



Valemount Days P8-9

# Rocky Mountain Goat

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## Who's running, who's not in this year's municipal election

By Laura Keil and Andrea Anold

The Goat reached out to local elected representatives to see who plans to run and who plans to step back during this fall's election. BC residents head to the polls October 15th to select new representatives for local Councils and regional districts. The deadline for entering your name into local election races is September 9th, 2022.

### Valemount Council

#### Councillor Sheri Gee

Sheri Gee says she is not currently planning on running for re-election.

"I would like to thank all the community members who supported me during the last election and during this term. I learned a lot about local government, and how important it is to the daily ins and outs of our little village. I learned the limitations of what council and the village can and can not do, and how we as a small local government make a difference every day. I have seen how our village staff and public works staff go above and beyond every day to keep things running smoothly. They are all such hard workers!"

For her the decision to run was about giving back.

"When I put my name forward to run for a seat on council, I wanted to give back to the community that has become my home, and I sincerely hope that I accomplished that. I know that I will continue to support my community, just in different ways."

She says she hopes more individuals will benefit by stepping up to the plate, putting their names out there to serve on council and see the positive improvements in the lives of their fellow residents. The highlight of her term was realizing that despite experiencing a global pandemic, council worked together to address one of our community's major issues: the lack of housing. With support from the Village, three different non-profit agencies in the community gained funding approval for their applications to build housing for low-income, women, and seniors.

"It is thrilling to see one project complete, one in the building stage, and to know that the third one is in the design phase. I will continue to follow the progress of these projects to completion, and know that new projects are already popping up on the horizon."

#### Mayor Owen Torgerson

Owen Torgerson says he will be seeking re-election as Mayor.

"There is still so much work that needs to be done," he said, adding that ongoing issues like housing and air quality remain two top priorities for

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Siblings Cedar and Hazel didn't let their height difference get in the way of speed during Valemount Days festivities Friday night. See more photos inside. /LAURA KEIL

## Valemount Days Returns!

### McBride Council

#### Councillor Lucille Green

Lucille Green plans to throw her hat into the mayoral race this fall. Green has submitted her notice of retirement to the Ministry of Transportation in preparation for the possibility of assuming the role of mayor.

Green was elected in the 2017 by-election and has served about five years. She believes it's important to have both new people and ideas brought into council, but also to have some level of retention to provide continuity and mentorship.

She feels it's important to work closely with other local governments and First Nations, allowing for strength in numbers when tackling common concerns like ageing infrastructure, water conservation, lack of affordable housing, forestry issues, health services, emergency services, to name a few.

Green would like to see progress made in the areas

of increased rental housing, forestry-related jobs, backcountry recreation opportunities, improved tourism opportunities and relationships with First Nations.

It was difficult for Green to pick just one highlight from her time as a Councillor.

"I think that it was the ability of the Council to come to a consensus on our strategic plan for the village and to staff implement projects and committees in support of this plan," she said.

#### Councillor Rosemary Hruby

Rosemary Hruby will not be running for re-election in October. She has held her seat in Council since the 2017 by-election. But 2017 was not her first election run. She ran for mayor against Steve Kolida about 30 years ago. Hruby did not win, and she says she is sure that the voting public made the right choice.

Although she will not be present in Council chambers come fall, she hopes that all the things they have been

CONT'D ON P3

### Regional District

#### Stephen Quinn

Thompson Nicola Regional District rep Stephen Quinn will not be seeking another term as Director for TNRD Area B. Quinn says anyone interested should contact the Deanna Campbell at the TNRD 1-877-377-8673 for further information.

#### Dannielle Alan

Dannielle Alan intends to run again for the Regional District of Fraser Fort George area H rep. Due to a very tight timeline to meet this week's deadline, we will share her reply in an upcoming newspaper once we receive it.

Irene Berndsen



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# Proper disposal after hunting

By ANDREA ARNOLD

Hunting in the Robson Valley is a common thing, but recently, some remains were disposed of near the Belle Mountain multi use trails.

“Hunters have to remove all edible portions to their current place of residence, or their guide’s headquarters,” said McBride RCMP Corporal Colin Bissel. “Once they have done that, they are able to discard the rest where they want.”

Remains of an animal or fish is considered an attractant. The remains can draw predators into the area and an encounter with a person is possible if the hunter has not disposed of the carcass properly.



*Leonard (Dutch) Allen Molendyk*  
*Aug. 18, 1957 - June 4, 2022*

Leonard (Dutch) Allen Molendyk passed away in Killarney, Ireland suddenly while on his dream vacation touring Ireland and Scotland with his wife, Brenda.

Dutch was born on August 18, 1957 in McBride, British Columbia, to Tony and Thelma Molendyk, and spent his childhood growing up in Dunster, BC. Dutch was one of four siblings, whom he loved and always had in his heart.

Dutch met the love of his life at the bar, which came as a surprise to no one. Brenda Faulkner was, at the time, a local bartender. She must have looked pretty good pouring those drinks, as Dutch ended up taking her hand in marriage within a year of meeting. Dutch and Brenda were married in 1982, beginning their lifetime of adventure.

Together, they had two children: Laine and Marnie, who gave them five grandchildren: Mya, Cannon, Adelynn, Wyatt, and Aiden. As anyone could tell you, Dutch loved kids and his grandchildren meant the world to their Opa. In recent years, Dutch and Brenda moved to the Grande Prairie, AB area, so they could be closer to the kids, with him even developing quite the hobby farm with the focus of entertaining the grandkids in mind.

Dutch was a very compassionate, thoughtful, and generous man. He was dedicated to his family, caring for them in every way he could and making sure they knew they were loved. He was also very active and respected within his community; always working to improve the lives of people around him. This was especially true with the local grocery store, which he and his family owned and operated for 6 years. Throughout his diverse career, Dutch also worked in the logging industry, where he was a manager at the mill, and as an equipment operator with Dutchman Holdings. He also farmed over 600 acres of land and cleared 40 of them by himself. Dutch would always go out of his way to help anyone in need – whether it was lending a helping hand on a project, sitting down for a chat, giving some sage advice, or just having a good laugh.

Dutch will be forever loved and remembered by his wife Brenda, son Laine (Kris), daughter Marnie (Shawn), his grandchildren Mya, Cannon, Adelynn, Wyatt and Aiden, his mother Thelma, siblings Gordon (Christine), Mike (Freda), Linda (Marvin) as well as countless many nieces, and nephews, and countless friends.

He was pre-deceased by his father Tony Molendyk.

We love you, and we will all see you again one day.

Above all else, Dutch loved to see people come together, helping each other, and laughing together, so join us in sharing some memories and saying goodbye to one of the greatest men this community has ever known. If you leave his celebration of life with a smile and some good stories, nothing would have made him happier. Please join us at the **McBride Community Hall on Saturday, June 18th, 2022, at 1pm**, with a luncheon to follow. As Dutch was a proud member of the local Elk’s Hall, we would also like to invite those who wish, to join us at the McBride Elk’s Hall at 4 pm, where stories of Dutch can continue to be shared with some of his favourite libations. In lieu of flowers, we ask that donations instead be made to the Elk’s Hall, in Dutch’s memory.

According to the British Columbia Wildlife Act, all hunters must abide by the rules of carcass disposal as laid out by this Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development synopsis:

“Other than for the purpose of hunting in accordance with the provisions of the Wildlife Act and regulations, it is prohibited to provide, leave, or place an attractant in, on or about any land or premises where there are or where there are likely to be people in a manner in which the attractant could attract dangerous wildlife to the land or premises and be accessible to dangerous wildlife. A person that commits an offense under this provision is liable, on a first conviction, to a fine up to \$50,000 and/or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 6 months.”

Another option that hunters in the Robson Valley have for disposal is to contact local trappers. They are able to use discarded remains as trap bait.

Corporal Bissel cautions hunters to consider the use of the land where they are dumping.

