figure out how to stuff it!

**DREW CLARKE,**  
Ganges

## Much poorer

Regarding Elizabeth Poole's letter in the November 19 issue of the Driftwood:

In support of Arthur Black, stories based on the experiences of an author's life in a specific community have been a welcome part of Canada's literary heritage.

**MORE LETTERS 11**

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# More letters

## More to story

Your brief article (October 29) regarding the Fulford Waterworks meeting paints a rather rosy picture of Fulfordites giving themselves a whopping big increase in their water rates. There is more to this.

The Fulford Waterworks District includes approximately 90 households and eight to 10 businesses.

The users have the following complaints: It is necessary to fix a leak in the line occasionally so we are without water for a few hours periodically; some say they require two or three filter changes before their water clarifies; sometimes the water pressure is low in the summer.

The water board, after expenses, clears about \$3,000 annually. This is not enough to install a larger (six-inch) water main. Therefore the board recommended an increase from \$60/year parcel tax to \$250/year on residential property, \$300 on commercial, the installation of meters (a \$300 one-time cost) and future use of the meters to change the \$180 flat rate to an estimated \$250-\$300/year.

The fairness of the resulting rate is arguable. The rate will take Fulford Waterworks from one of the lowest to the second highest on the island. The unfairness of the rate change lies with the over 100 per cent increase in one year.

The process in which this rate change has come about is extraordinarily unfair. A meeting was called with no opportunity to review any of the material prior to the meeting. About one third of the members were in attendance. We do not know if they were all members. After a review of the material, the board asked the members' approval under the advice that if the members did not vote in the affirmative the board had the right to change the rates regardless. Some of the members did not vote as they did not really understand what they were voting for.

The concerns and complaints of the community are relatively minor. It seems the larger long-term concerns are real but the waterworks board is being far too heavy-handed and hard-nosed in its search for a cure.

**MARION ANDREW,**  
Fulford Harbour

## Scapegoats

I was at the 3D slide show on Tibet Saturday. What was advertised as a documentation of a journey through Tibet was essentially propagandizing.

Occupation of lands and persecution of peoples under various

political regimes has been an international concern throughout history. It has never been condoned but, unfortunately, has always and continues to be practised. Bringing the Tibetan situation to the consciousness of the West is an important endeavour.

However, it is also important to emphasize that the abuse of human rights in Tibet is perpetrated by the Communist government of China, not the Chinese people. The Chinese themselves are victims of their own government. The situation in Tibet is political, not racial.

A casual comment from an audience member illustrates the take-home message of Mr. Greenspoon: "You Chinese have sure done some terrible things!"

Directing the blame against the Chinese population is not interchangeable with blaming the political structure ruling over it. To condemn the violation of human rights demonstrates a commitment to justice. To unwittingly scapegoat an entire people only perpetuates injustice.

**ANGIE MILLS,**  
Vesuvius

## No exclusion

Thank you, Arthur Black for your "endless burblings" about this wonderful paradise we are fortunate to call home — Salt Spring Island.

We have found an idyllic part of the world to live in and would be remiss as human beings to not want to share this magical place with others. How selfish and elitist to try to keep this to ourselves.

In fact, we would not have such a wonderful place if we had not encouraged the many weavers, artists, singers, musicians and potters to call this island home. Many of us attended the recent opera concert, and many will be attending the Christmas craft shows, the Tuned Air concert, the Salt Spring Singers concert, the folk concerts, etc., all of these have "recent arrivals" in their midst. It is this diversity of people, lifestyles and talents that have been woven together to make up the fabric of Salt Spring. How sad to have excluded even one because of a "drawbridge" mentality.

I don't believe any of us want uncontrolled growth or over-commercialization of our island, but let us encourage visitors to come and experience the "peace and quiet" Ms. Poole speaks of, and leave a little richer and happier for having been here.

**PAULINE JONES,**  
Salt Spring Island



### Ready for basketball

Members of a girls' group at the Core Inn celebrate the installation of new basketball hoops behind the downtown Ganges building. With them is Bert Beitel, manager of the Bank of Commerce, which donated \$500 for the project.

Photo by Tony Richards

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# Casting seeds is rewarding subversive action

A mild solution for winter blues and modern day blight is at hand.

I call it arbutage (casting arbutus seed + sabotage). It is the passive, yet expansive gesture of throwing arbutus seeds at everything that offends you in the hope that the object of offence will one day be obscured behind a forest of arbutus trees.

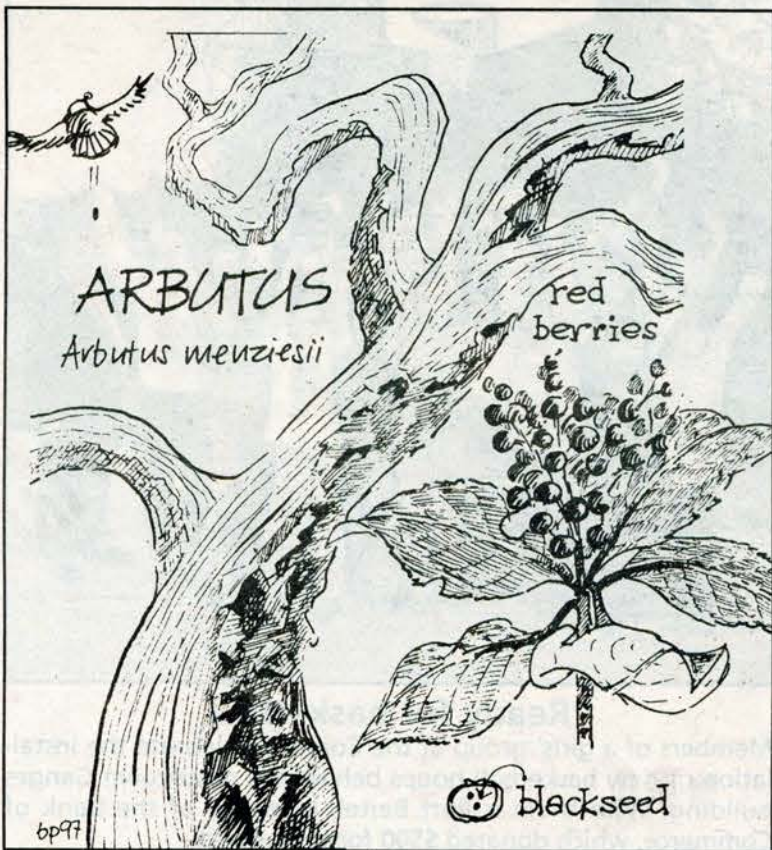
There is a great pleasure in this activity — it alleviates frustration, it is constructive, good exercise and has long-term possibilities of hiding ugly places. It is also entirely incomprehensible to most perpetrators of blight (and blues) so that you can carry out this activity right under their noses. An afternoon of casting arbutus seeds in clear-cuts, Bullock Lake and along Upper Ganges Road ending at the B.C. Hydro station is remarkably satisfying. And now is the perfect time for collecting and preparing arbutus seeds for germination.

The technique is simple and follows five steps. First, take yourself to a dry, south-facing spot where arbutus trees are still growing. The uninitiated will find arbutus by migrating to the most sensuous tree on the island. The rich, deeply-tanned, smooth limbs under the layers of peeling bark lure you to their sides. Dark, broad, leathery evergreen leaves dapple the sunlight down, while the pale undersides reflect the sea-light up so you will find yourself basking in a light that caresses every part of you. Garlands of the bright red- orangey berries drape the limbs and are at perfection for plucking right now.

Step 2: Gather a small bag full of the berries, leave most for your fellow arbutus admirers. Band-tailed pigeons, varied thrushes, robins, ruffed grouse and white-footed deer mouse among others flock to the trees. The berries are the richest oranges and reds imaginable and you might want to string a few together for an early Christmas garland. Saanich people used to make garlands of them for feasts. Fulford Elementary School's nature club will be carrying on the tradition.

Step 3: Take the remaining berries home and pour boiling water over them. Technically, you are simulating the passage of the berry through the intestine of a band-tailed pigeon. I don't care to imagine what this experience would actually be like but boiling water certainly works to release the seed from the berry and activate its germination process.

The next step is to spend an hour separating the seeds from the berries and setting them on



an old Driftwood to dry. You can peruse the real estate ads for the latest outcrops of blight and admire the little black seeds at the same time. They are tiny so place them carefully in an envelope or film canister.

For a good chance of germination, the areas where they are sown need to be dry, rocky, thin

rate from grazing animals, lawnmowers, sprinklers and the elements thereafter but I would put the odds that at least one in 100 will survive to adulthood if left. Even one tree is enough to soften the glare of a cement wall.

For the less subversive, you can practice arbutage right in the dry spots of your own backyard. Alternatively, you can always attempt some Garry oakage in oaky areas or alderage in wetter areas. Red alder has an enormous seed production in the spring so you can practice disobedience year-round. You might get hooked on this form of silent passive protest.

As far as I know it is not yet possible to be imprisoned or fined for casting native seeds to the wind. It has the merits of other enjoyable activities — it requires climbing around silky smooth limbs and the casting of wild seed with the result of progeny born out of love and beauty.

soils exposed to full sunshine. They sprout rapidly if they are left on a bare patch and neglected. Areas around chain link fences, road verges and cracks in the cement at ferry terminals are a good place to start.

My first act of arbutage was at Arbutus Ridge subdivision across the narrows in the hope that one day there would actually be an arbutus there again to gaze at on the shattered slopes of cement. Verges of shopping centres underneath abandoned shopping carts are an ideal place for arbutage.

I have attempted arbutage at rabid dogs, speeding cars and unkind people but the germination time of arbutus doesn't approach 100 kilometres per hour. One is best sticking to inert objects of blight on the landscape.

