

# MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS



Sat. Nov. 16th

*Report by...Paul Gerrard*

There will be municipal elections on Saturday, November 16th 2002 to elect Saanich Mayor and Councillors and School Board Trustees.

Traditionally, there has been a very poor voter turnout for municipal elections, but this is a short-sighted attitude, as local politicians control a great deal of power for Saanich residents. Also, with the new Community Charter leaning towards giving more autonomy to municipalities, there is even more reason to question who will be elected to make policy and decisions for our community.

There will be a series of all-candidate meetings in Saanich in October and November, and your community association encourages residents to go out to these meetings and see who wants to represent them for the next three years, and hear where they stand on issues concerning this area in particular, and for all of Saanich in general. We cannot complain about our governments if we do not even bother to vote. Then we get the government we deserve!

*con't pg. 2*

- **October 18th - Unitarian Church, 5575 West Saanich Road 7.00pm.**
- **October 29th - Spectrum School, 957 Burnside Road West 7.00pm.**
- **November 5th - Gordon Head Rec. Centre, 4139 Lambrick Way 7.00pm.**
- **November 7th - Claremont School, 4980 Wesley Road 7.30pm.**
- **November 14th - Lochside School, 1145 Royal Oak Avenue 7.30pm.**

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT SHOWS

*Report by...Rob Wickson*

WOW! What a day it was. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Gorge Canada Day Picnic went off with nary a hitch. The weather was perfect. The crowds were friendly. And the support was tremendous.

The picnic day got off to a fantastic start with the Esquimalt Dancers leading the parade down Gorge road. Following the Dancers was the first float in the history of the parade thanks to the efforts of the kids on Rockwell (*Rockwell Rocks!*). The number of decorated bicycles and people that followed was the most we have ever had and three cheers must go to the Wyndeatt Canadians who must have had the largest number of participants for the size of their



*A young dancer from the Esquimalt First Nation entertains a crowd in front of the main stage (above). An enthusiastic message and a good showing for the parade by the neighbours on Wyndeatt Avenue (right).*

street. I wonder who is going to rise up to the challenge next year...maybe the Earl Grey Paraders or the Dysart M & M's? And if you missed it, don't worry, we have already booked Pipe Castle Carey (the Bag Pipe band) for next year. One neighbour from across the water told us that when she heard the pipe band coming down the street, she could not help crying for joy. In all, the parade was simply magic. Thank you to everyone and we are looking forward to even greater things next year.

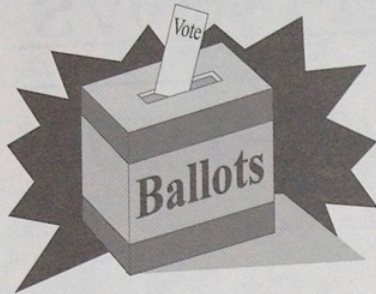


Even with the over 400 pancake breakfasts, 600 cups of coffee and 300 servings of tea and strawberries in combination with the other food vendors, the Optimist Club, Mr. Tube Steak and Softies Ice cream, we almost did not have enough food available for the over 5,000 people that came to enjoy all the events of the day. The road hockey was again a big hit with some of the Salsa hockey players helping out and we are looking forward to seeing Zara King riding the bike she won in the Bike Rodeo.

In all, it was a grand day. Our profound thanks must go out to all of the community sponsors. The support from Saanich Council and Saanich Sunfest

*...con't pg.2*

**ELECTIONS** -cont'd from pg. 1



Be sure to get out and vote on Saturday November 16th, the candidate list is as follows..

MAYOR..... ( 3 year term )

Frank Leonard.....elected by acclamation

COUNCILLORS (3 yr. term-8 to be elected )

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Joan Barton         | Gracie MacDonald |
| Judy Brownoff       | Brad Maclaren    |
| Michael Butterfield | Dean Murdock     |
| David Cubberley     | Jennifer Neely   |
| Vic Derman          | Jackie Ngai      |
| Jim Franklin        | Carol Pickup     |
| John Garrison       | Nichola Wade     |
| Bob Gillespie       | Leif Wergeland   |

SCHOOL TRUSTEE...SD 63..... ( 3 year term )

Jane Gellately.....elected by acclamation  
Helen Parker.....elected by acclamation

**Support** -cont'd from pg. 1

is first class along with all of the other sponsors. Particular mention should be made of the Celebrate Canada Committee, Tillicum Centre, the News Group and Saanich News, Fairway Market, Thriftys, the Times Colonist, and The Gorge Shopping Centre Merchants. There were many other sponsors and supporters whose help was absolutely invaluable.