“Don’t dump in multi-use trails and high traffic areas,” he said. “Dispose properly, so as not to encourage predator/human interaction. Consider the possibility of land usage, and what the remains might attract.”

Although this is an issue that falls under the jurisdiction of Conservation Officers, RCMP officers as Federal agents can act in their place if needed. If a CO can not respond to a concern, they will request an RCMP member to step in.

If you have found a disposal site of concern, you can either contact the local RCMP or to report a conflict with wildlife that threatens public safety call 1-877-952-7277.

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## Who’s running: Valemount ... CONT’D FROM P1

residents.

“There is not one single solution but I will point to the re-write of the Official Community Plan and our work towards a geothermal future to help mitigate these issues.”

Along with these, asset management and planning for eventual replacement of critical infrastructure needs to be a key focus for the well-being of the community, he said.

**Councillor Donnie MacLean**

Donnie MacLean plans to seek re-election for another term.

“It is an exciting time to be a part of Council as we continue with the many projects we are directly involved in as well as those we are facilitating. I have enjoyed being part of this great team and hope to be given another opportunity to serve.”

She says two issues she’d like to see progress further are housing and using the new Official Community Plan to facilitate

economic growth, orderly development, and amenities.

“The highlight of my term has been being able to facilitate the development of new housing for seniors by giving land and upgrading Village infrastructure to enable the development.”

**Councillor Hollie Blanchette**

Hollie Blanchette says at this timeshe plans to run again.

“Contributing to my community is very important to me,” she says. “I want to do what I can, where I can and help make something better. For better or worse, I have a hard time saying ‘no.’”

If re-elected, the community issues she’d like to see progress are the clean air task force, which has gained huge momentum. There is a lot of work to be done, she says, and health is always something that is top of mind.

“We have terrific care here from our clinic staff, we can all support the non-profits

and the patient groups, jump in where support is needed. Don’t be afraid to make calls, send emails, make our voices heard. Squeaky wheel.”

Affordable housing is another area she’d like to focus on. “We have non-profits doing incredible work, but more needs to be done. We need to work with stakeholders, citizens and government to get realistic housing here.”

She encourages everyone to be involved in the community wherever people feel they have something to offer.

“It does not have to be much,” she says “A little goes a long way.”

She says someone sent her a note and a gift card in the mail thanking her for all that she does in the community.

“They did not sign it, and it had no return address. I wish to thank the lovely person who sent that to me. It came at a very difficult time, and it made me feel valued.”

Councillor Pete Pearson

Pete Pearson says at this point he intends

to run again for Councillor.

“This term I was seeing so much potential and excitement for where our Village was headed. A lot has been done and more is on the books but the impact of both COVID-19 and the TMEP project have had an effect on so much.”

If re-elected, he hopes to be a part of the recovery process to guide Valemount to an even brighter future. Top of mind for him are housing for all markets, including staff housing, and food security which continues to be a challenge in our community.

“These are things Mayor, Council and staff can support and find ways to a solution without negative impacts to the citizens of Valemount.”

He says his first term in local government has been a learning experience and generally positive.

“Our team has grown together and has accomplished many things with more to work toward.”

## Who’s running: McBride ... CONT’D FROM P1

working on do not get lost in the shuffle. Items like housing, seniors issues, jobs and community livability.

“Everything we’ve accomplished has been a highlight,” said Hruby. “Each puzzle piece that goes into place is a yay moment ... (and) directly impacts the other pieces.”

Hruby hopes to see younger faces on the new council, with fresh enthusiasm.

“It was fun and challenging,” she said. “I’d recommend it. It can be frustrating at times, but you are doing something for your community. However, if you’re in it for the glory, don’t do it.”

**Councillor Allan Frederick**

Allan Frederick is still undecided if he will add his name to the ballot in October. He admits it might be a last minute decision.

say ‘no,’” she said.

Smith feels that to be effective, Council should have some continuity, not a complete change of roster. She knows there are processes that need to be changed, and wants to be a part of that change. She wants to help make things easier to work with the citizens of McBride through more support from Village resources.

She has been excited to see progress in some of the projects that have been ongoing throughout the term. The new roof for the train station, a revamp of the Bill Clarke Memorial Ball Field, new lighting on Main Street and the re-opening of 2nd Ave are all projects that are important to her that have been set in motion.

“I would be more than delighted to come by funds to enhance the cemetery, and would like to be part of the makeover,” said Smith.

Although she lives outside village boundaries, Smith feels that being a member of Council has provided her an opportunity to contribute to the community.

“It is where I live, shop, volunteer and the place I am concerned about,” she said. “It is the people and the heart of the whole area that I care about. When it comes to spending the tax dollar, then it is the village we must concern ourselves with. We must abide by the Official Community Plan, bylaws, the Community Charter and rules of confidentiality.”

Smith appreciated the teamwork shown by the Councillors as they worked together to cover the Mayoral duties throughout the term. She also appreciated the support she, as a newbie, felt from the other three Councillors.

important to be continued by the new council. The issue of housing, specifically government-assisted housing, and the reworking of bylaws and ordinances to make the process of building more accessible to citizens.

“I wanted to address the Agriculture Land Reserve and hoped to see it adjusted during the term,” he said. “I think that an adjustment would allow the town more growth potential. But that did not get addressed during the last few years.”

Runtz also said that working with the provincial government on the big issues that affect the valley was a challenge.

His favourite part of this Mayoral term was the acceptance and support he felt from the people of the community.

“People would stop and greet me on the street,” he said. “They approached me with their concerns. I haven’t been able

to make all the changes requested, but I’ve tried. During my health issues, the community has been understanding and I am very grateful.”

He is also very pleased with the addition of CAO Chris Tupy and the stability that has given the Village staff.

Runtz would like to see a new wave of younger people step into the roles of Mayor and Council.

“Young people have a lot of motivation,” he said. “They think differently. I think more young people need to get involved.”

He hopes that together, new, younger representatives can make change in the community.

“You can’t do anything alone,” he said. “You can do a lot together.”

If he does, it will be his fourth term serving the community as a Councillor. He served in 2002, 2008 as well as this current term.

“If I see that the others that are running would be strong and effective then I may step back,” he said. “But it isn’t a decision I have made for sure at this point.”

Frederick would like to see some younger people step up to the plate.

“I think there are really good younger people out there that could contribute.”

Regardless of who is elected, Frederick would like to see the new Council continue making progress on the Official Community Plan and the process of reviewing and updating the bylaws. He would also like to see progress made on affordable housing and assisted living.

Frederick appreciates having good Village staff alongside Council as they come to the close of the term. He feels that the addition of CAO Chris Tupy was the best thing that was accomplished through the last four years. After having 11 CAO’s, and six CFO’s in five years, finding someone to stay the course for a longer period of time has allowed for continuity and stability for the village.

At the close of his third term in council, he has a word of caution for those interested in running.

“You can’t come in expecting to make a bunch of changes right away,” he said. “Change is slow.”

**Mayor Gene Runtz**

Gene Runtz announced earlier this year that he would not be running for Mayor again in the upcoming election. He is still mostly thinking along the same lines. He is scheduled for surgery in the fall and depending on several things, he may still consider running.

First is his health. At this time he is feeling really good. The timing of the surgery and subsequent recovery will be a big factor in the final decision. Secondly, if he feels that the other candidates are strong contenders and will do a good job, then he will not run.

There are two areas that he feels are

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# Editorial



## Community Vision

BY LAURA KEIL, PUBLISHER/EDITOR

It may seem early to start thinking about the October municipal election, but if you’re thinking of running you’ll need to decide by the end of the summer.

We reached out to elected reps to see whether they plan to run again, and it appears McBride will have fewer incumbents running than in Valemount.

