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Recreation Highlights:

Upcoming Resident Council Meetings:

- ❖ Dec. 16th - House Aud. at 1pm
- ❖ Dec. 16th - Villa Lounge at 2 pm
- ❖ Dec. 16th - Suites Lounge at 3pm

Melanie Young, Executive Director will be joining these meetings.

Bell Choir & Sandra Performance

December 16th @ 1pm
 House Auditorium

12th Annual Kiwanis Christmas Show

Wednesday December 11th at 6pm
 House Auditorium

Lions Christmas Dinner and Lights Tour

Tuesday December 10th
 Look for posters and don't forget to put your name into the draw to win a seat!

Resident Christmas Brunch

Christmas Eve – December 24th
 House Auditorium. Starting at 9am.

Evening Movies

Join our volunteer Shannon
 Sunday, December 8th + 22nd
 House Auditorium at 6pm

Evening Sing-a-longs

Join our volunteer Josi in the back of the Fireside Dining Room.
 Every Monday starting at 6pm

Drop in Intergeneration Play Group

Upcoming Dates: December 2nd, 9th + 16th.
 The Program will take a short break over the holidays and return on Monday, January 13th.



Getting to Know: Oliver Neaves

On December 7th 1919, the proud parents, Lilly and Oliver Neaves welcomed to this world their son Oliver Edward Neaves. He was born in Eastham – A suburb of London England. Oliver was the third generation to be given the Christian name Oliver, and hence will be known as Oliver 3rd. He was born a year after the Great War, when the world was a glow with relief and promises for the future. Oliver spent his formative years in East Ham and achieved a chartered account degree from East Ham College. In 1939 he married the love of his life, Eileen Bailey. During that same year he was conscripted into the army, as were so many young men of that time. He was soon transferred to the Royal Signal Corps and given one day to learn Morse code an extremely difficult task to do as many of you know. Posted to North Redington in 1941, he immediately began training for the invasion of France. Oliver was promoted to the rank of sergeant commanding a group of individuals specializing in all facets of communication of that time. On D-Day + 6 he landed in France and began the arduous journey through France, Belgium and the Netherlands (Holland) with the final destination – Germany itself. On V.E Day, May 8th 1945 he was in Dusseldorf and after a month's furlong he was transferred to Burma. The “Bomb” was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki – August 6th & 9th 1945. Japan formally surrendered September 2nd 1945. Nevertheless he continued his journey and completed his assigned task of training a special Sikh corps. In 1945, after he was discharged, Oliver spent the next several years with various firms. It was during this time that he and Eileen raised their two young children Brian, who is married to wife Marlese and today reside in Nanaimo and Jennifer who married Bob and now live in (you got it) “Oliver BC.”

However, the next great phase of the Neaves life was about to begin. In 1957, after some convincing from a friend to come and live in Canada, The Neaves family emigrated to Canada – more specifically to Vancouver B.C. Initially Oliver was a cost accountant with Canadian Pittsburg Industries of North Vancouver. He was offered a promotion which ultimately meant a transfer to Toronto. However, the Neaves Family would not entertain leaving the West Coast. Subsequently he worked as an accounts manager for a car dealership in Vancouver. From this career Oliver and family went North where he held the position with the Yukon Territorial Government as Revenue Accounts Treasurer and then as comptroller of Yukon Vocational and a Technical Training Centre. From this position, in September 1967 Oliver started as Secretary/Treasurer for School District 55 in Burns Lake BC. It was from that position he saw an advertisement for the position of accountant at a new educational institution on Vancouver Island. He applied and now the story enters the next great adventure of Oliver and the Neaves family history.

Mr. Neaves received a reply to his application and was invited to Nanaimo to meet the Board of Directors. He accepted the invitation and came to Nanaimo and was interviewed by the Board and was subsequently requested to undergo a series of tests by Leonard Duhurst in Vancouver. He was given excellent results and the Board offered him a position of Secretary/Treasurer of the new institution to be known as “Malaspina College.”

In the fall of 1968 Mr. Neaves accepted and became the first employee of the College. He officially assumed the position in January 1969. The original College was located on Wallace Street and also housed the offices of the College board itself with shared secretarial services of Naomi Paitson. Dr. Carl Opgaard was the first president of the College. The doors to Malaspina College opened after securing a lease on the old Nanaimo Hospital Building and the official opening was Saturday, October 18th, 1969. Details as to the number of students enrolled etc. will be outlined on completion of the article. Over the next three years Mr. Neaves was promoted to the position of Bursar, and he held this post until he retired in 1982.

