

Driftwood

Wednesday, December 2, 1992

SECTION B Community Real Estate



Compliments of:



Your weekly guide to Gulf Islands Properties

GISS CounterAttack group attends leadership event

Ten members of Gulf Islands Secondary School's CounterAttack group benefitted from a recent two-day leadership conference in Victoria.

Students from several lower Vancouver Island area schools attended various workshops November 16 and 17 while networking about their groups and traffic safety issues. A "pyjama

dance" and other social activities were interspersed with the business at hand.

The Excell 1992 Youth Leadership Conference was organized by a committee of students in conjunction with the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia's regional traffic safety coordinator.

Attending from GISS were Neacol Booth, Kirsten Jensen, Anna Lam, Yvonne Lam, Fiona Longeau, Hamsa Polden, Anika Ropars, Nyssa Temmel, Lydia Wilson and Brie Wrate.

Workshops offered were related in part to the traffic safety theme, but with information applicable to organizing or promoting any kind of project.

They included sessions on project planning, marketing and promoting issues in your school, fundraising and team building. Saanich police showed students how traffic accidents are analyzed and how they can be prevented.

Some GISS participants said the conference highlight was a presentation by the Vic High Players, a youth theatre group which gets its message across in a creative way. The local CounterAttack group would like to see the Players perform at GISS.

They were also particularly impressed by conference keynote speaker Diane Rakiecki, an Olympic athlete who is paraplegic as a result of a traffic accident.

Feeling inspired by the Victoria conference, CounterAttack group members will be busy this year encouraging their peers and adults to drive while sober, with seatbelts and at safe speeds only.



Driftwood photo by Gail Sjuberg

EXCELLERS: Ten Gulf Islands Secondary School CounterAttack club students attended a youth leadership conference in Victoria recently. Seven of those people are (left to right, back row) Neacol Booth, Kirsten Jensen, Fiona Longeau; (1 to r, middle) Nyssa Temmel, Yvonne Lam, Brie Wrate; (front) Hamsa Polden. Missing from photo are Anika Ropars, Lydia Wilson and Anna Lam.

ELDER ABUSE

"Elder abuse" is a sensitive subject recently given more attention in the Victoria area by a one-year research project winding up this week.

While the Victoria Elder Abuse Project enters its evaluation phase, Salt Spring healthcare workers were recently made more aware of the problem at a workshop held locally.

By GAIL SJUBERG
Driftwood Staff Writer

Home Support Services coordinator Marg Mullin believes elder abuse likely exists on Salt Spring, if only because a large number of older people reside here and its prevalence is documented elsewhere.

A 1989 Canada-wide survey on abuse and neglect of the elderly estimated 16,000 cases of elder abuse existed in B.C., with 2,000 in the Greater Victoria area.

Elder abuse can take a variety of forms, including those described by the Interministry Committee on Elder Abuse in an accompanying article.

Abusers are often related to the elderly person, and dependent on that individual for financial support or accommodation, in exchange for providing some level of care. The Victoria Elder Abuse Project found that 80 per cent of victims contacted were women, and most of their abusers male.

Exploring how best to treat this problem was one goal of the elder abuse project.

Project manager Betty Anderson explains that no organized government structure exists to deal with elder abuse in the way child abuse or family assault is handled.

Other "unique challenges" arise for those working in this newly-trodden field, she says.

One of those is "trying to achieve a balance between the rights of individuals to make decisions for themselves versus society's responsibility to protect the vulnerable."

Unlike cases where children are being mistreated, adults are presumed to have decision-making power over their own lives and circumstances.

But as Anderson points out, "the very process of victimization limits their ability to see the choices."

One-third of sufferers are victims of long-term spousal assault, so the victim "pattern" is well-entrenched by the time they reach their final years.

Another problem is the lack of a single, well-known number for victims to call for help or information. Anderson says an older person being referred from one number to another will soon become discouraged and give up.

And there is no instant recipe for alleviating abuse.

"Each situation is unique, so an accurate assessment is essential," she says.

Also important is providing accurate definitions of abuse and information about possible interventions.

Developing a relationship of trust between the victim and intervening party is also necessary, she says. Victims are often extremely reluctant to expose themselves and their abusing caregivers to outside parties.

Despite the difficulties of confronting an awkward and complicated matter, Anderson has seen countless positive results stemming from intervention.

