



Similkameen

News Leader

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Tuesday, July 28, 2009



Nadine McEwen assists a Summer Adventure Camp participant with a project. *

RDOS implements open fire ban

Due to the current high to extreme fire hazard in our regional area and the anticipated continuation of unfavorable weather conditions, the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen (RDOS) is implementing a temporary open fire ban.

Effective at noon July 24, 2009 and until further notice, all open fires including campfires are prohibited in the RDOS. This ban is in conjunction with the Ministry of Forests and Range, BC Forest

Service - Kamloops Fire Centre Open Fire Ban.

This open fire ban is in effect to protect public safety and to limit the risk of person-caused wildfires. This ban does not restrict fires in stoves using gas, propane, or briquettes, but does restrict fires in portable wood burning fireplaces and campfires.

The RDOS thanks the public for their co-operation in complying with the temporary ban.

Water supply/streamflow condition update

A combination of below-normal snowpack accumulations this winter, and a dry, hot spring and summer have resulted in low streamflow conditions for rivers in the southern interior and south coast of British Columbia.

Rainfall in these areas has remained below average since April, with most rain resulting from convective storm cells, which produced localized rather than widespread rainfall. This, in combination with the prolonged hot weather and abundant sunshine, has resulted in rapid evaporation of soil water and surface water, causing river levels to recede more quickly than usual and leaving some rivers at record low flows for this time of year.

Given this outlook, Environment Minister Barry Penner urges all British Columbians to help conserve our water resources. For details on how to become a more efficient water user, visit www.livingwatersmart.ca.

[livingwatersmart.ca](http://www.livingwatersmart.ca).

While there are low streamflow conditions for rivers in the southern interior and south coast, rivers in central and northern British Columbia (North Thompson, Cariboo, Upper Fraser, Peace, Skeena, Liard) had normal or above normal snowpacks at the end of the winter, and have received periods of frontal rain during June and July. Therefore, rivers in these areas are near or above their median levels and are not of concern.

Areas of low flow concern include:

South Thompson Basin

- Nicola and Coldwater rivers are at or below their low flows of record (40-50 year low flows).

- Chase Creek and the South Thompson, Salmon, Eagle, Seymour and Bonaparte rivers are all near 10-20 year low flows.

Similkameen River Basin

- A drought for Osoyoos Lake was declared in May, based on a forecast of well below normal runoff for the Similkameen River.

- Tulameen and Similkameen rivers at Princeton are near 20-30 year

low flows.

- Similkameen River at Hedley is near a 15-20 year low flow.

Okanagan River and Kettle River Basin

- Inflows to Okanagan Lake have been well below normal for the past 12 months, and are ranked as the fifth-lowest since measurement began in 1918.

- Camp, Mission, Trepanier and Vaseux creeks, are near 10-20 year low flows.

- Coldstream Creek (near Vernon) and Shatford Creek (near Penticton) have higher flows, being only near two-year low flows, possibly as a result of some localized rain.

- Kettle River (Westbridge, Grand Forks) is at a 10-20 year low flow.

South Coast

- Chilliwack, Squamish and Coquihalla rivers, as well as the Coquitlam River above Coquitlam Lake, are all near 10-20 year low flows.

- Stave and Clowhom rivers are near 20-30 year low flows.

- Low relief, valley bottom rivers in the Fraser Valley appear to be experiencing significant low flow.

The Nicomekl River in Surrey and Langley is currently below its record low flow for this time of year.

Vancouver Island

- Tofino Creek, Harris Creek near Lake Cowichan, and Oyster River near Campbell River are near their low flow of record for the date, and near 20-30 year low flows.

- Chemainus River, Browns Creek near Courtenay, and Salmon River near Sayward are near 10-20 year low flows.

- Nanaimo and Englishman rivers are near two-to-four year low flows.

The Fraser River though the Lower Mainland is also below normal, near a two-to-four-year low flow for the date. This largely

results from the low Thompson River flows. The Fraser River upstream of the Thompson River currently is near its normal levels.

Significant, widespread frontal rainfall is required to ease the low flow situation, but with the expected dry and hot weather in the forecast, river levels will continue to drop.

There is a strong possibility that some rivers in the south interior and south coast may approach or exceed absolute lows of record in four-to six weeks.

This will likely result in low water supply, lower than normal lake and reservoir levels, and reduced groundwater levels. In some areas, fish and other aquatic organisms may be affected.

See some smoke?

The BC Forest Service relies on travellers and residents to report smoke and fires to them.

If you see something you suspect is possibly a forest fire, report it by calling 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on most cellular networks.

BCFS says campers, hikers, ranchers, travelers and other 'ordinary folk' provide a vital link in the chain of events - which includes early detection of wildfires.

Early detection has assisted forest fire fighting crews in keeping many

wildfires from getting out of control.

To find out more about wildfires burning in the province visit the BC Wildfires website at www.bcwildfire.ca.

Similkameen News Leader



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The News Leader's George Elliott snapped this photo of a helicopter putting out hot spots in the Glenrosa Fire near the junction of Highways 97 and 97C. "I thought the cloud in the background was part of the Glenrosa fire in the distance and didn't realize until I got further up the highway that it was a different fire," Elliott says. "Then by the next morning I realized I had caught on film the early signs of the massive Terrace Mountain fire located north of Kelowna." *

Lightning sets off series of fires

The Kamloops Fire Centre is feeling the effects of the series of thunderstorms that passed through the fire centre July 23rd. Gusty winds and most areas with little or no precipitation are accompanying the multiple hits of scattered lightning.

Resources are being allocated according to priority, with interface fires being the highest priority. Approximately 70 spot fires, which are 10 meters by 10 meters in size,

have been detected as a result of the lightning. The Kamloops Fire Centre expects this number to rise as the storm sweeps across the province.

In anticipation of this lightning storm, fire officials have repositioned air and ground resources from quieter portions of the province to the more active areas such as the Thompson Okanagan area.

As well, crews and individual resources from across Canada have begun arriving at the Nicola Fire Base in Merritt. Once they have received their safety briefings and equipment, they will join the ranks of the Kamloops fire suppression personnel on fires.

As lightning becomes more common approaching the summer season, it's crucial that crews are available to respond to naturally occurring wildfires. Person-caused wildfires divert critical resources away from managing these naturally occurring fires.

The BC Forest Service asks that everyone be especially vigilant when enjoying outdoor activities this summer. As well, we wish to thank the public for their cooperation and continuing to report wildfires. Almost half of all fires in BC are reported by the public. If you see smoke or flames, please call 1-800-663-5555 or dial *5555 on most cellular networks. For further info, please call 1-888-3FOREST or visit the B.C. Wildfire Management program website at www.bcwildfire.ca.

The News Leader also received reports of as many as ten new spot fires located around Princeton following the lightning storm last week, but were unable to confirm that number.

"There's no doubt there were some spot fires set as a result of the lightning," says News Leader Owner/Publisher George Elliott.

"At least one helicopter with a water bucket was in the area and spotter planes have been flying around for days."

Smoke visible from a distance

The Kamloops Fire Centre is receiving multiple phone reports from the public relaying concern regarding the massive column of smoke to the southeast of the Kamloops area.

Kamloops fire officials would like to ensure the public that this column of smoke is the result of the Terrace Mountain Fire, which is over 70 kilometres away from the city of Kamloops.

Due to the expansion of the

smoke, it is deceiving and appears to be closer than the actual distance.

The phone reports have been of genuine concern and we would like to put the public at ease by addressing the concern of callers; however, we are asking the public to refrain from calling in reports on that column of smoke. The Kamloops Fire Centre is monitoring the smoke and fire activity of the Terrace Mountain Fire.

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Open fires restricted in Kamloops Fire District

Effective at noon on July 24, 2009 and until further notice, campfires are prohibited in the Kamloops Fire Centre. This is in addition to

the Category 1, 2 and 3 restrictions already in place.

This open fire ban is in effect to protect public safety and to limit

the risk of person-caused wildfires.

Open fire is defined in three categories. A Category 1 open fire means an open fire that burns piled

material no larger than one metre high and one metre wide. This Category 1 open fire ban includes the use of campfires.

A Category 2 open fire means an open fire that burns piled material no larger than two metres high and three metres wide, or grass over an area less than 0.2 hectares (2,000 square metres) in size.

A Category 3 open fire means an open fire that burns material in piles larger than two metres high and three metres wide, windrows, or grass over an area larger than 0.2 hectares (2,000 square metres) in size.

This open fire ban applies within BC Parks and to all public (Crown) and private land outside of organized areas. This fire ban does not apply within municipalities or regional districts that have their own burning bylaws. Please check with your local authorities before lighting a fire this summer.

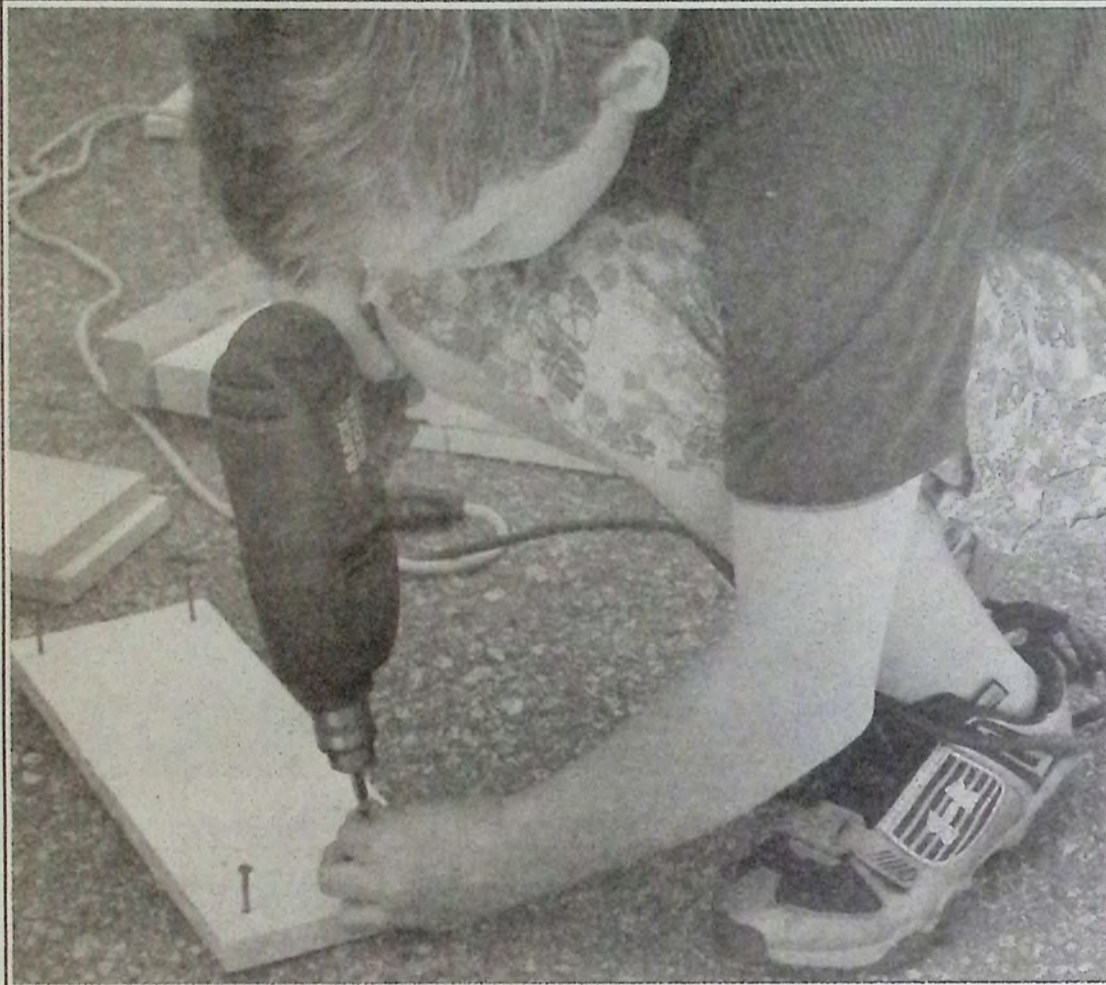
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protect public safety and to limit the risk of person-caused wildfires. This ban does not restrict fires in stoves using gas, propane, or briquettes, but does restrict fires in portable wood burning fireplaces.

The Kamloops Fire Centre extends from the northern border of Wells Gray Park, north of Blue River to the US border in the south, and from the Bridge River Glacier west of Goldbridge to the Monashee Mountains east of Lumby.

On average, half of all of wildfires are caused by human activity. The BC Forest Service thanks the public for their co-operation in complying with the ban and assisting in the detection of wildfires. If you see a wildfire, please report it to 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on most cellular networks.

For more information on open fire restrictions or for updates on current wildfire activity, visit www.bcwildfire.ca



Morton Johnston gets busy with power tools at the Summer Adventure Camp. *

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Similkameen News Leader



Princeton Town Hall News

BURNING PROHIBITION

Due to the extreme wildfire hazard rating in the Kamloops Forest District effective immediately ALL open burning is prohibited within the town boundaries. This includes fire pits, outdoor fireplaces and fires for cooking.

This fire ban is in place to limit the risk of human-caused wildfires and applies to all properties within the town boundaries

This ban will remain in force until further notice.

By order of the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Commissioner Gregson.

THANK YOU

Sincere thanks to all our volunteers that made the Airshow and the Airport Appreciation day a huge success.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with gate entrances, the children's area, hostessing, setup and cleanup.

Thanks too, to the businesses and groups who volunteered, including: the Princeton Basketball Association, the Princeton Volunteer Fire Department, Search and Rescue, the RCMP, COPS, our town crew, Airport Dave, and Billy's Restaurant. If we've forgotten you, thank you.

