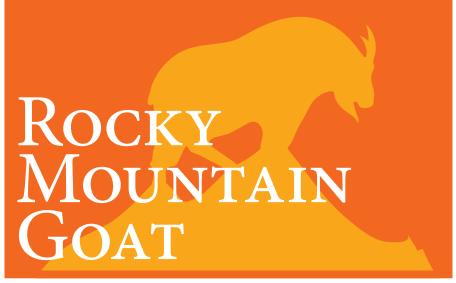
# Location pitched for pump track, dog park



Reservoir level blues Р8 Dinner theatre coming Gravel pit dumping hot potato P17 Scotiabank branch to close P17

> Thursday November 2nd 2023 Volume 14 Issue 39 PM42164515

> > 25 GST INCLUDED

Your weekly source of news, views and entertainment



# PHOTO COURTESY VALEMOUNT LEEGION MUSEUM

# Fire Chief passes the torch

By Andrea Arnold

On December 1, 2023, the McBride District Fire Department will have a new chief.

After 43 years of service to the McBride community as Fire Chief, David Hruby is stepping down, and handing the department over to Courtney Lipke. Sunday afternoon, Chief Hruby was stunned to walk into the fire hall in

McBride for what he thought was an open house and recruitment event only to be greeted with cries of "Surprise!" and an onslaught of well wishes on his upcoming retirement.

"I was totally surprised," said Hruby. "I can't believe everyone kept it a secret." Deputy Chief Courtney Lipke and Senior member Christine Munroe each gave personal accounts of their involvement with the department and how Chief Hruby has impacted their lives.

BC Ambulance Paramedic Craig Arnold spoke of Chief Hruby's history in the community and how he has worked to build and maintain relationships not only with other emergency responders, but also, beyond his role as fire chief, with the people who live in the valley.

Mayor Runtz addressed the hall full of people simply by saying that Chief Hruby is not only the best fire chief, but he is also the best kind of human, and MLA Shirley Bond spoke via video recording as she was unable to attend. Munroe also read off several letters of well wishes from former department members unable to be present. Several other fire chiefs from the area spoke during the open mic portion of the afternoon as well as Regional District of Fraser

Fort George Director

CONT'D ON P3

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# Dog park and pump track progress

By Spencer Hall, Local Journalism Initiative REPORTER, RMG

Village of Valemount staff are recommending that Council explore the undeveloped portion of John Osadchuk Park as the location for the proposed pump track.

In August, a delegation from the In August, a delegation

Valemount & Area Recreation Development Association (VARDA) Project Pump It Up Committee made a presentation to Council to explore the development of a pump track on Village property.

Krista Etty, Land Use Planner with the Village, said staff have since met with members of the VARDA committee to discuss project needs and possible locations, adding previous input from residents have also highlighted the need for a dog park in Valemount.

Etty said the undeveloped portion of John Osadchuk Park is an ideal spot for the pump track and dog park because of its central location, washroom facilities, and size — roughly 3.87 acres. The facility also has space for a concession if the park is used for events, according to Etty's report.

According to Etty, there is no requirement to change the zoning of the land because it is currently being utilized as a ballpark and is already designated for parks and recreation.

"This also makes use of current undeveloped park land within the Village without having to allocate additional land," Etty said.

She said staff have been researching dog parks to learn size and amenity needs and what policy and bylaw updates would be required. She said one acre would likely be large enough for the community.

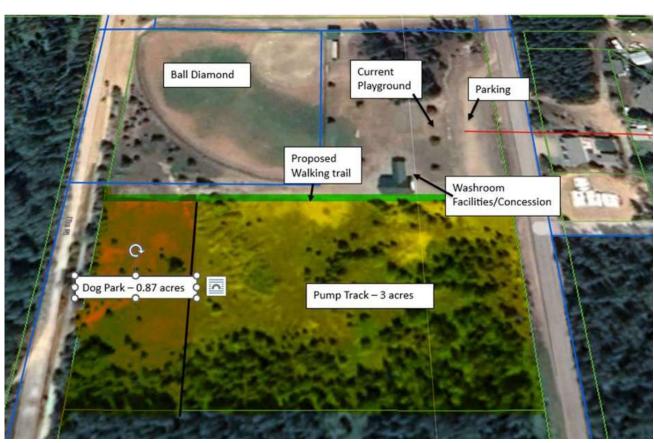
Staff proposed allocating three acres to the pump track and the remainder to the dog

In the meantime, staff must clarify the remaining space available for development on the land, ensure the remaining space will be large enough for both uses, find out the costs associated with creating the dog park, and determine a solution to stop balls from going over the fence at the ball diamonds.

Mulyk said the portion of land isn't very big, adding it will be "interesting" to see if staff can incorporate everything into the property.

Etty said staff have contacted Urban Systems for a preliminary design to ensure the property has enough space for both uses. Staff will share the design with council once it's received.

# Pump Track and Dog Park **Proposed Design Option**



MAP SUPPLIED BY VILLAGE OF VALEMOUNT

# Ada's Place

Long Term Affordable (LTA) Housing is now officially accepting applications for review and triaging.

The eligibility criteria is: those who identify as women with or without children who have experienced intimate partner violence/abuse and is otherwise open to community to apply. These units are largely hands off, clients need to be able to live independently and must provide their own furnishings

These tenants must fall under the Housing Income Limits (HILS).



Applicants will be triaged based on immediate risk, vulnerability, and need. We are aiming to start moving tenants in on a staggered basis starting Oct 1, 2023

LTA Housing Program application can be picked up at 99 Gorse St. Valemount, requested by emailing housing@rvcsbc.org, or found on our website.

Applications can be sent to: housing@rvcsbc.org, faxed to (250) 566-0011. or dropped off at 99 Gorse St. Valemount.

# Books of the week!

### **ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE**

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award finalist, the beloved instant New York Times bestseller and New York Times Book Review Top 10 Book about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, the autor illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another.



# AND NO BIRDS SANG

When Mowat and his regiment engaged with elite German forces in the mountains of Sicily, the optimism of their early days as soldiers was replaced by despair. With a naturalist's eyes and ears, Mowat takes in the full dark depths of war -- and his moving account of military service, and the friends he left behind, is also a plea for peace. It is One of the most searing and unforgettable World War II memoirs from any Canadian.



# ORDINARY MEN

Ordinary Men is the true story of Reserve Police Battalion 101 of the German Order Police, which was responsible for mass shootings as well as round-ups of Jewish people for deportation to Nazi death camps in Poland in 1942. A shocking account of how a unit of average middle-aged Germans became the cold-blooded murderers of tens of thousands of Jews.

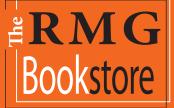


### BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

A brilliant recounting of the Battle of the Atlantic, Canada's longest continuous military engagement of the Second World War and the key to its victory. In the twentieth century's greatest war, one battlefield held the key to victory or defeat—the North Atlantic. It took 2,074 days and nights to determine its outcome, but the Battle of the Atlantic proved the turning point of WWII.







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# Fire Chief Cont'd from A1

Dannielle Alan. Councillor Joe Kolida recalled a few stories from when he was on the department alongside Chief Hruby, and how he appreciated the Chief's discretion regarding who responded to some of the more serious calls, showing how much he cares about the members of the department.

The formal presentation portion concluded with a slideshow of Chief Hruby's life so far and a toast to him complete with shots of Dr. Pepper (His favourite pop).

David Hruby began serving the community of McBride shortly after his arrival in the valley in 1980. He had a background in firefighting and was asked to take over the role of Fire Chief from Joe Sivecki. At the time it was a village department, but five years later it became the McBride District Volunteer Fire Department under the Regional District of Fraser Fort George.

Although Hruby had experience, first as a junior firefighter back in his home town then received more training through his time in the Navy, he says that this new role as the head of a department was scary.

Hruby said that although many people helped him along the way, there were two men specifically that stepped in to help guide him as he navigated the learning curve.