More
Stories **B2**

"I've seen women decide to separate and leave the abusive relationship after many years; I've seen people set new limits for adult children and not tolerate abuse any longer; I've seen a grandmother set a loan repayment schedule for a loan to be repaid by her grandchildren; I've seen criminal prosecutions of caregivers who have misappropriated funds and I've seen families enter counselling together."

While awareness of the issue has been raised through the Victoria Elder Abuse Project and other initiatives, it is not yet known if a longterm government strategy will emerge from work done to date.

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Islanders join peace walk to Nevada site

Special to the Driftwood
Mass arrests took place on Columbus Day, October 12, at the Nevada test site.

The arrests were the culmination of months of walking across America by peace pilgrims. These pilgrims were from all continents, all nations and together they joined to support all indigenous people's rights to the use and title to their own lands.

By LOU RUMSEY,
Driftwood Contributor

The pilgrims also protested against uranium mining, dumping of radioactive waste, and production and testing of nuclear weapons.

vited to join the walk for the last leg of the journey to the test site in Las Vegas, October 2 as representatives of the Raging Grannies.

We hoped to make a significant contribution to justice, peace and integrity of creation and express our unity with the earth. Always thinking ahead, we took our Granny banner and songbooks.

Our first day was spent at the University of Nevada (Las Vegas) attending lectures by various people including Dr. Rosalie Bertell, famous for her studies of the effects of low-level radiation. All the speakers were eminently qualified to talk about subjects ranging from testing and monitoring of radioactivity to non-violence training and self-empowerment.

per cent of Rio Tinto, the largest uranium mine in the world. I learned that low-level radiation, far from being harmless, damages the human reproduction and auto-immune systems and causes cancer and leukaemia.

Bertell urged recovering cancer victims and people who planned to have children, not to go to the test site. To no avail. All seemed determined to make their individual contribution. One German woman, a recovered cancer victim could not be dissuaded from fulfilling her promise to follow her commitment to its conclusion.

Each night we set up camp about sunset. The ground was always hard and covered with stones and prickly burrs. Not the type of desert

An insistent drumming drew us each evening to a prayer circle led by Corbin Harney, the Western Shoshone spiritual leader. The ceremony always started with smudging — a sweet-grass purification as we entered the sacred space. I felt very proud to be included in this prayer ceremony for Mother Earth.

October 5, we walked 17 miles in the blazing sun. We walked through Las Vegas to the department of energy, which manages the Nevada test site, by way of the strip.

There we were, about 400 strong, with our jogging suits and sun umbrellas, short shorts and long skirts, voluminous blouses

community

Abused elderly have several options for help

Several options for action are available to elderly people wanting freedom from abusive situations or information on how to cope.

The Victim Assistance Line may be accessed by calling 1-800-842-8467; the Public Trustee in Vancouver can be contacted at 660-4441; and Salt Spring's public health unit provides assistance and information at 537-5541.

The Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect also outlines several suggestions

for action in its published guide to intervention.

A serious problem can be directly tackled with police attention, if crimes such as assault or monetary fraud are being committed.

All parties involved can be referred to counselling services — although they must be willing to participate.

A Victoria-based group which specializes in seniors issues is Victoria Innovative Seniors Treatment Agency (VISTA). Home Support

Services coordinator Marg Mullin says one of their counsellors lives on Salt Spring and is available for consultations.

Both caregivers acting as abusers and victims may benefit from counselling or formal support services.

Increasing an elder's independence can sometimes prevent abuse. Occupational or physiotherapist services, both available on-island, can foster independence and mobility at home.

Participating in activities like Seniors for Seniors' weekly luncheons helps reduce isolation and build stimulating social contacts, notes Mullin.

Using Meals-on-Wheels not only improves a person's nutritional intake and health but brings new people into their life.

Adult daycare programs like the one offered by Greenwoods is also

beneficial and can provide stress relief for the primary caregiver.

People should also not rule out moving into a care facility, which may be a safer and more stimulating environment.

When in doubt about what action to take, a health ministry long term care case manager may make a qualified assessment about how an elderly person can best be cared for.

Elder abuse gaining attention

"Elder abuse" is a relatively new phrase in the social services vocabulary, and one receiving more attention as an aging population's needs are examined.

The provincial ministries

governing health and seniors issues have published a *Principles, Procedures and Protocols for Elder Abuse* manual which describes several examples of abuse.

The phenomenon is broadly

defined as "any action/inaction which jeopardizes the health or well-being of an elderly person." Its forms are varied.

Physical abuse is "any act of violence or rough treatment causing injury or physical discomfort."

Psychological or emotional abuse includes "confinement, isolation, verbal assault, humiliation, intimidation, infantilization, or any other treatment which may diminish the sense of identity, dignity and self-worth."

Financial abuse or exploitation is another common form of abuse. It involves "the misuse of an elderly person's funds and assets, obtaining property and funds without that person's knowledge and full consent, or in the case of an elderly person who is not competent, not in that person's best interests."

Sexual abuse can include "any sexual behaviour directed towards an elderly person without that person's full knowledge and consent; i.e. sexual assault, sexual harassment or use of pornography."

Misuse of an elderly person's medications and prescriptions is also considered a form of abuse, as are violations of civil or human rights, such as withholding information, denying privacy or visitors, mail censorship or restriction of liberty.

Abuse is also occurring when a caregiver intentionally withholds basic necessities or care, or does so due to "a lack of experience, information or ability." For more information on elder abuse, people are invited to contact the local public health unit at 537-5541.

Canadian Criss Cross by Walter D. Feener

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39	40	41			42			43	44		
45				46			47			48	49
50							51				
52								53			

ACROSS

- 1. Morocco capital
- 6. Polynesian woman
- 12. Fairy king
- 14. Bible book
- 15. Of dogs
- 16. Soften in temper
- 17. Pied cat
- 19. Be defeated
- 20. Tibetan gazelle
- 22. Jeweled coronet
- 24. Muster forces
- 25. Winnipeg skater
- 26. Make into statutes
- 30. Sartorial worker
- 32. Rider's seat
- 33. Boredom
- 34. Termination
- 35. Manager: abbr.
- 36. Earth's treasure guardian
- 38. One billion years
- 39. Reagan's secretary of state
- 42. Fire god
- 45. Use a file
- 47. More sonorous
- 50. Arboreal bird
- 51. Christmas tree
- 52. Source of strength

DOWN

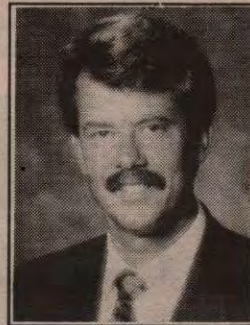
- 1. "Arabian Nights" bird
- 2. Emir's garment
- 3. Mr. Franklin
- 4. Opera highlight
- 5. Chinese society
- 6. German river
- 7. Guitar: slang
- 8. Window shade cloth
- 9. Concept comb. form
- 10. Vowers of chastity
- 11. Italian family
- 13. Siding with no one
- 18. River isle
- 20. Movable barrier
- 21. Algerian seaport

- 23. Pore over
- 25. Sign up
- 27. Book appendix
- 28. History muse
- 29. Aquatic bird
- 31. Suitcases, trunks, etc.
- 32. Fishhook lines
- 34. Bird from down under
- 37. Range chambers
- 39. Pillboxes
- 40. French dugout
- 41. —horse (locomotive)
- 43. Rolls of yarn
- 44. Invisible emanation
- 46. "Leave It To Beaver" actor
- 48. Environment comb. form
- 49. Legal matter



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- EVERY MONDAY carpet bowling, lower hall, Central, 1:30pm.
- EVERY MONDAY (except holidays), Story Time, Public Library, 9:30-10am.
- EVERY MONDAY Overeaters Anonymous 7pm, Community Centre.
- EVERY TUESDAY Co-dependents Anonymous, Community Centre. 7:30pm.
- EVERY WEDNESDAY Seniors & Alzheimer's support group, Seniors for Seniors bldg. 11am
- EVERY THURSDAY 40 years plus, bike ride & lunch, Spoke Folk, high noon.
- EVERY THURSDAY Seniors for Seniors luncheon, seating 11:30 and 12:30.
- FRIDAYS Free Kids Klub, Community Gospel Church, 120 Drake Road, 3:15-5pm.
- EVERY SUNDAY Line dancing, Fulford Hall, 7-9pm.
- DEC. 1: S.A.R. meeting, ambulance bldg., 7:30pm.
- DEC. 3: Lions turkey bingo, Legion Hall, 7pm.
- DEC. 3, 4, 5: G.I.S.S. pres: "You Can't Take It With You" G.I.S.S. band/drama rm. 7:30pm.
- DEC. 4: Legion Ladies Auxiliary, turkey dinner, Meaden Hall, 6pm.
- DEC. 5: Christmas Party, Vortex Gallery, 132 Beaver Pt. Road, 7pm.
- DEC. 4, 5 & 6: Craft Fair, Beaver Point Hall, Fri.: 5-9pm Sat.: 10-6pm Sun.: 11-3pm.
- DEC. 4, 5 & 6: Christmas Craft Fair, Fulford Hall, Fri.6-9, Sat. 10-6, Sun 11-4.
- DEC. 7: RNABC potluck AGM, 241 Sky Valley Road, 6:30pm.
- DEC. 7: Gulf Islands Special Needs Assoc. meeting, GISS Library, 7pm.
- DEC. 11: Global Peace Celebration, a benefit, Beaver Pt. Hall, 8pm.
- DEC. 12: Green Christmas Craft Faire, Salt Spring Centre, 10-4pm.
- DEC. 12: Ballroom & Latin dance lessons, St. George's Hall, evening time TBA.
- DEC. 13: Christmas Bird Count.
- DEC. 15: Fulford Harbour OAPO Christmas Dinner, OAPO club rooms, 5:30pm.