Mayor Leonard addresses the masses from the main stage during the opening ceremonies. (Top) Pipe Castle Carey, a local bag pipe band added beautiful sounds to the parade as it progressed down Gorge Road from Tillicum to Admirals.

And finally, as Chair of the 2002 Picnic Committee, I must thank all of the committee members and picnic day volunteers. Without their enthusiastic participation, we could not put on an event like this for the community. I am looking forward to even greater things for the 5th annual in 2003. See you there!

**Top Shelf Bookkeeping Ltd.**  
**We do taxes!**  
**EFILE service from \$35 plus GST**  
 Personal - Small Business - Corporate  
 432 Obed Avenue, Victoria, BC V9A 1K5  
 Tel: 250-388-9423 Fax: 250-361-9424  
 Visa - Interac - Mastercard  
 Since 1994

**HEALTH watch**  
**SHOPPERS DRUG MART**  
 Gorge Centre - 2947 Tillicum Rd.  
 Ph: 383-7702 Fax: 383-6953

**Sheila Orr, MLA**

Victoria Hillside  
 Community Office  
 815 Bay Street,  
 Victoria, BC  
 V8X 2W7  
 (250) 952-4262  
 sheila.orr.mla@leg.bc.ca

'Privileged to serve you!'



**GORGE TILLICUM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

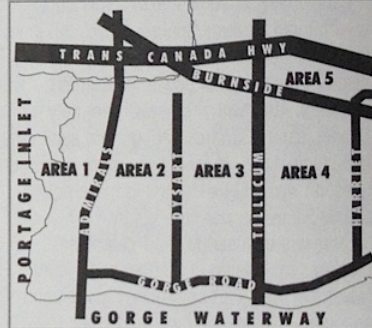
Executive Members 2002/2003

- President: Paul Gerrard 386-2745  
 pgerrard@pacificcoast.net  
 Vice President: Ed Lyons 479-8030  
 Secretary: Christine Helmink 385-3388  
 Treasurer: Rob Wickson 383-9241  
 Membership: Anne Genuist 384-9412  
 Past President: Harry Lewis

Area Directors 2001/2002

- Area 1: Zuzana Capeau 381-8240  
 Area 2: Steve Legg 384-9412  
 Area 3: Bob June 381-0848  
 Area 4: Ray Farmer 382-1122  
 Area 5: Sue Koolman 475-1889

Newsletter: Rod Burkhardt 480-7522



**GORGE TILLICUM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

GTCA Memberships run Jan.-Dec. 2002 at a cost of \$ 5.00 for individual, \$10.00 per household & \$ 25.00 business

Name.....

Address.....

P/C.....Ph:.....

Please mail to: Anne Genuist  
 820 Cowper Str.  
 Victoria, BC  
 V9A 2G3



# Traffic, Anyone?

Report by...Paul Gerrard

Traffic in our neighbourhood is typically ignored until a particular issue arises, there is major congestion, or there is a serious accident or loss of life. However, if we can anticipate problems, and work with the professionals to identify and improve certain conditions on our local roads, it will go a long way towards improving the safety and quality of life in our community.

We have many thousands of vehicles travelling through our area every day, which realistically will not decrease to any great degree in the future, so we have to find ways to control "how" they go through our neighbourhood, hopefully changing the attitude of drivers by slowing or "calming" their behaviour as they pass through.

We can do this by reconfiguring the roadways to improve traffic flow, reduce speed limits, introduce bike lanes, landscape medians, plant trees, separate sidewalks, have suitable setbacks, add street furniture and banners, and encourage more transit use and car-pools. Finally, we can improve our streetscape so that it encourages local people to walk or cycle the community instead of driving it.

Some of the traffic initiatives your community association is involved with at present are :

- \* Tillicum Road / Burnside Road Action Plan to create an Urban Village concept, including standards for land use, mobility design, and traffic management.
- \* Traffic calming study for the area bounded by Gorge Road West / Tillicum Road / Burnside Road West and Harriet Road.
- \* Pedestrian crosswalks across Gorge Road West between Tillicum Road and Admirals Road.
- \* Harriet Road redesign.
- \* Admirals Road redesign, including the interchange at the Trans - Canada Hwy.