BC DAY OFFICE CLOSING

Princeton town hall will be closed Monday August 3 for BC Day. We will resume normal hours on Tuesday, August 4.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

Please respect the *water restrictions* that are in effect from *May 15 to September 30*. If you are an odd numbered home you are permitted to water on odd numbered days, if you are an even numbered home you are permitted to water on even numbered days. Sprinkling is prohibited between noon and 6 pm on your watering day.

Your cooperation will ensure a reliable water system for all residents.

2009 PROPERTY TAX NOTICES

Tax Notices for 2009 have been mailed. If you have not received a Tax Notice please contact the Town Office at 169 Bridge Street or telephone 250-295-3135. Owners are responsible for 2009 Taxes and applicable penalties, regardless of whether or not a Tax Notice is received.

Payments and/or Provincial Home Owner Grant applications must be in the hands of the Collector at the Town Office by close of business on Friday July 31, 2009 to avoid the penalty of 10%.

Postmarks are NOT accepted as date of payment.

SUMMER DAYCAMPS FOR KIDS

Summer Adventure Camps

Join our summer leaders for an active week or day of games, crafts, swimming, local trips and more. Kids have so much fun they are tired at the end of the day!!

Cost: \$75 per week or \$15 per day Open 9am-3pm Located at VFE School Monday to Friday Ages: gr.1-7

Aaron Heuser Memorial Basketball Camp

The Aaron Heuser Memorial Fund sponsors this program so that the children of Princeton can learn about the game that Aaron loved so much. Skill development, games, endurance and fun are what this camp is all about. Prizes and lunch are provided on the last day. Ages 9-12 yrs Tuesday to Friday at PSS Gym 11am to 2pm Cost: FREE

Call 250-295-6067 to register today!

GARBAGE & RECYCLING REMINDER

Curbside Garbage Collection

Princeton residents have a two bag/can garbage limit per week. A limit of TWO standard size garbage cans or bags will be allowed each collection week. A standard size garbage bag is 90 litres.

If you produce more than the two bags limit per week, up to two extra bags of garbage can be picked up at the curb provided garbage bags are tagged with the special "tag-a-bag" stickers. "Tag-a-bag" stickers are available at the Princeton Town Office, 169 Bridge Street at a cost of \$2.00.

Refuse shall contain only household garbage; Each container (bag) shall weigh no more than 26 pounds or 12KG, each container (garbage can) shall be of a standard size not exceeding 90 litres in size.

Metals, appliances, wood product, lawn debris, furniture, automotive parts, etc. will not be picked up.

Dangerous goods such as oils, used filters, antifreeze, solvents, paints or any other containers where contents cannot be ascertained will not be picked up.

Curbside Recycling Collection

Recyclables will be picked up weekly on your regular garbage collection day. There is no limit to the number of recycling bags that will be picked up. Recyclables must be placed in a clear or blue see through plastic bag.

Materials that WILL BE picked up include: plastic bottles and containers-No. 2 plastic only-milk, bleach, soap, shampoo, etc. (rinsed), newspapers, magazines, all other paper and cereal boxes (do not bundle), cardboard, flattened (if too large, can be placed loose), tin cans - soup, pop, beer, etc (rinsed)

Items that WILL NOT be picked up include: glass jars, bottles, oil and oil filters, household grease, any demolition products - drywall, tile, wood, etc., electronic products, yard waste, lawn clippings, branches, etc, household waste, batteries

NO STYROFOAM—NO PACKING MATERIAL/CARTONS
NO DISHES—NO FILM PLASTIC—SHOPPING BAGS, PELLET BAGS, WRAPPING

Please ensure that garbage and recycling is at the curbside by 8:00 am on your collection day.

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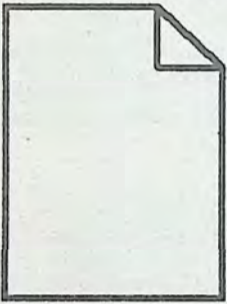


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Keremeos News



Michelyn Lepage (Jack's Mother) and Annika Dauphinais (Jack) regret they must sell their cow in The Kidsummer Players production of 'Jack and The Beanstalk,' July 23rd in Cawston Hall Park. -photo submitted

Players end first program

The Kidsummer Players wound up the first of two story theatre programs on Thursday, July 23rd with a production of the classic fairy tale, Jack and The Beanstalk.

The Kidsummer Fun story theatre series is a program under the Similkameen Family Literacy umbrella which promotes the enjoyment and good use of language in written, read, heard and spoken communication for all ages.

Story Theatre involved script

work, voice and movement, stagecraft and co-operative play.

Advance registration for 8 to 12 year olds is required at Lower Similkameen Community

Services Society, between 8:00 AM to 12noon until Thursday, August 6th. Call (250) 499-2352.

The program is free and registration is limited. - submitted

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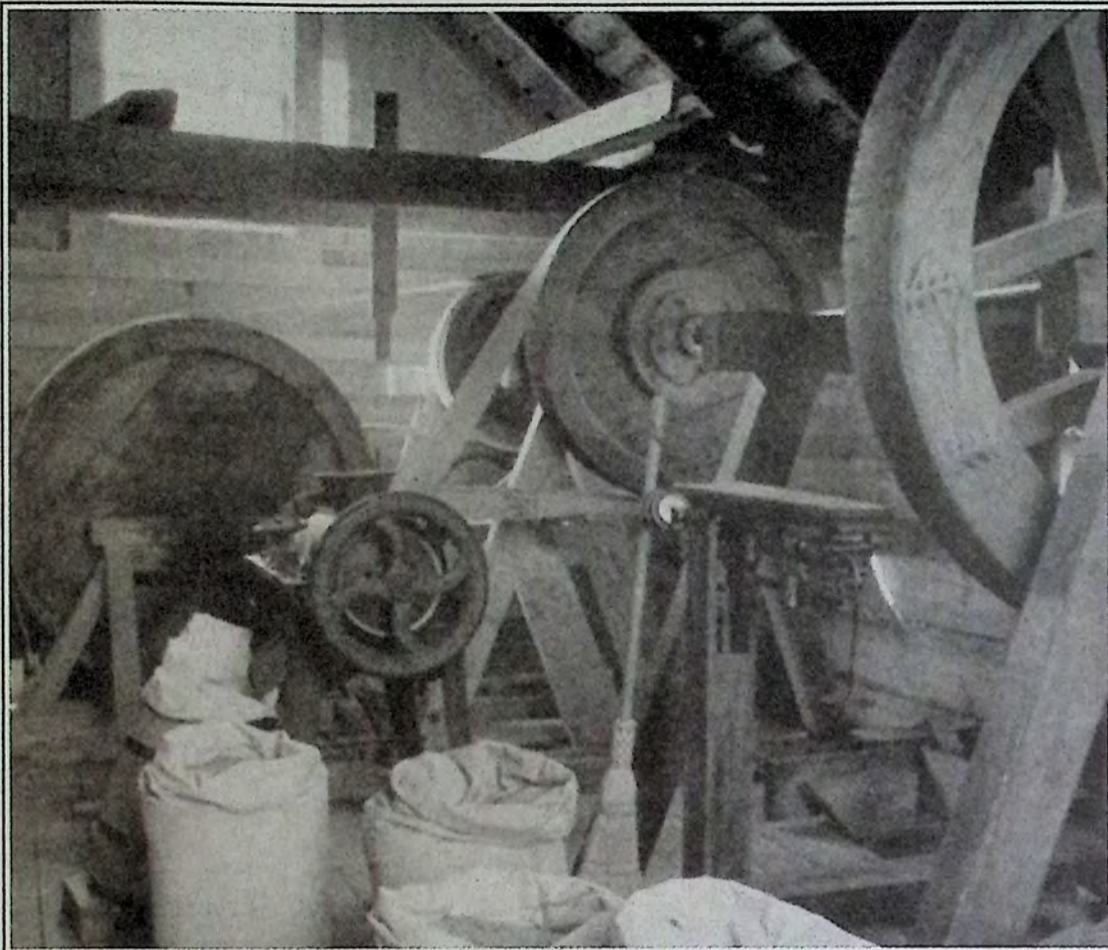
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"Trade these magic beans for your cow!" Annika Dauphinais, (Jack), negotiates with Noah Gumpert, (Mr. Snipe), in The Kidsummer Players production of 'Jack and The Beanstalk.' - photo submitted



A look inside the Keremeos Grist Mill. - photo submitted

Heritage club plans events

A second creekside family picnic is being organized for BC Day Weekend on Sunday evening, August 2nd at the Keremeos Grist Mill and Gardens.

There will be entertainment on the outdoor stage from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, including "Hot Apple Pie" from Summerland.

The first family picnic and fundraiser on Canada Day evening raised over \$600 to assist with site improvements. Much of the success of the Canada Day event was due to special donation of food for the barbecue from Keremeos Valu

Plus.

Brenda and Jim Millar from Port Moody are the new Grist Mill site operators.

They are also curators at The Port Moody Railway Museum. The Grist Mill and Gardens, including historic exhibits, are presently opened on weekends.

The Grist Mill Heritage Club is organizing a number of events this season with the goal of bringing the community on to the Grist Mill site to enjoy our own local "heritage treasure".

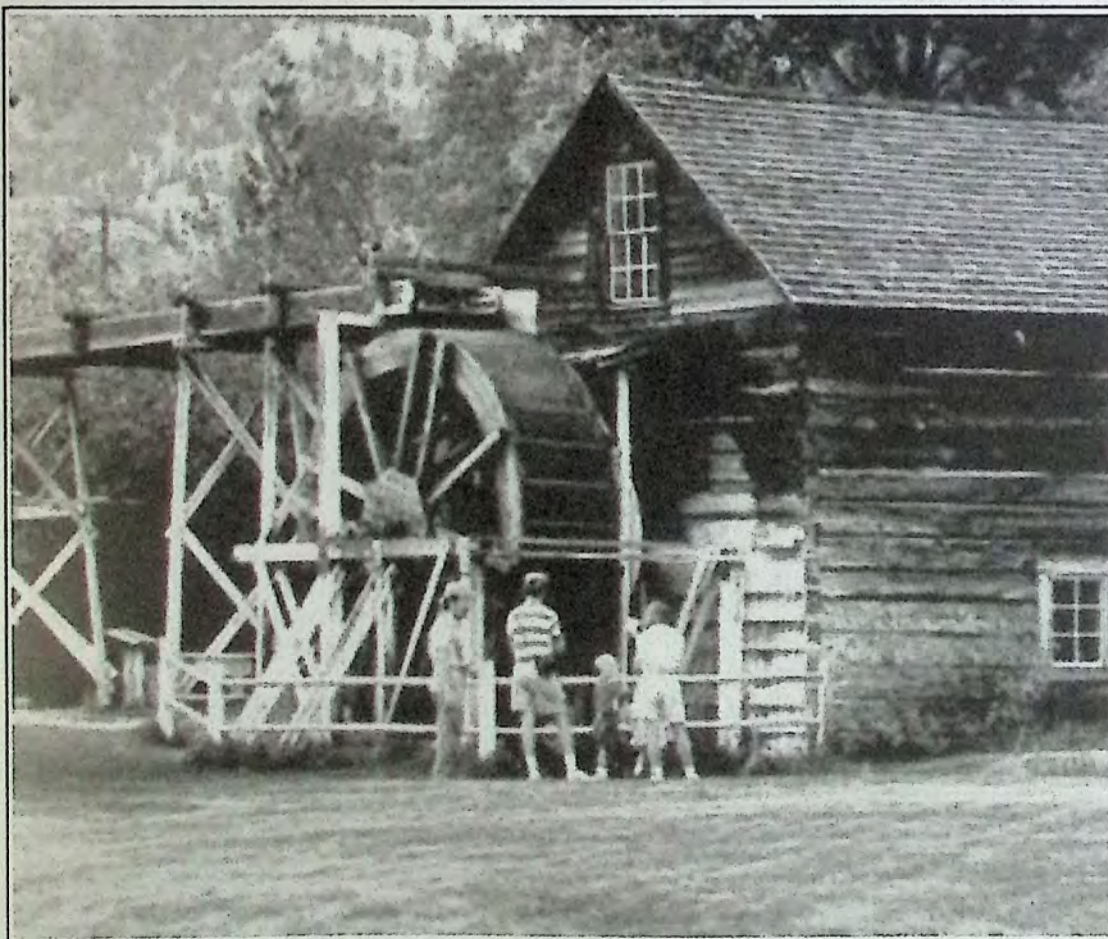
Memberships in the Grist Mill

Heritage Club go on sale Monday, July 27th.

A \$25 annual membership includes a season's pass to the Grist Mill exhibits and reception tea room, bulletins about upcoming activities and a welcome to participate in organizing events and lending volunteer support.

For the August 2nd evening picnic bring your chair or a blanket and your favourite picnic stuffs. There will lemonade, tea and coffee available.

Admission is \$5 and free to those 12 years and under. - submitted



The historic Keremeos Grist Mill. - photo submitted

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Health / Lifestyle News

Smoky skies and your health

Residents of the Okanagan regions and other areas affected by the West Kelowna fires should be aware that smoke conditions and local air pollution levels can change due to the unpredictable nature of fires.

Individuals with heart or lung conditions may be more sensitive to the effects of smoke from forest fires. These individuals should watch for any change in symptoms that may be due to smoke exposure. If any symptoms are noted, affected individuals should take steps to reduce their exposure to smoke and if necessary see their physician or local walk-in clinic.

People with severe symptoms should present themselves to the nearest Emergency Department.

Reducing Exposure to Smoke

There are some actions you can take to reduce the health effects of smoke

in the air:

- Use common sense regarding outdoor physical activity – if your breathing becomes difficult or uncomfortable, stop or reduce the activity.

- You may be able to reduce your exposure to smoke by moving to cleaner air. Large air conditioned areas such as shopping malls will likely provide improved air quality. However, not all air conditioning systems, e.g. some household systems, will necessarily improve air quality. Conditions can vary dramatically by area and elevation.