To have your event listed here free!

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Financial concerns peak this week. Bills, bills, bills from every Tom, Dick and Harriet organization come flooding in. Generosity is high on Saturday and Sunday. Take someone for lunch or put a purple bill into a busker's hat, even if the instrument is out-of-tune. This is a special week before the panic of Christmas really sets in, so take advantage of it.

★ **horoscope** ★

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): A blip on the star-chart between earth and the moon — either a piece of Soviet space station, a new satellite broadcast system or a Borg ship — causes anxiety for bulls. Palpitations, funny twitches and an inability to remember basic facts predominate. Stay indoors. Keep sharp instruments out of your hands and all will be better soon.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Confusion leads to more confusion this week. Last week's emotional flings have left some people clambering for your soul for life. Hot water and shot-gun weddings may appear if you are not careful and tactful. An escape to Mexico for a week may help, though dark sunglasses and a balaclava may be cheaper. Leave a message on your machine that tells people you have entered a religious order.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Canada Post Corporation figures prominently. A large package will arrive from a far-away destination, a small envelope will be hand-delivered by a sheriff or you will argue with a letter carrier about national standards since the Last Spike was driven. A close relative or mate who works for the corporation will be listening to your comments, so be judicious or you may find your Christmas letters all arrive in March.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Temptation to leave task at hand early should be avoided. Losing good friend (who also happens to be major source of information) just before Christmas will likely mean one less gift for you under the tree. Bad timing, for sure. This is a good week to eat seafood and trim the winter coat of hair on your legs.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept.22): Don't be fooled by the spring-like sunshine blasting through the front

windows. This is gumboot and slicker season — be prepared for winter storms. Here's some good advice — if you leave your car running while you zip into Stan's, don't lock the car doors. Read *Dear Abby* and the *National Enquirer* this week for more profound and relevant advice.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Contain "island fever" feelings by embarking on Vancouver Christmas shopping spree. (Those who stood in line at Changing Habit's 50 per cent off sale last Friday night had a taste of what city life is really like.) While in Vancouver, enjoy queuing up to use the toilet, waiting and waiting for "fast" food and driving among aggressive, cranky-but-determined-to-be-in-the-Christmas-spirit drivers.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Resist urge to drop whining, snivelling cat from top of cedar tree. Feeding it once a day might help eliminate the noise. Of course, a vet could also do the trick. Think electricity this week. If certain parts of your home aren't wired, try rubbing a balloon in your hair or leaving the Bounce out of the dryer for the same effect.


SAGITTARIUS (Nov.22 to Dec.21): It's time to stop moping about the Royal Family's misfortunes and get back to life on a real island. The fresh Canada goose you ordered for birthday dinner is on its way. Don't expect to be so lucky when it comes to Christmas vittles. Repel urge to pick up piece of registered mail.

CAPRICORN (Dec.22 to Jan.19): Give in to demands of loved ones this week. Order the long-desired hot tub, book a Christmas vacation before your life changes forever (again), plant more spring bulbs. Be comforted by the fact you're not as old as you feel and will likely not feel as old as you will become.

AQUARIUS (Jan.20 to Feb.18): Start thinking about Christmas cards this week so they might reach the mailbox by January 10. Energy is also well-spent on creative sabotage plans, making Christmas gifts from bits of mangled toys and conversing with tall dark-haired persons.


