



MAN SLAIN IN HARRISON HOME INVASION
WESTCOAST NEWS | B1



GREEN CHRISTMAS & MORE GREEN GUIDE | SECTION N



PAPER OR PLASTIC?
WESTCOAST NEWS | B1



HERE COMES SANTA GIFT GUIDE | SECTION K

WEEKEND EDITION

THE VANCOUVER SUN

FINAL EDITION www.vancouversun.com

SERIOUSLY WESTCOAST SINCE 1912

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2007



Hells Angels clubhouse



\$2.8 million+ in cash



\$6.3 million+ in houses



Hummer and a Yukon



Guns, jewelry, etc.

SEIZED: Courts get their hands on the profits of crime

SPECIAL REPORT

A powerful new weapon in the war against organized crime is being used to take guns, drugs — even houses — from B.C. criminals

BY NEAL HALL
VANCOUVER SUN

A small provincial government office in Victoria has quietly seized millions of dollars in houses, guns, drugs, vehicles, jewelry and other assets allegedly bought with crime money or used for unlawful purposes.

The Civil Forfeiture Act, enacted 17 months ago, has proven a powerful weapon in the war against organized crime. So far, no one has gone to trial to try to reclaim any property seized by the two-person civil forfeiture unit.

The proceeds of crime legislation hit the spotlight earlier this month when heavily armed Mounties executed a court order to seize the Hells Angels clubhouse of the Nanaimo chapter,

including three Harley-Davidson motorcycles and other contents.

A review of the civil forfeiture files in B.C. Supreme Court indicates a variety of cases, ranging from substantial bundles of cash seized by police during routine traffic stops to the seizure of a flashy Hummer from a man who twice bragged to police that he was making \$100,000 a month as a cocaine dealer in the Victoria area.

Some seized homes were allegedly

used for marijuana-growing operations. In a case in Mission, police observed an accused drug trafficker delivering Safeway deli trays and buckets of Kentucky Fried Chicken to four dozen hungry pot "harvesters," who were arrested at the scene during a police raid.

One of the men making the fast-food delivery — alleged to be a high-level drug trafficker — had his \$1.3-million Burnaby home later seized, along with

more than \$126,000 in furnishings selected by an interior designer — rugs, a \$5,000 chaise longue, a Tuscan sofa, dining room suite, custom audio-video cabinet and \$7,000 worth of beds.

The interior designer also helped design a new gazebo that featured a hot tub and masonry work.

Other seized homes were allegedly connected to large-scale money laundering and investment fraud.

Items seized have included a \$73,800 diamond ring, a \$13,500 Piaget watch and other jewelry, but there have also been such mundane items as cell-phones and a BlackBerry allegedly used for drug trafficking.

See SEIZURE OF A4

- **KO'd: A retired boxer loses his house in drug sting, A4**
- **Judge brands Hells Angels a criminal organization, A4**
- **THE LIST: Take a look at what's been seized, A5**

Sun Children's Fund looks for a home for its \$500,000 legacy

Thanks to readers, the charity has granted \$6 million over the past 26 years to help sick and at-risk children. Now we're adding to it



SHELLEY FRALIC
VANCOUVER SUN
COLUMNIST

It was in 1981 that Clark Davey, then the publisher of *The Vancouver Sun*, had a great idea.

Why not take this newspaper's might, he said — by which he meant its staff of talented writers, its integrity, its printing press and its social commitment to the community — and do something special for children in need in British Columbia.

And thus was born *The Vancouver Sun Children's Fund*, a charity that raises funds through reader donations — including our annual Christmas campaign, which starts today — and, in turn, disburses money through an endowment to organizations around the province dedicated to helping sick and at-risk children.

The Children's Fund has been busy these past 26 years, bolstered by your unwavering generosity, raising \$9.5 million and granting \$6 million to 835 B.C. children's charities.

And while the fund has traditionally focused on smaller grants — summer camps for disabled kids, physical therapy programs, subsidies for children living in poverty — today we're announcing something much bigger.

That's because, thanks to you and yours these past three decades, we are in an enviable financial position, with a healthy nest egg that has been accumulating alongside our original endowment funds, which total \$2.5 million.

See **THE \$500,000** A6

Hyper-hush surrounds 2010 Games mascots 'til Tuesday

BY JEFF LEE
VANCOUVER SUN

On Tuesday, the biggest Olympic secret since Vancouver's unveiling of its Inukshuk logo two years ago will be revealed when the mascots for the 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics are made public.

The drama has been building. Websites and blogs have been speculating on what inevitably cuddly, cute creatures the Vancouver Organizing Committee has come up with.