- Residents with asthma or other chronic illness should activate their asthma or personal care plan.

- If necessary, see your physician or visit a local walk-in clinic.

For general information about smoke and your health, contact

HealthLink BC available toll free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 8-1-1, or via the web at: <http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp>.

If the public wants to know the Air Quality Health Index for their region, log on to www.airhealthbc.ca or call (250) 952-2039.

During a forest fire, it's also important to be aware of health risks associated with food safety in power outages and water quality. Interior Health's website contains helpful information and other resources related to forest fire smoke exposure / air quality, as well as food safety when the power is out and ensuring your drinking water is safe. Visit www.interiorhealth.ca, click on the Health & Safety tab at the top of the page, then follow the links for Emergency Information > Forest Fires.

Treating an unexpected allergic reaction

(NC)—Unexpected allergic reactions can run the gamut from a mild bout of sneezing and itchy watery eyes to itchy skin and hives. From bug bites to plants and even detergents, it's often impossible to know the cause of a reaction. Allergist Dr. Mark Greenwald offers these tips on what care is needed if you find you or a loved one is experiencing a sudden onset of mild allergy symptoms:

- Remove the person from contact with the allergen, if the allergen is suspected to be something in the air or on the skin.

- Choose the right antihistamine: "For mild to moderate allergic reac-

tions, antihistamines are the first line of defense," says Dr. Greenwald. "Unlike many over-the-counter options, Benadryl is an effective option for treating unexpected allergic reactions." Benadryl is available in a variety of different formats for both children and adults, so it's prudent to keep some on hand – just in case.

- Soothe skin reactions with cold,

wet cloths or ice wrapped in a towel. "New topical antihistamines such as Benadryl Itch Spray and Itch Stick can also provide fast relief from itchiness and pain, and are safe for children over the age of 2," says Dr. Greenwald.

- If the reaction is severe, call 9-1-1 or go immediately to a hospital emergency department. Don't try to wait it out at home!

Living Past 100

Life Is Better With Blueberries

Blueberry season is upon us, and we are wise if we stock up on them at this time of year. Eat all you can while they are fresh, but do not hesitate to freeze them. They will still be a power-packed food when thawed. If you freeze blueberries, you don't have to do anything but wash and stem them, then throw them in the freezer bag.

Blueberries, like so many berries, including our own saskatoons, contain a compound called ellagic acid. Strawberries and blackberries have the most, but blueberries are among the best. This acid is a powerful antioxidant and can prevent or reduce damage caused by free radicals. Ellagic acid helps prevent cancer.

Blueberries contain a lot of Vitamin C and fibre. The fibre in berries is unusual. This fibre is extremely absorbent, drawing lots of water into the bowels, making constipation unlikely and clean bowels a side effect.

Although some people love to turn blueberries into jam or pie, keep in mind that cooking berries destroys a lot of the goodness in them. There is just one berry, the elderberry, that should never be eaten raw due to a poisonous compound that is destroyed by heat. Other berries should be eaten fresh, or frozen.

Blueberries are so valued in Sweden as a medicine that blueberry syrup is sold in pharmacies. In Sweden, if you are coming down with a cold or flu, you rush out to buy blueberry syrup to mix with hot water for a tea. Sounds silly? Believe it: blueberries relieve cold and flu symptoms. The swedes swear by it.

British Columbia produces some of the finest blueberry crops anywhere, so indulge in blueberries as a snack, as a bowl of blueberries and cream, as a topping for your cereal, as a lovely addition to a fruit salad, or mix it into yogurt or a milkshake.

All berries have an antiviral effect, some berries to a greater degree than others. Eating berries helps to deactivate intestinal viruses, acting as a medicinal cleanser of the bowels. One study showed eating a serving of berries every day could cut the risk of stroke by 40 percent. All berries are good for the skin and help keep the mouth clean.

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Invasive Plant Alert

Tumbleweeds Rolling Through Princeton

by Lisa Scott

Whenever you think of the 'Wild West' of America, you think of cowboy movies and tumbleweed perpetually tumbling around a desolate landscape. According to the American movies, tumbleweed is as American as apple pie. But of course tumbleweed joins the ever-expanding list of non-native invasive plants that are impacting our natural habitats and agricultural areas.

Several weeds in our region have gained the popular nickname of tumbleweed, including diffuse knapweed, baby's breath and tumble mustard. However, the "true" tumbleweed prevalent in the dry grasslands and low to mid-elevation forests of the Okanagan-Similkameen is Russian thistle (Salsola kali). The name of this annual alludes to its Eurasian origin. It is well adapted to cultivated dryland agriculture but also colonizes heavily grazed rangeland, roadsides and other disturbed habitats. Plants thrive in salty and alkaline soils but will generally be out-competed by native plants in undisturbed habitats. Since its accidental introduction to North America in the late 1800s, it has become one of the most common and troublesome weeds in the drier regions of the U.S. and Canada.

Virtually everyone recognizes the mature Russian thistle, which looks like the skeleton of a normal shrub. Mature plants grow up to 1 metre (3 feet) tall and are rounded, bushy and highly branched. Leaves on mature plants are short and tipped with a stiff spine. Most people, however, would fail to recognize the seedling and juvenile plant's bright green, succulent, grass-like shoots, which are usually red or purple striped. The leaves of young plants are long, string-like and soft. Inconspicuous green flowers grow at axils (where leaf branches off of stem) of the upper leaves, each one accompanied by a pair of spiny bracts.

Once its seeds are ripe, a layer of cells in the stem of the plant weakens and the plant breaks cleanly away. At this stage, the tumbleweed is almost a perfect ball with about 250,000 seeds stored inside. The wind then takes control of the tumbleweed. The ball is designed so that when the plant hits the ground as it tumbles along, it bounces but will not lose all of its valuable seeds in just a single bounce. Seeds are unusual in that they lack any protective coat or stored food reserves. Instead, each seed is a coiled, embryonic plant wrapped in a thin membrane. To survive winter without a warm coat, the plant does not germinate until warm weather arrives.

Russian thistle only can be managed by eliminating seed production and by depleting the soil seed bank. Mowing or pulling young plants can be effective. Disturbed areas should be seeded to perennial grasses to provide competition and eliminate a niche where this weed may establish.

Another commonly occurring weed in the Okanagan-Similkameen that has earned the nickname tumbleweed is diffuse knapweed (Centaurea diffusa). Diffuse knapweed - the bane of the ranching industry in B.C.'s interior - may be differentiated from Russian thistle by its more upright stems and hairy, grayish-green divided leaves. This perennial typically grows from 0.6 to 1.0 metres (2 to 3 feet) in height. The bracts of the flower head support small, sharp, rigid spines. Flowers are normally white but occasionally pinkish-purple. Similar to Russian thistle, mature plants frequently break at the stem and blow in the wind, allowing seeds to disperse over great distances. Diffuse knapweed is found on grasslands and dry open forests and low and mid-elevations, as well as pastures, roadsides and other disturbed areas in both rural and urban environments. It is not common on cultivated lands or irrigated pasture because it cannot tolerate cultivation or excessive moisture. It degrades livestock habitat

and reduces forage production, decreases recreational enjoyment and results in undetermined loss of wildlife habitat. It is generally unpalatable to livestock, however if consumed, spines on the flower heads may cause injury to the mouth and digestive tract of grazing animals.

The most effective management method for diffuse knapweed is to prevent establishment. Small infestations should be dealt with immediately by hand-pulling plants. Cutting or mowing before seed-set can be effective to reduce seed production, but it will not eliminate large infestations. Fortunately, biological control - the use of natural enemies to control weed infestations - is proving extremely favorable for large patches of diffuse knapweed. In recent years, notable reductions in diffuse knapweed infestations have been observed, namely due to damage caused by the Larinus beetle. During its adult stage, this tiny beetle feeds on young leaves and stems during the spring, while single larvae can consume the entire contents of the flower head in which they were laid. Other effective bioagents attack the root of knapweed, resulting in weakened and stunted plants. For more information on invasive plants, go to the regional district website www.rdos.bc.ca or check out www.weedsbc.ca.



Diffuse knapweed. Photo: Lisa Scott

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NOTICE OF PRUNING

FortisBC Inc. has contracted Asplundh Canada ULC to manage vegetation near power lines within its service area. This work is necessary to reduce safety hazards near electrical wires and to prevent power outages caused by trees or tree limbs making contact with the lines.

Clearing around the low voltage lines that deliver power to individual residences remains the responsibility of the property owner. For safety reasons, FortisBC encourages homeowners to enlist the help of a qualified professional when pruning near low voltage lines.

Over the next few weeks, Asplundh Canada ULC crews will be pruning, treating and removing hazard trees in the FortisBC service area of **PRINCETON - Highway 5A from Allison Lake South to Princeton**. Every effort will be made to minimize disturbance to local property owners. If you have any questions about this project, please call Asplundh Canada ULC at 1-800-663-5860.

As a by-product of this work, free wood chips will be available in 8 cubic metre loads. If you are interested please call 1-800-663-5860.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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Princeton Golf Course as viewed from the Canadian Forces Skyhawks Parachute Team plane. The carefully manicured fairways and greens stand out from the air. Photo: Brenda Engel

The Green Corner

Five things kids can do this summer to go green

(NC)—Video games, road trips, roller coasters and go-karting are all fun summer activities, but what if you could have summer fun and do your part for a cleaner, greener planet at the same time?

You can help your child discover unforgettable summer activities that make a real difference. Why not try the following:

1. Eco-Travel: Instead of taking a road trip, reduce carbon emissions by going for a hike or a long bike ride.
2. Go Local: Picking berries and fruit is fun and an opportunity to learn how food gets from a farmer

to the table. Use the fruit or vegetables to make a special snack.

3. Animal Fun: Visit the zoo and learn about endangered species and the small changes we can make to help save them.

4. Get involved: Start an eco-club with neighbourhood kids, start an anti-idling campaign in your com-

munity or apply to be a member of the Sunlight Green Clean Kids.

5. Get Crafty: Recycling is a kid-friendly concept that stretches the imagination.

Use old clothes and cardboard boxes to create green costumes and a headquarters for your neighbourhood eco-club.

- News Canada

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Similkameen News Leader



It took us a while to identify this location and finally did when we recognized the former KVR railway bridge over the Tulameen River - located in the right of this photo. Photo: Brenda Engel

Princeton 1860 - 2010

150 Years of Similkameen History

Nick Mills - Princeton & District Museum & Archives

The Origins of Manning Park



Charlie Bonnevier's property. Photo: Princeton Museum

In 1931 the Three Brothers Mountain Reserve was formed to stop the overgrazing of the alpine meadows by domestic sheep. The people of Princeton recognized that the area should be further protected and approached district forester George Melrose of the Kamloops Forest District.

With his help they brought it to the attention of the Provincial Government and as a result the Three Brothers Game Reserve was formed.

It was the then Princeton Board of Trade that insisted the Three Brothers Mountain Park be gazetted as a Class A Provincial Park to protect the alpine meadows and the Lightning Lake area.

In 1941, a cairn was erected, on the boundaries of the Park, at Similkameen Falls, to honour E. C. Manning, the Provincial Chief Forester, who had been killed in a plane crash. The boundaries were later changed to take account of privately owned property and mining interests and the cairn subsequently moved to a location in front of the Park Headquarters building.

The first white man to pass through what is now Manning Park was Alexander Ross in January, 1813, and in 1827 the area was explored by Archibald McDonald. When the Canada - US border was moved under the Oregon Treaty to the 49th parallel, the Hudson's Bay Company opened a new trail through the Cascade Mountains by creating a fur brigade route from

Hope to the Tulameen River.

In 1859, following the discovery of gold on the Similkameen River and at Rock Creek, Edgar Dewdney and the Royal Engineers were asked to complete a road from Hope right along the Canadian side of the border. As documents in the Town's Archives show Vermillion Forks, today's Princeton, was reached in 1860. Today, parts of the old Dewdney Trail are evident in Manning Park alongside the Hope - Princeton Highway, which itself was opened on November 14th, 1949.

Around 1900, just after the turn of the century, engineers and surveyors of the Great Northern Railroad went through the area of the Three Brothers Plateau seeking a route for their Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern line from Spokane to Vancouver. Some large mountain-side lots were surveyed, evidence of which can still be found today, but the development failed when the CPR completed their own Kettle Valley Railway route across the bottom of BC, through the Coquihalla Canyon, via Princeton, to the Coast.

Once Manning Park had been created, mining, logging and trapping had to cease within its boundaries.

Originally there had been many prospectors in the area, perhaps the most well known of these was Charlie Bonnevier, a Swede, who had arrived in the Similkameen from New York in 1898.

Above its junction with the Pasayton, the Similkameen River

was known as the Roach and it was around here that he tunnelled and mined for many years without a great deal of success. Other well known prospectors in the area included Hughey Kennedy and Jack Crowley.

No timber licences have been granted since the formation of the Park, but prior to this one could stake-out a square mile of timber, survey it and for a small fee register it with the Provincial Government.

Paul Johnson was the first trapper in the area and during the 1890's he trapped marten, mink and beaver. In 1904 he sold his trapline to two Americans from Maine, who in turn during the course of 1908 sold their interests to two brothers, Harry and Bill Gordon, who operated until 1938 when Harry sold the trapping rights to the well known Princeton character Joe Hilton. Joe had twenty cabins on his trapline which covered over 150 miles, in winter he travelled everywhere on his snowshoes, working it right up until the time the Park was gazetted.

Manning Park was officially opened and dedicated in November 1950, being named after Ernest C. Manning, in memory of the Provincial Chief Forester who had recently died in a plane crash. Many people thought the Park should have been named after George Melrose, the man who had had the original idea and was the first person to recognize the value of this wilderness area.

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Traditional Music Fest

The countdown continues...

