

# the POINTER

## Winter '86

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### WPRA News

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Eleven officers were in attendance at the WPRA Executive Meeting held on January 10, 1986, and the first major topic discussed was - you guessed it - road barriers. The WPRA had advised the CBC Fifth Estate news magazine show about our predicament, and their response was to compliment us on our perseverance and advise that they did not perceive an avenue which would be helpful, so they declined to become involved. Despite this response, there are a couple of other ideas still to be explored in our attempt to continue pressure for another route or cessation of road blockages. We are amazed at how the distance between here and Ottawa is able to muffle the communications and convince those who are not able to see the situation first-hand that everything has been resolved, so we must keep after those who make the decisions.

Gloria Graham filed the only report at the meeting, outlining activities of the Langford Advisory Planning Commission during the summer aimed at revising the Western Community Official Settlement Plan. The Commission recommended a change in zoning categories which could have encouraged more residential development by dropping land requirements per residence to five acres from the existing 29 acres per land parcel or residence. However, the proposals were unpopular and another public meeting will be held January 28 in Langford to further discuss the existing Highlands Plan and possibly incorporate it into the Official Settlement Plan.

In terms of social activity, things have been quiet for a few weeks, but we can look forward to a murder-mystery night in February, another Happy Hour in March, a 50's/60's dance in April and a pub night in May.

Sam Young has joined the Willis Point Fire & Recreation Commission. He is also involved in a fledgling organization called the Highlands Planning Committee, dedicated to searching out and analyzing alternative uses and development of the Highlands.

Our Regional Director, Rick Kasper, has supplied a copy of a water quality/quantity survey being circulated in the Sooke area, wondering if we would like to promote a similar survey in the Highlands. It was decided that we would use this questionnaire as a basis for a local neighbourhood survey at some appropriate time, with the intention of analyzing the results ourselves before passing any information over to another level of government.

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Late in March some of your neighbours will be appearing in court, charged with allegedly ignoring and bypassing DND road barriers. The incidents inspiring the charges have mainly resulted from citizens trying to impress upon DND and users of the range that they live up to the commitments made to us to open the road EXACTLY on the hour and half-hour for no less than 10 minutes.

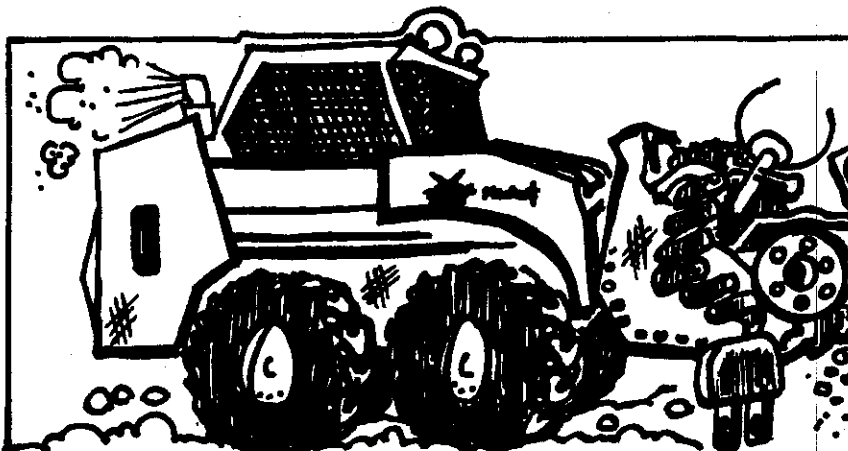
The Hall is being repainted. The cost of the resurfacing and painting are such that anyone having business in the Hall is now REQUESTED TO OBTAIN PERMISSION from Dave Carley before taping, pinning, nailing or otherwise attaching anything to surfaces in the Hall.

Concern was expressed about motorized vehicles digging ruts in the Hall field. Barriers will be placed shortly, but please remember that we are not equipped to grade and replant the playing field if it is damaged, so those who hope to use it for recreation during the rest of the year will suffer most if motor vehicles are driven on the grass when the ground is soft and muddy.

