

\$1.25
(incl. GST)

Your Community Newspaper Since 1960



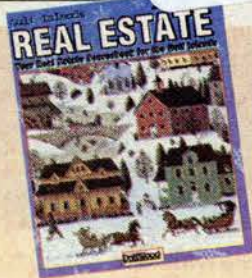
Wednesday
December 13, 2000

41st year
Issue 50

328 Lower Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island
V8K 2V3
Tel: 250-537-993
Toll-free: 1-877-5
e-mail: driftwood
Website: www.gul

SSI Historical Archives
129 McPhillips Ave
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T6
01/01/2001 F

Driftwood Gulf Islands



The latest property listings are inside



Making the piano sing

The Steinway at ArtSpring has undergone a major overhaul thanks to the fundraising efforts of the community and the wizardry of Jim Anderson.

.....Page **A29**

Youth, young men and CDs

A young Pender girl is the creator of a CD that's quickly gaining attention, and four former Salt Spring men have released their first rap CD.

.....Pages **A6, A28**

Index

- ArtsA24
- Classifieds B15
- CrosswordB19
- EditorialsA8
- LettersA9
- Linda Cannon B7
- Pender Edition ... B10
- SportsA13
- Tony Richards A8
- TV ListingsA11
- What's On A22

Weather

Sun and clouds are forecast, with possible snow showers on Friday and rain on Saturday. Highs up to 11 C and lows to -2 C.



HANDIWORK: Jean Gelwicks and her colourful, handmade wreaths were a big hit at the Beaver Point Hall Craft Fair, held two weekends ago. Clever craft-makers are emerging all over the island as the Christmas season continues.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Trust Council faces tough criticism from supporter

By **GAIL SJUBERG**
Driftwood Staff

Islands Trust Council members and staff had their comfort level squeezed in the vice Friday when Carolyn Canfield of Galiano Island addressed the council's quarterly meeting in Victoria.

Canfield, a Trust supporter active in the island's Advisory Planning Commission and the Galiano Conservancy Association but representing herself in this case, addressed the trustees as a public delegation.

Stating that she hoped her words would "inspire you to demand the resources you need," some of her statements hit a few Trust sore spots and called the integrity of the Trust's bylaw enforcement process into question.

She warned that "through incompetence and inefficiency, the Islands Trust will grow irrelevant," and suggested "the staff tail is wagging the political dog" when it comes to how the Trust runs. "Those executing the real power are not accountable to us . . ."

She also pointed out that a "woefully inadequate academic environment" meant planners are trained in urban development, not preservation of rural spaces and communities.

But she saved her most piercing criticism for the Trust's bylaw enforcement department, which she feels has not addressed a level of disregard for the residential use ban on the controversial Forest 1 lands which resembles "civil disobedience."

(Through a Supreme

TOUGH LOVE A3

Society sues over drinking water

Save Salt Spring Society is suing the government of British Columbia over failure to protect Salt Spring drinking water.

The society issued a petition to the Supreme Court of British Columbia last week calling for a court declaration that every B.C. resident has an equal right — under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms — to protection of their drinking water sources and watershed.

"Walkerton — with its seven dead and over 2,000 seriously ill — is a national wake-up call on the vital importance of the protection of domestic drinking water," stated Save Salt Spring Society president Andrea Collins on Thursday.

Collins said the society reluctantly took the action following numerous unfruitful contacts with the highest level of provincial government.

"Despite all the society's efforts . . . the government of

DRINKING WATER A3

Pender news has moved: SEE PAGES B10-12

1-877-537-5166
Toll Free

NORMAN ROTHWELL
537-5166
Salt Spring Realty
since 1986!

ROYAL LEPAGE

saltspringrealty.com

Making Spirits Bright

SALTSPRING SOAPWORKS / SALTSPRING SOAPWORKS / SALTSPRING SOAPWORKS

Christmas cheer, colour and fun at Santa Ship event

By ANASTACIA WILDE
Driftwood Staff

Salt Spring wouldn't be the same without the annual Christmas ship, and Santa and his helpers jumping onto the Coast Guard dock every year.

Hands chock full of gifts and tasty treats for kids and adults alike, Santa's arrival this year marked half a century running of Christmas spirit from our American Bellingham ship mates.

For Salt Springers, the 50-year anniversary opened with a fireworks display off the 110-foot cruiser against the backdrop of a nearly full Gemini moon.

Hordes of cheery-eyed youngsters clung close to mom and dad, pointing at the ship as it came, while hot chocolate and whipped cream awaited those with cold knuckles and nippy hands.

The Salt Spring legion pipe band belted out a few tunes while Santa and some 39 helpers made their way to the Salt Spring Elementary School, Lady Minto Hospital and Greenwoods for more fun and fanfare.

The hum of excitement floated through the air as hundreds of kids poured into the Activity Centre and lined up for a sit on Santa's lap.

Rainbow colours were everywhere, laughter was abundant and clowns made jokes and blew up animal balloons.

Santa Ship crew members said the 50th consecutive sailing to the San Juans and southern Gulf Islands was "a blast," with each of the 12 islands visited spicing up their Santa welcome wagon a tad differently.

For example, when the ship pulled into Mayne Island, a mighty spectacle of playfulness ensued as it was met by a gang of



firefighters dressed up with antlers on their heads, using their fire hoses to pull Santa and team into the community hall. According to various eye-witnesses, it was no easy feat and a sight to behold.

"You can tell from the reception that people appreciate what we're doing," said Larry Lucas, first vice-president of Bellingham Lions Club and acting president of the Christmas Ship. "We get back from the people more than we ever put into it."

Lucas said the biggest satisfaction of the two-day trip is getting the chance to do something special for kids and knowing that "we've done something nice for people." Seeing the glint in young people's

eyes and watching parents delight in the happiness of their loved ones makes it all worthwhile, he said.

Retired Santa Claus Tripo Costello joined in the Santa Ship gaiety for old time's sake and noted through the years that children aren't as afraid as they used to be. "There's a lot of change in young people," he said. "I think it has to do with breastfeeding and not being fed on those formulas. The kids are stronger."

Speaking of kids, what began 50 years ago as scattered, isolated children receiving hard candy and an apple from an unknown ship

50TH ANNIVERSARY A19



WAITING FOR SANTA: Above youngsters await the colourful arrival of the Santa Ship and accompanying vessels, while at top left, boats are ablaze with lights.

Photos by Derrick Lundy

Gulf Island Glass

BEVELLED MIRRORS...
a great Christmas Gift!
CALL ROY





ROY CRONIN Shop open 8:00-4:30
Rainbow Road (next to cement plant) **537-4545**



HARLAN'S CHOCOLATES

features
Belgian Callebaut Chocolates
for Christmas

STOCKING STUFFERS

- ★ Ginger Marmalade
- ★ Licorice Coal
- ★ Chocolate Dipped Spoons
- ★ Custom Baskets
- ★ Chocolate Covered Fortune Cookies
- ★ Chocolate Covered Tree Ornaments
- ★ Moulded Chocolate
- ★ Marzipan for Cooking

MARZIPAN

- ★ Marzipan Covered with Chocolate
- ★ Marzipan assorted Fruits
- ★ Marzipan Critters & Bugs
- ★ Block Callebaut Chocolate for Cooking!
- ★ Bulk Ginger
- ★ Cookies, Garnishes & Decorations

& CANDY CANES
sugar free & lactose free
chocolate available (order ahead)



HARLAN'S CHOCOLATES

100 Lower Ganges Road • 537-4434 • Open Sun. 11-4
www.saltspring.com/harlans/ email: msmall@saltspring.com



You Who?



You are this week's winner of a return flight on
HARBOUR AIR'S VANCOUVER SERVICES*
Schedule in effect as of Oct. 28 - Feb. 5

GANGES to DOWNTOWN VAN.
\$63.00* + GST one way
Vancouver Harbour to/from Gulf Islands
This schedule will service only Ganges Harbour-Salt Spring Island and Maple Bay, near Duncan on Vancouver Island.

Flight #	Departs Harbour	Arrives Islands	Frequency
401		*SUSPENDED*	
403	1530	1600-1615	Mon-Fri
405	0900	0930-0945	Sat only
407	1500	1530-1545	(Sun only)

Flight #	Departs Islands	Arrives Harbour	Frequency
402	0800	0830-0845	Mon-Fri
404		*SUSPENDED*	
406	0930	1000-1015	Sat only
408	1530	1600-1645	Sun only

From, Nov. 27, 2000 to Jan. 7, 2001 flights 407/408 will depart at 1400 and 1430 respectively

GANGES to AIRPORT service*
\$58.00 + GST one way
Vancouver Airport to/from Gulf Islands
This schedule will service: Ganges Harbour-Salt Spring Island, Montague Harbour-Galliano Island, Bedwell Harbour-South Pender Island, Telegraph Harbour-Thetis Island, Miner's Bay-Mayne Island, Lyall Harbour-Saturna Island.

Flight #	Departs Airport	Arrives Islands	Frequency
801	0740	0805-0803	Mon-Fri
803*	1215	1240	Mon-Fri
805	1530	1555-1825	Daily
8015	0900	0925-0955	Sat-Sun

* Flight 803 direct to Ganges only

Flight #	Departs Islands	Arrives Airport	Frequency
802	0810	0840-0910	Mon-Fri
804*	1245	1315	Mon-Fri
806	1600	1630-1700	Daily
8025	0930	1000-1030	Sat-Sun

* Flight 804 direct from Ganges only



537-5525 1-800-665-0212

*If you are this week's winner, you must contact Driftwood within 2 weeks from publication date to enter to win!



REMEMBERING: Ella Bronstein, left, and Morgan Lunarose were part of the crowd which gathered last Wednesday evening to mark the 11th anniversary of the shooting of 14 female engineers at L'ecole Polytechnique in Montreal.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

TOUGH LOVE: *Galiano woman voices concerns*

From Page A1

Court of B.C. case fought with MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. in the '90s, the Galiano Trust Committee won the right to restrict residential use of Forest-zoned lands. Some rezoning applications for those lands are now in process.)

"Without bylaw enforcement, there is no Islands Trust," she said, and then asked how many Forest 1-zoned properties on Galiano had residential homes built on them, and how many of those violations were being enforced.

She described how "accessory buildings" allowed on Forest 1 lands under Galiano's bylaws seemingly had bathrooms, bedrooms and kitchens for forestry workers, as well as French doors and porches.

She then dropped an exploding bombshell by saying bylaw investigations officer Watson Smith had voluntarily revealed the names of two complainants during a conversation with him.

Later in the day, the Trust issued a curt denial of Canfield's allegation.

Director of administrative services Doug Levell stated that "On no occasion do we release the name of a complainant to anyone except a trustee," and said that Smith had denied Canfield's statement.

Canfield confirmed her story to the Driftwood Monday. She later speculated that Smith may have assumed she knew the people's names because her views are "on the same side" of the debate as those people. In fact, she said, she did not know one of the individuals was a complainant.

Levell said Tuesday the Trust's executive committee had decided that morning to not pursue Canfield's allegation.

"It was made in the form of a public statement, not an administrative complaint, so it's difficult to respond except through a confirmation of what the procedure is."

He said complainants' names can become known in a community through a variety of ways.

The figures on bylaw complaint files currently open regarding the Forest-zoned Galiano lands was not available by presstime Tuesday.

Throughout the whole Trust area, there were 107 active cases as of the end of October.

The 2000/2001 budget of the Trust's bylaw investigations department is \$117,200, with \$10,000 of that for legal advice and \$12,000 for enforcement litigation.

Trustees had a mixed response to Canfield's presentation Friday. Bowen Island municipal

trustee Peter Frinton responded quickly to her message, especially the criticism of its staff, who he said do work under political direction and work very well.

"The Trust is constrained by its budget. We all know we don't have enough money for bylaw enforcement . . . I think your presentation was overly strident and criticism of staff was unwarranted."

Canfield was verbally supported by Galiano trustees Margaret Griffiths and Debbie Holmes, and Hornby trustee Tony Law, who said he felt it was important to hear people in the Trust area and that he appreciated Canfield's courage to speak out. "I think it's incumbent upon us to listen . . ."

Canfield stressed she had "a great deal of compassion for the Islands Trust and the position it's in," and hoped her speech would inspire them to act.

"I was challenging the trustees to think about their role," she said later.

DRINKING WATER

From Page A1

British Columbia has still not taken the necessary action to protect the watersheds of Salt Spring Island," she said.

"We feel that under the Charter of Rights, we on Salt Spring deserve equal treatment with Victoria and Vancouver, where their water sources are protected," said society member Harry Warner.

It is likely that other communities will be joining the lawsuit, said

Warner, because "it will be expensive to force the government to take some action."

The society is urging Premier Ujjal Dosanjh to honour a commitment he made in one of his earlier speeches, where he was publicly quoted stating, "I will do everything possible to protect the drinking water and the watersheds from which it comes to ensure access for all British Columbians to clean and safe water."

Beddis Road Garage

KEEPING THE WHEELS OF SALTSRING TURNING SINCE 1975

- Designated inspection facility
- Diesel repairs
- Licensed mechanics
- ALL makes & models
- Praxair Depot
- Specializing in imports

Robin Wood • Mike Reynolds

181 A BEDDIS ROAD, SSI BC V8K 2J2

537-4122

NOW OFFERED @ \$164,000



6.11 private, well treed acres in sunny location with upland views; piped water & hydro; central residence & guest cottage permitted.

ROYAL LEPAGE (250) 537-5515
SALT SPRING REALTY 1-800-537-4905 (250) 537-4900 24 HRS.

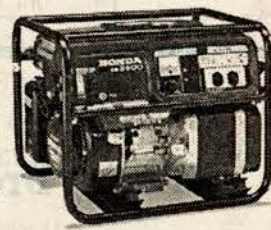
R/E TIP - FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE LASTING IMPRESSIONS. An inviting exterior ensures inspection of the interior. Keep the yard free & clear of refuse, remove wet spots, snow & ice from the walks & porch.

HONDA

SAVE \$150 TO \$700

SAVE ON:

- EM2500XK1C
- EM3500 Series
- EM5000 Series
- EM6500 Series
- EX5DCC9 Series (DIESEL)



FOR A LIMITED TIME YOU CAN SAVE FROM \$150 TO \$700 ON A GREAT SELECTION OF RELIABLE HONDA GENERATORS!

HARBOURS END MARINE & EQUIPMENT

122 Upper Ganges Rd. at the head of Ganges Harbour Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 5 Saturdays 9 am - 1pm **537-4202**

Tide Tables

AT FULFORD HARBOUR

Pacific Standard Time - measured in feet sponsored by Harbours End Marine & Equipment Ltd.

DEC 0750	11.8	17 0245	3.0
13 1235	9.8	SE 1045	12.1
WE 1625	10.8	1745	6.9
		2130	7.5
14 0015	0.0	18 0340	4.3
TH 0840	12.1	MO 1125	11.8
1355	9.5	1840	5.6
1715	10.2	2350	7.5
15 0105	0.7	19 0440	5.6
FR 0925	12.1	TU 1200	11.5
1520	8.9	1920	4.6
1815	9.5		
16 0155	1.6	20 0150	8.2
SA 1005	12.1	WE 0550	6.9
1640	7.9	1230	11.2
1935	8.5	2000	3.6

seair

SEAPLANES

1-800-447-3247

1-800-44-SEAIR

3 Scheduled Flights Daily Between Vancouver & the Gulf Islands

Ganges \$58 + GST one way / Other Islands \$63 + GST one way

Leaves Vanc. Airport

7:30 am

11:30 am

3:30 pm

Leaves Ganges and the Gulf Islands

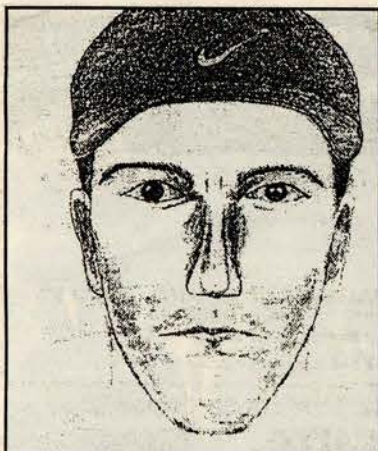
8:00 am

12:00 pm

4:00 pm

FREQUENT FLYER DISCOUNTS

GANGES HARBOUR • Montague Harbour • Port Washington
Lyall Harbour • Telegraph Harbour • Miners Bay



Wanted for assault

Salt Spring police are still searching for a man wanted for assault of a woman working outside the B.C. Hydro office on Lower Ganges Road on October 26.

According to police and a police sketch, the suspect is a white male, with a scruffy beard and dark eyes. At the time of the assault he was wearing a dark grey toque, a green-and-blue-checked lumber jacket and black sweat pants.

Please forward any information about this man to Salt Spring RCMP, 401 Lower Ganges Road or call 537-5555.

Police out in force this season

Attention Salt Spring residents and all island drivers of motor vehicles: the Salt Spring RCMP Christmas Counter Attack program is underway.

Roadblocks will be held at different times and places during the Christmas holidays.

RCMP urge drivers to not become a Christmas Counter Attack statistic.

That means planning ahead and organizing a designated driver before they go out if drinking alcoholic beverages.

It's too late to designate someone after all the people have had a few drinks, police say.

If a designated driver hasn't been chosen, RCMP suggest calling a taxi service.

Police say that no matter where residents have to go on the island, it's far less expensive than the fines involved while driving intoxicated.

Lease on 72 Fulford acres given to Christian university in Langley

Trinity Western University (TWU) has been gifted with a five-year lease of 72.6 acres known as the Crow's Nest near Fulford Harbour for its environmental studies program.

An anonymous donor has leased the land, which consists of coniferous forest, streams, slopes and open areas with diverse habitat. Along with a Douglas fir tree estimated to be over 500 years old, the property's most significant characteristic is a community of Garry oak trees.

"It's an absolutely astounding biological site. I'm still overwhelmed with what we've been given," said Karen Steensma, director of TWU's environmental studies program.

TWU will be assisted by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy in working to preserve the land's rare and diverse ecological community.

Conservancy biologist Robin Anderson has already walked the site with TWU reps.

TWU considers the gift one of the most unique items ever granted to the university.

The donor's long-term goal is

to gift the property to the university.

"This will provide a real conservatory for us — an outdoor classroom," said Doris Olafsen, executive director of development at TWU.

Offering the same climate and study conditions as its U.S. counterpart in the San Juan Islands, Salt Spring Island will now replace the Blakely Island site.

The new location will alleviate scheduling strains put on Seattle Pacific University and provide students with easier access through ferry service.

With a fresh water lake bordering the Salt Spring Island property and the ocean nearby, students will be able to carry out fresh water studies, salt water studies and forest botany all at the same location.

Olafsen explained the donor represents a western Canadian family which wanted to make a meaningful gift to the university.

Family members had been connected with the institution but not actively involved in the past, she said.

"The donor was intrigued by

the university's activities and vision for the future and wanted to do something, as a family, for the university," said Olafsen.

Langley-based Trinity Western University is a privately funded Christian liberal arts university enrolling 2,850 students this year. The university offers undergraduate degrees in 34 major areas ranging from business, education and computer science to biology and nursing, and 12 graduate degrees including counselling psychology, theology and administrative leadership.

DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS ARE ON THE INTERNET
www.gulfislands.net

NEED IT! ...RENT IT!
AT THE
RENTAL
STOP
538-0388
Next to the cement plant
327 Rainbow Road

Water testing...
for piece of mind - water that tastes good isn't always good for you.
David Rainsford
plumbing & pumps ltd.
537-4069

IROCA unhappy with APC stance

Islanders concerned about cellphone antennae aren't happy with the signals they received from the Salt Spring Trust's Advisory Planning Commission (APC) meeting at a December 5 meeting.

Island Residents Opposed to Cellphone Antennae (IROCA) wrote to the APC and local Trust committee a few days later urging reconsideration of the APC's "intended recommendation" to suggest cellphone transmitter towers be established no closer than 60 metres (197 feet) to residences.

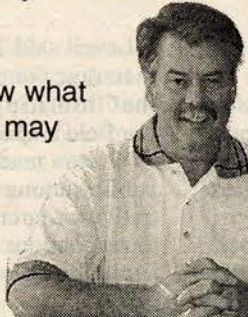
"The present position being taken by the APC appears to be based solely upon industry/government interests, and industry-funded research," writes Enid Turner of IROCA. "If this position stands, and they have not taken into account any of the peer reviewed scientific evidence showing negative biological effects at non-thermal levels of exposure, then they will have ignored and disrespected the informed wishes of a substantial portion of this community as expressed by the 1,200-name petition opposed to the placement of cellphone transmitters anywhere on Salt Spring."

APC chairman Gary Holman said his group's recommendation had not necessarily been finalized.

After reviewing masses of literature, provided in part by IROCA, the APC developed a draft set of recommendations. Holman said that IROCA's latest input would also be considered.

"The problem on Salt Spring is the gaps in the coverage of these facilities is in areas like Ganges where you do have population concentration, so that's the conflict we're trying to deal with," said Holman.

Are you sure your Estate is in order?
Do you know what taxes / fees may apply?
CALL TODAY



BERKSHIRE SECURITIES INC.
GIVE ME A CALL
Martin J. Hoogerdyk
CFP.
537-1730
225 Cormorant Cres.
hoogerdyk@saltspring.com

NOW OPEN
Alley Cutz
25 years experience in all aspects of family hair care.
PERM SPECIAL THROUGHOUT DECEMBER
Senior and student discounts available
Come in relax and enjoy the oceanfront view
Located at 160 Douglas Road, next to Saltspring Island Sailing Club
Phone: 537-4309
Sue Schult/owner operator
HRS.: 9-5:30 TUESDAY - SATURDAY

BC FERRIES Schedule
Fulford Harbour - Swartz Bay
IN EFFECT WEDNESDAY SEPT. 5, 2000, TO WEDNESDAY JUNE 27, 2001
CROSSING TIME: 35 MINUTES

LEAVE SWARTZ BAY			LEAVE FULFORD HARBOUR		
Mon to Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon to Fri	Sat	Sun
7:10 am	7:00 am	—	6:20 am	6:20 am	6:20 am
8:55 am	8:30 am	8:55 am	8:00 am	7:40 am	—
10:55 am	10:00 am	10:55 am	9:50 am	9:15 am	9:50 am
12:35 pm	11:20 am	12:35 pm	11:45 am	10:40 am	11:45 am
2:55 pm	1:05 pm	2:55 pm	2:00 pm	12:15 pm	2:00 pm
4:50 pm	2:55 pm	4:50 pm	3:50 pm	2:00 pm	3:50 pm
6:35 pm	4:50 pm	6:35 pm	5:40 pm	3:50 pm	5:40 pm
9:00 pm	6:35 pm	9:00 pm	8:00 pm	5:40 pm	8:00 pm
	9:00 pm			8:00 pm	

TOUGH NAME.. TOUGH EQUIPMENT
Husqvarna
136 Chain Saw - 14"
• 2.2 cu. in. - 2.2 hp
• Inertia chain brake
• Lifetime ignition warranty
\$269.90




GRANT'S TOLL FREE 1-866-656-7714
2057 Mills Rd., Sidney, B.C.

Music, Bread and Cheese

On Sunday December 17 between 11 am and 3 pm, come and visit our Cheesery, taste some cheese and see where it is made. Join the Salt Spring Cheese Singers (!) in some seasonal songs, sample hot apple cider, wander round the farm, check out local farm-grown fruit and vegetables, and maybe buy some of Heather's organic bread and Christmas cake. When you leave, take home some Moonstruck organic cow cheese, like the rich, Stilton-like Blossom's Blue, and perhaps some of the sheep and goat cheeses made on the farm.

December 17, 11 am - 3 pm
285 Reynolds Road, Salt Spring
653 2300

moonstruck organic cheese heather's organic bread salt spring cheese

at the farm



HIGH TREE: Three generations of Scouts were represented by, from left, Thomas, Terry and Dennis Owen, who were selling Christmas trees behind the Legion on the weekend.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Traps need returning

Anyone who may have forgotten to return a trap or cage to the SPCA is being urged to add the task to their "must-do" list.

"We're desperately trying to get back our traps and cages that people have borrowed," said Vivian Murrill of the SPCA Tuesday.

Murrill estimates the local non-profit group has lost about six traps in the past few years.

She knows people have just forgotten the items, and hopes a little reminder will help them turn up.

Traps or cages can be left outside the door of the SPCA behind the Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic, or call the SPCA at 537-2123 to make an alternate arrangement.

Long Harbour closure set

B.C. Ferries has set the dates of its Long Harbour dock closure for repairs announced earlier this fall.