This is the second in a series of stories about some of the theme concerts being presented at the second annual Princeton Traditional Music Festival. The Festival takes place August 21st to 23rd right in town. Festivities begin at 6:30 PM on Friday the 21st with an opening ceremony on Veterans' Way. This is followed at 7:00 PM by an Irish country dance right on the street. The dance is open to everyone; no experience is required – the caller will teach all the dances – and there's no need to bring a partner. On Saturday and Sunday, August 22nd and 23rd there will be non-stop music from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM on two stages – one in front of the Museum and one on Vermilion Square.

As well as the regular concerts by individual performing groups, there will also be theme concerts. As described last week, a theme concert is focused on a particular topic presented by a group of singers and musicians who are on the stage at the same time.

Last week's article described the "Songs of Social Change" theme concert; this week will focus on the "Sea Songs" concert. In the days of the tall ships, sailors used to sing

songs called "shanties" while they worked. Shanties provided the rhythm that went with a particular job as well as giving sailors extra "oomph" to raise a sail or haul up the anchor. Sailors also sang songs when they were off watch -- songs about the girls on shore, about shipwrecks or about other aspects of a sailor's life. These are the kinds of songs performers will sing at the "Sea Songs" panel concert. There will also be songs about fishing on the west coast.

Brian Robertson is one of the performers participating in the "Sea Songs" theme concert. Brian is originally from Powell River and lived there when more people had boats than cars. He worked on fishing boats up and down the Inside Passage and during this concert he will share some of the songs he has written describing his experiences.

Philip Morgan from Seattle will also be sharing songs of the sea at this theme concert. Philip has been a mainstay of Seattle's nautical

music scene and has organized the songs of the sea extravaganza at Seattle's Folklife Festival for many years. He also organizes concerts at Seattle's Maritime Centre. Philip brings to this concert a rich repertoire of songs from the days of sail.

Also participating in this concert will be North by West, a group formed originally many years ago as the shanty crew of the Vancouver Folk Song Society. They have sung at many nautical events throughout the lower mainland and were featured at the Richmond Tall Ships festival in 2002 and at the Chants de Marins festival in Quebec in 2005.

These are just a few of the performers who will be participating in theme concerts at this year's second annual Princeton Traditional Music Festival.

For a full lineup of who is performing visit the Festival's weblog at princetonfestival.wordpress.com or give Jon and Rika a call at (250) 295-6010. - submitted

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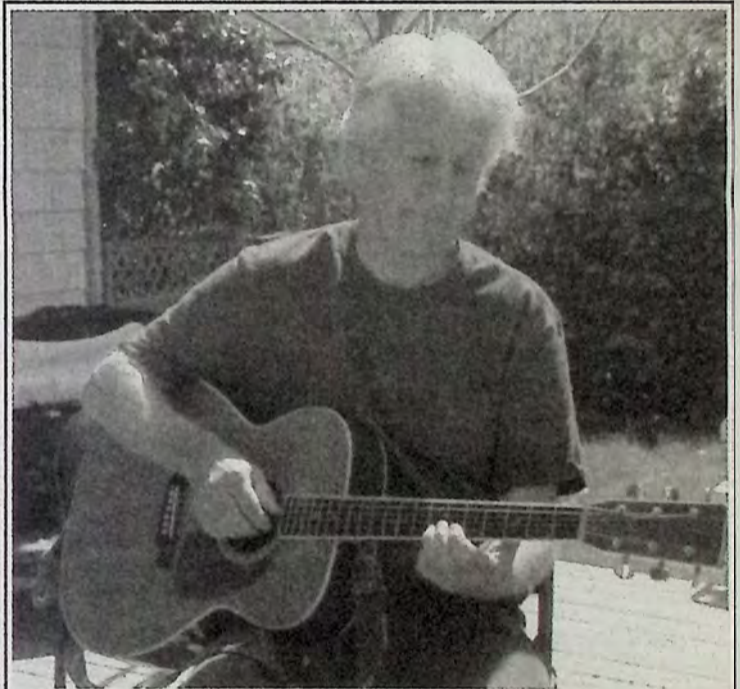
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Brian Robertson. - photo submitted



Philip Morgan. - photo submitted



News Leader

Entertainment

Similkameen News Leader TV Guide Listings - July 28 - August 4, 2009

Little Britches a success!

by Judi Esdale

A Thank you to all!

Thanks to the sponsorship of the Princeton Rodeo Club, Princeton was host to a successful weekend of rodeo for the younger cowgirls and cowboys on July 18 and 19. There were four local cowgirls; Taneesha Beaupre, Skye Davis, Brittany and Riva Shopshire, and another 70 competitors from other parts of the province.

Everyone who participated appreciated the Princeton Rodeo Grounds and the small town hospitality they received. I was personally overwhelmed by the generosity of people who stepped up to the plate and gave so willingly of their time and energy to make this a memorable weekend.

Brian Rutherford and Lonnie Burgess of 'Brlon Livestock' Princeton, deserve a huge thank you for providing and hauling all of the stock for the weekend. No small undertaking! They couldn't have done it without the help of Lloyd Burgess and Casey Attril. Thank you!

Roger Beaupre quickly mastered the job of arena director and kept the rodeo running. Thank you Roger! Karen Beaupre (Southern Ridge Clothing & Gifts), provided an evening of karaoke fun for the kids and created one of a kind 'Best All Around' hoodies for the winners on Saturday.

Two of Princeton's most experienced cowboys, Stan Thompson and Bob Lind, kept things on track from the announcer's booth. JR Russell (and helpers) worked tirelessly in the concession to satisfy the hunger pangs. Thank you also

JR for all your work on grounds prep, problem solving and trouble shooting. The rodeo would not have happened without you!

Argo Road Maintenance donated a water truck and driver (Lew McIvor) on Friday and Saturday. Ted Coyne came to the rescue on Saturday and Sunday and provided his water truck services. Princeton Highway Rescue was on site in the event first aid was required. You are very much appreciated guys!

Debbie Thomas and Lynn Melnechenko tallied the judge's scores and kept the office running smoothly for two long days. Sheila Matkovich put together an awesome selection of prizes, and with the help of her six grandchildren, organized a total of 192 prizes! There were many comments from parents and kids on what a great job she did.

Mandi Thair, Stevi Weissbach, Janine Esdale and Miranda Newman did a superb job in the timing booth. Thank you girls! A big thank you to Fraser Esdale for spending his 14th birthday slaving

away in the concession; you will get your party! Evan Esdale saved the day with his moonlight welding skills!

Jack Powell and Allan Shopshire diligently harrowed the ground while Billy Shopshire filled in where needed. We'll be looking for you all next year! Pete Ruoss spent yet another weekend cleaning up behind the crowd and finding us everything we needed. I can't imagine an event without you Pete; thank you.

The Little Britches officials do provide a lot of help and expertise to ensure that each rodeo meets the association standards, and I am very grateful to everyone on the helpful team. My heart is genuinely warmed by the efforts and dedication of Princetonites who responded to the need for help with enthusiasm.

I feel blessed to be a part of this community and I thank each and every one of you who made the Little Britches Rodeo 2009 a success in Princeton.

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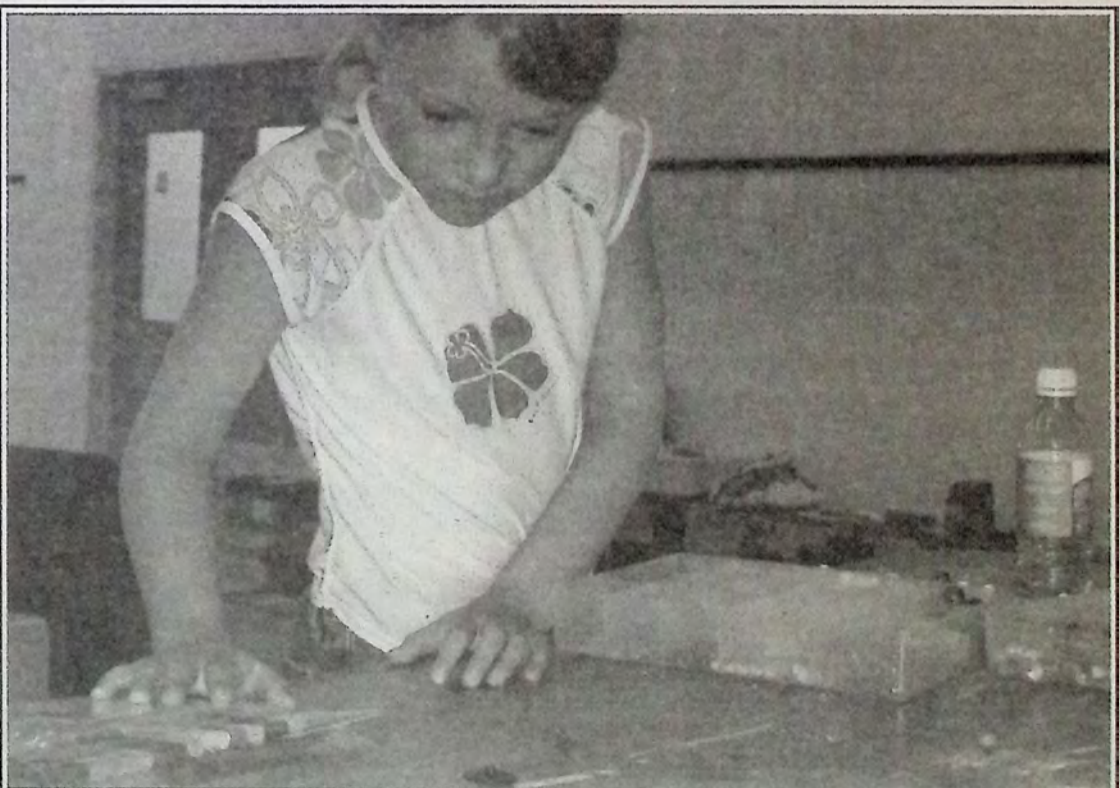
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Beading takes concentration as demonstrated here during the Summer Adventure Camp. Activities last week at Vermilion Forks Elementary included beading and construction. *



Participants at last week's Summer Adventure Camp learned how to use power tools and followed instructions on how to build planter boxes - a project everyone enjoyed. *



Didn't we say beading required high levels of concentration? The News Leader thanks leaders and participants for sharing their adventures with us. To sign up call Nadine at (250) 295-6067. *

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2009

Table with 20 columns (WTBS, CHBC, KNOW, KSPS, KHQ, KREM, A&E, KXLY, BCTV, CITV, CBC, YTV, TSN, VTV, DISC, FAM, CITY, SPIKE, TROP) and 24 rows of programming schedules.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2009

Table with 20 columns (WTBS, CHBC, KNOW, KSPS, KHQ, KREM, A&E, KXLY, BCTV, CITV, CBC, YTV, TSN, VTV, DISC, FAM, CITY, SPIKE, TROP) and 24 rows of programming schedules.

Similkameen News Leader - Horoscopes

July 29 - August 5, 2009

Aries - You feel creative these days. You may want to renovate, decorate, or just play. Being with youngsters is good for you now. Take pleasure in walks, swimming, sports.

Taurus - Too much concern about money should end in less spending, but it seems you want to save and spend at the same time. Pay attention to the inner you, not what you own.

Gemini - Your positive energy soars now. Use it productively. Don't argue with neighbours, siblings. Focus on positive communication. Work on home improvement. Do errands.

Cancer - Now your concerns shift to managing money. Do the paperwork. Make a budget you can stick to. Starting this weekend, go over your wardrobe. Improve your appearance. Enjoy!

Leo - Plans take hard work if you want them to work out. You can have fun if you don't annoy others in your group. Peace of mind comes when you recall it is not all about you.

Virgo - Career is going well, but is becoming more hectic. Pay attention to health. Travel makes you happy. Speak out, but do it graciously, this weekend. Your group will appreciate honesty.

Libra - This is a good week to start making concrete plans. Don't just dream, write it down. Your associates can help you find the career you want, or help you up the ladder.

Scorpio - Your focus now is on career matters, and/or matters dealing with elders. Both may take up your time, but you need to discuss all issues. Travel or training will go well now.

Sagittarius - Career is still very demanding and not very rewarding. Be firm about facts, and focus on clear communication. Partner is full of energy and charm. Have fun.

Capricorn - Your focus now must be on financial matters such as insurance, investments, debts, etc. You may have to deal with matters related to your own estate or the estate of a deceased.

Aquarius - Somebody is throwing a wet blanket on your good spirits. Could it be you're disappointed? Talk to friends, partner or experts for answers. Kids are lively, fun.

Pisces - Home and property may be a nuisance now, or maybe you've taken the positive approach and you're redecorating. Health is good now. Put energy into job, talk to employees.