The casting of the seeds is simple enough. You select a pinch of seeds much like a pinch of salt and sprinkle them in these areas. The chances of rooting are quite high. I cast 100 seeds last winter over a patch of bare earth and I had 60 seedlings by July.

There is a bit of an attrition

## NOTES FROM WRANGELLIA

WITH BRIONY PENN



**ARBUTAGE:** Try a little subversive action by throwing arbutus seeds at that which offends you and anticipate the growth of the islands' most sensuous type of tree.

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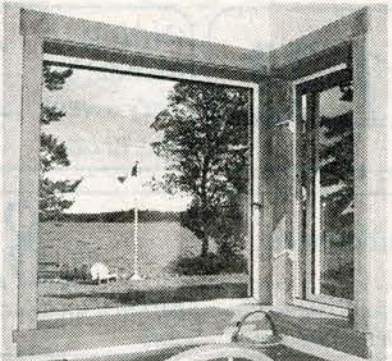
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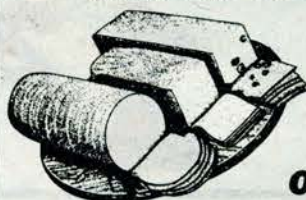
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# CRISIS?

## *pick up the phone...*

By SUSAN LUNDY  
Driftwood Staff

**T**he insistent sound of a pager erupts the stillness of crisis line worker Anika Norget-Lund's Salt Spring home, sending a jolt of adrenaline through her body.

She places the book she has been reading face down on a table and takes a deep, calming breath.

Anika re-plays the pager message, listening for clues in the woman's voice which is muffled and choked with tears. As she dials the return number, she prepares to live the next hour of her life feeling and experiencing another woman's crisis.

When the woman answers, Anika identifies herself and then pauses, allowing the woman's emotions to spill out and reach her through the phone lines.

She closes her eyes — shutting out the bits of her own life which surround her — and narrows everything to the voice.

"Well, it's a difficult situation ... it's my partner ... we had a big fight."

This, Anika knows, can mean anything from a verbal argument to a violent altercation.

"Are you safe to tell me about it right now?" she asks.

"He's gone; he's at the bar drinking."

"Will you be safe when he comes home drunk?"

"Oh yeah; he'll sleep it off."

Anika lets the conversation pause and then takes a deep breath. The woman hears the breath and relaxes. Bits of her story tumble out in disjointed segments of past and present.

Anika lets the story wash over her, saying little, and never asking for details, even when the woman's words are too distorted to make sense.

Explaining details would distract the woman from her cascade of emotion.

So Anika listens, using her voice to show she is following along: "That sounds hard," she says at one point. "You're very upset."

When it becomes clear an assault has occurred, Anika tells the woman about the Salt Spring Transition House.

"It's available if you ever feel ready to leave, or if you want a place to come and rest," she says.

An hour later the woman's voice is calm. She is exhausted but more at peace. She is ready to sleep.

Anika gently hangs up the phone and dials a co-worker for debriefing. Then she returns to the familiarity of her own life.

"Crisis line work is not for everybody," Anika says later. "The burn-out rate is high ... and that pager can go off at anytime."

After-hours need for island men and women in crisis, manning a pager when Community Services Society workers are not available on weekday evenings and weekends.

They take about three calls a week, managing emotional callers plus "task-focussed" callers, who often need referral numbers to legal aid, counsellors or government services.

"When we get the calls, there are times to listen and times to direct," Anika says, "But the vast majority of callers need emotional support — they are feeling low, they have no friends, they have just been beaten up or had a major fight. Some just need to talk so they can go to sleep."

The Gulf Islands Women's Network Resource Crisis Line is also the after-hours route to Salt Spring's transition house, where women and children can "disappear" if they need to escape an abusive situation at home. After-hours transition house calls

occur once or twice a month, Anika says, at which time a crisis line worker meets the victim at a safe place, fills out paperwork and takes her to the house.

Although young children do not generally call the local crisis line, workers periodically take calls from teens, and at least one in 10 callers is male.

"The men are often concerned and frustrated about a friend's situation. They are traumatized by someone else's life. We talk about the frustration of being a helper who is being rejected," Anika says.

Being caught in a "rotten" relationship and needing emotional support prompts other men to call, she adds, noting "it is harder for men to reach out."

Some callers phone the crisis line seeking help before violence overwhelms them.

"Some mothers are angry and need to vent to prevent them from beating their children," Anika says. "It's a hard call to take but it would be wonderful if everyone could call before they beat someone."

Even more difficult are the calls from people who have just committed an assault. When this happens, Anika says, she tries to see herself as the individual's last resource.

"I think to myself that it would be even harder for this person to get support anywhere else."

**"When we get the calls, there are times to listen and times to direct," Anika says, "But the vast majority of callers need emotional support — they are feeling low, they have no friends, they have just been beaten up or had a major fight. Some just need to talk so they can go to sleep."**

The "absolute worst" call, she adds, occurs when the pager goes off, she can hear a caller crying in distress, and when she returns the call, there is no answer.

"It's one of those heart-wrenching things ... I have to let it go and hope she'll page again."

Although hearing about violent and unlawful situations can "shake" her, Anika says, she is there to listen and help callers clarify their feelings. She does this by reflecting their emotions back to them: "It sounds like that upset you" or, "How did you feel then?"

"If it's late at night when they call all agitated, and then they start to yawn, you know you've done a good job."

But it can be exhausting work for both parties.

Two crisis line volunteers are always on duty. The second worker takes over the pager if the first is needed for a transition house in-take. But the second volunteer's main role is to provide debriefing, which occurs immediately after every call.

"If I'm on second," Anika says, "I treat the debriefing session as a crisis call."

Although Anika's crisis line work is volunteer, she also works as a counsellor with the Community Services Society, aiding mentally challenged adults. As well, she performs crisis counselling at the transition house, and trains crisis line workers.

Right now, she says, crisis line organizers are frustrated by lack of funding. The service used to be aided in part by the Capital Regional District grants-in-aid program.

"Fortunately, some private people have given funds, and we were able to get money this year from the Vancouver Foundation," Anika says. "But it would be great to have funding secured."

While crisis line volunteers may not reap financial rewards, Anika believes the personal compensation is high.

"I don't put any distance between myself and the person who is calling. I allow myself to be touched. I always realize there is a part I can relate to."

This, she says, makes crisis line volunteers less likely to be "arrogant and patronizing."

"We find a more humane way of relating."

And in the same moment she is garnering insight into her own life, she is giving a voice of support to someone who has no other refuge.

She listens and she hears.

"The crisis line can be extremely effective if you really, really listen. And that is one of the greatest gifts we give."

## Volunteers needed...but it's not for everyone

*Crisis line work may not be for everybody, but the demand for island women able to hear an anonymous plea for help is high.*

Facilitated by the Gulf Islands Women's Resource Network, the four-year-old local crisis line is currently staffed by eight volunteers. An additional seven women are undergoing training.

But as crisis line worker and training facilitator Anika Norget-Lund says, the burn-out rate is high and the work intense.

Those interested in volunteering are carefully screened and interviewed before undergoing a 13-week training course.

"We look at how resolved people are around their own issues," says Anika. "Often people are drawn to the work by their own experiences."

Once accepted into training, volunteers look at the elements of counselling, learn about laws and local resources, watch films on violence against women and children, and discuss

sexual assault and child abuse.

Volunteers also receive information about battering, looking closely at the dynamics of abusive situations.

"There is always a part of you that wants to say 'why don't you just leave the bugger'," Anika says. "We have to learn to be non-judgmental — it is not a good call if the person feels judged."

Much of the training course involves role playing: scenarios are described and trainees sit back-to-back to handle the "calls."

"There is no body language when you're listening to someone on the phone," Anika says. "If you're talking to someone you've never met, you have to really, really listen."

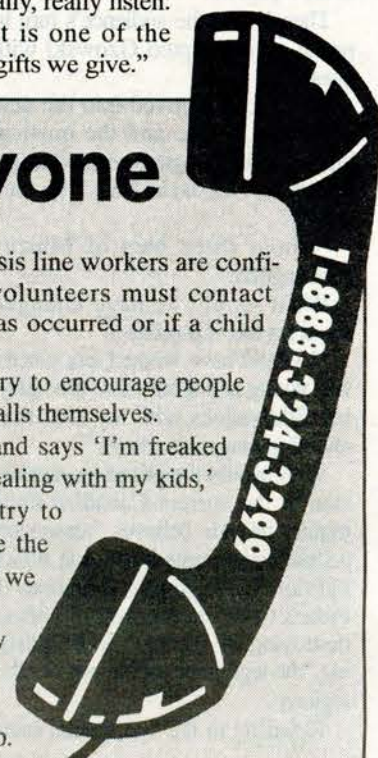
All volunteers are women because the job periodically involves taking a caller to the Salt Spring Transition House.

Calls received by crisis line workers are confidential — although volunteers must contact police if a homicide has occurred or if a child is in danger.

Anika says workers try to encourage people to make the necessary calls themselves.

"If a parent phones and says 'I'm freaked out with the way I'm dealing with my kids,' we debrief them and try to persuade them to make the calls because otherwise we have to do it."

Usually, she adds, by the time people call the crisis line, they are ready to reach out for help.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Loving island crowd flocks to intimate Gzowski event

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Driftwood Staff

What's the difference between Canada and the United States?

According to Peter Gzowski, in Canada you can't have a political party far enough to the right to erode Medicare; in the U.S. you can't have one far enough to the left to create national medical insurance.

And how can we keep our country together and flourishing, even in the face of increasing pressure to Americanize or globalize?

