



FOOD BANK FUNDS: Launi Middleditch sells her wooden Christmas trees at the Fulford Hall Christmas Craft Fair. The trees cost \$20 each and Middleditch is donating pro-

ceeds to the food bank. She is also organizing a food bank fundraiser in the form of a Christmas dance at Meaden Hall this Saturday night.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Community help sought as islander feeds street kids

By **SUSAN LUNDY**
Staff Writer

A Salt Spring woman on the brink of losing her own house is opening up her property to homeless youths for a solstice gathering next week.

Sandie Ferguson, who for the past several years has provided temporary living space for street kids and often functioned as the only link between the youths and their desperate parents, expects several dozen young adults will descend on her Robinson Road home for the December 21 gathering.

"Some of the kids [attending] will still be on the streets; some are doing well at getting their lives together," Ferguson said last week. "It will all be young people who have been through my house before."

Ferguson first opened her house to street youth six years ago as she searched the streets of Victoria and Vancouver for her own run-away daughter.

Ferguson and her daughter Danielle will be the subject of a series of articles set to run in the Driftwood early next year.

But in the meantime, Ferguson is appealing to the community for help in feeding the homeless youths who will probably be living with her for several days.

"It feels weird to ask," said Ferguson, who has only turned to the community for help once before. "But I'm very broke and I'm scared about losing my property."

The bank has handed Ferguson a pending foreclosure notice, giving her until April to refinance her mortgage.

Those planning to attend the gathering are doing so in support of Ferguson and in the hopes of helping her find creative ways to save her property and continue using it to benefit street kids.

"They are coming as a show of support for this place where they can get

together in comfort," Ferguson said. "It's a place where they don't have to be afraid."

And Ferguson knows how frightening street life can be — both for the youths living in urban "squats" and for their parents, who for years often have no idea whether their children are dead or alive.

"I don't know of a kid who hasn't slept in the same building as a corpse," she said.

Last May marked the first gathering Ferguson held in which she appealed to the Salt Spring community for help. (Several businesses, including Thrifty Foods, Ganges Village Market, Embe Bakery, Barb's Buns and the Growing Circle Food Co-op came forward at that time and Ferguson is extremely grateful to them.)

The gathering was held in memory of Ariel, a 21-year-old friend of Danielle's who had spent time at Ferguson's home and was battling a heroin addiction. She overdosed on the drug last spring.

One of the youths who came to that gathering, and who will be here again next week, said seven of his friends have died in the past 12 months.

"The young people I know are absolutely tired of what they are seeing," Ferguson said. "They are seeing kids dying — from drug overdoses, disease, suicide and so much lack of health care."

She said the youths hope to create awareness in the community of how much Ferguson and her property mean to them.

"They want to do something positive . . . They want to come forward to share their knowledge."

Ferguson has numerous ideas for using her property to benefit youths and to generate some income. The 20 acres is an entrancing mixture of steam, field, wood,

gardens and unique, hand-crafted fencing. Much of the work on the property has been done by the various youths who have stayed there.

But Ferguson's work — also from her home — as a dental hygienist does not generate enough money to pay the bills and for four years she has been working to subdivide five acres and sell it to a friend, who plans to hold it for her. However, a serious error made by a lawyer, combined with new Trust subdivision requirements, have delayed the process and left her finances in jeopardy.

She hopes the youths at the gathering will help her find ways to use her property to create awareness of the street kids' plight.

"I can't help but feel that miracles do happen."

And Ferguson could use a small miracle to feed the young people who arrive at her home next week. (At the last gathering, 32 youths and 17 dogs showed up for the four-day event.)

"It's a bit of a loose cannon at this point," she said. "If I had my way I'd do a big turkey dinner (it is the only Christmas most of them will have) and then light a big fire outside for everyone to sit around and visit."

Every corner of Ferguson's house — including her and her partner's bedroom (they will move into a yurt on the property) — will be transformed into sleeping quarters for the youths.

Ferguson also has a huge army tent which she has erected and will heat with a woodstove.

"I have no idea how I'm going to do it," she said. But she is trusting that a miracle will occur.

Anyone who can help Ferguson provide food and/or utensils to the street youth can leave her a message at 537-0630.

Bird count set for this Saturday

Local bird watchers are invited to grab binoculars, handbooks and rain-hats to collect reports for the Salt Spring winter bird count.

"The annual count is scheduled for December 15, which makes it almost certain to be the worst day of the year," quipped organizer Nancy Braithwaite.

For purposes of the count, the island is divided into 11 zones (plus Prevost Island).

Zone coordinators are trying to gather flocks of enthusiastic birders and more volunteers are eagerly welcomed, Braithwaite said.

It will be hard to fill the shoes of knowledgeable and passionate Ganges Harbour birder Allan Best, who passed away this year, she commented.

While Saturday's count will not be included in the official Audubon tally,

results will be reported to the Royal B.C. Museum and Bird Studies Canada, Braithwaite said.

She noted two new books on the market that might be of particular use this weekend: the Sibley Guide to Birds and the Kaufman Focus Guide to Birds of North America.

Contact Braithwaite (537-9335) for more information about the bird count.

Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic

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Happy Holidays

WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR:

Tuesday Dec. 25

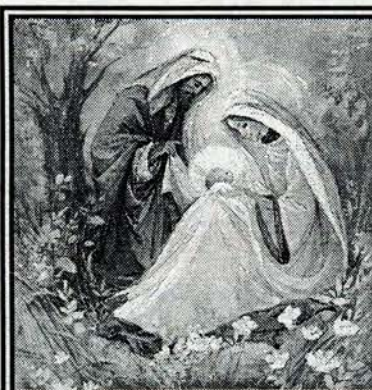
Wednesday Dec. 26

Tuesday Jan. 01

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be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be
called Wonderful, Counsellor,
The mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

— Isaiah 9:6

The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island

Christmas Services for 2001

December 16

7:00 pm Advent Lessons & Carols at All Saints'

December 23

2:30 pm Christmas Carol Sing at St. Mary's

December 24 - Christmas Eve

7:00 pm Family Eucharist and Blessing of the Crèche at All Saints'

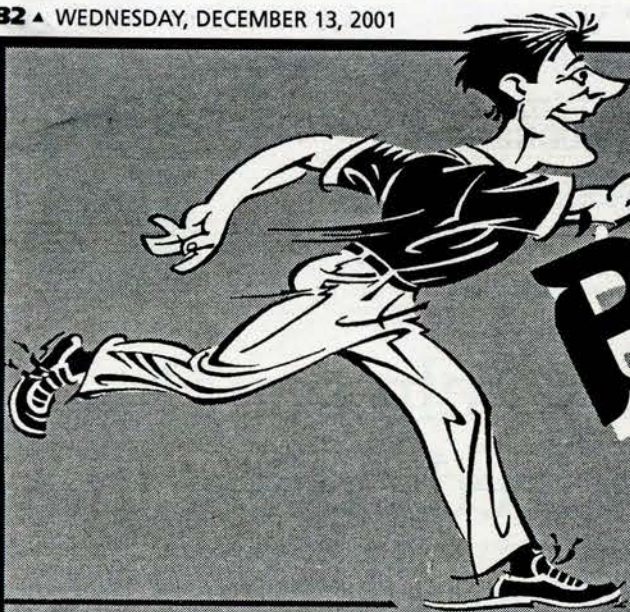
7:00 pm Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's

11:00 pm Midnight Mass at All Saints'

December 25 - Christmas Day

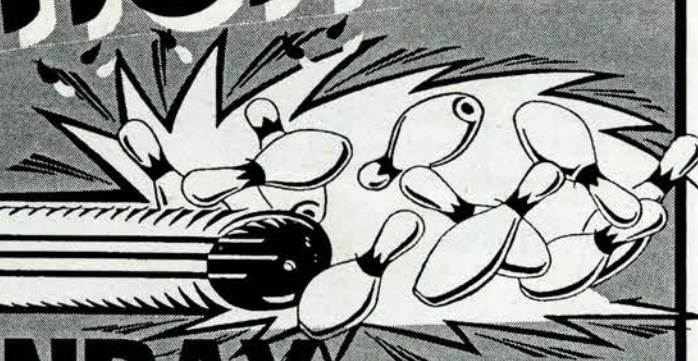
10:00 pm Holy Eucharist at All Saints'





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THANKS SAM: Sam Cochrane, centre, is honoured for 25 years of service to the Beddis Waterworks District at a dessert potluck Sunday. Seen here, holding a tap on Cochrane's cake, are (from left): Tom Volquardsen, Judith Bradley and Don Stevens.

Photo by Derrick Lundy



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Ceremony recalls violence

By **PIRJO RAITIS**
Staff Writer

The stars twinkled brightly overhead and the cool night air was a gentle reminder that it was indeed December.

Sixty community members gathered in a circle at Centennial Park last Thursday evening to remember 14 young women who were shot to death at Montreal's L'Ecole Polytechnique in 1989. Each year since, community members have gathered to pay tribute to these women and to highlight the need to end violence against women.

Each person at Thursday's ceremony lit a candle and joined in a circle to lend support to the ongoing battle to end violence against women. Songs were sung and poems were read.

The Raging Grannies, along with accompanist Barrington Perry, opened by singing One More Step, followed by Bread and Roses.

Poems by Edna St. Vincent Milay and Judy

Chicago were read and the evening's sentiments were probably summed up best in the line: "Remember us you who are living... speak for our silence... weave the web of peace."

"We thought this act 12 years ago would end the violence against women. It so abhorred us we thought it wouldn't happen any more, but there are 45 women missing in Vancouver and they have been written off and forgotten. Violence most often comes from deep woundedness and to end it must begin with us right here and right now," said Patricia Houston, who came forward to speak to the issue.

The circle was opened up to anyone who had something to say on the topic. One young man came forward and said, "Love will lead us. It all begins with one and all it takes is one of us to save one."

Houston again came forward and questioned why people would get together to remember and what would

such a meeting accomplish. How would it help, why were we doing this?

The answer was simple. "If we have to go to the ramparts it is better to do it with your friends. That's why we stand in the cold on December 6 and remember this.

"With the increasing violence in the world today it's important to come here and remember to treat everyone as you would like to be treated yourself."

Women of Note sang a couple of songs into the night air and the evening ended with the song We Shall Overcome.

Thursday's Candlelight Vigil was organized by Salt Spring Women Opposed to Violence and Abuse (SWOVA). SWOVA is a grass-roots, pro-active, non-profit society dedicated to raising awareness about the issues of violence and abuse against women and children in the Gulf Islands community.

The organization can be reached at 537-1336.

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email: reiki@saltspring.com *Cecilia*

Avison show up at 'Roasters'

A new show of paintings by master watercolourist Jack Avison is currently on display at the Salt Spring Roasting Company in Ganges.

The Yorkshire-born artist attended art education colleges in Bradford and Newcastle. He has lived on Salt Spring since 1980 and is

well known for having shown and taught art locally over the past decade.

His current 11-painting show features contrasting colour studies of vivid emeralds, moorland mauves, terracotta bronzes and iridescent butters, all awash with the misty glow of westcoast twilight.

On his profile at the Roasting Co., Avison explains three major things governing his work: to pass on as much knowledge as he can and enthruse those who come for assistance; to maintain his stand to offer only original work to the public; and to expand his ability as far as can be attained.