Tuesday Movies

EVENING

6:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "Deep Impact" (1998, Drama) Robert Duvall. Troubled people attempt to mend their lives as they brace themselves for a comet that threatens

Earth. (E)

9:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "Deep Impact" (1998, Drama) Robert Duvall. Troubled people attempt to mend their lives as they brace themselves for a comet that threatens Earth. (E)

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Wednesday Movies

AFTERNOON

5:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★½ "The Alamo" (2004, War) Dennis Quaid. Outnumbered Texans fight to secede from Mexico. (E)

7:30 pm WTBS (3) ★★½ "The Alamo" (2004, War) Dennis Quaid. Outnumbered Texans fight to secede from Mexico. (E)

9:30 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "The Sixth Man" (1997, Comedy) Marlon Wayans. A college athlete returns from the dead to help his brother's basketball team

EVENING

Similkameen News Leader

Thursday Movies

EVENING

7:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★½ "Vegas Vacation" (1997, Comedy) Chevy Chase. Clark and Ellen Griswold's disastrous family outing includes a visit with boorish Cousin Eddie. (E)

9:30 pm WTBS (3) ★★½ "Vegas Vacation" (1997, Comedy) Chevy Chase. Clark and Ellen Griswold's disastrous family outing includes a visit with boorish Cousin Eddie. (E)

Friday Movies

AFTERNOON

5:00 pm SPIKE (4) ★★ "Lethal Weapon" (1987, Action) Mel Gibson. A detective with a family hunts drug smugglers with his new partner, a loner with a death wish. (E)

Eve 1981, young adults seek belonging, a big party, romance and answers. (E)

9:02 pm FAM (2) "Motocrossed" (2001, Adventure) Alana Austin. Feeling responsible for her twin brother's injury, a teenager pretends to be him and competes in a series of motocross races. (In Stereo) (E)

EVENING

7:00 pm YTV (18) ★★½ "What a Girl Wants" (2003, Comedy-Drama) Amanda Bynes. A vivacious teenager leaves New York in order to meet her estranged father in London. (In Stereo) (E)

10:00 pm KNOW (5) ★★½ "The Times of Harvey Milk" (1984, Documentary) Harvey Milk. Harvey Fierstein narrates this Oscar-winning account of the life and death of openly gay politician Harvey Milk. (E)

7:30 pm FAM (2) "Roxy Hunter: The Myth of the Mermaid" (2008, Mystery) Aria Wallace. A girl realizes that a mysterious amnesiac is a mermaid who needs to find her way home. (In Stereo) (E)

SPIKE (4) ★★ "Lethal Weapon" (1987, Action) Mel Gibson. A detective with a family hunts drug smugglers with his new partner, a loner with a death wish. (E)

SPIKE (4) ★★½ "Lethal Weapon 2" (1989, Action) Mel Gibson. An accountant leads a wild detective and his cautious partner to a South African diplomat running drugs. (E)

10:34 pm FAM (2) ★★ "The Mighty" (1998, Drama) Sharon Stone. Friendship develops as a physically handicapped youngster teaches a fellow outcast how to read. (In Stereo) (E)

9:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★½ "200 Cigarettes" (1999, Romance-Comedy) Ben Affleck. On New Year's

Similkameen News Leader - Recipe Corner

Recipe #282

Watermelon Ginger Smoothie

(NC)—Perfect for breakfast, this refreshing smoothie combines all things good for a mom and baby. The added ginger helps settle a nauseous stomach, the soy milk provides protein and the watermelon is a great hydrator.

- 1/4 cup granulated sugar 50 mL
- 1/4 cup water 50 mL
- 3 2-inch (5 cm) slices fresh ginger root 3
- 4 cups cubed seedless watermelon 1 L
- 1 cup vanilla soy milk 250 mL

In small saucepan, over medium high heat, cook sugar and water until sugar is dissolved, about 3 minutes. Add ginger and bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer for 5 minutes. Remove from heat and let sit for 30 minutes. Syrup can be stored for up to 2 days.

- Pour syrup through strainer.
- In blender, combine watermelon, soy milk, and syrup. Process until smooth.
- Serve immediately. Refrigerate any unused smoothie for up to one day.
- Serves 2.

Per serving: about 230 cal, 4 g pro, 2 g total fat (0 g sat. fat), 58 g carb, 2 g fibre, 0 mg chol, 60 mg sodium. %RDI: 15% calcium, 8% iron, 25% vit A, 25% vit C, 3% folate.

Source: www.watermelon.org

- News Canada

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226A Bridge Street, Princeton

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2009

Table with 20 columns (WTBS to TROP) and 24 rows (6 AM to 11:30 PM) listing TV programs and their corresponding channels.

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2009

Table with 20 columns (WTBS to TROP) and 24 rows (6 AM to 11:30 PM) listing TV programs and their corresponding channels.

News Leader Puzzle Page

CARTER'S Sudoku Challenge

CREATED FOR THE NEWS LEADER BY CARTER BOSWELL

HOW TO PLAY:

Sudoku is a game of logic. There is no math involved. The object of the game is to fill the grid so that the numbers 1 through 9 appear only once in each row, column and 3 x 3 box. The numbers can appear in any order and Carter has left you some clues below.

CHALLENGE #213 - Rated Easy

4				2	3			7
	7			8				
		2			1	6	9	
	9	8						5
			2	6				
	6					9	1	
	1	7	6			8		
				7			3	
3			1	9				5

CHALLENGE #214 - Rated Hard

			8					
	1	8		9		6	4	
	6		7		2		9	
7	8						3	5
		5	9		4	1		
		4		6		3		
	2		8		3		6	
3				4				9

THIS WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
Page 20

Carter's Sudoku Challenge grids, puzzles and solutions copyright 2009 Carter Boswell, Princeton, BC and published by Similkameen News Leader

Saturday Movies

MORNING

- 8:30 am WTBS (3) ★★½ "Stuck on You" (2003, Comedy) Matt Damon. Conjoined twins go to Hollywood and land a role on a television show starring Cher. (D)
- 10:30 am A&E (9) ★★★★★ "Alien" (1979, Science Fiction) Tom Skerritt. Premiere. After answering an SOS, a crew encounters a merciless, horrifying creature aboard a space tanker. (D)
- SPIKE (44) ★★★★★ "Rocky" (1976, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Heavyweight champ Apollo Creed gives Philadelphia club fighter Rocky Balboa a title shot.
- 11:00 am WTBS (3) ★★ "Into the Blue" (2005, Adventure) Paul Walker. Four divers cross paths with drug smugglers. (D)

AFTERNOON

- 12:00 pm FAM (26) ★★ "My Magic Dog" (1998, Drama) Leo Milbrook. A boy's invisible dog helps him outwit a wicked, money-grubbing aunt and her hired hoods. (In Stereo) (D)
- 1:00 pm A&E (9) ★★★★★ "The Matrix" (1999, Science Fiction) Keanu Reeves. A computer hacker joins forces with rebel warriors to battle a malevolent cyberintelligence. (D)
- SPIKE (44) ★★ "Rocky II" (1979, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Underdog Philadelphia fighter Rocky Balboa gets another shot at heavy-

- weight champ Apollo Creed.
- 1:32 pm FAM (26) "Lenny the Wonder Dog" (2004, Adventure) Sammy Kahn. An experimental microchip gives a canine the ability to converse with humans. (In Stereo)
- 3:30 pm SPIKE (44) ★★★★★ "Rocky III" (1982, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Old foe Apollo Creed trains ex-boxing champ Rocky Balboa for a rematch with brutish Clubber Lang.
- 4:00 pm YTV (18) ★★ "All Dogs Go to Heaven 2" (1996, Fantasy) Voices of Ernest Borgnine. Animated. A junkyard dog and a newly deceased pal return to Earth to retrieve Gabriel's trumpet. (In Stereo) (D)
- 5:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "The School of Rock" (2003, Comedy) Jack Black. Fired from his group and desperate for money, a guitarist poses as a teacher for students who play in a school band. (D)

EVENING

- 6:00 pm CITY (29) "View of Terror" (2003, Suspense) Shannen Doherty. A mysterious voyeur stalks a young woman after she moves into an apartment. (D)
- SPIKE (44) ★★ "Rocky IV" (1985, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Champ Rocky Balboa trains in Siberia for a bout against a lab-tested Soviet with a 2000-psi punch.
- 7:30 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "The Mighty Ducks" (1992, Comedy) Emilio Estevez. To get out of trouble, a hot-

- shot lawyer opts for community service coaching rowdies in peewee hockey. (D)
- 8:00 pm KXLY (10) ★★ "Red Eye" (2005, Suspense) Rachel McAdams. Premiere. A plane passenger involves his seatmate in a deadly plot. (In Stereo) (D)
- VTV (22) "Double Frame" (2001, Suspense) Daniel Baldwin. A shady cop gets in over his head when he frames his partner during a drug scam. (In Stereo) (D) (DVS)
- SPIKE (44) ★★½ "Rocky V" (1990, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Broke, punchy and at odds with his son, boxer Rocky trains a hungry contender, then must street-fight him.
- 9:00 pm FAM (26) ★★ "The Bridges of Madison County" (1995, Romance) Clint Eastwood. Premiere. Memoirs tell a deceased woman's children of her four-day affair in 1965 with a photographer on assignment. (In Stereo)
- 10:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "Into the Blue" (2005, Adventure) Paul Walker. Four divers cross paths with drug smugglers. (D)
- 10:30 pm SPIKE (44) ★★★★★ "Rocky" (1976, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Heavyweight champ Apollo Creed gives Philadelphia club fighter Rocky Balboa a title shot.
- 11:15 pm FAM (26) "Adventures of the Cactus Kid" (2000, Adventure) Thomas Curtis. A boy fantasizes about robbing a bank in the style of his comic-book hero. (In Stereo) (D)

Sunday Movies

MORNING

- 8:00 am WTBS (3) ★★ "Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star" (2003, Comedy) David Spade. Hoping to make a comeback, a man stays with a suburban family to prepare for the lead role in a Rob Reiner film. (D)
- 10:00 am WTBS (3) ★★½ "Son of the Mask" (2005, Comedy) Jamie Kennedy. Chaos reigns when a cartoonist's son is born with extraordinary powers and the god Loki returns to retrieve his mask. (D)
- A&E (9) ★★★★★ "The Matrix" (1999, Science Fiction) Keanu Reeves. A computer hacker joins forces with rebel warriors to battle a malevolent cyberintelligence. (D)
- 11:00 am SPIKE (44) ★★★★★ "Rocky III" (1982, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Old foe Apollo Creed trains ex-boxing champ Rocky Balboa for a rematch with brutish Clubber Lang.

AFTERNOON

- 12:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★½ "Crocodile Dundee" (1986, Comedy) Paul Hogan. A rich reporter tours outback Australia with a crocodile hunter, then brings him to Manhattan. (D)
- FAM (26) "Stuck in the Suburbs" (2004, Comedy-Drama) Danielle Panabaker. Two friends set out to reveal the true persona of a pop star whose flashy image was manufactured by his record company. (In Stereo) (D)
- 1:00 pm SPIKE (44) ★★ "Rocky IV" (1985, Drama) Sylvester Stallone. Champ Rocky Balboa trains in Siberia for a bout against a lab-tested Soviet with a 2000-psi punch.
- 1:30 pm FAM (26) ★★ "Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen" (2004,

- Comedy) Lindsay Lohan. After moving to New Jersey with her mother, a teen tries to dethrone the most popular girl at her new school. (In Stereo) (D)
- 2:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "Galaxy Quest" (1999, Comedy) Tim Allen. Aliens, believing actors to be real heroes, enlist cast members of a sci-fi TV series to help save their people. (D)
- 3:00 pm VTV (22) "Fast Food High" (2003, Comedy-Drama) Alison Pill. A teenage risks losing her job, boyfriend and social status to start a union at the burger joint where she works. (In Stereo) (D) (DVS)
- 4:00 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "The School of Rock" (2003, Comedy) Jack Black. Fired from his group and desperate for money, a guitarist poses as a teacher for students who play in a school band. (D)
- YTV (18) ★★ "Garfield: The Movie" (2004, Comedy) Breckin Meyer. Live action/animated. An orange cat tries to save his owner's new dog after a television personality kidnaps it. (In Stereo) (D)
- 5:00 pm CBC (13) ★★½ "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (1968, Fantasy) Dick Van Dyke. An inventor takes his kids and a candy tycoon's daughter for a musical ride in a flying car. (In Stereo) (D)

EVENING

- 6:00 pm YTV (18) ★★ "Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties" (2006, Comedy) Voices of Bill Murray. Garfield follows Jon to England and gets the royal treatment after he is mistaken for the heir to a grand castle. But the feline will need all nine lives to foil the plans of evil Lord Dargis, who wants to turn the castle into a resort. (In Stereo) (D)

- 6:30 pm WTBS (3) ★★½ "Ella Enchanted" (2004, Romance-Comedy) Anne Hathaway. A young woman embarks on a journey to break the curse of obedience placed upon her by a fairy godmother. (D)
- 8:00 pm KNOW (5) "Promised Land" (1993, Mystery) John Thaw. Inspector Morse and Sgt. Lewis travel to Australia to find a man who testified against a gang of armed robbers. (D)
- CBC (13) ★★ "Wild Hogs" (2007, Comedy) Tim Allen. Looking for adventure, frustrated suburbanites hit the open road and encounter rough-and-tumble bikers. (In Stereo) (D)
- 8:30 pm WTBS (3) ★★ "Crocodile Dundee" (1986, Comedy) Paul Hogan. A rich reporter tours outback Australia with a crocodile hunter, then brings him to Manhattan. (D)
- 9:00 pm KHQ (7) "The Storm" (2009, Suspense) (Part 2 of 2) Treat Williams. Forces of nature in the air, on land and in the sea combine to threaten humanity. (In Stereo) (D)
- FAM (26) "Hatching Pete" (2009, Comedy) Jason Dolley. A teenager becomes a big hit when he dons a chicken suit to become a high-school mascot. (In Stereo) (D)
- 10:30 pm FAM (26) ★★½ "Superman III" (1983, Science Fiction) Christopher Reeve. Ersatz kryptonite laced with tobacco tar splits Superman in two: good Clark Kent and bad Man of Steel. (In Stereo) (D)
- 11:00 pm SPIKE (44) ★★ "John Carpenter's Escape From L.A." (1996, Action) Kurt Russell. The fascist U.S. president enlists a jailed war hero to retrieve a top-secret device stolen by his daughter on island Los Angeles in 2013.