Try the "open window policy," advises Gzowski. Turn off the TV and even the radio. Open your windows and look out. Connect and communicate with real people — your neighbours, community and country. Make political elites listen to Canadians who are not in positions of power.

Salt Spring is lucky to get a lot of "big name" cultural visitors, often invited by "big name" residents or through the Festival of the Arts. But if genuine, organic admiration was edible, the amount grown for Gzowski at All Saints By-the-Sea on Friday afternoon could feed the island for a long time.

About 225 people gathered to see one of CBC Radio's best-loved personalities, many with copies of his new book *The Morningside Years* in hand.

Gzowski in the flesh was even more warm, humorous, intelligent and charming than he has sounded for all these years as our loyal morning companion.

And he did something few public figures have the courage to do these days: He expressed optimism about the "essence" of Canada being maintained.

He opened his presentation by reading a hilarious piece which made fun of his mismatched, burn-hole-ridden, "unmade bed" sort of dressing habits and he alluded to his status as a Canadian sex symbol for Canada's older women.

Then he did something he had always wanted to do — interview himself. Since the question part is usually "boring," he said, he would save time and give answers only. We did eventually get to hear the questions, one of which included a local reference.

Answer: "Maybe next to the (CBC) broadcast centre in Toronto."

The question was: "What do you think of the (Booth) pig farm idea?"

In the past I've pitied authors who seem dragged around on rigorous book-flogging and media interview tours. But in answer to his own query, Gzowski proclaimed to enjoy this "gruelling" book tour. He wouldn't lie to us, would he?

Then it was the audience's turn to probe an unscripted Gzowski with questions.

When CBC moved into the new broadcast centre and the musical breaks on his program seemed to get longer, how far did he have to go for a smoke?

"About three bars of Murray McLaughlin."

What would he have changed about his life, if possible?

"I would have worked less when I was young and spent more time playing fiddlysticks with my kids than rewriting magazine articles."

What would the gist of his submission to the current Canadian unity inquiry be? He believes "reasonable people" can create a solution which satisfies "the legitimate aspirations of French Canadian nationalism without destroying the country," while satisfying "the legitimate aspirations of other regions."

Referring to the "no special status

for Quebec view" of people like CKNW open line host Rafe Mair, Gzowski said, "Can we just think for a moment, Rafe, how granting Quebec more powers of self-determination ... would change your daily life?"

One of the last questions came from Naim Howe and it defined so clearly Gzowski's affect on our lives — how *Morningside* and other CBC Radio programs keep us in touch with each other.

Because she was a "prairie person," author W.O. Mitchell had meant a lot to her. Knowing Mitchell's health was failing and that Gzowski had recently seen him, she asked, just as she might have asked one neighbour about another, "How was he?"

"Bad," replied Gzowski solemnly. "I hate delivering this message ..."

Mitchell's name as the subject could have been substituted by a thousand other Canadians from the Prairies, the North, Quebec — anywhere in Canada, whether they are authors, activists, musicians or politicians, or your "average" Canadians who did something remarkable and inspired us. Through *Morningside*, it was Gzowski's house we gathered at to get the latest scuttlebutt from Digby to Bella Coola, and to hear intelligent people try to figure things out, aided by Gzowski's ability to make people speak as honestly as they could. Gzowski was brought to the island by a group called the Salt Spring Celebration of Canadian Writers, which had been inactive for several years. However, with Gzowski's donation of event proceeds to the group, it hopes to bring another writer to the island in the spring.



**SIGNING THE BOOKS:**  
Former CBC Radio *Morningside* host Peter Gzowski signed piles of *The Morningside Years* book after a reading and lively talk with Salt Spring Islanders at All Saints By-the-Sea on Friday afternoon.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

**Hastings House**



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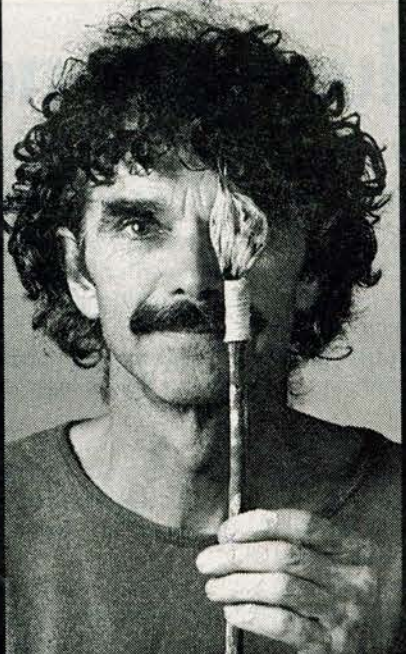
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**DENYS A. JAMES**



**Cultural extravaganza**

Dancers from the Maxwell International Baha'i School entertained an enthusiastic crowd at the Hart Bradley Hall Friday night, as the local Baha'i community celebrated the dances of different cultures. The evening also included a prayer repeated in eight languages.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

**Una Notte Stupenda: 'challenging, diverse'**

By **GRAEME CAMERON WILKINSON**  
Driftwood Contributor

Following the success of last April's Bello Pasticcio, Peter Bardon's current production of Una Notte Stupenda once again showcased four island musicians.

Singers Mary Anne Barcellona, soprano; Michael Collins, basso cantante; Betty Rothwell, soprano; and pianist Sharon Wishart demonstrated the musicians' positive evolution as a team at two sold-out performances at All Saints By-the-Sea November 16 and 22.

A substantial program of challenging diversity, it offered works from opera and musical theatre. Singing solo, duet or in trio, the artists navigated their way with ease through Mozart, Wagner, Puccini and the French school, to crossover selections of Grieg, Weill, Kern, Rogers and Hammerstein and Lloyd Webber.

In addition to being vocally secure, the singers displayed formidable acting abilities that are, alas, all too often lacking in the world of opera. The program afforded a wide scope of drama, comedy and yes, even dance.

Among the evening's highlights were Barcellona's stirring account of Un Bel Di from Puccini's Madame Butterfly, Collins' spirited rendition of Road to Mandalay and the Act II trio from Offenbach's Tales of Hoffman.

Pianist Wishart, who appeared to enjoy her work as much as the singers, sustained expressive accompaniment throughout. Alan Robertson punctuated the program with spoken musical commentary.

The Champagne Scene from Strauss's Die Fledermaus was presented as an encore and, for the November 22 performance, Barcellona with guitarist Lloyd English offered a sympathetic folk prayer - Make Me a Channel of Thy Peace - for an ailing audience member.

(Peter Bardon reported on Monday that the man was whisked to hospital by emergency crews after suffering an apparent heart attack

five minutes before concert time. Bardon said he was released from hospital and returned home the following day.)

The performances on both occasions were enthusiastically applauded and recording operations were overseen by Dr. Eric James.

**Homes, studios open**

Three island artists are opening their doors wide this weekend.

Gary and Beth Cherneff are carrying on a pre-Christmas tradition with the Stoneridge Pottery studio show and sale, while potter Pat Webber is having her first island show.

At the Cherneffs' studio at 520 Long Harbour Road, people can see some of Gary Cherneff's new work based on low-fire local clay techniques.

His inspiration comes from being a "cultural sponge" during travels to Mexico, especially near Oaxaca and the highland town of San Cristobal de Las Casas in Chiapas, in the past two years.

"Pre-Hispanic temple frescos and ceremonial pottery have been particularly influential," says Gary Cherneff, "although contemporary folk crafts and even the fine arts of Mexico have had their impact."

At this weekend's event, there will also be several other one-of-a-kind ceramic pieces and the colour-

ful dinnerware the couple is noted for.

Beth Cherneff, of Flowers by Arrangement fame, will have exotic Christmas floral arrangements, wreaths and swags for sale, and will be taking orders for fresh seasonal floral designs.

Webber has recently moved her home and studio from Victoria to Salt Spring.

After training in Oregon in the '70s, Webber returned to Canada with her husband and two sons to establish her studio in Cordova Bay.

Her work in clay has evolved to the present vessels which incorporate plant and animal imagery. Webber says her work is "vital to her being; a spiritual expression."

By next spring she will be welcoming the public to her new studio. For now, Webber invites everyone to her Christmas show at sister Arlene Dashwood's Ocean Cottage at 301 Price Road. Hours for the show are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

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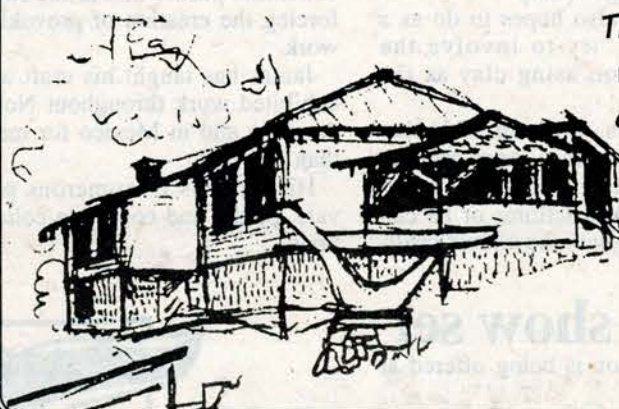
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**SALE #2 - Saturday November 29**

CENTRAL HALL 10am - 2pm

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in "Creekhouse"

# James creates four-legged dishes

From one perspective, Denys James' work is getting further "off the wall" - or the table - depending on where his newest ceramic pieces are placed.

Figurative bas-relief sculptures, which are like "paintings on clay," have been a focus for the Salt Spring artist in the past few years. But his latest pieces are quite different from earlier ones. There is more definition in the sculptural elements, with the clay figures emerging "up and out" of their setting. The slab "frames" are shaped more irregularly; in some there is less colour; in others the colours are lighter greens, pinks and pale blues.