## DEVELOPMENT TILLICUM AT TCH

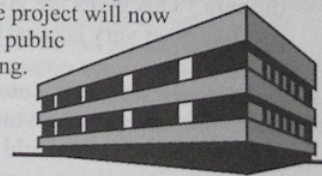
Report by...Paul Gerrard

Saanich Council unanimously approved a rezoning application on Monday, October 7th for 3645 Tillicum Road. The property is at the Trans - Canada Hwy and had been zoned RS-6 ( single family dwelling zone ) and the application was to change to a new C-4RT ( office / restaurant zone ). The applicant and architect have been to our Board meetings three times with this proposal. They were asked to make modifications to the entrance portico and to change the exterior finish, which is now a combination of brick and stucco instead of glasswall.

There will be underground parking, and extensive landscaping all around the building.

The innovative approach to this building includes a cafe, showers and a bike storage area which will service the users of the Galloping Goose Trail as well as the workers in the building. There are also plans to make improvements to the transit stop and shelter and include a pedestrian plaza. The building is a gateway to the Tillicum / Burnside community, is consistent with the overall urban village concept envisioned for the area, and fits in with official community plan policies.

The project will now go to public hearing.



**IRWIN INDUSTRIES LTD.**  
(1988)

327 Harbour Road,  
Victoria, B.C. V9A 3S2  
website: www.irwinvi.com  
E-mail: iivic@inetex.com

**Paul Gerrard**  
Home: 360-1037

Phone: 382-5154  
Fax: 382-5748

Can't find a title? Try us

**PIC A FLIC VIDEO**

2967 Tillicum Rd.  
Victoria, B.C. V9A 2A6

Telephone  
361-4494

**Susan Brice, MLA**  
Saanich South

200-3939 Quadra Street,  
Victoria, BC, V8X 1J5

*'I look forward to serving you  
in our new constituency office!'*

ph:952-4418 fax:952-4566  
email:susan.brice.mla@leg.bc.ca

# SAANICH SILVER THREADS

Connecting Seniors to the Community

Saanich Silver Threads is located in Saanich, kitty corner to Tillicum Mall. Our address is 286 Hampton Rd. The official title of our building is the 'Les Passmore Senior's Centre'. We are a non-profit organization with funds coming from United Way, Saanich Municipality, fund-raising, and memberships.

We have approximately 635 members from all over the Capital Region, however, most of them are from the Saanich area. We have members from 55 to 95 years of age.

Our main goal is to connect seniors to the community through programs such as Recreation and Fitness, Social events, Health and Wellness, Arts & Crafts, Travel, Information and Referral, and Meals on Wheels.

*The entry to the Les Passmore Senior's Centre at 286 Hampton Road, is set among beautiful plantings and a tree lined boulevard with parking on the street.▽*



△The rear of the building provides ramp access for handicapped visitors to various recreation areas at the centre.

**Community involvement** - We have a few support groups who meet at our centre. Better Breather's Club, Victoria Stroke Recovery Club, and the Alzheimer's Support group meets once a month. We encourage students from the local schools to volunteer to help at our dinners. This gives the young people a chance to interact with seniors and has been very successful.

**Volunteers** help make our centre a friendly and comfortable place to visit. We have several volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in volunteering, we would like to welcome you to our team.

**Outreach programs** such as our Ladies' Friendship Club, a chance for ladies who like to or need to socialize to get out and interact with other ladies. "Guess Who is Coming to Dinner" Program - a chance for elderly seniors to come and socialize, have a nutritional and delicious meal, and enjoy some entertainment for the evening. Music groups such as Ladies' and Men's choirs, and Concert Orchestra entertain throughout the community.

con't pg. 6

# SAFER CITIES



"Safer cities" is a program funded by ICBC, and involves the development and implementation of a number of initiatives with the goal of enhancing transportation safety for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. Saanich is only the second municipality in the province of B.C. to be chosen for the program, which will be worth approximately \$300,000 in labour and materials. There will be sophisticated traffic flow analysis programs and data on accident "black spots" that will bring police, traffic engineers and community groups together to help create and implement solutions in their particular area.

