

## TIN CAN ALLEY

By Joyce White

Tin Can Alley, the road leading up to the Gabriola Island Recycling plant is descriptive of a route to a recycling plant. It is also a clever play on words of Tin Pan Alley, the New York district of the flourishing sheet music industry and show case for musicians of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The land for the recycling plant was donated by Merv and Annette Sweeney, and the site was cleared in 1990. A grant of \$39,000 was received from the federal department of Employment and Immigration to help with costs of building materials, labour and also to pay for the part time services of Denise Mitchell, co-ordinator of the project.

When a licence was obtained to construct an access road in from North Road to the proposed plant the group was met with a quandary, what to name the road? Gabriolans are usually an inventive and creative crowd so the Gabriola cycling Committee appealed to fellow Islanders for suggestions. The *Name the Road* contest garnered fifty eight suggestions and, at the September 17<sup>th</sup> general meeting of the committee, the suggestions were put before members and a vote taken. The winning road name, Tin Can Alley, was the suggestion of Rick Mitchell. (No relation to Denise)

You probably won't find sheet music at the end of Gabriola's Tin Can Alley but you will find musical compact discs.