Bruce Wilkinson

## Calendar

<u>Calendar</u>		April 22 & 23	CPR Course Bill Wright (652-3254)
Sat. Feb 22nd	<u>Murder Mystery</u> Barry Peeke-vout 652-5050	Sun. April 27	<u>Giant Garage Sale</u> The Blunts
Fri. March 21	<u>Happy Hour</u> Moore's (652-0525) Youngs (652-3859)	May	<u>Scouts Pub Night</u> Bill Haley
Sat. April 12 (or 19th)	<u>50's &amp; 60's Dance</u> Butcharts (652-1731) Crawleys (652-0360)	May	<u>Pointer</u> Pat Sloan
		June	<u>Hilltopper</u> Bob Halsey (652-4195)



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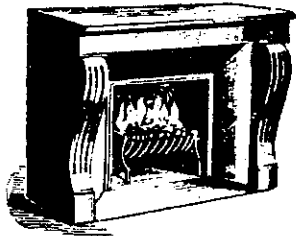
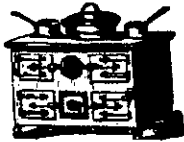
6550 Mark Lane  
RRMS VICTORIA, B.C. 652-3519

# Firefighter News

## FIRE FIGHTER NEWS

The Fire Department was able to rescue Santa out of the trees and get him to the wild Children's Xmas part to be attacked by the locals. We had our wires crossed and nearly missed St. Nick, but with the fire truck wailing off down the road and the chief hard following - it's Heal's we did it!

Bill Wright went off to the Vancouver Fire College for a week's worth of extensive instruction, which he has passed on to the other members of the department.



## CHIMNEY FIRES: A REAL THREAT

Everyone at Willis Point who has an open fire-place, airtight stove, or a wood/oil stove should keep a constant vigilance against soot and creosote build-up. The build up of creosote which is increased when burning moist wood in a slow condition (ie an airtight stove) can eventually ignite and cause a hot rapid fire. The hot rapid fire can then cause serious weakening of stove pipes or an escape of fire through poor masonry conditions - causing a major fire in your home.

The answer of course, is to have your stove, stove piping, and chimneys cleaned and checked on a regular basis.

Many concerned homeowners are now installing water sprinklers near their wood burning appliances. This is a wise and inexpensive bit of insurance. Another invaluable safeguard to consider is a smoke alarm on each level of your house - check them several times per year to ensure that they are operating properly. All homes should have at least one ABC fire extinguisher and family members should be instructed in safe and correct use.

Recently, we have heard a great deal about family emergency evacuation plans from the home - a good thing to practice.

If you do need the Fire Department - alert everyone to get out of the house, close the doors behind you and call the emergency number. Give full details. It is a good idea to check that all emergency numbers are posted on your telephone. We have stickers - and a Department member will be pleased to give you some.