Both the berth and ramp will be rebuilt at the terminal, resulting in closure from Monday, February 26 through Friday, March 16.

In order to serve Lower Mainland-bound passengers during that time, the 70-vehicle Bowen Queen will supplement regular service provided by the Skeena Queen between Fulford Harbour and Swartz Bay.

While the dock work is underway, the Queen of Nanaimo will be in refit, returning on April 7.

From March 17 to April 6, the Queen of Tsawwassen will cover the Long Harbour to Tsawwassen run.

First Nations agreement

Islands Trust Council gave final adoption to a protocol agreement with the Lyackson Nation Thursday.

It's the first such agreement with a First Nations group in the Trust Area, and it outlines the referral process for land use issues, plus other areas of mutual cooperation.

Lyackson Chief Rick Thomas addressed council at the Laurel

Point Inn in Victoria on Thursday. He explained how the middens and graves of his and his peoples' ancestors on Valdes Island, and preventing the desecration of those sites, was especially important.

The Trust also intends to host "community to community" sessions for the southern Gulf Islands, Gabriola Island and First Nations representatives.

THINKING OF BUYING OR SELLING COMMERCIAL OR INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE?



CAROLE WATSON

Call a professional with 15 years I.C.I. experience

ROYAL LEPAGE

ROYAL LEPAGE SALT SPRING REALTY

#1101 - 115 Fulford Ganges Rd

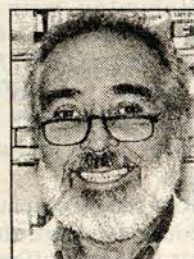
Salt Spring Is., B.C. V8K 2T9

537-5515 cewatson@saltspring.com

CAPSULE COMMENTS-

with TOM FARUP

Pharmasave Pharmacist



• During the winter months, it is a good reminder that colds are spread by contact with something someone with a cold has touched or breathing in air of someone with the virus. The cold virus can live for up to three hours on solid objects and 1/2 hour in the air. So washing your hands often is a good preventative.

• A new term has risen in the world of health. It's "junk science". It applies to any quick-fix nutritional solutions, simple solutions for complex problems, recommendations based on limited scientific studies and use of personal testimonials rather than scientific proof. Bottom line: be skeptical and go the reliable sources for your health information.

• In the 1970's, sugar was the big evil in our food life. In the 1980's and 1990's, this was replaced by fat, particularly saturated fat. Replaced is the word because Canadians' yearly consumption of soft drinks increased from 60 liters per person in 1978 to 105 liters in 1997. Obesity is also soaring, due in part to that higher sugar consumption.

• Signs of Vitamin B-12 deficiency? Memory loss, tingling in the feet, blurred vision and mental confusion. Scary but easily fixed. Have your B-12 level checked.



4.49 Each
JAMIESON
Vitamin C 500 mg Tablets
100 + 20's

Take the team approach with medications. Medications work best when you, your physician and your pharmacist share information. We'd be happy to be on your health team.

Live well with
PHARMASAVE

DOWNTOWN 537-5534

104 Lower Ganges Rd.

UPTOWN LOCATION 538-0323

372 Lower Ganges Rd.

OPEN MON.-SAT, 9-6 / SUN & HOLIDAY MON. 11-5

Bellavance Transporter

Marine Division of Bellavance Welding Ltd.

Serving the Gulf Islands since 1973



Inter-Island Landing Barge Services...
building materials, equipment, livestock, vehicles & fuels.

Shop ph/fax (250) 537-4411 • Cell (250) 537-7639

Home (250) 537-1139

1225 Mount Maxwell Rd. Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2H7
email: gbellavance@saltspring.com

T.G.I.F. SUPER WEEKEND GETAWAY



Thank goodness it's Friday—when you can take a well-deserved break with our new Super Weekend Getaway package. Two people, two continental breakfasts, one super rate per night. This special limited-time offer is available at all Accent Inns through January 31, 2001.

Think of it as an early Christmas present to thank you for making Accent Inns one of BC's most popular hotel chains. Treat yourself to a weekend getaway and experience our famous hospitality at the lowest rates of the year.

* Per double room, per night, subject to availability and applicable taxes. Please ask for our Weekend Getaway package when booking.

1-800-663-0298
www.accentinns.com

Proudly Canadian Owned and Operated



quality where it counts

VICTORIA VANCOUVER AIRPORT VANCOUVER BURNABY KAMLOOPS KELOWNA



We are not just blowing our own horn!

We would like to thank all our customers and invite you to join us

FRIDAY DEC. 15, 2000
between 10am & 2pm

for our
CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY CELEBRATION

Come & join Vicki Johnson and the staff for cake, coffee, spiced apple cider and listen to the

FESTIVE MUSIC

of the
S.S.I. Middle School Band 1pm



120 Fulford Ganges Rd.

537-2035

Poems and music on Pender child's CD

By ANASTACIA WILDE
Driftwood Staff

Who says you have to be an adult to make a CD?

That's certainly not true on Pender Island where 11-year-old Natasha Lee O'Reilly — with the help of her technical wizard and musician father Ricci — has done just that.

Humming with songs, poems and stories for children, Natasha's Kids In Paradise was officially launched last month at Pender's Christmas Craft Faire.

Ripened by two months of labourious effort, the sweet fruit of completion on the homemade CD symbolizes a moving labour of love by the creative daughter-father duo.

The young artist has been composing all kinds of poems and songs since she was eight years old, Ricci explained.

"The CD is basically a compilation of Natasha's work from grade three to grade six," he said. "I have been a nut collecting her stuff on VCR and I have a digital studio. We thought we would collect all of her creative stuff together and put it into a CD."

Against the lulling sounds of whales, crickets and wind chimes, Natasha sings, reads poetry and tells stories about "children laughing under the sun" and about "life growing up on Pender Island."

In one poem entitled Dreamland the girl poet describes a journey to the land of dreams: Have you ever been to dreamland?/I will tell you the way/Follow the laughing brook past the shy lilacs/The daffodils will lean and guide you to the rose/Drink from her if you are thirsty.

For the past three years, works of creation have been pouring out of Natasha; her 33-minute, musical work-of-art encompasses tales of space fiction, extraterrestrial adventures, the Internet, princesses, the beauty of nature and wild animals.

In a cut entitled The Lab, some of Natasha's school mates join her in acting out her story about a gang of curious students sniffing around a professor's lab for new inventions. Amidst the background of digital sounds galore by Natasha's father, they accidentally push the wrong button and are shrunk.

Ontario-born Natasha landed on Pender just about six years ago, which calculates to having lived just about over half her life as a Penderite. The budding artist spoke of a favourite song called Paradise — a love song to Pender — with a sincere sense of admiration and special recognition for the island.

"It's just like home," she said, enumerating island elements that particularly tickle her fancy as "the ocean, the swimming pools, the boats and sailing, the scenery, the people, the school, the animals, and how quiet Pender is. Vancouver is so loud and city-like, traffic lights. Here, it's just roads and trails."

Kids in Paradise boasts a couple



Natasha O'Reilly's CD cover

of full-lengths songs including The Internet, a straightforward, funny and honest depiction of a family trying to grasp the generational slang of a new-fangled electronic highway of information:

Are you on the net, not yet... /What took so long/No page, no mail... still surfing/Hey you... on the net/Grabbed by the neck... give in yet?/Electric messages coming through the air/Electric messages fill your screen/See the spider, you're the fly/The web is waiting... so am I...

But while making a CD has definitely left an imprint on her short life, the writing of this adolescent artist has been scribbled on the wall for some time now.

Wordsmithing since she was eight, Natasha's poems have been published in the Pender Island Anthology and the burgeoning writer recited her work at a live poetry reading at the Pender Island library last month.

"She's been asked by the White Rose Gallery at Port Washington to showcase her CD, along with another author of children's books," said her father.

Dipping into her seeming endless well of creative potential, what does Natasha attribute to her inspiration?

"I probably get it from my Mom and Dad because they had their own band and they used to sing their songs at dances and probably that stuff rubbed off on me," she stated emphatically. "I'm just beginning."

It's not every child that gets parental support for possessing a vivid imagination, encouragement for artistic endeavours and a wallop of technical boosting by a father with enough expertise to manifest the dream into a tangible product.

Although Ricci dubs his daughter's CD "creative works by a child for children," his collaboration on the project as producer, engineer and sage father was paramount.

It also turned out to be deepening of familial bonds and the father-daughter relationship, said Ricci, recalling the long hours spent slogging away in the recording studio.

From recording to programming loop tracks, designing the back-

ground sound mosaic to laying out songs, Natasha was present in every step of the production and decision-making process.

"We had to go in stages — 20 minutes to half and hour," Ricci said. "In that way, she embraced it. She's seen it from speaking into the microphone to actually mastering the CD."

So what were the challenges, the elations, the best and worst parts of making

played back on tape. "I didn't recognize myself. I thought I was someone totally different."

Natasha and Dad now have their intrepid sights set on breaking into the video world as their next creative plunge.

"That was just stage one. Now we're going to venture into video. The girlfriends can have fun and dress up and just go nuts," Ricci enthused. "Kids should be doing that, they are so creative at this age."

But now is the time for the family team to relax and reflect on what they learned from their time together and indulge themselves in a little satisfaction with their fait accompli.

"Natasha seemed so keen on making that CD so we jumped into it together and we survived," said Ricci proudly. "And you don't know your daughter or father until you're in that kind of project together."

the CD?

"Best part was singing and the worst part was spending so much time each night rushing against time because we wanted to get it ready for the Christmas market," said Natasha, who received a crash course in real-life production antics and marketing.

Getting the songs just right, saving them and having to listen back and pick the best ones was also a challenge, said Natasha, and there was an initial incredulousness at hearing her voice

DR. CORY SEEBACH
Dental Office
&
SANDRA J. FERGUSON,
Dental Hygienist

is moving to a
new location
as of
DEC. 21, 2000

**#4-105 Rainbow Rd.,
Salt Spring Island,
537-4691**
(across from the School Board office)

**CLASSIFIED HOTLINE:
537-9933**

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL AT

The Boardwalk Café

\$6.50 SHRIMP QUESADILLAS

Baby shrimp, onions, peppers, edam, sour cream & salsa with choice of soup or salad.

WINTER HOURS: 9:00am - 4:00pm Tues. - Sat.
DOCKSIDE at MOUAT'S MALL • 537-5747

SPECTACULAR FLORAL

Arrangements for Christmas

Wreaths • Garland • Swags • Centerpieces

MADE TO ORDER WITH FRESH SEASONAL FLOWERS & GREENS • WE DELIVER

Flowers by Arrangement

520 Long Harbour Road BETH CHERNEFF 537-9252
OPEN 10AM - 5PM MONDAY - SATURDAY

A Gift That's Everlasting

MASTER GOLDSMITH

W. Kranz

JEWELLERS

Creekhouse, Fulford - Ganges Rd. 537-4998

BEECHWOOD VILLAGE Retirement Community

Planned with security, privacy and activity in mind, Beechwood Village Estates is an ideal residence for those who choose to enjoy life through social programs, physical activity and quality time spent with family and friends.

Call now for a tour

(250) 655-0840

2315 MILLS RD., SIDNEY





DREAM COME TRUE: Salt Spring Co-op Preschool teacher Barb Ruddell is poised to help cut the ribbon for the official opening of the non-profit society's new building it constructed

on Aldous Road, while the children do what they do best outside — play.

Photos by Derrick Lundy

Salt Spring musicians handed coveted award

Sometimes you just go about your day-to-day business not knowing that you're making an impact in another part of the country.

For a songwriter, you don't always know if you're getting airplay in another town, or if people are sitting down and listening to your CD.

This is definitely the case for Salt Spring musicians John and Michele Law, who inadvertently learned Sunday they had just won the Wilf Carter Award for their debut CD *Estimated Time of*

Revival. Sunday began like any other day until John was checking e-mails and noticed that the winners of the Porcupine Awards had been listed.

"I scrolled down through the list to see who had won, and there were our names!" said John.

The Porcupines are probably the only annual awards presented specifically for folk-oriented music in North America.

While the Grammys and Junos lump all folk music together for one or two annual awards, explain the Laws, the

Porcupines are awarded every year "to those artists who have demonstrated their dedication to preserving and enhancing their heritage, thus enriching the culture from whence it came." Awards are almost entirely concentrated on Canadian folk-oriented music.

The website article on the 2000 Porcupines reads: "Everybody's talking about the Laws! And for good reason, too. John and Michele are two extremely good players who can put the bite into bluegrass in a

refreshing way. Their CD delivers 10 beautifully crafted songs, nine of which are originals. Although bluegrass is their game, they don't depend on covering popular songs. Instead, they rely on their strong writing skills and their ability to shine through the limitations of a CD. You feel as though they were right there before you, creating the magic that is so often missing from recordings."

The Laws' CD is available at Acoustic Planet Music or direct from the artists at 537-4874.

Water wording reviewed

Being in the centre of the Rainbow Grove subdivision maelstrom has caused the Islands Trust to examine its role when it comes to potable water and subdivisions.

Islands Trust Council passed a motion Friday directing manager of local planning services Wayne Quinn "to review the potable water references in local Trust committee (LTC) planning documents to confirm the obligations and responsibilities of respective LTCs and staff when signing off to MOTH on subdivisions serviced by individual and communal wells."

Quinn will look at the land use bylaws of all 13 islands in conducting his study.

For John Money of Saturna Island, there was no question about the Trust's position as dictator of the water quality issue.

"It's in the preliminary layout approval," he said, citing the section which states proof of potable water "to the satisfaction of the Islands Trust" must be provided by subdivision applicants.

Quinn said one option for the Trust would be to hire a consultant to conduct a "peer review" of water quality reports provided by applicants.

On the other hand, he said, "You may not want to be in that business at all. You may want to delegate that responsibility (for water quality) to the health department."

Trustees had a flurry of questions about the issue, but most could not be answered at the meeting.



HAPPY HOLIDAY SAVINGS

Do let us help you find that perfect gift, don't wrap it, we will. Taste a treat, hear the music, have a seat. Do enjoy the storewide Happy Holiday Savings (up to 50% 'til Christmas) and don't forget to give yourself a gift or two.



MOUAT'S
CLOTHING CO.

Shop Sunday 10-5 • 537-5551

Are YOU in the book?
To advertise in the next
SSI Directory,
call
537-2000

Leave your
business name, mailing address
and phone number, and ask us to
mail you an Advertiser
Information Package.
Package will be mailed in
January 2001.

BEST TOYS!

UNDER \$15

Zoob Dudes, Groovy Kids,
Co-operative Games

UNDER \$25

Rush Hour,
Cuddly Dogs and Cats

OVER \$100

Gund Snowman,
Screaming Stevens
Roadster

West of the Moon

537-1966 Open Sundays

OPINION

Christmas brings out the best in us



The Christmas holiday has received more than its fair share of criticism over the years for its commercialism and correspondingly diminished religious connection. Its commercialism was and is unavoidable. The giving of gifts in a capitalist society cannot but lead to the spending of money, and the mounting of vigorous efforts by merchants to compete for Christmas spending.

The second complaint, that Christmas has lost its original meaning, is justified to a point. While there has been a widespread shift away from organized religion in western society, there has been a more recent growth of interest in spirituality.

Christmas is perhaps no longer the religious holiday it was once, but its spiritual meaning may be as strong as ever.

We have only to look at the outpouring of support for projects such as the Christmas hamper program, Santa's workshop, the Lions' seniors' dinner and a host of others to see evidence that the season promotes good will.

There is something very spiritual here indeed.

Meanwhile, the commercialism is strongly evident too. Local merchants go all out to make our commercial areas attractive to shoppers seeking gifts. But for the most part their efforts demonstrate taste and creativity.

Much of the commercialism to be seen in Ganges is in the form of highly artistic decorations that took a great deal of time and effort to prepare.

Christmas continues to bring out the best in us, at a spiritual and a commercial level.

And at an international one too.

The arrival on the weekend of the Bellingham Lions Club Christmas Ship marked the 50th annual voyage of these international Christmas well-wishers.

Those who have worked to maintain this traditional joining of hands across the border deserve our appreciation for keeping it going all these years. The project having been adopted by Lions clubs on both sides of the border ought to guarantee its continuation for another 50 years.

If you should want to look for the meaning of Christmas in the islands, the evidence is all around us.

Driftwood Gulf Islands

President Frank Richards
Publisher Tony Richards
Managing Editor Susan Lundy
Advertising Manager Peter McCully
Advertising Bev Blenner-Hassett, Michele Law, Alice Richards, Lorraine Sullivan, Fiona Walls

Reporters Gail Sjuberg, Anastacia Wilde
Photographer Derrick Lundy
Accounting/Circulation Claudia French

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.
 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3
Office Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday
 Phone: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll-free: 1-877-537-9934
 Pender (Sales): 250-629-3151
 E-mail: driftwood@gulfislands.net, website: www.gulfislands.net

Yearly Subscription Rates
 In the Gulf Islands \$48.15* Elsewhere in Canada \$78.11*
 6 months elsewhere in Canada \$49.22* Outside Canada \$169.00
 *Includes GST
 This newspaper acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP), toward its mailing costs.
 Publications Mail Registration No. 08149
 International Standard Serial Number 1198-7782

Memberships
 Canadian Community Newspapers Association
 B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council

We have the power to choose vision for Salt Spring

BY LORRAINE GANE

The other week I was walking up the road when I encountered one of my neighbours. After our initial hellos, we started discussing Texada's escalation of logging to clear its 5,000 acres in two years instead of three, and the fact that the company has been logging old growth trees in areas supposedly earmarked for a national park.

"I want to know who has the power to stop this?" asked my neighbour in a loud voice, her face whitening against the waning light of the afternoon. "The buck must stop somewhere? What about the government? Can't they stop it?"

My answer came quickly, almost without thinking: "What they're doing seems to be legal. The prob-

lem is the political system. If a government's only in power for four years, it's not going to want to do anything foresighted."

We sifted through various viewpoints, such as those of the old loggers who say clear-cutting doesn't hurt anything, even though ecologists have pointed out the devastating effect on the environment of the cumulative clear-cutting around the world. Even

back in 1992, as David Suzuki observed during his October visit to the island, 1,600 of the world's leading scientists, including half the living Nobel Prize winners, signed a document warning the world of an ecological disaster in 10 years if preventive measures weren't taken. That was eight years

ago and little has been done to alleviate our environmental problems.

At the end of our conversation, my neighbour and I came to no conclusion about what would help the situation on Salt Spring. Still, her question about power kept surfacing in my mind over the following days and weeks.

Certainly in our society it seems that big corporations have taken the power. They have the money to purchase large tracts of land and use — almost indiscriminately — whatever resources they want from the land without concern for the larger welfare of society. Our laws allow them to do this.

Those who don't agree with the laws or the actions of the companies have the right to protest. Still, unless the protests are carried out within the parameters of the law, the protesters are arrested and brought to court for their actions.

In our country, we also have the

right to freedom of speech, but even here, there is a perception that big corporations are also in control, for they have the money to launch libel suits against those whose statements they don't like.

During the past year as I've watched the clear-cutting on this island, I have at times felt a helplessness for the trees, and a sense that Salt Springers are victims of large corporations, but as I've become aware of these feelings, they've dissolved with the realization that I have other choices, we all have other choices.

Our power is the right to choose what we want for this island and commit to a vision, for without it we are subject to living someone else's vision. With more people on the island holding the same vision, such as being part of a community where sustainable logging is practised, the vision has a better chance of becoming a reality.

Our power also comes from taking action to realize our vision. This may involve any number of things, guided by our level of commitment and energy, from asking vital questions to those in the decision-making positions of the various organizations involved, to distributing leaflets for information meetings. In this process, however, we can only act and let the results take care of themselves. Otherwise, we may grasp onto the result and let it dominate us, thereby losing our peace, thereby losing our power.

The end result might be that we lose the trees and ecosystems on Texada's lands. This loss, however, might be the impetus to protect the remaining trees on Salt Spring from a similar fate, so in the larger scheme of things, we will have gained.

Often power is not what it appears to be.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident.

VIEW POINT



Insurance woes keep out Santa

There will be no parties at the Richards' home for the next month.

There will be no seasonal soirees, Boxing Day brunches or New Year's levies. No cocktail parties, pyjama parties or drunken debaucheries.

There will be no overnight guests, be they friends from afar or visiting relatives. We will house sit no pets, unless they care to bed down with the pigs.

Neither travelling salesmen nor shady tradesmen will be allowed on the property, and the same goes for Santa Claus.

So why this sudden display of anti-social behaviour? Blame it on my insurance company.

Actually, you could probably blame it on all insurance companies because I can't seem to find one that's prepared to take on the risk of insuring my house.

It's simply too risky.

My problems began when the insurance agent called to advise that our file was missing a crucial form containing information about our wood-burning heater. No problem, I responded, I'll complete a new one.

That was fine until I got to the bit about the heater's make, model and inspection sticker. I studied the heater from all angles but found nothing more to indicate its pedigree than "Made in Taiwan."

So I duly entered "Made in Taiwan" in the place where it said "make of heater," and blithely

TONY RICHARDS



ignored the other bits. "Play dumb and say nothing" was to be my modus operandi.

I faxed off the form and promptly forgot all about it — until the phone rang two days later with the news that the heater would have to be disconnected if I wished to renew my insurance.

Resistance was futile, I decided, and I removed the metal chimney, which enabled me to sign with integrity the document saying I had

done so. As far as the insurance agent was concerned that was just great. However, my file also appeared to be lacking in photos of the house itself. Could I oblige by taking a snapshot or two? Wondering at this point if the file contained anything of importance at all, I heartily consented, noting I had a digital camera that could do the trick very quickly.

I quite happily — too happily, it turned out — took photos from various angles and submitted them for the file. Unfortunately, they lingered long enough on the agent's desk to prompt a question.

"Is this a deck?" she asked.

Indeed, I replied, my heart sinking, realizing where this was going. "Is there no railing?" came next,

to which I responded with a weak "No." She said oh dear and I said oh s—t.

Well, that was six months ago and the deck still has no railing. It's a Salt Spring renovation. It started 10 years ago and will likely take another 10 to finish.

But insurance companies are headquartered in places like Toronto, where all houses have decks with railings, and if they don't, well, renovations don't take 10 years.

As it stands, I've been given a month to build a railing. This spoils all our plans, of course. We do like lazing about on the deck at Christmastime, sipping our mint juleps. But we'll try to remain upbeat about it all, at least until the next time the insurance agent calls.

The last time we spoke she wondered aloud about the age of the roof . . .

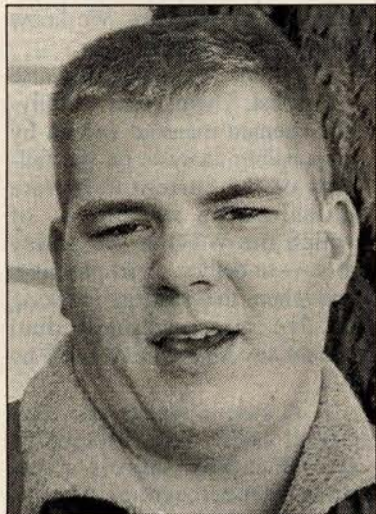
SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What's the best and worst of the Christmas season?



Sheila Howard

Time with family and friends . . . there's nothing wrong with Christmas. It's a time to be happy not sad.



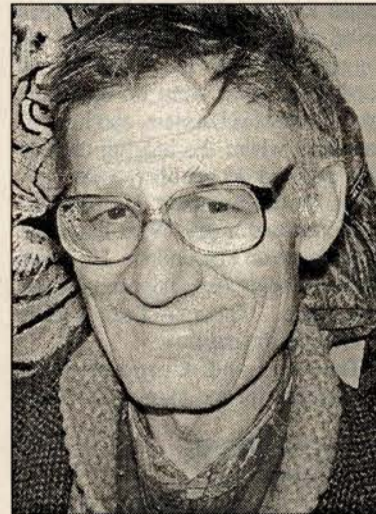
Stephen McColl

Best—a time for family; worst—the commercialization.



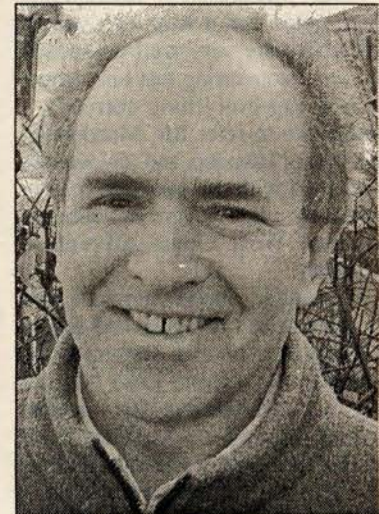
Amand Sykes

The best part is going sledding if it snows, the worst is it all ending!