Dennis Montgomery was the Fire Chief in Mackenzie at the time. He helped Hruby build the McBride department's extrication abilities.

"I had actually had my first extrication training in the Navy," said Hruby. "Building the capacity for the department to help in vehicle incidents was an important step."

Bill Arnold, Ambulance Chief for McBride at the time worked alongside Hruby in collecting all of the radio frequencies used by the many different services, not just emergency response, all throughout the region. This allowed for clear communication between agencies during emergency events. Much later, when the RCMP switched to a digital system, they also included one analog channel to maintain this open line of communication.

In the past 43 years, Hruby says there have been ups and downs. He chose a few of his favourite highlights to share. One of the pivotal moments of his career was when the department paid off all their outstanding bills and were able to start purchasing new state of the art equipment, including new fire trucks.

In 1984, he and Marilyn Wheeler met with then Mayor, Steve Kolida and Ron Brown and negotiated a 99-year lease on the property where the fire hall now stands.

"I remember, I paid out of pocket, the one dollar lease amount," said Hruby. "We started construction and moved into the hall in 1985."

Hruby worked with McBride Secondary School teacher Kjell Valestrand to create a program that allows students to receive school credits for volunteering on the department.

"They have to volunteer and show up to get credits," said Hruby. "This is still available to students of both McBride Secondary School as well as Robson Valley Junior Academy."

Hruby said that he was deeply honoured to be one of the area residents awarded a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medallion by MP Bob Zimmer in 2022. This award recognized his work within the department as well as within the community, and the parts of his life that overlap the two. One of these areas is the relationship he has helped foster between the different emergency services within the valley.

Hruby looks back and is amazed at how far technology has come since he started. He remembers a time when the department was called out via an old air raid siren on the roof of the old Village office.

"CN dispatch would get the call," he said. "They would then run to the Village office and sound the siren. We would have to respond to the office to receive the details of the call before heading off to attend. Now we all have cell phones, radios and pagers."

He has held on to a small part of the valley's fire department history through the old original hose reels that are mounted on the top of the current fire hall.

Hruby looks at all the members that are or have been a part of the department over the past 43 years as family, not just a part of an organization.

"The kids who have joined have become like my own kids," he said. "I worked to keep them protected, both physically and mentally. My priority throughout my whole service has been the safety of the members. We all go out and we all come home."

This feeling of family was one that was echoed in the letters read out during the celebration Sunday afternoon. Hruby says that he has been thinking along the lines of



McBride District Fire Department Chief David Hruby and Deputy Chief Courtney Lipke are both looking forward to the December 1st passing of the torch with mixed emotions./ANDREA ARNOLD

retirement for a few years now.

"I can get down the bank into the ditch for a recovery pretty easily," he said. "It's the getting back out that is a problem. I've been seeing Deputy Chief Courtney Lipke as my replacement for a few years now, and I am confident he will do a good job."

Hruby has been working with Lipke for some time, preparing him for the next big step. He has been stepping back during training and on scenes, putting Lipke in the position of being the one other members go to, or expect instruction from. Lipke has also been spearheading training for the department in new methods they can use on scene.

"Courtney is well versed in the fire service and he is a people person," said Hruby. "He is 95 per cent ready, operationally speaking. The other 5 per cent that he still needs to learn is paperwork."

Hruby says he will be working alongside Lipke in an administrative role to assist as he tackles that aspect.

Following the transition on December 1st, Hruby will continue to carry a radio and pager, on Lipke's request, and will respond when called upon for assistance.

"I will miss it," said Hruby. "Everyone said I wouldn't do it. But I'm 73, and I've been doing this for 43 years. It's time to let the younger generation take over. He can do it."

Incoming Fire Chief Courtney Lipke was born and raised in McBride, and has been an active firefighter for 20 years as he has moved up through the deartment. "I tried moving away twice," he said. "It didn't stick. Doors opened that allowed me to move back home."

It was during one of those times away from McBride, that Lipke joined the volunteer fire department in Hope BC. His boss at the time, and long time family friend was a member, and convinced Lipke to give it a shot.

"I thought it sounded like something fun to do," he said. "I was hooked after my very first call. It was a car fire." Lipke said he has always been drawn to things that are high risk and fast paced.

"I am the type of person that runs into or towards things that most other people run away from," he said. "I didn't realize how perfect fire fighting was for me until that first call as I ran towards the burning car."

He also remembers feeling completely calm as he walked into a burning house alongside an older more experienced member of the department.

"He freaked out and went back outside," said Lipke. "I think my comfort level, what I feel is safe for me, is a lot different than other people's definition of safe."

After about two and a half years with the department in Hope, Lipke moved back to McBride. He found he had common interests with members on the McBride District Fire Department. He had also had so much fun giving back to the community of Hope through service, that he decided to serve the community of McBride the same way.

Prior to joining the McBride department, Lipke had not had any extrication experience. He admits that initially, the equipment and the processes scared him. However, through training and careful hands on experience, he is now comfortable with both.

It was never Lipke's goal to become chief. He says that



Chief Dave is all smiles as he holds the cake before it was served to party goers. A small lego "Chief Hruby" stands atop the cake. /ANDREA ARNOLD

being a part of the department and using his skills to help those in their time of need was enough. His work ethic and his willingness to serve have taken him through a series of events over the past 20 years. This has resulted in opportunities for him to move up the ranks within the department to his current role as Deputy Chief.

The desire to be a service to the community is what keeps him going.

"If we don't have volunteers, who will come when there is a fire, or when you've had your worst day on the highway?" he said. "I want to see the community continue to have a healthy and working fire department"

Lipke says that over the past year or so, Chief Hruby has been giving Lipke more responsibilities on calls and during training, in preparation for the transition.

"I am looking forward to following in Dave's footsteps, mentoring and guiding the members as he has mentored and guided me, (and others)" said Lipke. "Through this, I hope to help them continue to become safer and better trained to do their jobs."

Lipke feels that, being someone who grew up in the valley, there are those who have a certain view of who he is and that adds some pressure as he looks forward to this new role.

"I am excited and terrified," said Lipke. "It is a lot of responsibility. Looking at Dave and what he has done, I have big shoes to fill with mixed feelings."

# Editorial



Publisher / Editor goatnewspaper@gmail.com

# Extreme reservoir water fluctuations ensure a continuing wasteland

Canada and the US are in the midst and a changing climate and modern of renegotiating the Columbia River Treaty, an agreement that governs water levels in the Columbia Basin including in Kinbasket Lake, the reservoir created by the Mica Dam that ends just south of Valemount.

In the 1960s, over 270,000 acres of Canadian land (About 200,000 football fields) were flooded through the creation of three dams in Canada and one dam in the U.S. in the name of power generation and flood control. For the Canadians, a one-time payout from the Americans helped fund the three dams, but massive environmental damage was inflicted on huge areas, including many that were inhabited at the time. Since then, the U.S. has paid Canada for the additional power it generates thanks to the Canadian dams (\$180-300 million dollars per year), and Canada also installed its own power generating tech on the dams that were originally just for holding water. Now the 60-term of the treaty is up

environmental values mean the old treaty terms no longer suffice.

Mid-October, I took a quick trip to the Arrow Lakes, driving south from Valemount to Nakusp the first day. Here the water level has receded so low you can view the cribbing used to hoist up sternwheelers in the first half of the 20th century. Usually this is safely tucked under the waterline, a remnant of another era.

A kind paddler lent me a kayak and I slipped quietly along the dismal shores of the Upper Arrow Lake near Nakusp. While low water isn't unusual this time of year, many locals will attest it's never been quite so low for so long. Along the shore, strewn haphazardly, sits the detritus of a hasty reservoir clearing 60 years ago - hulks of vehicles, rusted metal scraps, eerie unrecognizable foundations. Starting around 1965, the BC Hydro & Power Authority issued contracts to clear hundreds of kilometres of land along either side of the lakes and rivers that were to be flooded. The work was done in haste, with many trees piled up and burned on site. Other trees were cut and later salvaged from the water. As we know from Kinbasket, it took nearly half a century to clear the water well enough to promote recreational activities.