We're different, and we like that.
Similkameen News Leader

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2009

Table with 20 columns (WTBS to TROP) and 24 rows (6 AM to 11:30 PM) showing TV schedules for Saturday, August 1, 2009.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2009

Table with 20 columns (WTBS to TROP) and 24 rows (6 AM to 11:30 PM) showing TV schedules for Sunday, August 2, 2009.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2009

	WTBS (3)	CHBC (4)	KNOW (5)	KSPS (6)	KHQ (7)	KREM (8)	A&E (9)	KXLY (10)	BCTV (11)	CITY (12)	CBC (13)	YTV (18)	TSN (19)	VTV (22)	DISC (24)	FAM (26)	CITY (29)	SPIKE (44)	TROP (45)
6 AM	Jeffersons	News	Franklin	Bob Build	News (N)	News	American Justice	News	(5:30) Morning News (N)	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	Rolie Polie Dewitt	SportsCentre	Canada AM	Daily Planet	Henry's	CityLine	Married... Married...	Once a Thief
6:30 AM	Sanford	Tube Tales	George S.	Lions															
7 AM	In the Heat of the Night	Room	Martha	Arthur (EI)	Today (N)	The Early Show (N)	Amer. Justice	Good Morning America (N)			Save-Ums!	Berenstain	SportsCentre		Austin Stevens	(8:56) Phineas	The Tyra Banks Show	Married... Married...	The Outer Limits
7:30 AM		That News	(7:29) Dora the Explorer	Martha							Animal	Rolie Polie							
8 AM	Cosby	Ad Pers	the Explorer	Curious					100 Huntley Street	Bo On Go	Timothy	SportsCentre			How-Made	Weekend	Rachael Ray	Pros vs. Joes	North of 60
8:30 AM	Cosby	What	Magic Bus	Sid						Busytown	Willa			How-Made	K. Possible				
9 AM	Fam. Feud	Three Takes	Berenstain	Super Why!		The 700 Club	Cold Case Files	Regis and Kelly	100 Huntley Street	Hospital for Sick Kids	Super Why!	Casper	Off-Record	Regis and Kelly	Daily Planet	Feet	CityNews	Most Amazing Videos	TV Made
9:30 AM	Fam. Feud		Clifford	Clifford							Gofrette	(9:25) Kid	Fishing		Tigger	City		What	
10 AM	Trivial	The Mom Show	Sid	Sesame Street (EI)		The Price Is Right (N)	CSI: Miami	The View Hot topics. (N)	Hospital	Debt Part House	Wilbur	(10:05) Viva	Darts Champ.	The View Hot topics. (N)	Canada's Worst Driver	Mickey Handy	The O.C.	CSI: NY "Night, Mother"	What Videos
10:30 AM	Trivial		(10:25)								Doodlebop	Erky Perky							
11 AM	Harvey	One House	Rolie Polie	Dragon	Ellen DeGeneres Show	Young and the Restless	The Sopranos	Paid Prog.	World Vision	To Be Announced	Dinner Antiques	(10:50) Ruby	Auto Racing: A&W 300	Twice in a Lifetime	Mayday	Benj Bear	The Bonnie Hunt Show	CSI: NY "Tri-Borough"	Videos
11:30 AM	Harvey	Designer	Berenstain	Sit-Be Fit											(11:25) King			Ellen	
12 PM	Fresh Pr.	Chef	(11:56)	Charlie Rose	Paid Prog.	News	American Justice	All My Children (N)	Noon News Hour (N)	Days of our Lives (N)	CBC News	Monster	2009 Summer X-Games	Keith Bold	Forensic Factor	(11:49) Weekend	CityLine	CSI: Crime Scn	Seinfeld
12:30 PM	Fresh Pr.	Design U	(12:32)		Zula Patrol	Bold					TBA	Grossology							Seinfeld
1 PM	Still Std	Home to	Maggie	Fine Art	Days of our Lives (N)	As the World Turns (N)	Amer. Justice	One Life to Live (N)	As the World Turns (N)	As the World Turns (N)	Martha Stewart	Hawks	(1:40) Viva	Sue Thomas: F.B. Eye	Earthshocks	Dragon Emperor	ER	CSI: Crime Scn	Raymond
1:30 PM	Still Std	Parents	Sagwa	Sewing															Raymond
2 PM	King	Guiding Light (N)	(1:56)	Barney	The Bonnie Hunt Show	Guiding Light (N)	Cold Case Files	General Hospital (N)	Young and the Restless	The Doctors	Steven and Chris	Mystery Team	Horn Interruptio	General Hospital (N)	MythBusters (N)	(1:54) K. Possible	CityNews at 5 (N)	CSI: NY "Night, Mother"	Raymond
2:30 PM	King		BluesClues	WordWorld															Raymond
3 PM	Seinfeld	Split Ends (N)	(2:57) Zoboofafo	WordGirl	Judge	Dr. Phil	Cold Case Files	Rachael Ray	The Doctors	Young and the Restless	Living Food	Pretty Cure	Off-Record Sports	Dr. Phil	Canada's Worst Driver	Replace Emperor	CityNews at 6 (N)	CSI: NY "Tri-Borough"	North of 60
3:30 PM	Friends		"Messy and Clean"		Judge														
4 PM	Family Guy	Debt Part	Fetch! Ruff	Judge J.	Oprah Winfrey	CSI: Miami	Deal No	Oprah Winfrey	(3:59) Early	Fashion F.	SpongeBob	E:60	Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)	Fire Jammers	(4:08) Phineas	Law & Order: SVU	CSI: Crime Scn	Once a Thief	
4:30 PM	Family Guy	That News	George S.	Cyberchas	Judge J.				Global	Red Green	OddParent								
5 PM	Payne	Deal No	Martha	BBC News	News (N)	News	Intervention	News	Early News	(4:59) News Hour (N)	Simpsons	OddParent	World Series	CTV News at Five (N)	Day of the Shark (N)	Suite Life Montana	Valentine	CSI: Crime Scn	Carlawood Parker
5:30 PM	Payne	News	(5:33)	Business	NBC News	CBS News		ABC News	Global		Fortune	SpongeBob							
6 PM	Movie: "The Wedding Singer"	Global	Taste Buds	News-Lehrer	News (N)	News	Intervention "Danielle"	News	(5:59) News Hour (N)	ET Canada	CBC News	iCarly	World Series	CTV News (N)	Dirty Jobs (N)	Zoey 101 Life Derek	Dating in the Dark (N)	Jesse James	Ground Up
6:30 PM	Movie: "The Wedding Singer"	News	Mechanics	Millionaire	Hollywood					Entertain	Living	Jackson							
7 PM	(1998)	Live Red Carpet	Undersea Landscape	'Allo, 'Allo! Europe	Jeopardy!	The Doctors	Obsessed (N)	Entertain The Insider	Entertain ET Canada	AFI's 10 Top 10	Coronatn Jeopardy!	The Next Star 2	SportsCentre (Live)	Corner Gas Hollywood	To Be Announced	Wizards Montana	Valentine	Movie: "Kill Switch" (2008)	Are You Smarter
7:30 PM																			
8 PM	Seinfeld	How I Met	Hot Rocks	Antiques Roadshow	Am. Road Trip	How I Met	The Cleaner	Sugarland: Live	AFI's 10 Top 10	Mosque	Malcolm	Futurama	Off-Record	Law & Order	Fire Jammers	Suite Life Buzz	CityNews News	Steven Seagal.	Weekend Bob-Doug
8:30 PM	Harvey	Rules								Sophie									
9 PM	Movie: "The Wedding Singer"	The Soup	The Lord of the Brush	History Detectives	Law Order: CI	Two Men Big Bang	Intervention	Dating in the Dark (N)		News Hour Final (N)	National	The Next Star 2	50 Greatest Pool Tricksshots	Law Order: CI	Day of the Shark	Wizards Life Derek	(9:06) Jimmy Kimmel	CSI: Crime Scn	Seinfeld
9:30 PM	Movie: "The Wedding Singer"	Wildest TV																	
10 PM	Sanford	News (N)	Ravens	Charlie Rose (N)	News (N)	News	Obsessed	News	News Hour Final (N)	ET Canada	(11:05) The Hour	Mystery	SportsCentre (Live)	CTV News	Dirty Jobs	Suite Life Life Derek	Judge	Disorderly Con.	Raymond
10:30 PM	Montel W.	Guy Stuff	Landscape		Tonight	Late Show		(11:35)				Ghost							

Monday Movies

EVENING

6:00 pm WTBS (3) ***"The Wedding Singer" (1998, Romance-Comedy) Adam Sandler. A spirited entertainer and a waitress with a boorish fiance work at the same weddings.

nab a cunning inner-city killer. 9:00 pm WTBS (3) ***"The Wedding Singer" (1998, Romance-Comedy) Adam Sandler. A spirited entertainer and a waitress with a boorish fiance work at the same weddings.

7:00 pm SPIKE (44) "Kill Switch" (2008, Action) Steven Seagal. A homicide detective resorts to violence to

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obituary

Bill McFarland
April 1, 1941 - July 17, 2009

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A 'Celebration of Life' for Bill will be announced in the future.

obituary

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May 12-Aug 10

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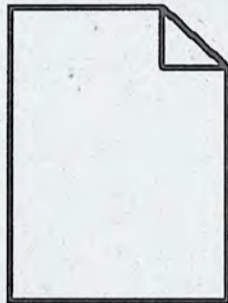
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SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLES ON PAGE 16

CHALLENGE #213 - Easy

456	923	187
971	486	523
832	751	694
298	317	456
145	269	378
763	845	912
517	632	849
689	574	231
324	198	765

CHALLENGE #214 - Hard

597	486	213
218	395	647
463	712	598
789	261	435
142	538	976
635	974	182
874	629	351
921	853	764
356	147	829

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Thomas Patrick Jackson (1912 – 2009)

Many people would perhaps describe their father as a 'larger than life' character — so if that father had travelled the world for many years, employed in every capacity from soldier to accountant, from boiler stoker to English teacher in Bolivia, from acting Consul in Canton to stow-away, and if also, he possessed a booming bass voice capable of guiding ships home, a rare gift for reciting poetry by heart and a fund of stories stretching back to his childhood in England — one might be forgiven for writing a longer than average piece.

Born in 1912 in Standon, Hertfordshire, to an Irish Mother (Maggie O'Toole), and an English father (Robert), Tom and his brother George distinguished themselves early on by raiding orchards and farms (narrowly escaping death by shotgun) - and were the scourge of the village girls, who in those days invariably wore long braids! This career was topped off by his first experience of beer drinking when, waiting for his father outside the "Bay Horse" pub, (who was inside celebrating the ending of World War 1), well meaning friends kept passing Tom 'a taster' and Tom kept tasting! Naturally, this ended in a hangover lasting several days — not bad for a six year old!

At age 15, Tom was apprenticed as a trainee accountant under the Dickensian eye of his father in the office of St. Edmund's College. Here, in addition to book-keeping, shorthand and typing, Tom was entrusted with delivering important documents around the village. After it was found that he was using these to jot down 'memoranda' of his own, it was decided that Tom's ebullient nature was not suited to dullness and at the age of 19, he 'took the King's shilling' and became a Welsh Fusilier. Although soldiering suited him more, it was paradoxically his office and accounting skills which were to stand him in good stead following the 'watershed' of his life.

This experience began on Christmas Day 1941, when shortly after the fall of Hong Kong to the Japanese (and only a week or so after marrying my Mother), Tom became a P.O.W. (Had he not struck a Japanese officer, he would not have been locked up in the notorious Stanley Jail and

he would have been on the Lisbon Maru when it was torpedoed by the USS Grouper on 1st October 1942 with huge loss of life.) That date was remembered with reverence by Tom every year thereafter.

However, Tom's turn came and he was shipped to a camp in Japan where for the next four years, he and his fellow P.O.W.'s. survived on a bowl of rice a day while carrying out back-breaking labor. At one point, after the death of his best friend Brian - and suffering the effects of severe malnutrition and illness himself, Tom 'turned his face to the wall', only to be brought to his feet again by the words of a doctor (whom he later thanked) who said "Jackson, you are a coward", at which Tom got so mad, he vowed to "show them all and live to be a 100". When the camp was finally liberated, Tom's weight was a little over 90 lbs and although he slowly re-gained his health, the physical and emotional scars stayed with him for many years.

Returning to Hong Kong to be reunited with my Mother and grandmother, who had barely survived the occupation themselves, Tom was immediately offered the position of Pro Consul in Canton, "administering oaths and affidavits and all notarial acts on behalf of the British Government." This post utilized his office skills plus his gift for languages, (Spanish, Cantonese, a smattering of Japanese and Hebrew). The job also involved repatriating displaced civilians, one of whom was my grandmother (to Columbia). Tom stayed on in China for a few years, then travelled most of the world (on foot, boat and train), his marriage by then having failed. My Mother sailed to a new life in England with me a baby - and Tom and I were not to meet again for thirty years, but that is another story!

Tom was a man of great complexity. He had a gift for friendship, being talkative and sociable, yet preferred and needed solitude. From choice, he never re-married, yet cherished the ideals of marriage and family life. He lived away from his country of birth for most of his life, but loved to receive letters and photos from his nieces and nephews and catalogued their births, marriages and the names of all their children. He was most at home in the open spaces of Canada, yet clung to the ideals of the England of his youth.

Generous with friends and strangers alike, he kept accurate accounts of every cent. He could be stern and seemingly fierce at times, but was ultimately kind and forgiving, hated to bear a grudge and was sentimental about birthdays and anniversaries. He loved classical music and reading, composed poetry and wrote volumes of letters. He hated technology and 'progress', never owned a TV (brain rot!) or learnt to drive a car — yet there was nothing he enjoyed more than being driven around, especially if the tour included the bar at the Coalmont Hotel!

Tom was great company, witty and entertaining. He had a gift for words, enjoyed jokes and puns of all kinds, could make children laugh and was a mine of useful information about the natural world, the habits of migrant birds, the names of trees and flowers and the constellations in the skies.