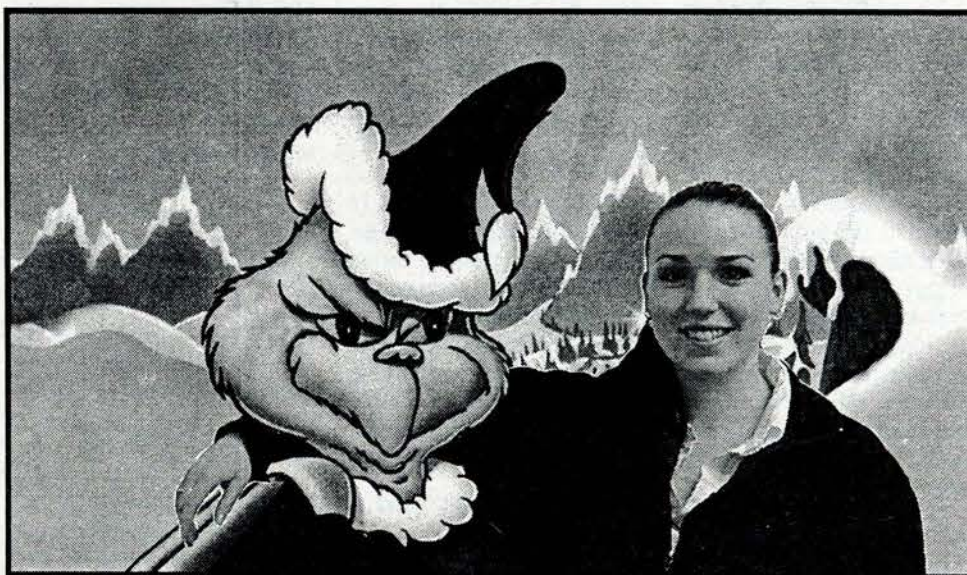
Thank You!

Bulk, fed Santa's sleigh (actually a 118 ft. ship) for its journey through the southern Gulf Islands. A special r-O-o-a-a-r of appreciation is given by the Salt Spring Lions Club, the Lions Clubs of Bellingham and, we are sure, the community at large for the McColls' continued support of this yearly venture. You really bring in the Holiday Season with a lot of smiles and cheers. Merry Christmas from us all!

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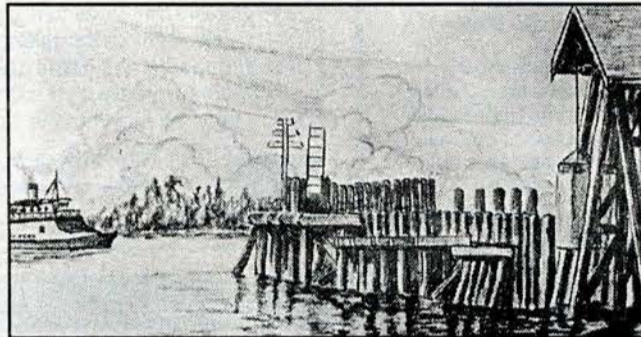
THREE CHEERS FOR THE CHAIR:

Salt Spring Legion Branch 92 and the local fire department contributed funds to Greenwoods to purchase a new chair used in bathing. Seen here with Greenwoods resident Dora Atkinson are, from left, fire chief Dave Enfield, Alan Wyatt (representing the Legion), Greenwoods employee Kirk Johnston and firefighter Todd McIntyre.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Waterfront parcel cost \$9,500

Forty years ago
 • For sale: cozy one-bedroom cottage on an eight-acre lot with 440 feet of waterfront on Walker Hook Road, \$9,500.
 • Hundreds of people, including a cabinet minister and government officials, attended the funeral of long-time island resident Gavin Mout.



Drawn around 1935 by Gordon Prat, this image of the Cy Peck ferry coming into Salt Spring is found on an old postcard submitted to the Driftwood by Julie Sweetnam.

Thirty-five years ago
 • A long-awaited power line from Montague Harbour to North Galiano was nearing completion. Residents had waited 10 years for power to reach their end of the island.

• For sale: spacious, two-acre waterfront lot on Spanish Hills, North Galiano. West-facing property with a fine moss and arbutus covered building site, and a small pasture in the rear: \$5,750.

Thirty years ago
 • An on-off-on referendum for additions/renovations to Salt Spring elementary and secondary schools was on again, with the Ministry of Education authorizing a referendum for a \$752,000 project. Two weeks earlier the ministry cancelled the referendum. Then it relented and let the district proceed with a vote on a less expensive project.

Included in the plans were the addition of an activity centre to the elementary school and a new home economics and industrial arts centre at the high school.

Twenty-five years ago
 • Salt Spring resident Larry Holbrook took three of his racing pigeons to the premier livestock show in North America and came away with a bundle of prizes.

DOWN THE YEARS

• Ganges RCMP threw down the gauntlet to volunteer firemen on Salt Spring. The two entities planned to out-do each other at a blood donor clinic. Police agreed to wash three fire trucks if they failed to give more blood than the firemen. If the firemen lost, they would have to wash two police cars and the police boat.

Twenty years ago
 • The traffic pattern in Ganges was about to change. Salt Spring's transportation committee displayed its proposed traffic flow system for Ganges. Proposals included both short and long-term plans, one of which called for installation of a traffic light in the village core.

Fifteen years ago
 • A 10-fold increase in insurance costs for the Bellingham Jaycees' Christmas ship threatened to scuttle the annual event. The ship had visited the Gulf Islands for the past 35 years,

handing out gifts for children and shut-ins at a dozen stops en route.

"It's something to worry about," said Tripo Costello, who was scheduled to make his 25th appearance as Santa Claus.

Ten years ago
 • Following a four-hour meeting, parks and recreation commission members and market vendors agreed to a January 6 deadline to develop a draft licence of occupation for use of Centennial Park space for an outdoor market.

Those involved in the negotiations expected to have an agreement in place before the season started in the spring. Still to be resolved was the issue of commercial products being sold in the market.

Five years ago
 • The Salt Spring Trust Committee requested the Capital Regional District put a stop-work order on the Bullock Lake resort project. The Trust based its position on the belief that a building permit was issued without proof of potable water.

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JOHN CAMERON
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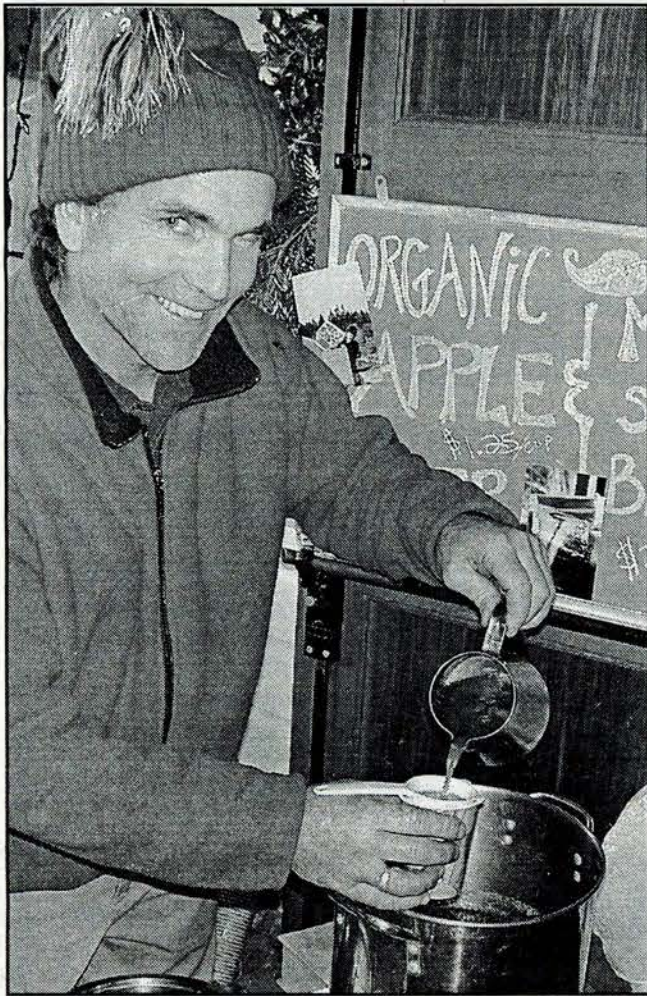
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WARMING THE INSIDE: James Scarfo serves up hot, organic apple cider as the shopping hordes descend on Beaver Point Hall's annual Christmas craft fair held last weekend.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Cyclists on island in peace mission

A few weeks ago Hornby Island resident June Hamley had a life-altering dream about refugees in Afghanistan.

Now she is on the last leg of a 200-kilometre cycling trip spreading a message of peace from the Canadian Forces Base at Comox to the legislature in Victoria. She was on Salt Spring last week.

"I had a dream that innocent civilians were feeling threatened. They looked at me and said, 'You're going to let this happen to me?' They were very upset."

Hamley is deeply concerned about the estimated five million Afghan refugees displaced by U.S.-led military action.

"Afghanistan has a harsh climate. If something isn't done, a lot of people will starve or freeze in the coming months. We cannot let that happen."

She decided to take a long journey in winter — a simulation of the travels experienced by refugees — to help foster public interest in the plight of innocent civilians.

"It's scary for me to think about having to walk with my child all that way through mountains and cold weather. But that could never happen here; it wouldn't be allowed," she said.

The single mom noted she is not an experienced cyclist and said her four-year-old son remained behind on Hornby with his father.

Cycling with friend Bryan Lyon, the two posted articles at bulletin boards in all the towns along their route.

These articles, penned by UBC professor Sunera Thobani, Osgood-Hall professor Michael Mandel and a Montreal Gazette journalist, promote greater dialogue about events in Afghanistan.

"I had been frustrated about what to do with this informa-

tion and felt like I needed to do something to raise awareness," Hamley said.

She is convinced the war in Afghanistan is illegal and that non-military options need to be pursued to solve the problems there.

Hamley also believes the U.S. needs to take responsibility for funding and supporting terrorist organizations (such as the Afghan Mujahedin rebels in their fight against the Soviet Union in the early '80s).

Ten years ago U.S. policy makers refused to sign a treaty banning arms sales to groups other than nations, she said.

"I just think that if I sold weapons to my crazy neighbours, I would have to be held responsible for their actions."

Hamley encourages people to write letters to Prime Minister Jean Chretien protesting military aggression in Afghanistan.

"I hope to inspire others to take a stand to prevent further military action."

She is also suggesting concerned global citizens donate money to refugees through the Mennonite Church by calling (604) 850-6639.

Prescription drug misuse at centre of support group

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Popping pills to control pain, sleep disorders, moods, behaviour and weight is a common practice in North America.

Got a headache? Ads suggest "take a pill." Doctors commonly prescribe medications to treat insomnia, anxiety or depression. And parents of unruly children are often encouraged to use drugs to help control behaviours.

Our society is inundated with a plethora of powerful medicines and all of these medicines have side effects.

One possible side effect of prescription drug use is addiction.

"Abused or misused drugs could be anything that's being used not in accordance with a prescription," said Paul Gregory, director of adult services at Salt Spring Community Services.

"Pain killers are frequently misused," he said.

Codeine (Tylenol 3), Percodan and Demerol count as commonly abused prescription drugs.

"In Canada we can purchase Aspirin with codeine over the counter, where that's not possible in the U.S."

Sleeping pills, diet pills, anti-depressants (like Prozac), anabolic steroids and stimulants (such as Ritalin) also top the list of potential problem medications.

"Some people have trouble with anxiety medications where there could be other coping mechanisms," said Gregory.

But, he pointed out, "Abuse of a medication is more important than whether you need a prescrip-

tion to get it."

As a result of client requests, Community Services is trying to put together a self-help group for people who abuse or misuse prescription medications.

"We had a client express interest and we are aware of additional need within the community," Gregory said.

He has notified physicians about the proposed program and hopes to get referrals.

A Prescription Drug Misuse Support Group will be modelled after other 12-step addiction programs.

Drug and alcohol counsellor Dave Vollrath will work with participants to create peer support and education to help reduce abuse in regular Friday morning sessions.

"The program is based on a harm-reduction model," Gregory said.

"You don't necessarily have to be abstinent to reduce harm."

The harm-reduction model allows people to have more control over health decisions, he said.

"We look at where a person is at rather than where they need to be." The aim of the group is "to give others choices and help support other choices," Gregory said.

Sessions will include a psycho-educational component to provide information about how particular drugs affect individuals through side effects and long-term effects.

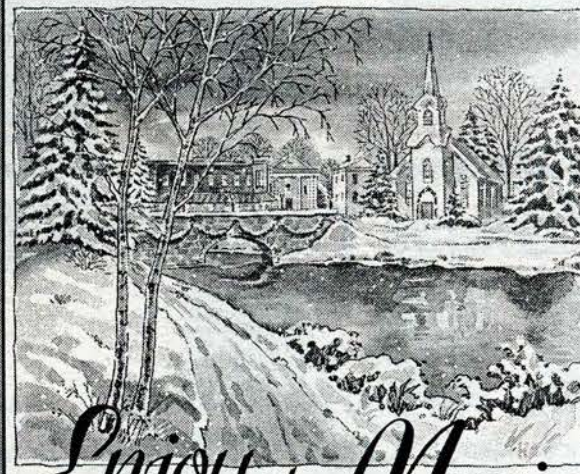
"We will also be helping members to recognize the various stages of addiction."

Interested persons are invited to contact Vollrath at Community Services (537-9971) for more information.

Salt Spring Island Community Services
268 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
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- **ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM:** Prevention & treatment service is free & confidential.
- **FAMILY PLACE: DROP IN -** Mon.-Wed. 9:30am-noon. Please watch for coming events. **FAMILY WALK** in Mouat Pk, rain or shine Thurs. @ 10. Belly Talk & Rug Huggers Thursdays 2pm-4pm. 537-9176.
- **RECYCLE DEPOT:** Open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00am-5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.
- **COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS COORDINATOR:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.
- **Emergency Mental Health Services available:** 4pm to midnight. Access is available through the Emergency Rm at Lady Minto Hospital call: 538-4840

Christmas Hampers — Register Now!



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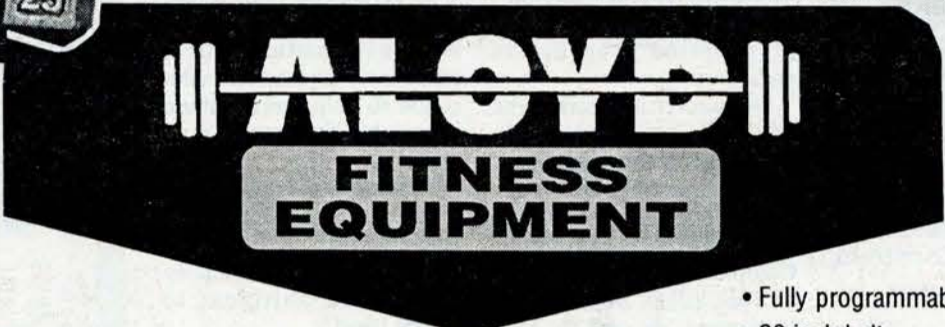
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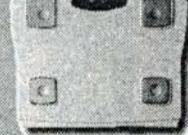


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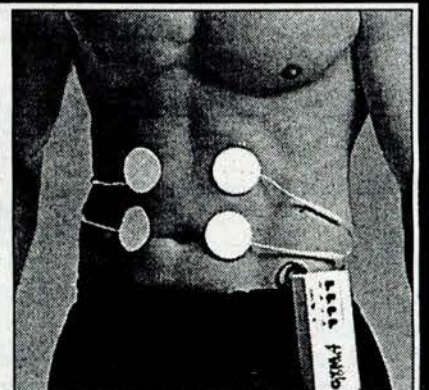
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What's on

YOUR TELEVISION GUIDE

GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD PAGE B7 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2001

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BUYER ON BOARD

S - SALT SPRING ISLAND		O - OUTER ISLANDS		WEEKDAY DAYTIME DEC 13 TO DEC 19													
S	O	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30
2	2	CBC	Get Set For Life			Get Set For Life				This Hour	R.Green	Road to Avonlea	Gardener	Neighb'rs	Various	Emmerd.	
3		MC	TH Crisis	Various	TU Top 3	Various	Movie	Various	Movie	Various	Movie	Various	W 45	Return to Ca..	Movie	Various	Movie
4		NewVI	7:00 New Day		Regis & Kelly		Media TV	Health	CityLine		All My Children		Earth: Final Conflict	Walker, TR		Iyanla	
5	16	KING	7:00 Today Show		Today Show		M. Stewart Living		Ananda Lewis Show		News		Days of Our Lives	Passions		Iyanla	
6	7	CH	Mechanic	Carebear	Eagle C.	Various	The Price is Right		Ananda Lewis Show		News		B. Health	Travel	Judy	Squares	Sally Jessy Raphael
7	14	CTVBC	6:30 Canada AM				The View		Vicki Gabereau		House	B & B	E.R.		General Hospital	Frasier	D.Carey
8	8	GBLBC	6:00 News		100 Huntley Street		Worldvision		Bynon		News		As the World Turns		Passions		Young & Restless
9	9	KCTS	Sagwa	Zoboo...	Caillou	DragonT.	Barney	Sesame Street	Mr. Roger		Tubbies	ReadRain	Caillou	Jay Jay	Zoboo...	Bet. Lions	Clifford
10	23	SRC	7:30 Matin Express		3 mousquetaires		C'est simple comme bonjour		Variées		...midi	Parleurs	Liza		Mon ange		Variées
11	5	KNOW	Zoboo...	BlueClue			Various	Dudley	Various		Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various
13	13	CKVU	Rog'rReal	Body	Origin Art	Various	Maury Povich Show		First Wave		The Lost World		Various Movies				Book TV
14		BRAVO	Various		Various	Concerto	The New Avengers		Various Movies		45 News		Various		Various	Various	Various
15	35	CMT	Various	Various	Heart and Home				Heart and Home				CMTHits/ScreenRoom		Rock N' Country		
16	38	TLC	Wedding	Wedding	Makeover	Makeover	DateStory	DateStory	Baby	Baby	Wedding	Wedding	TradingSpaces		Various	Various	Various
19		FAM	Various	45 Elmo	05 Pooh	Various	25 Pooh	45OutBox	10Dcktale	35Houndz	Various	50 Elmo	05 Pooh	Various	25Pooh	50OutBox	15Dcktale
20	31	A&E	Magnum.P.I.		N. Court	N. Radio	Law & Order		Murder One		L.A. Law		Murder She Wrote		Magnum.P.I.		N. Court
21	15	TSN	Sportscentre		Various	Workout	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	F Golf	Various	M TU W
22	19	SNP	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	SportCnt.	Various	Various	Various
23	17	KSTW	Screen Gems		Seventh Heaven		CrossOvr	CrossOvr	JudgeJoe	JudgeJoe	The People's Court		Divorce	Divorce	Ricki Lake		Sabrina
24	12	KVOS	Buzz	Scooby	Various	Various	The People's Court		Judge Greg Mathis		Ricki Lake		Jenny Jones		Montel Williams		Diagnosis
25	34	KCPQ	6:00 News		The Other Half		Maury Povich Show		Sally Jessy Raphael		Maury Povich Show		Paid	MagicBus	Various	Various	PRangers
26	20	NEWS	BusNews	Various	NewsWorld Today				NewsWorld Today		M NewsWorld Today		...the Bell	Canadian	Politics		Various
27	11	KIRO	The Early Show		Justice	Attorney	The Price is Right		Young & Restless		News	B & B	As the World Turns		The Guiding Light		Montel Williams
28	4	KOMO	7:00 Morning Am.		Regis & Kelly		The View		News	P.Charles	All My Children		One Life to Live		General Hospital		Northwest
29		VISION	New Day	New Day	Mass	Various	Various	Religion	Youngren	Robison	100 Huntley Street		Q.Study	Wonder..	Little House Prairie		Avonlea

THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

- THURSDAY, DEC 13**
- 6:00 PM
14 ★★ **The Long Goodbye** (1973, Crime Story) A man finds himself wrapped up in murder, double cross, and stolen money. *Elliott Gould, David Arkin* (2h)
- 7:00 PM
3 **The Spreading Ground** Captain Neimen bribes the mafia to find and execute the killer of five little girls. *Dennis Hopper, Leslie Hope* (2h)
- 8:00 PM
24 **12** ★★ **Wyatt Earp: Return To Tombstone** (1984, Western) An aging Wyatt Earp returns quarter century later to his biggest showdown. *Hugh O'Brian, Bruce Boxleitner* (2h)
- 9:00 PM
3 **What Lies Beneath** (2000, Thriller) The wife of a professor investigates the murder of a beautiful college student. *Michelle Pfeiffer, Harrison Ford* (2h15)
- 19** ★★ **My Girl** (1991, Comedy/Drama) An eleven-year-old tomboy must come to grips with the realities of life. *Macaulay Culkin, Anna Chlumsky* (1h30)
- 10:00 PM
14 ★★ **Silver Bears** (1978, Drama) A financier acquires a Swiss Bank to store ill gotten gains for his boss. *Michael Caine, Cybil Shepherd* (2h)
- 10:30 PM
19 ★★ **Oh Heavenly Dog** (1980, Comedy) A detective is reincarnated as the lovable dog Benji to find his killers. *Chevy Chase, Robert Morley* (1h45)
- 11:15 PM
3 **The Watcher** (2000, Thriller) A serial killer begins sending a detective pictures of his victims. *James Spader, Marisa Tomei* (2h)
- 11:30 PM
2 **2** **Drowning in Dreams** (Docu-Drama) A wealthy entrepreneur dreams of raising the Gunilda, a steam yacht that sank. (2h)
- FRIDAY, DEC 14**
- 6:00 PM
14 ★★ **Duel** (1971, Thriller) A highway motorist becomes engaged in a game of death with a vengeful truck driver. *Dennis Weaver, Tim Herbert* (1h45)
- 7:00 PM
3 **Vertical Limit** (Action) A climber must rescue his sister on top of K2, one of the world's biggest mountains. *Chris O'Donnell, Robin Tunney* (2h30)
- 8:00 PM
2 **2** ★★ **Miracle on 34th Street** (1994, Drama) Santa tries to instill belief in a skeptical child and her struggling mother. *Lord Richard Attenborough, Elizabeth Perkins* (2h)
- 13** **13** **27** **11** **The Christmas Secret** (2000, Family) A scientist sets out to prove that reindeer can fly and discovers Christmas. *Richard Thomas, Beau Bridges* (2h)
- 23** **17** ★★ **Jason's Lyric** (1994, Drama) Two brothers are pitted against one another as they try to cope with a family tragedy. *Allen Payne, Jada Pinkett* (2h)
- 24** **12** ★★ **Hot Shots! Part Deux** (1993, Comedy) A pilot is called into action to rescue soldiers who were called to rescue soldiers. *Charlie Sheen, Lloyd Bridges* (2h)
- 9:00 PM
19 ★★ **Forever Young** (1992, Drama) The subject of a cryogenic experiment is revived after 50 years by a boy and his mother. *Mel Gibson, Elijah Wood* (1h30)
- 9:30 PM
3 **Quills** (2000, Drama) The life of scandalous 18th century erotic writer Marquis de Sade. *Geoffrey Rush, Kate Winslett* (2h)
- 9:45 PM
14 ★ **And God Created Woman** (1987, Action) A woman breaks out of prison, is sent back and then marries a carpenter to get out. *Rebecca De Mornay, Vincent Spano* (2h)
- 10:30 PM
19 ★★ **Stealing Home** (1988, Sport) After a friend dies, a baseball player reviews his life and the opportunities he missed. *Mark Harmon, Jodie Foster* (1h40)
- 11:30 PM
2 **2** ★★ **Dave** (1993, Comedy) An ordinary guy is asked to double as the President of the United States. *Kevin Kline, Sigourney Weaver* (2h)

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S - SALT SPRING ISLAND		O - OUTER ISLANDS		THURSDAY EVENING DECEMBER 13													
S	O	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
2	2	CBC	CBC4Kids		Simpsons	SmartAsk	News		Christm.	12 Days	Opening Night			The National/Mag.	National	Movie	
3		MC	Adventures of Rocky & Bullwinkle		Waydowntown	Fab Filippo.		The Spreading Ground	Dennis Hopper.		What Lies Beneath		Michelle Pfeiffer.		15	The Watcher	
4		NewVI	Movie TV	Star Trek: Voyager	VI Land News		Seinfeld	Simpsons	Talk TV		Dead Man's Gun		First Wave		News	Movie TV	
5	16	KING	Oprah Winfrey		KING News		News	News	Magazine	Squares	Friends	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	JustShoot	E.R.		Jay Leno
6	7	CH	Days of Our Lives		CH News		News	Go! Mag.	Wheel	Jeopardy	Fam. Guy	The Tick		Largo Winch		Sport	CH News
7	14	CTVBC	Rosie O'Donnell		CTV News at Five		News		..Be a Millionaire?		Line?	Line?		The Amazing Race		E.R.	News
8	8	GBLBC	Oprah Winfrey		News	National	News		ET	Friends	Survivor 3: Africa	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	JustShoot	India: On the Move		News
9	9	KCTS	Zoom	Sagwa	Arthur	Business News		News	Travel	Connects	Antiques UK		P.O.V.		Making Most of Money		
10	23	SRC	Tic et Tac	Ayoyel	Mr. Bean	Parleurs	Ce soir	ClanDest.	Virginie	Gars, fille	Fred-Dy		L'Ecuyer		Téléjournal/Point	Ce soir	Cinéma
11	5	KNOW	Wishbone	MagicBus	Art Attack	Kratts' C	Planet.Ed	EntreAsia	S. Space	Health	Parks	Hist.Land	War of 1812		All Too Human	DataCafé	Imprint
13	13	CKVU	Star Trek: DSN		Spin City	Seinfeld		News	BlindDate	5thWheel	Highlander: Raven		Temptation Island 2		BlindDate	Ed Sock	Spin City
14		BRAVO	Videos	Book TV	Writing..	Ionesco		The Long Goodbye	(1973) Elliott Gould.		NYPD Blue		Homicide: Life on St		Silver Bears	(1978) Michael Caine.	
15	35	CMT	CMT Prime		Quartette	Christmas		Top 12 Choice		CMT Prime		A Gift of Music		CMT Live		Top 12 Choice	CMT After Hours
16	38	TLC	Case Reopened		Scene of the Crime		Mummies		World of Mummies		Scene of the Crime		Mummies		World of Mummies		Case Reopened
19		FAM	Buzz	PepprAnn	Tarzan	Recess		Stevens	Jackson		Frosty	ALF	Shr'nKid	45..Dark?	My Girl	Macaulay Culkin.	Oh Heavenly Dog
20	31	A&E	Law & Order		Biography Pt. 1 of 2	(cont'd Dec 14)		Poirot		Law & Order		Biography		Poirot		Poirot	
21	15	TSN	Sportscent	Profile	Golf Williams	World Tour PGA				Sportscentre	Motor '02	Boxing		..Hockey	Sportscentre		
22	19	SNP	Snowboarding	FIS	Skiing	GottaSee		Canucks	SportCnt.	CoolShot	Hockey NHL Vancouver Canucks vs Los Angeles Kings		Sports Central		SportCnt.		
23	17	KSTW	Tarzan	Recess	Sabrina	Homelmp		D.Carey	Frasier	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	WWF Smackdown!		Paid	Paid	Spin City	Spin City
24	12	KVOS	Homelmp	Tell Truth	FamFeud	Card..		Eliminate	Rendez...	St.Smarts	Ch. Heart	Wyatt Earp: Return To Tombstone		Paid	S. Susan	Cheers	M.A.S.H.
25	34	KCPQ	FullHous.	Fresh P.	3rd Rock	Simpsons		Simpsons	King Hill		Friends	Friends	Fam. Guy	The Tick	Temptation Island 2	Q13 News at Ten	Star Trek: Voyager
26	20	NEWS	Can. Now	Sports J.	CBC: Disclosure		The National/Mag.		The Fifth Estate		Hour Has 7 Days		National	BusNews	The Fifth Estate		Hour Has 7 Days
27	11	KIRO	Judy	Judy	KIRO News		News	News	ET	Access	Survivor 3: Africa		The Amazing Race		CSI: Crime Scene		News
28	4	KOMO	Rosie O'Donnell		KOMO 4 News		News	News	Wheel	Jeopardy	Line?	Line?	..Be a Millionaire?		Primetime Thursday		News
29		VISION	Cosby	Time Go	Ballykissangel		VisionTV: Indepth		Main St.	Prayer	VisionTV: Indepth		Ballykissangel		The Lives of Jesus		100 Huntley Street

YOUR WEEKLY PULL-OUT TV GUIDE

Table with columns for S, O, and time slots (4:00-11:30) for Friday Evening December 14. Lists various TV programs and channels.

Advertisement for True North Satellites featuring a truck and reindeer. Text: 'I'll Land on Your Roof for Only \$99.00! True North Satellites 538-1705 • 537-6055 (cell)'

Table with columns for S, O, and time slots (8:00-3:30) for Saturday Daytime December 15. Lists various TV programs and channels.

Advertisement for Bell ExpressVu and Star Choice satellite dishes. Text: 'BUY A STAR CHOICE OR A BELL EXPRESSVU SATELLITE DISH & A CHANCE TO WIN A 27" PANASONIC TV. (DRAW BEFORE CHRISTMAS, DETAILS IN STORE)'

Table with columns for S, O, and time slots (4:00-11:30) for Saturday Evening December 15. Lists various TV programs and channels.

Table with columns for S, O, and time slots (8:00-3:30) for Sunday Daytime December 16. Lists various TV programs and channels.

11:45 PM
14 Confessions of a Sex Maniac (1979, Drama) An architect searches for the perfect breast to serve as the blueprint for his building. Roger Lloyd Pack, Vicki Hodge (1h30)

SATURDAY, DEC 15

6:30 PM
3 Prancer Returns (2001, Family) A boy's care and concern for an orphaned reindeer brings his town and family together. John Corbett, Stacy Edwards (1h30)

7:00 PM
6 Antz (1998, Comedy) A worker ant breaks away from his society while trying to win a princess' affection. Woody Allen, Sharon Stone (2h)

8:00 PM
3 Anti Trust A computer programmer discovers that his boss has a ruthless way of dealing with problems. Ryan Phillippe, Rachael Leigh Cook (2h)

23 Living in Peril (1997, Suspense) An architect is stalked by a truck driver following a highway altercation. Rob Lowe, James Belushi (2h)

24 Sergeant York (1941, War) A Tennessee boy becomes a hero by single-handedly capturing 132 German soldiers. Gary Cooper, Walter Brennan (2h30)

9:00 PM
5 National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989, Comedy) A man plays host to numerous dysfunctional relatives during the Christmas holidays. Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo (2h)

19 The Doctor (1991, Drama) A surgeon is diagnosed with throat cancer and learns what it is like to be a patient. William Hurt, Elizabeth Perkins (1h55)

9:45 PM
14 Postcards From the Edge (1990, Comedy) An actress must deal with her famous mother upon returning from rehabilitation. Meryl Streep, Shirley MacLaine (2h)

10:00 PM
3 High Fidelity (2000, Drama) A newly dumped record store owner thinks about relationships with aurally fixated clerks. John Cusack, Iben Hjejle (2h)

10:55 PM
19 Coupe De Ville (1990, Comedy) Three brothers get to know each other again as they drive a car from Detroit to Miami. Patrick Dempsey, Alan Arkin (1h35)

11:45 PM
14 Stand By Me (1986, Comedy/Drama) Four friends set out on an adventure to look for the missing body of a local teenager. Wil Wheaton, Corey Feldman (1h45)

SUNDAY, DEC 16

6:00 PM
14 Sleeping with the Enemy (1991, Thriller) A woman tries to escape her abusive husband by staging her own death. Julia Roberts, Patrick Bergin (2h)

20 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992, Comedy) Kevin finds himself separated from his family in New York City at Christmastime. Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci (2h30)

7:00 PM
5 Antz (1998, Comedy) A worker ant breaks away from his society while trying to win a princess' affection. Woody Allen, Sharon Stone (1h)

11 The Scarlet Pimpernel (1935, Drama) A crusader rescues innocent aristocrats from violence of the French Revolution. Leslie Howard, Merle Oberon (2h)

3 State and Main A movie crew invades a small town whose residents are ready for showbiz glitz. Michael Higgins I, Michael Bradshaw (2h)

8:00 PM
4 Babe: Pig in the City (1998, Family) Babe travels to the big city to help farmer Hoggett save the farm from bankruptcy. Megda Szubanski, James Cromwell (2h)

14 Dying Young (1991, Romance) A woman becomes the companion to a 28 year old man dying of leukemia. Julia Roberts, Campbell Scott (2h)

23 Glory (1989, War) The story of America's first Black unit of soldiers during the Civil War. Denzel Washington, Morgan Freeman (2h30)

24 Tequila Sunrise (1988, Action) Two friends who grew up on opposites sides of the law confront each other. Mel Gibson, Kurt Russell (2h30)

9:00 PM
3 Loser (2000, Romance) A scholarship student simultaneously tries to fit in and win the girl of his dreams. Jason Biggs, Greg Kinnear (2h)

5 Titanic (1997, Drama) Two young lovers find one another on the maiden voyage of the R.M.S. Titanic. Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet (2h)

13 Urban Legend (1998, Horror) College friends are stalked by murderer who kills them one-by-one in style of urban myths. Jared Leto, Alicia Witt (2h)

19 A Christmas Carol (1938, Drama) A miserly old man changes his ways after he is taught a lesson in charity. Reginald Owen, Gene Lockhart (1h10)

27 A Town Without Christmas (2001, Drama) A race begins to find Chris who threatens to harm himself. Patricia Heaton, Peter Falk (2h)

10:00 PM
20 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992, Comedy) Kevin finds himself separated from his family in New York City at Christmastime. Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci (2h30)

10:10 PM
19 Always (1989, Drama) An angel guides a young pilot who pursues the same career and woman as he did. Richard Dreyfuss, John Goodman (2h)

10:15 PM
14 Mystic Pizza (1988, Comedy/Drama) Three waitresses

Table with columns: S, O, Time slots (4:00-11:30), and program titles for Sunday Evening December 16.

Table with columns: S, O, Time slots (4:00-11:30), and program titles for Monday Evening December 17.

Laurie's Recycling & Waste Service advertisement featuring a recycling symbol, contact information, and a holiday message.

Table with columns: S, O, Time slots (4:00-11:30), and program titles for Tuesday Evening December 18.

Table with columns: S, O, Time slots (4:00-11:30), and program titles for Wednesday Evening December 19.

a pizza parlor. Julia Roberts, Lili Taylor (2h) 11:00 PM

The Nutty Professor II: The Klumps (2000, Comedy) A man discovers traces of another man's DNA in his system when he finds a youth serum. Eddie Murphy, Janet Jackson (2h)

MONDAY, DEC 17

Oliver Twist (1999, Drama) An ill-treated London waif gets involved with the arch-fiend Fagin and his youthful gang. Sam Smith, David Ross (2h)

The Neverending Story (2001) Mark Rendall, Victoria Sanchez (1h30)

Falling in Love Again (1980, Drama) A married man returns to his hometown where old feelings of his first love are rekindled. Elliott Gould, Michelle Pfeiffer (2h)

Titanic (1997, Drama) Two young lovers find one another on the maiden voyage of the R.M.S. Titanic. Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet (2h)

Jack Frost (1998, Fantasy) After his death, a father comes back as a snowman and must put things right with his son. Michael Keaton, Kelly Preston (2h30)

In the Nick of Time (1991, Drama) Santa Claus has seven days to find a successor after his elves miscalculate his reign. Lloyd Bridges, Michael Tucker (1h30)

Echo Lake (2001, Mystery) A man returns to the place where he and his missing brother had camped a year earlier. Todd Witham, Harrison Coe (1h30)

Les Girls (1957, Musical) Three showgirls recall differing versions of their time together touring Europe. Gene Kelly, Mitzi Gaynor (2h)

Problem Child II (1991, Comedy) A young boy ruins the relationship between his father and his father's new girlfriend. John Ritter, Michael Oliver (1h30)

Kick (1999, Drama) A championship rugby player decides to quit the brutal sport to become a ballet dancer. Russell Page, Rebecca Yates (1h30)

TUESDAY, DEC 18

Oliver Twist (1999, Drama) An ill-treated London waif gets involved with the arch-fiend Fagin and his youthful gang. Sam Smith, David Ross (2h)

Stolen Miracle (2001, Drama) Real-life story of the December 23, 1993 Christmas-time abduction of a new-born baby. Leslie Hope, Hugh Thompson (2h)

Christmas in My Home Town (1996, Drama) A man from the city comes to small town to downsize the community factory. Melissa Gilbert, Tim Matheson (2h)

The Ultimate Christmas Present (2000, Comedy) Two twelve-year old girls stumble upon a mysterious device that creates weather. Peter Scolar, Bill Fagerbakke (1h25)

Proof of Life (2001, Action) A woman hires a professional negotiator when her husband is kidnapped in South America. Meg Ryan, Russell Crowe (2h15)

Howard the Duck (1986, Adventure) A life-size duck from outer space saves Earth from the Dark Overlords of the Universe. Lea Thompson, Jeffrey Jones (1h55)

WEDNESDAY, DEC 19

Nothing Personal (1980, Comedy/Drama) A college professor and a lawyer attempt to stop the slaughtering of baby seals. Donald Sutherland, Suzanne Somers (2h)

Off Season (2001) After losing his parents in a car accident, a young boy grows attached to an old crook. Sheryllyn Fenn, Hume Cronyn (2h)

Oliver Twist (1999, Drama) An ill-treated London waif gets involved with the arch-fiend Fagin and his youthful gang. Sam Smith, David Ross (2h)

Virtual Sexuality (1999, Comedy) A London teen looks to lose her virginity, but first is accidentally turned into a man. Laura Fraser, Rupert Penry-Jones (1h30)

Arrival II (1997, Sci-Fi) A man urges others to work against an interstellar threat from aliens. Patrick Muldoon, Michael Sarrazin (2h)

The Sons of Mistletoe (2001, Drama) A boy's foster home is in jeopardy when his benefactor dies and his heirs want to close it. Roma Downey, Doris Roberts (2h)

A Mom for Christmas (1990, Drama) A lonely girl wishes a beautiful department store mannequin to life to replace her mom. Olivia Newton-John, Doug Sheehan (1h30)

The Heiress (1949, Drama) A wealthy spinster is wooed by a handsome fortune-hunter in 19th century New York City. Olivia de Havilland, Montgomery Clift (2h)

A Mongolian Tale (1995, Fable) The tale of two orphans brought up together and who fall in love. (2h)

Varian's War (1999, Drama) A Londoner is rescued from Nazi persecution during World War II. William Hurt, Howard Rhyshpan (2h15)

Oh Heavenly Dog (1980, Comedy) A detective is reincarnated as the lovable dog Benji to find his killers. Chevy Chase, Robert Morley (1h45)

Buried Treasure (2000) A widower is forced to look after a child of mixed race until her father is found. John Thaw, Dominique Jackson (2h)

Christmas in the air on Salt Spring

Ganges is all decked out for the holidays. Businesses throughout the downtown core have gone all out with twinkling lights and festive Christmas decorations. Take a stroll around town — the decorations are a feast for the eyes and a tonic for the spirit.

• If your excursion takes you to the Walker Hook area of the island, check out what is probably the largest display of Christmas lights on Salt Spring. Every year, Hal and Donna Keown festoon their home at 125 Grantville Street with lights. This year, Hal says, they have over 10,000 lights.

“It just keeps growing every year, and every year

we keep adding something new,” he said.

This year is the first time they haven't entered the Light-Up Contest, but Hal says they will be back next year.

For the past 15 years, the Keowns have been lighting up and asking those who come to look at their light display to donate to the food bank through a bin near their driveway.

IT'S A WRAP WITH PIRJO RAITS



“There are people unfortunately in need,” said Hal.

The lights go on around 4:30 p.m. and are off by 10:30 p.m. on weekdays. On weekends the lights stay on until around 12:30 a.m.

“We hope everyone has a healthy, happy and safe Christmas,” he said.

• For the past two years

numerous businesses on Salt Spring Island have been sponsoring a food drive for the food bank. On Saturday and Sunday, December 15 and 16, be at Kings Lane for the Second Annual Bowlathon. A donation to the food bank gets you a game and there are prizes for the best and worst bowlers, and one for the most unusual bowler.

It's a fun way to make someone's Christmas just a little better.

• Artist Jack Avison has a display of his gentle, well-executed watercolours on the

walls at Roasting Company in Ganges.

• If ships are your thing, then check out the paintings at Moby's Marine Pub. Sailing ships, tall ships and historical ships are all riding the waves and beckoning sailors to get back out to sea.

• For those who might wish to enjoy a pleasant relaxing afternoon of tea and scones and a recitation by Scott Hylands of Dylan Thomas' A Child's Christmas in Wales, ArtSpring is the place to be this Friday at 3 p.m. Tickets

are a reasonable \$5 and available at the ArtSpring box office. Call 537-2102.

• Music, music, music. Reminders to get your tickets for the Henderson Family Concert at Fulford Hall on Monday. Twelve members of the family are getting together to entertain. Presented by the Salt Spring Folk Club, tickets are available for \$15 at Acoustic Planet, Stuff n' Nonsense and Salt Spring Books.

• The Barley Brothers will host a Christmas Music Faire at Moby's Marine Pub on Saturday, December 15.

• Missed the craft fairs this past weekend? No need to

IT'S A WRAP B11

Fifth Annual SS Centre School WINTERFEST
 a seasonal celebration for island families.
 Saturday Dec. 15 / 11am - 4pm
 at Salt Spring Centre.
 Live music, craft-making for kids & yummy food!
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what's on

Your weekly calendar of community events
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SENIORS SING-ALONG
 a fun, drop-in event for people of any vocal ability - takes place at Salt Spring Seniors every Thursday at 2pm
 "Proudly supporting our community"
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music

Friday, December 14, 2001

R&B Jam Come and jam or just enjoy the music at the Legion, 8-11 p.m. tonight and every second Friday. Hosted by Atomic Blues. No cover.

Saturday, December 15, 2001

Purple Gang Vancouver dance band plays at Meaden Hall for the annual Salt Spring Food Bank fundraiser. Admission \$10 and a food bank item. Advance tickets at et cetera and the Legion.

Moby's Musical Christmas Craft Faire Annual musical potpourri (and CD sale) of local performers, hosted by The Barley Bros. at Moby's Pub, 4 p.m. to midnight.

Pianist Murray Anderson At the Harbour House Bistro during lunch or dinner.

John Reischman and The Jaybird Trio Bluegrass by some of the best is at All Saints church at 8 p.m. Tickets \$15 at Acoustic Planet.

Sunday, December 16, 2001

The Other Brothers At the Fulford Inn every Sunday from 6 to 9 p.m.

Burgoyne Carol Service Sing carols at Burgoyne United Church, 3 p.m.

Murray Anderson Pianist Murray Anderson performs at lunch or dinner at the Harbour House Bistro.

Sunday Dinner Jazz At Moby's features the Ron Hadley Trio, 7 p.m.

Monday, December 17, 2001

Salt Spring Concert Band Rehearses every Monday in the GISS music room, 7:30 p.m.

Argentinian Tango See Wednesday listings.

The Henderson Family A dozen members of Bill Henderson's family perform for the Salt Spring Folk Club at Fulford Hall. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. (6:30 for season ticket holders); with the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$15 at Stuff 'n' Nonsense, SS Books and Acoustic Planet.

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Fernwood Elementary Choir Island Savings Credit Union hosts the school choir at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Argentinian Tango The group meets at Lions Hall from 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$3 per person. Info: 537-2707.

stage

Thursday, December 13, 2001

The Baddest Angel Band Performed by grades 4/5 Fulford Elementary School students. At Fulford Elementary, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Christmas With Scrooge Preview night for the annual Newman musical. At Mahon Hall, 7:30 p.m. All seats just \$5.

cinema

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone — J.K. Rowling's first book about a young wizard comes to life starring Daniel Radcliffe, Robbie Coltrane, Richard Harris and Maggie Smith. Richly textured and beautifully acted, director Chris Columbus pulls off the hard task of adapting this monstrously popular children's serial to the screen with integrity and respect for the source material. A great movie and a must see for everyone! Runs December 14-18, then 21-23, 26 and 27.

arts & crafts

Last Minute Christmas Craft Fair — the 12th annual fair runs at Mahon Hall **Friday-Sunday, December 14-16**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Ship Shapes — paintings of different historical ships — is the exhibition at Moby's through **December**.

Jack Avison's paintings are on display at the Salt Spring Roasting Company in Ganges.

Images Habitus is the photo collage on canvas exhibit at Island Savings Credit Union.

Adrien Town is exhibiting a range of paintings at Luigi's Pizzeria.

Diana Dean's work can be viewed at The Bodyworks Collective in between client sessions from noon to 4 p.m. daily or by arrangement.

Salt Spring Painters' Guild meets Wednesdays at Lions Hall, from 9:30 to noon, unless workshop schedule requires different times.

galleries

J. Mitchell Gallery has re-opened in a new location at 1105 Grace Point Square, joining Thunderbird, Naikai and Vortex galleries in the complex.

'Tis the Season to Share — live music by Alan Moberg, hot apple cider, cookies and a social chat at Jill Louise Campbell Fine Art Gallery, **December 18**, 3-5 p.m.

Diana Dean is exhibiting new work in Victoria at the prestigious Winchester Galleries at 1010 Broad Street through December 22.

cable

Salt Spring TV, Cable 12 runs its 24-hour continuous broadcast from **Friday, December 14** at 3 p.m. to **Saturday, December 15**, 3 p.m.

Taku River Stories: Part three of a five-part series. Last summer, Salt Spring filmmaker Peter Prince explored the Taku wilderness with his camera for the National Geographic Channel. Join him and National Geo reporter Tom Forman on a river rafting adventure down the vast, unspoiled Taku River Valley. This week's episode rolls down the river on the back of the salmon.

The Peacemakers — Our documentary series titled In Pursuit of Human Security concludes this week with The Peacemakers, which examines the positive and powerful new voices of those devoted to making the world a safer place. The program talks to individuals ranging from ordinary citizens to celebrities to former military personnel striving to stop the senseless destruction of war. Produced by the Simons Foundation.

The Burgoyne Valley — Hurray for Salt Spring, we have a new park! A heartfelt thanks to all those who helped in every little and big way to make it happen. The beauty, history and ecological and cultural diversity of the Burgoyne area is legendary. This short documentary pays homage to this special place. Produced by Peter Prince for Island VideoWorks.

Riparian Discovery — A short educational program produced with support from the Waterbird Watch Collective. Join two youngsters, Emma Rimmer and Laura Stewart, as they explore island streams. Have fun learning with them as they identify features that make these lush ecosystems so important for a variety of indigenous plants and creatures. Produced by Peter Prince.

A Gift for Katherine — Life on the streets of major Canadian city takes a dramatic turn for Salvation Army worker Kate Lindstrom, played by actress Mairlyn Smith, when she is called to the scene of a fatal accident. Sara Betts, a young woman who left her life on the streets to work with Kate as a volunteer, has been killed in the course of a convenience store robbery. Sara's senseless death causes Kate to question her own faith and motivation as she embarks on a journey of self-discovery.

activities

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Survivor! Watch the show every Thursday at The Legion, 8 p.m. Sponsored by Island Star Video. Prizes!

Community Meditation Led by guest speakers each Thursday at SS United Church, upper hall, 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Candles of Hope A special church service to help take the stress out of Christmas. At SS United Church, 2-3 p.m.

Corinternet Café Runs 1 to 8 p.m. Internet access charges are \$2 per half hour for adults, and \$1 per half hour for youth and seniors.

Soup's On! Free warm meal offered at All Saints church every Thursday, 11:30-1 p.m.

Movements of Dance Class Modern dance class for adults of beginner to intermediate level. Every Thursday at Fulford Hall, 10-11:15 a.m. Info: Dana, 653-9549.

Salty Wheels Square Dance Club Meets at Central Hall on Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. For info, call Angela Thomas, 653-9346.

Friday, December 14, 2001

Peace Vigil Bring candles and contribute collective energy to peace at Centennial Park at noon.

Meat draws At the Legion every Friday at 5 p.m.

Corinternet Café Runs noon to 5 p.m.

Rollerblading to Music For children and adults runs every Friday at Fulford Hall, 7:30-9 p.m.

A Child's Christmas in Wales Reading of the Dylan Thomas classic by Scott Hylands. At ArtSpring, 3 p.m. Preceded by tea and scones and music with Terry Warbey at 2 p.m. \$5. Advance ticket purchase recommended.

Capoeira Classes Learn the Brazilian martial art and dance at Mahon Hall on Fridays, 6:30-8 p.m. Info: Shai, 653-4258.

Saturday, December 15, 2001

Miracle Healing Group Meets Saturdays at the Bodyworks Collective, 4 p.m.

Second Annual Bowlathon Food Bank Fundraiser at Kings Lane Recreation. Donation to the food bank gets you a game. Prizes for best, worst and most unusual bowlers. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Capoeira Classes Learn the Brazilian martial art and dance at Mahon Hall on Saturdays, 2-4 p.m. Info: Shai, 653-4258.

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IT'S A WRAP

From Page B10

fret, a Last Minute Craft Fair is taking place at Mahon Hall from December 14 to 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• John Reischman and The Jaybird Trio play bluegrass in concert at All Saints By-the-Sea on Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets at Acoustic Planet.

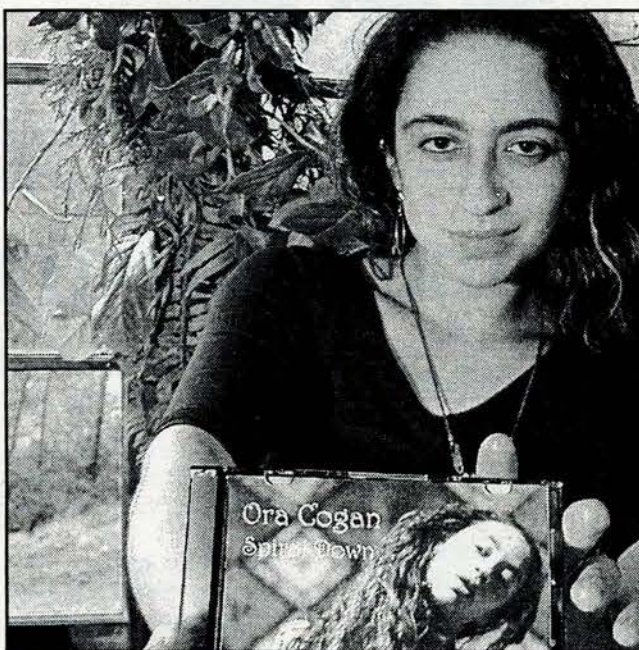
• Three young directors from Salt Spring Middle School have spent the last couple of months directing a group of Grade 4/5 Fulford Elementary students in a production of The Baddest Angel Band.

The play is on stage at

Fulford Elementary School tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 p.m.

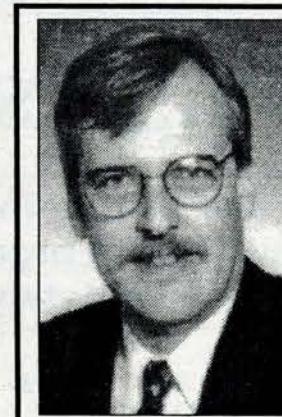
• And finally, if all of the holiday preparations are getting you and your kids stressed out, come to the Salt Spring Centre on Saturday and spend a few hours socializing. Do some crafts, listen to music and eat. This event has been going on for five years and is a nice way to meet and greet and spend some quality, non-commercial pre-Christmas time with your kids and other parents.

The event begins at 11 a.m. and runs to 4 p.m.



COGAN CD: Ora Cogan was on hand at the Beaver Point Hall Christmas Craft Fair last weekend, selling copies of her new CD.

Photo by Derrick Lundy



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North End Meditation The Heart Sutra is a weekly Buddhist meditation group hosted by the Yeshe Khorlo Society, students of HH Gangteng Rinpoche. Meets Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30. Info: Rory Kyle, 537-1497.

Wednesday, December 19, 2001
Peace Vigil Silent Prayer and Candle Lighting at SS United Church sanctuary, every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

Corinternet Cafe Runs 1 to 8 p.m. Internet access charges are \$2 per half hour for adults, and \$1 per half hour for youth and seniors.

Cribbage Wednesdays at the Legion, 8 p.m.

Thursday, December 20, 2001
Movements of Dance Class Modern dance class for adults of beginner to intermediate level. Every Thursday at Fulford Hall, 10-11:15 a.m. Info: Dana, 653-9549.

Bingo At Meaden Hall, 7 p.m. Early bird games at 6:30.

Soup's On! Free warm meal offered at All Saints church every Thursday, 11:30-1 p.m.

Corinternet Cafe Runs 1 to 8 p.m. Internet access charges are \$2 per half hour for adults, and \$1 per half hour for youth and seniors.

Community Meditation Led by guest speakers each Thursday at SS United Church, upper hall, 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Survivor! Watch the show every Thursday at The Legion, 8 p.m. Sponsored by Island Star Video. Prizes!

Salty Wheels Square Dance Club Meets at Central Hall on Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. For info, call Angela Thomas, 653-9346.

meetings

Thursday, December 13, 2001
SS Advisory Planning Commission Hosts public information meetings at Lions Hall on two rezoning proposals. Juniper Place subdivision and density transfer topic is at 1 p.m.; McFadden Creek aquaculture operation at 3 p.m. Info: Islands Trust, 537-9144.

Thursday, December 20, 2001
Salt Spring Local Trust Committee Regular monthly meeting is at Lions Hall, 1:15 p.m.

workshops

Tuesday, December 18, 2001
Flashes of Splashes Expressive painting workshops every Tuesday with Christina Heinemann, 12:30-3 p.m. Info: 653-4764.

families

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Family Place Drop-in See Wednesday listing.

Storytime at Fables Cottage From 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Bellytalk at Rughuggers Informal discussion group for pregnant women and new moms is at Family Place, 2-4 p.m.

Walk in Mout Park For parents and children under 6. Each Thursday at 10 a.m., rain or shine. Sponsored by Family Place.

Friday, December 14, 2001

Storytime at Fables Cottage From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Fairy Tales & Myths Storytelling with Shauna Grylls at the library. A chance to explore wonder and curiosity in myths and tales. For ages 4 and up. Every Friday, 3-4 p.m.

Roller Blading to Music At Fulford Hall every Friday, 7:30-9 p.m. \$2 per child, \$4 adults and \$10 (max) for families.

Kindergym See Wednesday listings.

Saturday, December 15, 2001

Wrapping Paper Blitz! Make creative wrapping paper at a Fables Cottage workshop for all ages. 1-3 p.m. Register at Fables, 537-0028.

Kids' Toonie Bowling For ages 5-10, runs at Kings Lane Recreation every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon.

Mout's Original Santa Mout's original Santa is back. Bring your own camera or receive a free photo from Mout's. 10 a.m. to noon.

Winterfest Fifth annual Salt Spring Centre School winter festival, with affordable craft-making for kids, pocket person, great food and music in a cozy atmosphere at SS Centre on Blackburn Road, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, December 16, 2001

Santa's Breakfast Traditional visit by Santa at Fulford Hall runs from 9 to 11 a.m. \$3 per person for breakfast.

Monday, December 17, 2001

Roz & Co. Reading hour for kids at Mary Hawkins Library, 11 a.m. to noon every Monday.

Parent Support Circles Every Monday. Call Janice at 653-4411 or Barb at 537-5828 for info.

Family Place Drop-in See Wednesday listing.

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Family Place Drop-in See Wednesday listing.

Drop-in for Parents & Preschoolers At Fulford Hall every Tuesday, 10 a.m. to noon.

Ornament Making A Fables Cottage workshop for ages five and up, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Register through 537-0028.

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Family Place Drop-in Open from 9:30-noon. Info: 537-9176.

Kindergym Wednesdays and Fridays at Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, 9-11 a.m. Large motor play, circle time with songs and storytelling. Coffee & tea provided, with potluck once a month. \$2 suggested donation. Info: Angela, 537-2437.

Storytime at Fables Cottage From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Walk in Mout Park For parents and children under 6. Each Thursday at 10 a.m., rain or shine. Sponsored by Family Place.

Bellytalk at Rughuggers Informal discussion group for pregnant women and new moms is at Family Place, 2-4 p.m.

Family Place Drop-in See Wednesday listing.

Storytime at Fables Cottage From 10:30-11:30 a.m.

youth

Friday, December 14, 2001

Cosmic Bowling At Kings Lane Recreation on Friday nights, 9 p.m. to midnight. Bring your own CDs. Food and drinks available. Book a lane by calling 537-2054.

seniors

Monday, December 17, 2001

Seniors Yoga with Celeste At Salt Spring Centre, 11 a.m. to noon.

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Move Into Fitness Ideal for seniors. At Meaden Hall from 9-10 a.m. with Rosemary Trump or Ila-Mae Dickson. \$4 drop-in; \$40 for books of 10.

health

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Nia Fitness Dance A fun, energizing, low-impact workout for all fitness levels runs at All Saints By-the-Sea, 5:15 p.m. Info: Leslie, 537-0884.

Flexible Strength Classes With Betty-Lou Lake at All Saints from 8:45-9:45 a.m. Drop-in \$6, or 10 classes for \$40.

Mixed Levels Yoga With Laura at Salt Spring Centre, 4-5:30 p.m.

Body Ball Classes BYOB and meet at All Saints with Betty-Lou Lake on Thursdays from 10-11 a.m. \$6 drop-in or 6 classes for \$30.

Tai Chi Ch'uan Ongoing class for all levels every Thursday at Cedar Lane Studio, 7-9 p.m. Info: 537-5667.

Spin Cycle Classes At North End Fitness, 12:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Friday, December 14, 2001

Spin Cycle Classes At North End Fitness at 9:45 a.m.

Nia Fitness Dance Classes At The Barn, 190 Reynolds Rd., 9:30 a.m.

Move Into Fitness classes See Wednesday listings.

Belly-dance Classes With Birgit Wolf every other Friday at the Core Inn, 6:30-8. Info: 538-0097.

Saturday, December 15, 2001

Nia Fitness Dance Classes At All Saints, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 16, 2001

Free Intro to Yoga At Salt Spring Centre, 9:30-11 a.m.

Monday, December 17, 2001

Spin Cycle Classes At North End Fitness, 9:45 a.m.

Judo Every Monday and Wednesday for kids 6-12 at the Dojo, 4:30-6 p.m.; 12-92 years, 7:30-9. Info: 537-4942.

Tai Chi Ch'uan Ongoing Monday classes for all levels at The Barn, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Info: Osman, 537-5667.

Taoist Tai Chi Classes Mondays at All Saints By-the-Sea, Ganges, 7-8 p.m.; seniors classes from 10-11 a.m. Call David or Tina, 537-1871.

Nia Fitness Dance Classes An energizing, low-impact workout for all fitness levels. At Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Road, 9:30 a.m. Info: Leslie, 537-0884; Laurie, 538-1901.

Tai chi/Qigong See Wednesday listings.

Move Into Fitness classes See Wednesday listings.

Yoga with Celeste Mixed Levels class at Salt Spring Centre, 9-10:30 a.m.

Dance and Feldenkrais Classes Anna Haitrecht leads classes Mondays at Cats Pajamas Studio. Feldenkrais: Awareness Through Movement, runs at 6 p.m. followed

by dance at 7:30. Info: 537-5681.

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Level 1-2 Yoga With Kishori at Salt Spring Centre, 6:30-8 p.m.

Nia Fitness Dance See Thursday listing.

Spin Cycle Classes At North End Fitness, 12:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Flexible Strength Classes See Thursday listings.

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Intro to Yoga With Celeste at Salt Spring Centre, 6:45-8 p.m.

Nia Fitness Dance Classes See Monday listings.

Taoist Tai Chi Classes are on Wednesdays at All Saints, 7-8 p.m.; seniors classes from 10-11 a.m. Call David or Tina, 537-1871.

Judo See Monday listing.