Running for municipal office is a big decision. It takes commitment and selflessness to sign up for a four-year term with minimal pay. And then there are all the emotions involved in putting your name out

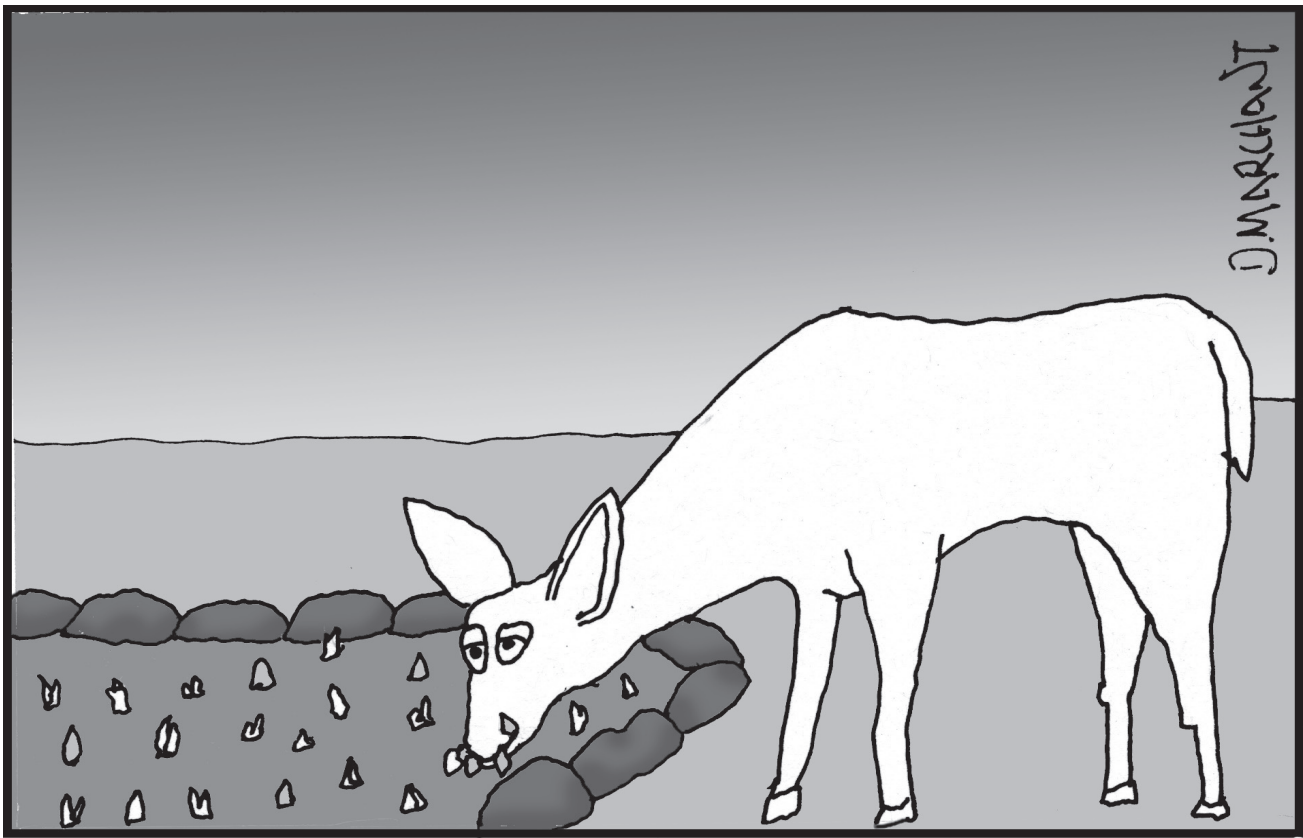
there and seeing how many votes you receive.

So why do people do it?

When people are grounded in their love for the community and their desire to give back, it becomes an easier decision.

Even if you don’t plan to run, elections are an opportunity to voice our concerns and visions for the future and find out if they align with our leaders’.

So whatever the case, be sure to engage in dialogue about where you’d like to see our communities go, both with candidates and voters. Ultimately, we are all in control of the ship’s direction.



“IN THE SPRING AN ANCIENT INNER VOICE TELLS THE DEER TO CHANGE THEIR DIET; FORGET THE COMPOST PILE AND BEGIN DINING ON THE FLOWER BEDS.”

## CORRECTION

In the May 26th edition of the Rocky Mountain Goat we ran a story “Local farmers use Farm Gate Plus to supply local meat.”

It was brought to our attention by Robert Boelens Government Communications and Public Engagement Ministry of Agriculture and Food that the statement that the Farmgate plus license allowed for an unlimited number of animals was not accurate.

He provided the following information:

Farmgate plus license: Current Class D and E license holders will transition to this license. Going forward, these licenses will be available in all areas of the province. Licensees will be able to process 25,000 pounds (11,340 kilograms) of meat per year that can be sold at farmgate, as well as farmers markets, retail outlets and restaurants throughout B.C.

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### REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS:

Pete Amyoony, David Marchant, Sandra James, Leon Lorenz, Andru McCracken, Michael Piasetzki



**Laura Keil**  
Publisher / Editor  
[goatnewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:goatnewspaper@gmail.com)



**Andrea Arnold**  
Associate Editor / Reporter  
[ajareporting29@gmail.com](mailto:ajareporting29@gmail.com)



**Trish Gair**  
Admin/Distribution  
[billingrmg@gmail.com](mailto:billingrmg@gmail.com)



**Christine Weenk**  
Graphic Design  
[goatnewsweb@gmail.com](mailto:goatnewsweb@gmail.com)



**Anna Mata**  
Production/Marketing  
[ads@goatnewsmedia.com](mailto:ads@goatnewsmedia.com)



**Deanna Mickelow**  
Feature Sales  
[dmickelow@gmail.com](mailto:dmickelow@gmail.com)



# Letters/Op-Ed

We welcome all letters to the editor  
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## About Letters to the Editor

The Goat welcomes all letters to the editor and values diverse opinions in our newspaper. Letters should address something that appeared in the newspaper or a current event. Recommended letter length is 400 words or less due to space constraints. Longer letters may be rejected or the author asked to reduce the length. The Goat formats letters and grammar according to Canadian Press style. No substantive changes are made without the author's approval. All letters are fact-checked and reviewed for clarity and libel. Letters must be submitted with a phone number for verification purposes and the location of the author, but only the name of the author and location will be published. We do not publish anonymous letters. Write to us! goatnewspaper@gmail.com. We ALWAYS confirm receipt of letters. If you have not received a reply from us, please call us at 250-566-4606 so we can make sure we receive it. Our letters deadline is Sunday 5pm the week of publication. Letters received after our deadline may still be included if space is available, otherwise they will be bumped to the following week.



## Valemount housing report impressive, but misses half of the equation

First of all, I would like to congratulate the authors of the recently completed Valemount Housing Report. After reading it cover to cover, I was impressed by the exhaustive work that has been completed, and I do think that our Village has finally received some value for yet another study that has been commissioned.

There are several conclusions the report seems to infer that I do support. Mainly the conclusion that staff housing for business is NOT the responsibility of the municipality. A fast food franchise is worth over a million dollars without the real estate included. Such businesses generate millions annually even in our tiny town. As such, it is ridiculous for them to expect the village to provide or even partner in providing housing. A house in Valemount even now is under \$500,000. Local hotels have purchased their own staff houses. The local heli ski operation has purchased and/or rented their own staff houses. No more significant staff time should be wasted on pursuing public-assisted or partnered housing for high volume businesses with the majority of margins leaving the community as profit and shareholder payout.