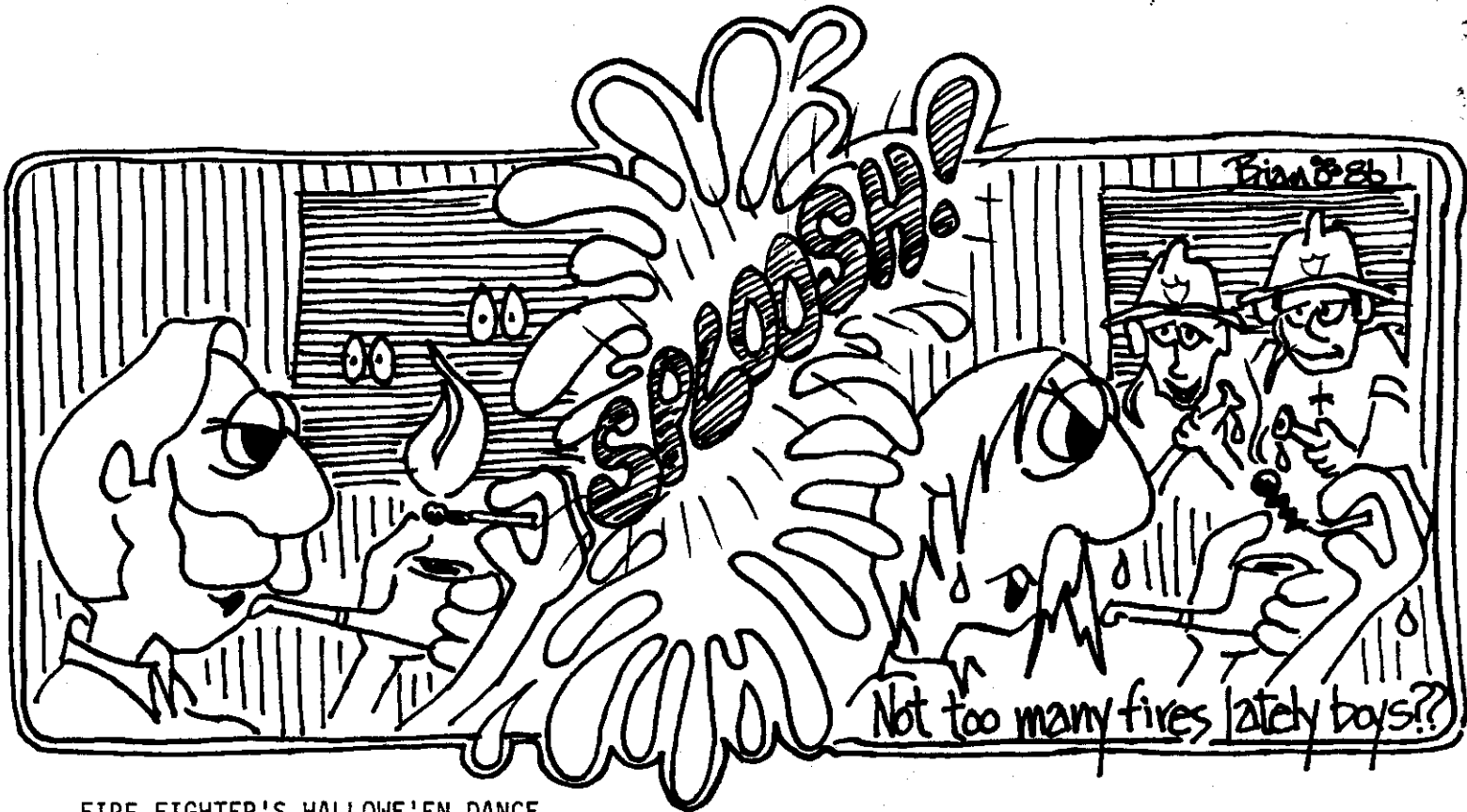
W. Ian Blaney

If New Years' Day is any indication, we'll be rather active this year. We were called out to the fallen line wires on Willis Point Road. In the cold wind and around the blazing wires, we set up a perimeter around the area and directed traffic until the wires grounded out and blew the main breakers. It was interesting (if not humbling) to see the hardy crew arrive wearing just light vests and the rest of us in our heavy turn-out gear and us still shivering. How do you do it, Kathy?

We still need new members. Men or women are both welcome. The Willis Point Volunteer Fire Department is an equal opportunity employer. Come on out Wednesday nights, no obligation to stay.

There you go until the next Pointer -

Bill Wright  
Deputy Chief



#### FIRE FIGHTER'S HALLOWE'EN DANCE

Well, the people who came to the Fire Fighter's Hallowe'en Dance last year sure had fun! Don't you just wish you had come too, and seen your unrecognizable neighbours? Thanks to Judge Cameron Young Q.C. resplendent in his very best wig and gown; to Bruce Wilkinson for the imaginative decorations which by sheer willpower stayed attached to the ceiling; to Dianne ("Bunny") Twamley and Dave Carley (Shame! No Costume!) for tending bar; to Vern McConnell for arranging the lively music; to Pat Sloan for the variety of prizes; and to all the Fire Fighters for the acres of yummy food. Most of the prizes were "used" at the time, enhancing the general jollity of the evening. ('hem! 'hem!)