PISCES (Feb.19 to March 20): Pay heed when the same message turns up in the two fortune cookies you begged from your waiter at the local Chinese food diner. Take it to a paper and ink analyst for a precise interpretation and advice. Take your empties to the bottle depot.

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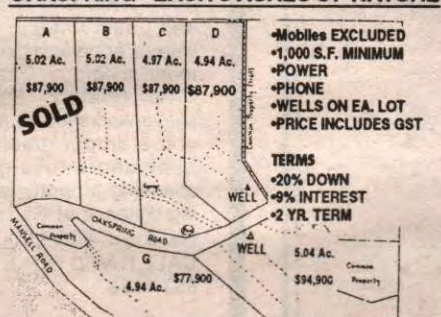
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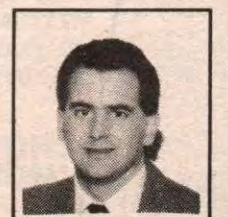
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community

Advent brings mixed emotions

Once again, we find ourselves in the Advent season with its mixed blessings.

Mixed because, for many, it signals a hectic pace, overspent budgets and for some, a certain anticipation of loneliness as they prepare to face a relatively solitary holiday season.

By REVs. BARRY and SHARON COOKE
Driftwood Contributors

For still others it is a time of great challenge — how to keep the profound simplicity of Christ's birth in focus when so much of the hype seduces us into reducing Christmas to the size and colour of Rudolph's nose!

For Christians, the Christmas begins with Advent, the first season of the Christian year. The word "advent" actually means "coming," and it is a time when we focus on the coming of Christ into the world.

But our focus is not only to the

cross currents

past and the celebration of the birth of Jesus nearly 2,000 years ago. It is to the present possibilities of Christ's rebirth within each of us, in our community, and to the future, when God's realm of Shalom (of peace, harmony and justice for all) will arrive in all its fullness.

Advent is a time of expectation and hope. It is a time for us to be particularly aware of God's promise and to be alert for signs of its fulfilment.

The message of Advent is that the hope, the peace, the joy and the love that were born into the world with the child in Bethlehem cannot, and will not, be defeated by the darkness of the world — humanity's need for greed and power, and the inequities for those

marginalized by their gender, race, creed, colour or economic status.

The promise of Advent is that our darkness, despair and death are overcome by the One who is the light of the world.

Most of the Salt Spring churches list a variety of events and services to help us all celebrate Christmas in ways we want to maintain for ourselves and our community — and indeed the ways we want to pass on to the next generation.

This is not a narrow and solemn point of view which pinches the pleasure out of the time, but rather the cultivation of a generous spirit born of a deep thanksgiving for God's presence among us.

May the holiness and joy of Christmas touch us all!

Island man embarks on search for tape sought through letter

Search proves productive and interesting

A plea for help by a Courtenay woman via a letter in the *Driftwood* prompted one Salt Spring resident to solve a puzzle that went back 16 years.

Margaret J. Sibbald's letter appeared November 18 asking for information about a concert that had been taped by the CBC in October 1976. Her mother, Mrs. Barbara Lucas, was a nurse on Salt Spring and sang in a choir here, she said.

Ray Popkin-Clurman came to Sibbald's rescue in locating a tape of the performance. A good friend of his, the late Joan Raeside, had been involved in the musical arrangements for the recording.

"I talked to a very large number of people," Popkin-Clurman said, "who lived on and off-island. They gave me all kinds of leads."

The first thing he discovered was how the mind can mislead after 16 years. Sibbald had remembered the concert as a United Church concert; an audiotape was made; and the concert started with the song

Morning has Broken by Joan Raeside.

These were all close but not close enough. Popkin-Clurman discovered in his painstaking telephoning that the concert had been at St. George's Anglican Church, had been videotaped and that Joan Raeside had arranged the music for the concert and was not the author of the well-known hymn cited above.

The sleuth-work was a "labour of love" for him, Popkin-Clurman said. And on the way, he learned a bit about the event, such as how the recording took more than two hours because the lighting system kept burning fuses. Many people were able to tell him a little bit, from which he pieced together Sibbald's puzzle.

"I'm getting a copy of the tape from the (Anglican) archives in Victoria," Popkin-Clurman said. Sibbald will be visiting the island for Christmas shopping in the near-future and will be presented with the tape.

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89%

of islanders look to the Driftwood for information about local community events.

Proof that the Driftwood delivers

SOURCE: Canadian Facts Local Market Survey '92