Now there certainly are instances where public and municipal-sponsored or partnered housing is not only needed but morally demanded. Seniors for example. As well as people with a disability. It should go without saying that any community should accommodate and support the housing needs of the vulnerable. But there is another category that should qualify for public housing if market housing simply is not available: teachers, nurses and other public employees. While this may be an unpopular opinion with some, it is a simple fact

of remote living. Do you want teachers in this town? The only teachers who own a house in this town have already retired or bought it several years ago. The days of a young teacher showing up here, renting for a year then getting married and mortgaging a house are over. Same for nurses. So who is going to replace our teachers as they either retire or get fed up living here and leave? With the great public-spending economic reckoning looming, teachers and nurses are not going to be getting significant pay raises soon. If we want to attract and retain basic public services in this town, temporary and transition housing for public servants is not an option. But the Village should not be paying for this, housing for new and transitory teachers should be part of the School District budget. As well, nurse housing must come from Northern Health. Rural Northern BC had housing for public servants in the past. We still have public housing for RCMP officers. We are quickly coming full circle. It should not be luxury, and there should be annoying rules like no alcohol on premises, but just enough to encourage a young teacher or nurse to find private accommodation as soon as possible. Yet the option to move here immediately upon job offer is on the table.

And this brings me to my final point. The only criticism I have of the report is that it skips over the issue of "streamline the approval process." It is easy to say this. But regulatory hurdles are not some phantom menace that can just be told to calm down. Want to build your own house? Sorry not allowed... there is a new law stopping that. Want to install your own septic system instead of paying \$40,000 upfront? Sorry not allowed, there is a new law stopping that. Want

to subdivide your land? Sorry it now costs \$20,000 to put 4 metal rods in the ground. Want to build a road for your new subdivision? Sorry it has to be paved. Now I can already hear some objections, this does not affect housing within the municipality. But you cannot separate the housing market between the Village of Valemount and the 566 service area. They are one in the same. The list goes on. If the authors of the report are commissioned to do a revision or update in the future, I ask that they spend more time actually listing and naming exactly what makes building a house ten times more difficult and five times more expensive than just one generation ago. And dig deep. Yes, in theory you can still do an owner-installed septic system. But good luck getting any of the private inspectors you must hire to certify it. Why would they help you not hire them to build it? And so the true root-cause analysis of the problem remains untouched. Each level of government continues the gaslighting saying..."well you can still build your own septic system" while nobody is willing to actually "streamline the approval process" and tell the private inspectors to start certifying owner-built systems or lose your license. Same with the horrible "certified home owner" building program. We should have never gotten rid of the public building inspector certification process in the first place. We do not need more government-provided housing outside of the vulnerable demographics listed. We need more government encouragement and getting out of the way of young people building their own houses, as used to be, and should remain forever, a standard economic right of passage in rural Canada.

Joseph Nusse  
Valemount, BC



## Housing report highlights needs and solutions to meet gaps

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to thank you for bringing attention to the recent Housing Needs Report completed for Valemount, by the article published in the June 9 issue. I wanted to clarify one thing that I felt was a bit misleading - the headline, which stated that 'Housing Report stresses need for action'.

I am a housing advocate and have been vocal about housing issues. However, Housing Reports are based on census and housing data, trends, and community engagement to determine the key areas of need. They also make recommendations to reduce the gaps in housing. The report that I prepared with Megan Vicente highlighted municipal tools, however the report is an information based assessment and can't urge action or

suggest the best way forward. Yes, we did share various legislative tools available to local government that are not available to nonprofits, but it was less to urge action and more to share the opportunities and tools available to Village staff should they determine that housing is an issue that the Village should help solve.

The more appropriate headline could have been the one I put at the top of this letter. Everything else about the story you wrote was accurate.

Sincerely,

Rashmi Narayan  
Valemount, BC



## Questioning timeline

Most people are not only willing but are very determined to believe that a creator always existed ... yet are not willing to even consider the theory that the universe could always have existed in a natural state ... without ever having been created.

June Vandermark  
McBride, BC



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3rd Place 2018 Best Historical Story  
2nd Place 2018 Best Website  
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3rd Place 2015

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**TUES** 10am - 4pm

**WED** 9am - 5pm

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**FRI** 9am - 5pm

### MCBRIDE HOURS

**MON** 9am - 3pm

**TUES** 12pm - 3pm

**WED** 8am-12pm

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Canada



# Tom Ryan returns to Stampede

By ANDREA ARNOLD

This July, McBride resident Tom Ryan is headed back to the Calgary Stampede to compete in the Cowboy Up Challenge for the fourth time.

According to their website, The Calgary Stampede Cowboy Up Challenge is a multi-faceted equestrian sporting event that showcases both horse and rider as they maneuver through a series of obstacles. Each obstacle demonstrates the horse's natural agility, the rider's horsemanship skills and a partnership based on trust

In order to compete, individuals have to submit an application to the Stampede board. The board then sends invitations in hopes of having the top 10 North American competitors.

He hadn't expected to compete this year, but for the second year in a row, the Stampede board contacted him. This year they told him there were wildcard spots available, but that he needed to submit his application.

"We sent it in, and not long after, as we were trying to get to Little Lost Lake, he got word that he had been accepted," said Shelly.

Ryan says he has been riding for almost 60 years, having first been placed on a horse at six months old.

Ten years ago, Ryan first competed in Cowboy Up, and then again in 2013. He returned to the ring last year, not long after the devastating fire that took their barn and some of their animals.

"I got the call from the Stampede board not long after the fire," said Ryan. "They wanted me to submit an application. I wasn't sure about the timing, but decided to go for it. I didn't know if it was the right time as we were dealing with the losses from the fire. I am all about feeling emotion. I like to feel emotion, but I need to keep moving forward. Horses and

humans are similar in that they can only think of one thing at a time. We have to focus on the right thing."

Only 10 days before competition at the 2021 Stampede, Ryan started training on his 18-year-old Lustrino, Apache.

"It was the first year I competed with Apache, so we travelled to train as much as possible in those days."

Training can be a bit of a guessing game. The competitions are usually held indoors, but not always. Each course is a series of obstacles that cannot be predicted.

"The competition is about speed and control," said Ryan. "Some examples of obstacles we have to master are bridges, water, jumping, dragging things, and roping. However, there are too many obstacle variances to practice them all. You can see obstacles that you and your horse have never seen."

Competitors get a map of the course an hour before the event starts.

"We have to memorize the map and the flow of the course, and plan your attack," he said. "Then 15 minutes before we start, we actually get to see the course."

Ryan said that although there is an audience watching the process, there are elements that the public doesn't see.

He remembers one obstacle that appeared to be harmless and easy during the walk through.

"There was a bridge with a water mat in front of it and we had to get all four hooves wet before hitting the bridge," he said. "When we got to it, the water mat took on an intense shine. They had a light shining straight from above that the audience couldn't see. It startled me, and the horse felt it. He stepped back and pooped, then jumped the whole obstacle."

Competitors are scored on speed as well as for the execution of each obstacle. Judging begins with a score of 5 on each one, and goes up or down as the competitor

completes the task. A good performance on an obstacle might score an 8, but a misstep could result in a score of 3.

In 2021 Ryan competed on two of his horses: Apache, and the more experienced G. At the end of the season he was thrilled to place 5th with G and 6th with Apache in the Pro Division World Standings. He was invited to the World Finals in Texas along with the top 60 per cent of athletes from around the world, but the Ryan household was hit with COVID-19 and he was unable to make the trip.

This year, Ryan will be competing on his 10-year-old Lustrino "G." Typically Quarter horses are used for these competitions, due to their athleticism and mindset. Ryan says the courses are geared toward Quarter horses. However, that doesn't stop Ryan from bringing in his ranch-bred Lustrino's.

"Lustrino's, with the proper training, can't be touched," he said.

During competition, Ryan said controlling emotion, being calm, in control of the horse, and being a leader is key.

"I wanted to get control of my emotional fitness," said Ryan. "The competitions

have helped me do that. When I started I really didn't like being in front of people. Now I really enjoy it. The competitors are also entertainers, providing the audience a show."

Ryan began his competition season this last weekend with the Extreme Cowboy Challenge in Cochrane Alberta. He placed third in the Pro Division at the end of the weekend. He is then attending a dressage clinic for the week before heading to the next competition.

Both this year and last he was grateful for a sponsorship from McBride-raised Alberta-based businessman, Terry Raymond. Ryan will be attending six-eight events during the season and each of these require driving a minimum of six hours each way. The day money available to win helps cover expenses, but the increased cost of travel means that sponsorship is important.