Kinbasket was low this year as well, with only a third of the moorage docks put into use this past summer. The past two years have seen the impacts of a low snowpack, droughts, and drawdown of the water via dams due to the treaty and non-treaty storage requirements decided by BC Hydro.

Untangling the factors at play can feel like a futile endeavour, and depending what side you're on, can easily be blamed on one factor or another.

What appears clear is this: the larger the fluctuations in water, the more the surrounding land becomes a wasteland, unable to support even waterfowl that rely on more moderate changes. We don't

recognize just how much forestland and wetlands had to disappear for these reservoirs to exist, until the water level dips to the levels we are seeing now. At Burton, for instance, just 20 minutes south of Nakusp, you can see the flats stretching out to the distance where the old community of Burton used to lie. Canadian Geese now defend old roadbeds and the mangled steel remnants of former habitations.

Seeing is believing and with the water levels down, we get an appreciation for just how much land was sacrificed to this multi-national treaty. Not just land, but resources, habitat and culture.

There is no going back to the way things were. But perhaps the renegotiation can bring a modicum of natural back to the fluctuations of our reservoirs. And in tandem with that, BC Hydro should be engaging more closely with locals regarding non-treaty storage.







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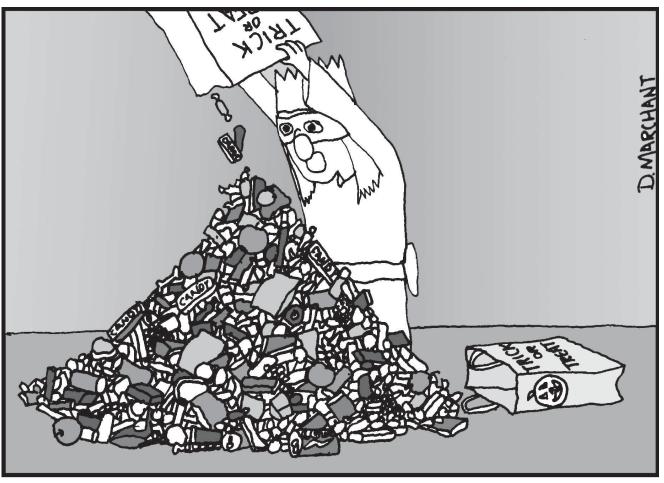
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"AND THIS IS ALL I GOT, BECAUSE DAD MADE ME STOP BEFORE I HIT ALL OF THE HOUSES."

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# Global Thoughts

BY GWYNNE DYER



Gwynne Dyer is a Canadian-born independent journalist whose column is published in more than 175 papers in 45 countries.

# Israel: Netanyahu and his 'Objective Allies'

"If we look at it over the years, one of the main people contributing to Hamas's strengthening has been (Prime Minister) 'Bibi' Netanyahu," said Yuval Diskin, head of Israel's Shin Bet security service between 2005 and 2011.

He wasn't saying that Binyamin 'Bibi' Netanyahu made a big mistake; he was saying that Netanyahu has deliberately made and kept Hamas strong.

One of the most useful concepts in politics is the idea that people who hate and despise each other can still be 'objective allies' if they share the same goal. They don't even have to talk to each other.

This is the basis on which Israelis can and do argue that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and his coalition partners on the extreme right are the objective allies of the Hamas leadership in the Gaza Strip.

Their shared political goal is to thwart the famous 'two-state solution', in which Jewish and Palestinian Arab states would live side by side in peace on the land

between the Jordan River and the sea. This was the idea behind the US-backed Oslo Accords of 1993.

The ultra-nationalists on each side (including the religious fanatics both Muslim and Jewish) hated 'Oslo', because each side wanted all of Palestine for themselves. The 'objective alliance' between Netanyahu and Hamas began in 1996, after a hard-right Jew murdered Israel's prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, who had signed the Oslo Accords.

The assassination threatened to backfire politically, because Rabin's successor Shimon Peres looked likely to win the subsequent election on a sympathy vote. However, Hamas launched an unprecedented bus-bombing campaign that killed enough Israelis to discredit Peres, and Netanyahu became prime minister instead.

Not a word was exchanged between them, but the alliance was born then and there. At its heart is Netanyahu's unfailing support for Hamas's control of the Gaza Strip and his deliberate undermining of its rival, the 'Palestinian Authority', which controls the parts of the occupied West Bank that Jewish settlers have not colonised.

The division of the Palestinians between two rival groups gives Netanyahu the permanent excuse of having "nobody to talk to" on the Arab side. The threat of a peaceful partition of the Holy Land between the Arabs and the Jews is permanently averted, to the satisfaction of both allies (although they really do hate each other.)

The trigger for the current upheaval was Israel's growing links with Arab countries that used to support the Palestinian cause. That panicked Hamas's leaders, and the massacre of 1,400 Israelis on 7 October was their response.

Hamas's intention was to provoke an Israeli counter-slaughter of Palestinians so extreme that it would become unthinkable for any Arab country to talk to Israel. However, it places the whole 'objective alliance' in peril.

Netanyahu's sole hope for political survival now is to completely destroy Hamas. That is probably impossible but if achieved, it would also destroy Netanyahu's long-term strategy for holding the two-state solution at bay.

If Hamas were eradicated, the Palestinian Authority would take over the government of the Gaza Strip again. And if the Palestinians can speak with a single voice, then the Israeli government no longer has an excuse for refusing to discuss a negotiated peace settlement with them.

It would be very good to see that issue on the table again, but the path to that potential happy

ending runs through a devastating war in Gaza: a high cost for a very uncertain outcome. No wonder

nobody knows what to do next.



1st Place 2021, 2019, 2018, 2015, 2nd place 2022, 2016, 3rd place 2023 for Newspaper Excellence B.C. & Yukon <2000 circulation 2nd place Best Photo Essay 2021 3rd place Best Outdoor Recreation writing 2021 3rd place Best Ad Design 2021



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# Valemount Council: Council appointments, pump track, traffic committee

By Spencer Hall, Local Journalism INITIATIVE REPORTER, RMG

Thursday November 2nd 2023

The October 24th Valemount Council meeting began with Mayor Torgerson calling the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

### Berg Lake Trail

Council discussed progress made on the Berg Lake Trail rebuild. A new roof on the Kinney Lake Campground picnic shelter and a new bridge — named Hugo's bridge after

Councillor Hugo Mulyk, a former BC Parks ranger at Mt Robson — has been installed. Torgerson congratulated Mulyk on having his 29-year legacy with BC Parks commemorated. According to a bulletin provided by BC Parks, the new bridge was realigned and reconstructed to withstand future floods or flows of debris. The old suspension bridge leading to Whitehorn Campground has been redesigned to be a steel fire-resilient structure and is anticipated to be installed at the end of October.

### Jasper National Park West Gate Upgrade

Torgerson then raised a letter from the Union of BC Municipalities that he says regionalizes a resolution put forth by the Village requesting that the west gate of Jasper National Park be upgraded to be consistent with the recent upgrades made to the east gate of the park, which the Village says is proving beneficial to all travelers.

Upgrades to the east gate of the park include a new bypass lane and reconstructed ticketing kiosks.

Parks Canada Communications Officer Michaela Campbell told the Goat back in 2018 there were no plans to upgrade the west gate leading to the B.C. border because there is typically less traffic going through that

In its letter, UBCM said its policy is to forward all resolutions considered too regional to an appropriate area association. The union said it would forward the resolution to the North Central Local Government Association for consideration at its spring 2024

"I was a bit disappointed with the response. I think the Jasper National Park west gate is a provincial benefit rather than just a benefit to the region," Torgerson said at the meeting.

He said the Village will reach out to have the resolution reassigned to UBCM.

### Council Committee & Board Appointments

Council appointed Mayor Torgerson to the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Board of Directors for a one-year term beginning on November 16th and appointed Blanchette as an alternate director for the same term.