Dietrich Luth

The best part is that the phone goes quiet then, but the worst is that it ends in the middle of winter.



John Davies

The best part is that everything else stops — it's a family time. The worst part is the commercialization.

Letters to the Editor

Encore! Encore!

Just a note on the subject of encores, those bonus pieces provided by a performer to a demanding and appreciative audience.

Listening to post-concert comments from nearly speechless (with admiration) listeners to Marc-André Hamelin last Thursday, I gathered the audience was surprised and delighted that, after the strenuous program he had performed, he had granted them an encore — one encore.

Later, talking with Hamelin himself, we learned that he usually plays three or four encores to generally insatiable crowds. His record so far is SEVEN!

We hastened to assure him that it was not from lack of enthusiasm that Salt Springers had quieted after one extra piece: they were, out of an islandic kindness, afraid of overtaxing his own energies and fortitude.

In fact, we added, the same might have happened at the August Bernardi-Dahl concert: all prepared for two delightful, audience-

pleasing encores, the duo was somewhat disappointed when the audience demanded only one.

Hamelin mused further that it is his feeling that many audiences actually enjoy the encores more than the program!

That's when they get all the fiddly and fluffy stuff, he said, and he feels they should get the best bang for their buck.

So, fellow concert-goers, a lesson: these international artists WANT to work for us, they WANT to play, they expect us to ask for more. I guess what the pianist was implying is that as far as demands on the performer go, it's show no mercy! They love it.

He was off to Mayne and Galiano after leaving here; I wonder how many encores he got there. **RICHARD MOSES,** Salt Spring

What price

"I am the Master of my Fate, I am the Captain of my Soul." That's probably misquoted, but who cares anyway — in a few years that phrase will not be applicable to the

average Canadian.

To many people in underdeveloped countries, that never has been applicable.

The human "will" carries the guiding principles within itself, and each human has the right to choose which path he should take, and whatever decisions the individual makes, in the name of right, should be respected.

The freedom that we have to act upon our own principles is being undermined by a power much greater than any individual can hope to wield.

We are having our lives channelled into conforming patterns by huge monopolies and arrogant governments, our lives are open to microscopic scrutiny by any bureaucratic Tom, Dick, Harry, or cyber-highway hacker.

It's becoming increasingly obvious that they won't be happy until they have complete control of what we say, how we communicate, and what we communicate. Just watch what you're saying, because that's going to be tracked and monitored along with every other aspect of

your private life.

In the days of the "red revolution" when many people attempted to flee mother Russia to safe havens in Europe, one of the biggest problems they had to contend with was "perustration," the opening and inspection of private communications. Upon such evidence as was gained from this, many people were forced into exile, sent to Siberia, or put to death.

But really, they didn't experience the half of it compared to what is happening to our "right to privacy" these days!

We are being directed and controlled by the power of modern technology.

What the telecommunications systems and Internet systems are doing is taking away our power of personal choice, and — let it not be denied — rendering unto the governments of the world the capability of intercepting our private communications, the capability of telling exactly what sites we log onto on any computer, and the capability of tracking our every

move from cradle to grave.

If this doesn't smack of despotism, I don't know what does. Nevertheless we seem to be surrendering our liberties without protest, and in doing so, are tacitly condoning such a system.

We have come so far, and won so much, that to lose control of what we have doesn't bear thinking about. What we have to do, before we are irrevocably robbed of our rights and completely controlled by the consequences of advancing technologies, is to ask ourselves, "What price progress?"

ENID TURNER, Salt Spring

Second best

I am surprised that Mr. Macdonald of Texada Land Corporation had to settle for the services of former cabinet minister John Crosbie as negotiator. Could Brian Mulroney be that busy these days?

RON HOWARD, Fulford Ganges Road

Draft LUB halts ecoforestry at the squeak of a snitch

By JOHN WILCOX

I've been working like an ox practising creative ecology for the success of the local economy here in B.C. and the islands for more than 30 years.

I find myself a newcomer in the midst of other newcomers who know all the words but who can't "play a tune" on the ground. That is the toughest challenge we face, making it work here at home.

We who are resident of Salt Spring have the most incredible opportunity at hand to set an example to the world of how human ecology can actually work. It happened here first of all in the west, (see Ruth Sandwell's doctoral history in the library on the meaning of being "rural." It's called Reading the Land: Rural Discourse and the Practice of Settlement, Salt Spring Island, B.C. 1859-1891.)

Instead of continuing to make "rural" work, we are now in confrontation with resource extraction and exclusion. We of the middle path are stalled by misinterpretation of regulation, misconception of each other and a great big bunch of red tape. Good land use can pay for itself if we all get behind it with a "will."



At present, some of us on Salt Spring who support ecological agro-forestry can't accept our new "draft" Land Use Bylaw (#355). It would not allow good use of the land, nor what some of us currently practise and now know must continue to happen. We need help in creating affordability for responsible land use on our Island. (Not just more preservation and parks)

Regarding this matter, I have now found material from a North American tour of Europe that took place in the early (local economy, not so industrial) part of the 20th century. This amazing, 900-page study of rural credit and co-operation consists of delegations from rural leaders of many European nations of that time, to our representatives from the U.S. and Canada.

One account in particular describes how large tracts of property in Ireland, such as those now owned by Texada, were brought (bought) back into the

"community" for local economy use. (We cannot just "take" what we want). Other delegations also showed how individual lease or bought tenures, through co-op efforts, can work for the good.

Quite frankly, our present tendency is primarily just "preservationist." We now just panhandle for government funds to take land out of commission. (Other funding sources are sought as well.) This is not what we should be doing to create responsibility here. Nor is this a good example or model that would lead to sustenance for our children and their future good use.

Taking land out of "commission" (literally out of the agricultural and forest commission reserves) is a great big admission of defeat. All it does is legitimize and encourage the sending off of our devastating needs from the island, to be met by somebody else. Need we chain ourselves to supermarket trucks in order to bring his point home?

Anyway, I do have much good information to share about how we can create what we need. Not just about a popular way we think it should happen, but the classic imperative at hand.

We are currently in the awk-

ward position where, if LUB 355 were to pass in its current form, not only would we not be able to make ecologically sustainable future use of the land we might get, but those few of us who still remain (paying high prices and interest to banks) who do this today would be shut down from our current ecology work at the snooping squeak of a snitch.

I'm not making this up. Mark Whittear, for example, would then be shut down on his Rural-zoned farm. Ecoforestry at Wave Hill Farm would just stop. No sawmill or chainsaw could be used there. (Lest it made less noise than a coffee percolator.)

Our riparian pockets of farming would also come under the "snooper snitch" gun. With setbacks that double the provincial standard, farming could never fit in.

The fish and the beaver are now friends of mine, I create new places for them. With the new proposed bylaw put into place, valley bottoms would get rid of farms. Many other examples of restriction exist both uphill and down the dale.

Our challenge today is to make our new bylaw match our official community plan, then create an

ecological agro-forestry bylaw as a model to the rest of the world. Incentives could be instituted not just to shut land down (as in the zero land-use tax incentive program the Trust is now trying out) but to encourage good pro-active stewardship with certification rewarded for sustenance farm and forest use.

The people resisting Texada have not had time for this yet. So far they are busy just confronting what they call "the beast." They may speak the right words but have yet to become creative in order to make the land work. (What these people need is to sharpen their axe.)

There is no need to go begging for money to take land away from good works.

All we need now is the right kind of will to make the land pay for itself. Creative interpretation of existing regulation, along with drafting and instituting user-friendly use protocols is definitely where it is at. Why get hold of a land that is closed to good works?

The writer is an agronomist and owner of Duck Creek Farm who is actively involved in farm land use issues.

More letters

Shocked logger

Robert Macdonald of Texada Land Corporation has a way with words. His letters are very well composed and seem convincing that his company is doing everything correctly. I would like to refer Mr. Macdonald, Salt Spring Islanders and anyone else concerned with the issues to a letter written by a B.C. logger in a summer issue of West Coast Adventure Magazine.

The author, David Gemmell, and his friend (also a logger and fellow climber) were on their way up to the beautiful crag at Home Lake. "On our way up to the lake that day, I noticed several logging trucks. They were hauling full loads of logs out from the area surrounding the lake. I thought this was strange because it is all second growth in that area. Just as I was thinking this, Martin said, 'No way! They're logging the crag!'"

"We crested the hill to find that the logging operation had already wiped out all the trees and had moved onto the next log setting. The entire area had been logged, i.e. the beginning of the trail, in the main drainage where the water drains in the winter, right up to where the hillside starts to get steep. A sign was posted on one of the lonely trees left standing in a clump. It read: 'No trespassing, no parking, no hiking and no rock climbing.' We couldn't believe what had happened. All the trees were gone, plus no climbing was allowed. We were dumbfounded."

Gemmell continues in his letter saying how disturbed and depressed he felt. "Depressed because I had passionately described this beautiful area to my friends in Thailand. Disturbed because of the nonsensical logging practice that had been used at the lake. Maybe even more disturbed by just how ugly it now looked. The entire lower face had been destroyed plus other areas surrounding the lake. It

just felt wrong."

In his conclusion he wrote: "I no longer feel proud of what I have been doing all these years working in the logging industry. I can understand somewhat what went on up at the lake, business is business, and it is private land where the logging companies can and do get away with murdering the environment. I remain disillusioned and angry. What happened at the lake can't be undone. However, it should never have happened in the first place. I know — I am a faller working in the industry."

Texada Land Corporation is responsible for the logging at Home Lake.

M.L. JOHNSTONE,
Salt Spring

Buck responds

Thanks for mentioning the Barley Brothers gig in your editorial. (Tony Richards, December 6.) Please accept our most humble apologies for interfering with your eavesdropping.

Still, it was fun singing the Waylon and Willie tunes with you — I'm not sure if I was Waylon and you were Willie or vice versa but it sounded good to me.

However — and politics not entirely aside — those "greenbacks" did specifically ask for "looney tunes" and we did our best to accommodate (as is always our goal).

As my memory recalls, when you left we were singing one of my compositions called Old Joe the Crow, who was definitely a Canadian bird and to the best of my recollection, never flew south of the 49th.

BRIAN "BUCK" McDONALD,
Salt Spring

P.S. In this "global economy" the Barley Bros. do freely import tunes that speak about the real lives of working people whether from Canada, the U.S. or abroad.

MORE LETTERS A13

Military police in 'trade' disputes?

This paper recently carried a couple of seemingly unrelated items which are in fact linked:

1. In a commentary it was suggested that we need a stronger left-wing voice — as long as it doesn't interfere with the agenda of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and its beneficent trade policies. Anybody who still believes the WTO is about trade probably believes in the tooth fairy as well.

The WTO makes the conspiracy theorists' worst nightmares look pallid. Consider: a supra-national body of faceless, unaccountable bureaucrats making policy which places international commerce and the rights of trans-national corporations above basic human rights, environmental concerns, public health issues, local or regional economic issues or even self-government (i.e., democracy). It hears disputes in secrecy. And it makes judgments from which there is no appeal.

The WTO is not about trade. As Stephen Schrybmann, formerly executive director of the West Coast Environmental Law Association, explained here last year, it's about the need of transnational corporations to do business free of constraints imposed by local or even national decision-making.

It has nothing to do with free markets, which do not now and never have existed; and everything to do with unregulated corporate capitalism.

The last time we saw this phenomenon, it was accompanied by the rise of the robber barons

in steel, petroleum, forest products and automobiles. We know where that took us.

This time it's worse, because it's global. There's tons of fully-documented material written by responsible analysts on the failures of the current corporate globalization strategy — of which the WTO is the policy arm — to deliver on its promises and where that strategy is taking us. No informed individual should any longer be deluded by it.

2. A couple weeks ago, Salt Spring had its first visitation by the PPU. Now there's a new three-letter acronym you'll want to remember. It stands for "paramilitary police unit." The PPU were originally established as elite units in the U.S. to fight the war on drugs. War was the operative word. Elsewhere in the world, they have been used for everything from terrorizing the peasant population to . . . well, terrorizing the peasant population.

In the States, a lot of innocent people have been killed by the PPU doing night-time, door-busting drug raids at the wrong address. In New York they actually had to disband one unit which had become too aggressive with its own citizens.

Recently, North American governments have found a new use for the PPU: crowd control. So the PPU aren't there to protect you, they're there to control you, and in fact in that capacity they do not arrest lawbreakers. They've come a long way since Sgt. Pepper at the UBC APEC

conference.

We saw it at the Hyatt, and we really saw it in Seattle, where peaceful protestors sitting with arms locked got pepper-sprayed individually under each eyelid.

In Ganges, if there hadn't been a lock-down, if it had simply been 100 protestors sitting in front of the logging truck, we could have had a little Seattle right here.

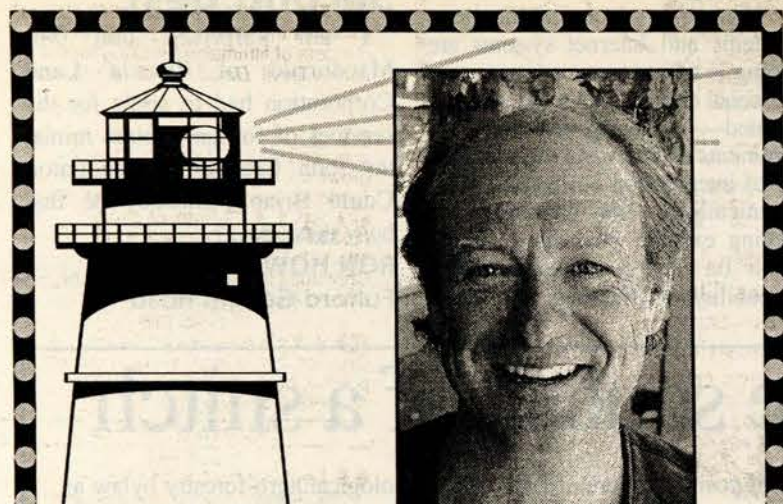
Those with an historical bent might like to reflect upon other police organizations of countries once dominated by their business elites, police who wore black uniforms with no individual identification on them like those we saw here.

Lest you think this is paranoia, for more current information, type "militarizing police" or "PPU" into your Web search engine. You'll find a huge and growing literature on the subject from some highly respected sources.

3. So, synthesizing 1 and 2 above, when the WTO announces B.C.'s prohibition of water export is a barrier to trade (already in question) and that some American corporation has the right to drain the water from some B.C. watershed to irrigate the sheep pastures of Wyoming, and hordes of B.C. citizens descend on the site to prevent the pipeline from being built, guess who will be there to meet them. And guess who's side they'll be fighting on.

Fantasy? Let's hope so, but I for one think not.

SAM LIGHTMAN,
Fulford



Lighthouse Carpet Care

PAY NO GST

25% Off
Cleaning Carpets & Upholstery.

AN UNBELIEVABLE!

40% Off
Scotchguarding

Book your appointment now!
653-4147

INVESTMENT WORKSHOP JUST FOR WOMEN

It's a fact in today's world - more and more women are taking charge of their finances. Are you ready to join their ranks? If so, we're offering an educational workshop you won't want to miss.

This afternoon seminar will provide you with the fundamental information you need to take charge of your own financial future.

*This event is free, but seating is limited.
Please call to reserve your seat.*

Karen L. Wolfe-Milner

Investment Representative
3960 Shelbourne St., Unit #6
Victoria, BC V8N 6J3
Bus.: 250-477-3166
Fax: 250-477-3125

Kelly A. Oglow

Investment Representative
2403 Beacon Ave.,
Sidney, BC V8L 1X5
Bus.: 1-877-656-8797
Fax: 250-656-8739

Tuesday, Dec. 19
1:00 - 3:00pm

LOCATION: SALT SPRING ISLAND
Harbour House Hotel

Call 1-877-656-8797
to reserve a seat.

Edward Jones

Serving Individual Investors
Member CIPF www.edwardjones.com

PULL OUT & SAVE

What's on

YOUR TELEVISION GUIDE

GULF ISLANDS DRIFTWOOD PAGE A11 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2000

MOUAT'S Home Hardware Island Owned & Operated Since 1907
Open Monday - Saturday 8:30 - 5:30 / 537-5551

Technology helps keep us competitive!

S - SALT SPRING ISLAND		O - OUTER ISLANDS		WEDNESDAY 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	Jonovis.	News		Lt. Angel	Christm's	Cinderella (1999)	Kathleen Turner.			The National/Mag.	News	Movie	
3		SUPER	The Straight Story	(1999) Sissy Spacek.	Grizzly Falls (1999)	Richard Harris.		Starhunter		Perpetrators of the Crime				The Last Broadcast			
4	4	KOMO	Rosie O'Donnell	KOMO 4 News	News	News	Jeopardy	..Be a Millionaire?	D.Carey	Spin City	Gideon's Crossing	News	Nightline				
5	16	KING	Oprah Winfrey	KING News	News	News	Magazine	Squares	Ed	The West Wing	Law & Order	News	Jay Leno				
6	7	CHEK	Inside Ed.	Real TV	CHEK News	News		InsideEnt.	Squares	The West Wing	Shot Through the Heart	Vincent Perez.	News	News			
7	14	VTV	Ellen	3rd Rock	News	D.Carey	News	Frasier	Friends	..Be a Millionaire?	D.Carey	Spin City	Law & Order	News	Bullard		
8	8	BCTV	Oprah Winfrey	News	Canada	News		Wheel	Jeopardy	Bette	Welcome	The West Wing	Nikita	News	News Spt		
9	9	KCTS	Zoom	Mechanic	Arthur	Business	News	Chihuly	Over Venice		Chihuly in Jerusalem		Paul McCartney	Barrage			
10	23	SRC	Animan..	Débrouill.	Tam Tam	Dét.Mens	Longueur	Ce soir	Virginie	Caseme	Voyage au nord	Haute surveillance	Téléjournal/Point	Ce soir	Sports		
11	5	KNOW	Mechanic	MagicBus	Art Attack	Kratt's C.	Careers	Ent.Asia	C. Rider	Fishing	BC Now	Loving Smacks	Our Pill Epidemic	Dotto on Data Live			
12	13	CKVU	Days of Our Lives	Young & Restless	News			E.T.	Addams	70'sShow	Normal	The Street	Fam. Guy	King Hill	SprtPage	News	
13		BRAVO	Videos	Variety	Spkn Art	45 News			45 News	NYPD Blue		Homicide: Life on St	Latcho Drom (1993)		Movie		
15	35	CMT	Huron Carole				Christmas Gather		Top10CD	Xtreme	Huron Carole		Top 12 Choice	CMT After Hours			
16	38	TLC	The Operation		Junkyard Wars		Junkyard Wars		Junkyard Wars		Junkyard Wars		Junkyard Wars	The Operation			
17	32	CNN	3:30 \$line	Crossfire	WorldTod	Election	Larry King Live		Election 2000	Spin'R'm	\$line	Larry King Live	CNN NewsStand	SportsT.	\$line		
19		FAM	Doug	Pepp. Ann	Recess	Buzz	Little Lulu	Pumbaa	Gargoy.	ALF	I Shrunk Kids	Hook (1991)	Robin Williams.		Movie		
20	31	A&E	Law & Order		Biography		Closed Doors		Investigative Rep.		Law & Order	Biography	Closed Doors	Investigative Rep.			
21	15	TSN	Hockey	Boxing Hopkins vs Echols					Sprtsdesk	Basketball	L.A. L/Por. NBA	Triathlon Subaru	Triathlon 1/2 Ironman	Sportsdesk			
22	19	NET	Golf Dest.	WrldSport	GottaSee	CoolShot	Canucks	S. Central	Basketball	Seattle vs Vancouver	NBA		S. Central	Sports Central	Canucks	SportGen	
23	17	KSTW	Recess	Buzz	J.Judy	J.Judy	D.Carey	Frasier	Spin City	Seinfeld	Seven Days	Star Trek: Voyager	Homelmp	M.A.S.H.	Frasier	Spin City	
24	12	KVOS	J.Judy	Tell Truth	Fm. Feud	Ch. Heart	St.Smarts	BlindDate	Spin City	S. Susan	Star Trek: Voyager	Earth: Final Conflict	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cheers	M.A.S.H.	
25	34	KCPQ	X-Men	Digmon	Star Trek: Voyager		Simpsons	Simpsons	Friends	Friends	70'sShow	Normal	The Street	Q-13Rep	35 Arrest	05 Star Trek: NG	
26	20	NEWS	Can. Now	Health	Counterspin		The National/Mag.	Antiques Roadshow	Counterspin	National	BusNews	Antiques Roadshow	Counterspin				
27	11	KIRO	Inside Ed.	Attorney	KIRO News	News	News	E.T.	Real TV	Bette	Welcome	The Odd Couple II	Jack Lemmon.	News	Letterm'n		
28		VISION	L. Hobo	FamilyT.	Wnd. Year	Cosby	Little House Prairie	Skylight	Spiritual	Bless Me	Age of e	Proud Waves Break	Skylight	Spirit	100 Huntley Street		

THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

- WEDNESDAY, DEC 13
- 6:00 PM
3 Grizzly Falls (1999, Drama) A young boy kidnapped by a grizzly bear learns a great deal about life in general. *Richard Harris, Tom Jackson (2h)*
- 7:00 PM
14 ★★ The Skip Tracer (1979, Suspense) David Peterson is a skip tracer, aka repo man, aka process server, a thankless job. *David Peterson, John Lazarus (1h45)*
- 8:00 PM
2 (2) Cinderella (1999) Zezolla and her father live a simple life until he returns from the city with new wife. *Kathleen Turner, Marcella Plunkett (2h)*
- 9:00 PM
3 Perpetrators of the Crime (1999, Comedy) A trio of bumbling university schemers kidnap the wrong woman during spring break. *Tori Spelling, William B. Davis (1h30)*
- 10:00 PM
6 (7) ★★★★★ Shot Through the Heart (1998, Drama) Two best friends' friendships are ravaged by the Yugoslavian civil war. *Vincent Perez, Linus Roache (2h)*
- 11:00 PM
19 ★★ Hook (1991, Fantasy) Peter Pan's kids are kidnapped by Hook and brought to Neverland. *Robin Williams, Dustin Hoffman (2h30)*
- 12:00 AM
27 (11) ★ The Odd Couple II (1998, Comedy) Two former roommates are reunited when they travel to their children's wedding. *Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau (2h)*
- 1:00 PM
14 Latcho Drom (1993, Documentary) Look at the Gypsy culture in different countries. (1h45)
- 2:00 PM
3 The Last Broadcast (1998, Horror) Explores the events leading up to the murders of filmmakers looking for the Jersey Devil. *David Beard, Jim Seward (1h30)*
- 3:00 PM
2 (2) Ma vie en rose A boy from the suburbs has decided that, when he grows up, he wants to be a girl. *Michele Laroque, Jean-Phillippe Ecoffey (2h30)*
- 4:00 PM
19 ★★ A Christmas Story (1983, Family) Chronicles a little boy's efforts to receive an air rifle for Christmas in the 1940s. *Peter Billingsley, Darren McGavin (1h30)*
- 5:00 PM
14 ★★ Lamerica (1994, Drama) Crooked Italian businessmen on old political prisoner. *Enrico Lo Verso, Michelle Placido (2h15)*

The smiles never stop. Here is another one, say hi to Fiona!

SERVICE, QUALITY, SELECTION

THRIFTY FOODS

We never lower our standards. Just our prices.™ 537-1522

joy.

The North End Fitness Christmas Fit Kit!

Two Months Full Membership!
 Five Spin Aerobics Classes!
 150 Minutes of Suntanning!
 Computerized Body Composition Assessment!
 Two Personal Training Sessions to get you Started!

\$69.95 (Reg \$170.00!)