Then there is his most recent exploration - elevated, four-legged serving or decorative dishes, which were inspired by his "four-poster, crow's-foot" bathtub. James started making the rectangular-shaped dishes with unassuming stubby-styled legs but, almost on their own, the legs on successive pieces are extending themselves.

The "walking" vessels are just some of the work at James' annual pre-Christmas studio show and sale this Saturday and Sunday. Everyone is invited to his studio at 182 Welbury Drive from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

Playing the host might give James a chance to relax after a hectic period of time preparing for the show, organizing a December pottery workshop/art tour to Mexico and the Instituto Allende, and teaching at the Victoria College of Art one day a week.

There's no grand plan behind James' work and even when he is teaching, he is reluctant to prescribe a position, direction or formula for his students.



**ART ON LEGS:** In a pool of sunlight, Denys James applies a thin clay glaze to a four-legged serving dish which will be one of numerous pieces at his Welbury Drive show and sale this Saturday and Sunday.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

"Working in an art medium doesn't work that way," he says. "It's in being open to the moment," open to possibilities and "seeing things freshly."

What he also hopes to do as a teacher is "try to involve the whole person using clay as the medium."

For James, working with clay can lead to serious inner probing which sometimes translates into complex constructions, or he can balance that with the almost medi-

tative act of making simple pinch pots.

Whatever his relationship with clay, he notes, "It's never neutral."

Clay is the element which provokes and pushes him to the edge, forcing the creation of provoking work.

James has taught his craft and exhibited work throughout North America and in Mexico for more than 20 years.

His work is in numerous private, public and corporate collections.

## Rammed earth slide show set

A free slide show on rammed earth construction is being offered at Central Hall on Sunday.

Meror Krayenhoff of Salt Spring's Terra Firma Builders company is making the presentation which begins at 2 p.m.

Many islanders are familiar with the rammed earth wall on Cusheon Lake Road, but Krayenhoff believes few know that the wall is an example of the earliest stage of Terra Firma's rammed earth research and development.

Krayenhoff will illustrate the process of testing island soils and ramming techniques suited to our climate and earthquake zone.

Terra Firma Builders received two environmental achievement awards for its work from the Canadian Home Builders' Association of British Columbia in 1997.



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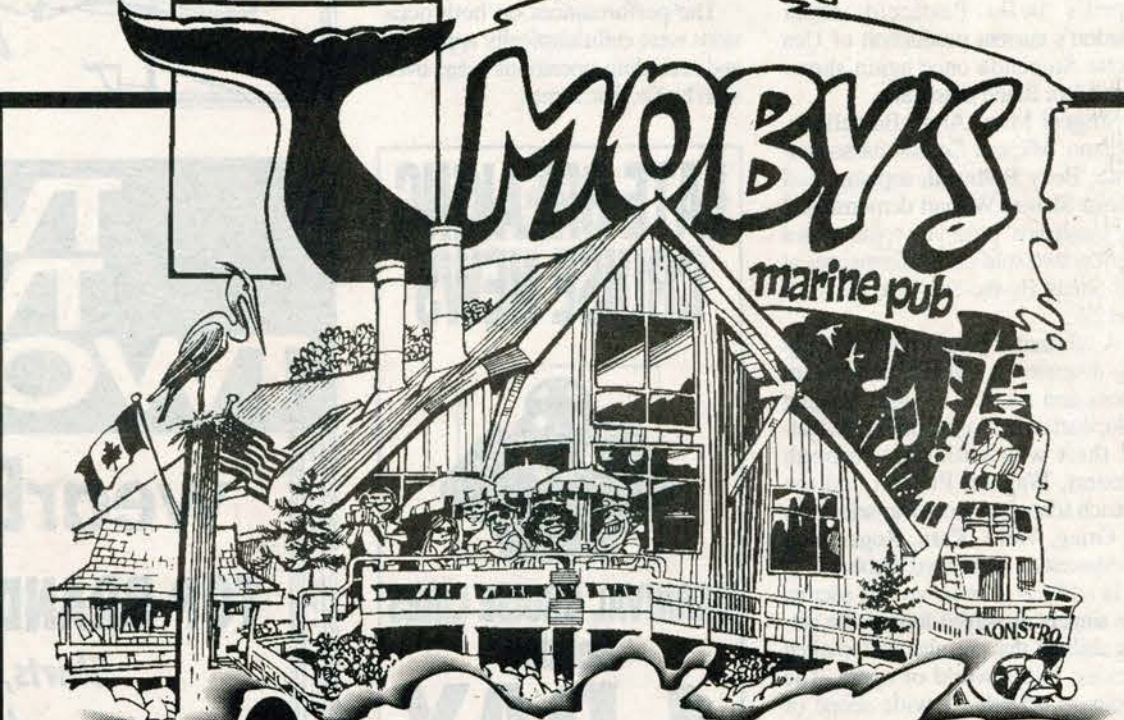
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**WAKE UP, DAVE:** The Bill Hilly Band will play just about every kind of toe-tapping, down-home string music from bluegrass to klezmer and swing Saturday night at Beaver Point Hall as part of Dave Beck's 60-hour-long 60th birthday party.

## 60-hour party planned for Beck

Some people just have to be different and Dave Beck is one of them.

Beck's method of celebrating a 60th birthday is to host a 60-hour-long birthday party this weekend at Beaver Point Hall.

Beck intends to keep awake for 60 hours at the hall from 8 a.m. this Friday to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

But he won't be alone. All his friends are invited to visit him in front of the fireplace and join him in watching some old movies.

Described by friend Harry Burton as "a practical philosopher, who always seems to have an interesting way of looking at things," Beck runs a repair service in Fulford.

Party organizers have added a few scheduled events to the weekend, including a Beck comedy roast beginning 8 p.m. Friday and a birthday cake tea at 2 p.m. Sunday.

In case Beck is getting sleepy by 8 p.m. Saturday, that's when the hall will get jumping with the Bill Hilly Band. This versatile five-member string band will provide a

jamboree of hootenanny hits, gospel classics and old-time favourites.

"The Bills" will perform fiddle, bluegrass, klezmer, gypsy, swing and mariachi tunes for \$10 per person or a family rate of \$25.

Band members are Mark Atkinson (Bill Mandolin) and Paul Dowd (Bill Banjo) of Caravan and Loose fame, Calvin Cairns (Bill Fiddle) of Romaniacs fame, and Chris Frye (Bill Guitar) and Oliver Swain (Bill Bass).

After 7 p.m. the hall kitchen will be open for business with funky, down-home cooking — home-baked bread, stews and desserts by Catherine at affordable south-end prices.

"There will also be potluck meals on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and we all know that Dave likes to eat good food," says Burton.

Beck has also stressed he doesn't want any birthday presents but would like people to bring children's Christmas presents for Santa's Workshop.

Burton describes Beck as "a very valuable member of the communi-

ty. As Fulford's Mr. Fixit he is always in demand to keep appliances running, to keep households working and to listen when someone just wants to talk.

"He works very long hours often with no weekends off. He is a very honest, caring and sincere person. He is a friend to all."

Beck and his constant companion, the white terrier called Riley, are "a fixture" in Fulford, adds Burton.

"They make a very fine appliance repair team."

**Cinema Central**  
NOV. 28 - DEC. 2

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## TOP 10 VIDEOS

1. Lost World: Jurassic Park ... (1)	6. Trial & Error ..... (-)
2. Face Off ..... (-)	7. Breakdown ..... (7)
3. Austin Powers ..... (2)	8. Grosse Pointe Blank ..... (5)
4. Romy & Michele ..... (3)	9. Gone Fishin' ..... (8)
5. The Fifth Element ..... (4)	10. Jingle all the Way ..... (9)

(Dash (-) indicates last week's position)

**COMING SOON**

<b>NOVEMBER 25</b> Men in Black Chasing Amy Snow White-A Tale of Terror	<b>DECEMBER 2</b> George of the Jungle Speed 2: Cruise Control
--	--

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 Photo by Barbara Woodley

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Refreshments & lunch available  
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 PLEASE BRING A DONATION FOR THE FOOD BANK

# WHAT'S ON

## Music

- **Moby's Marine Pub** – Wednesday Night Live hosted by Charles Wilton, 9 p.m., November 26.
- **Harbour House Wheelhouse Pub** – Blues night featuring Dave Roland and Friends, with guest Gene Grooms. Thursday, November 27.
- **Salt Spring Roasting Co.** – Open stage every Friday evening starting at 8 p.m.
- **Harbour House Wheelhouse Pub** – Rock with The G-Spot Tornados on Friday and Saturday, November 28 and 29.
- **Alfresco Restaurant** – Barrington Perry plays piano every Saturday evening starting at 6:30 p.m.
- **Vesuvius Inn** – Three Chord Sloth, with special guest Gene Grooms, plays Saturday, November 29 at 8:30 p.m.
- **The Bill Hilly Band** – Saturday night, November 29, 8 p.m., as part of Dave Beck's all-weekend-long 60th birthday party at Beaver Point Hall. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10; \$25 for a family. Home cookin' by Catherine.
- **Moby's Marine Pub** – Sunday Dinner Jazz: Odd Men Out CD Release Party on Sunday, November 30 at 7 p.m., featuring Mike Simpson, Ian Van Wyck and Jeff Cooper. In memory of Ron Brunette.
- **2,000 Years of Christmas** – A Christmas musical featuring Eileen McGann, David K. and Cathy Miller. Monday, December 1, 7:30 p.m. at the Salt Spring United Church. Tickets \$10, available at the Salt Spring Roasting Co., Stuff 'n' Nonsense and The Music Emporium.