Your Neighbourhood Vet Clinic  
**MCKENZIE**  
VETERINARY SERVICES

Dr. Dave Kirby  
Dr. Malcolm Macartney  
Dr. Rona Posen  
Dr. Tin-Wai Kwan

**727-2125**

24 Hr. Emergency

Full Hospital  
Facilities  
Dogs, Cats,  
Exotics

Open 7 days a week Mon. & Thurs. till 8pm

3888 Carey Road (Corner of Tillicum & Carey)

We Do House Calls Mobile 727-0099

# the GREEN SPACE

Compiled by...Steve Legg



## PESTICIDES: Out of My Back Yard

by Julia Menard

Ever wonder what the Saanich Environmental Advisory Committee was up to? According to Carol Pickup, Saanich Councillor and chair of the Committee, a main focus these days is pesticides.

Apparently, even seemingly small and individual acts like putting pesticides on our lawns to kill weeds can also affect neighbours and other living partners (animals, water, fish) in our community. Carol says that pesticide use is linked to asthma and leukemia in children and

can cause detrimental effects in other living things.

Pesticides are implicated in problems with our "own" fish in the Colquitz Creek which runs through Cuthbert Holmes Park. Think about that the next time you see your neighbour applying pesticides on their lawn (... but, of course, we don't do that!).

According to a local gardening centre, killing weeds from our lawn is only or esthetic beauty, anyway. Maybe it's time to rethink how we define "esthetic" lawns. I'd rather have healthy fish, water, animals and people - and celebrate weeds - some of which are nutritious to eat too (like dandelion leaves). Plus, by not using pesticides, it's one less thing to do and to pay for.

The Committee is presently putting together a draft bylaw to help guide how our community thinks and acts about pesticides. Carol is optimistic things are changing as more people become educated with this kind of information. She sees damage occurring because of ignorance not malice.

Carol also uses a healthy dose of what she calls a "precautionary principle" in dealing with this question. That is, maybe the information and studies are wrong. But then again what if they are right? Does it hurt to be precautious? What are the possible risks and gains?

If anyone would like to volunteer for the Saanich Environmental Committee,

## SAANICH TREE APPRECIATION DAY

Report by...Bob June

### VOLUNTEER PLANTERS NEEDED

Saanich Council has declared Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Tree Appreciation Day. Your Community Association is supporting this initiative with a contribution of \$500.00 to purchase large shade trees for the new Qu'Appelle Park playground area. These trees will be planted in the park with due pomp and circumstance the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

In addition the Saanich Significant Tree Committee and the Vancouver Island Association of BC Professional Foresters are sponsoring plantings in several parks throughout Saanich. Perhaps most importantly, this will include the new Gorge Park extension. Here plantings of native species of under-story shrubs will be reintroduced to the area stripped of invasive plants when it was first rehabilitated to open space.

Volunteers are needed, and appreciated, to assist in this rehabilitation project. Please come out at 9:00 AM on the morning of November 3<sup>rd</sup>, bring a shovel or spade and dig in to help rejuvenate this area of our community to its natural glory. Please remember to bring rain gear and boots as there will be planting rain or shine.

## HARVEST FOR ALL!

by...Fiona MacIntosh

This fall, the Victoria Fruit Tree Project, volunteers and a couple of ladders are turning backyard fruit trees into a valuable source of food for the community. The Victoria Fruit Tree Project harvests fruit from private trees that would otherwise go to waste. Up and picking since 1998, the project is aiming to match or exceed last years harvest of 17,000 pounds of fruit. The Mustard Seed Food Bank, Upper Room, Blanshard Community Centre and Streetlink Emergency Shelter are some of the places that benefit from the donations of fresh plums, apples and pears. The rest of the fruit is split between volunteer pickers, tree owners and the Fruit Tree Project.

While minimizing food waste is the major goal of the project, the Fruit Tree Project is really about getting the community involved. We are always looking for committed volunteers to pick fruit, but for those interested in helping the project but not keen to climb trees, the project is also looking for volunteers to preserve our bounty, to return phone calls and to enter data.