The North End Fitness Special Gift Package
537-5217

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	7:4Kids	Get Set For Life		Get Set For Life			This Hour	RdGreen	North of 60		Gardener	Riverdale	Various	Emmerd..		
3		SUPER	Various Movies	Various	Various Movies			Various Movies		Various Movies	Entertain		Various Movies					
4	4	KOMO	7:00 Morning Am.	Live With Regis	The View	News	P.Charles	All My Children		One Life to Live	General Hospital		Northwest					
5	16	KING	7:00 Today Show	Today Show II	M. Stewart Living	Mars vs Venus	News	Days of Our Lives		Passions	Judge H.	Judge H.						
6	7	CHEK	8:30 Canada AM	Various	D. Chalk	The Price is Right		CityLine/ CityLine		C. Court	C. Court	H. Home	B & B					
7	14	VTV	8:00 VTV Breakfast	Live With Regis	The View		Vicki Gabereau	E.R.		Counsel.	FamPass	General Hospital	Vicki Gabereau					
8	8	BCTV	Canada AM		Various	Various	Various	InsideEnt.		News	H. Home	B & B	Rosie O'Donnell		As the World Turns			
9	9	KCTS	Bet. Lions/Zoboo...	Caillou	Dragon T.	Barney	Sesame Street	Roger's	Tubbies	Rainbow	Caillou	Noddy	Zoboo...	Wishbone	Clifford	Dragon T.		
10	23	SRC	7:30 Matin express	3 mousquetaires	C'est simple comme bonjour	Variées	Le Midi	Liza		Lois et Clark	Variées	Variées	Variées	Variées	Variées	Variées		
11	5	KNOW	BlueClue	Zoboo...	DreamSt.	Various	Eil.Moose	Dudley D.	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various		
12	13	CKVU	Mechanic	Carebear	100 Huntley Street	It's a New Day	Various	Road	Travel	Hitchcock	Bynon		Passions		Student	Arrest		
14		BRAVO	Various	45News	Various	50News	E.Sullivan	E.Sullivan	Various Movies		Various	Various	45News	Various	Various	Various		
15	35	CMT	Top 12 Choice	HeartHome/G. Brook		F Heart and Home	Heart and Home		W Heart and Home	Heart Hm	HolyNight	Rock N' Country	Various	Top10CD				
16	38	TLC	Wed.St.	Wed.St.	Makeover/Makeover	DateStory	DateStory	Baby St.	Baby St.	Wed.St.	Wed.St.							
17	32	CNN	8:00 Morn. News	Newsday	B.of Proof	CNN Today			Talkback Live	Various	Showbiz	M Inside Politics/Politics	Various	Various				
19		FAM	Art Attack	Bill Nye	Various	55Madel.	20OutBox	45BillyCat	10GoofT.	35Aladdin	ALF	Franklin	Various	55Madel.	20OutBox	45BillyCat	10GoofT.	35Aladdin
20	31	A&E	Magnum, P.I.	N. Court	NsRadio		Northern Exposure		L.A. Law		Murder She Wrote							
21	15	TSN	Sportsdesk	Off Recrd	Various	Fitness	Various	Various	Various	Motor '01	Various	Various	StrongM.	Billiards	Off Recrd	Sprtsdesk		
22	19	NET	S. Central	S. Central	S. Central	S. Central	S. Central	S. Central	S. Central	Various	BowFlex	Various	TH Skiing	Various	Gamenite			
23	17	KSTW	PaidProgram/S.Gems		Seventh Heaven	C. Court	C. Court	JudgeJoe	JudgeJoe	The People's Court	Divorce	Divorce	Moesha	Sabrina	Pepp. Ann	Sabrina		
24	12	KVOS	Buzz	Pepp. Ann	Various	Various	Judge Greg Mathis	Jenny Jones	Jerry Springer	Maurly Povich Show	Montel Williams	Sally Jessy Raphael						
25	34	KCPQ	8:00 Mornings on Q	Moral Court	Judge Greg Mathis	J.Mills	Arrest	Judge Greg Mathis	Moral Court		HouseC'II	MagicBus	Various	PRangers				
26	20	NEWS	BusNews	Health	NewsWorld Today		NewsWorld Today		Canadian		Life, Times/Politics	News	BusNews					
27	11	KIRO	The Early Show	Sally Jessy Raphael	The Price is Right	Young & Restless	News	B & B	As the World Turns	The Guiding Light	Montel Williams							
28		VISION	Mass	Various	Robison	Copeland	Skylight	Various	Various	Various	Currents	Robison	Q.Study	Various				

YOUR WEEKLY PULL-OUT TV GUIDE

Table with columns for S, O, Time (4:00-11:30) and program titles for Thursday Evening December 14. Includes channels like CBC, SUPER, KOMO, KING, CHEK, VTV, BCTV, KCTS, SRC, KNOW, CKVU, BRAVO, CMT, TLC, CNN, FAM, A&E, TSN, NET, KSTW, KVOX, KCPQ, NEWS, KIRO, VISION.

True North Satellites 537-6055

Sales • Installations • Service • Free Property Site Surveys!

Basic Installation \$99.00!



\$99.00 Model 2700C



Table with columns for S, O, Time (4:00-11:30) and program titles for Friday Evening December 15. Includes channels like CBC, SUPER, KOMO, KING, CHEK, VTV, BCTV, KCTS, SRC, KNOW, CKVU, BRAVO, CMT, TLC, CNN, FAM, A&E, TSN, NET, KSTW, KVOX, KCPQ, NEWS, KIRO, VISION.



WE'VE GOT THE RIGHT SATELLITE SYSTEM FOR YOU!



In store demonstration of both systems at Radio Shack. You compare picture quality, sound, programming etc. and decide what suits you.

Ask us for details on pricing specials, program credits, etc. Bigger really is better, ask us why

QSI ELECTRONICS RADIO SHACK ASC / 162 Fulford Ganges Rd., 537-4522

Table with columns for S, O, Time (8:00-3:30) and program titles for Saturday Daytime December 16. Includes channels like CBC, SUPER, KOMO, KING, CHEK, VTV, BCTV, KCTS, SRC, KNOW, CKVU, BRAVO, CMT, TLC, CNN, FAM, A&E, TSN, NET, KSTW, KVOX, KCPQ, NEWS, KIRO, VISION.

Table with columns for S, O, Time (4:00-11:30) and program titles for Saturday Evening December 16. Includes channels like CBC, SUPER, KOMO, KING, CHEK, VTV, BCTV, KCTS, SRC, KNOW, CKVU, BRAVO, CMT, TLC, CNN, FAM, A&E, TSN, NET, KSTW, KVOX, KCPQ, NEWS, KIRO, VISION.

Eastwood, Marsha Mason (2h15)

La comtesse de Baton Rouge (1998, Drama) Rex is learning the craft of creating cinematic illusions with his Bolex camera. Robin Aubert, Genevieve Brouillette (2h)

FRIDAY, DEC 15

Anywhere But Here (1999, Drama) A mother's dreams conflict with those of her level-headed daughter as they relocate. Susan Sarandon, Natalie Portman (2h)

Down to You (1999, Romance) A young man finds the girl of his dreams only to find that she is not read for commitment. Freddie Prinze Jr., Julia Stiles (1h30)

Once Upon a Texas Train (1988, Western) An aging ex-con's train robbery plans has him pitted against his lawman adversary. Willie Nelson, Richard Widmark (2h)

D3: The Mighty Ducks (1996, Comedy) Hockey players get a scholarship and must face the snobby varsity team. Emilio Estevez, Jeffrey Nordling (1h45)

End of Days (1999, Action) A tough NY police officer must protect an innocent woman from becoming Satan's bride. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Gabriel Byrne (2h15)

The Magnificent Seven Deadly Sins (1971, Comedy) A number of comic episodes adapted from the Bible's list of the seven deadly sins. Bruce Forsyth, Harry Secombe (2h)

Where the Boys Are (1960, Comedy) A group of teenage girls cruise for boys in Fort Lauderdale during Easter vacation. Dolores Hart, George Hamilton (2h)

Arthur 2: On the Rocks (1988, Comedy) A boozey billionaire loses his fortune but manages to keep smiling. Dudley Moore, Liza Minnelli (1h50)

Rear Window (1954, Thriller) A photographer who spies on his courtyard neighbors discovers a possible murder. James Stewart, Grace Kelly (2h30)

SATURDAY, DEC 16

The Straight Story (1999, Drama) An elderly gentleman embarks on a journey to see his estranged ailing brother. Sissy Spacek, Richard Farnsworth (2h)

I'll Be Home for Christmas (1998, Family) A conniving college student tries desperately to get home in time for Christmas dinner. Jonathan Taylor Thomas, Jessica Biel (1h30)

The Preacher's Wife (1996, Comedy) An angel falls in love with the wife of the reverend he was sent to help. Denzel Washington, Whitney Houston (3h)

It's a Wonderful Life (1946, Drama) An angel shows a suicidal banker how important he has been to the lives of others. James Stewart, Donna Reed (3h)

The Sandlot (1993, Children) A baseball team tries to retrieve an autographed ball after a mean dog gets it. Tom Guiry, Mike Vitar (2h)

For the Boys (1991, Musical) A comedy team's performances for U.S. troops span four decades. Bette Midler, James Caan (2h30)

The Ultimate Christmas Present (2000, Comedy) Two twelve-year old girls stumble upon a mysterious device that creates weather. Peter Scolar, Bill Fagerbakke (1h30)

Presumed Innocent (1990, Crime Story) A prosecutor becomes the suspect in the murder of a colleague whom he'd been seeing. Harrison Ford, Brian Dennehey (2h15)

The End of the Affair (1999, Romance) A heartbroken husband looks to hire an investigator after a wartime affair is rekindled. Ralph Fiennes, Julianne Moore (2h)

The Beverly Hillsbillies (1993, Comedy) The Clampetts strike oil in the Ozark swamps and move to Beverly Hills. Dabney Coleman, Jim Varney (1h30)

Play It Again, Sam (1972, Romance) A man who wants to re-enter the singles scene is coached by the ghost of Bogart. Woody Allen, Diane Keaton (1h35)

Payback (1999, Action) After being double crossed following a robbery, a thief fights for his half of the money. Mel Gibson, Gregg Henry (2h)

SUNDAY, DEC 17

Patch Adams (1998, Drama) A doctor rejects the sober practices of medical school and uses humor instead. Robin Williams, Monica Potter (2h)

On Golden Pond (1981, Drama) A daughter must come to terms with her distant elderly father. Katherine Hepburn, Henry Fonda (2h)

George of the Jungle (1997, Comedy) A man raised in the jungle falls for a beautiful socialite and ventures into the city. Brendan Fraser, Leslie Mann (2h)

The Sound of Music (1965, Musical) A woman leaves an Austrian convent to become governess to a captain's seven children. Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer (4h)

In support

I really appreciated the fact that a "lock-on" was organized for downtown Ganges on election day.

For months I have read about and mentally supported the peaceful protests that have occurred on the logging routes. But I have not physically been a part of them.

However, with all the latest action taking place smack dab in downtown Ganges, I finally became a part of the supporting crowd. And while many people felt that the location was not ideal, I felt that a protest of this sort needed to be in our faces, so to speak, to bring the message home!

I know that the event was not applauded by some of the merchants whose business that day suffered due to the rerouting of traffic. It is unfortunate that this had to happen.

However, those of us in the outdoor recreation business can go for days without one cent of income when there is inclement weather or ferries are cancelled. Them's the breaks; yet somehow we manage to pull through relatively unscathed. I would hope that the businesses that suffered that day can absorb a few hours of lost revenue considering the bigger picture.

As so many others have said, I am not opposed to logging. How can I be when I use forest products and by-products every day of my life? What I am opposed to is the heartless chainsaw massacre that is happening on our beloved island paradise! The aesthetic and environmental consequences of this will plague us long after the logging company has made its fortune and left our island to ravage yet again.

There is a lot of dissension between people who are protesting this clear-cutting and those employed in some facet of the industry. I believe it is felt that the environmentalists have no concern for people's right to their livelihood and to providing for their families and contributing to the commerce of their communities.

However, I think that what we are trying to say is that we are not prepared to support clear-cut logging just because people need jobs. In fact, many of us feel that sustainable logging does not mean the loss of hundreds and thousands of jobs. It may, however, mean the loss of hundreds of thousands or even millions of dollars worth of profits for companies who have no concern for the local people or the environment that they are so negatively affecting.

Just because a person may be born into or trained for a certain

More letters

type of work does not guarantee that this will continue for time immemorial. Think about the people you know or have heard about who have lost the jobs in the fields that they were educated for. Factories close, corporations downsize, jobs become obsolete. Often times it means retraining; going back to school and preparing for a new career. In fact, in this day and age, how many of us are guaranteed secure employment for the next five years, let alone the rest of our working days?

The forests do not owe anyone wealth or a job for as long as they want it. The environment is not ours to use and abuse for our own agendas at the expense of its own well being.

As Henry Thoreau wrote, "In wilderness is the preservation of the world." We need to protect this wilderness for ourselves and for posterity.

We need to stand united so that our voices will be heard and our cause be fairly addressed!

CANDACE SNOW,
Salt Spring

Serve citizens first

Of course, I agree with Tony Richards' commentary last week regarding "Canada needs left-of-centre voice."

Canada's most successful governments have been centre-left, both Conservatives and Liberals. This stems from the founding roots of Canada based on a tradition of political and social cooperation between minorities; not the usual nation state mechanisms of financial or military domination by one group over another.

Acknowledging the interwoven dependencies between groups such as Natives, Métis, anglophone, francophone, farmers and soldiers may have evolved not through some high ideal but a practical understanding required for survival, living in a marginal, massive and uncontrollable land.

Embracing diversity and complexity enabled Canada to be the first country to develop the model of the mixed economy in which social democracy and market forces were combined.

However, holding the middle path is the most difficult political task and requires skill and leadership. The temptation to conform and take the less messy and simplistic path advocated by the nar-

row interests of the ideologue is always present. With Mulroney, and now Chrétien, we are drifting to the political right as we succumb to the international ideology of monolithic corporatism.

Of course, the typical mantra from the ideologue is that globalism is "inevitable," or "natural," even though there is nothing new to global trade, and 95 per cent of trade with the U.S. was already "free" before NAFTA.

The intent of free trade agreements has been for citizens to surrender any real power over the resources of their community. Think of the Texada Land Corporation coming to Salt Spring and liquidating a large chunk of capital for short-term profit with minimal regard for the ecological integrity of our home, impact on water quality, our tourist industry, or the loss of long-term capacity for sustainable local industry.

Now magnify this scenario globally with rootless trans-nationals drifting around the globe exploiting whole nations, with nobody to answer to except a handful of dispassionate and far-flung shareholders. This is the anti-democratic theme of the corporatist movement.

Consider the GSX natural gas pipeline proposed by B.C. Hydro and Williams, and currently being reviewed. The pipeline proposal could be rejected due to sufficient citizen concerns about increased greenhouse gas emissions, safety or

the high price of gas compared to alternatives. However, Williams, a U.S. pipeline company, has already invested a significant amount of money in the project.

Under NAFTA, they may be entitled to sue the B.C. government for loss of future profits. Is this reasonable?

Greens do not wish to dismantle our economy or become insular or nationalist. Rather, we want to help

re-direct our global economy and markets to serve citizens, not lead them. This must be achieved in a manner that is fair, equitable and sustainable.

This is an imperative that is no longer based on any ethical ideal, but on survival as a civilization, and perhaps as a species. We may not have all the answers, but at least we have the courage to ask the questions, and challenge the truly radical path we are currently on.

ANDREW LEWIS,
Green Party candidate for Saanich North and the Islands, Salt Spring

To Be Delighted...

CHECK OUT THE CASUAL FURNITURE & DECORATING ACCESSORIES

Huge Selection!

at

Great Prices!

McLARTY'S
GIFTS & FURNISHINGS

9818 Third St., (just north of Beacon) Sidney • 655-3577
7 DAYS A WEEK 9:30am - 6:00pm • SUN. 11:00am - 5:00pm

IS YOUR WELL WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

Contamination can occur without changes in colour or taste.



\$25.00 per test • Results in 24 hours
Be Safe • Test Annually!

10115-C McDonald Park Rd.
Sidney, B.C. V8L 3X9

656-1334

Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic

Wishes all our "friends" and their owners

Happy Holidays



Cathy, Bev, Lynda, Wendy, Melaina, Noreen & Derrick (Barb & Michelle missing)

Please note these Holiday changes to this year's regular hours
Mon., Wed., & Fri., 8:30am - 6:00pm
Tues., Thurs., & Sat. 8:30am - 5:00pm:
Monday Dec. 25 — CLOSED
Tuesday Dec. 26 — CLOSED
Monday Jan. 1 — CLOSED

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW REGULAR HOURS
as of January 2, 2001: Monday - Saturday 8:30am - 5:30pm

PHONE 537-5334 (REGULAR HRS. & AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES)

*Come see
Salt Spring's
largest Christmas
light display at
125 Grantville Street.*

*Dedicated once again
to the Food Bank.
Non-perishable items and
cash donations gratefully accepted.*

Merry Christmas
from
STS LTD.

For all your automotive & marine upholstery requirements
**Rope'n & Reel'n
CHARTERS**
HAL & DONNA KEOWN
537-9509

*It's been a pleasure
serving you
this past year!*

from
**MANAGEMENT & STAFF
AT BUCKERFIELD'S**

SAANICH
1907 Keating
Cross Road
652-9188

DUNCAN
5410 Trans
Canada Highway
748-8171

Merry Christmas!



COUNTRY STORES



More letters

Two letters in one

First letter:
With regard to Drew's letter about his dream a couple of weeks ago (November 29) — what a great dream and what an excellent letter. Thoughtful, sensitive and to the point.

Now, I only have one question: who are you and what have you done with the real Drew Clarke?

To those who have somehow read all sorts of sinister meanings into my previous letter (November 15), the compliments herein are sincere.

Second letter:
It is hardly necessary for Charles Crosby to urge people to attack so-called ivory tower experts (December 6 Driftwood letters) when they are doing just that to each other all the time. Sometimes it

is in print, sometimes in front of 100 of your peers just after you've presented the results of 10 years of hard work.

Usually it is considerate, but it can be rude and sarcastic (as a couple of islanders discovered recently). It is a scholar-eat-scholar world out there. It is hard on egos and sometimes whole careers.

The cry-babies can stay home. Those who wander into this playground unprepared and experience the criticism and skepticism aimed at their ideas usually stumble out muttering about "ivory tower know-it-alls" and "suppression of new ideas," never realizing that this rough proving ground is the best way we have to grope towards the truth.

Do scholars, scientists and religious leaders also hang on to dis-

proven ideas? Do they scoff at new ones? You bet! They're human, they have egos and they make mistakes.

But the process transcends such human frailties, better ideas take form and the best survive doubt, debate, questions and experiments. The answers don't come easily. The universe is not only more complex and wonderful than we have imagined, it is more than we can imagine, and it rarely works like common sense would suggest.

By all means, deflate the scholars, but only if you are prepared to have your ideas tested in the same thorough, systematic way.

If that's too tough for you, maybe it's better to keep your ideas at home where they are safe.

ANDREW OKULITCH,
Salt Spring

Another email from Israel

Following is the latest e-mail from Shannon Lercher, a young Salt Spring woman who is living on a kibbutz near Jerusalem.

Hello . . . just got home from the most amazing trip! Yesterday morning we left super early for the Judean Desert. We walked for about six hours through some of the most incredible scenery. At first I never thought I was going to make it (the first hour and a half is uphill, where you walk along these tiny little ledges with huge cliffs on one side).

It was the kind of hike where you huff and puff for about 20 minutes and then rest for 10. It was also HOT. I suppose since it is desert that sounds about right, but it was weird to be hiking in my bathing suit and jeans in December. We hiked until we came to this 300-foot drop (the landscape was like Mars) which we went down VERY CAREFULLY. (I was looking at the drop-off thinking, "ummm, not a chance").

Eventually we came to Masada itself, which is over 1,000 feet and has about a million stairs going up. It's unreal — you are in the middle of nowhere and all of a sudden you are at this major archaeological site with ruins at the top. You have the most spectacular view of the Dead Sea (which is the most beautiful aqua colour).

After we finished our hike (thoroughly exhausted — I guess I am not in as good shape as I thought I was), we went to the Dead Sea. Now for those of you who haven't heard of this place, it is one of the strangest/coolest things I have ever

done. Nothing lives in this water (not even bacteria). It is super salty and when you go in, you float. By this I mean that you can sit cross-legged in the sea and float. You couldn't touch the ground if you wanted to. It is very oily and if you have a cut you have to be careful because it will sting like nothing else.

Afterwards we headed out to stay at a Bedouin camp in the Negev Desert (Bedouins are nomadic Arab Israelis who travel around the desert and live in cloth huts — basically living examples of something out of the Bible) which was called something I can't remember in Hebrew but for lack of better explanation I will just call it "The Arabian Nights Million Star Hotel."

They had a camel farm and everything. We slept in big goat-hair tents on mats. The food was delicious (I was relieved to find out the meat was not camel as they had originally told me.) We woke up to beautiful early morning with hot sweet tea waiting for us to help set us off for our busy day.

It's funny — on Salt Spring, sheep go on the roads and block traffic. Here in the middle of nowhere, donkeys and camels are wandering around.

We went on another hike to this place which was like this huge canyon (although that wasn't exactly what it was; I don't know the English word).

It was so unreal. I am seriously running out of descriptive words to describe the amazing things I saw in the past few days. This place has this

cliff which drops down almost 500 feet straight. This isn't like home where you look out over this stuff over protective fences. This is the real deal. You have to be careful or you're toast (our guide took us off the beaten path to show us better views, which means he was not under insurance guidelines). It was like walking in a postcard and the whole experience changed my life. We also went to many museums and had a few geological lectures as well as a stop-off at this gorgeous desert site where the rocks are the colours of a sunset. Everything from purple to orange to pink.

On our way back we were delayed when we took our bathroom break at a soldiers' junction where somebody had left a bag or something that the police thought had a bomb in it. It was weird because nobody even noticed the police/bomb/fear thing. It was more of a "is this delay going to make us late for dinner?" kind of worry. Bizarre.

The situation here is the same — they are still shooting and they were dropping missiles close by on my birthday. What can you do? To be honest, I don't actually watch the news anymore. I read the paper once a week and other than that I keep my nose out of it. It just upsets me and sometimes ignorance is bliss. If I can hear that things are bad I just have somebody translate the Hebrew because the news on those stations is less biased.

Take care, everybody.
Love, Shannon



Paintworks
 interior and exterior painting
 restoration and refinishing
 interior fit and finish colour consulting
don webb
537-1276




Service with a Biscuit!
 When you stop in at Ganges Petro-Can, we'll treat your pooch to a FREE DOG BISCUIT!
 Fill out a ballot to win one of 3 great prizes!
 1. Dog's goody prize pack (value \$75.00)
 2. Tub of dog biscuits
 3. \$25.00 gift certificate for grooming
 Get 500 Petro-Points just for signing up - FREE!
GANGES PETRO-CAN 537-9333

Open House at Sea Change
 Wednesday, December 20
 2:00 to 8:00
 Drop in for hors d'oeuvres recipes, last minute gift ideas, specialty seafood gifts and treats.



SeaChange
 SEAFOODS
 334 Upper Ganges Rd.
 Salt Spring Island
www.seachangeseafoods.com

Come... Meet Santa!
FREE POLAROID PHOTOS AND CANDY CANES FOR THE KIDS
SATURDAY, DEC. 16
 10am - noon
OPEN SUNDAY
 Dec. 17
 8:30 am - 5:30 pm



MOUAT'S Home hardware
 Open Monday - Saturday 8:30 - 5:30 / 537-5551

NOTICE OF RELOCATION

- Commencing the first week of December 2000, ICBC is relocating its claims vehicle inspection facility on Salt Spring Island.
- The new facility is located at: **Unit 2, Merchants Mews, 315 Upper Ganges Road.**




CHRISTMAS

Gift Guide

GIFTS *under* \$25

Great Gift Ideas

at the

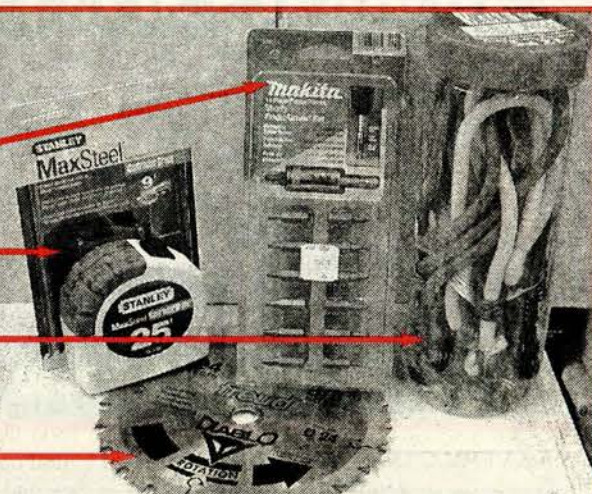
Great Ganges Book Co.

Fine old and nearly-new books

105 McPhillips Ave.
538-0025

STOCKING TUFFERS!