The College has evolved through various manifestations both in term of faculty, student enrollment, employees and number of campuses until it moved to where the main campus on its present location on Wakesiah Avenue as Malaspina College. Through different Provincial Governments to what was the original Board of Directors envisioned to become and is now known as “Vancouver Island University”

Throughout its history the University has always enjoyed strong leadership both in terms of the first College Board 50 plus years ago and its successors to retain the original vision of Malaspina College – becoming Vancouver Island University. The Board installed in the College a strong leadership with the first employee, Mr. Oliver Neaves and the first President, Dr. Carl Opgaard in 1969. Upon Dr. Opgaards’s retirement in 1978 Mr. Neaves was appointed the Chief Executive Officer of the college and President for the period of one year until a new president was appointed. At that time of Mr. Neaves retirement the College Board personnel and salaries chairmen, Jim Brennan praised his contribution to the college and was quoted: “How often the board been at a moment of indecision, when Mr. Neaves arrived like a Knight on a White Charger and rescued the board”

Since his retirement and acknowledgement by the Malaspina College Board in April 1982 Oliver and Eileen, the real stalwart, perused their personal interests.

Oliver has lived at Kiwanis Village for the past 12 years. He has occupied many position including present of the Village Resident Council, Suites Ambassador and Volunteer at the Corner Store. He remains active, possessing good health, of very sound mind – keen and cheeky wit, and always being particularly addicted to “Amazon” (Continued on Page.2)

(Continued from Page 1) The Kryer wishes to acknowledge your contribution and service you have given your native country – England and adopted country, Canada - and in particular Nanaimo. You have lived through reign of three kings and the longest reign of a monarch in British history – Queen Elizabeth II who still remains your sovereign in Canada. We are so pleased to end this on a positive high. The entire Village wishes to congratulate you on this most momentous day – December 7th, 2019- your **100th Birthday.**
~ Congratulations from The Village Kryer.

A note from the Authors: Dear Oliver III– You have been most gracious in allowing the Kryer to participate in the celebration on this, the date December 7th 2019 – centennial of your life. The Kryer has been given the privilege to write in some small way a brief overview biography from interviews, reminiscence’s and a collection of original keepsakes you have retained through so many years. You have lived through possibly the greatest period of change and hopefully advancement the world has experience. When asked what specially came to mind you offered the following: insulin, vaccines, penicillin, agriculture, GMO, atomic age, space flight, man on the moon, medical knowledge, organ transplant, mechanical wonders, computers, lasers, the smartphone and some small part in the contribution from a tiny seed sown some 50 years ago - Malaspina College to what it is today – Vancouver Island University.

Malaspina College – September 1969/1970.

- ❖ Kennedy Street Campus
- ❖ Domestic Students: 680
- ❖ Faculty Staff: 50
- ❖ Evening courses at Duncan/Cowichan Lake
- ❖ Curriculum: Arts and Science courses towards a university Degree or of College diploma or Courses for providing opportunities of general education and courses designated to upgrade skills in business and industry.

**Transition to Vancouver Island University.. September 1st, 2008
September 2018/2019**

- ❖ Domestic Students: 11,770
- ❖ International Students: 2,542
- ❖ *Total Employees: 1,301*
 - Faculty Staff: 597
 - CUPE Staff: 395
 - BCGEU Staff: 162
 - Administration Staff: 147
 - *Total does not include education auxiliary BCGEU, Casual CUPE, project workers, student workers or regular employees on long term disability)*
- ❖ VIU Campuses: Nanaimo, Duncan, Powell River and Parksville/Qualicum
- ❖ VIU has off campus learning at Deep Bay Marine Station. Milner Gardens and Woodlands and G.R Paine Horticultural Center and many other learning partners.
- ❖ Curriculum: Offer 102 programs; there are 20 different majors/areas of focus offered for the Bachelor of Arts Program. There are 9 different major/areas of focus offered for the Bachelor of Science programs.
- ❖ Red Seal Apprentice Programs: Automotive, Baker, Carpenter, Professional Cook, Electrical, Heavy Duty Mechanic, Refrigeration and Welder



Antidotes from Bonnie



My mom made me a scarf,
Purple, pink and red.
She just kept right on knitting –
Didn’t even go to bed.