Pearson was appointed to the Canoe Valley Recreation Centre Community Consultation Committee for a one-year term, while Blanchette was appointed to the Valemount and District Fire and Rescue Community Consultation Committee for a term of one year.

Mayor Torgerson was appointed to sit on the board of directors for the Valemount and Area Recreation Association for one year.

# Administrative Appointments

KPMG International Limited was approved by council as the Village's auditor for 2024 and Urban Systems was selected as Valemount's 2024 consulting engineer.

### Pump Track and Dog Park

Council received a report from staff recommending the Village explore the undeveloped portion of John Osadchuk Park as the location for the proposed pump track.

In the report, Krista Etty, Land Use Planner with the Village said staff have since met with members of the VARDA committee to discuss project needs and possible locations, adding previous input from residents have also highlighted the need for a dog park in Valemount. Etty said the undeveloped portion of John Osadchuk Park is an ideal spot for the pump track for several reasons. Read more in this week's issue P2.

### **Traffic & Transportation Committee**

The Valemount Traffic and Transportation Committee — a select committee of council formed in part to address parking and traffic flow issues along Highway 5 and frontage roads — submitted a request that Council write a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) in support of the Committee's proposal to lower the speed limit along Highway 5 through Valemount from 70 km/hr to 60 km/hr. The committee also proposed the ministry implement a no passing zone in the area. Council approved the request and will write a letter of support to MOTI. Read more in this week's issue P18.

### Youth Parliament

At its October 10th meeting, council approved a resolution to sponsor one eligible student in the amount of \$425, to attend the 2023 BC Youth Parliament.

According to a staff report, when staff contacted Valemount Secondary School, they were informed more than one student would be applying to attend.

"Students will be applying for additional sponsorship to assist with the costs and therefore an exact amount that students will require, as a top up to cover the costs, is not known at this time," said Director of Finance Lori McNee in her report to council.

McNee added council allocated \$5000 in its 2023 budget to go towards student council initiatives, which she said has not been used since it was set aside.

Council repealed its previous resolution and put forth a new resolution for the Village to use a total of up to \$2000 from the student council initiatives budget to sponsor all eligible students attending the 2023 Youth Parliament, to be distributed equally among the

### **Temporary Use Permit**

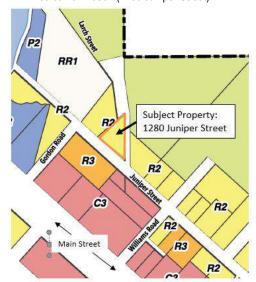
Council approved a renewal of a temporary use permit for 1280 Juniper Street, which allows the applicant to use an RV as a temporary residence for another two

CONT'D ON P8

# www.valemount.ca

Village of Valemount Notice of Public Hearing Please Take Notice that a Public Hearing for Temporary Use Permit TUP-23-06 will be held: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:00 pm Council Chambers, Village Office 735 Cranberry Lake Road, Valemount, BC

- 1. Temporary Use Permit 23-06
  - Proposes the renewal of TUP-21-07 to permit 1 recreational vehicle to be used as a residence for a period of 2 years.
- LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot 1 District Lot 7356 Cariboo District Plan 10557 (1280 Juniper Street)



At the Public Hearing, anyone who deems their interest in land to be affected by the proposed Temporary Use Permit TUP-23-06 shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard. Comments may be made in person at the Public Hearing.

### Cont'd...

Written submissions can be submitted by email to publichearing@valemount.ca, or via letter to the Village of Valemount. Written submissions will be accepted until 12:00 pm on November 14, 2023.

All correspondence and materials submitted in response to this Notice will form part of a public record. All written submissions and verbal presentations must state your name and area of residence. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. The author's phone number and email are not relevant and should not be included in the correspondence if the author does not wish this personal information to be disclosed.

Digital copies of TUP-23-06 are available at www.valemount.ca. Paper copies will be available for viewing during regular office hours (Mon. – Fri. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm - 4:30 p.m.), until November 14, 2023 at the Village Office, 735 Cranberry Lake Road.

# Did you know?

The Village owns and operates approximately \$60 million of water, sewer, roads and drainage infrastructure. While some of the infrastructure is fairly new, the majority of these assets were installed during the 1970's and 1980's and will require replacement in the coming decades.

Urban Systems provided a report in 2020 outlining fee increases to ensure the longevity of these assets and Council has agreed to the following increases for the 2024 utility fees and charges:

➤ General Taxation (garbage) – 2.5% annually for the next 10 years dedicated for capital replacements plus 3% inflation (COLA).

### Cont'd...

- ➤ Water User Fees 4% annually for the next 10 years dedicated for capital replacements plus 3% inflation (COLA).
- Sewer User Fees 5% annually for the next 10 years dedicated for capital replacements plus 3% inflation (COLA)

These funds will be used towards replacement and rehabilitation of assets such as water mains, water services, fire hydrants, water valves, water pump house, water treatment plant, sewer mains, and force mains, sewer manholes, sewer lifts stations, sewer treatment plant roads, equipment, public works fleet, etc.

It is understood that the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) has increased significantly over the years, however staff and Council continue to work diligently to keep rates as low as possible by looking for other funding options, including sales, investments and grants.

# Recently Purchased a Property in Valemount?

Please call our office to ensure we have your proper mailing address. Information provided to the Village office may only contain the street address of the property and not the PO Box (if applicable) which may lead to returned mail. Call 250-566-4435

### Village of Valemount - Job Opportunity

Administrative Services Coordinator, Part-time - Reporting to the Deputy Director of Finance, this position provides general clerical support. Please visit www.valemount.ca for details.

### **Upcoming Closure**

The Municipal Office and Visitor Information Centre will be closed on Monday, November 13th, 2023, to observe Remembrance Day.





# McBride Council-Water system upgrades, fireworks future questionable, and bylaws

By Andrea Arnold

Mayor Gene Runtz called the Oct 24th Council meeting to order at 7:03pm.

# Dominion Creek Community Drinking Water System Upgrade

Council approved a budget of up to \$10,000 for the purchase and installation of flow meters in Dominion Creek.

Council also approved a budget of up to \$2,000 to update the Village of McBride Community Water System Emergency Response Plan to address low source water flows.

The third recommendation regarding the upgrade generated discussion regarding using Local Government Climate Action Program funds to conduct a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment. Interim CAO Sandy Salt mentioned that this money can not be used for infrastructure. Councillor Joe Kolida asked if the assessment is a required thing or if the money could go to more immediate action like locating another water source, finding out if and where a well can be dug. He would like to have more information about what will come out of the assessment before designating money.

Mayor Runtz also would like to know what can be done now. He is wanting to take action to prevent a more dire situation from occurring in the winter. He asked how long this assessment, and the subsequent steps will take to complete.

Interim CAO Salt said that the assessment and other studies needed will not be completed to the point of action in time for this winter. Economic Development Officer, Karen Dube told council that this assessment is part of the Village's due diligence and it needs to be in place to form the backbone for application for grants. Council decided to proceed with allowing the funds to be used for the assessment.

### Fireworks insurance

Councillor Joe Kolida asked for a discussion regarding a requirement issued to the fire department asking them to have the appropriate insurance in place prior to the fireworks display planned on October 31. This is the first time that this has been a requirement in the 32 years that the Fire Association has been doing displays. Councillor Kolida expressed concern that the short notice given to the department of the requirement may result in the event being cancelled. He asked if this year, the requirement could be waived.

The fireworks are not presented by the McBride District Fire Department, but by the Association. It is a separate entity that can not afford to carry the expense of the insurance that is being required said member Christine Monroe

The possibility of the Regional District having the needed insurance was addressed, and Interim CAO Salt said that she would check.





# Northern Health flu and COVID-19 clinics

Protect yourself and those around you from respiratory illness this season and make sure you're up to date on your influenza (flu) and COVID-19 immunizations.

# McBride and area clinic Info:

Northern Health COVID-19 and flu clinics are running at McBride Community Health Centre (1126 5th Ave) for all ages (including 6 months and older) on Wednesdays, by appointment and limited drop-in.