- Makita 14 pce. Shorty Finder/Driver Set \$12.49
- 25 ft. MaxSteel Stanley Tape \$19.98
- 12 pce. Bungy Cords asst. \$11.89
- Freud 7 1/4" Diablo 24 Tooth Saw Blade \$16.99



SLEGG LUMBER

804 Fulford-Ganges Rd. 537-4978

The presents are all opened
but there is more to explore...

Activity books and kits to dig into over the holidays



Fables Cottage

112 Hereford Avenue
(in the purple house)
537-0028



15% OFF

All Giftware
UNTIL DECEMBER 17TH

Live well with

PHARMASAVE

DOWNTOWN 537-5534 UPTOWN LOCATION 538-0323
104 Lower Ganges Rd. 372 Lower Ganges Rd.

OPEN MON.-SAT, 9-6 / SUN & HOLIDAY MON. 11-5



Deck the Kids

WITH

Toys... Toys... Toys!!!



Great Canadian

DOLLAR STORE

plus a whole lot more!

GANGES VILLAGE MALL • OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • 537-2480

GIFTS *under* \$25

Merry Christmas GREAT STOCKING STUFFER & GIFT IDEAS

1/2 price

Colour Special
for Teenagers
extended
til Dec. 23



\$10 off

Any product
purchase
over \$50

LOCKS, STOCK & BARBER SHOP • 537-8842

115 McPhillips Ave • Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat. 10-4 • Late appointments by request

Give a Lasting Gift this Christmas!



Cameras starting at \$39.99

ENLARGEMENTS

8 x 10.....\$5.99

8 x 12.....\$6.99

using 35mm colour negs



PHOTO SOUVENIR GIFTS

T-Shirts\$19.99

Sweatshirts\$25.99

Mousepads\$9.99

Puzzles\$9.99

Coffee Mugs\$9.99

Hundreds of frames!

Don't forget to stock up on film!

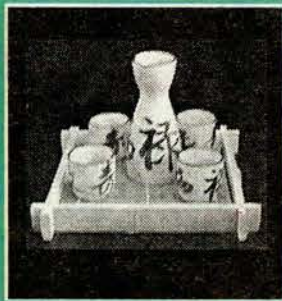


APPLE PHOTO & IMAGING

121 McPhillips Ave.
537-4243 • 537-9917

Gift Giving Made Easy!

at ADMIRALS SPECIALTY FOODS



146 Fulford Ganges Road • 537-5088

Great Gifts Under \$25.00



WE HAVE HUNDREDS OF GIFT IDEAS IN STOCK, ASK OUR FRIENDLY SALES STAFF

Windsor Plywood

RAINBOW ROAD, GANGES • 537-5564
HOURS: MON - FRI 7 - 5:30 / SAT 8-5:30 / CLOSED SUNDAYS

4 pce Pry Bar Wrecking Bar Set \$14.88

3 pce Tool Set w/Pouch \$9.88

6pce. Home Repair Kit \$14.88

20 pce. Pocket Driver \$9.88

6 in 1 Screw Driver w/Comfort Handles \$4.88

40 pce Ratchet Bit & Socket Set \$8.88

GIFTS *under* \$50

Christmas Magick



\$43

range from \$26 - \$38

\$40

Blue Moon Gifts

148 FULFORD GANGES ROAD • 538-1889

DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE DARK THIS WINTER UNIQUE GIFT IDEAS!

Solar Flashlights

Battery Chargers

Remote Solar Lighting \$180.00

Batteries ...all types

Small Inverters \$69.00 + up

Crank & Solar Radios

Energy Options Ltd.

GVM MALL, 537-8371
10am - 5pm Tues. through Sat.

GIFTS *under* \$50

FOR THE PRACTICAL!



MOCCASIN SLIPPERS **\$44⁹⁹**

FLASHLITE/ TOOL KIT **\$24⁹⁹**

STAINLESS STEEL UTILITY TOOL **\$16⁹⁹**

WORK WORLD
 "Creekhouse"
 152 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
 537-2999

AMEX VISA MasterCard

100 MILES Travel the World



Gift Baskets
 STARTING AT \$30.00

PHONE OUR FLORAL DEPARTMENT TO ORDER
537-1522

THRIFTY FOODS 


Have a **Cosy Christmas!**



Slippers from **\$34.95 - \$39.95**

GANGES Village Cobbler

Located in the Trading Co. Building / Fulford-Ganges Road 537-5015 Mon.-Sat. 9:30-5:30

VOLUME TWO BOOKSTORE

OPEN SUNDAY 10am - 4pm THROUGH DECEMBER

Give Volumes of Joy this Christmas!

- ANILS GHOST - Michael Ondaatje \$34.99
- BLIND ASSASSIN - Margaret Atwood \$37.99
- LAST GREAT SEA - Terry Glavin \$34.95
- GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS - \$34.95

Dockside Mouats Mall **537-9223**

It's A Wonderful Life!



Buttons, Bells, Bows & Kerchiefs

JANUARY SALE up to \$10 OFF reg. grooming
 GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE NOW!

Bark Ave. Grooming
538-1819

S.S.I. GOLF CLUB



Pre-Christmas Sale **GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**

IN THE PRO-SHOP All sales cash/final-no returns

SELECTED MERCHANDISE ON SALE

ALL SUMMER CLOTHES shirts, skirts, shorts **20-60% OFF**

GOLF BAGS **25% OFF**

WINTER WEAR/ACCESSORIES .. **20% OFF**

NEW ARRIVALS **PAY NO TAXES**

MANY IN-STORE SPECIALS AS WELL!

Hours: 9am - 4pm, 7 days a week / 537-2121

Season's Greetings from staff & members of SS Golf & Country Club

FREE CHRISTMAS CD WITH PURCHASE OVER \$50.00

SALE ENDS DEC. 24/00

GIFTS *under* \$75

Amber Jewellery



Salt Spring Gems & Art Gallery
Jewelry GRACE POINT SQUARE 537-4222

Comfort & Joy



- Functional Outdoor Wear
- Adults & Kids Sizes
- Featuring: -Helly Hansen -Osh Kosh

GANGES GARMENT COMPANY

Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
 1102 Grace Pt. Square

GIFTS *under* \$50

TOY STIHL CHAINSAW

LOGGERS LEGACY

just like Dad's
only.....\$23.95

Silver and Gold Replica, Keychains, Earrings and Charms, Made in BC

HARBOURS END MARINE & EQUIPMENT
122 Upper Ganges Rd. at the head of Ganges Harbour
Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 5:00
Sat. 9:00am - 1:00pm
537-4202

hemp wallets & organizers

\$19.99 to \$34.99

meditation zafus

\$49.99

cotton throws

\$48.00

laundry hamper

\$39.99

many more gift ideas at:
blue dragon naturals
128 LOWER GANGES RD. 537-5510

EMPOWER YOUR CHILDREN THIS CHRISTMAS

By giving their computer an upgrade to run their favorite software!

- Videocards
- Expanded Memory
- Upgrade Processors

AND ALL THE LATEST SOFTWARE!

TRIBAL DRUM COMPUTERS (1998) LTD.
Upper Ganges Center
330 Lower Ganges Rd.
537-0099

GIFTS *over* \$75

Woodworking Tools

Profile Sander Kit 9444

- 17 different sanding profiles
- Case, pads, paper
- Dust collector

\$156.00

18 Ga., 2" Brad Nailer Kit **BN200A**

\$167.00

- Uses standard 18GA. brads
- 3/4" to 2"

Includes Case

Deluxe Plate Joiner Kit **557B**

\$317.00

19.2 Volt Cordless Drill/Driver Kit **9884B**

NEW!

\$378.00

Includes Case

DELTA

1" Belt/5" Disc Sander **Model 31-080C**

- Smooths metal, ceramics, wood, plastics & more!

\$111.00

10" Deluxe Bench Saw **Model 36-540C TYPE 2**

- Cuts 3" at 90°, 2 1/2" at 45°
- Single phase 13 amp. 115v motor

\$228.00

12" Portable Planer **Model 22-540C**

- Perfectly portable
- 15 amp. 115v single phase motor

\$375.00

FINISHING... And BUILDING SUPPLIES!

Windsor Plywood

166 Rainbow Road, Ph: 537-5564 Fax: 537-1207
Open Monday-Friday 7am-5:30pm / Saturday 8am - 5:30pm / Closed Sundays

VISA MasterCard DIRECT PAYMENT

Cruising with the Santa Ship

50TH ANNIVERSARY: 'Having a blast'

From Page A2

crew has burgeoned into a full-on weekend with big bags of candy and stuffed animals dispensed to some 800 kids.

On Salt Spring alone, more than 120 toddlers, preschoolers and rollicking youngsters seized the occasion to have a chat with old Saint Nick, grab a sample of chocolates and go home with a colourful stuffed parrot or other toy, and a grin of Christmas glee.

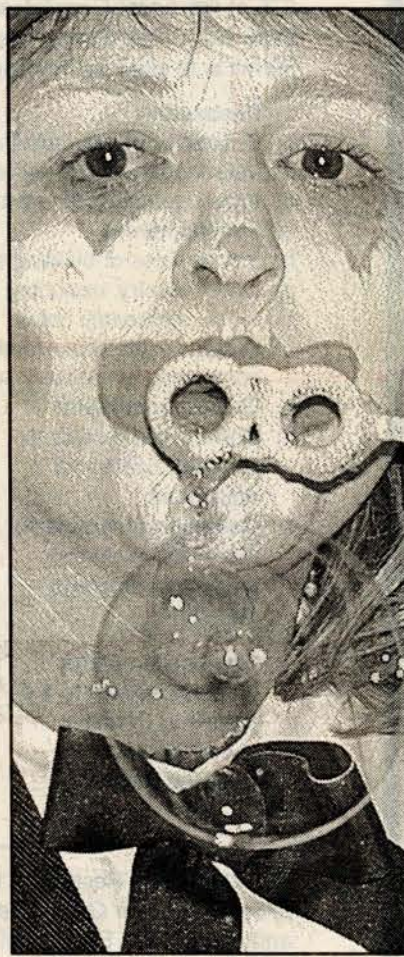
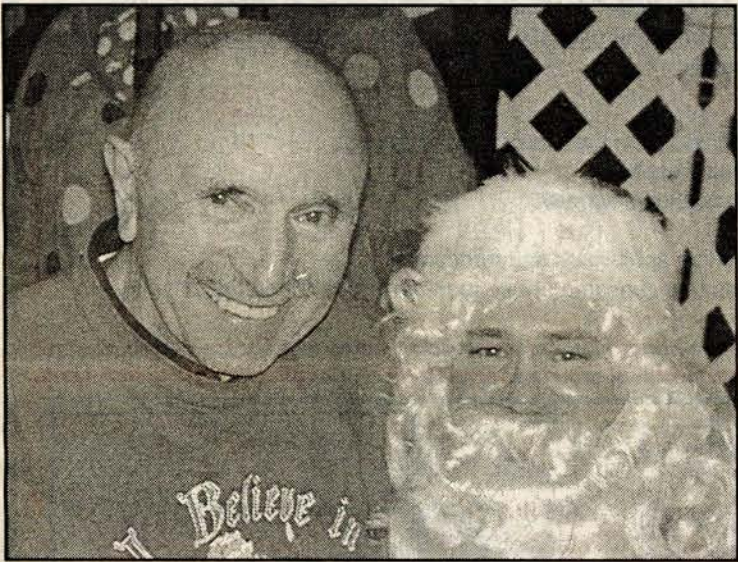
On the technical end of the spectrum, the Canadian Coast Guard escorted the Santa Ship most of the way, offering support and advice.

"We take care of the bureaucratic stuff and make it smooth going in Canada. If they need local knowledge or local help, we're there," said Ian Kyle, officer-in-charge of Ganges station.

Back in the Activity Centre, the

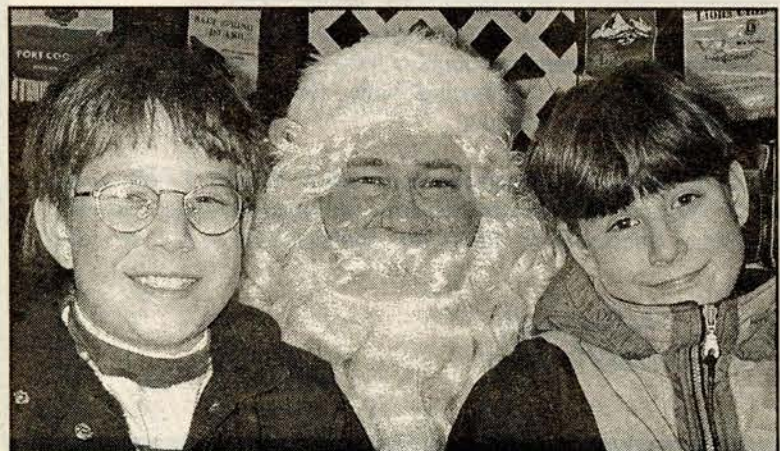
crowd of kids was dying down but little could be done to dampen the all-out merriment made and had by Santa Claus, his curious helpers and the numerous clowns.

"I am having a ball," laughed Thom Harvey of Coquitlam. "I'm a granddad with seven children and 13 grandkids. It's my first time out here and I'm having a blast."



SEEING SANTA: Spotted out and about as the Santa Ship arrived in Ganges Harbour Saturday night were, clockwise from top, Santa greeting children as he boarded transportation to the Activity Centre; Peter Clarke and Arletta Stephens serving up hot chocolate; Kathryn Floercke with balloon; Legion Pipe Band greeting the vessels; Keiran Frey, left, and Tristan Harron with Old Saint Nick; clowns hamming it up; long-time Santa Tripo Costello with his replacement; clown blowing bubbles.

Photos by Derrick Lundy



Women need to take taboo out of sex talk

By LEAH McCOLM
Driftwood Contributor

YOUTH COLUMN

Sex!!!
Now that I have your attention, allow me to open up a rather risky can of beans: sex . . . oh yeah, I already said that.

I don't know how many of you tune in to a TV show called Sex and the City, so in case you're one of those Salt Springers who, instead of sitting in front of the idiot-box enjoys spending your Friday night twisting your body into gravity-defying positions that some call yoga and I call "ouch," or catching up on reading from Celestine Prophecies while sitting by the woodstove, slugging back a cup of herbal tea or two, I shall do my best to explain the concept of this rather provocative show.

It's a quirky comedy about four women friends, most of them single, who are in their late 30s and early 40s, live in New York City, all have highly professional careers, and each have a personality completely different from the rest.

Oh yeah, and one more thing: They all openly discuss their sex lives together over breakfast in a cafe, walking down the street, in their apartments, in a club, you name it. There isn't a single place these ladies haven't mentioned the taboo "s" word as though it were the weather.

There are many reasons why I like the show, one being that there's no annoying laugh track drowning out the actors, but the main reason is that it's about strong independent women who aren't afraid to say exactly what's on their pretty little heads, no matter how they may appear to others.

These are just regular women who deal with regular problems, mostly how to catch, better understand or get rid of the men in their lives. Hmmm, sound familiar? Isn't that sort of what guys go through too?

Yeah, yeah, I know men come from Mars and women from Venus and that there's a lot more stuff in between, but let's face it, this is the basic relationship formula that plagues all of us, is it not?

So why is it that there are a million-and-one sitcoms and other shows out there with men in them who are allowed to openly chat about sex, which mostly people seem to find entertaining enough, and yet when one show pops up about the sex lives of women that isn't part of The Women's Network the characters are looked down upon as sluts?

The word slut in the dictionary means to take part in many casual sexual relationships.

Alright, these women aren't exactly monogamous (except for the married one) and they do like to partake in a certain pleasurable activity, what's it called, oh yeah, sex!

You could say that they're playing the field, you know kinda like,

oh what's that word, oh yeah, dating!

Hey, aren't sex and dating sort of what guys do too? And yet when women are open and bold in their search for Mr. Right by trying on more than one pair of shoes, instead of falling "head-over-heels" for the first pair that comes along, society seems to get a little edgy.

This I think must be due to the overall "western" fear of women and sex in general. Women have been forced to live in the shadows of men for centuries, and it isn't until lately that we've started coming out of the kitchens and out from under the thumbs of a patriarchal society to take back our voices and freedom.

Sex is what our primal beings thrive on, it is the truest form of expression and the link that unites every one of us from all walks of life.

There is no freedom like the freedom found in sex, it is what makes the world go 'round, laughing in the face of fame. It is the highest power there is and yet we try so hard to cover it up and pretend like it's not a real issue open for discussion. We use sex to sell cars, perfume, food and just about everything else under the sun and yet we refuse to mention it unless it's used to ridicule someone.

Am I the only one who sees something wrong with this picture? Am I the only one who looks at teen magazines and sees a rather uncomfortable image of how young girls are displayed and given step-by-step instructions on how to get a man? How about getting a life?

Am I the only one who sees how girls and women imprison themselves by playing into the impossible role of a male fantasy, all the while harbouring resentful jealousies towards female competition? I don't think so.

What it boils down to is that guys can sleep with whomever they like, (especially high school boys), and receive a pat on the back. And girls — well, girls get to wear a name tag with the word "slut" attached if they dare to venture outside the comfortable boundaries our society has set for them.

Women were once revered for their sacred powers as mysterious beings who could bring forth life, and had an innate sense of wisdom and feminine intuition which brought them closer to the Great Spirit and to the earth. I guess this is nowadays referred to as "girl power."

But is girl power something that tries to fit a certain image or is girl power being able to openly discuss sex above an audible whisper, without blushing?

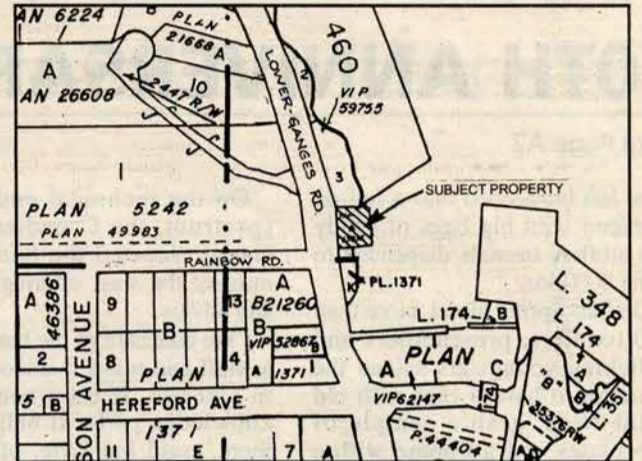


NOTICE

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE TEMPORARY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USE PERMITS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will consider Resolutions to issue the following proposed Temporary Use Permits on Thursday, December 21, 2000, at their business meeting which begins at 1:15 p.m., at the Hart Bradley Hall (Lions Club), 103 Bonnet Avenue, Ganges.

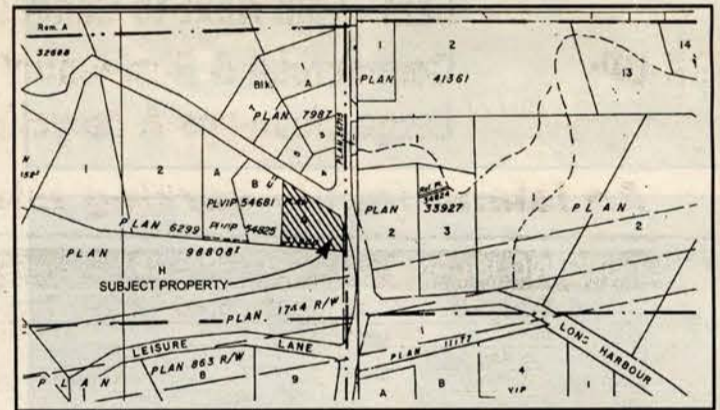
1. TUP-05-2000 - Resolution to issue a Temporary Commercial Use Permit pursuant to Section 975 of the Local Government Act for Lot A, Section 2, Range 4 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan VIP65932 (151-153 Lower Ganges Road). The purpose of the Permit is to allow the placement of two temporary structures (trailer-type) on the subject parcel to accommodate a fish boat moorage, float plane tie-up, private boat moorage, charter boat moorage, and a kayak, bicycle and sailboat rental office.



The location of the property subject to the proposed Permit is shown on the following sketch:

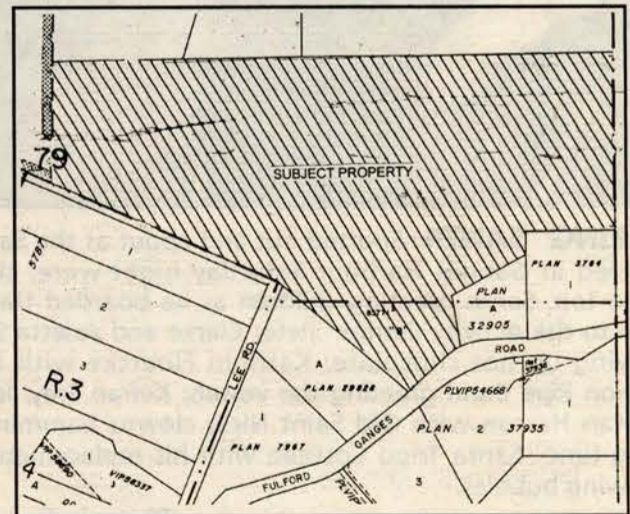
2. TUP-06-2000 - Resolution to issue a Temporary Commercial Use Permit pursuant to Section 975 of the Local Government Act for Lots 1 to 3, and 5 to 23 (inclusive), Section 5, Range 3 East, North Salt Spring Island, Strata Plan VIS4561 (Merchants Mews). The purpose of the Permit is to allow the following uses:

- a) Restaurants
- b) Offices for use by building construction professionals and trades
- c) Veterinarian clinics and animal hospitals
- d) Indoor commercial, art and vocational schools
- e) Funeral homes
- f) Indoor sales of building supplies, appliances and furniture
- g) Light industry, excluding uses that consume or use more than 1600 litres/day of water
- h) Indoor wholesale sales
- i) Storage, with the exception of outdoor storage of derelict vehicles and equipment, of commercially licensed trucks, bulk fuel products, or waste materials
- j) Outdoor retail sales
- k) Service and repairs to vehicles, boats and equipment
- l) Collection of recyclable materials, excluding outdoor sorting and storage



The location of the property subject to the proposed Permit is shown on the following sketch:

3. TUP-07-2000 - Resolution to issue a Temporary Commercial Use Permit pursuant to Section 975 of the Local Government Act for Parcel B (DD 857711) of the South East 1/4 Section 79, and of the North East 1/4 of Section 69, South Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Except Parts in Plans 7967 and 32905 (1730 Fulford-Ganges Road). The purpose of the Permit is to allow the crushing of rock materials on the subject property.



The location of the property subject to the proposed Permit is shown on the following sketch:

Copies of the proposed permits may be inspected at the Salt Spring Island office of the Islands Trust, Unit 1206, Grace Point Square, Ganges, BC, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing Friday, December 08, 2000, and continuing up to and including Thursday, December 21, 2000.

The proposed permits may also be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding Statutory Holidays, commencing Friday, December 08, 2000, and continuing up to and including Thursday, December 21, 2000.

Pauline Brazier
Deputy Secretary

CAR & LIGHT TRUCK

TIRE SALE

30% OFF *HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR LIGHTS?*

ALL IN STOCK ALL SEASON RADIAL TIRES
Taxes, installation & balancing extra

HAROLD HARKEMA REPAIRS
Automotive Repairs • Batteries & Tires

427 Fulford Ganges Rd. • 537-4559 • Mon. - Fri. 8-5

S - SALT SPRING ISLAND O - OUTER ISLANDS SUNDAY DAYTIME DECEMBER 17. Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles.

S - SALT SPRING ISLAND O - OUTER ISLANDS SUNDAY EVENING DECEMBER 17. Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles.

LAURIE'S Recycling & Waste Service

DROP-OFF: Waste & Recycling Tuesday through Saturday 8am - 5pm Next to Ganges Village Market

PICK-UP: Commercial & Residential Large clean-ups & recycling CALL 653-9279

An island family serving Islanders since 1861



S - SALT SPRING ISLAND O - OUTER ISLANDS MONDAY EVENING DECEMBER 18. Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles.

S - SALT SPRING ISLAND O - OUTER ISLANDS TUESDAY EVENING DECEMBER 19. Table with columns for channel, time, and program titles.

8:00 PM B Centennial Man (1999,Family) A robot tries to become human when he realizes that he has emotions and creative thoughts. Robin Williams, Sam Neill (2h30)

9:00 PM Alaska (1996,Adventure) A young brother and sister try to rescue their father after his plane crashes. Thora Birch, Charlton Heston

MONDAY, DEC 18 6:00 PM Delivered (1998,Suspense) A pizza delivery man with a healthy imagination is framed for the crimes of a murderer.

8:00 PM Miracle on 34th Street (1994,Drama) Santa tries to instill belief in a skeptical child and her struggling mother.

9:00 PM Holy Matrimony (1994,Comedy) A woman, on the run after robbing a State fair, hides in a Hasidic community.

10:00 PM Down Argentine Way (1940,Musical) A story about a woman who falls in love with a smooth Argentinean horse breeder.

11:15 PM 20 Dates (1999,Comedy) A man sets out to make a film about the process of falling in love.

TUESDAY, DEC 19 6:00 PM Forces of Nature (1999,Romance) A man falls head over heels in love with a free-spirited woman.

8:00 PM Storm Catcher (1999,Drama) It is up to a pilot framed for stealing a stealth bomber to find it and clear his name.

9:00 PM D3: The Mighty Ducks (1996,Comedy) Hockey players get a scholarship and must face the snobby varsity team.

10:00 PM Tail Lights Fade (1999,Drama) A couple races across Canada in a bid to get the woman's brother off a drug charge.

10:45 PM The River Rat (1984,Drama) An ex-convict gets acquainted with his 12 year old daughter along the Mississippi River.

11:30 PM Requiem for Murder (1998,Suspense) An obsessed fan starts to serially kill a classical radio personality's competition.

SUBARU
The Beauty of All-Wheel Drive
SAUNDERS SUBARU
Sales & Service
1-888-898-9911
 1784 Island Hwy DL5932
 www.Victoriacar.com

KINGS LANE BOWLATHON
 for the
SALT SPRING FOOD BANK
 Saturday-Sunday,
 Dec. 16 & 17 from 9pm to midnight.
 A food bank donation nets a free game of bowling. Lots of prizes!
"Proudly supporting our community"
 **THRIFTY FOODS** 
 We never lower our standards.
 Just our prices.™ 537-1522

COMMUNITY GATHERING
 at the
UNITED CHURCH
hosts a Christmas program for the whole family
THURSDAY DEC. 14 / 5:30PM
 includes a light meal
"Proudly supporting our community"
 **THRIFTY FOODS** 
 We never lower our standards.
 Just our prices.™ 537-1522

what's on

YOUR SALT SPRING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>wed DEC. 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GISS Music Concert, ArtSpring, 7:30 KC Kelly CD Release Party, Talons, 7 p.m. Kings Lane Open Stage, 6-9 p.m. Wednesday Night LIVE! Moby's, 9 p.m. SS Hours potluck/meeting, Family Place, 6 p.m. GISS PAC meeting, 7 p.m. 	<p>thurs DEC. 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carol Sing in Centennial Park, 7 p.m. Fulford Elementary concert, Fulford Hall, 7 p.m. GISS Music Concert, ArtSpring, 7:30 Community Meditation, United Church, 11:30-12:30 (activities) Community Gathering, United Church, 5:30 (activities) 	<p>fri DEC. 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Minute Craft Fair, Mahon Hall, 10-4 A Child's Christmas in Wales, ArtSpring, 4 p.m. (literary) CIBC Customer Appreciation Day (activities) Gymnastics demo, SIMS, 4 p.m. Rose's Cafe Open Stage, 8-11 p.m. 	<p>sat DEC. 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter Festival, Salt Spring Centre, 11-4 (family) Playback Theatre, United Church, 7:30 Food Bank Bowlathon, Kings Lane, 9 a.m.-midnight Last Minute Craft Fair, Mahon Hall, 10-4 Cantus, Hastings House, 6-7 p.m. (music) Dave Roland and guest, Harbour House lounge, 9 p.m. (music) 	<p>sun DEC. 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Bank Bowlathon, Kings Lane, 9 a.m.-midnight Christmas Bird Count and ArtSpring Birdathon Monik Nordine, Moby's Sunday Dinner Jazz, 7 p.m. Hark the Herald Angel, Community Gospel, 6:30 Last Minute Craft Fair, Mahon Hall, 10-4 	<p>mon DEC. 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSC School Christmas Pageant, Salt Spring Centre, 6:30 <hr/> <p>DEC. 19 tues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fulford Elementary choir, ISCU, 11 a.m. Drop-in Floor Hockey, Fulford Hall, 7-9 Women's Investment Workshop, Harbour House, 1-3 Soup's On! All Saints, 11:30-1 p.m. (activities) Toy Library, Portlock/Beaver Point Hall, 9:30-10:30
---	--	---	--	---	--

Caribbean Cruise!

FROM \$799

INCLUDES PORT FEES.

UNIGLOBE Per person, two sharing. Air fare not included.




Pacific Travel Ltd. www.uniglobepacifictravelsaltspring.com **537-5523**

Start your Christmas Shopping by checking out our

GIFT GUIDE

starting on page A15

This calendar is a reader service designed to highlight community events on Salt Spring Island. To have your event listed here please call 537-9933, fax 537-2613 or email: news@gulfislands.net the Driftwood by noon Monday preceding publication.

<p>wed DEC. 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Best Christmas Ever, SIMS, 7 p.m. Christmas at Salt Spring Elementary School, 7 p.m. Christmas With Scrooge, ArtSpring, 7 p.m. 	<p>thurs DEC. 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Best Christmas Ever, SIMS, 3:30/7:30 Local Trust Committee meets, Lions Hall, 1:15 Community Meditation, United Church, 11:30-12:30 Community Gathering, United Church, 5:30 (activities) 	<p>fri DEC. 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Inn Open Stage, 7 p.m. Flautist Ted Hickford, ISCU, 3 p.m. Rose's Cafe Open Stage, 8-11 p.m. Christmas With Scrooge, ArtSpring, 7 p.m. 	<p>sat DEC. 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas With Scrooge, ArtSpring, 2 and 7 p.m. 	<p>sun DEC. 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Eve church services 	<p>mon DEC. 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Day <hr/> <p>DEC. 26 tues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vesuvius Inn Boxing Day Bash 
--	--	--	---	---	---

NOW SHOWING

Scary Movie

ISLAND STAR VIDEO

- ★ large selection of new releases
- ★ vcr rentals ★ video games & machines
- ★ open 7 days a week
- 156C Fulford Ganges Rd., (next to Work World) Salt Spring Island, B.C. **537-4477**

Island Star: The Sequel
 537-8334
 at GVM

THE Fulford Inn

PUB & RESTAURANT

presents

ATOMIC BLUES BAND

an original Salt Spring group

NO COVER CHARGE

Fri. Dec. 8 & Sat. Dec. 9 • 9:00PM

BRING YOUR DANCING SHOES!

DEC. 13-19, 2000

Cinema

CENTRAL • 537-4656 (24 hr.)

JIM CARREY



THE GRINCH

1 hr 45 min. G

OPEN 5 DAYS A WEEK
 Tues. only \$5 all seats - Adults \$7
 Students \$6 / Seniors \$5
 Kids under 14 \$4
 Sun. & Mon. cinemaniac rewards

Opens Wednesday Dec. 13, 7 pm
CLOSED - Thursday Dec. 14
 Open Friday & Saturday 7 pm & 9 pm
 Sunday 2 pm & 4 pm / Monday 7 pm
 Tuesday 7 pm & 9 pm
 *WILL ALSO BE PLAYING DEC. 20-26
CLOSED XMAS EVE & XMAS DAY

2 for 1
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
 2 prepaid cell phone cards
 for the price of 1

TELUS[™]
 Mobility
 Approved Dealer

Energy Options Ltd.
 364 Lower Ganges Rd., GVM Mall 537-8371

event info

IT'S TIME TO RE-TIRE.
 See us
 for your
 re-retirement
 plans!

Ganges Auto Marine 537-9221
 BELOW DAGWOOD, BEHIND CAR WASH

stage

- Playback Theatre** — a community event. Come and share stories, and witness them played back improvisationally by the Salt Spring Playback troupe. United Church, **Saturday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.** \$5 donation requested.
- Christmas Pageant** — Traditional Nativity play and other Christmas scenes presented by students at Salt Spring Centre School, at Salt Spring Centre, **Monday, December 18, 6:30 p.m.**
- The Best Christmas Ever** — a play performed by Salt Spring Island Middle School students in the school's gymnasium. **Wednesday, December 20, 7 p.m.** (and Thursday, December 21, 3:30 and 7:30.) \$4 adults, \$2 children.
- Salt Spring Elementary School** presents Christmas stories in dramatic form at the school on **Wednesday, December 20, 7 p.m.**
- Christmas With Scrooge** — a Salt Spring tradition — opens **Wednesday, December 20** with a dress rehearsal preview at ArtSpring, 7 p.m. \$5. (Also runs December 22, 7 p.m. and 23rd, 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets \$14/\$7 through ArtSpring.)

literary

- A Child's Christmas in Wales** — reading of the Dylan Thomas classic by internationally known actor Scott Hylands. ArtSpring, **Friday, December 15, 4 p.m.**, with tea and scones served from 3 p.m. Tickets \$4.

music

- Kings Lane Recreation Open Stage** for performers of all ages — Hosted by Bob Delion. **Wednesday, December 6** and **13, 6-9 p.m.** (and every Wednesday from here on in.)
- GISS Music groups** present a concert at ArtSpring, **Wednesday-Thursday, December 13-14, 7:30 p.m.** Tickets \$10 adults, \$6 children through ArtSpring.
- KC Kelly** releases his hot new CD Way with special musical guests at Talons Restaurant on **Wednesday, December 13, 7 p.m.**
- Fulford Elementary School Christmas concert** — at Fulford Hall, **Thursday, December 14, 6:30 p.m.**
- Community Carol Sing**, sponsored by island churches, Centennial Park, **Thursday, December 14, 7 p.m.**
- Cantus** — Early Music Singers perform at Hastings House on Saturday, December 16, 6-7 p.m.
- Hark the Herald Angel** — a children's Christmas musical presented by the Community Gospel chapel, 142 Vesuvius Bay Road, **Sunday, December 17, 6:30 p.m.**
- Monik Nordine** and her sax steam up Moby's for Sunday Dinner Jazz on **December 17, 7 p.m.**
- Fulford Elementary School** students sing at Island Savings Credit Union on **Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m.**

EVERY WEEK:

- Wednesdays** — Kings Lane Recreation Open Stage for performers of all ages — Hosted by Bob Delion. 6-9 p.m.
- Tango group** meets at Lions Hall on **Wednesdays, 8 p.m.**, and on **Mondays** through December, 7:30 p.m. Info: 537-2707.
- Fridays** — Rose's Cafe Open Stage — begins at 8 p.m.

- Saturdays** — Alfresco Restaurant — Barrington Perry plays piano starting at 6 p.m.
- Saturdays and Sundays** — Harbour House Bistro — Pianist **Murray Anderson** performs at lunch or dinner.
- Sundays** — Fulford Inn — **The Other Brothers** play from 6 to 9 p.m.

meetings

- Gulf Islands School Board** meets at the school board office on Rainbow Road on **Wednesday, December 13, 1 p.m.** Public welcome!
- GISS Parents Advisory Council** meeting, with guest speakers from the student peer counsellors and leadership team. GISS library, **Wednesday, December 13, 7 p.m.**

activities

- Salt Spring Hours Barter Network** potluck supper and meeting, Family Place, **Wednesday, December 13, 6 p.m.**
- Community Meditation** — Taizé singing is the theme at the United Church on **Thursday, December 14, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**
- Community Gathering** — A Christmas program is on tap for the light meal, discussion, activities for the whole family held at the United Church, **Thursday, December 14, 5:30 p.m.** \$5 for adults, \$3 children 7 and under is the suggested donation.
- CIBC Customer Appreciation Day** — Entertainment by SIMS band and more, at the bank on **Friday, December 15.**
- Salt Spring Gymnastics Association** demonstration at Salt Spring Island Middle School gymnasium — **Friday, December 15, 4 p.m.**
- The Great Christmas Trivia Challenge** — Royal Canadian Legion, **Friday, December 15, 6:30 p.m.** Enter a team by calling 537-5822.
- Winter Festival** — a family event full of music, crafts and food, **December 16**, see "for families," below.
- Phoenix Alternative High School** (at the Core Inn) hosts an open house and fundraiser — purchase pies (whole or slices to eat there), enjoy warm drinks and have your picture taken with Jack Frost. **Saturday, December 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
- Kings Lane Bowliathon** — a food bank fundraiser! Bring a donation for the food bank and get a free game of bowling plus the chance to win lots of great prizes. **Saturday-Sunday, December 16-17, 9 a.m. to midnight.** Call 537-2054 to reserve a spot or catch the first available lane.

- Last Minute Christmas Sale** by the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary (Thrift Shop), at the annex behind the hospital. **Saturday, December 16, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- Christmas Bird Count** — the annual trek-and-count tradition takes place on **Sunday, December 17.** Call Nancy Braithwaite at 537-9335 for information.
- ArtSpring Birdathon** — on the same day as the Christmas Bird Count — **December 17.** Pledge money for each species spotted by celebrated Salt Spring bird lovers. Info: ArtSpring, 537-2125.
- Soup's On!** at All Saints for anyone needing a warm meal on **Tuesday, December 19, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** This is the last Tuesday Soup's On! It will switch to Thursdays beginning January 11.

EVERY WEEK:

NOTE: Through the Christmas holidays,

check with group leaders to see if the activity schedule has changed.

- Salty Wheels Square Dance Club** dances at Central Hall on **Thursdays** from 7-9 p.m. For info, call Angela Thomas, 653-9346.
- Co-ops Work!** is a free introductory workshop held every **Thursday** from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn about types of co-ops, hear about local groups which have received funding for co-ops, and discuss your ideas to see if a co-op would work for you. Call Romana Frey at 653-9312 to register.
- Salt Spring SPCA** holds an open house every **Saturday** below the vet clinic from 2 to 4 p.m.
- Vipassana Meditation** group meets **Mondays** at the Barn on Reynolds Road, 7:30-9 p.m.
- Drop-in Floor Hockey** runs at Fulford Hall on **Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.** \$3 per adult.

for health

- Nia Fitness Dance Classes** at All Saints are taking a break until **Tuesday, December 19, 5:15 p.m.**

EVERY WEEK:

- Beginner Step fitness classes** with Brenda Akerman run **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** at All Saints from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. \$5 drop-in or \$35 for a book of 10.
- Salt Spring Centre regular yoga classes** are **Thursdays:** Mixed Levels with Laura from 4-5:30 p.m. **Saturdays:** Free Intro to Yoga with centre staff, 9:30-11 a.m. **Mondays:** Mixed Levels with Celeste runs from 9 to 10:30 a.m.; Seniors Yoga with Celeste is from 11 a.m. to noon (register through Parks and Rec); and Level 1 with Kishori runs from 4:30-6 p.m. **Wednesdays:** Joy of Yoga with Christine is from 11 a.m. to noon. For info, call the centre at 537-2326.
- Dance and Feldenkrais Classes** with Anna Haltrecht are held **Mondays** at Cats Pajamas Studio. Feldenkrais: Awareness Through Movement, runs at 6 p.m. followed by dance at 7:30. The dance class combines a stretch and strength warmup with high energy dancing for fun and fitness. Info: 537-5681.
- North End Fitness Spin Cycle Classes** run **Mondays:** 9:45-10:20 a.m.; **Tuesdays:** 12:30-1, 5:15-6:15 and 6:30-7 p.m.; **Wednesdays:** 9:45-10:20 a.m.; **Thursdays:** 12:30-1, 6:30-7 p.m.; **Fridays:** 9:45-10:20 a.m.; 5:15-6:15 p.m.; **Saturdays:** 10-11 a.m.

workshops

- Christmas wreath-making workshop** with Beth Chernoff of Flowers by Arrangement — **Thursday, December 14.** Call Beth at 537-9252 to see if any spots are still available.
- Just For Women investment workshop** — with Karen L. Wolfe-Milner and Kelly A. Oglow of EdwardJones. At the Harbour House Hotel on **Tuesday, December 19, 1-2 p.m.** Reserve a seat at 1-877-656-8797.

for families

- KinderCraft**, for 3-5-year-olds, runs at Fables on **Wednesday, December 13**, from 1-2 p.m. Theme for December 13 is French songs. Register at Fables, 537-0028.
- Salt Spring Island Breastfeeding Support Group** meets on **Wednesday, December 13** (and the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month) at

Family Place 1:30 p.m. For Christmas-time schedule for Lisa Law, 537-2213.

- Fables** hosts a **candle making workshop** on **Friday, December 15** from 3:30-4:30. Register at Fables, 537-0028, for this and all Fables workshops.
- A Child's Christmas in Wales** — reading of the Dylan Thomas classic by Scott Hylands, **Friday, December 15** — see "literary," above.
- Winter Festival** — Salt Spring Centre School's fourth annual family fun day of music, crafts for kids and fine food at Salt Spring Centre, **Saturday, December 16, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
- Paint Plus** hosts **Photos With Santa** at the store in Upper Ganges Centre, **Saturday, December 16, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- Felt-making workshop** is at Fables on **Saturday, December 16** from 1-2 p.m.
- Hark the Herald Angel** — a children's Christmas musical, **Sunday, December 17** — see "music," above.
- Holiday Tissue Paper Stars** is the final Christmas-theme workshop at Fables. **Tuesday, December 19, 3:30-4:30.**
- The Toy Library** is open at Portlock Park portable and at Beaver Point Hall on **Tuesday, December 19** from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Note that the next session after that is on Tuesday, January 9. Info: Susanne, 653-9783 (south-end branch) and Jo, 537-5453 (north-end branch).

EVERY WEEK:

- Storytime at the library** with Jean Voaden is on **Tuesdays** from 10 to 10:30.
- Kindergym**, a playtime for children aged 0-4, runs at Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, every **Wednesday** morning between 9 and 10:30 a.m.
- Storytime at Fables Cottage** runs every **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday** from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. There will be a special guest reader every Friday.
- Family Place** drop-in hours are **Monday through Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to noon.** Info: Family Place, 537-9176. Counselling by appointment.
- Walk in Mouat Park** takes place each **Thursday** at 10 a.m., rain or shine. Sponsored by Family Place.
- Rug Huggers**, a potluck and discussion group for parents and babies aged one and under is held at Family Place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info: 537-9176.
- Fairytales and Myths** with Shauna Grylls runs on **Fridays** from 3 to 4 p.m. at the library. Appropriate for children aged six through nine.
- Roller-blading to music** on Fridays at Fulford Hall, 7:30-9:30.

for youth

- Kings Lane Open Stage**, see "music," above, **Wednesday, December 13** and every Wednesday night.

EVERY WEEK:

- Cosmic Bowling** at Kings Lane Recreation on **Friday nights, 9 p.m. to midnight.** It's the latest craze from the city! Bring your own CDs. Food and drinks available. Book a lane by calling 537-2054.
- Roller-blading to music** every **Friday** at Fulford Hall, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

for seniors

EVERY WEEK:

- Thursday lunches** run every week at Salt Spring Seniors. Served at noon, cost is \$3.50. Reserve in advance by noon on

Wednesday by calling Salt Spring Seniors Services Society at 537-4604.

- Bingo for seniors** in the OAP end of Fulford Hall, every **Friday** from 2 to 4 p.m.
- Seniors Sing-along** at Salt Spring Seniors takes place every **Thursday** at 2 p.m.

cable

Four programs run this week on Salt Spring TV, cable Channel 12 on **Monday, December 18** at 7 p.m. A presentation made by **Robert Bateman and Bristol Foster** on November 1 at the Where Art and Nature Meet festival is featured, along with a video short called **Pumpkins and Other Tales**, which contains footage from the October 29 storytelling/jack-o-lantern-carving day in the festival.

As well, two popular children's programs from earlier this year will be repeated: **Bean Discovery**, which follows a group of enthusiastic and imaginative students from Phoenix Elementary on an organic farm adventure at Dan Jason's Salt Spring Seeds; and **Riparian Discovery** — join two youngsters, Emma Rimer and Laura Stewart, as they explore island strams.

cinema

- The Grinch** — Jim Carrey stars as the Grinch in Dr. Seuss' classic story about that party-pooper who is out to spoil the yuletide for the residents of Whoville. Carrey is very funny and the sets, costumes and action make this a potential holiday classic. A definite must see! Fun for all ages!

arts & crafts

- 11th Annual Last Minute Christmas Craft Faire** — for the creative procrastinator — at Mahon Hall, **Friday-Sunday, December 15-17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
- Michael Aronoff** is showing Connected, a selection of abstract acrylics on canvas at Moby's Pub through December.
- Susan Pratt** is showing a sensual landscape of the male body and other works at the Salt Spring Bodyworks Collective studio in Creekside through December.
- Celebration** — an exhibition of recent artworks by the Alliance of Salt Spring Artists is in the lobby areas of ArtSpring.
- Christina Heinemann** presents Monsters, Tigers and Bright Sun Shiny Days in mixed media at Salt Spring Roasting Co. until December 19.
- Grace Sevy** is currently exhibiting her photcollage artwork on the walls at Greenwoods.
- Diana Dean** showcases her oil paintings at Talon's.
- Salt Spring Island Weavers and Spinners Guild** meets **Thursdays** at ArtSpring from 10:30 to noon, offering programs, workshops, study groups, equipment rentals, library and problem solving. Info: Pat Davidson, 653-4750.
- Salt Spring Island Painters' Guild** meets **Wednesdays** at Lions Hall from 9:30 to noon. **December 13** is the guild's Christmas gathering.

galleries

- Jill Louise Campbell Fine Art Gallery** — a showcase of watercolours and mixed media featuring Salt Spring, France, Italy and the Southwest. Hot mulled cider warms up visitors on Saturdays and Sundays through to Christmas.

- Surf the internet up to 90 hours per month
- E-mail address included
- Personal website page (up to 2 megabytes)
- Toll free support line

\$18⁹⁵ PER MONTH

UNISERVE
 ONLINE

TRIBAL DRUM COMPUTERS
537-0099
 UPPER GANGES CENTRE

APPLE PHOTO & COPY CENTRE

Apple Photo

- 1 hour photo finishing
- Colour, black & white
- Enlargements • Posters
- Passport photos
- Film, cameras, accessories

Apple Copy

- B & W copies
- Colour laser copies
- Fax service
- Laminating • Binding

537-4243 / 537-9917
 121 McPhillips Ave.

IN THE HMS GANGES LOUNGE

Dave Roland & Special Guest

SATURDAY DEC. 16 @ 9pm-12am

WEDNESDAYS - are Hockey Promo & Wing Night
 "win tickets to a Canucks Game"

FRIDAYS - Patricks Mystery Lunch Buffet
 all you can eat for \$8.95
 INC. POP OR COFFEE & GST

NEW YEARS EVE IN THE WHEELHOUSE with "Auntie Kate"
 Tickets \$20 per person
 includes midnite snack & bubbly available now @ front desk

IN THE BISTRO We're filling up for Christmas Dinner - book your reservation now. 5pm & 7pm seatings

DECEMBER 28, 29, 30 & 31st
 TABLE D'HOTE
 starters: *Spinach Salad / *French Onion Soup
 ENTREES - choice of:

1. Filet Mignon Tornado Rossini (filet mignon on a crouton with pepper pate & topped with demi-glace)
2. Chicken Picatta (chicken breast dipped in egg & topped with our famous tomato sauce)
3. Salmon Beaufort (filet of salmon, poached & topped with 4 tiger prawns & a creamy brandy sauce)

All entrees include a vegetable medley & choice of rice or potatoes
 DESSERT: Chocolate Mousse or Strawberry Shortcake
\$19.95 + tax per person / served after 5pm

If it's happening on the island it's at the
HARBOUR HOUSE • 537-5571

A&E

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Gospel chapel presents pageant

Salt Spring's Community Gospel Chapel is preparing for its annual children's Christmas celebration with Hark the Herald Angel set for Sunday, December 17.

About 40 children, ranging in age from one to 13, are involved in a program of choir singing, bits of acting and the traditional preschool nativity presentation.

Everyone is welcome to join the popular annual event which takes place for the first time in Community Gospel's new church on Vesuvius Bay Road.