And soon that scarf wound round my neck
Twenty times or more.
It wound itself around my room
And even around the door.

That scarf was warm and cozy.
It kept me warm all day.
I even shared with all my friends
When I went out to play



Getting to Know: Anna Martin – Kiwanis Lodge Social Worker

I have worked at Kiwanis Village since:
2012

The best piece of advice I have ever been given:
Never say Never!

My Favorite Color is:
Orange!

My favorite place in the world is:
Gabriola Island

If I could live in any decade I would chose:
This one

Something you Probably Don’t know about me is:
I have 4 sisters – Two older & Two Younger

The things that give me the most joy in my life include:
My son’s sense of humor, Honesty + A good tune!



RCMP Presentation – Scams + Frauds:

On November 16th we had Constable O’Brien from the Nanaimo RCMP stop by Kiwanis Village to present some important information about how to protect yourself from Frauds & Scams.

A few major warning signs of a (phone) scam:

- The caller asks for your personal credit card information
- The caller acts like your best friend
- Everything is very time sensitive – “one-time offer”
- If you are ever in doubt or something doesn’t seem right – just hang up!



Copies of his complete presentation can be picked up from Chris Smith or Lyndsay Webster.

Corner Store Review Results

On Monday October 21st, 2019, Selene Lincoln and Fraser Irvine, two fourth-year Therapeutic Recreation students from Douglas College visited Kiwanis Village. The purpose of the visit was to conduct focus groups with staff and residents regarding the corner store, as part of a service-learning project completed on behalf of Kiwanis Village to gain credits for our management class.

The project included gathering data through surveys, as well as interviewing residents in focus groups about the overall use and satisfaction of the Corner Store. The surveys were printed as well as available online; thank you to those who took the time to fill one out! In total, we had 57 responses full of fantastic input!

In the focus groups during residents' council meetings, the students posed two questions:

#1. If you could have "you dream corner store," what would it look like?

#2. What does the store offer your life currently?

Many gave input during the focus groups. All answers were written on chart board paper, and we created four pages full of great ideas. We want to extend a big thank you to everyone who participated in our General Store Project. This includes anyone who completed surveys participated in focus groups and gave input at your resident council meetings. All of your input was valuable. Here's what we heard:

- The store is a great service that is used by the majority of Kiwanis community members
- The store carries basic groceries and adequately meets residents needs
- The majority of residents are happy with the store, but see the potential for increased inventory, and a system to ensure milk is always stocked!

Here's what we think:

- The store holds a lot of potential
- The space is great, but could be utilized a little bit more to create a greater sense of community feel – the addition of bistro tables would be a great place to start!

Here's what we recommend:

- Increasing the store's hours of operation
- Increasing the volunteer roster to allow for growth
- Creating community partnerships with:
 - Bakeries
 - Artisans
 - Coffee shops
- Implementing a delivery service on an as-needed basis
- serving some hot breakfast items in the store
- Adding an over-the-counter medications and increased toiletries in the store.



It was a wonderful experience visiting Kiwanis Village. The warmth and hospitality we received from everyone we interacted with was truly genuine. Special thanks to Lyndsay Webster for hosting us and to Melanie and her team for welcoming us! You have such a remarkable community of people nestled in this beautiful little village in Nanaimo.

Thank-you

Selene Lincoln + Fraser Irvine

Special Note: Selene Lincoln will be joining Kiwanis to complete her Recreation Therapy Internship with the Recreation Department starting on January 6th! She will be completing 480 hours in our department - If you see her please say "Hello!"

Staff Service Awards

On October 3rd we gathered in the Auditorium to celebrate the wonderful staff at Kiwanis Village who have hit a milestone of working at Kiwanis Village for 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service! We celebrated 26 Kiwanis Village team members on this day! A few are pictured in the image. Congratulations to everyone who was recognized!



If you have happy news to share please Call or Email: lyndsaywebster@kiwanisvillage.ca or call (250)-740-3689 and we will include it in this section of our newsletter!

Thank-you: Tea Fundraiser

On November, 2nd.2019 a tea was held in the auditorium to raise funds for the Tuesday + Thursday afternoon exercise classes run by Tara McNeil.

It was a great event that raised **\$1,308!**

Special thanks are owed to Melanie, Heidi, Carmen and Lyndsay who helped in many different roles to make it a success.

Thanks all and especially those who took the time to attend the occasion.



You don't stop laughing because you grow old.
You grow old because you stop Laughing.