Tai chi/Qigong Traditional Yang-style tai chi/qigong practice. Zong He academy holds classes for children, teens, adults and seniors. All levels. At All Saints By-the-Sea on Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:15-6:45 p.m. Info: Bob Fenske, 537-5135.

Salt Spring Cancer Support Group Meets every Wednesday at Al Fresco Restaurant, except for the third Wednesday of each month when it gathers at Croftonbrook. Info: 653-4524.

Move Into Fitness classes At Meaden Hall from 9-10 a.m. A low-impact workout, an easy start, includes a long warm-up, walking cardio, toning and stretching. \$4 drop-in, or \$40 for book of 10.

Spin Cycle Classes At North End Fitness, 9:45 a.m.

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Spin Cycle Classes At North End Fitness, 12:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Nia Fitness Dance A fun, energizing, low-impact workout for all fitness levels runs at All Saints By-the-Sea, 5:15 p.m. Info: Leslie, 537-0884.

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Tai Chi Ch'uan Ongoing class for all levels every Thursday at Cedar Lane Studio, 7-9 p.m. Info: 537-5667.

Mixed Levels Yoga With Laura at Salt Spring Centre, 4-5:30 p.m.

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By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Salt Spring Singers celebrated their 27th annual Christmas Concert to packed houses at ArtSpring last weekend.

Accompanied by the Angelicus Chamber Ensemble, the Singers soared in a majestic performance of J.S. Bach's Magnificat, along with a collection of splendid seasonal songs and carols.

Music director Bruce Smith was thrilled with the Singers' performance.

"I'm very pleased with the growth of what they've done. Bach's Magnificat is extremely difficult. It shows how cool this group is that you could put a piece of music like that in front of them and get that kind of a performance."

A guest appearance by the Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) Choir proved to be a special treat that helped set a magical tone for the concert.

As the GISS music teacher, Smith also beamed with pride over the high school performers.

"I'm taking that group to Cuba along with the senior jazz band in April," he said.

Smith was also delighted with the acoustic shell on loan from Mount Douglas Senior Secondary in Victoria.

"The shell made all the difference in the world. It threw the sound out into the orchestra and hall instead of into the floor," he said.

Smith noted the concert was divided into a lighter first half featuring the Messe de Minuit pour Noël, composed by Marc-Antoine Charpentier, and GISS Choir pieces; complemented by a heavier second half containing Magnificat.

Written during the reign of Louis XIV in the 1690s, Charpentier's jaunty Christmas melodies were based upon popular carols with lyrics from Catholic liturgical masses.

To begin Charpentier's work, the Singers unveiled a jubilant Kyrie that glowed reverently as it progressed in sprightly ripples of undulating Gloria across the assem-

Singers sound Christmas joy

"The Salt Spring Singers have such great organization, I can focus completely on the music."

bled group.

Sanctus evoked rising mists of a vaulted dawn, while Agnus Dei lilted in rich carpeted rolls of flooding warmth.

A light set of Hallelujah, Amen (Handel) and Lullay My Liking, by Robert Young, built beautiful bubbles of sound that floated over fields of multi-part harmonies enwoven with fine elocution.

The choir also created dripping soprano rivulets and gossamer flakes of alto and bass for Vijay Singh's A Glimpse of Snow and Evergreen.

Smith commented that he was happy to throw out the baton and conduct the musical line rather than keep rhythm in the first half of the performance.

"I was conducting to the text rather than traditional rhythms, which enabled the choir to respond not so much in a linear form but in a rubato (stretch-time) fashion — it enabled the choir to squeeze more music into one bar," he said.

"The text was basically God."

In a tenor solo, Richard Hayden shared two hauntingly beautiful 13th-century carols that transcended space and time. His performance of Angelus ad Virginem stood out as clear brave steps in a tentative void.

Few were prepared for the shining performance by the GISS Choir.

Totally a cappella and off-book, the high school group followed Smith's text-based conducting through sophisticated pieces that demonstrated a broad range of talents.

Alto Tegan Adams performed a stunning solo lullaby when she started and returned to the same note without modulating pitch or key in A Child is Born.

"The rest of the choir had to count on her," noted

Smith.

Ring Christmas Bell zipped with a caffeinated beat, while New Day reshuffled a breezy tempo with jazzy rhythms.

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy collected chuckles and giggles for the funky intonations of "falalas," "dudulus" and "plums" which gave voice to Tchaikovsky's orchestral piece.

The audience even burst into a standing ovation following the GISS Choir set Saturday evening.

Tenor David Ashton polished rich chords in a powerful solo of Panis Angelicus, by César Franck, to begin the second half.

Cheery trumpets then ushered brisk 16th beat notes for a full-immersion into Bach's illustrious Magnificat.

Alto Deb Toole and soprano Rosemary Delisle soared through confident solos to rejoice the saviour and regard the loveliness of the blessed.

A duet between Hayden and Anke Smeele for Et Misericordia captured the restrained sorrow of trembling mercy.

Triumphant choral singing in Fecit Potentiam almost incited involuntary applause after five-part harmonies converged within 16-beat runs to express the scattering of the proud under the Lord's strength.

Smith commented that Ashton's solo for Deposuit Potentes "was absolutely beautiful."

"With David Ashton's solo we went a lot faster and consequently the violinists said I owe them a beer," laughed Smith.

"I wanted to do the whole thing much faster but I can't imagine with whom," he chuckled.

"Each movement in Magnificat brought its own difficulties. Not only by

tempo but by interacting with me and the orchestra," he said.

Smith acknowledged many singers and musicians experienced "firsts" in the concert.

"One of the greatest challenges was that Bach uses five-part harmonies where the sopranos had to split their power. But they came through," he said.

Smith was particularly pleased for Barbara Ross, who had her first feature performance in a trio with Smeele and Connie Holmes for Suscepit Israel.

"They were a gorgeous trio . . . huge kudos for Ross. Sunday was her best night; she nailed it."

The concert ended with an exultantly charged Gloria Patri that marched with the power of oceans and continents to celebrate the great civilizing nature of harmony. It seemed to permeate the fabric of individual lives and organizations partici-

pating in the concert.

"The Salt Spring Singers have such a great organization, I can focus completely on the music," said Smith.

And with musicians, singers, audience and conductor all focussed on the music together, it seems likely the group could build a resonating harmonic structure as tangible as the pure sounds of Christmas joy.

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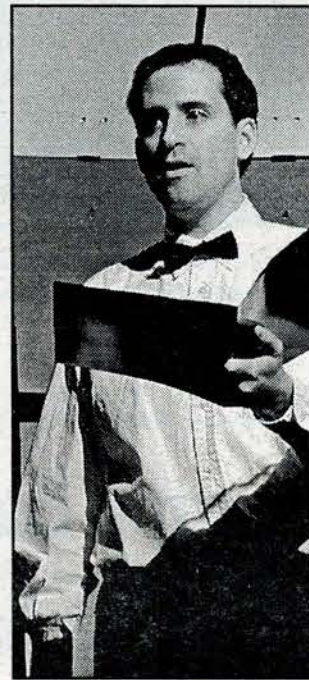
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SINGERS SCENES: Seen at last weekend's Salt Spring Singers show at ArtSpring were, clockwise from top left, the choir itself, directed by Bruce Smith, soloist Richard Hayden and some of the members of the Gulf Islands Secondary School choir.

Photos by Derrick Lundy



An Evening of Bluegrass Music Featuring:

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Jaybirds land at All Saints

By **PIRJO RAITTS**
 Staff Writer

What do you get when you put together a mandolin, guitar, bass and a strong set of pipes? You get bluegrass music.

John Reischman and The Jaybird Trio is bringing some bluesy, hard-edged and sometimes haunting bluegrass music to Salt Spring Island on Saturday night.

The Jaybird Trio is a band whose style is both old and new — it can make an old song sound new, or make the newest song or tune sound like a forgotten gem.

The trio is made up of Reischman on mandolin, Jim Nunally on guitar and vocals and Trisha Gagnon on bass and vocals. They will perform at All Saints By-the-Sea on December 15 at 8 p.m.

All three musicians are no strangers to the island — they have all performed as part of the larger group called The Jaybirds, and Reischman has also played at All Saints with guitar player John Miller.

This time the trio comes ready to promote the new CD called John Reischman and the Jaybirds. The recording features some of the most accomplished musicians on the coast performing the finest, hard-driving bluegrass you're likely to hear anywhere.

On the new album the Jaybirds draw material from a wide range of traditional and contemporary sources, including the Blue Sky Boys, Jones and Leva, Ralph Stanley and Gillian Welch. They meld the high, lonesome vocal tunes with innovative instrumentals by Reischman and banjo player Nick Hornbuckle.

Reischman is well-known to fans and peers alike for his powerhouse mandolin playing, first coming to prominence with California's legendary Tony Rice Unit and eclectic Good Ol' Persons in the early 1980s.

Since then he has carved out a flawless reputation in the elite upper stratosphere of mandolin players, recording and performing in a wide range of styles and genres, and is equally at home at bluegrass, folk and jazz festivals.

Nunally, who hails from the San Francisco Bay area, is an established guitarist, vocalist, composer and producer. In 1997 he joined Reischman on the Grammy-winning CD True Life Blues, the Songs of Bill Monroe. Nunally's driving, high lead vocals are perfectly complemented by his tone, speed and clarity on guitar.

Gagnon is a B.C. woman. A long-time touring and recording member of

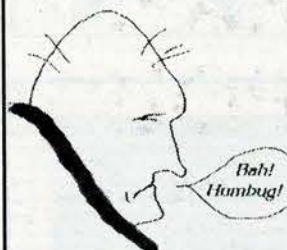
Tumbleweed, Gagnon's singing is impressive and her strategic attack and decay on the bass underpin the band's tight delivery. When not singing lead, Gagnon's high harmonies add depth to the vocal work.

Reischman can be heard before the concert on Arthur Black's CBC Radio program Basic Black Saturday at 10 a.m.

Tickets for The Jaybird Trio are available at Acoustic Planet for \$15.

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Students direct students in Fulford school show

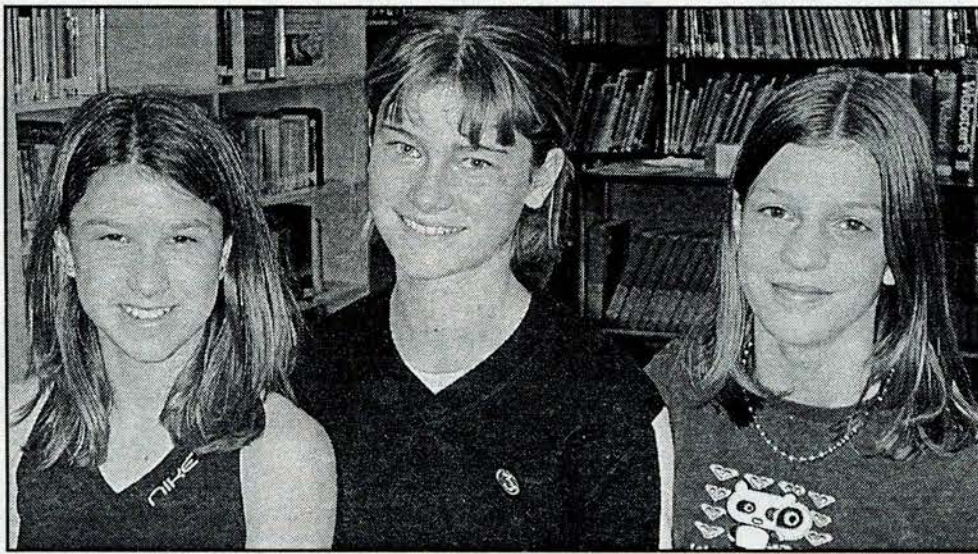
By **PIRJO RAITIS**
Staff Writer

It isn't always easy getting kids to do your bidding.

At least that is what Meghan Drummond, Emily Myers and Sarah Proctor have found out.

The three Grade 8 students at Salt Spring Island Middle School took on the task of directing a play with a whole raft of grades 4 and 5 students from Fulford Elementary School.

For the past two months, the youthful directors have been guiding their younger thespians in *The Baddest Angel Band*. It was performed for students at Salt Spring Island Elementary School and the middle school on Friday afternoon.



ANGEL DIRECTORS: Student directors in *The Baddest Angel Band* are, from left, Emily Myers, Sarah Proctor and Meghan Drummond. The show runs at Fulford Elementary School tonight (Thursday).

Photo by Pirjo Raitis

The play's premise is that three "bad" angels always cause trouble in angel school. One time too many and they are sent back to Earth to find one

good thing worth saving. They encounter caring people during a snow storm and the angels realize they are worthy of their lofty positions. The story has a happy ending.

Students who took on the roles were having fun both during the performances and the rehearsals, much like the storyline in the play they were acting in. This led to a bit of frustration for the directors.

"They were hard to direct," said Proctor. "Sometimes they got out of hand but they were mostly a good group and they did listen. It really sucks when they don't listen, sometimes it wasn't easy. We had a couple who were misbehaving and we had to pull them out."

Drummond, Myers and

Proctor are all actors who wanted to get more theatre education through directing younger students.

They got together with the students every Sunday for the last two months.

"It was a lot of fun when they were focussed, and they really improved," said Proctor.

During their performance at the elementary school, it was clear the students had done their homework well. There were a few giggles and forgotten lines, but on the whole the directors should be commended for the dedication and effort they put into their young charges.

Would they do it again? Proctor answered for all of them by saying, "Maybe... it was a good experience dealing with little kids."

Volunteers needed for pipe band event

Thirteen and counting. That's how many B.C. pipe bands are coming to Salt Spring next June.

A regional competition which moves around the province from year to year, the 2002 B.C. Legion Highland Gathering will be sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92.

Last year the local band made a pitch to host the event, and received enthusiastic responses from potential attendees.

"Salt Spring has a number of cultural celebrations each year, and we thought the island would make a beautiful backdrop for this type of competition," says Peter McCully, bass drummer with the legion band and chairman of the 2002 gathering.

Drum major Jim Ballantyne will also act as treasurer.

Ballantyne says, "The gathering is a celebration of music and culture. It will be a boon to local business as well as a major fundraiser for the Legion."

Scheduled for Saturday, June 15, the event features a grand street parade through Ganges, competitions, a massed band performance and a lamb barbecue at the Farmers' Institute.

The gathering committee

will be meeting shortly with the Shriners to work out details for amalgamating the Shriners parade and the pipe band parade since both are currently scheduled for the same morning.

Legion and community pipe bands that have already confirmed their attendance are: (host) Branch 92 Salt Spring; Branch 17 Courtenay; Branch 37 Saanich; Branch 239 Pender; Branch 133 Port Coquitlam; Branch 137 Campbell River; Branch 240 Crescent Beach; Branch 53 Duncan; City of New Westminster; Mount Arrowsmith Pipes and Drums (Qualicum Beach); Comox Valley Pipe Band; Pipes and Drums of the Pacific Gael (Nanaimo); and Castle Cary (Victoria).

One of the more fun events scheduled for the Highland gathering will be a kilted golf tournament on Friday, June 14. Participants will be required to wear kilts for the duration.

A large number of volunteers will be needed to help Legion personnel operate a successful event. Some committee volunteers are already in place, with more required, particularly for entertainment and the field. Several local businesses have been approached as potential event co-sponsors.

Islanders wishing to find out more about volunteering or the event in general can contact McCully at 538-0052 (phone or fax) or mccully@uniserve.com.

The gathering committee is promoting the event on

the worldwide web to both attract tourists and to allow for easy access to updated event schedules and accommodation information for visiting pipe band members. The web address is: www.highlandgathering.ca.

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Stagecoach students wind up with sizzling show

By **SUSAN LUNDY**
Staff Writer

Mahon Hall crackled with high-voltage performances last weekend as Stagecoach Theatre School presented a live wire of energetic new and old talent in *How To Eat Like A Child* and other dramatic vignettes.

This year's Stagecoach group is a younger, larger version than in the past, with 11 newcomers joining the faces of four familiar third-year students.

As director Margaret Jardine noted at the beginning of the Friday night show, the weekend production marked the first time the students have opened their end-of-term production to the public.

Thankfully they did. It was a fun-filled evening, equally enjoyed by the many adults and children in the audience.

"Process is the most important part of what we do," Jardine said. "But for the kids, it is the thrill of performing in front of an audience that is the most fun."

Third-year students dominated the first half of the show, presenting a dramatic scene from *Antigone* (Heather Meek and Ali McLean), three powerful vignettes from *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Natalia Day and Adrian Cocking) and a short play entitled *Lonely Days*, conceived, written and performed by all four senior students.

Each performance marked a departure from the comic roles played by these young actors in the past. It was particularly interesting to see Cocking stretch his highly successful comic ability to a more serious role in the *Anne Frank* segments. Day, always a confident stage presence, took the role of Anne to heart, managing to portray a developing character during the course of the three episodes.

Meek and McLean opened the show with their *Antigone* scene, presenting a potent and well-executed exchange of dialogue. (Their costumes — credited to Leah Young in the program — were also exquisite.)

The self-written *Lonely Days* honed in on a group of teens attempting to deal with the accidental shooting death of a friend. It was well-staged and tightly written — an impressive feat for the four youths involved in its creation. On a purely critical level, one might say these young actors do not quite have the life experience to deal with the subject matter, but on the other hand, they pulled it off.

Part two of the evening was pure joy as the full slate of actors presented most of the scenes from the musical play *How To Eat Like a Child* and *Other Lessons in Not Being Grown Up*.

The fast-moving show, which included dialogue, songs and lots of acting opportunity, allowed each student a moment in the spotlight.

For this reviewer, Daniel Millerd was a stand-out (not another talented Millerd!), displaying confidence and energy. Melissa Mouat was also excellent, exhibiting a strong stage presence.

Alex Corley, who sang about birthdays, has a voice like an angel; Carlee Wallace did a knock-out job practising music lessons; and Pandora Morgan used her highly expressive face to perfection as she sang about waiting for mom. (This particularly amused the reviewer, who is close friends with the mother in question and has also spent time waiting for her.)

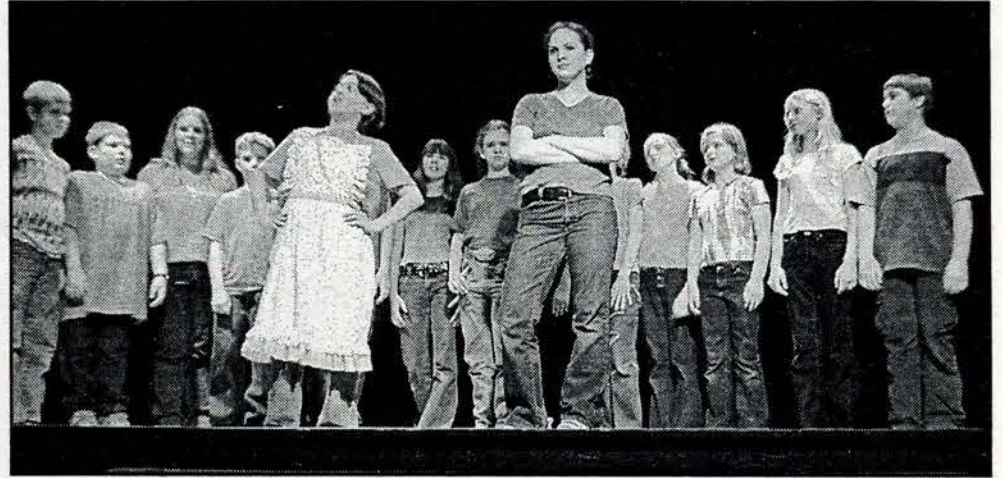
Also blessed with expression-full faces are Jakua

Jordan, Zena Blanes and Clayton Sayer (who made a marvellous puppy).

Kyla McColm became the effervescent teenager in a telephone conversation with Day. Alex Blanes displayed confident singing and acting ability in several scenes, and Thea Stone gave a riveting "report" to fellow students.

The show ended with a full-cast song and tricky choreography that ended in a smashing bow.

The entire evening provided a wealth of fun and teasing sample of what might be to come in Stagecoach's spring performance.



ON STAGE: Above are Natalia Day, left, and Ali McLean with full cast in Stagecoach's *How to Eat Like a Child* and, at left, are Day and Adrian Cocking in an *Anne Frank* vignette.

Photos by Derrick Lundy



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Young critics feast on Harry Potter

By **SUSAN LUNDY**
Staff Writer

Never in the history of movie-making has a film produced so many instant young critics.

"It was really good . . . but."

That's the phrase I heard over and over from the Harry Potter experts who accompanied me to Victoria Sunday to sneak preview the famous movie (based on the famous book), which lands at Cinema Central on Salt Spring this weekend.

Joining me in the theatre were two 10-year-olds, who between them have probably read Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone 10 times, and two eight-year-olds, each of whom had the book read to them a couple of years ago.

Then there was me — reader of Harry Potter only once, infrequent visitor to the movies — thankful the almost-empty theatre allowed me to spread out because three hours (143 minutes of movie preceded by 20 minutes of previews) is a long time to sit.

Kids and adults alike are bound to enjoy this flick. The experience is reminiscent of going to a fair — excitement for all the senses (especially if you fork out \$6.42 for small salty popcorn and sickly-sweet drink), a roller-coaster of action and breath-taking visuals. Like cotton candy that disappears as it touches the tongue, the movie doesn't leave a whole

lot to chew on once it's over, and its good-triumphs-over-bad theme is not heavy on message.

But it is one big whack of fun.

The very best aspect of the movie and the book is the creative mind behind it. Author J.K. Rowling's story is filled with twists and turns in the plot, and wonderful tiny details that turn wizards' school Hogwarts into a magical dreamscape.

Quidditch — a flying-broom and multi-ball sport somewhat difficult to imagine in the book — is brought to rivetting life in the movie with a heart-stopping game certain to satisfy any sports enthusiast.

(However, one of my eight-year-old reviewers found this among the most frightening scenes — surpassed only by a chilling chess game near the end of the movie.)

Moviegoers will also love the lavish visuals and cool effects that only a \$190-million budget can buy.

Asked about my favourite part, the image of Hogwarts itself sprang to mind. Filmmakers used a Gloucester cathedral to stunning advantage for the school's opulent interior and towering, sprawling exterior.

Also enjoyable was the lively and colourful re-creation of Diagon Alley, where Harry buys school "supplies" for Hogwarts, meeting up with wand-maker Ollivander, played to perfec-

tion by John Hurt.

My fellow reviewers and I spent considerable time dissecting the actors, agreeing that it's tough to have someone else interpret a role one has imagined so vividly.

We all resolved that: the best performance among the three child stars was given by Rupert Grint, who plays the expressive Ron Weasley; Daniel Radcliffe as Harry looked the part but seemed slightly limited in his acting range; and Emma Watson as Hermione was too cute for the role and not quite adequately annoying.

Most disappointing to the young reviewers was Richard Harris' portrayal of Dumbledore, who lacked "twinkle." Alan Rickman made a great Professor Snape and — my favourite of the adults — Maggie Smith was smashing as Professor McGonagall.

My young reviewers and I were spellbound by the movie's visual feast and, because we all knew the scenario, were not terror-stricken by the special-effects-scary scenes.

Young children who go into the frightening bits without knowing the outcome could find it overwhelming, but my 10-year-old reviewers agreed the book (i.e. their imaginations) was scarier than the movie.

So what about all the "it was a great movie . . . but." Most of the backseat nattering during the drive home from Harry Potter nit-picked

on the details.

"Professor McGonagall was supposed to be carrying books when she met them in the hall."

"They put this scene together with that scene."

"Dumbledore never knew about the dragon."

Never have I heard children so thoroughly debate the various merits of a movie — a concept which must have struck terror into the filmmakers.

Ultimately, when all was said and done, it was my eight-year-old who gave Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone its final grade.

"Let's not rent the video when it comes out," she said. "Let's buy it."

Islanders can do their own critique of the Harry Potter movie, beginning this Friday at Cinema Central. (See further information in the Cinema Central ad.)



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