Vaccine appointments may also be available at a nearby participating pharmacy. Register and book through the Get Vaccinated system at getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca or call 1-833-838-2323 to schedule an appointment.

For more information, visit:

northernhealth.ca



### Hotdogs and hot chocolate

Council approved the Elks and Royal Purple's request to use the power to serve hotdogs and hot chocolate at the Steve Kolida Park Pavilion for Halloween on Oct 31 and Bung Bung on Nov 24.

### **Bylaws**

Council gave final reading and adoption to Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No, 821, 2023. As per the Community Charter Chapter 26, Part 7, Division 6, Section 220 (1) (h), the following property is exempt from taxation; a building set apart for public worship, and the land on which the building stands, if title to the land is registered in the name of (i) the religious organization using the building, (ii) trustees for the use of that organization, or (iii) a religious organization granting a lease of the building and land to be used solely for public worship. The following organizations qualify. St. Paul's United Church, Roman Catholic Episcopal and parish, Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and the McBride Evangelical Free Church.

Council gave third reading to Business Licence Bylaw Amendment No. 820, 2023 and Sign Bylaw Amendment No. 819, 2023. The adjustments to the previously existing bylaws were needed following the adoption of the cannabis retail business license and signage. The changes were proposed by McElhanney planners Kevin Brooks and Makayla Berger following the zoning bylaw change to allow cannabis retail establishments. The changes will ensure that proper protocols are followed in regards to signs and business licenses that may follow.

By a vote of 4-1 the motion to give Water Bylaw No. 822, 2023 second and third reading was defeated. Council discussed their concerns regarding many of the points within the bylaw. Councillor Kolida, and Councillor Tina Bennett both said that they have many questions that they need to have answered before they are comfortable with moving ahead.

Interim CAO suggested that they give the bylaw second reading and schedule special meetings over the next week to allow the bylaw to be passed by the end of the month, as the Province is expecting the passed bylaw to be in place by then.

Councillor Peter Caputo also had some questions he wanted answered, so he suggested they proceed with only the second reading, allowing time for all councillors to submit questions to Village staff for clarification.

This motion was also defeated resulting in no readings given to the presented bylaw.

### In camera

Council proceeded to an In-camera council meeting for consideration of matters of the Community Charter related to Section 90 (1) (c) Labour relations or other employee relations.

The regular meeting was recessed at 8:12pm to conduct the in-camera meeting.





# Northern Health flu and COVID-19 clinics

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For more information, visit:

northernhealth.ca









Monday - Thursday evenings at 5:20, Jodie Lukow hosts a combo fitness class at the McBride elementary school. The free class is open to everyone, and children are welcome. Lukow combines aspects from aerobics, Zumba , Zumba strong, pound, step, Bootcamp, HITT, strength training, personal training, Aquafit, drum fit, Pilates and yoga inspired stretching and explains moves and modifications. Participants need to bring a mat or towel and a water bottle. Lukow says they also use weights, she has some extra, but if you have them, bring them, and fitness bands. /ANDREA ARNOLD

# Wishbone returns with western musical and dinner theatre

SUBMITTED

What happens when you set an outlaw, a hapless cowboy, saloon keepers, a shady banker, and a horsewoman with a dead aim in familiar western tableaux? Add some western-style music, comedy, and the passionate life and death struggles that inspired so many of our western legends and you have a brand new Wishbone Theatre creation celebrating the mythological power of the old west.

And – it's a dinner theatre event! Celebrated chef Julian Randall will create a delicious western-style buffet at the McBride Community Centre, Friday November 24, and Saturday November 25th. We move to Valemount's Best Western Plus on Friday December 1 and Saturday December 2 where their kitchen will create a scrumptious buffet supper in their upstairs banquet

Wishbone Theatre is thrilled to be working with new artists for this show - Spencer Hall and Rayann Flynn, who will be joining veteran performers Kerry McNaughton, Bob Thompson, Abi Ward, and Monica Zieper. Ian Griffiths and Amy Braun (from the duo Half Asian and Amy the Coda) will join Ben Coyle and Sharon Stearns for our musical quartet.

Dinner is at 6 pm followed by a 7:30 showtime. Come

dressed in your favourite western costume because we are giving prizes for the best in colour and creativity!

Tickets for the dinner and show are \$55. A cash bar will offer beer, wine, cider, and coolers.

Advance tickets only are available at Infinity
Office, Welcome Home and through E-transfer:
wishbonetheatreproductions@gmail.com
Limited seating so get your tickets early and be
prepared to enjoy a fabulous night of food, drink and
entertainment! For more information call 250-566-1744.

# Valemount Council

# Cont'd from P6

The initial permit was approved in December 2021 for a period of two years and allowed the applicant to apply one time for renewal at the end of the term.

### Village of Valemount Fees and Charges amendment bylaw No. 885, 2023

After giving the Village of Valemount Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2023, amendment bylaw No. 885, 2023 is first, second, and third readings at its October 10th meeting, council adopted the bylaw on October 24th.

Once the bylaw goes into effect in January 2024, residents can expect to see a 5.5 per cent increase in solid waste rates, a seven per cent increase in water rates, and a eight per cent increase in sewer rates in 2024.

Director of Finance with the Village of Valemount, Lori McNee said the increases are necessary to ensure the long-term sustainability of Village infrastructure.

No public comments were received and there was no in camera business, so the meeting was adjourned.



A new outdoor reading area has cropped up outside the Valemount library, thanks to some additional funding the library received this year. Library Director Wendy Cinnamon said a donation from Trans Mountain and funding from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Public Libraries Branch allowed them to purchase this item on their wishlist. "Thursday is when it was finished I think, and Saturday when I drove by there was a tourist sitting there making themselves some lunch," she said. "So it's an outdoor reading area, sheltered from the rain and sun." She said the gazebo cost \$4000 plus the cost of installation and concrete. Cinnamon says the library board will be refreshing their strategic plan in December to determine future projects and priorities. The library building and land is owned by the Village. /LAURA KEIL



# **Remembrance Day** 2023

# McBride

The McBride Legion invites residents to march in the parade at 10:30 a.m. from the Legion Hall to the cenotaph at Steve Kolida park. The remembrance service will then be held at 11 a.m., followed by a Remembrance Day Luncheon 12 p.m. at the branch, located at 805 4th Avenue. Roast Beef Dinner 12:00 p.m by donation prepared by Beanery 2. Socialize with old friends and make new ones. Everyone Welcome.

# Valemount

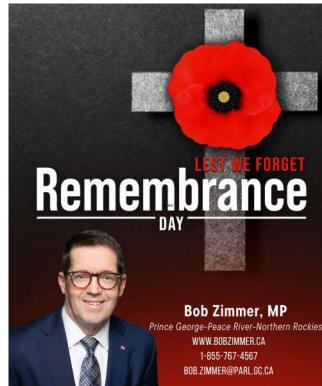
On Remembrance Day, the Valemount Legion will host an outdoor ceremony starting at 10:30 a.m. at the community cenotaph before moving inside for refreshments.

# Blue River

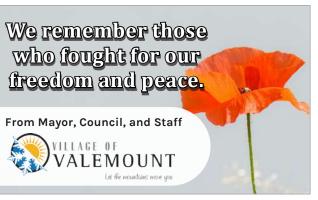
For Remembrance Day, the Blue River Legion will host a ceremony at the hall. Assemble at 10:45, service at 11:00. Following the ceremony will be a luncheon and fellowship at the hall. The lounge opens at noon or shortly thereafter.



20% of revenue from this feature goes to our local legions (McBride, Valemount & Blue River).







# **Ne Flanders Field**

By: Lieut-Col. John McRae M.D. Translated to Shuswap by Mona Jules

m-sukwtes re tsiqw te sulénsem, nerí7 ne skmews.t.s restekts'enwécw te stltal. Tsq'eý-kucw nerí7. Ell ne sťigt setsínem le spipyúýe... ta7 k m-sqnímentem tek swet. Witsín le m-stqupt.s le swelwelmínk.

M-awtsea-kucw ta7 k sq'7es le m-w7écwes-kucw. Wíktem-kucw re scpeqtsín... ell wíktem-kucw le klucw te skwèkw7es

Xwexwistém-kucw le kwséltktens... ell xwexwistels-kucw ell. Kémell pyin tsmol-kucw ne tspenéens re Flanders field.

> Yews e newí7 pyin... kellpékst-kucw Yerí7 stseq'míctst te kwe'np Tqéltkes k swísen-tp

E llépen-tp-kucw ta7 me7 s7etícs-kucw we7 kúltes nu7 tsiqw tek sulénsem



People of the Rivers

Honoring of our Simpcw Veterans

Ernest Celesta Louis Emile Celesta Clarence Fortier Edward Alexis Fortier 'Pete' Pierre Joseph 'Sammy' Xavier Joseph Louis Matthew Wilfred Matthew Archie Pete Alfred Joseph Saul Allan William Martin Baptiste

\*\*\*Disclaimer: if we've missed or left out any of our Símpcwemc Veterans from this list that we apologize and please contact us so we can include them moving forward.











Clarence Fortier





Allan William



Martin Baptiste

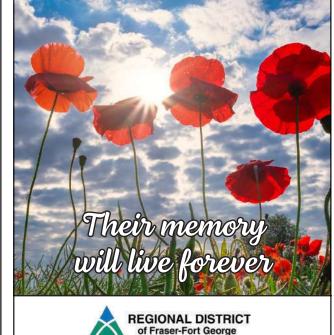


f /ShirleyBondForBC
@shirleybond



www.ShirleyBondMLA.bc.ca





### Thursday November 2nd 2023

# We salute our veterans CARBOU GRILL 250-566-8244

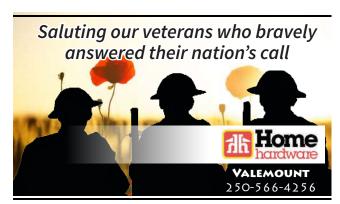






VALEMOUNT SEPTIC SERVICE 250-566-1536







# Valemount legion museum

A TACTILE TAKE ON WAR



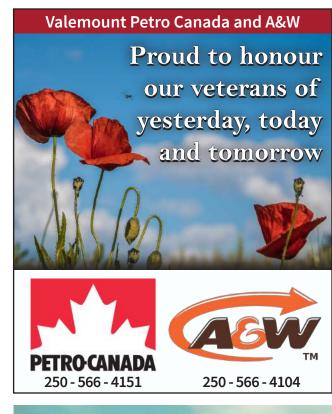












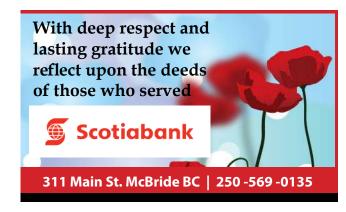






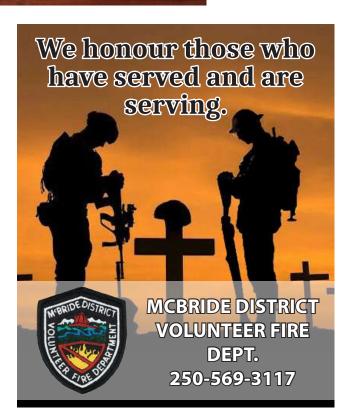


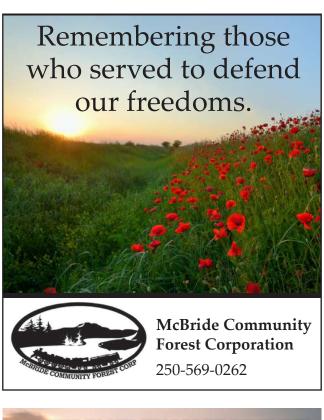








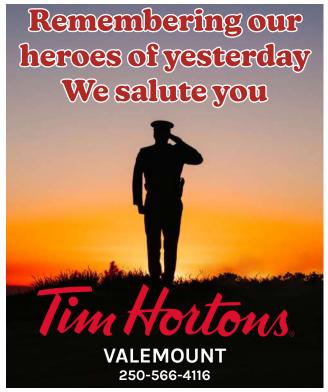








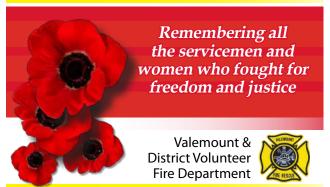


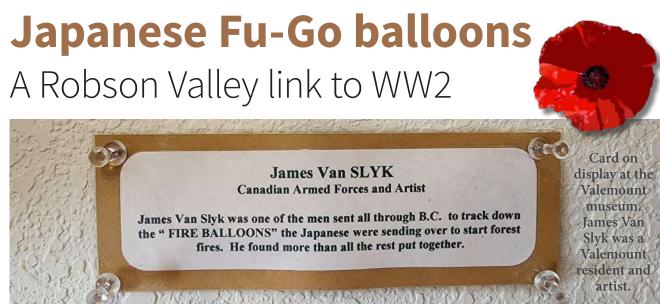












This article was first published in the Goat in October 2019 By Andru McCracken

Up on a steep hillside above the Raush River, more than a day's trek by any means other than a riverboat or helicopter, lie strange remnants of the world's first intercontinental attack: the corroded remains of a Second World War Japanese balloon bomb, known as a 'Fu-Go' or fire balloon.

Bowdrie Widdell wasn't looking for a bomb. He was hunting for mountain goats with a small crew and they accessed the Raush River via riverboat, as it's no small feat to get back there. It's an hour's ride up from the mouth of the Raush, and includes navigating through

After about an hour and a half of steep hiking, Bowdrie happened upon the strangest thing. A spring valve. Later he'd learn that this sat at the bottom of the balloon to release hydrogen when the balloon went too high in the atmosphere.

At this point he hollered to his companions to come and look and before long they found the chassis and 'brain' centre of what they would later learn was an intercontinental bomb dropper.

Widdell said he had no idea what it was. His first thought that it may have been a burner for a still.

"But this was a really horrible place for a still," he said, laughing.

The wreck of the Fu-Go sits in an old burn. Widdell said it's tough to know whether the device had caused the fire or not, but he leaves open the possibility.

That's one of the things the device was supposed to do: start forest fires that would divert American forces from the war effort.

Widdell had hoped to recover the relic and have it brought to the Dunster Museum.

There is ample documentation of the balloon bombs now, but during the war the attacks were kept under wraps. The Allies didn't want the Japanese Imperial Army to know whether or not their incendiary balloons were working. Except for a few unlucky incidents, they did not work and the media blackout as well as aerial attacks on hydrogen creation facilities eventually shut down the program.

According to Robert C. Mikesh, who wrote a 1973 book on the subject, the Fu-Go was designed as a cheap weapon that would use the jet stream to drop bombs on American cities, forests and farmland.

The jet stream, a band of fast moving air at about 31,000 ft or 9,100 metres above sea level would take an unpowered balloon from Japan to North America in three days.

Exactly where those balloons would end up was a mystery — to everyone. The balloon bombs weren't capable of navigation as they would go where the jet stream pushed them. They made do with an ingenious system that kept the balloons in the jet stream, venting















ABOVE: When Bowdrie Widdell first saw the device he took it for a burner used by some backwoods distiller, but his father researched it, and determined it was in fact part of a WWII Japanese Fu-Go, or Fire Balloon. /BOWDRIE WIDDELL. RIGHT: A schematic showing how the Fu-Go was put together.

Of interest though is that one balloon actually cut power to 'Hanford Site' a nuclear production complex in Washington State on March 10, 1945. The balloon caused a short circuit in the power lines to the nuclear reactor's cooling pumps which could have triggered a meltdown. This is the same site that provided the material used in the nuclear bombs that would end World War II. Lucky for the Americans, the power was quickly restored. Six months later the Americans

bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Some in the Japanese Imperial Army had hoped to send biological weapons on board these balloons. They had used biological weapons in China. In fact, the Japanese Imperial Army's Noborito Institute cultivated anthrax and Yersinia pestis (aka the plague) and had produced enough cowpox virus to infect the entire United States. Japanese author and historian Kazutoshi Hando writes that the Japanese Emperor Hirohito didn't allow it.

Widdell had no idea about Fu-Go bombs before he came across the wreckage.

"It's pretty wild," he said.

Another Fu-Go bomb was recovered by a forestry crew near Lumby BC in 2014. It was blown up on site.

hydrogen if they flew above 38,000 ft or alternatively dropping sandbags via an explosive charge if they flew below 30,000 ft. The payload of the balloon was remarkable: about 1000 pounds or 454 kg. The balloons were four metres in diameter.

After three days in the air a final flash discharged the bomb and lit a long fuse that hung from the balloon's equator, destroying it.

Widdell would like to see this piece of history saved, but it has been reported to the authorities and will likely be disposed. Some of the incendiary devices are still attached to the frame though partially buried. Attempting to recover the device would be risky.

It's estimated that the Japanese Imperial Army unleashed more than 9,000 of these balloons into the jet stream above Japan, and they expected about a 10% success rate. Only about 300 have been accounted for.

In all, the balloons are thought to have only killed six people in North American. On May 5, 1945 a Sunday school teacher and five teens found what must have been the same device in Southern Oregon that Widdell found up the Raush. They called someone over to see what they found when an attached bomb exploded killing all six.

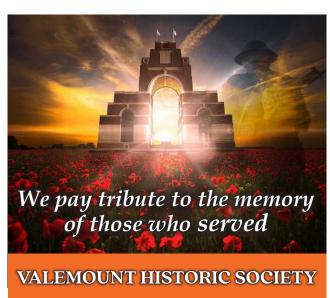
















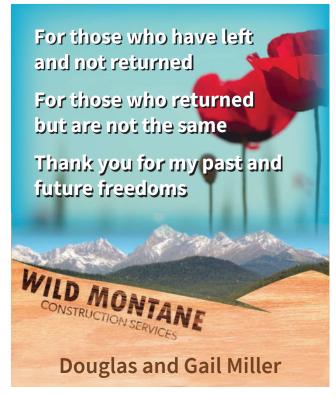






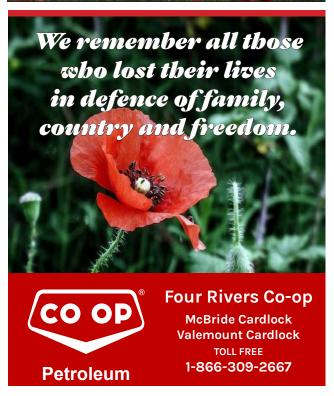
We raise our glass to all those who have served and sacrificed all so that we may live in peace

















eight months old when he

enlisted with the Thirteenth

Infantry, Third Regular Army

division. He was a radio oper-

ator stationed in the front-line

dugouts, but returned home

edmontonjournal.com

To read more stories from the series This Day in Journal History, go to

To suggest a local day in

Journal history, please

send an email to czdeb@ edmontonjournal.com

edmontonjournal.com/

czdeb@edmontonjournal

without a scratch.

It wasn't uncommon so they could enlist War. At right is one the grandfather of current Valemount resident Ed Burstrom. /LAURA **KEIL** 







We thank those

LEST WE FORGET

Forever in Our Hearts We Remember and Honour Those Who Gave So Much For Our Freedom

Wiegele.com

# A family off to war

# Six packed to Second

the war, recalled Harvey Beeson, and perhaps his mother had one of the toughest jobs. "She must have worried."

Mrs. Beeson from Camp Creek had seven kids - five force's postal corp.

said Beeson. "She said she

boys and two girls. brothers, enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces during the Second World War.

"I imagine there would be some anxiety there," he ad-

John Beeson, 83, was the first to enlist in '41. The soldier was part of the June 6, 1944, D-Day attack and saw action in Europe.

"He was in the thick of it," said 74-year-old Harvey.

The eldest brother, Robert Beeson, served as an electrician in the air force in England. Now 85-years, he lives

Velowhee

250-566-4401

Two more brothers served Times were tough during in the navy. Max Beeson served on a mine layer in the Pacific ocean.

> Wilmot Beeson, 76, was a gunner on a oiler in the Atlantic Ocean.

Sister Marj Beeson, now deceased, served in the air

She was stationed in Cal-Six, including all five gary, Vulcan, Claresholm, and Ottawa.

Harvey was the last to sign-up. He turned 18 in 1944, and didn't need much convincing to enlist.

A friend came by and said, "Let's go join the army."

"I said, 'OK.' It was just that simple. "I thought, 'If the army

gives you food and clothes, it was the way to go." Times were tough, afterall. The seventh sibling,

Dorothy, was raising a family and never enlisted.

However, it was Dorothy

Some families had multiple siblings go off to war. Six of seven

siblings in the Beeson family signed up to serve in the Second

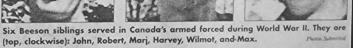
World War. See more displays like this at the Valemount Legion

Museum, open on Remembrance Day. /LAURA KEIL









who urged Harvey and the brothers to tell their stories. "I don't know if there was

that many (enlist) out of one family as ours," Harvey ad-

By the time Harvey enlisted the war was near an end. Of course, it didn't seem that way at the time.

"The war in Japan was just getting going good," he said. After basic training in Red Deer, Harvey was sent Prince Aug. 14, 1945.

There was a lot of celebrating," he recalled. Some details from the war

are sketchy, Harvey admitted: "It was so long ago." But there are some memories which last. Soldiers in

the army had clothes and bedding — but no sheets. Only sailors, airmen, and commissioned army officers

received flannel sheets. And he remembers feeling

Fighting finally ceased lonely and homesick.

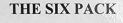
Still, he never suffered the same anxiety that his parents may have experienced

250-673-8381

"It wasn't that you didn't care for your brothers and sisters," he explained.

"You didn't think about loss of life. You didn't think it would happen.

Harvey will participate in Nov. 11 Remembrance Day ceremonies together with John and Wilmot at Fort



**Harvey BEESON** 

Army – Service Corp Stationed in Prince Rupert Up the Muddy Hill in Charge of the Naval Guns

John BEESON

Army Landed Normandy

**Marjory BEESON** Air Force - Postal Corp

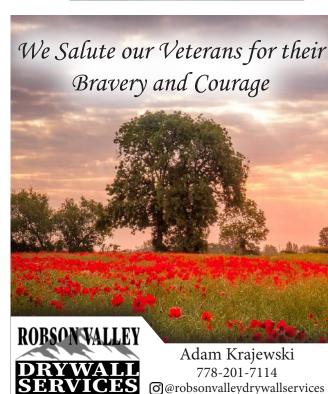
**Max BEESON** Navy – Sub Chaser Aleutian Islands (Pacific)

**Robert BEESON** 

Wilmot BEESON

– Defense Equipment Merchant Ship
Gunner on Oil Tanker (Atlantic)





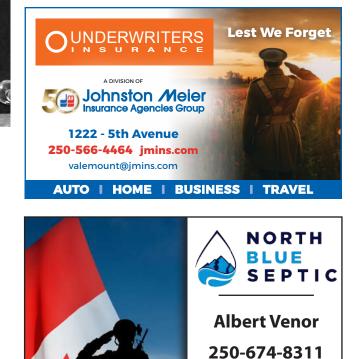


We proudly salute our veterans

on Remembrance Day for their

courage and dedication.





Mike Wiegele

Helicopter Skiing



Lest We Forget

From everyone at the Best Western Plus **Valemount Inn and Suites, Cranberry** Lounge and Summit Grill.









250-566-0086 bestwesternvalemount.com

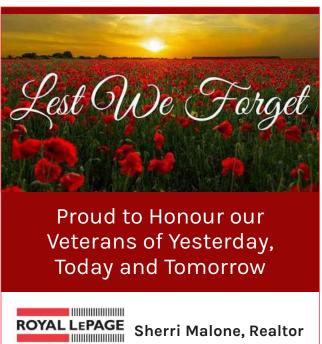
# RF/MAX **Shelly Battensby** Never To be Forgotten











Aspire Realty

# 250 - 566 - 1022

# Local legions seek volunteers

By Spencer Hall, Local Journalism Initiative REPORTER, RMG

The Valemount and McBride Legions are looking to attract more active members and volunteers to help with their events and allow the branches to conduct business.

Past president and Poppy Chair for the Valemount Legion, Pete Pearson said the branch is looking for active members to fill the quorum at its general meetings.

He said the minimum number of members needed at a meeting is 12 — seven executive members and five non-executive. Pearson said the branch hasn't had that number of attendees at its meetings in months.

"Last general meeting was earlier this month. We had six people show up. We ended up having a two-hour discussion on things, but we can't do business," Pearson

Because of how the Legion is structured, the branch needs Legion endorsement on the money it spends. Pearson said the only time the branch can get that endorsement is at a general meeting.

He said the branch has about 93 members that maintain their membership, but many live out of town either due to family reasons or who previously lived in Valemount and still maintain their membership.

Secretary Treasurer of the McBride Legion Branch #75, Dennis Rejman, said the branch currently has about 36 members, but would like to see more residents become

members or volunteer to help with events, like the branch's monthly bingo held on the first Wednesday of the month.

"A lot of the members have other commitments and all that and they just can't help. They have family life and everything else but we would like to have more members," Rejman said.

Members of the Legion are no longer required to be veterans, but Rejman said the McBride branch is looking for residents that want to be active with the organization.

"They have to want to be a member and want to participate," Rejman said, adding the branch has some volunteers that help out who aren't members.

Pearson said the Valemount Legion has been proactive in bringing live music to the community and also hosts weekly Friday night dinners and Sunday pancake breakfasts. He said he would like to expand the type of events the branch offers.

"During COVID we did some car bingos because our people love bingo. Right now their only avenue is McBride so we're looking to get bingo going again," Pearson said.

But to facilitate bingo, Pearson said the Legion needs to recruit more volunteers, something he said is a struggle not just for the Legion, but for many community

organizations.

"We try not to scare people off because we're not looking for a huge commitment. We've been very lucky that there's a core group of volunteers, but it's not big enough," Pearson said.

On Remembrance Day, the Valemount Legion will host an outdoor ceremony starting at 10:30 a.m. at the community cenotaph before moving inside for refreshments.

The McBride Legion is inviting residents to march in a parade with them at 10:30 a.m. from the Legion Hall to the cenotaph at Steve Kolida park. The remembrance service will then be held at 11 a.m., followed by a Remembrance Day luncheon at

12 p.m. at the branch, located at 805 4th Avenue.

Those interested in becoming members of the Legion can sign up online. Interested residents in McBride and contact Rejman at legionbranch75@gmail.com. The Valemount Legion will host its executive elections meeting on November 7th. Residents can contact the branch at valemountlegion266@gmail.com for more information.



# It is the soldier

The following quote is from the Remembrance Day address by Rabbi Idan Scher at the National Remembrance Day service in Ottawa in 2022.

We've been very

lucky that there's

a core group of

volunteers, but it's

not big enough.

- Pete Pearson

"It is the soldier, not the minister, who gives us freedom of religion.

It is the soldier, not the poet, who gives us freedom of speech.

It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who gives us freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier, who salutes the flag and serves, who allows protesters the freedom to burn the flag." Let us all take time to remember and be grateful for those who have sacrificed to preserve our freedoms.

Byron Bustin Valemount, BC









# **RDFFG says Province** responsible for Johnson **Gravel Pit clean up**



The Regional District says clean-up of illegal dumping at a local gravel pit is the jurisdiction of the Province. /SPENCER HALL



By Spencer Hall, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, RMG

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George says the Province is responsible for the clean up of discarded waste found at Johnson Gravel Pit near McBride.

The Goat received tips from two McBride residents, who wished to remain anonymous, about illegal dumping at the gravel pit in October and upon visiting the location found large tire marks leading to an embankment and discarded waste below, as well as miscellaneous garbage, including an empty soil bag, a snowmobile track, and a tire strewn about the area.

The Conservation Officer Service (COS) said both COS and natural resource officers are aware of illegal dumping in the gravel pit and patrol the region when their

"It is important to note that while the Province does manage the Land Act, which ncludes issues like trespassing on Crown land or unauthorized use of Crown land, illegal dumping also falls under the jurisdiction of the regional district," COS said. RDFFG Manager of External Relations, Renee McCloskey said the issue of illegal dumping is complicated.

"The ultimate responsibility lies with the individual to ensure they are disposing of their waste in a socially and environmentally responsive manner that respects their community and surroundings," McCloskey said.

She said if there's evidence of illegal dumping at a regional district property, such as a park or even outside the gate of a transfer station, RDFFG has jurisdiction over clean

"If [the dumping] is located on Crown land, it is the responsibility of the provincial government," McCloskey said.

The gravel pit itself is reportedly owned by the Ministry of Transportation.

McCloskey said the District is aware there are sometimes community groups who step up and organize community clean up days to tackle problem dumping sites, citing the Spruce City Wildlife Association in Prince George as an example.

"The Regional District is pleased to support community groups in this manner and through an application process we can waive tipping fees for these types of clean ups," McCloskey said, adding that RDFFG doesn't have the resources to conduct the cleanup itself.

"We are greatly appreciative when community volunteers step up," McCloskey said.

# **Valemount Ambulance station** hiring multiple positions

Almost exactly a year ago, in October 2022, the Valemount ambulance station was converted to running as a 24/7 Alpha Station. This means that two paramedics are scheduled to be on duty, at the station or out on a call, 24 hours a day. It also means that a second car is staffed by on-call paramedics. The paramedic's schedule runs on a four-on-four-off cycle, typically with two 12-hour day shifts and two 12-hour night shifts.

In order to accomplish the increase in staffing, a minimum of five new members needed to be added to the roster, bringing the total to nine.

In late October 2023, BCEHS reported that there are actually 10 full-time paramedic positions attached to the Valemount ambulance station.

"Eight of these positions are full-time with regular scheduled hours and two are full-time positions that have an irregular schedule, as the employees are assigned to backfill the other positions as needed," said spokesperson Jane Campbell.

"At present, eight of the 10 positions are filled. Two positions have recently become vacant and recruiting is underway to fill them."

Campbell also reported that in addition to the 10 full-time positions, the community is also served by a community paramedic. This position is also currently vacant.

The station is having an open house Nov. 23rd at the ambulance station on Gorse Street and is also planning a presentation for students at Valemount Secondary School the same day.

# Scotiabank announces McBride branch closure

By Andreas Arnold

The residents of McBride were surprised to hear last week that the McBride Scotiabank branch will be closing in the fall of 2024. At this time, Scotiabank is not releasing any details to the media aside from the following statement provided by Daniela Da Silva, Senior Manager, Canadian Banking Communications.

"After careful consideration we have made the decision to consolidate our Scotiabank branch in McBride, BC, and relocate our in-person services to our branch at 390 Victoria Street, in Prince George, BC, on September 18, 2024. We will share further details with customers who are impacted by these changes directly starting on October 31, and are committed to supporting our customers and employees through the

# **Notice of Public Consultation Meeting**



**Temporary Use Permit No. 283** 

Subject Property: 1665 Canoe Road

Purpose: to allow Towing Service use for a three-year period

Meeting: there will be a public consultation meeting on Thursday November 9, 2023 at 7:30 pm at 100 Elm Street, Valemount BC

Consideration: the Regional District Board will consider issuing TUP No. 283 during the Board Meeting on Thursday November 16, 2023 at 1:30 pm at 155 George Street, Prince George BC

For more information visit bit.ly/RDFFGCurrentApplications



# