

Congratulations to Janine Twamley

Janine had a fine showing at the BC Provincial Synchronized Swim Competition February 23-25, 1996. She did exceptionally well, placing 1st in Figures, Solo and Duet (with Sarah Bushey) and 2nd on Team. Because of her fine showing, Janine was presented with the 15-17 Aggregate Trophy for the Province. Janine also did well at the Western Divisionals in Saskatoon. Good luck at the Canadian Nationals in Calgary, May 4-12, 1996.



Photo: Dianne Twamley

Pub'N Dart Nite

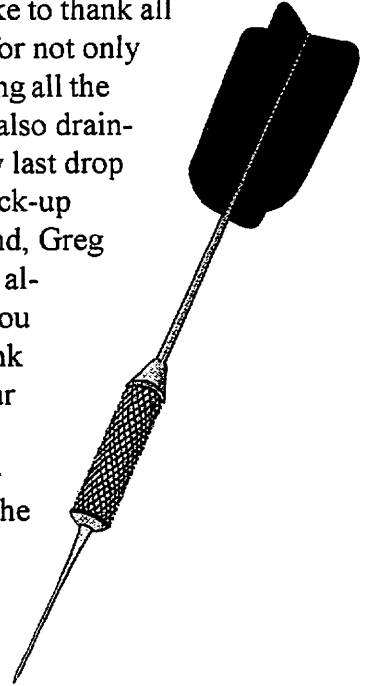
This was a great success, enjoyed by both pubbers & darters. It was well patronized by our Willis Pointers and their friends. We were pleased to meet a number of Butchart Gardens personnel, managed to make the 32 team maximum, using some strong arm tactics on every available woman we could find - thank you, ladies.

The originality prize goes to Joel Cotter & Brian McCandless for perfecting a new way to "diddle to the middle". It involved both of them simultaneously, standing on one leg & shooting their darts underarm into the board!

Our grand prize winners were the very competent team of Bernadette Boydell and Fuzz Cracknell (following in his mother's footsteps). The runners up were Kathy Ilott and mystery partner. They were victorious after a long battle with husband Ken Ilott and partner Linda Parker who were in fine form when they destroyed Joel and myself earlier (completely sapped our morale, actually, and that's why we never got past the second round)!!

Big thanks to Dean Hyland for organizing and cooking an interesting variety of pub snacks at very reasonable prices & to Bill Wright for his unobtrusive and willing help. Also many thanks to Karen Scott who very efficiently buys all the liquor, bartends on the nights, and tallies the money after. She, in turn

would like to thank all patrons for not only consuming all the keg, but also draining every last drop of the back-up beer! And, Greg McInnis, although you don't drink beer, your valiant contributions to the evening have decreed that you



henceforth are to be known as the Sambucca Master! Uwe Pause & Ken Ilott, thank you for your bar help.

And what a bar! Dave Connor has crafted a fabulous bar, so easy to work behind and so attractive. It is a real asset to the hall. Thanks Dave, for your time, effort and talent.

More thanks this time to Bob Scott, who masterminded the draw sheet and directed dart traffic for the evening, and his aides Fuzz Cracknell, Ken and Kathy Ilott and Gerry Gorling. Bob Halsey tried to help but has been summarily dismissed from his job, as he lost one name, strayed too often from his post in order to hunt out female

continued on page 3

to the Point

The week of April 22 to 28 was Volunteer week and I believe it is an excellent time to recognize the efforts of all of the volunteers that help make Willis Point such a wonderful community to live in. At the risk of forgetting someone, I have printed all of the names of our community volunteers. At Willis Point the volunteers help organize the hall. Volunteers help pay the bills, by putting on the giant Hilltopper every year. The daunting task of organizing the run, the food and of course the auction only comes to fruition because of the unbelievable dedication of relatively few volunteers who do this year after year. It was volunteers who raised the money and built the Tennis Courts and Playground. It is volunteers who answer all fire and medical emergency calls, and to enable them to do this well. They spend many hours and much energy to learn skills from first aid to using air brakes on an ongoing basis. At a time of distress they stop what ever it is they are doing to answer each and every call. And there is more to being a fire fighter at Willis Point - they also write specifications for new trucks, plan innovative ways to get

water into the community and map out emergency response tactics. The executive of the Willis Point Community Association also volunteers their time and expertise to deal with, not only the mundane housekeeping but also a myriad of political issues that face the community on an ongoing basis. The Fire Commission and Recreation Committee also volunteers their time and effort to help plan the budget as well as being responsible for managing the fire department and setting rates through the budget. They too serve the community if only from behind the scenes. Lastly but not least I want to commend those that volunteer their time and energy to the Pointer. Time and time again the same people come through with their updates, stories and comments. There are people who help me put it all together, people who print it and people who distribute it.

Together the volunteer force of Willis Point provides the community with services and expertise that residents in larger communities have to pay for with their taxes. Three cheers to them all!!!

*Bernadette Boydell
Editor 652-5032*

Ida Don Schuckman, Gary Butchart, UWE PAUSE, Dean Huland, Joan Wright, Neil Tregear, MaIcom Smith, Gaybrielle Halsey, Karen Scott, bernadette boydell, Joyce Menzies, IAN BLANEY JR, Dave Connor, Pat Cracknell, Larry Resnick, KEN ILOTT, Ioan McCandless, ERIC HOEL, TONY BOYDELL, Paul Williams, Darren Pine, Art Jackson, Connie McInnis, KATHY CRAWLEY, Bob Scott, Sam Young, Lois Louo, Dave Carley, kathy ilott, bob halsey, Alan Cracknell, Pat Williams, Jason Funnell, Bill Wright, Annabella Butchart, Katie Cotter, Uern McConnell, LISA CONNOLLY, Ken Leighton, ELEANOR SMITH, Denise Tregear, Fuzz Cracknell, Ian Blaney Sr, Joel Cotter, Sydney Bonner, brian mccandless

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WILLIS POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Tony Boydell

BEST OF STITCH

Pat Cracknell

HILL TOPPER

Gaybrielle Halsey

WILLIS POINT HISTORY

Ken Leighton

SAANICH INLET

Jason Funnell

Letters to the Editor

Comments, letters and articles should be submitted to the editor at 6877 Mark Lane, Victoria, V9E 2A1. Minor editorial changes may be made. Visual art has to be original by the person credited and be suitable for photocopy. Please call me if you have any questions.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

July 1, 1996

October 1, 1996

November 1, 1996

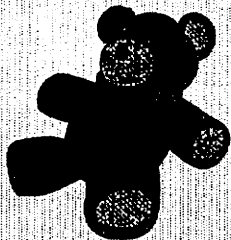
BABY-SITTING REGISTRY

Brittany Tregear is 14 years old and has successfully completed two baby-sitting courses. She has lots of experience with one to six year old children. Brittany prefers not to 'sit outside of the Point or late on school nights. For more information please call Brittany Tregear at 652-6893.

Call Karissa Crawley.

She is 14 years old and has successfully completed her Red Cross baby sitting course and Standard First Aid. She is experienced with young and older kids. Her phone no is 652-0360

**Call Lacey for all
your
Baby-
sitting
needs!**



Lacey is 12 years old successfully completed the Red Cross baby sitting course. She is experienced with young kids and loves children. Her number is 652-0360

**Tanis Herriot will
baby-sit for you!**

Call her at 652-5478. Tanis is 14 years old and has her St. John's Baby-sitting, CPR, as well as, the Red Cross Life-saving II certificates. She has experience minding children from babies to 10 year olds.

forms to put his stickers on! Everybody mentioned so far, also helped out at set-up, plus Jack & Linda Parker, Lisa Connelly, Don Lovo, Brian McCandless, Joel Cotter, Darren Pine, Don Gorling, Tony Boydell - thank you all. That bar was pretty heavy. We had a small, but very select (!) clean-up crew - Dean Hyland, Bob Halsey, Bill Wright, Tony Boydell & Bob Scott - thank you guys. If I've missed anyone, I'm sorry, tell me when you see me.

Our night was so successful that we raised \$508.00 which is to be used to buy a beer fridge for the bar. No more lugging those barrels around, and no more cold, wet hands for the bartenders.

So thanks, Pointers, it was lots of fun. See you next time.

Gaybrielle Halsey

**The
Hilltopper
is coming!**

**Don't forget
to register or
pass on the
registration form
to your
Runner, Walker, or
Jogger friends!**



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WILLIS POINT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Community Issues

Since the last edition of The Pointer, your executive has continued to deal with several issues affecting the community.

These are:

- Expansion of the regional composting facility at the Hartland Landfill with access off Willis Point Road;
- Restructuring of the Electoral Area to realign it with appropriate existing municipal structures;
- Library Membership;
- FAMA development activities;
- Illegal garbage dumping in the community;
- Block Parent Program.

Expansion of the Regional Composting Facility

The environmental/social review (ESR) of the regional composting facility which had been required by Saanich as a condition of zoning approval, was completed and released by the Westland Group in March. This review includes the results of the traffic impact study that evaluated impacts of the proposed facility on Willis Point, West Saanich and Hartland Roads, as well as on the proposed internal (to Hartland Landfill) road system. It also includes an assessment of the potential impacts on surface and groundwater, both on- and off-site, of leachate and other run-off from the composting facility.

Saanich reviewed the draft ESR and requested that Westland Resources, the consultants, prepare an Adden-

dum to address some additional concerns. The next step in the process is for Saanich to formally initiate the rezoning. Saanich Council will likely review the ESR at their meeting on Monday, May 6th and begin the rezoning process a week later. The Advisory Committee (announced in the last Pointer) has been asked to track the process and to prepare a position paper on behalf of the community that can be introduced into the rezoning process.

The Restructure Study

We are still waiting for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the CRD to begin work on the Restructure Study. They are expected to establish a Restructure Committee with representatives from the Willis Point area. The main tasks of the committee is to advise the Capital Regional District on Terms of Reference for the Study, it will hold public meetings to receive input from residence on what they would like to see as well as oversee the preparation of a consultant's report. The Willis Point Advisory Committee will contribute to the Restructure Committee process. If anyone else is interested in being involved in this process, please contact **Larry Resnick at 652-8278.**

Library Membership

If you were at the Annual General Meeting last fall you will remember that we voted to become part of the Greater Victoria library system, rather than the Vancouver Island Regional (VIR) system to which we currently belong. Since then, there has been a great deal of talk but no action, principally around costs. The Greater Victoria Library recently proposed a fee structure to the CRD but too late for it to be included in this year's tax rolls. This means that for this next year we are still in the Vancouver Island Regional Library. Although the

proposed fee is negotiable (according to our Director, Larry West) it is interesting to note that at \$33.99 per capita, it is \$11.00 more expensive than the cost of belonging to the VIR library!

FAMA Development Activities

If you are a user of the trails at "Red Gates" or behind the firehall, you will already know about the wholesale environmental destruction that has gone on in the name of soil testing by FAMA. Although it is their land, and therefore FAMA has a legal right to undertake whatever activities they choose to do, the area is seen by many as having ecological values as well as historic trail uses. It is also, of course, immediately adjacent to the new provincial park. FAMA faxed me a letter to all residents on March 20th (see this Pointer for the full text) and met with the WPCA Executive Committee on Tuesday April 9th to explain their intentions. The issue about the soil testing was thoroughly explored and Sam Young provided an eloquent commentary on the ecological destruction. FAMA reiterated their intent to involve Willis Point residents in their planning process and promised to present some options by June.

(See FAMA letter to Willis Point Residents on page 6)

Illegal Garbage Dumping

The problem continues with people coming into the community and dumping their garbage - the "boulder" area of Mark Lane seems to be a favourite spot. The CRD Enforcement Unit is committed to helping us with this problem and have already tracked down a couple of offenders. They will also assist with removal of the garbage.

If you see anyone who you think is dumping garbage, please make a note

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Willis Point Community Association, Executive

CRD Director:	Larry West	478-5332
Chair:	Tony Boydell	652-5032
Vice Chair:	Paul Williams	652-0223
Treasurer:	Alan Cracknell	652-6345
Recording Secretary:	Lois Lovo	652-9612
Corresponding Secretary:	Gillian Jackson	652-0472
Membership Secretary:	Ida von Schuchman	652-0050
Member-at-Large:	Denise Tregear	652-6893
Member-at-Large:	Dean Hyland	652-3126
Fire and Rec. Rep:	Dave Carley	652-3207

Executive meetings are normally held the first Monday of every month, 7:30pm at the Community Hall. Any member of the Willis Point Community Association is welcome to attend.

Other Willis Point Contacts:

Aerobics Instructor:	Katie Cotter	652-2039
FAMA Negotiations:	Denise Tregear	652-6893
Fire Cheif:	Vern McConnell	652-2996
Fire Committee/Recreation Commission - Chair:	Gary Butchart	652-1731
Hall Custodian:	Sydney Bonner	652-1588
Hartland Surplus Lands and Landfill:	Fuzz Cracknell	652-6516
Pointer Editor:	Bernadette Boydell	652-5032
Pointer Publisher:	Jason Funnell	652-4195
Tennis & Playground Committee	Eleanor Smith	652-5590
Commonwealth Nature Legacy Park Committee Chair	Sam Young	652-3859

of their licence number and report it to any member of your Executive Committee, and we will take action. Also, if you come across any new garbage, please let us know.

Block Parent Program

After a recent, disturbing incident in the community, your Executive feels that it is time to start a Block Parent Program. Willis Point is not the quiet retreat that it once was. There are many unknown vehicles and faces in the community and some may pose a potential risk to our kids. Denise Tregear has volunteered to take on this task by talking to the community liaison officer in the RCMP about such a program.

Subsequently, she will be looking for volunteers. It is important to note that you do not have to be a parent to participate but your house should be in a prominent location and you will have to undergo a brief security check. Please call Denise at 652-6893 if you are interested.

Finally, there have been a couple of changes in the Executive Committee after Eleanor Smith and Connie McInnis both resigned because of other commitments. The new appointments are temporary and will run through to the AGM in the fall. Gillian Jackson has taken on the job of Corresponding Secretary and Ida von Schuckman the job of Membership Secretary. Gillian and Ida have both been active in representing the community's interests in the past and their experience is welcomed at a time when we are faced with so many issues. Many thanks to the other people who had also offered their help.

*Tony Boydell
Chair WPCA*

**The following is a letter from FAMA HOLDINGS LTD.
to Willis Point Residents:**

Willis Point Residents
c/o Mr. Tony Boydell, Chair
Willis Point Community Association

Dear Willis Point Residents:

RE: Activity on FAMA Lands - Partridge Hills

During the Tod Inlet Consensus Process held several years ago, two main issues were raised by Willis Point Community representatives:

- 1. further development should provide a new source of potable water for the residents of Willis Point; and*
- 2. any new development would require careful planning to prevent sewage waste from being a concern to Willis Point residents.*

In view of these concerns, Fama Holdings Ltd. is currently conducting a number of technical studies and tests on its lands and has retained Moodie Consultants and Broadmead Planning to assist in this process. Depending upon results of field work and related studies, a carefully planned concept for development may be proposed which will be discussed with the Willis Point community.

The first stage of work is to resolve the technical requirements to dispose of sanitary sewage and to provide water. This requires a significant amount of field work to establish the soil and other conditions of the site.

We intended to meet with the Willis Point Community Association executive before the field work began to introduce Mr. Steve Zuliani of Moodie Consultants and Mr. Merv Mawson of Broadmead Planning and Development to discuss Fama's intentions and process. As we will not be meeting until April 9th, we felt it appropriate to provide some information by letter.

The first phase of field work commenced in early March and could continue through to early April. This involves some surveying of the site and digging test holes with an excavator and by hand at various locations on Fama's land. We have instructed the individuals completing the field work to take extra care to leave the site in a safe state.

Once our consultants have determined the options of how the Fama site could be developed, we will like to work closely with the Willis Point community to review the concepts and to receive input to help refine the development layout.

If you or other residents have any questions at this time, please call either Merv Mawson at 658-5200 or Steve Zuliani at 1-604-873-6418.

Please circulate this letter as you feel is appropriate. We look forward to meeting with you and the executive.

Yours sincerely,

FAMA Holdings
Keith A. Hale
Vice President, Finance

WPVFD - Hot Flash

If you wonder who the big New Zealander is running around the area, saying "G' Day Mate", It's Ian Blaney the younger. Welcome back the wandering Blaney. We wait to hear your tales from down under.

The department has just hosted an inter-department seminar with the BC Forest Service on Urban Interface fires. Taking part were Willis Point, Highlands and the Shirley Fire Department.

Thanks to Pat Hayes from the Forest Service for his informative presentation. A very special thanks to Dean for his coffee and goodies that kept the evening interesting especially when the great billow of smoke came from the oven. Was that a rank 2 or a rank 5 smoke?

Three fire fighters (Ian, Bill and Vern) will have taken part in a weekend long seminar in Chemainus, on new technology's in fighting fires with foam.

We have been called out to two fires in the last short while. Both fires were small scrap fires lit by your neighbours. Please, a word on fires, **a permit is required for all fires!** You can get one any Wednesday evening at fire practice. Requirements of the permit is that you remain with the fire at all times, if you need to leave it put it out and relight it when you come back. We may think we are isolated but the reports are coming in from the Malahat and Brentwood.

Watch for information on the upcoming fire department Open House this fall. It is going to be a big one. The department is on the lookout for new members! We are down to 19 fire fighters. We are an equal opportunity employer, having both male and female members. We had only three members respond to one of the calls the other day, as it was during the day when most people are out of the area at work. So if you are around the area during the day we would sure like to talk to you about joining.

Bill Wright

4 good reasons why you should get a fire permit before burning grass, brush or debris

1

Fire permits are issued free of charge. It doesn't cost you anything to get one before you burn, and it could cost you a lot if you burn without one.

2

They're easy to get. Just stop in at your fire department and tell them what you'll be burning, where you'll be burning it, and when. That way when the reports of smoke come in, the dept. will know it's a controlled fire.

3

There are a lot of laws pertaining to the burning of grass, brush and debris. When you apply for your permit, the dept. will tell you what they are, and suggest ways you can burn safely. Things like

- Burn on a calm day with little wind
- Burn before ten in the morning or after five at night — the coolest, dampest times of the day
- Use an incinerator if possible. One made of metal covered with heavy wire mesh with holes not larger than 1/4 inch.
- Make sure your site is 15 ft. from any wooded area and clear a five-foot radius around the incinerator right down to bare rock or mineral soil
- Never under any circumstances leave the fire unattended until you're sure it's dead out
- Call the dept. immediately if the fire should get out of control.

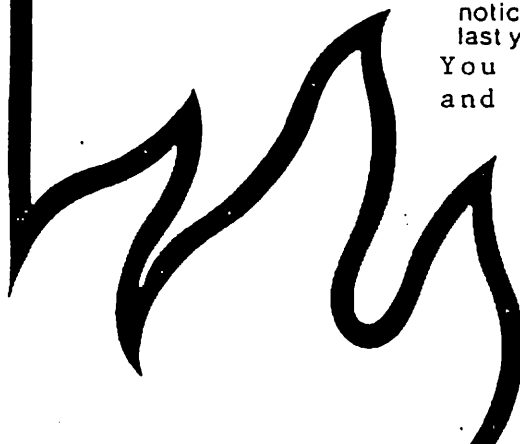
4

The most important reason of all. Burning grass, brush or debris during the fire season (from April 1st to October 31st) without a fire permit is illegal. If you're caught and convicted, it could cost you a big fine, as well as jail, plus the cost of fighting any wildfire you might have caused. It's a tough law, but some people still don't bother to get a permit because they think no one will notice their fire. Well, as we told the man after he burnt his barn down last year, "It was tough not to notice."

You could be charged under both forestry, and C.R.D. by-laws. see below..

This year, let's not set the woods on fire.

Under the c.R.D. by-laws fire permits are required for twelve months of the year under the forestry by-laws permits are required during the fire season.



HOW TO BURN DEBRIS

learn these 4 rules before you burn debris

1 OBTAIN A FIRE PERMIT

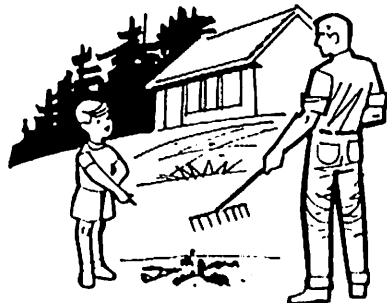


2 BURN IN A SAFE PLACE WHERE FIRE CAN'T SPREAD



3 BURN AT A SAFE TIME EVENING IS BEST NEVER DRY OR WINDY DAYS

4 NEVER LEAVE A FIRE UNTIL IT IS DEAD OUT



You know how to build a campfire...

right?

Wrong.

The more than two hundred forest fires caused by campfires last year prove that many people don't know how to build a campfire properly. What's worse, they don't know how to put one out either. As with most other things, there's a right and a wrong way to build a campfire. And if everyone did it the right way this year, we could probably save millions of dollars worth of timberland.

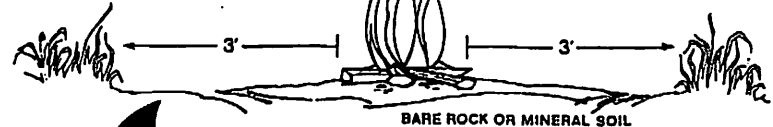
The first step in building a safe campfire is to choose a proper site — away from dry grass, trees and shrubs, close to water if possible.

A bare rock base, free of cracks and crevices is best. If there's none around, clear a three foot area by digging right down to mineral soil. This will prevent it from igniting leaves, pine needles and peat on the forest floor, and eliminate the possibility of it spreading underground and appearing elsewhere as a wildfire.

Don't enclose your fire with a circle of stones. They serve no useful purpose, and what's worse, they could conceal a still burning ember.

Once you've cleared the area, start your fire using dried twigs as kindling, and add larger pieces of wood as needed. Keep the fire small. You'll get just as much heat, you won't burn yourself while cooking, and it'll be easier to control. Never under any circumstances leave a fire unattended. It's not only careless, it's against the law. Watch your sparks, and if it gets too windy, play it safe and put the fire out.