Those of you from the Old World may be familiar with Apple Day, a traditional festival still celebrated in parts of the U.K. This year, we are happy to invite you to Victoria's first



Celebration of Apples, a community party inspired by this ancient rite. Local storytellers, folk musicians, fruity crafts, and, of course, lots of apples, will be grafted into this event to honour our community's bounty of fruit. Drop by and carve an apple monster, dance to an apple jig, hear stories to make your stem

con't pg. 6



101-300 Gorge Rd W  
Victoria, B.C.  
V9A 1M8  
Discoveries Accepted

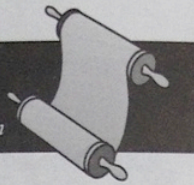
Compliments  
of Jim Leslie  
& Staff

one  
FREE  
VIDEO

5 FOR 5 FOR 5  
1 FREE VIDEO WITH THIS AD

# COMMUNITY CHARTER

Report by...Rob Wickson



"Dry toast". Words to describe the Community Charter? This is not a subject that will cause most of us to rise up and take action. However, the importance of the Community Charter should not be underestimated. This is a document that, once it is passed into law, will replace that part of the old Municipal Act that deals with our municipal governments.

The Community Charter seeks to change the way Municipal Governments work. The relationships between the province and local government will now recognize less need for rigid rules and increase local flexibility. The Charter is divided up into 9 Parts including such titles as Municipal Purposes and General Powers, Public Participation and Council Accountability, and Financial Management.

A key section like Part 7 - Municipal Revenue and Collection deals with new revenue sources, and tax exemptions. It will give municipal government more taxing authority perhaps using such tools as road tolls, fuel taxes, resort taxes, or hotel room taxes. While some of these exist today, under the Community Charter municipalities will have broader taxing powers along with other powers generally.

Another keystone of the Community Charter is improved public participation. While in Saanich we already have excellent opportunities to make representations to our elected officials, under the new legislation our Municipal Government would follow more of the "corporate model of accountability" which would require annual reports and town hall meetings. While there are a number of minority protections inherent in the corporate model, none of those protections have found their way into the draft legislation. One question might be "Is this now the minimum standard and would some governments move to this level in order to save costs?"

Stronger inter government relations are proposed and include obligating the province to consult with the Union of BC Municipalities and establishing dispute resolution mechanisms to deal with disputes between the province and other local governments.

While on the surface, it might seem like a good deal of dull reading to slog through even the White Paper "The Community Charter: A New Legislative Framework for Local Government", it is very important that we understand some of the fundamental changes that will occur once this legislation is passed. That is why the government has asked for our feedback. The contact information is

Local Government Policy and Research Branch  
Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services  
P.O. Box 9490 Station Prov. Govt.  
Victoria, BC V8W 9N7  
Fax: (250) 387-6212  
Email: CAWS.CharterFeedback@gems1.gov.bc.ca

For those of us that have Internet access, copies of the paper and the proposed legislation can be found at [www.mcaaws.gov.bc.ca/charter/index.htm](http://www.mcaaws.gov.bc.ca/charter/index.htm). If you have questions that you would like your community association to ask, please contact your area director listed in this newsletter.

## Threads...con't

**Meal Programs:** We serve a hot lunch Monday through Friday from Sept. to June. It is cafeteria style. Morning and afternoon refreshments also available. Special events dinners are also held.

### Major Fundraising

Silver Christmas Craft Fair,  
Fri., Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> from 5- 8 pm  
Sat., Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 am- 4 pm  
Sun., Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> from 11 am 2 pm

Free admission, refreshments available each day

For further information call Sue, Joan, Lois or Doreen at 382-3151, or visit us at 286 Hampton Rd. We are in the midst of setting up a web site and it should be in operation by the end of November. Check us out at [www.silverthreads.ca](http://www.silverthreads.ca)

## HARVEST...con't

shudder, and (the true motivation) sample some of the most mouth-watering, crispy apples ever assembled in one place! Celebration of Apples will be held Saturday, November 9th at Sir James Douglas' playground (corner of Moss and Fairfield) from 10-4pm.

If you have any questions or if you would like to be involved please call us at 385-PICK (385-7425)

Jenny Davis  
Fruit Tree Project Coordinator  
383-5800

# THRIFT

Burnside Store 388-9411  
50 Burnside West



# STORE

Pick-up Service 727-2293  
South Island to serve you.

We have 9 stores on the...