The Best Man Award went to Brian McCandless for his creative ingenuity in his scare-them-away "Ghostbusters" garb. Best Woman to Dana Grieve as the mysterious Victorian Lady. Runners-up for Best Couple came naturally to the Creepy Crawleys in their ladybird guises. Other, less traditional prizes were awarded during the evening. Somehow, the party was gate-crashed by three tawdry women complete with tins of cat food, candles, suitcases and other under-the-bridge treasures. Out of sympathy, I guess, the Judge awarded Annabella Butchart, Karen Scott and Pat Milloy the "Best Bag Ladies". Last seen the ladies were swigging dividing their prize out back of the Fire Hall. The "Best Costume in the Face of Adversity", otherwise known as the "Perspiration Prize" went to the creature of the Dark Lagoon, later identified as Bill Wright. And the prize for "Ludicrousness Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" went to 'have-a-beer, eh' Gary Graham in his typically Canadian guess-my-game sports fan costume. The evening's oscars were highlighted by the Best Group and Best Couple. The Best Group Award winners had a distinct advantage in being the only group. Vacuums, coloured flashing lights and sundry attached paraphernalia - the Ghostbusters! Brian & Joan McCandless, Bob & Gaybrielle Halsey, Vern & Jan McConnell. And the Best Couple "Good Taste, Bad Taste" prize was awarded to the Crest toothpaste and toothbrush Larry and Lorraine Pommen. In a recent Pointer interview the Pommens pleaded for secrecy. "No details, please!" "Costumes now burned." Enough said. Said enthusiastic party-goer Gary Butchart when asked to comment on the evening's activities - "Well, nothing that could be printed." So fellow Willis Pointers, you just had to be there.

Pat Sloan

# Classifieds

Willis Point

GIANT GARAGE SALE : SUNDAY APRIL 27

Outdoors 10:00am - 3:00pm

- \* Clean-up for Spring!
- \*\* Your sales are your own profit
- \* Only \$5.00 per table. This covers Hall rental and advertising. Share a table if you have only a few items.

Are you interested? A positive commitment and your \$5.00 must be in by April 1st. Just contact one of the following so we can organize this new event.

Shannon Blunt	652-5668
Ivy Blunt	652-2190
Dianne Twamley	652-3519
Sharon Pine	652-4638

"Don't delay, book today"

"Your junk is someone else's treasure"

We need someone to run the bar and sell hot dogs during the day. Please let Dianne Twamley know if you want to be of help. Profit on food and beverages goes to the WPRA.

## RUNNING CLINIC

"Hilltopper 86" - That's right folks, its time for the Hilltopper Clinic. Gary Butchart is offering two clinics this year.

1. If you are a beginner and interested in learning the how-to's and how-not-to's of running, but not necessarily run in the "Hilltopper".
2. For those who wish to run the "Hilltopper" fun run in June 1986.

Call Gary Butchart if you wish to participate in either clinic - the sooner the better and the more the merrier. 652-1731

G. Butchart

## TUESDAY NIGHT EXERCISES

Did you have a good Christmas? Eat lots! Gained inches?! Well, come on out to the Hall Tuesday evenings at 7:45 p.m. and join our workout. It's good fun and conditions your body too. We've had good turnouts in the past, but new faces are always welcome.

We're starting something new in February, for a bit of variety. It's called NO HOP AEROBICS which eliminates the jumping. Sounds interesting, so join us and check it out.

Dianne Twamley

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# Roads Report

## Willis Pointers go to court!

As many of you are aware, two more residents have been charged with trespassing on D.N.D. property at the Heals Range road closure. It all started on Tuesday Oct. 22, 1985 after 3:00 p.m. Line-ups at both ends waited for the 3:00 p.m. "on-the-hour" opening of the road and when this did not happen, tempers started to flare. Several minutes later, we took down the barrier ourselves - Mark Twamley up near Durrance Lake and Dave Carley, who was driving the fire truck, down by the S truns. The school bus filled with our children was also waiting. Once the cable was down, Frank Markut proceeded through. This resulted in both Frank and Mark receiving their summons to appear in court.

We plan on fighting this issue, because, as many of you are aware, the road is not always opened at the proper times as earlier worked out with the D.N.D. Sometimes they even close it early.