Ryan is not heading in expecting to win first place, but he has other goals in mind.

"Winning would be nice, but that isn't the goal," he said. "The goal is to make it back to the Worlds, to compete with other countries, and to show off the Lustrino breed."




Tom Ryan and his 2022 choice for a competition partner "G" placed third at their first competition in Cochrane June 11, & 12, 2022. /SUBMITTED

## Village of Valemount 2021 Annual Report

The 2021 Annual Report has been made available for public inspection on the Village website and at the Village office in paper format.

The public is invited to review the Annual Report, provide comments and ask questions during the Regular Council meeting held on June 28, 2022.

Public Comments will be accepted at the Village Office, or via email to [dof@valemount.ca](mailto:dof@valemount.ca) up until June 28, 2022 at 3 pm.



### Home Owner Grants

The Village office no longer processes Home Owner Grants.

Apply online at: [www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) OR call 1-888-355-2700.

Home Owner Grants must be applied for prior to the July 4th due date to avoid penalties.

## 2022 Tax Notices

2022 tax notices have been mailed out. If you have not received your bill, please call the Village office at 250-566-4435 or email [adminservices@valemount.ca](mailto:adminservices@valemount.ca).

Tax payments must be received in the Municipal office on or before July 4, 2022 to avoid penalties.

**Payment Methods:**

E-transfers- are accepted at [dof@valemount.ca](mailto:dof@valemount.ca)

\*Please include in the e-transfer message: payment is for taxes and the property roll number.

Cheques- must be received in the Municipal office prior to the end of business day July 4, 2022.

Online or Telephone banking- Use the correct payment method (Taxes vs. Utility account)

In-Person- Cash, cheque or debit. CREDIT CARDS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

## Canada Day Celebrations

**WHEN:** Friday, July 1st

**TIME:** 7 pm - 10 pm

**WHERE:** Sportsplex Grounds

Join us for free cake and live music

**Fireworks start at 10:00pm**

## Centennial Park Washrooms – Tentative Completion Date

Although the washrooms at Centennial Park appear ready for use from the outside, concrete skirting is being installed to ensure that excess sand, dirt and debris are not brought into the facility, which can plug the plumbing. There is also work that needs to be completed on the inside. The Village expects all required work will be completed by the end of June.

Due to after-hours vandalism, the temporary portable washrooms will open daily from 7:00 am - 8:30 pm.



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Inquisitive Squirrel



Curious but cautious, this squirrel allowed close proximity photography while it was eating breakfast. One wrong move and it scampered back into the safety of higher branches. /ANDREA ARNOLD

Harlequin duck



This male harlequin duck seemed unconcerned as the photographer slowly approached into close filming range. During most of the year these sea ducks are found in coastal marine environments, however in spring they leave the sea water to breed along fast flowing streams and rivers. /LEON LORENZ

COVID-19 IN BC



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# Valemountain Days Returns!

After a two-year hiatus, Valemountain Days returned to Valemount over the weekend of June 10-12th.



Ivy and Rilah competed in the watermelon eating contest Friday night. /LAURA KEIL



Contestants in the sack race got plenty of height. / LAURA KEIL



Connor and Alyssa worked together in the 3-legged race. /LAURA KEIL



Vintage cars, work trucks, and even a horse and buggy were part of the parade Saturday. /JESSICA ARNOLD



Cameron gets his first look in the mirror after being transformed into Spider Man. / LAURA KEIL



One of Ledcor Sicim's floats in the parade Saturday morning. /ANDREA ARNOLD



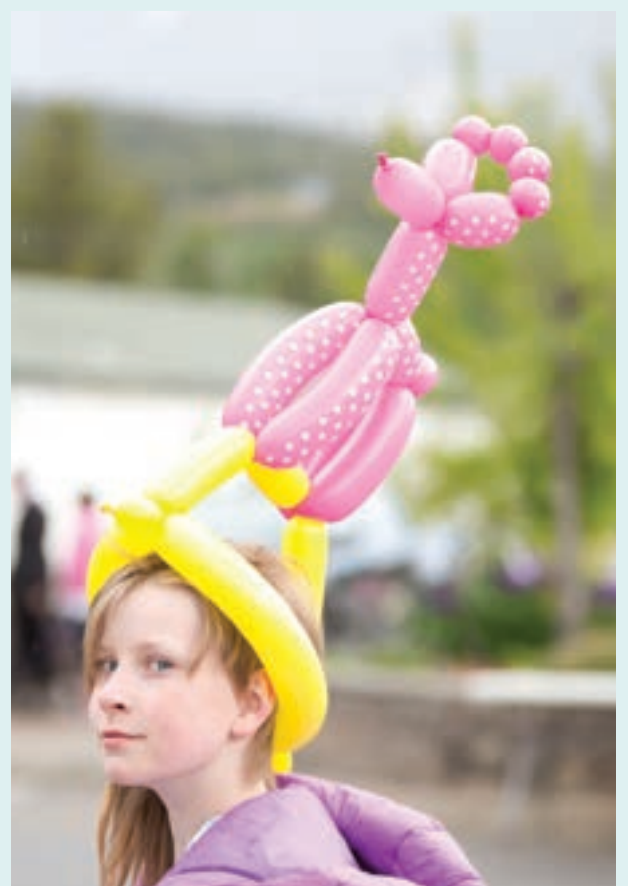
Carol and Byron Bustin were invited to sit in the back of a 1965 Ford Galaxy convertible during the parade. They said yes on the condition that they could make out in the back seat. /SUBMITTED



The bouncy castles and photo booth were a popular place for kids of all ages. /LANA CURRAN



Hannah Vanderwilk soaked up the sun on the Home Hardware float. /JESSICA ARNOLD



Brianna would have won if there'd been a prize for tallest balloon animal. /LAURA KEIL





Kids had lots of fun decorating their bikes for a "bike parade" Friday night downtown. /LAURA KEIL



Buddy Smith narrowly avoids walking back to the bench. / LAURA KEIL



John, Logan, Sophia and others are delighted by Chris the Clown's antics at the street party Friday night. /LAURA KEIL



The curling club hosted a sold-out dance Saturday night with Jasper's Sons and Daughter playing live. / LAURA KEIL



Shayla makes the catch during a ball game Saturday. Eight teams competed. The Hinton Kodiak won. /LAURA KEIL



This year's logger sports included axe throwing, ironman/woman and crosscut saw. /LAURA KEIL

# Thank you to our SPONSORS



Chalet Continental	Vern Mickelson	D.A.N. Contracting	Spaz Logging	Village Public Works	Valemount Fire Dept.	Valemount Esso
Grace Craig, Three Ranges Brewing, BC Ambulance, Musicians: John Crowley, Cat Crowley, Michael Peters, Cam Wallace,	Mike Berkenpas, Ben Coyle, and Half/Asian with Amy the Coda. All the bouncy castle volunteers. Facepainters Tabitha, Susanne	and Amber. Rashmi Narayan, Sherry Tinsley, Korie Marshall, Alicia, Dorrie, Amanda, CN Rail, the Valemount RCMP, Jen	Scheller, Ross Mckirdy, Hannah Britton-Foster, Greg Reimer, Gordon Carson, David Carson, Jos Hughes, Miwa Hiroe, Andru	McCracken, Dennis Neuman, Brian Mckirdy, Liz Norwell, Grace Michaud, Jamie Black, Audrey and Jeremy Rose,	Hope Norum, Shaun Woodland all the volunteer ump's and score-keepers and previous festival organizers whose knowledge and	supplies we relied on. Thank you all for your community spirit and thank you to all who came out to the weekend's events!

# And supporters!

**Valemountain Days was a huge success!**

- The Valemount Community Sport Days committee





REGIONAL DISTRICT  
of Fraser-Fort George

# BATTERY RECYCLING

### It's Important to Recycle Batteries

Correct disposal of batteries keeps everyone safe. Even if batteries seem to be 'dead', they can hold enough of a small charge to start a fire. This fire could start in your garbage can, the garbage truck or at the landfill.