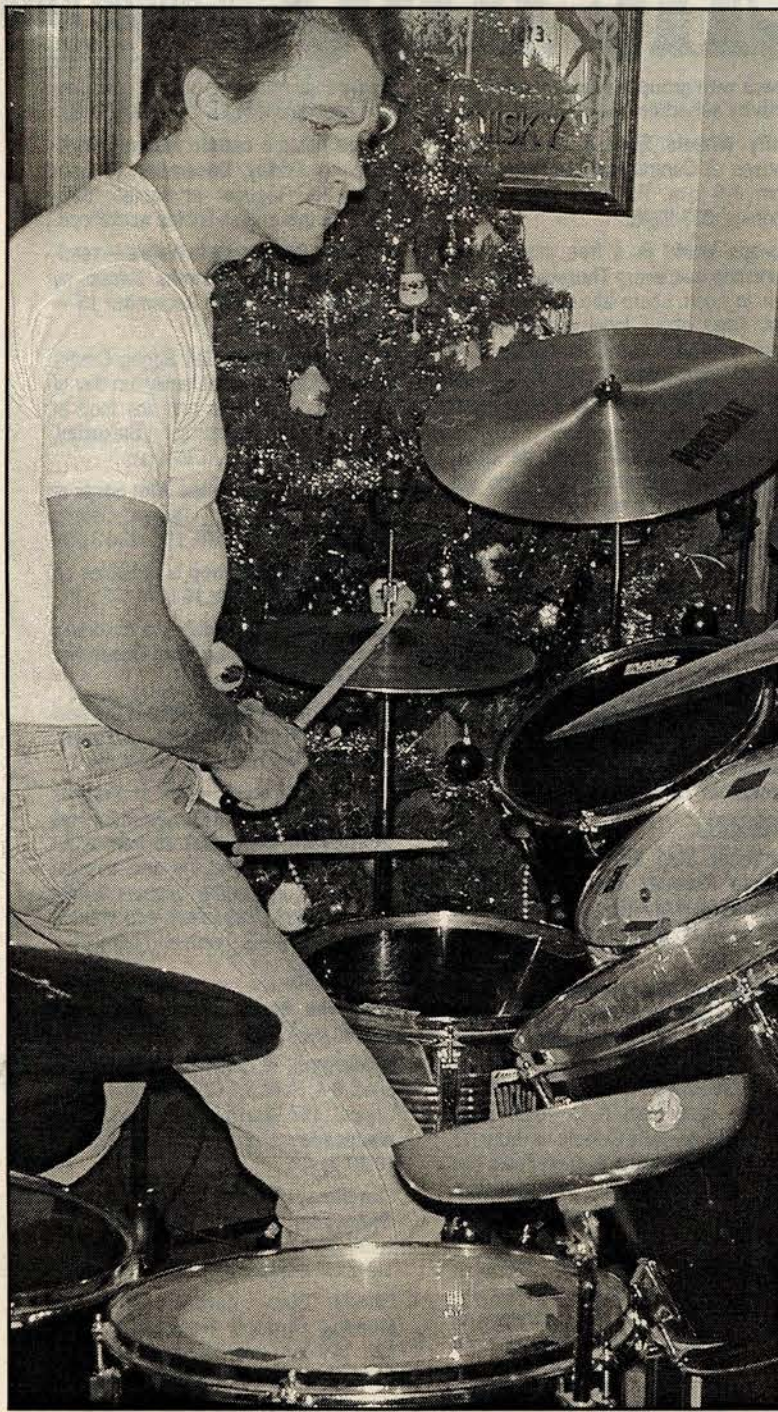
According to choir director Marlene Cormack, a platform to stage the action has just been built, and she and others are busy figuring out how everything will work in the new space.

Cormack said the talented Maureen Gix — from A Class Act — is creating beautiful costumes for the evening and is also one of the directors.

She also said "the funniest things have happened" over the years, like the time two little angels ended up fighting over the doll baby Jesus.

Hark the Herald Angel begins at 6:30 p.m.

Community Gospel is also participating in the joint ministerial carol sing at Centennial Park on Thursday, December 14 at 7 p.m.



DRUMMER BOY: Atomic Blues Band drummer Bruce Graham stands as he sets the beat for a weekend gig at the Fulford Inn.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Core Inn open stage set for December 22

"Too much of a good thing" does not apply when it comes to Core Inn Open Stage evenings.

Besides, monthly open stages at the youth centre haven't been rolling for long, although they've definitely caught the fancy of islanders of all ages.

Musicians, poets and other performance artists of any age are urged to come out for the next one, set for Friday, December 22, from 7-11 p.m.

A sign-up sheet is at the Corinternet Cafe or the Gulf Islands Secondary School counselling office.

Two previous open stages were organized by Jackie Teskey and Christina Behrens who are both local songwriters, poets and performers.

Food and drinks will be served at the concession and donations to help finance future events will be gratefully accepted. Teskey and Behrens would love to hear from anyone who is interested in participating.

For more information, call the Core Inn at 537-9932 and leave a message for either woman, or call Behrens at 537-5309



**2001
The New Years
Eve
Dinner & Dance**

- Door prizes
- Gift baskets worth \$30.00
- Special Beverages
- Fabulous Dinner

Tickets now on sale \$25.00 per person

MEADEN HALL, ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Your classified ad in the Driftwood now has greater reach than ever!

Classifieds are on the Internet at www.gulfislands.net

Schools take centre stage for Christmas

'Tis the season for school Christmas concerts, pageants and plays — and often a highlight for Salt Spring families.

Fernwood Elementary kicked off the season with a show held last night, and Fulford School follows suit with a concert at Fulford Hall on Thursday, December 14, 6:30 p.m.

Salt Spring Centre School holds

its pageant on Monday, December 18 at Salt Spring Centre, 6:30 p.m., which includes drama, music and the traditional nativity play.

For Salt Spring Elementary on Wednesday, December 20, seasonal storytelling between "elders" and "youngsters" is the theme, beginning at 7 p.m.

Salt Spring Island Middle School has gone all out with a play

called The Best Christmas Ever (see related story in this issue), set for December 20 at 7 p.m., and December 21 at 3:30 and 7:30.

Gulf Islands Secondary School musicians are presenting a concert December 13-14 at ArtSpring, 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix Elementary families and staff have their own celebration at Beaver Point Hall.

Sing-Along Christmas at ArtSpring

December 21, 7:00 pm

Come join the whole community for an evening of music, reading and Christmas treats.

Sing a Song of Christmas Joys
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la
Mother, father, girls and boys
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la
Come to ArtSpring this December
Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la
Music, fun, a night to remember



Admission free with a contribution to the food bank.



*Closed
Christmas Eve
at 4pm*

wednesday night
Live! **9:00 PM**
"Farewell Charles... have a whale of a time!"

SUNDAY DINNER
jazz with **MONIK nordine**
7PM

Late Night at
MOBY'S
Menu Available until Midnight
Seven Days a Week!

537-5559 124 Upper Ganges Road "At the head of Ganges Harbour"

Christmas with Scrooge — a Salt Spring tradition

The Newman family is at it again.

Some 29 years since its inception, the local production of Christmas with Scrooge still has a stronghold in the community.

The musical has undergone many transformations since the old days — even the name has changed — but it remains true to its origins and continues to dish out Christmas tradition Salt Spring style with fun and nostalgia for the entire family.

Sending up snowflakes in 1971 at Mahon Hall when it was called Christmas Madness, the original musical later went into retirement until 1993, when Christmas With Scrooge was born.

By 1999, the production had found its way to ArtSpring, where the quaint one-act play became a full-fledged, two-act musical. The talents of Virginia Newman have never been in want, and her abundant creativity produced new scenes and new songs including a Puccini-esque trio for Cratchit, Tiny Tim and the oldest daughter Martha and the Three Little Maids (à la Gilbert and Sullivan) by the Fezziwig daughters.

Legions of islanders have taken roles in Scrooge over the years, with cast lists reading like a "who's who" of Salt Spring. "Many of the cast return year after year to recreate their roles or grow into new ones," said Sue Newman. "Returning cast members jockey for new roles while new cast members



FOUR-LEGGED AUDITION: Penny the mini horse is the latest in the surprise-filled cast of Christmas with Scrooge. The horse is seen here at ArtSpring with the Gilson family, from left, Lulu, Halley, Wendy and Asra.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

fill in the vacancies."

Several actors have left their mark with their participation in Scrooge, said Newman. On one the most remarkable — and still a fixture of the musical — is the scene with the Spotty Dogs.

"Mary Williamson is remembered for saying that each birth of an island boy should be registered with the Newman players so that there would always be a Tiny Tim waiting in the wings."

Through all of the cast changes

over the years, Virginia Newman has been leading the orchestra from the keyboard, watching all of her family — late husband, daughters, granddaughters and grandsons — take part.

Patrick Cassidy, the fifth actor to

play Scrooge, reprises his role for the upcoming performance. Also returning to their favourite roles are Patrice Bowler as Tiny Tim, Kevin Wilkie as Bob Cratchit and Murray Shoolbraid as Mr. Fezziwig.

Newcomers to the show are Erik Vanderwekken as young Scrooge, and Leslie Corry and Patsy Siemens as the Charity Women. The role of Wagnerian Soprano — resplendent in breast plates of leather — has been an instant success with audiences, said Newman, and will reach the pinnacle of operatic heights this year with the performance of Debbi Toole.

"The show has undergone many changes over the years, but it has never lost the charm and nostalgia that have made Christmas with Scrooge an island tradition," Newman said.

Preview night for Christmas With Scrooge is Wednesday, December 20 at 7 p.m. This final dress rehearsal is open to the public viewing for \$5.

The official opening — Friday and Saturday nights, December 22 and 23 — Christmas curtains lift at 7 p.m., with a Saturday matinee also scheduled for 2 p.m. Tickets are \$14 adults and \$7 children. Tickets must be purchased at ArtSpring.

The cast invites audience members to join the Victorian spirit by dressing as their favourite Dickensian character.



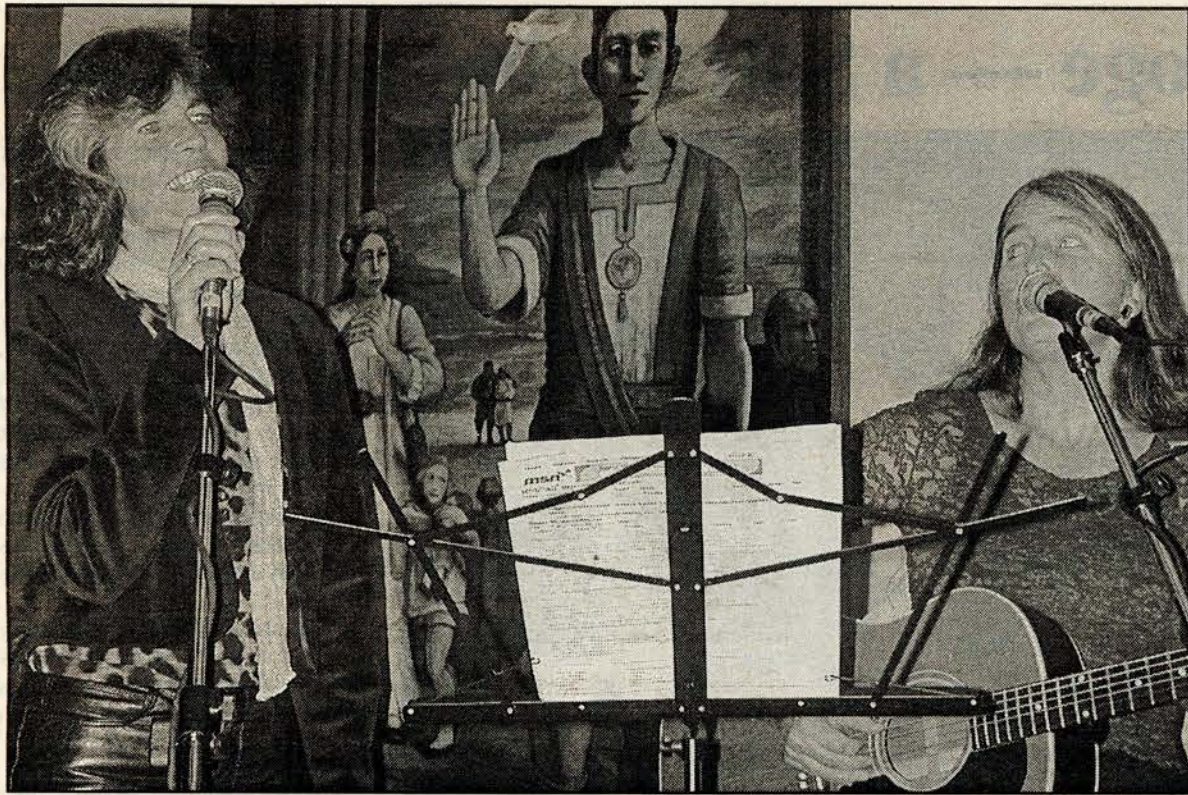
"Winkin, Blinkin & Nod" S/N

**JILL
LOUISE
CAMPBELL**
fine art

- ★ Fine Art Treasures
- ★ Christmas Gift Wrapping
- ★ Mulled Hot cider Weekends Til Christmas
- ★ Discover Our Special Christmas Art Bonus

All happening on the Boardwalk
OPEN DAILY 10-5 • SUNDAY 11-4 • 537-1589





SMILIN': Sisters Jane and Kathy Stack perform at their CD release party held Thursday night at Talon's Restaurant. The CD is called Smile! and they are seen here singing in front of a Diana Dean art piece. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Golden Island
CHINESE RESTAURANT-LICENSED

金島

EAT IN
OR
TAKE
OUT

LUNCH.....Tues.-Fri. 11:30-2
DINNER.....Tues.-Thurs. 5-10
Fri.-Sat. 5-11; Sun. 5-9

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS
\$5.75
Closed Mondays

Upper Ganges Centre, Ganges 537-2535

Debut of Hand's work Quercus set for VSO show in January

Mark Hand hasn't actually been clamouring to advance his career as a composer of contemporary Canadian music.

That's why a request from Bramwell Tovey, the new conductor of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (VSO), for Hand to compose a piece for the orchestra was the last thing the Salt Spring resident expected.

As far as Hand knows, Tovey heard only one piece of Hand's, performed years ago at the Winnipeg Music Festival soon after Tovey took up his post with the Winnipeg Symphony.

But the two also became well acquainted when Hand was national librarian with the Canadian Music Centre in Toronto — a position he held for 13 years.

Tovey told him that after being appointed to the VSO, the conductor wanted to begin his inaugural season with a number of new works — including a contribution from Hand.

"(Tovey's request) was a huge surprise," said Hand, "because normally composers work their whole lives to get an orchestra to play a piece of theirs...."

The result of about five months of effort is Quercus, a 12-minute piece commissioned for the symphony by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Quercus is Latin for "oak tree," and in writing the work, Hand was inspired by the west coast landscape.

He explains: "One can gaze at a familiar old tree and take comfort in its permanence, but the tree does not remain the same from year to year, or even from week to week. Subtly, inevitably, the tree is constantly

renewed. This 'changing yet not changing' is reflected in the piece. It is a spare and serene work, inspired by the natural beauty of the west coast. The open texture is reminiscent of the spaciousness of a Garry oak meadow."

The composer has dedicated the composition to his mother, the Manitoba landscape artist, Vera Hand.

In the past few years, Hand has focussed his creative energy on graphic design.

Slightly daunted by having not "written a note of music for several years," he found that "once I got into the project I was quite excited by it and had lots of fun doing it."

He is now keenly interested in hearing what the orchestra does with his work and whether it turns out as he imagines it.

Ironically, Tovey is not conducting Quercus at its premiere. Maestro Kazuyoshi Akiyama will lead the VSO at the January 26-27 concerts at the Chan Centre in Vancouver.

The program, which will be recorded by the CBC for broadcast on its Radio 2 show called In Performance, will also include works by Mozart and Richard Strauss.

Hand was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba where he graduated in 1978 with the University Gold Medal in Music. After attaining his Library Science degree, he took up the post of music librarian with the Saskatoon Public Library, before taking his Canadian Music Centre post.

Since 1997 he has lived and worked on Salt Spring with his partner Paul Gravett, the new executive director of ArtSpring.

A winner of numerous scholar-

ships and grants, Hand began his compositional career with a win in the CBC National Radio Competition for Young Canadian Composers for his work Soliloquy, which was subsequently performed in Vancouver, Toronto and Dallas, and recorded on a Radio Canada International album featuring the soprano Joanne Dorenfeld.

He has received commissioning grants from the Manitoba Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, the Canada Council for the Arts and the CBC, on behalf of Winnipeg's Music Inter Alia series, Toronto's Arraymusic, Winnipeg's Aurora Musicale, Waterloo's NUMUS concerts, among others.

His music, often characterized as "static and delicate" and "placid yet expressive," has been heard in Canada, the United States and England.

KICK THE HABIT!

UNLESS YOU ARE REALLY HOOKED ON TRAFFIC LIGHTS, PARKING METERS OR WAITING IN LINE, WE'VE GOT LOTS OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS IN STOCK.

PLUS, THINK OF ALL THE MONEY YOU'LL SAVE ... ON ASPIRIN TOO

ACOUSTIC PLANET MUSIC
NEW & USED INSTRUMENTS, ACCESSORIES, BOOKS, MUSIC LESSONS AND MORE!
150 FULFORD GANGES RD.
(250) 537-9668

We would like to thank everyone for welcoming us to the community. We appreciate your continued patronage of Bouzouki and would like to remind you that:

We are closing Dec. 17th, Re-opening Monday Feb. 19.

At that time we will have exciting new additions to our menu!

GREG & SHIRLEY KEITH

We wish everyone Safe & Happy Holidays, see you in the New Year!

GRACE PT. SQUARE
537-4181

SALE

Christmas and Early Moving Sale

10% - 50% OFF

selected items

STONE WALRUS GALLERY

visit our website
www.stonewalrusgallery.com

122 LOWER GANGES RD. • 537-9896 • OPEN MON.-SAT 10AM - 5PM

Band and choir dish up marvellous musical evening

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Driftwood Contributor

I hope you had the pleasure of attending the Salt Spring Concert Band and Tuned Air performance of A Musical Garland at ArtSpring last weekend.

The auditorium was dressed in elegant finery to match the sparkles, slinky gowns and crisp whites of the performers.

The stage was bedecked in garlands of holly and ivy with sprays of snowberries and gauzy honeysuckle. Two chandeliers, one in the lobby and the other suspended precipitously above the stage, held an air of post-modern glamour that added to the atmosphere of high culture at the theatre.

Set designer and alto singer Cathy Young built these remarkable chandeliers from hoops, mini-lights, sheer plastic bagging and strands of pearly beads.

Sultry Susheela Dawne, who hosted the event in a shimmering film noir evening gown, welcomed the audience to the debut performance of the Salt Spring Concert Band (formerly called Bandemonium) and Tuned Air community choir under their new music director, Dawn Hage.

Dawne likened this inaugural concert of the two ensembles, which together number 80 members, to an introduction between two dear friends by "an inspired matchmaker." She invited us to listen attentively to the "passionate dialogues" between the band and choir as they explored the gamut of "exuberance and subtlety" in their musical relationship.

Listening to the first song of the evening, Oh Come All Ye Faithful, was a magical experience. The rich multitude of voices within Tuned Air swelled triumphantly amidst a resonant sea of brass, percussion and wind instruments from the concert band. Individual voices could be discerned within the choral arrangement and the band articulated each note in unison.

Awestruck at the maturity of the band since its last concert, my head spun to follow an antiphonal brass section, cleverly posted in the lighting booth above, which boomed resoundingly from the rafters.

The choir followed this magnificent opening with a soaring rendition of J.S. Bach's Sanctus. ArtSpring was transformed into a cathedral through Tuned Air's vaulted and reverential singing. This arching sound was maintained through the choir's next piece, Ma Navu, a thought provoking canticle from Isaiah sung in Hebrew.

Ma Navu was set as a fascinating representation of a disagreement amongst four voices on how to attain shalom, or peace. Each voice became so insistent that a kind of war ensued over the word shalom. The concert band returned to the forefront after these two choral songs to play Mazama, a



modern atmospheric piece by J. Chattaway that depicted the tale of a First Nations tribe (the Mazamas) from the Oregon coast who were eradicated by a volcanic eruption.

This unusual composition displayed phenomenal evocative talent as wind-swept vistas, adrenal crashing explosions of molten rock and sizzling sighs of lava were portrayed through the thunderings of brass and percussion sections, undulations of clarinets and flutes and eerie gusts from the horns.

Mazama also featured an ocarina, played by Bo Curtis, and chants from band members in the Mazama language.

Tuned Air members had fun with the three-part arrangement of African Praise Noel. Dawne informed us that after switching parts several times to test balance and tone, the choir found the best balance in the song by singing the line they enjoyed most.

In Prelude on an Old English Hymn the concert band built a majestic tapestry of woven sound around recurrent musical themes. Frequent time changes and complicated rhythm patterns made for a challenging piece that showed the band at the height of their powers.

Multicultural globe trotting continued throughout the evening. Pianist Chris Kodaly was featured in a resplendent choral performance of El Cielo Canta, a glorious Argentinean carol.

To commence the evening's second half, the Concert Band unveiled an enduring tribute to Bruckner's Adagio from Symphony No. 7. This deeply moving piece was filled with longing that Kurt Pahlen once described as "an upward soaring of the soul in a peaceful overcoming of mundane things."

The Concert Band also shone through their performance of Christmas Variants, based on the Advent chant "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." Pulsing brass, flute and clarinet sections danced through a series of exciting melod-

ic variations and energetic timing that drove this powerful song into a fiery conclusion.

Tuned Air continued to share its musical gifts throughout the second half of the performance.

The Huron Carol was artfully staged with choir members in the stair wells. Soprano voices glided gracefully down the aisles with lustrous basses to intone the profound meeting of two cultures in song.

Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening, adapted from the Robert Frost poem, was dedicated to departed choir member Syd Wigen, who had accompanied Tuned Air in "every significant leg of the journey over the last decade."

Soprano singer Rosemary Delisle filled the hall with dynamic vibrato in her operatic solo for the River Carol. The contemporary carol, Christmas Lullaby, was enhanced by an obligato flute solo by Bo Curtis.

A feeling of neighbourly community spirit and goodwill was instilled by the choir's a cappella rendering of Goin' to Bethlehem. It was a delight to discern each voice within the harmonies and this piece displayed the great dynamic range and sharp unity of the choir.

Dawne gave a hilarious and scene stealing introduction to the band's performance of James Horsay's newest composition, Persis. Adopting a wise cracking voice and eager intensity ("ya got me, Chief?"), she presented the themes of this fantasy overture as a movie pitch to a Hollywood producer.

Though it was hard to shake Susheela's soundtrack imagery from my appreciation for the music, the regal splendour of brass, woodwind and drums reclaimed this dramatic composition. An exquisite oboe solo by Sheila Spence in the cantabile helped to enhance the eastern flavour of this engaging arrangement.

The final arrangement of the evening reunited the band and choir to present Do You Hear What



GLORIOUS SOUNDS: Salt Spring Concert Band members David Jackson and Leah Young do their stuff, while above, is a section of Tuned Air choir on Saturday night.

Photos by Derrick Lundy

I Hear in a great fusion of talents. Sonorous layers of sound cascaded throughout the auditorium as the two groups joined in joyous harmony.

Standing on her podium, Hage's face radiated brilliant inspiration and appreciation for her union of

talented singers and musicians.

Saturday night's audience was also treated to an encore performance of O Come All ye Faithful. After an enthusiastic standing ovation, the audience accompanied the choir and band in this spectacular celebration of the season.



Present this ad & get a free cup of soup with any sandwich



Tree House Cafe

Fantastic soups
Hearty sandwiches
7 Days a week

537-5379
Licensed

Offer valid until Spring 2001



Lunch in 10 min. or less, or we'll give you a free giant cookie!



11TH ANNUAL
LAST MINUTE

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

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

<p>Plentiful Pottery</p> <p>Jewelry Galore</p> <p>Beautiful Beeswax Candles</p> <p>Bountiful Bargains</p> <p>Delightful Xmas Decorations</p> <p>Surprising Stocking Stuffers</p> <p>Dainty Dried Flowers & Seasonal Wreaths</p> <p>Joyful Jams & Jellies</p> <p>Vigorous Vinegars & Tasty Food Mixes</p> <p>Gorgeous Garlic Braids</p> <p>Select Art Cards</p>	<p>Wondrous Woodwork</p> <p>Luxury Soaps & Lotions</p> <p>Herbal Oils & Potions</p> <p>Fragrant Aromatherapy</p> <p>Medieval Games</p> <p>Original Art</p> <p>Tempting Cheeses</p> <p>Smoked Salmon Treats</p> <p>Fishery Wish Packs</p> <p>Happy Hemp Wear</p> <p>Comfy Back Knobbers</p> <p>Astrobliss Horoscopes</p> <p>Moments of Music</p>
--	---


FREE ADMISSION

AT MAHON HALL
GANGES, SALT SPRING ISLAND
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
10am - 4pm

Enjoy the sights & sounds of an Island style Christmas



ARTSPRING'S BIRDATHON 2000



On December 17, stay inside, warm and dry, while our expert birders go 'out and about' to raise money for ArtSpring.

How to go to the birds in four easy steps:

1. choose your favourite birder
 - Arthur Black
 - Linda Cannon
 - Fiona Flook
 - John & Heather Neville
 - Briony Penn
 - Ann Richardson
 - Jan Theunisz
 - Bob Weeden
 - David Fraser
2. fill in your pledge amount

I'm glad to pledge \$_____ per bird species counted. As soon as the count is done, tell me how many species the counter found.
3. let us know who you are so we can send you a tax receipt

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____
4. mail or bring your form to

Birdathon @ ArtSpring
100 Jackson Ave, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V8 (537-2125)

Young Salt Spring musicians look to the bright lights

By **SUSAN LUNDY**
Driftwood Staff

A quartet of Salt Spring rappers may have rocked the community at its November CD release party, but the group has big plans to shake up music lovers well beyond the island.

The band Get Some includes homegrown Salt Spring boys who went through Gulf Islands Secondary School together. They are: Kemal Morris, Roland Kaiser, McKinley Hlady and Ian Reid.

They have also had input from Simon Collins — son of the famous rock musician Phil Collins — and freelancer Ben Taylor, described as “awesome but a bit reclusive.”

According to Hlady, Collins “worked with us night after night, recording in his studio” before heading off overseas to pursue his own musical career.

All of the music on their Can I Get Some CD is original but, as band members readily admit, they have borrowed some beats from record instrumentals.

The tunes are catchy with some simplistic, some witty and some complex rhymes that are not particularly offensive, despite the “bad boy” image projected by the CD cover which features a nearly-nude woman. One song denounces gangster rap, another is a love song, and sex is a theme throughout.

The four young men did not grow up dreaming of musical stardom.

“I worked at regular jobs, rapping to myself,” Hlady says. He wrote rhymes in school and elsewhere, jotting down rhymes on paper napkins.

Then he and Morris started writing lyrics together; and they discovered Kaiser already had a scrapbook full of his own songs.

Reid, a close friend and self-described “class clown,” definitely never saw himself as part of a musical group. But he enjoyed listening to his buddies’ rap rhymes.

He was working at Payless, he recalls, when he made up a rhyme, stuck his head in the window of his friends’ car and recited it.

“They just laughed,” he recalls. But it was enough to springboard him into the group and Reid brings his own special talents — a lack of fear when it comes to performing.

“I was never shy to get up in front of a crowd,” he says.

Being front and centre on stage did bother Hlady, however.

“I never wanted to get up . . . I liked to rap to myself or to a friend in the corner at a party.”



GETTING OUT A CD: Get Some band members (left to right: McKinley Hlady, Kemal Morris, Ian Reid and Roland Kaiser) are featured on the cover of their new CD (I Can Get Some).

But as the group prepared for its first public show, New Year's Eve 1999, Hlady discovered his skills lay in the organizational side of things.

“While Kemal is definitely the most musically talented,” Hlady says, he describes himself as the “follow through” man. “We all have things that we shine at.”

Their first show suffered from lack of organization, Hlady recalls: “We were still recording stuff the night before we had to do it live.”

Although the New Year's performance was “technically a disaster, the crowd loved it, and it was a great learning experience,” Hlady says, and they continued to enjoy recording together.

“We were making tapes for fun,” he recalls. “And then we found people wanted to buy them.”

Unlike most bands who perform, pick up fans, and then cut a CD, Get Some went at it backwards. With only one performance under their belts, they decided to create a CD. They borrowed equipment, began a living room recording and turned to Salt Spring CD master Paul Brosseau for the finishing touches.

Hlady used “every dime” he had to finance it — spending an estimated \$8,000. But he justifies the expenditure by noting that “people pay to go to school and this has been a learning experience.”

He also feels strongly that his band has a message to tell and tunes that will sell. He is amazed by the dynamism of the group together, including Ben Taylor, and knows “there's a market for our stuff.”

In their CD — released earlier this year — all four band members bring their own musical tastes to the resulting repertoire.

Kaiser dishes up strong hip-hop sounds, Morris's musical preferences lean to the dance side, while Reid and Hlady like hip-hop, dance and “radio stuff.”

Because the CD is such a compilation, Hlady adds, listeners will “like certain songs and (not) like others.”

And because it took a long time to produce, many of the songs on it were written when band members were younger.

While Hlady refers to these songs as “juvenile stuff,” he in no way apologizes for them, but adds that they are also proud of the newer songs which focus on “deeper stuff.”

“We're tired of the hip-hop stuff that's just swearing for no reason,” Hlady says. “We're tired of the negative stuff.”

On the other side of the coin, Reid points out that they're not trying to save the world either. “We're just having fun,” he says.

However, everyone doesn't find their humour fun. The cover of their Get Some CD and the posters for their November concert upset some people. Some people tore down the posters which read “Get Some Beaver” in bold letters, and “Point Hall” printed in small letters below.

“We had a big laugh about it,” Hlady confesses. “We're not about being politically correct.”

“We expected some people to be offended by the posters,” he adds, “But we are opposed to violence against women and we don't want to be seen as sexist.”

He said listeners should take in his love song “Peaches” if they “want to know our feelings about women.”

The band has also been ques-

said, “I don't smoke marijuana, but I don't have anything against it,” adding that he feels abusing alcohol and cigarettes are worse.

He commented that Get Some band members are opposed to substance abuse and that Morris wrote a song, Intoxicated, to show that “if you are always over-indulging, you miss out on life.”

Now that their CD is out, the band is looking to get some radio time and do some more live performances. To this end they are headlining a show in Vancouver on February 22.

In the meantime, they've spread out, with three living in Vancouver, and one in Victoria. They're also keeping their day jobs, taking on several different types of work from cabinetry to bartending and car mechanics.

“Sometimes the first year really breaks up bands,” says Hlady. “But we're still completely committed . . . and we're always going to be friends. It's been a great experience and we're confident in the product.”

Christmas with

S C R O O G E

Salt Spring's Christmas
tradition with fun and
nostalgia for the entire family.

Tickets \$14/\$7

December 20, 7:00 p.m. **Special Price! \$5**

December 22, 7:00 p.m.

December 23, 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

call the ArtSpring Box Office for tickets
537-2102

The Cowichan Symphony Society
presents
THE
Victoria Symphony Orchestra's
Annual
**CHRISTMAS
POPS**

Barbara Dunn-Prosser, Soprano Solo
and
Brian Jackson, Conductor

Saturday matinee Dec. 18TH, 2:00pm
(Also Thursday evening Dec. 16TH, 8:00pm)

at the
COWICHAN THEATRE

Concert sponsored by the
Coleman Medical Clinic &
Bow Mel Chrysler

Tickets \$18.50, \$10 for students,
reduced for front rows.

Special group rates available
ON SALE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE BOX OFFICE
748-7529


Cantus at Hastings House

Diners at Hastings House will have more than gourmet food to savour on Saturday night.

Cantus, a group of 11 Early Music singers, will perform a number of a cappella selections during the cocktail hour of 6-7 p.m. at the restaurant.

Cantus, whose core of six began choral life as the Beaver Point Singers, has executed 11 public performances since June of 1998 when they thrilled the audience at a Salt Spring Singers concert.

Members are Ingrid Bauer, Judy Carney, Noni Fogarty, Richard Hayden, Janet Hoag, Bly Kaye, Wendy Kaye, Jake Watt, Sandi Wright, Jonathan Yardley and Carol Young.



Join us for the Holidays

December 16 - Cocktails with Cantus
Salt Spring's own "Early Music Singers"
Gulf Island Residents \$60 5 - course dinner

December 25 serving Traditional Christmas Dinner
December 26 open for Boxing Day Dinner

*New Year's Eve
Dinner*
followed by an evening with Deb Toole

Reservations 537-2362 or 1-800-661-9255

By ANASTACIA WILDE
Driftwood Staff

The Salt Spring community Steinway just underwent a 144-hour overhaul and oh, how sweet the sounds pouring from those 88 keys!

Victoria-based piano technician Jim Anderson — along with the understudy help of his wife Margaret and master woodworker Elaine Paul — took on the complex job about a month ago and between the three of them have some 230 hours clocked in on the meticulous repair job.

"There was some long slogging there to get it done on time," admitted Anderson, who watched with glee as virtuoso pianist Marc-André Hamelin sparked thunder and lightning during his triumphant show at ArtSpring Thursday night.

But even Hamelin's striking performance last week didn't mark the final turn of the Steinway's pegs for technician Anderson.

Hamelin's blistering rendition of Symphony for Solo Piano by C.V. Alkan was cause enough to summon Anderson on-stage at intermission to engage in another round of fine tuning the semi-concert grand.

Weeks of precision and labour-intensive craftsmanship preceded Hamelin's concert, with Anderson and crew hopping the 7:10 a.m. Swartz Bay ferry to Salt Spring for a full day at ArtSpring, then returning homeward to Victoria at 8 p.m. for night-shift duties.

Once ensconced in their private repair shop, Anderson said, the couple would work into the wee hours.

"The piano action — keyboard and frame — sailed back and forth quite a bit," explained Anderson, who recalled working 12, 14 even 17 hours a day as the deadline fast approached.

Adhering to his six-step, three-week repair schedule with the utmost care, the piano mechanic had to sugar-talk his way through the Steinway parts secretary who informed him on November 1 it would take four to seven weeks to fill his order.

"The main ordering was coming from New York and Steinway is notoriously slow," said Anderson. "I told her 'look we've got Marc Hamelin coming to town', and she put it out as a priority so we could get to work."

The beginning stages encompassed de-stringing the massive 1914 instrument and overall cabinet repair. Pinpointing the buzzing bolts and screws, and adjusting and tightening the sounding board were mandatory.

"The piano is under incredible tension," commented Anderson, who estimated a whopping 40,000 pounds of pressure on the cast iron (harp) bracing inside the gigantic piano belly. "If it wasn't for that (cast iron harp) when you tighten the strings, it would collapse."

As far back as the 1840s, pianos were equipped with the braces, Anderson acknowledged, but in Mozart's era of harpsichord pianos,

Piano wizard takes on Steinway

such cast iron harps had yet to be invented.

While waiting on the extensive — and expensive — list of piano assembly parts commanded through four different suppliers, step two of the reconditioning moved into action.

Restranging the Steinway also meant replacing the understring felts, which help to deaden the tone and take away superfluous vibration.

Interestingly, each string is divided up into seven components or modes of vibration which contribute to the overall tone of a note, the technician said.

"It's not a given that the string will straighten out. They all have to be measured and chipped up to pitch." On average, it takes three "chippings" to make it sound like a real piano.

At this point, the Steinway's action work had not been fully embarked upon, but the piano had been sufficiently improved to allow Chris Kodaly and Don Fisher their November 25 ArtSpring performance.

Meanwhile, Anderson started chomping at the bit as shipping problems had delayed his parcels' arrival from Steinway headquarters. "For some reason, our package was sent back so I was on pins and needles until I got it sent directly to my home."

By the end of November, parts in hand and time catapulting forward, the Hamelin concert beckoned just around the corner. "Finally, we start-



Jim Anderson and ArtSpring's Steinway

Photo by Anastacia Wilde

ed in earnest the actual rebuilding of the piano . . . I studied out the repair schedule and figured as long as I didn't get sick or drop the piano on my foot, things would be alright."

The technician and registered piano tuner — who also rebuilt the Cowichan Theatre's Steinway in 1998/1999 — said Steinway stopped production of the Model A piano in 1946, meaning specific parts are no longer available. "They make general parts that have to be customized and modified."

Unlike Baldwin and Yamaha, who don't get into the "nitty-gritty of what you need to know," Anderson appreciated that Steinway "opens their office and expertise to you if you are working on a concert-level piano. They have blueprints for everything."

The final steps three to six traversed a mind-boggling piano-repairers' universe, including everything from installing new key and felt and replacing key pins to polishing ivory and repairing chipped keys, to stripping odd hammer-shanks and pre-shaping hammer heads. Regulating action, installing repetitions at correct spread distances, setting key heights, rebushing damper guide rails and checking back action for bad flanges and wire screws followed suit.

Sound like a perfectionists' dream come true?

It is.

Looking over Anderson's pages of invoices and scrupulous blow-by-blow repair schedule details, lists and inventory, one can only conclude that piano design, construction, and subsequent reconstruction is every bit as tenacious as the glory of playing.

Hats off to Anderson and team!

STRESSED?
be pampered!

\$65

1 ¼ hr. REVITALIZING
FACIAL & BACK MASSAGE



Salt Springs
SPA RESORT 537-4111
1460 N. BEACH RD.



Net. Work Magic.

Free Digital Phones
on new 3 year activations

Plus: ✓ 3 month free i-web access
✓ 30 data minutes free for 3 months

are the next best thing in wireless communications. Starting now, the Internet is only as far as your data-compatible digital phone. Access your most important and time-critical information, in more places, anytime. Visit web sites, read e-mail, check stock quotes, sports scores or movie listings, even access a corporate Local Area Network (LAN), all with your digital phone.

SUPER SPECIAL



StarTAC
clip'n organizer
The perfect companion to the StarTAC phone

ORGANIZE YOUR DAY **\$99⁰⁰** Was \$349
(Limited supply)

COWICHAN
SOUND & CELLULAR
"For people on the go"
951A Canada Ave. 748-4847
Duncan Mall 715-1599

www.cowichansound.com

TELUS
Mobility
Mobility Centre
*some conditions apply

Protecting your health.

Barbara Beattie works with her detector dog Rookie and her colleagues at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. They help stop forbidden items from entering Canada that could damage our plants and animals or contaminate our food supply. This is just one of many services aimed at protecting the health of all Canadians.

To learn more about the hundreds of services available from the Government of Canada:

- Visit the **Service Canada Access Centre** nearest you
- Visit **www.canada.gc.ca**
- Call **1 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232)**,
TTY/TDD: **1 800 465-7735**

Canada





It'll be The Best Christmas Ever at middle school performance

Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) will be putting in more than its two-cents worth of holiday kick during the Christmas season with a theatrical production of The Best Christmas Ever next week.

Written by Barbara Robinson and directed by local parent Sheena Bull, The Best Christmas Ever uses the talents of some 30 school students to tell the story of how one unlikely family transforms itself over Christmas-time.

"It's the story of how non-traditional family members turn themselves into Christmas lovers through taking part in a pageant,"

said Bull, who has also directed both recent and well-received children's plays, The Elephant's Child and Annie.

The one-hour play, which Bull described as "very snappy with short lines that are easy for young children to understand," is suitable for children aged four years and up.

"The basic theme of the play is that the motley bad guys get caught up in the wonder and enchantment of Christmas more than the kids who have been doing it year after year. That's why they make it the best Christmas pageant ever."

The 11 through 13-year-old

actors mostly play children, Bull explained, but some are taking on the roles of adults for the SIMS Christmas treat.

"Island folk can look forward to thoroughly enjoying themselves and experiencing a touching Christmas moment at the same time," echoed school principal Kevin Vine.

The Best Christmas Ever runs Wednesday, December 20 at 7 p.m. and Thursday December 21 at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the middle school gym. Cost for the 60-minute play is \$4 adults and \$2 for children.

Faire set for last minute shoppers

Christmas shopping on Salt Spring wouldn't be the same without the Last Minute Christmas Craft Faire.

And this year, those who adore the final merry shuffle or just plain love to shop till they drop may find the 11th annual Last Minute Christmas Faire at Mahon Hall right up their alley.

More than 35 artists and crafters will fill the hall with everything from stocking stuffers to fine art and pottery.

In addition, guest musicians will be appearing midday throughout the weekend including the Stack Sisters, Susan Cogan, Shilo Zylbergold, Kelly Cavanagh, Jane Phillips and other surprise guests.

"Susan Cogan has been leading us through Christmas carols since the very first show," said organizer April Curtis. "Many vendors are returning from

larger Christmas shows and this is their only appearance at a local island craft faire."

The Christmas tree will be dressed in a thousand lights, said Curtis, and last-minute bargains can be found everywhere.

Complimentary food samples feature sea treats from the Fishery, salsas from Three Berry Farm and special organic cheeses from Moonstruck Cheese.

"There's some fun in knowing that this is the last faire," said Curtis. "People just relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of an island-style Christmas."

The Last Minute Craft Faire runs Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Ganges Mahon Hall from December 15 to 17, 10 to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Off Centre Stage Society, funds raised through Christmas sales support theatrical production and equipment throughout the year.

GOING ONCE: Auctioneer Ray Cadonette and helper Craig Chisholm get bidding going on this Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce umbrella at last Friday night's Rotary Club auction and dinner.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

ESCAPE WATER TORTURE. CALL US.

GULF ISLAND ALUMINUM

5" CONTINUOUS GUTTERS
SOFFITS • GUTTER GUARDS

250.537.1501

PURE WATER
The Unbottled Solution For Less Than 18¢ A Gallon

- WATER DISTILLERS • WATER COOLERS
- SHOWER & FILTER SYSTEMS
- GUARANTEED COMPLETE ARSENIC REMOVAL

NATURE'S OWN WATER LTD.

"Distillation Provides the Purest Water Available"
H. Diamond in Fit For Life

Call Anytime
1-877-480-6648
water.testers@home.com

POLAR BEAR WATER DISTILLERS

The world's most respected Water Distiller protecting your family's health

Got the Growlies?

BITE INTO A: *Baby Bear Burger* *Papa Bear Burger*
Mama Bear Burger

TRY OUR HUNGRY BEAR BELLY BUSTER BURGER!

HALIBUT • PRAWNS • COD • SCALLOPS • MOZZA STICKS • FRIES

Teddy Bear's Take-Out

BOTTOM OF GANGES HILL • 537-2578

You Too Sexy For My Hat!

ASK ABOUT OUR... BAD HAIR DAY HATS!

- Gift Certificates
- Stocking Stuffers

Book now for your New Years Eve hair appointment

MANICURES • PEDICURES

IN THE HARBOUR HOUSE HOTEL
(side entrance) 537-4404
9am-5pm Tuesday-Saturday

Gail's HAIR AT THE HOTEL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Crofton Pulp and Paper will be holding a practice Mill Evacuation on Friday, December 15, 2000.

The Emergency Evacuation horn will sound for approximately 15 minutes.

These practices are held to ensure all employees are familiar with emergency procedures.

Norske Skog Crofton

HAVE A DOG GONE MERRY CHRISTMAS!
and for your pets.....

DOG GROOMING & PET SUPPLIES

DANA
Fully certified professional dog groomer

BOOK NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

Nutro **SAVE \$3 off**

The Difference is Nutrition

on any 6.81kg bag or larger Cat or Dog Food

exp. Dec. 23rd

#1 134 Hereford Ave. (across from Pavless) 537-0744



ART IN YOUR FACE: Al-lisa McKay is a face painter extraordinaire as shown by the wearable art on Jake Bellavance. The colourful faces were spotted at the Salt Spring Centre Christmas Craft Faire.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

THE INTERNET GATEWAY TO THE GULF ISLANDS
www.gulfislands.net

Hamelin show steals the heart

By GAIL SJUBERG
Driftwood Staff

It's not often that a visiting artist to Salt Spring causes anticipation so far in advance of his arrival.

But Marc-Andre Hamelin's reputation is as vast as his country of origin — Canada — and could probably not sweep any further than it already does around the globe.

So when islanders heard he was coming to Salt Spring, the response was a swift and emphatic early sell-out of tickets.

The takers could not have been disappointed. For the price of a commuter ticket return trip on B.C. Ferries between Fulford and Swartz Bay we were taken on a luxury cruise Thursday evening, beginning with Schubert's Fantasy in C major (The Wanderer), opus 15.

It seemed as if the entire audience was frozen, some perched on the edge of their seats, blissfully stunned for this entire piece, which is known for its ability to foil the most confident and capable of hands.

From its spirited first movement, through Hamelin's perfectly unrushed Adagio, and the robust and absolutely thrilling Presto and Allegro, we were assured there was no imposter on stage.

ArtSpring had managed to accommodate another 20 listeners by placing chairs on the stage — I can't imagine what sitting a mere 15 feet from Hamelin was like.

Perhaps the opening Schubert hit the night's high note for many, but the four movements from Charles-Valentin Alkan's Symphony for Solo Piano were from a previously unheard planet altogether and, as such, stole the show with Hamelin steering the getaway rocket.

The work was full of gorgeous torment, like frantic whitecaps which cannot escape themselves and, in other places, mischievous lilt turned everything upside down. I found myself smiling at the magic, playfulness and simple, burning beauty of some passages.

Near the end, through a lightning fast presto of the Finale, it seemed the place where a mortal pilot would be expected to crash into the side of the mountain. But Hamelin did not, of course. He swooped upwards instead and then let us loose on a flight on our own.

By the end I was fighting tears of ferocious, ephemeral joy. That's what I want to hear on my deathbed!

This raw and fecund emotion was still there in the morning as I drove my daughter to school and even now, writing this, I can conjure an echo of the sensation, which trembles far beyond the realm of lead-footed words.

The Alkan prompted a spontaneous standing ovation — what else could we do?

Yet it was not only Hamelin's playing which wove him into our consciousness — he connected with us through what appeared on the surface to be a natural humility and certainly a sense that he was as glad to be able to perform for us as we were to witness it.

In the second half, it was surprising to see him come out with sheet music in his hand, especially since he was to play his own composition. He quickly explained that some of the move-

ments of his Con Intimissimo Sentimento were completely new to the stage, and fairly nascent in their creation, so that some reference to music might be required. ArtSpring in fact received the premiere of the entire composition.

Hamelin's discussion with us at this point also showed how he dispenses with humour as easily as a Liszt run.

His early compositions tended to be exceedingly difficult, he said. "I was really tired of being the only one who can play them" — so the Con Intimissimo Sentimento was written to be deliberately feasible.

(He also quipped that "This is the obligatory Canadian content portion of the program." And his first words on stage, looking at the Steinway, were "Oh, I should have worn brown.")

In explaining his aim for performers' accessibility to his music, he may have been preparing us to not expect more thunderous dazzle of the Schubert and Alkan. They were slow, evocative, pensive yet not brooding pieces, which revealed an immaculate sensitivity. The relative simplicity reminded me of how everyone goes bananas over triple and quadruple

axles executed by figure skaters, when there's so much more to be savoured in any art beyond its wizard-like feats.

I was really looking forward to the final piece, Liszt's Reminiscences de "Norma" (after Bellini), it being new to me and Liszt having an esteemed place among Romantic composers in my heart. The piece was certainly pleasant and accomplished under Hamelin's spell, but maybe I hadn't yet recovered from the Alkan, as I found it fairly unremarkable. For an encore, he treated us to Theme and Variations, Opus 89, by Cecile Chaminade, a French composer of the late 19th and first half of the 20th century.

And if anyone questions the worth of the British Columbia Arts Council or Canada Council for the Arts, those two government bodies help make this and others in the Great Performers at ArtSpring series come alive. We also benefitted from The Piano Six Project, coordinated by Colwell Arts Management, which allows famous pianists such as Hamelin and Jon Kimura Parker to perform in "isolated" communities. Galiano and Mayne islands were also privy to this tour.

Making Spirits Bright

**GARDENER'S
Citrus Handwash,**
\$10.00 ea

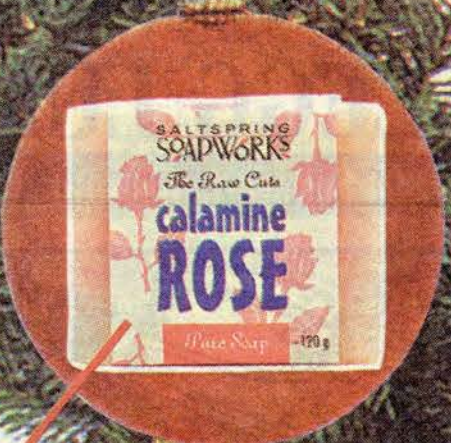


**SPA
SEAWEED SOAP**
190g \$9.00 ea

**STONE BAY
Aftershave Balm,**
125ml... \$8.00 ea



**COASTAL RAIN
SHAMPOO
& CONDITIONER**
250ml \$9.00 ea



**CALAMINE
ROSE**
120g \$5.00 ea



**SPA
INVIGORATING
SALT SCRUB**
600ml \$21.00 ea

Making a List? Checking it twice? Drop in & Pick Up
Great Bath & Body Products for all your Gift Giving Needs ...
Or choose a selection & we'll Wrap It Up for Free!
Gift Certificates Available.

SALTSPRING SOAPWORKS

DOWNTOWN GANGES • 537-2701