In former years, Tom enjoyed rum, but later converted to white wine, preferably dry from the Okanagan. He came to love this region after moving from Langley in 1996 and described Princeton as "a good little town to end my days in", though he had lived all over Canada — having won a scholarship to McGill Uni. Montreal, in 1953, which brought him here in the first place. (He never took up the scholarship, preferring to study in the 'The University of Life'.) He always celebrated St. Patrick's Day and would talk of his much missed Mother, a wonderful woman who was devoted to her family. (While a P.O.W. Tom received a few of her letters, but sadly, she died a few days before he was released from Japan - never knowing whether her son was alive or not. This sad fact haunted him for the rest of his life).

Tom 'travelled light' in all ways. He would arrive for a stay of three months in England with luggage the size of a brief-case (though never without his snuff). In earlier years, he was a stylish dresser, but from around age 90 on, thought nothing of going out to a restaurant in pyjamas, dressing gown and slippers, saying that at his age he'd earned the right to be comfortable! From habit, he avoided all things French, but was proud of his dressing gown which bore the legend 'Pierre Cardin' on the back!

By far and away, Tom's favorite of all creatures (including humans) was dogs. He owned his first one as a boy in England, then in Alaska in the 1950's, he adopted a stray black lab cross. From then on, Tom bred one male from each litter and thus old Sam, (died 2002), was a direct descendant of Blackie. Two of Tom's favorite dogs were named after important people. Brian after his best friend, who died in the camp in 1944 - and Sam after a young Japanese man Tom met in Langley. Tom's idea of heaven was long hikes with his dogs for company. Their companionship brought him many years of joy. (You didn't make the 100 you were aiming for Tom, but in dog years you were 679!)

Although Tom loved Canada and prized his citizenship, (an attempt to move back to England in 1986 resulted in a return here 1987), nevertheless a part of his deepest self resided in the memory of his happy childhood in Hertfordshire. It seems fitting therefore, that when he makes his final journey home with me, his ashes will be laid to rest at his request in Old Hall Green churchyard, 'a stone's throw' from where he was born and grew up — and where his parents, brothers and sisters already are. Nearby is the resting place of Miss O'Brien, his fondly remembered gifted old school-teacher. Tom always hoped she would be proud of her former pupil, for it was she who instilled in him his life-long love of reading and learning, a rich legacy indeed. I have a feeling she would have been not only proud, but also happy to see the wanderer return:

"A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home." (Rupert Brooke)

-oOo-

Tom Jackson died at Ridgewood Lodge on 23rd June 2009, aged 97 and a half. I would like to thank all at Home Support and Ridgewood Lodge who cared for my father and also, Dr. John Adams, not forgetting all Tom's friends. He is survived by one daughter, two grandchildren, two great-granddaughters, nine nieces and nephews and numerous greats.

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My Turn...

Different bugs are killing forests

While the Mountain Pine Beetle has done a pretty good job of killing off a good portion of the forests, there's another bug.

Fire bugs seem to be picking up where the beetle left off.

An unexpected emergency last week sent me into Kelowna - just in time to witness the Terrace Mountain fire north of the city erupt into a massive wildfire.

I stopped near Westbank on my way to the Central Okanagan and watched a helicopter dipping a water bucket into Okanagan Lake and back up to hot spots above Gorman Brothers lumber mill and marvelled at the huge almost mushroom-shaped cloud forming behind the helicopter.

I didn't realize it until I got closer to Kelowna that what I thought was still part of the Glenrosa fire was actually another fire off in the distance. It was obvious by the time I got onto the William R. Bennett Bridge that this was not a small fire. That night it doubled in size to 4,000 hectares.

Kelowna was blanketed by a thick fog-like cloud and at noon hour street lights were coming on and I had to turn on my headlights.

I left earlier than planned as all I could hear on the radio was about evacuation alerts and notices and decided to get out of the area before roads and highways filled with people rushing off to somewhere else. My trip home was filled with blasts of heavy rain and lightning brighter than I've even seen before - easily hundreds of strikes.

It was during one very close series of lightning strikes it occurred to me that although the rain was just pouring down, each strike could become another forest fire.

Then I thought about what I had heard on the radio earlier in the day where it appeared the major fires in the Okanagan had been human-caused. Sometimes it's as 'harmless' as a campfire, but sometimes it's a stupid as flicking a cigarette butt out of a moving vehicle or setting off fireworks to celebrate nothing in particular.

It was as that moment I put the two fire bugs together. Beetles and people. There's no reason for us to be shocked that forest fires take place when you consider all the elements are there - dead trees standing following beetle attack and a long, hot and dry summer. As one evacuated resident pointed out in one report, it wasn't really a matter of 'if' it was more a matter of 'when' wildfires were going to happen this season.

I thought that was pretty accurate, based on the number of dead trees standing and the dry conditions.

What we don't need is careless humans adding to the mix, so there is now a complete open fire ban in the district which includes campfires.

And still, there will be someone who will ignore the warning signs and decide their holiday at a campsite is not a holiday without a campfire burning.

Please don't be that person.

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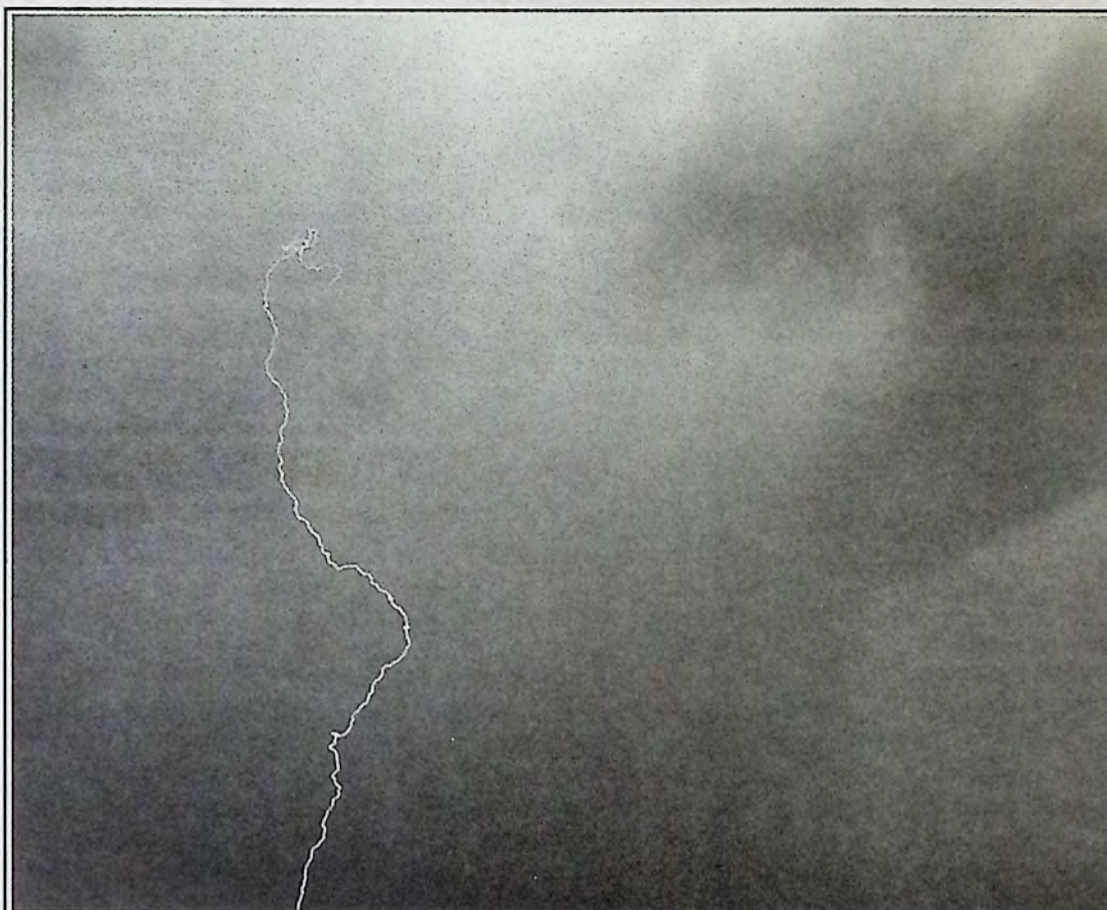
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The Editor reserves the right to condense any letter or to substitute proper language for improper language.



The News Leader's George Elliott was lucky enough to snap this shot last week near Penticton. *

...Your Turn

Gun registry revisited

Dear Editor:

Is the gun registry a failure or a success? Recent letters have shed little light on the question even though they were stuffed with statistics. It's time to compare competing claims.

Anti-gun zealots like Tim Quibley claim the registry is working because gun deaths have declined since the long-gun registry began in 2001. The primary problem with this claim is that counting gun deaths is not an appropriate way to measure success.

Gun laws should improve public safety not just reduce one way of killing. Would Canadians be safer if murderers somehow abandoned guns for knives and bombs?

Gun death accounting ignores the problem of 'substitution.' Eliminating just one of the many alternative weapons is not likely to reduce murders or suicides. Two examples illustrate this point.

First, in many countries where guns are banned, such as Mexico and the former Soviet Union, the

murder rates are more than 10 times greater than in Canada.

Second, suicides in Canada involving shootings have dropped over the past few decades, while hangings have increased correspondingly so that there is little net change in overall suicide rate. You decide: does this make the gun registry a success?

One of the original justifications for the gun registry was that it would protect vulnerable women. Unfortunately, no changes are seen: more domestic murders continue to be committed with kitchen knives than with firearms.

The best measures to use in evaluating the gun registry are murder and suicide rates. The statistics are unequivocal: the gun registry has not had a meaningful impact on either one. The homicide rate had fallen impressively before 2001 but has remained relatively stable since.

Due primarily to a booming economy and an aging population, the homicide rate slipped from 2.7 per 100,000 in 1991 to

1.8 in 2000. After the long-gun registry was introduced, the homicide rate had risen to 2.0 by 2005.

The gun registry has failed to improve public safety. It is time we stopped wasting money on harassing hunters and target shooters. We should focus on jailing violent criminals and repeat offenders. Study after study has shown that almost all (85% to 99%) guns used by criminals are smuggled into Canada and have never been registered.

The Conservatives under Stephen Harper are introducing laws that will actually improve public safety. Research backs up common sense; putting violent criminals and repeat offenders in jail longer significantly reduces crime rates.

Liberals continue to be more concerned with the rights of criminals than the safety of Canadians. Respectfully yours,

Gary Mauser, Professor Emeritus
Institute for Canadian Urban
Research Studies, Faculty of
Business Administration
Simon Fraser University,
Burnaby

Current Comment

Do We Attract The Big Cats?



Dawn Johnson
editor@thenewsleader.ca

Princeton hit the major news with a story of three cougars shot within Town boundaries. Thank heaven there were people with rifles who were able to kill those cats. Can you imagine the tragedy if a child had been mauled and/or killed by one of those cougars?

Broadcasting the fact that Princeton is crawling with dangerous big cats is not good publicity. Tourism keeps a lot of businesses in business and provides a lot of jobs. We surely did not need that kind of publicity. Who wants to go to a place suddenly notorious for cougar in the ball park, the municipal campground and along the riverbank where children play?

Aside from the economic impact, how do we feel about living in a town where cougar are prowling?

This problem with cougar is not new. Last winter, a cougar killed a deer on river ice under the wooden bridge. That kill was not done by some immature cougar: that kind of kill needs a full-grown, mature cougar who knows how to drive a deer onto the ice where the deer cannot keep its footing and becomes much easier to kill. We can be thankful it was a deer the experienced cougar was after. We can be thankful those cougars shot recently were not full-grown experienced hunters, or there would have been dead children or badly mauled adults instead of dead cougar.

I want to talk about the real threat to our safety, the deer. Cougars are coming into town because the deer are here. Deer are natural prey for cougar. Where deer go, the cougar will follow. In a sense, the deer set an example for the cougar. If the deer are comfortable roaming through our streets and back yards, the cougar probably feel it is safe for them, too.

If you read my column regularly, you know I have no sympathy for the deer. To me, a deer belongs in the wild or in my freezer, not in my yard eating my garden.

Don't give me a story about how we have invaded their natural territory. I grew up in Princeton and I can tell you without any shade of trying to cover the truth: there were no deer roaming the town. Looking through my old photo albums, I found a photo of my husband with a wheelbarrow full of garden produce. What grabbed my attention was the fact that there was no deer fence around my garden as there is today. The photo was dated 1995. If it wasn't deer territory in 1995, why try to sell the idea that we are the invaders?

There is another aspect to the deer problem that some people do not want to talk about. These people are feeding the deer, not by accident because the deer came into the garden, but deliberately, because they think the deer are *cute*. Despite the fact that there is a bylaw forbidding feeding the deer, these irresponsible idiots persist in doing it. What would you say was cute about a cougar in your back yard? That is what can happen if you make a habit of encouraging deer to your doorstep.

I know there are some of our readers who probably think I'm being nasty when I call these people idiots and irresponsible, but I know I am not alone in that regard. Furthermore, I know a number of these people are being watched by their neighbours, who are waiting for the opportunity to photograph them feeding the deer. The watchers have been told that is what it will take to prosecute the idiots.

I have written in the past about how dangerous deer can be. They have trampled pet dogs and on one occasion struck down a woman in her father's yard. A doe with a fawn close by is prepared to attack anything she sees as a threat to her fawn. That includes you, me, the dog and kids. These are wild animals, even when fed. In fact, they are more dangerous when they claim our territory as their own.

Living in Princeton means living at the edge of the forest, and it would be best if we did nothing but discourage the forest inhabitants from entering our territory. We have been remarkably lucky nobody has been hurt or killed by predators that follow the deer. Deer are prey for not only cougars, but bears and coyotes. Nothing a bear likes better than eating a fawn. In winter, coyotes will form packs and hunt down deer. You don't want to be between any of these predators and the deer they hunt, and it pays to keep in mind that your children could unknowingly be in the way, or could be the prey.

While I like to think of wildlife enjoying our valley, I want wildlife to remain in the wild. They are safer there, and so are we.