Recycling batteries protects your community and the environment, ensuring that harmful materials don't end up in the landfill. Materials that are reclaimed from recycled batteries can be used to make new batteries, watches, bicycles, golf clubs and small appliances.

### Storing Used Batteries

Keep yourself and your property safe by properly storing used batteries until there are enough to drop off at a recycling location.

Put used batteries back in their original packaging if it's still available. If not, tape over the positive (+) terminals with packing, duct or electrical tape – just avoid covering the battery's label. Single batteries can also be individually bagged in clear zip-seal, produce or newspaper bags. Multiple cylindrical alkaline batteries can be wrapped together with all (+) terminals pointing in the same direction.

Other storage tips include:

- Don't keep batteries in drawers or containers with other metal objects like coins, paper clips or screws.
- Don't store bagged or taped batteries in metal containers – repurpose an old yogurt container, milk jug or plastic storage bin.
- Store your container of batteries in a cool, dry place. It can be at room temperature, but avoid direct sunlight or extreme heat.



**ROBSON VALLEY  
BATTERY RECYCLING**

- **McBride Regional Transfer Station**
- **Valemount Regional Transfer Station**
- **Home Hardware, Valemount**



A mother Violet-green swallow was flying around getting food for her young which were in a nest box. Every so often she would stop and feed the little ones. Both parents feed nestlings, but the females often do more. The violet-green swallow is a small North American passerine bird in the swallow family. They are relatively early spring migrants that tend to follow the coastline or low-elevation features as they travel. Violet-green swallows nest in cavities in trees and cliffs, or in nest boxes. They nest solitarily or in small colonies of up to 25 pairs in open woodlands often near water bodies. / SANDRA JAMES



**VILLAGE OF MCBRIDE  
MCBRIDE COMMUNITY  
FOREST CORPORATION**



**2022 Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday - June 16, 2022  
Robson Valley Community Hall**

Please Join the Village of McBride and the  
McBride Community Forest Corporation on **Tuesday, June 16, 2022**  
at the Robson Valley Community Centre at 6:30 pm  
for the 2022 Annual General Meeting.

For more information please contact the Village office at  
(250) 569-2229, or the McBride Community Forest at (250) 569-0262.

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# PUZZLES



ANSWERS ON P13

CROSSWORD

- Across
- 1 Short-lived obsession

4 Sleeping spot

8 Holed up

11 Binary system element

12 Classy woman

13 Top card in the deck

14 Sinuous fish

15 On

16 Different

17 Deli platter cheese

19 Arrive at Kennedy

21 Three-year-old's question

23 Light lunch choice

26 Military command center

29 New York's time zone

31 Ill-fated

33 It's a thought

34 Virginia, e.g.

35 Freudian factor

37 Kind

39 Textbook chapters, e.g.

43 Work in a play

45 Unsullied

47 One kind of crust

48 Buddy Holly's "Peggy \_\_\_\_"

49 Roman and Christian, e.g.

50 Forty-niner's find

51 "Death Becomes \_\_\_\_" (1992 Meryl Streep movie)

52 Uses oars

53 \_\_\_\_ mother
- Down
- 1 Hatfields and McCoys, e.g.

2 Once more

3 Eatery of a sort

4 Go at it

5 Tattletale

6 One getting bags of fan mail

7 Go around

8 Coped with

9 Sprain application

10 Morning wetness

18 Like some nervous palms

20 Country

22 Slang for affirmative

24 "What \_\_\_\_ you, a wise guy?"

25 Human genome project stuff

26 City transit vehicle

27 Termite's kin

28 Break

30 Matey's assent

32 Shaker contents

36 Uncertain estimate

38 Multinational official currency

40 Personal music source

41 It may be spare

42 Called, in poker

43 Residue from a fire

44 Poolroom stick

46 Uncooked

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10
11				12					13		
14				15					16		
17				18			19		20		
				21		22		23		24	25
26	27	28			29	30					
31				32				33			
34						35	36				
		37			38		39		40	41	42
43	44			45		46			47		
48				49					50		
51				52					53		

Answers on P13

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

Answers on P13

## SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember. You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column or 3x3 box.

## The Toughie

by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Those over there

5. Certain NCO's

9. Mae and Jerry

14. Prefix with pad

15. Ankh feature

16. Four Holy Roman emperors

17. Responsibility

18. "... \_\_\_\_ additional cost!"

19. Whopper topper

20. Unobserved

23. Prefix with -drome

24. Half of doce

25. Gym site

28. Motor

33. "... \_\_\_\_ quit!"

36. Part of a South American city

39. Airline to Israel

40. Go into a bunker perhaps

44. Ariz. neighbor

45. Arctic villa

46. Calendar pages, abbr.

47. Be absorbed slowly

50. Annie Lennox hit "No More I Love \_\_\_\_"

52. Pasty-faced

55. Courageous

58. So as to go unnoticed

63. Sugar source

65. Affectedly whimsical

66. "Bulldog" Hersher

67. Pond buildup

68. Long bone

69. Dropped

70. Show of joy, sometimes

71. Attention-getter

72. Too

Down

1. You (biblical)

2. Reddish brown

3. Cleverly avoid

4. Stephen King title

5. Louvre

6. One dressed in black, perhaps

7. Shades

8. Fungus beginning

9. Of an earthy fragrance

10. Sight from Taormina

11. Awaken

12. " \_\_\_\_ bad!"

13. Fig. in identity theft

21. Broken, in French

22. Stand by

26. Jail

27. Luxury car

29. Start for "conservative" or "classical"

30. Collegian

31. Ranchero's hand

32. \_\_\_\_ mobile

33. " \_\_\_\_ you don't!"

34. Basketball hoops

35. The same

37. Turkey piece

38. Air France destination

41. Outside, in combinations

42. Thick porridge description

43. Not exact

48. Back talks

49. New York time (abbr.)

51. Fried turnover

53. In a lather

54. Two-masters

56. Upright

57. Heavenly abodes

58. Swenson of "Benson"

59. At hand

60. Telephoto, for one

61. Suckling spot

62. Nevada county or its seat

63. Mouse catcher

64. Alcoholic beverage

Answers on P13

# HOROSCOPES



BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Earthy Grand Trine

Charles Darwin suggested that the tips of plant roots are like the brains of plants. If this is the case, some trees have thought themselves quite deep into the ground indeed, as there are tree roots on record longer than a 20-story building. The lunar Grand Trine in earth signs brings an auspicious grounding to the week. As we grow, we simultaneously extend to the clouds and the depths.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). The same thing makes a job hard or easy: attitude. Attitude is a mindset, but it's also a physical alignment of energy -- a way of moving through the world with awareness, intent and confidence. What you do to strengthen and teach your body will lift your attitude and pave the way for winning on every level.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). A little discomfort is part of the learning process; too much defeats the purpose because later you'll end up right back where you're started just to get some relief. The ideal environment offers security but is not so cushy you end up soft. You're like Goldilocks this week; you'll try things until you find the "just right" zone.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Give-and-take relationships won't work that well this week. It's the taking that's the problem. Whereas givers can only give until supply runs out, takers don't know when to stop. When one supply stops, they'll move to the next and the next. Seek clearly defined working arrangements and avoid ambiguous relationships.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You're a self-directed person, doing things for your own reasons. Some won't be able to appreciate your efforts, only because they have never contributed thusly and cannot relate. Continue undaunted. Though you don't need it, eventually you will be acknowledged by those who understand what you do.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You've come this far -- proof that you can handle what comes, however big, little, amazing or inconvenient it might be. There's no reason to look back with pride, shame or other because that's all over now. It's time to make your next best decision. Do it by yourself now and you'll have support later.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). We equate wealth with hard work, but it's not always the case. Tremendous labors can pay very little, and many fortunes are made without huge effort. Be open-minded as you look for opportunity this week. Seek input from people very different from yourself because a broader perspective offers more options.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The ones flashing wealth or flexing authority are often advertising how new it is to them and how much they need external things for validation. The power move is not to show off your energy but to hold it like the sun does, thus being the great magnet that others can orbit around and grow toward.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Resist the pressure to focus on one thing. Only you know when you're ready to specialize; you'll feel it. It is typical for creative minds like yours to try a wide array of endeavors. Fill your wells of inspiration with whatever interests you. Ultimately, your work will be enhanced by the breadth of your studies.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Compliments are much easier to give than constructive criticism. So you actually consider it more of a compliment when people are brave, honest and thoughtful enough to do the harder work of applying their critical mind to an assessment. You appreciate the value of critique and will apply it to great effect.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your development is a co-creation between the world and you. The world asks you to play a role, and you'll apply your mind to building it uniquely. Imitation will be part of your process, but you'll quickly outgrow the need to match yourself to an example. You'll become your own example.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The "no guts, no glory" approach worked for you in the past, but these days you're not after glory, so you take things in a different direction. "No guts, no fun" is the adage that keeps your week humming with excitement, risk, silliness and unforgettable moments of shared glee.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). The obstacle between you and what you want is caused by misunderstanding, differences in ideology and generational clashes. A breakthrough will require tolerance. The key is offering the benefit of the doubt, seeking understanding and deciding not to take offense.

**THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS:** A playful energy lights up your relationships. It's as though you and your loved ones have passes to a secret amusement park where you can go and have fun together no matter what else is happening in the world. You'll sharpen your leadership skills as you take charge of a mission. You'll enjoy this better when your tenure is short. Get in, make the change that will serve all and then hand the baton to the next person. Upgrades to the home environment will be health-enhancing.

Write Holiday Mathis at [HolidayMathis.com](http://HolidayMathis.com). COPYRIGHT 2022 CREATORS.COM





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11	O	N	E	12	L	A	D	Y	13	A	C	E
14	E	E	L	15	A	T	O	P	16	N	E	W
17	S	W	I	18	S	S	19	L	A	N	D	
20				21	W	H	Y	22	S	A	L	A
23	B	A	S	24	E	E	A	S	25	T	E	R
26	U	N	H	27	A	P	P	Y	28	I	D	E
29	S	T	A	30	T	E	E	G	31	O		
32				33	T	Y	P	E	34	U	N	I
35	A	C	T	36	P	U	R	E	37	P	I	E
38	S	U	E	39	E	R	A	S	40	O	R	E
41	H	E	R	42	R	O	W	S	43	D	E	N

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

TOUGHIE ANSWERS

1	T	H	E	M	16	S	G	T	S	31	W	E	S	T	S
2	H	E	L	I	17	L	O	O	P	32	O	T	T	O	S
3	O	N	U	S	18	A	T	N	O	33	O	N	I	O	N
4	U	N	D	E	R	19	T	H	E	R	34	A	D	A	R
5	A	E	R	O	20	S	E	I	S	35	D	I	S		
6	Y	M	C	A	21	P	A	U	L	36	N	A	M	O	
7	O	R	I		22	H	I	D	E	37	E	L	A	L	
8	H	I	D	E	23	U	N	D	E	38	R	O	U	N	D
9	N	M	E	X	24	I	G	L	O	39	M	O	S		
10	O	S	M	O	25	S	E	Y	O	40	U	S			
11	A	S	H	Y	26	G	A	M	E	41					
12	I	N	S	T	E	A	L	T	H	42	M	O	D	E	
13	C	A	N	E	S	T	W	E	E	43	O	R	E	L	
14	A	L	G	A	E	U	L	N	A	44	S	A	N	K	
15	T	E	A	R	S	P	S	S	T	45	A	L	S	O	

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VALEMOUNT

MONs Family Place Drop-In is now on Mondays from 9am-noon with Hannah. Come for the connection with other families, parenting resources and fun for you and your 0-6 year old children at RVCS unless otherwise stated below (99 Gorse St)! Call 250-566-9107 or email [events@rvcsbc.org](mailto:events@rvcsbc.org) for more info.

JUNE 20 - Bannock & Stories at the village park

JUNE 27 - Walk around the march

TUEs Join us for **Seniors Walking & Wheeling Group** every week at 2pm for a 30-45 minute stroll or roll around town with Shae beginning at 99 Gorse St. All fitness abilities welcome. No registration required. Call 250-566-9107 for more info or email [events@rvcsbc.org](mailto:events@rvcsbc.org).

MONs **Seniors Drop-In** i is on Mondays from 1-3pm. All seniors are invited to come by for both structured and unstructured recreational, educational and social activities with Shae at RVCS (99 Gorse St). No registration required, unless stated. Call 250-566-9107 or email [events@rvcsbc.org](mailto:events@rvcsbc.org) for more info.

JUNE 20 - Tech Cafe, one-on-one device support

JUNE 27 - Canadian Multicultural Day, bring an item that represents your family's culture

MONs JUNE 20 & 27 from 3:30-4:30pm, RVCS is welcoming youth ages 12-18 who'd like to build resiliency against anxiety during a **Yoga For Teens** class with Rebecca Wylie at our office location. Please register: [250-566-9107/events@rvcsbc.org](mailto:250-566-9107/events@rvcsbc.org)

THUR JUNE 23 from 4:30-6pm, come and help out during a **Work Bee at the Valemount Community**

**Gardens** and help make our gardens a better place for all. Tasks include, weeding, watering, moving soil. Snacks will be provided, please bring garden equipment if you have it. If you have a small machine you're willing to bring that can move wood chips and gravel, please reach out to Rebecca at [foodsecurity@rvcsbc.org](mailto:foodsecurity@rvcsbc.org). Registration is not required. 250-566-9107 for more info.

THUR JULY 7 from 10:30am-12pm, join Rebecca and Jean Ann for a **Parent and Child Foraging Walk**, set to begin from the Valemount Community Garden. Learn about naturally foraged plants and eat some wild foods with your young ones. Open to all ages, come prepared to be outside with a water bottle, sun protection and good footwear. Registration is not required. 250-566-9107 for more info.

MCBRIDE

MONs **Family Place Drop-In** is now on Mondays from 9am-noon. Join for connection with other families, parenting resources and fun for you and your 0-6 year old children at RVCS unless otherwise stated below (942 3rd ave). No registration required. Call 250-569-2266 for more info.

JUNE 20 - Indigenous Day, activity books and orange ribbon pins at village park

JUNE 27 - Canada Day craft at village park

WEDs **Seniors Drop-In** is on Wednesdays from 1-3pm with Sandy. All seniors are invited to come by for both structured and unstructured recreational, educational and social activities at RVCS (942 3rd ave). No registration required. Call 250-569-2266 for more information.

JUNE 15 - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day & free

DUNSTER

lunch (limited to first 20 seniors) at Welcome Home for seniors!

JUNE 22 - Home made salves, tinctures & learn about healing benefits of local plants/herbs with Joy

JUNE 29 - Appetizers & punch

TUEs Join us for **Seniors Walking & Wheeling Group** every week on Tuesdays at 2pm for a 30-45 minute stroll or roll around town with Sandy beginning at 942 3rd ave. All fitness abilities welcome. No registration required. Call 250-569-2266 for more info.

WED JUNE 15 is **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day!** Join us at Welcome Home from 11am-1pm for a discussion around elder abuse prevention and ageism. Seniors are provided with a FREE lunch on a first-come, first-served basis (Limited free lunches available). Free swag for all too! Everyone welcome. RVCS 250-569-2266 for more info.

THUR JUNE 23 from 4-6pm it's the next **Men's Shed Meeting** where guys get together and chat about topics like mechanics, woodworking & more! Get advice or offer it. No registration is required. For more info, please call 250-569-2266 or email [events@rvcsbc.org](mailto:events@rvcsbc.org).

JULY 9 Weekly **Dunster Farmer's Market** begins,

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*Pete Amyoony has lived, worked and gardened in the Dunster area for 43 years. He tries to deal with the “down to earth nuts and bolts of organic gardening” in his columns.*

## Maggots be gone

Last week I discussed some methods of dealing with aphids in the garden and greenhouse. This week, I would like to deal with those nasty little white worms called root maggots. There are root maggots that attack radishes, others that attack onions and those that ruin rutabagas with all their tracks and holes in the flesh. I think the one that causes the most grief to local gardeners is the cabbage maggot. Knock on wood, I have had very little problem with it but sometimes I think it is because I plant my garden so late. There is nothing more discouraging than to plant out forty or fifty healthy little broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage plants and to go back a week or two later and see up to 90% of them wilting and turning a sickly purple because of cabbage root maggot attacks.

The root maggot comes from a small ¼ inch (.6cm) black fly. The flies lay the little white eggs on the stem of the plants just where the stem enters the soil. When the eggs hatch, the little worms crawl down the stem and begin feeding on the tender roots of the young plants. By the time you notice the plant wilting and

turning purple and then yellow, it is usually too late to help the plants. You have to act before the eggs are laid and the worms hatch out.

Some people have had great luck with floating row cover (reemay). It is very light spun polyester that can be placed right on the row of young plants as soon as they are transplanted. It is tucked into the soil on both sides of the row and the young plants will lift it as they grow. Rain and water and light go right through, but flies and other pests cannot get in. You have to be really careful not to plant where other members of the cabbage family grew last year or you may trap grubs from last year that will hatch into flies and get your little plants anyway!

My dad used to make tarpaper collars for each plant. A circle or square of about 6 “ (15cm) is cut for each plant and then a cut made to the center of the paper. The paper is slipped on to the stem of the plant, and the slit is sealed with waterproof tape. I have also seen a collar like this made of foil to discourage the flies from landing there to lay their eggs on the stem.

Another home remedy is to mix six cloves of garlic, two tsp. cayenne pepper and six to 10 drops of dish soap in a litre of warm water. Let it sit overnight and then strain it into a spray bottle. One local gardener also adds crushed eggshells to this mixture. Drench the plants and the soil around the stems. It seems the flies are attracted to the plants by the smell of cabbage, so this will mess up their sense of smell.

Another suggestion I have used is to dust the stem and the ground surface around the stem with a mixture of lime and wood ashes. Both are good for the growth of the cabbage family and it seems the flies don't like to land on it to lay their eggs.

Another friend has had good luck with these pests by sprinkling crushed mint and sage under the little plants around the stem. Once again, this would mix up the fly's sense of smell.

You can try any or all of the above, but keep trying because all of these home grown veggies taste so much better!



# Library outdoor space construction begins

By ANDREA ARNOLD

The McBride and District Public Library staff is excited to see progress made on their new outdoor space. Phase 1 will convert the green space between the building and 5th ave into a more user friendly environment. Work began last week with the pouring of a concrete walkway and 18x16 pad. The next step is construction of a shelter over the pad that will be used as an outdoor meeting space.

The space will be used to host children's programs and performances, said Abi Ward, Library Director. There will be two picnic tables in the space, and one will be accessible.

Between the building and the walkway, a small picket fence will be constructed enclosing a grassy kids' space. Ward plans to provide seating areas for both adults and children and direct access to both the library and the Main Street sidewalk.

The area between the walkway and 5th Ave will receive an assortment of shade trees, both evergreen and deciduous, and a variety of seating options.

"We realized that there are not many places in town for visitors to find shade in town," said Ward. "We have had people sitting in the shade behind the building, and want to provide a better option."

Included in the greenery will be a lilac bush that originated from the Culp lilac walk in Dunster.

Although the project will take some time to complete, Ward hopes that some elements will be ready for use by July.

The entirety of the project this far has been funded through grants received by Northern Development Initiative Trust, Healthy Communities Initiative and the Government of BC. Ward is hoping to include a gazebo space and is continuing to search out grant opportunities to allow the addition.



The first construction step in creating a welcoming outdoor addition to the McBride Public Library was completed this last week. A new cement pad and walkway was poured and now await the covered work area that is next on the to-do list. /ANDREA ARNOLD



This is an image created by Library Director Abi Ward to show an approximate visual of what the area will look like when all the improvements have been completed. /SUBMITTED

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## \$375,000



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**Shelly  
Battensby**  
REALTOR



**DIFFERENT  
BETTER**

1144 7th Avenue

VALEMOUNT

**NEW LISTING!**

**\$490,000**



This affordable family home is super-sized for your growing family. With 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, a massive rec-room, and – wait for it – a brand new kitchen, you are set to move in and settle down. Centrally located on 0.41 of an acre in the heart of town, shopping, schools and recreation are only moments away. This one ticks a lot of boxes and is worth a look today.

Block G DL 4365 Hwy 5 S

VALEMOUNT

**NEW LISTING!**

**\$750,000**

**RE/MAX  
COMMERCIAL**



Are you an entrepreneur looking to develop in the Valemount area? Then this 28+ acre property might be for you. Only 5 minutes south of town and in close proximity to highway access, this property has a ton of potential. Partially cleared, there are a variety of building sites already in place, each giving you a 360° view of the stunning mountain ranges that surround Valemount.



**RE/MAX  
CORE REALTY**

CELL: 250-566-1086

OFFICE: 250-645-5055



**SHERRI  
MALONE**

**REALTOR AT  
ROYAL LEPAGE  
ASPIRE REALTY**

TURNING DREAMS  
INTO REALITY, ONE  
PROPERTY AT A TIME!

*Call me!*

TEL: 1-250-566-1022

EMAIL: [sherrimalone@royallepage.ca](mailto:sherrimalone@royallepage.ca)

WEB: [propertiesinvalemount.com](http://propertiesinvalemount.com)

OFFICE: 1275 5th Ave, Valemount BC V0E 2Z0

1176 JUNIPER ST

**\$489,000  
NEW PRICE!**



Here is the complete package on a very private 0.35 town lot you've been waiting for! Detached garage, beautiful home and a gorgeous, mature landscaped yard with a greenhouse that can all be yours. Sitting on a quiet street backing onto a treed area with mountain views all around. The home has been loved and it shows with gorgeous hardwood flooring throughout and a woodstove for a warm ambiance. There are many sun decks and patios for you to enjoy outdoor living and to top it all off your very own Saloon with a built-in fridge. Not many properties check off all the boxes, but this one does. Call today for a showing as the Seller is motivated!

1339 7TH AVE

**\$495,000  
NEW LISTING**



This property is family approved inside and out! Many gorgeous updates throughout the home. The 3 level split with basement not only gives an abundance of character within but gives ample space for all. A huge bonus is that all windows are currently being replaced. The generous sized property has something for everyone. There is parking for an RV, gardens to grow your veggies in and the large backyard is perfect for your kids and pets to play safely in. The backyard is also fully fenced with a gate to access the back alley for convenience. The Sellers are motivated so act quick as this home is move in ready, well maintained and is not going to last long!

1850 HILLSIDE MINE RD

**\$239,000  
NEW LISTING**



Who wants a small acreage within village limits, on town water with stunning mountain views? If you do, then this property is for you! This 2.5 acre parcel of level land is 100% usable. The best thing about this location is you get to live rurally but have the comforts of town just a few minutes away. There are not many of these vacant small acreages anymore so make a move and make it yours today!

12815 E HWY 16

**\$589,000  
NEW LISTING**



This 50 acre riverfront property is unbelievable! Gorgeous mature trees, babbling creeks, mountain views and extensive frontage along the Fraser River. There is merchantable timber throughout the property. The possibilities here are really endless. It is untouched with natural beauty everywhere you look and it is located only 20 minutes north of Valemount. There is an abandoned trailer on site that will need to be removed. Make an appointment today and come see for yourself just how magical this property really is!



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