What's at stake is an indelible image Vanoc wants recognized around the world, representative



On Tuesday, Vanoc unveils the 2010 Games mascot (and partner to logo Inukshuk, pictured above).

of British Columbia and Canada. They want mascots that will tie children and youth into the Olympic movement and to the Winter Games.

They also expect the mascots to drive their marketing and licence revenues.

On Wednesday morning licensees will stock stores with every manner of mascot-branded toy, clothing and trinket.

See **HYPER-SECREC** A2

INSIDE

Arts & Life	F1	Peter McKnight	C5
David Baines	D2	Pete McMartin	B1
Births & Deaths	H10	Movies	F17
Books	C8	Malcolm Parry	B4
Bridge	E8	Sports	H1
Business	D1	Sudoku	F15
Classified	I1	TV	F14
Cam Cole	H1	Douglas Todd	C4
Comics	F15, I5	Travel	G1
Crossword	E8, F19, F20	Weekend Review	C1
Editorials	C2	Westcoast Homes	LL, M1
Ferry Schedule	E8	Working	E1
Horoscope	F19	Barbara Yaffe	C5
Issues/Ideas	C4		

Pleasant but damper
Full report, E8

canada.com



Keep it cool and casual this Christmas

MEN'S FASHION | Being seriously Westcoast can often be about being seriously laid-back — even in December

BY LUCY HYSLOP

Mashing laid-back West Coast attitude with wit, edge and even guts is increasingly where Vancouver's style is at. "Casual" meaning "sloppy" is long gone; think more of a city paving its own distinct way on the runway. Which all makes for an almost effortless shopping spree for him this holiday — especially when it comes to one of the most popular clothing presents for men: T-shirts. Ever since Frankie told us to Relax in the 80s, designers have been inventing images and slogans to get our feelings off our chests. Dadabase (the brainchild of a pair of uber-hip Vancouver-based artists, Mo Salemy and Ignacio Corral) keeps the closet-staple T-shirt looking fly.

The selection is extensive at the store-cum-art gallery (183 East Broadway; 604-709-9934; www.dadabase.ca), but in particular check out Government's fun-in-dysfunctional "My Life is a Sham," \$39, and the rather controversial Intelligent's "Dadabase five-year anniversary," \$25.99, which features Saddam Hussein on the front.

More pricy but just as edgy are the T-shirts found at Guerrilla (8 Water St.; 604-618-1344; www.komakino.ca). At the vanguard of ever-evolving, Berlin-inspired stores that change their locations every six months or so, the owner



TOP: Lacoste Graduate pinstripe, \$135, available at J2, Sterling Shoes, Town Shoes and Boysco

ABOVE: Lacoste Carnaby RS, \$125, available at Sterling Shoes.

Campbell McDougall will import back to the capital city when he opens his own store there next year.

In the meantime, check out the wit and wisdom of his designer T-shirts in Gastown: Folsom Prison Johnny Cash concert, \$166, and Guitar with Nashville on back, \$211, both by Number (N)ine.

Don't forget the not-so-humble hoodie. The sports-streetwear

crossover, that's equally for the man who likes to sweat while clubbing as much he does while downward-dogging, is in all its glorious guises this season: for a black mainstay, try the French Terry jogging hoodie, \$60, at Karma (2066 West Fourth Ave.; 604-731-7747; www.karmaathletics.com). Pair it with trendy Mavi premium paper-denim jeans, \$128, (2112 West Fourth Ave., 604-738-6284; www.mavi.com).

Marked by its distinctive crocodile, seek out Lacoste's startlingly white new trainers: Oppie, \$195, at Town Shoes (Metrotown; 604-454-9002; www.townshoes.com) and Browns (at The Bay); Graduate pinstripe, \$135, at Sterling Shoes, Town Shoes and Boys' Co (1044 Robson; 604-684-5656; www.boysco.com); and Carnaby RS, \$125, also at Sterling Shoes (1073 Robson; 604-685-1421; www.sterlingshoes.com), or find them online at www.lacoste.com

Living in our rainforest — and for a good talking point, it also makes sense to test drive the latest "breathable shoes" at Geox (980 Robson; 604-915-7775; www.geox.com); the Winter Snake, \$130, or Early It, \$140, or ChAT, \$160.

For the ultimate hobo sapiens look, wrap it all up this holiday in an overcoat such as the Viridi-Anne blanket, \$2,216, (also found at Guerrilla).

With its de rigueur oversized hood and double zip, the winter will never feel so toasty.

Special to the Sun

Karma French Terry Jogging Hoodie, \$60. Available at Karma.

World's Leading Brands, Available Exclusively at Piano House

Special Holiday Pricing 50% OFF



My Life is a Sham T-shirts from Dadabase, \$25.99.