Where do we go from here? What do we do? First of all - if anyone remembers being in those two line-ups, please let us know as we need you as witnesses to verify the time. We must also start pushing the government to get our new road built. We pay high enough taxes! The community needs your support. Any suggestions welcomed.

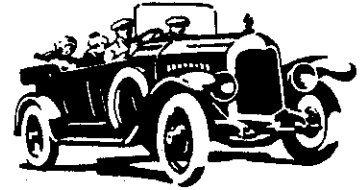
Dianne Twamley  
652-3519

## PRESS TIME UPDATE:

Major Emery reports that the shoot will be in full operation "all day, every day, for February, March, etc. etc." Be warned! To avoid blood pressure problems, give yourself enough time to reach the gates at the scheduled opening times.

Major Emery wants to be informed of any infractions of the opening/closing times of the gates. If you have a problem, call him at 380-4080 and also keep a written memorandum of your observations.

The Court date appearance for Mark and Frank has been set at March 21st.



## CUBS & SCOUTS NEWS

The Beavers and Cubs have been a noisy, busy lot during the past few months. With their first bottle drive, they fanned out over Willis Point like a plague of locusts and collected two pick-up trucks full of beer bottles, cans, and pop bottles. Thanks everyone, for donations. The kids have held wild parties - I couldn't sleep for nights after Hallowe'en and the scary costumes. The Christmas party was as equally well attended and enjoyed. Thankyou to Bob Halsey and Santa for your kind and generous donation. Also the Cubs participated in J.O.T.A. (Jamboree On The Air) and managed to contact other scouts via ham radio in Florida, Alberta, and B.C.

It was a soggy weekend for the sleep-over in October, but we all survived the night hikes (and the food!).

Our Jan. 12th bottle drive netted another truck load of assorted bottles and cans.

The Cubs will be aiding a Venturer Scouts Search and Rescue team on a week-end long exercise, by acting as "lost boys" at Willis Point. So - if you chance upon strangers wandering in and out of the bush and over the hills with glazed looks on their faces - those are just the leaders. Thanks for your assistance Pat Sloan, Jason Funnell, and Irro Korhonen. Anyway, now off into the bush .....

Bill Wright

## CHRISTMAS IS OVER!

Such a fun and happy season. I am taking this opportunity to say "thank you" all for your great support towards the Children's Party. First thanks to the whole cast for such good work. And thanks to Joanne, Michelle and Jeanna for help with the props. Not to forget the kitchen and bar workers Art and Carmen Moore, Gabrielle and Bob Halsey for their great yearly support. And if Annabella Butchart, Anne Young, and Joan McCandless hadn't helped with the play, I couldn't have done it at all. And more thanks to Santa and his elves, who busy as they are, never forget to give Willis Point kids (of all ages) a big thrill. And thanks to the Fire Department for their annual support and limosene service for Santa. Looking forward to seeing all of you again next Christmas.

Joan Wright

DEAR EDITOR:

Of the many volunteer organizations that are so vital to B.C. communities, none is more important than the local volunteer Fire Department. The Willis Point community is fortunate in having an extremely efficient volunteer Fire Department staffed by an amazingly dedicated group of local residents. It takes true dedication for each of these members to put aside 2 or 3 hours each Wednesday evening. That works out to 51 practices per year, regardless of weather, personal plans, ball games, etc., to help our community and to help lower our insurance rates. Old age, residence changes and certain infirmities has terminated some of the former Department members. However, I hope others will either be interested or concerned enough to join and enjoy our educational and social experience. At times, it "ain't no fun" getting cold and soaking wet, wavering 2 storeys high on ladders, cleaning and hanging hoses, reviving a dummy, or staggering under the load of a 40-lb air pack. It is more rewarding, I assure you, than 3 lost hours in front of the "boob" tube.

Charlie Bonner

## THE GREAT WILLIS POINT MURDER MYSTERY

February 22nd, at the Hall.