## Cinema

- **Seven Years in Tibet** – Held over to accommodate the crowds! This is the visually-thrilling story of Austrian Heinrich Harrer's enlightening trek to Tibet during World War II. Brad Pitt stars in this true tale of an imperfect man who tutors the young Dali Lama. Playing Friday and Saturday, November 28 and 29 at 9 p.m.; Monday, December 1 at 7:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, December 2 at 7 p.m. 2 hours, 15 minutes. Rated PG, violence, coarse language. Cinema Central.
- **The Full Monty** – Don't miss out on this rousing British mega hit about a motley crew of unemployed

## Theatre group elects directors

Patricia Nobile, Laurie Clark, April Curtis and Jane Phillips are this year's directors for Off Centre Stage, which held its annual general meeting November 18. Plans for the coming year include three concerts: one classical, one with Ian Tamblin and a variety concert-benefit for Theatre Resources. The group will also present acting workshops with guest teachers and is planning one production.

steel workers who raise some cash and their flaccid self-esteem by putting on a male strip show. These appealing characters bare their souls more than their butts. But beware, this film has been playing to hoots and hollers and standing ovations, and may charm the pants off you! Playing Friday and Saturday, November 28 and 29 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, December 2 at 9:30 p.m. 1 hour, 30 minutes. Rated PG, coarse language and nudity. Cinema Central.

## Family

- **Pre-School Storytime** – Mary Hawkins Library, every Monday at 10 a.m. The more the merrier!
- **Storytime at West of the Moon** – Every Tuesday morning. Ages 2 to 3, 9:30 to 10 a.m.; ages 3 to 5, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Join us!

## Galleries

- **Denys James Open Studio** – An exhibition of recent ceramics: decorative and functional vessels, figurative vessels and contemplative sculpture. Saturday and Sunday, November 29 and 30, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 182 Welbury Drive.
- **Pottery Show and Sale** – Pat Webber will host her first Salt Spring based pottery show and sale on Saturday, November 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sunday, November 30 from noon to 5 p.m., at Ocean Cottage, 301 Price Road (off Beddis).
- **Stoneridge Pottery Christmas Show and Sale** – Beth and Gary Cherneff's annual event features wonderful pots and unique floral

wreaths and arrangements. Saturday and Sunday, November 29 and 30, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 520 Long Harbour Road.

- **Guilds of Christmas Sale** – November 22 to 30, open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mahon Hall. Opening evening Friday, November 21, 5 to 9 p.m.

## Community TV

- **Wednesday, November 26** – 7 p.m., Talk Around the Rock with Dave Phillips  
8 p.m., Viewer Video: Fun with Children's Soccer  
8:30 p.m., Satsang with GangaJi
- **Sunday, November 30** – 6 p.m., Talk Around the Rock with Dave Phillips  
7 p.m., Viewer Video: Fun with Children's Soccer  
7:30 p.m., Satsang with GangaJi

## Grab Bag

- **Book Signing** – Sam Graci, author of *The Power of Superfoods*, will be signing his book at Natureworks on Wednesday, November 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Tibetan Voices** – A slide show and stories by photographer Brian Harris. Tapestry of what day-to-day existence must have been like in Tibet 50 or 500 years ago. Friday, November 28, 8 p.m., All Saints By-the-Sea, \$5.
- **Order of the Eastern Star Christmas Bazaar** – Christmas baking, gifts, decorations, preserving and much more. Saturday, November 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mason's Hall, 506 Lower Ganges Road.

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# Local rugby player competes in international tournament

By SUSAN LUNDY  
Driftwood Staff

Bruce Grey may have retired his 20-year rugby career four years ago, but he eagerly tackled an intensive week of training earlier this month to join a Canadian rugby team in Bermuda.

And although the national Canadian team placed better last year in the World Rugby Classic Tournament, participants such as Grey enjoyed the high-calibre competition, not to mention the scenery and socializing.

"The team was not as strong as last year," the Salt Spring athlete said last week. "But the calibre of the tournament is improving every year."

The tournament, which ran November 8-15, has been held in Bermuda for the past 10 years. This marks the third year a Canadian team has participated.

The Canadian team, including players from Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and Ottawa, was defeated in both its games, losing 33-0 to Argentina and 25-12 to the United States.

Argentina and Britain competed in the final with Britain pulling off a sturdy 35-15 win.

Last year, team Canada beat Great Britain — "that was a big win," said Grey — and lost a close second game.

"After last year's performance," states a daily tournament bulletin, "Canada was a team to watch, although Argentina dominated yesterday's match with a strong defence."

A total of eight teams representing New Zealand, South Africa, Argentina, Great Britain, Uruguay, the U.S. and Bermuda participated in the tournament which involves players over 30.

"It's a neat tournament," Grey said, "because the players are older and have been out of their international careers for two to 15 years. But the calibre is still high."

Grey was invited to join the 22-member team by players he competed with in the past.

"It was fairly last minute," he said. "I had about a week to prepare."

Grey, who has played one rugby game since he left the sport four years ago, said he trained by working out at North End Fitness, running up Mount



**HIGH CALIBRE EVENT:** Rugby player Bruce Grey recently returned from Bermuda where he competed with team Canada in an international classic tournament for players over 30.

Photo by Susan Lundy

Erskine and "basically beating myself up."

Rugby draws on elements used in both football and soccer, including running, kicking and handling the ball.

With 15 players to each side, "it looks a bit like organized confusion on the field," he said.

Also in the area of "organized confusion" was the Bermuda tournament's wind-up bash — the Number One Shed Party — which Grey said involved 4,000-5,000 people under one roof.

The Canadian team won the prize for best skit at the party after performing scenes from Robert Service's *The Shooting of Dan McGrew*.

Grey and two others played the part of a piano by dressing entirely in black and extending their fingers as piano keys.

Grey also enjoyed seeing the sights in Bermuda, noting "it's a gorgeous place: it looks just like the pictures."

He did admit that mysteries of lost airplanes and vessels in the so-called Bermuda Triangle crossed his mind as he flew over the area.

But the experience was a good one and he plans to compete again next year.

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## BRIDGE TRICKS

Irene Hawkworth and Fred Struve finished in top place at the November 4 game of the Gulf Islands Bridge Club.

Joan Conlan and Blanche Poborsa were second, Isabelle Richardson and Ron Dickson were third, with Yvonne Sollitt and Bill Buckler in fourth place.

On November 18, Ian Thomas and Conhor Hunt were first, followed by Wim and Ima Krayenhoff, and Jane and Paul Girard.

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## Judo champs honoured

Islanders won three medals at a weekend judo tournament in Steveston.

Devon Cass, 8, won a gold medal and Sophia Haase, 13, and Andrew Greig, 17, won silver medals at the Pacific International Invitational Junior Judo Tournament.

Salt Spring Judo Club spokesman Shaun Adams said the tournament drew the best from the four western provinces as well as some from the United States.

Coming close to winning medals were Graham Regan, 17, and Megan Leitch, 11, who placed fourth and fifth respectively in their divisions.

Other participants from Salt Spring were Calum Adams, Matt King and Gavin Hamilton.

The next event for club members is the provincial championships December 6.

## Old Boys emerge as victors in Arbutus Mud Bath battle

By MALCOLM LEGG  
Driftwood Contributor  
*Sea Otter Old Boys 3, Invicta Marine 1*

Last Sunday was a day not fit for man or beast and the combination of wind and rain should have easily convinced the Old Boys to stay home by a warm fire watching NFL football.

But not these Old Boys. Come 7:45 a.m. at the Fulford ferry, there stood 11 stout bodies prepared to do battle in the Arbutus bog against Invicta Marine.

Of course at 7:50 a.m., five minutes after the ferry had left, they all realized their folly and wanted to go back home — too late, lads!

Once at the field the Old Boys had their enthusiasm buoyed as they met up with their Victoria connection, Steve Legg and Paul Hardman, who also did not have the sense to stay in their warm beds.

This joy of having two substi-

tutes was soon dispelled after one look at the so-called soccer pitch, or Arbutus Mud Baths as they are affectionately known, when it was quickly decided the lads would all be subs and not play at all.

Fortunately, captain Cal "The Sloth" Mackay spurred the lads on to take to the pitch, although this writer fails to see how a sloth could spur anyone on.

It was quickly evident that not all the lads wanted to play under these circumstances and after a mere 10 minutes one of the Sea Otter lads flapped his flippers a little too hard and was sent home by the man in black.

Ah, yes! Things were going from bad to worse, or were they? Midway through the half the lads displayed some fine "footer" with a clever combination between Chris Cottrell and Hardman which put David "The Swede" Norget in all alone. The crafty northerners slipped a perfect shot

into the old rutabaga bag and the lads had the lead.

Unfortunately, leads tend to be only temporary in most games and such was the case as Invicta tied it up by the half.

But the Old Geezers had not travelled all this way in rain, wind and mud to lose the game.

Midway through the half, Jack "The Spot" Braak converted a penalty shot, something the team has not done well in recent matches, and five minutes later Peter Bantel finished off a Cottrell set-up to secure the three points.

After winning, the lads had a joyous trip home and amazingly did not seem to notice how wet or muddy they were, or even miss the NFL games.

The lads hope to continue their resurgence this weekend with a 10 a.m. kick-off at the high school field against the same team. Of course, at this time of year, it will be weather permitting.

## FC defeated in disappointing match

By ALAN WEBB  
Driftwood Contributor  
*Salt Spring FC 2, Victoria City 4*

Three years ago a group of premier division players from Victoria banded together to form a new team; one that was free of the politics that naturally arise out of any grouping of two or more human beings. The idea was an audacious one.

Starting from scratch at the bottom rung of the soccer ladder, Vic City has patiently worked its way up in sight of the big time. On Sunday at the high school grounds they shook off a strong challenge from Salt Spring and inched their collective chins one rung higher toward their goal.

Vic City entered the weekend atop the standings in Division 3 but a pack of teams, which included FC, remained in hailing distance.

For the defending provincial champions this was not quite good enough.

In a move that sent ripples of awestruck murmuring throughout the league, the leaders signed premier player John Soares to a \$3,000 contract for the last half of the year. This is in a league where any player who plays for free beer is the envy of the circuit.

Be that as it may, FC was the better team out of the gates. Colin and Andy Walde controlled the pivotal middle of the back wall, while Chris Jason and Eric Jorgensen coolly manned the flanks.

Dave McColl, Ryan Bradley, Jesse Fisher and Chad Little regularly punctured the Vic City defence from midfield, creating yards of space for themselves and springing front runners Corbin

Scott and Mark Nordine with impressive ease.

One such play early on supplied Scott with the ball in space and he deftly sent Nordine through to blast FC into the lead.

Shortly afterward, Soares provided the fans with ample evidence of his virtuosity, striking a dipping 22-yarder toward the top left-hand corner that FC keeper Cree Binkley only just managed to palm to safety.

A header against the bar followed before a short post cross was flicked in brilliantly by the \$3,000-dollar man to level the sides at one apiece.

The last chance of the half fell to Colin Walde as he narrowly headed over the bar from a Corbin Scott corner.

The second half started with the FC defence weathering the storm while City's attacks rained down on them.

Colin Walde, a pillar of strength at the back week in and week out, broke up one such attack and surged forward on an inspired 50-yard run. The ball eventually rebounded out to Chris Jason who hit a powerful volley into the arms of the Victoria keeper.

Minutes later a dubious penalty spoiled a highly entertaining match.

A Victoria winger danced into the FC box only to run headlong into a crowd of defenders. A momentary hand on a shoulder, swiftly withdrawn, gave him the only opportunity he had left and he gratefully took it. He took a dive.

The resulting penalty poked Vic City into the lead.

As FC reeled in disappointment, Vic City pressed its advantage.

A hard low cross from the right side struck an FC arm outside the penalty area. It was clearly a case of the ball playing the arm and not the reverse, but the call was made and while Salt Spring managed to control their outrage, City managed to find the net to lead 3-1.

A superb Soares run down the left side provided a fourth for Victoria, before Mark Nordine brought one back for FC in the dying minutes.

It was a good effort for FC, and for 60 minutes a game worth paying to see. What a pity the officiating twice didn't rise to the quality of play.

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All in a day's work

Bicycle repair man Keith Beldam has temporarily moved into Boardwalk Greens where he is taking on the challenge of fixing island bikes. While adept at bike repairs, Beldam is

also known as the international tricycle champion after winning an Ottawa Winter Games event with two other competitors. Photo by Derrick Lundy

# Gunners dominate to take 2-1 victory

By MALCOLM BOND  
Driftwood Contributor

Salt Spring Gunners under-14 silver mixed team staged a second-half rally to defeat Juan de Fuca Heatmaster by a score of 2-1 Saturday.

The Gunners dominated play through most of the game but a greasy ball eluded keeper Connor Walsh for an unlucky goal by the visiting opponents at 20 minutes of the first half.

A powerful second-half performance led by Nick Abley and Dylan Logan-Webb at midfield plus Jeremy Morrison and Derek Kitchen at the front with Myles English sneaking up from the back sparked the rally. But the results came at the 11th hour.

A lucky break compensated the home team for the unlucky first goal given up. A handball by a Heatmaster defender was rewarded by a goal from the foot of ace shooter Jeff Millard on the ensuing penalty. Then Morrison especially and with support from Logan-Webb drew almost all the opposition defenders to the left side of the box leaving Kitchen unmaned in front of the net. He made no mistake, blasting a 15-yarder into the

top of the net.

Injury time occurred as a result of a fair challenge for a loose ball by striker Emily Bond and the visiting keeper. Both went down in the collision and the ball went off the keeper past the far post. The keeper was assisted from the field but fortunately returned to the game later. Bond strained a thumb.

The whole Salt Spring team showed great challenges of the ball throughout. Especially noteworthy were Dylan Hume, Mason "the tiger" Bennett and Kevin Ostapowich. Some fine give-and-gos were seen on the flanks by Asher Squire and English. Willie Atkins and Jonathan Sinclair were very sharp defending in the second-half, as was Brent Schemilt.

Along with game stars Morrison, Logan-Webb and Kitchen, keeper Walsh was brilliant. He redeemed himself in spades. He made two second-half saves from shots that were just under the bar, tipping them up onto the bar just as he'd worked on this week in practice.

The next game is at Lakehill and the Gunners will want to revenge an earlier narrow loss to the Victoria side.

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# Slugs slither over opponents for 2-game winning streak

By JIM BLACK  
Driftwood Contributor

Happy days are here again as the Slugs put together their first two-game win streak of the season, crushing Sidney's Squid Roe 9-4.

While talk of a dynasty forming might be a little premature, the boys have good reason to be proud of themselves. Squid Roe have always given the Slugs a lot of trouble. Our game plan was simple: score so many goals early on that no matter how much we screwed up in the later stages, we would still hold on for the victory. For once it worked.

The scoring parade, which also saw six different Slugs getting goals, began with Pete "Crash" Schure dancing through the opposition before wiring one past the netminder. Crash was in rare form on this evening, weaving and dancing all over the ice right from the opening faceoff. It wasn't until the end of the game that he realized his contacts were in backwards and everyone he thought was trying to check him was actually just trying to get out of his way.

Not long after Crash gave us the early lead, Brent Weninger, the latest addition to the lineup,

put on a bit of a scoring clinic for the wildly cheering fan in the audience. Taking it upon himself to forecheck the Squids into a panic, Weninger stripped a Squidly defender of the puck and snapped one past the hapless netminder. He liked all the pats on the head so much that he went out on the very next shift and did it all over again.

Then the Squids charged back and kept netminder Derek Topping rather busy stopping shots from all over the place. They finally managed to get one past him when they found his Achilles heel — shoot low. What with all his goalie gear on and the good home-cooked meals he's been eating, he's beginning to resemble the Michelin Man out there. But despite this, he was playing an outstanding match and we didn't mind if he hid the odd Twinkie in his catcher's mitt if he kept stopping the pucks.

The boys then got back to the task at hand. The next Slug on the score board was Brad Patchett, just back from his try-out with the Lemington Tomato

Kings of the Western Ontario Over-the-Hill League. He got in a couple of games but was finally cut for being a little too ripe. At any rate, Patchett showed us he still belongs with the Slugs by stepping over the blueline and smoking one over the goalie's shoulder before he could even blink.

Then to end out the period, Paddy Akerman scored on a wild scramble in front of the net. It was a sight to behold.

didn't perturb the team too much, however, and once they finished scolding Rodney and stuffing Deadstop in a garbage can, they went back to work.

First it was Blaine Johnson finding his scoring touch, air-mailing one past the Squid netminder, and then Akerman beat the poor sod once again on a breakaway.

Once we had the five-goal cushion restored, Akerman decided to show off with his impersonation of one of Elvis Stojko's triple axles. The only thing he forgot was that he figure skates like Elvis Presley and sings like Elvis Stojko. Once he regained consciousness and we all stopped laughing, everything was back to normal.

As usual when we play this team, we came out flat and the Squids were flying. Right off the bat Topping was surrounded by the opposition and, despite the fact that he made tons of saves, the Slugs just couldn't move the puck out of our zone. After a short time the Squids managed to sneak one past Topping on about the fourth rebound, and got another a few

minutes later. But then we dusted off our secret weapon: Andy Naumann, who has become the club's elder statesman. He has actually been playing hockey longer than most of the Slugs have been alive and he put that experience to good use in the final five minutes of the match. Along with his winger Dillon Chimes, they moved the puck deep into the Squids zone. Chimes then fought off a check and fed a perfect pass from behind the net to Naumann who was parked in front and snapped it home.

Less than a minute later Naumann picked off a clearing pass in the Squid zone and drilled home his second of the game. This took all the wind out of the Squids and when the buzzer sounded the boys had won their second in a row, an astounding feat the way this season has been going.

At the end of the match the entire team congratulated Topping by all jumping on top of him. While he thought the boys were just congratulating him for a game well played, he realized after the scrum had cleared what our real intent was. We stole all his chocolate bars.

**While talk of a dynasty forming might be a little premature, the boys have good reason to be proud of themselves.**

Akerman, with a wide open net and bodies strewn about, was swatting away at the puck like a crazed lumberjack. He finally connected, much to everyone's relief.

Right off the start of the second period, however, the team screwed up. They allowed Deadstop and his defensive partner Rodney Challborn to start the period, which let the Squids score 20 seconds into the period to make it 5-2. This

## Nature club's schedule released

The Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club schedule of activities for December is as follows.

December 2: Hike Safford Trail with Andrea Rankin. Meet at the Burgoyne triangle at 10:15 a.m.

A walk of Elk Lake area will be led by Bud Williams. Meet at Centennial Park at 8:15 to catch the 9 a.m. Fulford ferry.

Ramble with Pam Taylor on a leader's choice. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m.

December 9: Walkers and hikers will meet at Fulford Hall at 10 a.m. Please carpool before you get there. Each group will participate in a moderate "con-

stitutional" before attending the Christmas luncheon.

Ramble in Burgoyne Bay area with Hans Shroder. Meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m. or at Burgoyne triangle at 10:15 a.m.

December 16: All groups will meet at Centennial Park at 10 a.m. A short hike will be led from here by Bryan and Lucille Adderly in the Churchill Road area.

A short walk will be led from here by Norma Eves through Mouat Park. Ramblers will join walkers. After a little exercise the group will seek respite at the Harbour House Hotel.

## Students jump rope for funds, health

More than 200 students and parents at Salt Spring Elementary School will be skipping Thursday afternoon — skipping rope, that is.

According to event coordinator Marianne Banman, students in each class take turns jumping rope for two hours, and collect pledges

for a Heart and Stroke Foundation fundraising drive.

Jump Rope for Heart is an educational program which promotes cardiovascular fitness through skipping. The program encourages children to adopt a "heart smart" lifestyle early in life and hopefully maintain it in the future.

"Jump Rope for Heart is a fun event but it also teaches children the importance of healthy hearts, the benefits of physical fitness and ways to become involved in their community," says Banman, who has been a volunteer organizer of the program at Salt Spring Elementary for five years.

Following are recent high scores in bowling league action at Kings Lane Recreation.

Special Olympics: Sharon Way, 153, 148, Gloria Dale 192, Mahjor Bains 184, Brad Magnus 180, Jim Beck 179, Marj McKay 143.

Circus league: Max Fitch 203, Bunny Cooper 211, Josh Marshall 216, 211, Ron Cunningham 219, 200, Deke Noonan 200.

Tuesday morning seniors: Ann Kowal 211, Bev Brown 201, John Richardson 233, 204, Madalene Jory 208.

Tuesday afternoon seniors: Gwen McClung 210, John Matheson 201, Doris Redquest 226, June Webb 201.

Wednesday ladies: Mary Fraser 238,

## HIGH ROLLERS

Wendy Mossop 246, Deanna Marleau 228, Margaret Baker 219, 227, 218/654, Pat Taylor 205, Madge Bate 264.

Golf ladies: June Webb 202, 220, Mary Campbell 202, Maddy Cooper 216, 249, 230/695, 269, Ruby Webster 219.

Looney tunes: Doug Sykes 340/723, 213, 214, 277, 704, Sharon Sykes 200, 204, 214/618, Milt Boehmer 202, 206, Ron Cunningham 229, 213, 203, Connie Hardy 253, 239, 230/722, 240, Martin Hoogerdyk 209, Lance Leask

228, John VanSchetsen 206, 218, Jamie Sayer 215, Shannon Strussi 206, Doug Wellingham 209, Deb Graham 221.

Friday afternoon seniors: Marg Baker 202, 251, 211, 697, 253, 216, Madalene Jory 200, 209, Anne Isbister 204, Doris Redquest 247, 221, 640, 203, Edie Gear 208, 236, 209, Beth Robinson 226, Cath McFadyen 203, Ken Robinson 210, 221, 629, 211, 262, 628.

Children's leagues: Jesse Hume 129, 107, 100, Ryan Clemente 103, 76, 85, Kaitlan Theile 83, 95, Edward Ritson 120, 102, Nicholas Watkins 136, 150, 118, 142, Patrick Buitenwerf 112, 129, 103, 144, 176, David Piperno 112, 168, 90, 92, 135, Justine Watkins 183, 100, 147, 106, Cameron Gottaas 88, Jordan Borth 104, 150.

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- \* **COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS:** "Belly Talk" is a new group for pregnant women, which meets Monday 7:30pm in the Family Place. Come & share your hopes, fears, joys & complaints about your pregnancy & up-coming motherhood with other pregnant women. For more info call Jules Atkins at 653-4533.
- \* **RECYCLE DEPOT:** Open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00am-5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.
- \* **COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS COORDINATOR:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.
- \* **CLIMBING WALL HOURS:** Thurs. & Fri. 6:30 - 9:30pm. Full equipment chg. \$2.50. **CLUB NIGHT:** Sunday 6:30-9:30pm.

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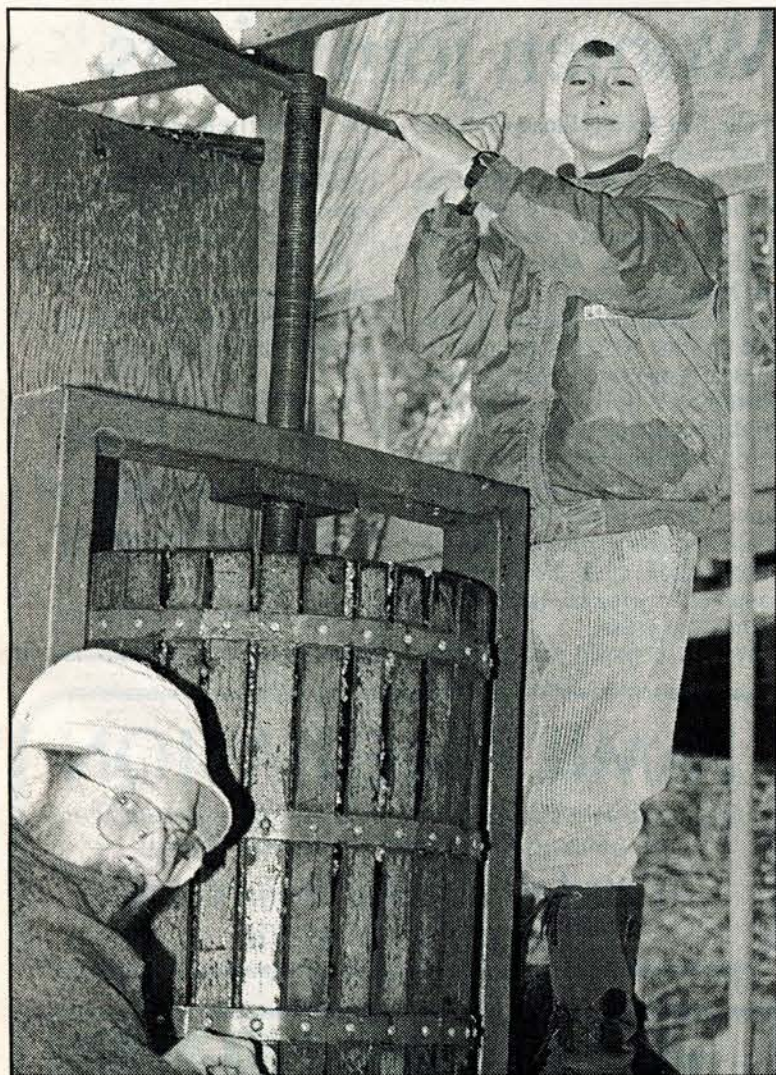
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**From apple to juice**  
 Father and son team Adrian and Craig Leitch use the apple pressing facilities at Paul Linton's Fulford home to create a delicious batch of apple juice - despite the apparent lateness of the season.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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## Extended boutique deemed a success

North Galiano's four-day Christmas Boutique Sale was very successful, both in the volume of sales and the number of shoppers it drew.

The sale which usually lasts two days was extended in length this year because Remembrance Day fell on a Tuesday, so it seemed logical to keep the show up until then. Saturday was the busiest day as expected, but Sunday, Monday and Tuesday were worthwhile especially for Saint Margaret's Church, whose members operated the baked goods area on the last day.

The North Galiano Community Association, sponsors of the event, received 10 per cent of all sales plus all the money brought in by items especially made for that purpose - the raffle, the Christmas cakes, the chocolates - to name three.

Trish Cowperthwaite created the tasty sausage rolls which were such a hit and needle guild members prepared the crowd-pleasing bean soup.

Nancy Davidson worked with decorations chairman Julia Pearson to give the ceiling of the small hall its delightful Christmas look. Runciman Hooley and Barbara Gibby sold the raffle tickets, prizes for which were donated by the over 30 exhibitors.

Phyllis Stafford was head book-keeper with a group of the mathematically inclined to aid her. Her husband Bill, as carpenter-handyman, worked with a small group of fellows ahead of the sale and after it. Dorothy and Alistair Ross were general conveners, the latter doing the advertising.

Raffle prize winners were: Gloria Clothier, Jennifer Wike, David Burchell, Shirley Calvert, Al Lantinga and Ann Harrison.

### Light show

Thanks to a ship being in Active Pass and the Mayne Queen's wait off Village Bay before entering that waterway, the evening sailing from Swartz Bay to Galiano was late getting to Sturdies Bay. That meant it was just in time for her passengers to see the spectacular light display which occurred on the evening of Friday, November 14.

From the open car deck as the ferry approached the dock, and ahead of it in the blackened sky, was a spectacular arc of light hissing and fracturing

## GALIANO NOTES

WITH ALISTAIR ROSS



as it made its way east, dying before our eyes. From that location the light appeared to originate in the Lions field on Burrill Road, but common sense said this could not be fireworks. It did make one wonder.

The late night television news showed the light display caught on amateur video and an explanation of the phenomenon was given - space junk burning up as it entered the earth's atmosphere - but the television image was nothing compared with seeing the real thing.

### Ian Hooley

Galianoite Ian Hooley, in Perth, Australia for the World Championship Triathlon, finished eighth in the 50-55 age group in a field of 1,300.

This ends a series of triathlons he participated in over the last seven months, held on the west coast of the U.S. and Canada and in Kelowna and Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. Coming first in all but two of the eight triathlons on this continent, he qualified for the world's this month.

Most triathlons consist of a 1.5-kilometre swim, a four-kilometre cycle and a 10-kilometre run.

### Tibetan voices

A one-hour photographic presentation with personal remembrances will be given by author-photographer Brian Harris in South Galiano Hall on Friday evening, December 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Following the show, Harris, whose book is Tibetan Voices: A Traditional Memoir, will answer questions about related areas of interest from his audience. The book won first prize for 1997 at the Banff International Book and Film Festival in the mountain image category.

All royalties and net revenue from the evening's sale of books, calendars and posters will fund Seva Service Society programs and three Tibetan refugee projects: the Tibetan Health Education Organization, the Tibetan Nuns Project and the Delek Hospital Aid Foundation.

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# TAKE NOTE

## OF THESE DATES

- NOV. 27:** Inaugural meeting of the Saltspring Reading Group, Island Books Plus, 104 McPhillips 7pm - 9pm.  
**NOV. 29:** Canadian Federation of University Woman, Christmas lunch, Seacourt Rest., 12 noon.  
**DEC. 2:** 10-3pm Christmas Sewathon, Family Place.  
**DEC. 3:** 9:30-3:30pm Christmas Sewathon, Family Place.  
**DEC. 3:** Chamber of Commerce annual member meeting, 7pm at the Harbour House Hotel.  
**DEC. 4:** Common childhood illnesses, Family Place, 1-3pm.  
**DEC. 4:** 9:30-3:30pm Christmas Sewathon, Family Place.  
**DEC. 3:** Music & Munch, All Saints by the Sea, 12:10pm.  
**DEC. 10:** Child safety & first aid, Family Place, 1-3pm.  
**DEC. 10, 11, 12, 13:** Tuned Air production "The Christmas Concert", SS Activity Centre, 7pm.
- EVERY WEDNESDAY**
- Seniors & Alzheimers support group, Seniors for Seniors bldg. 11am
  - Archery Shooting, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7pm.
  - Stamp Collectors all ages, Seniors For Seniors, 10am.
  - Cancer Support Group, Croftonbrook 10am-12 noon (every 3rd Wed.)
  - Core-Inn Committee Meetings, Core-Inn on McPhillips, 4:30-6pm.
  - Special Olympics Bowling, Bowling Alley, 10am-11am.
  - O.A.P.O. Loonie tea & video, Lower Central Hall, 1:30 (except 2nd Wed.)
  - Therapeutic Touch Practitioners group, Seniors for Seniors, 7pm (every 1st Wed.)
  - Drop in centre for people with mental health concerns, basement of SSI Community Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
  - Sports & arts & crafts day, Core Inn Youth Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
  - SSI Painters' Guild meetings, Hart Bradley Hall, 9:30-noon
- EVERY THURSDAY**
- French Conversation, Seniors for Seniors, 10-12pm.
  - Parkinsons Support Gr., Croftonbrook, 2pm (second Thurs. of the mo.)
  - Luncheon, Seniors for Seniors, 12 noon.
  - Chess Club, Seniors for Seniors Bldg., 7pm.
  - Reading Club for 7-12 year olds, Library, 1:30-2:30, July 10-Aug. 14.
  - Tony's Pizzeria, Core Inn, DJ and great pizza, 7-11pm.
  - Scottish Country Dancers, Anglican Church Hall, 6pm.
  - SSI Weavers' Guild, Baptist Church, 10:30-1:00

### EVERY FRIDAY

- Fulford OAP #170, bingo 2:00pm.
- Games afternoon, Seniors for Seniors, 1:30pm, Mah Jongg 12:30pm.
- Drop in centre for people with mental health concerns, basement of SSI Community Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
- Friday Feast, Core Inn Youth Centre, 6:30-8:30pm.
- A Course in Miracles, study group, 552 Rainbow Rd. #A, 10-11:30.

### EVERY SATURDAY

- Book Sale, downstairs at library, 10am-12:30pm.

### EVERY MONDAY

- Free blood pressure clinic, Seniors for Seniors 10-12noon (last Mon. ea. mo.)
- Adult 22 rifle shooting, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7-9pm.
- Taoist Tai Chi, for Seniors, Lower Central Hall, 10am.
- OAPO #32 carpet bowling, Lower Central Hall, 1:30pm.
- Reader's Theatre, Croftonbrook Hall, 10am
- Spanish conversation group, Seniors for Seniors, 10am-noon (not last Monday of the mo.)
- SS Weavers & Spinner, @ Farmers' Ins. to use the library, 10:30am (every 2nd Thurs.)
- SSI Buddhist meditation group, 135 McPhillips Ave., 7:30pm.
- Bandemonium, Meaden Hall, the Legion, 7-9pm.
- Hand gun, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7pm
- Carpet bowling, OAP Fulford hall, 2pm.
- Drop in centre for people with mental health concerns, basement of SSI Community Centre, 3:30-5:30pm.
- Authumn session, Reader's Theatre, Croftonbrook Hall, 10-12.
- Children's storytime, Mary Hawkins Library, 10am.
- Drawing class, library, 1:15-3:15.
- Health & nutrition for families, Family Place 9:30-12pm (3rd Mon. ea mo.)

### EVERY TUESDAY

- Duplicate Bridge, Meaden Hall at the Legion, 7pm.
- Seniors choir practices, Seniors for Seniors, 10:30am.
- Target Archery, Fulford Hall, 4:30-6. Archery lessons 3:30-4:30.
- Adult small bore, SSI Rod & Gun Club, 7-9pm
- Planned Parenthood Clinic, SS Health Unit behind Lady Minto Hosp. 4:30-6:30pm.

To have your no charge event listed here free, just drop it off to the Driftwood office by noon Friday!

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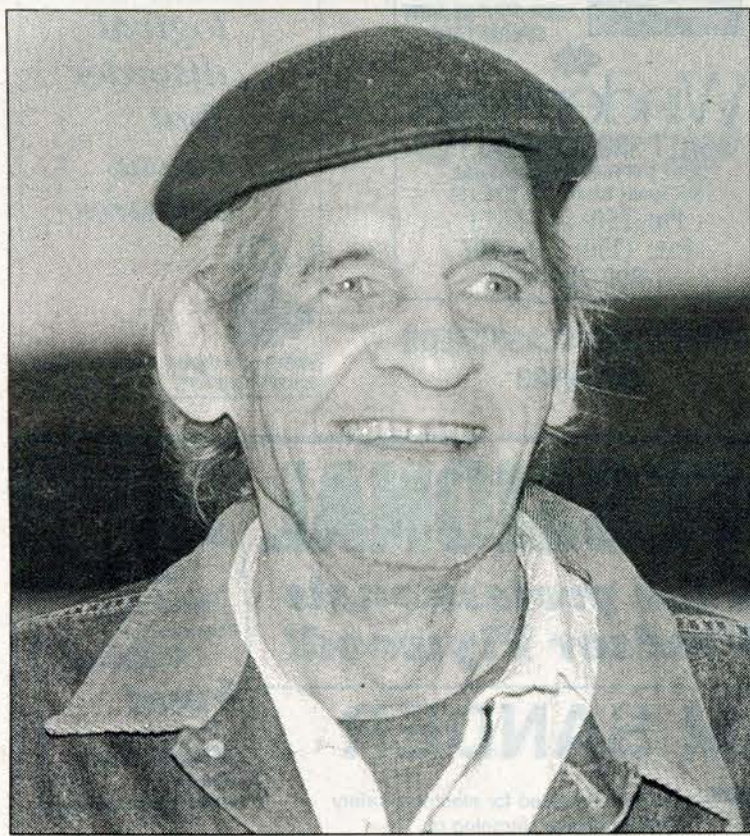
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# ISLANDER OF THE WEEK



Born in Shamrock, Saskatchewan, islander Mel Marchbank "retired" to Salt Spring in 1975, giving up his life as a carpenter, plumber, electrician and farmer. Although he planned to take life a little slower on Salt Spring, he immediately purchased a commercial fishing vessel and took off to the seas in pursuit of fish. Then he opened a saw mill, followed by a bronze casting foundry. Now Marchbank really has retired to his Musgrave Road property where he has established a bird sanctuary. Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Unique gifts at Core Inn auction

More and more these days, people are considering Christmas purchases which benefit more than just the vendor and receiver.

On Salt Spring, the December 7 Core Inn Youth Centre goods and services auction gives an opportunity to help island youth while getting great deals on unique Christmas gifts.

Available through live bidding is art by Rosamund Dupuy, Ute Hagen, Carol Evans and Carol Haigh, among others, and recreational items such as a kayak lake clinic from Island Escapades, a Salt Spring Guided Tours gift certificate, a Bevan Wrate haircut, and a sailboat trip for six with gourmet lunch.

There will also be numerous other one-of-a-kind goods and services, and smaller items available through a silent auction.

Arvid Chalmers will use his ample auctioneering talents before joining Sid Filkow for a Geezers performance. Lisa Maxx, whose music has been receiving lots of attention this year, will sing and play guitar.

The auction starts at 1:30 p.m. at Mahon Hall. As organizer Meredith Knox points out, the event is a fun family affair which will let everyone get home in time for supper.

Funds will also be raised through a youth-operated concession, and some Core Inn kids are working as runners and helpers for the auction.

There is no admission to the event, as suggested by youth members of the Core Inn board, although people who make a donation will be eligible to win door prizes.

Everyone at the Core Inn is trying hard to raise funds to complete the sprinkler system which will open the second and third floors, and to keep one of its most successful programs - the Grls Group - functioning.

## Women join Lions

The Salt Spring Lions Club has gone co-ed.

At its recent charter night, three female members were inducted into the community service club: Shelina Dawood, Mary Knudson and Marjorie Dickson.

Club president Barry Winsor said the club had held the applications of Knudson and Dickson for quite some time, waiting for a third woman to join them.

In September, Dawood, a pharmacist at Ganges Pharmsave, moved to the island from Kenya, where she was a member of an all-female Lions club. She inquired about transferring her membership to the local group.

Winsor stressed that the club

has benefited greatly from women's participation, with members' wives being extremely supportive of club activities through its women's auxiliary.

He also said most Lions clubs are for men and women.

"It's only the odd exceptional one that is all male."

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