# At the Centre

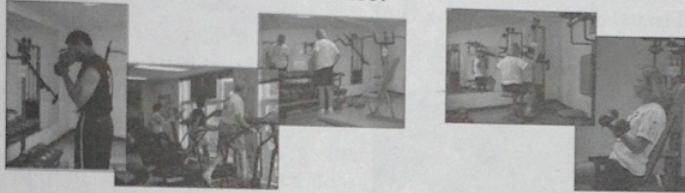
## G.R. PEARKE'S RECREATION CENTRE



### The Elimination of Intimidation

by...Mena Westhaver

Have you passed by those glass windows and taken a peak? Have you wondered how the participants became so fit and confident? How did they know which way to sit on those pieces of machinery that remind you of a wild ride in an amusement park! Myself included - I was a weight room window wonderer? How did I conquer this fear, my curiosity? I participated in a weight room orientation. The truth is, our fascination with a weight room all began as an onlooker! Are you wanting to know more?



Our weight room orientations are between 1-1.5 hours in length depending on the number of participants in your session. Your B.C.R.P.A. (British Columbia Recreation Parks Assoc.) registered weight room instructor will take you through the basic components of a weight room workout. You will learn the basics of a proper warm-up, cardio conditioning (any activity that increases your heart rate), proper use of weight room equipment and machines, free weights, the importance of stretching and how to cool down properly. We create a friendly environment that invites you to express your needs and concerns in regards to becoming a 'member' of our weight room club! Our staff are friendly, non-judgmental, humorous and most importantly - they too were all weight room 'wonderers'! We invite you to go beyond your curiosity!

Give it some thought... give us a call... and give yourself the chance to experience a new way to recreate. It's social, it's challenging and it's fun! Call 388-6664 to book your orientation today.

## The Benefits of Recreation

These days everyone is trying to tell you how to lead a more productive life, get involved with your community, stay healthy. Guess what, recreation professionals have been advocates of healthy lifestyles and community involvement for years! The benefits of recreation are being seen by communities all across Canada, especially here in Victoria where we enjoy a wide range of recreation opportunities. Recently, there has been a book published by the Canadian Parks and Recreation association citing the many benefits of recreation. The focuses of the studies were put in four main categories;




1. Personal Benefits - helping individuals reach their full potential
2. Social Benefits - That promote healthy families, neighbourhoods, and communities of interest.
3. Economic Benefits - critical to financial well-being.
4. Environmental benefits - leading to the protection of our common ecology.

There are many key points under all of these categories, but a common theme is that recreation is a key contributor to our communities. With these four main categories in mind, we can apply them to almost all our recreation pursuits.

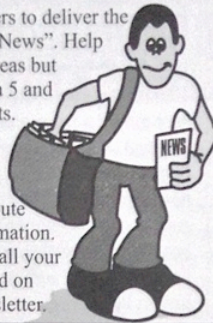
The social benefits of recreation are key to getting involved in your community and are of great interest to recreation professionals. Recreation professionals are gearing their programs and services with social benefits in mind. They are reaching out to the community to deliver the best possible programs, in order to get residents involved and engaged.

There are many benefits of recreation, but a key for residents is to get involved. Get involved with your children, get involved with your local community organization, get involved with your local community recreation centre, get involved with local government, get involved to make a difference in your community!

Sadeep Keram Community Services -  
Saanich Recreation Services  
~Benefits of Recreation Catalogue 1997~

 <b>Sharing THE Possibilities</b> WWW.SAANICHRECREATION.CA			
	<b>FACILITY HOURS</b> General Hours of Operation Mon-Fri 6:30am-10:00pm Sat-Sun 7:00am-10:00pm Stat. Holidays Nov. 11 6:30am-10:00pm Dec. 24 6:30am- 12:00pm Dec. 26 10:00am-4:00pm Dec. 25 & Jan. 01 CLOSED	<b>UP COMING PEARKE'S SPECIAL EVENTS</b>	
	Pearkes Recreation Centre 3100 Tillicum Rd. Ph: 388-6664 or 24hr Info Line: 475-5576	<b>October 31st</b> Halloween Spooktacular	<b>October 25-27th</b> The Home Show 2002
	<b>December 21st</b> X-mas Aerobathon	<b>November 2&amp;3rd</b> The Computer Show	<b>November 8-11th</b> Creative Craft Fair

We need volunteers to deliver the "Neighbourhood News". Help is needed in all areas but especially in Area 5 and to most apartments. Walk your neighbourhood one hour, four times per year to distribute community information. If you can help, call your area director listed on pg. 2 of this newsletter.