Even though all of us can agree the deer should not be in town, the Wildlife Act makes no provisions for our situation. Unless we are in imminent danger from the deer, we cannot destroy them, as the predators are destroyed. Perhaps if those cougar that were shot had eaten a child beforehand, then the deer situation might draw some action. Unfortunately, it seems somebody always has to die before the real problems are addressed.

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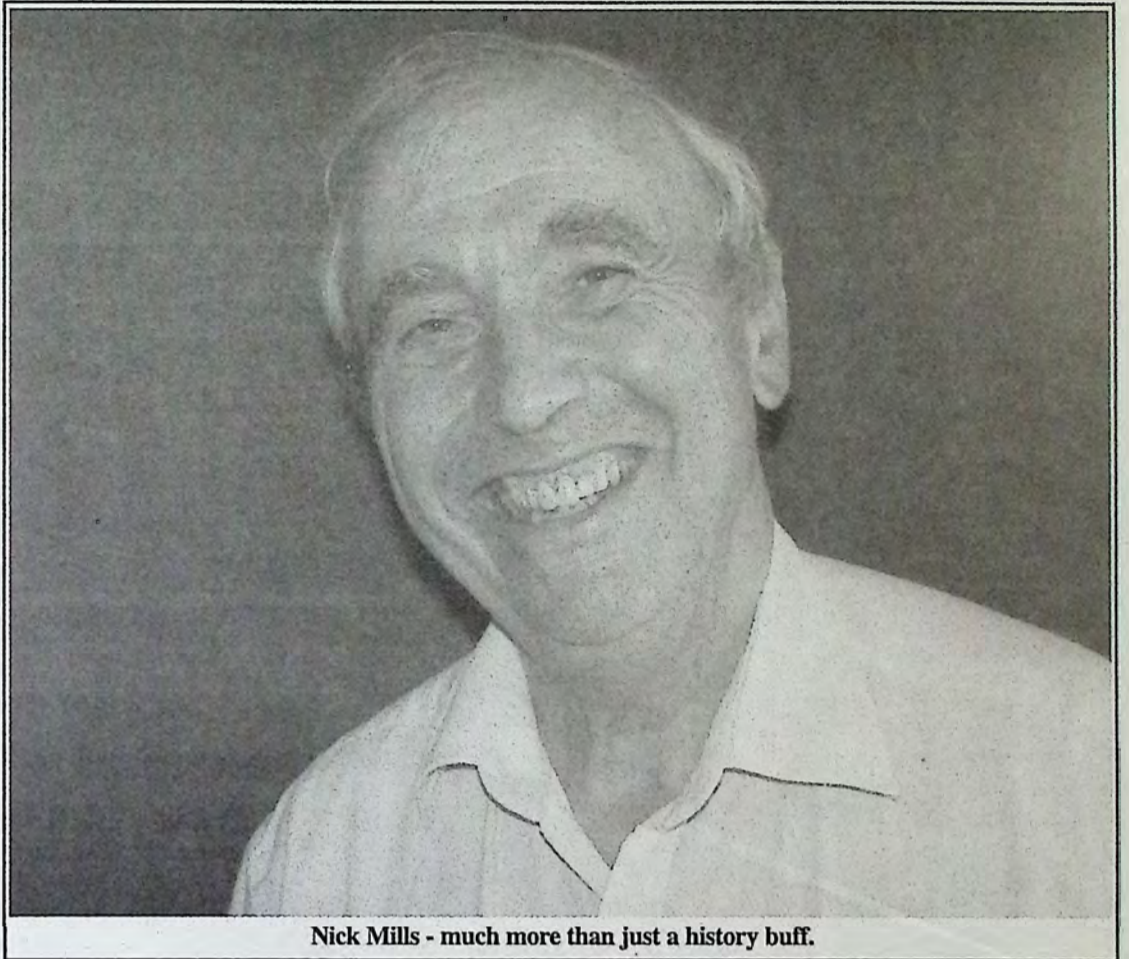
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News Leader Who's Who

Nick Mills: Our History Man



Nick Mills - much more than just a history buff.

You have seen his many articles in the News Leader, weekly editions, and in our special *Princeton BC News* publications. Nick Mills knows Princeton's history, and we are pleased he has chosen to write for us.

The Mills family celebrated the end of World War II with Nick's birth, one week after VE Day. There's a historical reference for you! He was born in Bath, Somerset, England, but later grew up in Glastonbury.

Nick's father died when Nick was just five years old, leaving his mother with two boys to raise alone.

Thanks to a scholarship, Nick attended private school to complete his secondary education with hon-

ours. He was 16 years old.

From school, he joined an international shoe manufacturing firm as an apprentice accountant. He later became a partner in the music instrument business, and expanded his interests in live music management and promotion, including band management and live concert presentation.

1971 was a big year for Mills. He started his own retail giftware business, and married. He and his first wife had two sons and a daughter. In 1973, he joined an international meat import/export firm in London.

Due to the IRA bombing campaign in London, the Mills family moved out of the city.

Nick went to work for Kingswood Foundation (and educational foundation) as Deputy Bursar, and went on to achieve a diploma in Education Management.

For the next few years, he worked as an accountant in the education field, and was part of a group who built and indoor riding school for disabled and able-bodied children, a facility enabled by what Nick describes as "intense fund-raising" from the volunteer sector.

In 1989, show business beckoned again as Nick went to work as financial controller for Oxford Playhouse Trust, subsequently becoming responsible to the day-to-day operation of the renovated Oxford Playhouse Theatre, a 1,000 seat live theatre.

In addition to all of these positions, Nick qualified as a cricket coach, and maintained that qualification up to the time he moved to

Princeton.

Health problems changed his life dramatically. In 1993, Nick suffered a series of strokes and parted from his first wife.

In 1994, Nick came to Canada for the first time. He lived in Labrador City, Newfoundland, then later moved to Fort St. John with the lady he describes as 'the new love of my life'. In 2000, they moved to Princeton.

During the past nine years, Nick Mills has involved himself in the community. He joined the Museum Society, became President after a couple of years, and is now operations manager of the museum. Thanks to his keen interest, visitor attendance has grown, the archives have become better organized as well as expanded, and the museum has joined the 21st century with digital recording of archives materials.

There have been a lot of challenges for him to overcome, not the least of which is the promised expansion of the museum into the present library space.

Nick Mills' involvement in the community is not limited to the museum. He is a former Director of Princeton's Chamber of Commerce, is currently a Director of the Skills Centre Society, is a member of the Town Accessibility Committee, and is Treasurer of the local Arts Council.

The many articles Nick has written for the News Leader are part of the BC and Princeton 150 projects. We are delighted that Nick has chosen to share his knowledge of local history with our readers.

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Hedley Museum's summer student Lorretta Minshull holds one end of the Canadian Ensign with Anglican Bishop Robert Redmile while David and Arlene Redmile look on. The flag was presented to the Hedley Museum to commemorate the time when David and Kitty Oxley lived in Hedley. Katherine "Kitty" Oxley's memorial service was held on July 20, 2009 at the Hedley Grace Church officiated by her great nephew Bishop Redmile. Kitty McLeod was a school teacher and taught in Coalmont for four years before moving to Blakeburn. She married David Oxley in 1936 and they moved to Hedley four years later where David worked for Hedley Mascot Mines. In 1953 the family moved to Peru where they stayed for the next twenty years. - submitted

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When you buy a Princeton Posse season ticket you'll not only save \$75.00 off the regular price of admission to Princeton Arena - you'll get something more!

"Posse fans in the past really liked the idea of being able to reserve their favourite seat at the arena," says Posse Marketing Director George Elliott.

"And fans were able to have their seat marked with either their name or the word 'reserved' written across it which not only identified seats as not being available to anyone else, but out of town fans also responded to it."

Elliott says there were many home games where fans travelling with visiting teams were visibly impressed with the number of reserved seats in previous years.

"Thanks to the assistance and input from Lyle Thomas at Princeton Arena local hockey fans can once again pick their seat and have it marked so no one else uses it during the season."

Season tickets went on sale last week for the Princeton Posse at the reduced price of \$150.00 for the 25 home game regular season.

"The club wanted to keep the price attractive as well as acknowledge the current economic situation may make it tough for some fans to jump on board with a season ticket purchase right now."

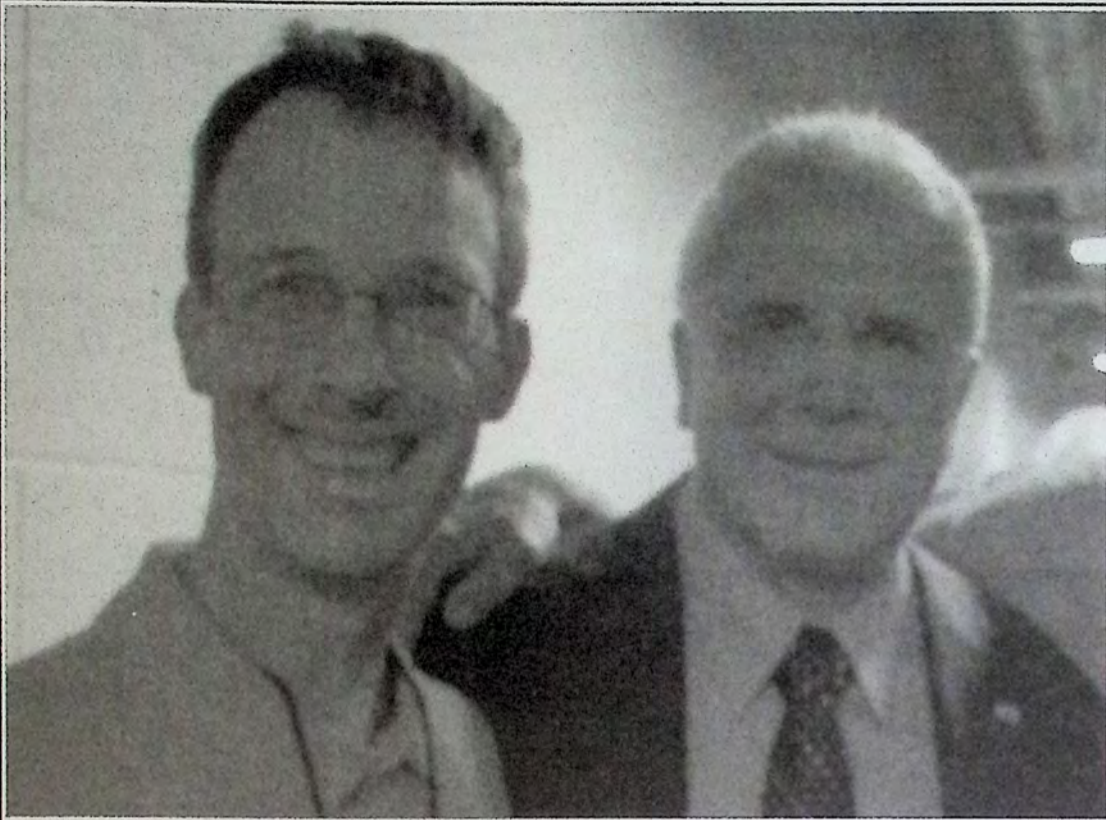
The club also wanted to provide a

special price in thanks to local fans for their loyal support. Season tickets can be purchased at

the News Leader office located at 226A Bridge Street, next to the CIBC.



Action from the Kidsummer Players production of Jack and The Beanstalk at the Cawston Hall Park July 23rd. The next four day story theatre in the park program runs August 10th to 13th. Registration for 8 to 12 year olds closes at 12 noon August 6th. Call (250) 499-2352 for information. - photo submitted



Paul Gabriel was thrilled to meet BC Lions Head Coach Wally Buono recently. - photo submitted



This was what the Riverside Theatre project looked like. *



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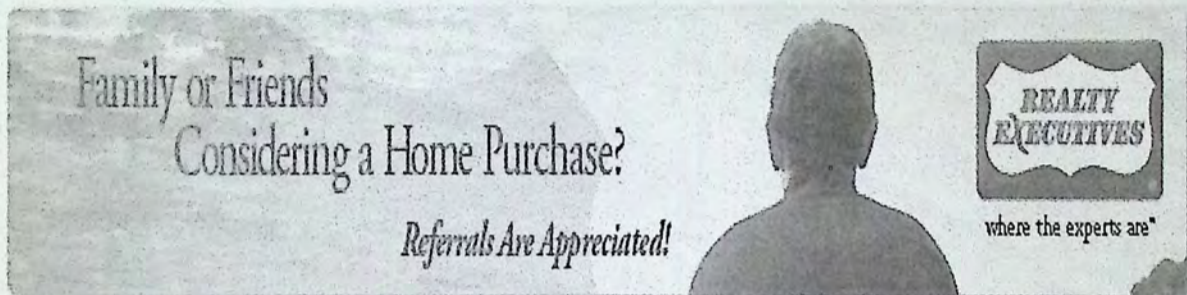
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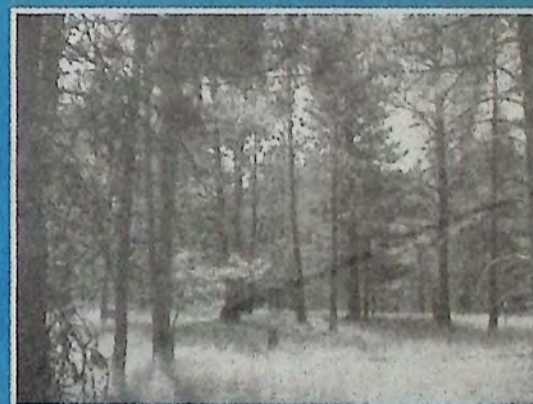


2493 Princeton-S'land Rd

8.8 acres close to all of your favorite activities, fishing, hiking, ATVing, snowmobiling and so much more! There are some buildings, including a 50' x 60' workshop, drilled well and septic system on the property but buyer will need to inspect and verify the level of use-ability.

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