Finally, the most important part, putting the campfire out. It's hard to believe, but some people just walk away from a smoldering campfire thinking it'll go out on its own. Sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't. But those times when it doesn't, it robs every one of us of tax dollars, jobs, recreational areas, and is a threat to human life and property. Always drown your campfire with water. If there's no water available, smother it with mineral soil. Either way wait around and stir the embers with a stick until you can stir them with your bare hand. That's the only way to make sure it's out. Dead out.



If everyone travelling in the woods this summer followed these simple procedures, one of the major causes of forest fires would be eliminated. Think about it.

This year, let's not set the woods on fire.

the Waters of Saanich Inlet

Well let's talk about some of the inhabitants of Saanich Inlet - the underwater inhabitants that is. Last summer when the commercial fisherman were scouring the inlet trapping prawns. Local fisheries sources said they were catching lots of prawns at depths of 280- 320 feet.

Well a few Willis Point residents wanted to get in on some of this prawn activity. Admiral Halsey set out in his trusty TUBBY skiff and set a prawn trap with some scrumptious cat food as bait. On his first attempt he realized that his mesh on his trap was too large as the prawns had a good feast on his cat food but could easily escape. On a second attempt (with finer mesh) he was far more successful - but he had no idea what he had caught.

Upon first glance the creature looked like a prawn but on closer inspection was nothing of the sort. I came home that evening and was confronted with one of the Admirals specimens. I immediately recognized the squat pink body with two protruding spiny, pincer-like arms, *A Squat Lobster*. The squat lobster looks like a full grown lobster but in a miniature version (2 - 6 cm) - it's tail is the most resembles a lobster while its pincer-like arms are skinny and long.

I have only experience the *Squat Lobster* while diving in the inlet. The Squat Lobster is found in rocky crevices from 60 feet to 450 feet - although very small, when encountering a *Squat Lobster* it snaps its tiny pincers at you, fiercely protecting its little crevice.

Unfortunately for the Admiral there is little to no meat on these lobster.

The Admiral was yet again skunked in his attempts at the delicious prawns.

I have encountered *Squat Lobster* diving at McKenzie Bight (end or road area), Willis Point, the White Lady, and Senanus Island.

How about those **Sharks**? Still want to know about these harmless creatures? Well, I'll let you know in the summer issue - because that's when they come into the inlet.

*Jason Funnell
Divemaster
Frank White's Scuba Shop*

QuiXotic

photography by Bernadette

For those who choose to be special,

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Please call Bernadette at (604) 652-5032

Facsimile (604) 652-8695

HILLTOPPER



**THIS IS THE 15TH RUNNING OF THE HILLTOPPER
LET'S EVERYONE MAKE IT A HUGE SUCCESS!**

Hilltopper 1996

It is that time again! Date is the 16th of June - Father's Day. For newcomers to the area the Hilltopper is our "Big" event for the year. It costs approximately \$4 - 5,000 to run the Willis Point Recreation Hall and we raise it all on this day. This is the 15 annual Hilltopper.

What is it? It is an 8.85 km "FUN RUN" starting at 12 noon. Between 100 and 130 runners race every year. Race information can be obtained from Gary Butchart at 652-1731 and Tony Boydell at 652-5032. Registration forms are available at Fire Practice on Wednesday nights or at Jeune Bros. Great Outdoors Store, 570 Johnson St. Prizes are donated by Greggs Furniture and Jeune Bros. Great Outdoors Store.

In addition to the fun run we are offering a bake sale (donations to be brought to the hall - phone Joan Wright at 652-3254 for information). A beer garden, hilltopper hamburgers, hotdogs, ice cream, an award ceremony, lolly scramble and a country auction are also featured. The Auction offers a great variety of thing to bid on.

To give you some examples, here is a random selection from other years donations.

- Greek, Viennese and mystery dinners
- Sightseeing airplane ride
- Variety of plants
- Trailride for two
- Skydiving tandem jump
- Family BBQ and swim
- Organizing child's birthday party
- Wine tasting
- Boat cruises

Have a think about what you may be able to donate this year - big or small, it is all appreciated.

Please phone Vern McConnell at 652-2996 or Bob Scott at 652-2130 with your questions or donations, which will save them calling you. Volunteers are needed particularly for the cooking and serving of food. If we have enough we can schedule one hour spells for people so please call Kathy Ilott at 652-6033 if you can help in any way. Here's hoping for fine weather and a successful money raising day!

Don't forget to invite all of your friends and relatives to come out and enjoy the day - the more the merrier!

Bob Halsey - 652-4195

*Will price
small to
large
projects.*

*Local
references
available*

GM
CONTRACTING

CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL CRAFTSMEN
EXPERIENCED IN ALL ASPECTS
OF CONSTRUCTION

RENOVATIONS
DRYWALL & T-BAR
NEW CONSTRUCTION
BATHROOMS
KITCHENS
DECKS & PATIOS
BASEMENT SUITES
HOUSE MANAGEMENT & DESIGN

COMMERCIAL
AND
RESIDENTIAL

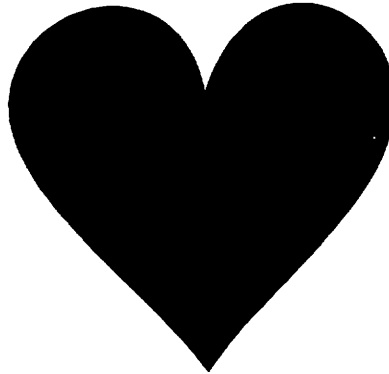
GREG McINNIS

TEL. (604) 652-5584
CELLULAR 360-7960
FAX. 652-5083

the best of STITCH

It would appear that my last effort on reporting "Stitch" activities occurred in August of last year. How time flies! The last weeks of the year, for me anyway, tend to become a blur as everything one has to do for Christmas and New Year blend together in a blob! What with writing cards and letters to family and friends near and far, planning Christmas baking, family get-togethers, buying the turkey (is it to big? Too small?) and in the space of a few hours, it is all over and somehow, despite all our fears, everything falls into place and everyone has a happy and fulfilling time together. Then there is New Year! Followed fortunately by January which brings us time to unwind and catch up on the bills. "Stitch" resumed after the holidays and normality returned. Since August, we have been delighted to welcome two new members. Margaret Cornell who joined us from Edmonton and, in her own words was "delighted to find such an animated group of stitchers"! Jean Cunningham is our other new member and provides us with our recipe for this issue. Both Margaret and Jean bring talents in the field of baking (very important for our Thursday get-togethers), in crafts and knitting, sewing, painting etc. and add spice our conversation and discussions.

A very special anniversary was celebrated on Valentine's Day, February 14, when Kay and Sandy Davidson celebrated their *fiftieth* wedding anniversary with our love and congratulations.



On the negative side, we lost an avid "Stitcher" in Georgina Farmer who moved to Sidney with her husband, Clive and their dog Bandit and are now established in their new home. We greatly miss Georgina's bubbling personality but distance means nothing to dedicated "Stitchers", and en masse we will descend upon her for our next Thursday night's meeting. So Willis Pointers beware as a group of exuberant "Stitchers" return from Sidney around 11.00PM. As Beth is our time-keeper, we are not sure whether she will give us the sign at 11.00PM to leave Georgina's or whether it will be 10:30PM to be home by 11.00PM. Only time will tell!

Memories of Stitch

Thursday night "Stitch" has become a ritual around our house. It has always been my night out and a chance to talk to adults instead of children all day. It started, of course, back when Janine was only nine months old and Andrew almost three years and I needed that adult time. Now look at them, but I still need that time! It was always a good release time, not to mention the crafts that have been made over

the years. Yes, I have done many items although I am always being jazzed about the "Creative Circle" I bought back in the early 80's which took five to seven years to complete. The chatting and sipping of wine certainly took precedence over the craft completion! We all became quite the connoisseurs of wine, over the years, switching from white to red and back to white again. That brings me to my most horrifying moment when hosting stitch one December.

"Stitch" had been in existence for over 15 years and we always serve wine upon one's arrival. Mark had already left for the synchro pick up and Andrew was not around when I realized I had hardly any wine in the house. I could not believe I had forgotten to buy such an important commodity! After searching the cupboards I realized I had collected several bottles of liqueur over the years and decided that it was time for a special treat. Much to my relief it was a complete hit as everyone had a choice of several liqueurs to enjoy for the evening. It was definitely a Christmas Special! Another delightful "Stitch" night to remember.

Over the years neighbours have come and gone many of which were part of our "Stitch" group for awhile. We have formed a remarkable friendship, all ages together. Living at Willis Point gives one this opportunity and it is something I will always cherish. It goes along with our walking home in the dark after "Stitch" is over and enjoying the peacefulness and the lovely scent of nature that we have in our own back yard.

I would like, at this time, to thank the "Stitch" Ladies for all their support over the years in the many fundraising items presented in helping Janine with her synchronized swimming.

Dianne Twamley



Willis Point History # 10

The Wests and Pye's

The following account was based on interviews with Robert and Judy West of 7272 Mark Lane and Fred Pye, formerly of 7290 Mark Lane (now the home of Lovo's).

Robert West's Father Charlie built the original cabin on his property which he purchased in 1956. The West family had stayed in a cabin at "Ricky's Roost" as early as 1954 (\$15 per week rent) and knew this area well. Robert and his brother Ron attended elementary school in View Royal with Tom Rickinson Jr. (son of Stan Rickinson). They frequently camped out on weekends with Tom.

At this time, the Wests were neighbours of Ed and Ivy Blunt on West Burnside. The Blunts came to Willis Point to visit Ivy Blunts aunt and uncle Alex and Ivy Heard (the former owners of the Bonner property). Through this connection, Charlie and Bea West learned of two lots for sale that needed to be sold together because of a common driveway. They asked their former neighbour from Landsdown Avenue, Joe and Mame Pye if they were interested in buying the second lot for \$1,100. They were and they did.

Charlie West built a cabin and enjoyed many summers here with his family. Each summer when they arrived they would let their golden lab in first to chase out all the field mice. Robert and Ron West and Fred Pye all learned their driving skills on Mark Lane by the time they were 14. Charlie was an avid gardener and prospector. His regular job was as a sheet metal fabricator at Albion Stone Works which became Victoria Foundries.

Charlie and Bea moved out here in 1971. Ron stayed here sporadically from 1984 on when he wasn't away at a mining camp. Bea died in 1986 and Charlie died in 1988. The cabin was rented out for a while until Robert bought out his brother's half of the interest and moved out permanently in 1992. He then started the addition and renovations which are still ongoing. Joe Pye built his cabin nearer the water. The driveway was so steep that he had to tie the lumber with a rope held around his neck to prevent it from sliding right into the Inlet. For a little guy of 5'4 this was quite a chore. People in those days scrounged lumber wherever they could. Charlie West used some boards from packing crates in his cabin and Joe Pye got beams from the dismantling of the old garbage wharf in Victoria Harbour.

When Joe Pye ordered a grader to do some work, the Driver arrived rather white faced. The Willis Point Hill was so steep that the grader began

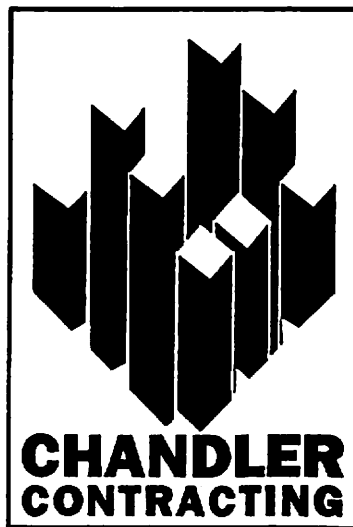
sliding down the hill at an ever increasing speed. The only way he could stop it was by digging in the bucked.

Joe Pye died in 1975, his wife Mame died in 1977.

In the 1950's you could go hunting and fishing at Willis Point on the same day and be successful at both. Basking sharks over 20 feet long were common. Fisherman would shoot them because they could wreck their nets and lures.

Life at Willis Point was different in the 1950's On a hot summer day almost everyone was in the water or on the water. Everyone knew their neighbour and included them in their activities. The sense of community was intensified by having a common enemy - a road with a 27 % grade. This was a unifying force that bonded our early residents together like soldiers facing a common foe.

Ken Leighton



Ken Ilott

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FRESH FRUIT PIZZA

from the kitchen of Jean Cunningham

CRUST

1 1/4	cups flour
1/3	cup brown sugar
3 TBSP	icing sugar
2/3	cup butter

Cream butter. Add sugar and flour. Mix until well blended. Spread onto pizza pan. Prick with fork. Bake at 350° for 10 to 15 minutes. Cool.

FILLING

375 g	cream cheese (at room temperature)
1/2 cup	sugar
1 tsp.	vanilla

Cream together and spread onto cooled crust. Arrange fresh fruit on top (strawberry, kiwi, grapes, oranges, peaches, etc.) Cover with glaze.

GLAZE

1/2 cup	apricot jam or marmalade
1TBSP	water

Mix well. Cover all fruit well. If using bananas, be sure to cover well. Chill. Serve with whipping cream, if desired.

Enjoy!!!

GARAGE SALE

MAY 19, 1996

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

THE DATE HAS BEEN FINALLY SET FOR A COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE HALL PLEASE CONTACT CONNIE MCINNIS AT 652-5584. WE CAN MAKE THIS A FUN TIME FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, BESIDES FINDING NEW HOMES FOR OUR TREASURES.

SO CHECK THOSE CLOSETS, ATTICS AND CRAWL SPACES AND COLLECT THEM UP FOR SUNDAY.

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