There is a mystery in them thar Willis Point Hills. A cold-blooded murder is about to be committed and it will be up to you to don your Sherlock Holmes cape and play detective in solving the mystery. There are motives galore, such as love, money, greed, and real estate manipulation. Perhaps it will finally take a lawyer to solve the case. Then again, it may be through your own sleuthing abilities that the motive, weapon used, and the killer are determined in this dastardly deed. There may be an important clue in what you have just read, so carefully read it again. Remember it, bring your friends and we will see you at the Hall, February 22nd, for the Great Willis Point Murder Mystery Night.

Entry fee \$3.00 per person. Includes prizes and snacks. Adults only, please.

Barry Peek Vout

## FAMILIES CALL ON US FOR PRESCRIPTIONS

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## \* Highlands Update \*

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A highlight of the Highlands fall season was the official opening of the Caleb Pike Homestead. Octogenarian Violet Pike Blanshard, who was born there near the turn of the century, flew out from Edmonton to cut the ribbon on her grandfather's homestead. After the ceremony, she and other descendents of Caleb Pike and members of the Holmes family who followed them, mingled with officials, well wishers, and the media, sustained themselves with fine fare from many Highland kitchens, and reminisced about good times in the little red schoolhouse just down the road.

Recognition of the quality and importance of the homestead's restoration is to be given by Victoria's Hallmark Society at their annual award night, Feb. 17, in the Newcombe Auditorium. Meanwhile the caretaker house for the Caleb Pike Community Centre, a replica of Frank Gregory's Fizzle Lake homestead has been taking shape as enthusiastic Katimavik participants from Quebec and Ontario have learned the craft of log building under the supervision of Jean Belanger and Ron Jenkins.

The efforts of Maureen Reynolds and Ev Andrew produced a successful Halloween party at the Pike House, attended by weirdos from this and other planets, including a fierce and frightening trio of black garbed, pointy hatted, three and a half foot high witches!

According to weather recorder Kerry Joy, the memorable rainstorm which hit us early in the New Year dropped a record five inches on the Highlands in one continuous thirty hour onslaught, while falling trees in the ensuing gales tore out power lines throughout the area. The falling of trees last week by the Highways Dept. to widen the "Dardenelles", on Millstream Road, provided a firewood bonanza for many and pickups lined the road while chain saws roared into the night.

Upcoming events include a Women's Film Night at the Pike House, Feb. 10th (look for posters) and a mid-February pruning and orchard rehabilitation workshop in the Heritage Orchard beside the Pike House (phone Doug Andrew, 478-6489 for information). We hope to see many Willis Pointers at both functions.

Nancy McMinn



# POINT BLANK

Happy (albeit belated) New Year to all at Willis Point, especially those in the cold dark trying to line up the arrows on the Anacin bottle on New Year's morning. Thanks to our valiant Fire Department for their efforts on New Year's Day with the brush fire caused by the fallen power lines. Thank you Bob Hughes, who constucted two new barbeques for the Hall, from "found" materials (Charlie Bonner's old hot water tank). We hope that the two new fixtures stay put, unlike their predecessors which seemed to have picked up and walked away. David Carley wishes to remind everyone decorating the Hall to please check with him before starting. Apparently, almost all the wall damage was from masking tape, scotch tape, etc. And now that it's all painted, let's keep the Hall as fresh-looking for as long as possible. Congratulations to our Writer in Residence, Sam Young, for his recent book FORESTS, a handsome volume indeed. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this Pointer, and to Georgina Farmer for typing it out, and Alison Pause for distribution. Well - Spring is coming - goodbye slippery roads, power outages, no water, too much water; hello to longer evenings and vegetation management (slash burning, lawns, weeds).

Anybody out there feeling the urge to be published? Try your hand at an article for the Pointer!

Pat Sloan

## SPECIAL HAPPY HOUR!!!

Proceeds to the Mark and Frank Legal Fund.

Further benefits to ALL Residents.

Valentine's Day - Feb.14th

5.00pm - "whenever"

## NEW WILLIS POINTERS

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1st Dec. 1985  | Welcome Bryan Mark - proud parents are Grant and Susan Twamley. |
| 10th Jan. 1986 | Welcome Erin Adelle - proud parents are Jerry and Janet Tombu.  |