**MENTION THIS AD FOR 10% OFF**

**Great Canadian DOLLAR STORE**

ROGER & SUKI SANGHA  
2963 Tillicum Road  
Gorge Centre, Victoria, BC  
e-mail: rogr@coastnet.com

Tel: (250) 381-3227  
Fax: (250) 592-5596  
Pager: (250) 413-3906

Where you Pay Less and you Get More™

TILlicum ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**6th ANNUAL Christmas Craft Sale**

**Friday, Nov. 8th 5-9 pm**  
**Saturday, Nov. 9th 10-4 pm**

Enjoy a refreshing hot apple cider and listen to holiday music while you browse through over 40 seasonal displays from local crafters and artisans

**FREE ADMISSION**  
Concession and Bake Table  
Hourly Raffle Draws  
Babysitting  
Wheelchair accessible

Tillicum Elementary School, 3155 Abina Street  
Information: Jayne 382-1122

**Beads and Wire**

103-300 Gorge Road West  
Victoria BC Canada V9A 1M8  
E-mail: beadsandwire@shaw.ca  
Website: beadsandwire.ca  
920-3523

**10% OFF WITH THIS AD**

**LL Brougham Inc.**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

202-300 GORGE RD. WEST  
VICTORIA, B.C.  
V9A 1M8  
t: 250-920-7020  
f: 250-920-7099  
c: 250-216-8302  
e: lindalee@lbrougham.ca

Linda Lee Brougham, CA, CGA, CFP

## OF DAYS GONE BY

by Dennis Minaker, Author of "The Gorge of Summers Gone"

Although most houses of the Gorge/Tillicum neighbourhood were erected between the last century's world wars, a few date back to a much earlier time. Two existing houses in particular are remnants of a period when farms and forests predominated locally.

Soon after brothers James Stuart and Henry Yates took over the operation of their parents' 400-acre Craigie Lea Farm in 1885 they began to subdivide the Gorge property. Lots bordering the scenic waterway were highly prized and sold for the best prices to such wealthy purchasers as coal baron Robert Dunsmuir. Marketable properties located away from the shoreline were more affordable to humbler builders. Amongst those was a city baker named John J. Wilson. In 1888 he bought 1.81 acres on Burnside Road at Millgrove which was then no more than a dirt track crossing Craigie Lea Farm. By the next year he had erected a one-and-one-half storey cottage that he dubbed "The Pines." Frontal construction along Burnside Road decades later caused a



A view of Gorge Road West, circa 1918, showing the Adams house on the left. To the right of the tall tree is the Munro house built in 1903 at 702 Gorge Road. Both still stand today.

change of address for this modest house. Today it can be found at 3184 Millgrove Street. Despite a stucco coating over the original wood siding, this house's late-Victorian roots can still be detected in high ceilings and windows.

An even older (and grander) house can be found at 2803 Adelaide Street. This Queen Anne family home was erected in 1878 on a ten-acre estate belonging to Daniel and Adelaide Adams. Born in New Brunswick in 1830, Daniel Fowler Adams arrived in Victoria in 1858. After four years chasing Cariboo gold in the 1860s, he returned to Victoria to resume work as a building contractor. In subsequent years he erected numerous buildings and bridges throughout the province including the fourth span across the Gorge, installed in November of 1882. Adams also branched out into the milling trade, operating both the Craigflower Grain Mill and the Columbia Sawmill on David Street in Rock Bay. He died in 1905 and was buried in the St. John the Baptist churchyard in Colwood. His wife, for whom Adelaide Street is named, died in 1919. The couple had five children (all of whom attended nearby Craigflower School), including son John B. Adams who built his own house at 758 Gorge Road West. The original family estate nevertheless remained largely intact until 1945 when it was subdivided. Modern enclosures, contemporary windows and vinyl siding largely mask the origins of the Adams' Adelaide Street home, one of the oldest houses remaining in the municipality.

BURKHART GRAPHICS

**SignART**  
STUDIOS

**995 1704**

3073 ADMIRALS RD., VICTORIA, B.C.,  
ADVERTISING ART • GRAPHIC DESIGN • SIGNAGE

Your Neighbourhood Restaurant

**IL GRECO**  
GREEK & ITALIAN CUISINE

2900 Tillicum Road 386-1116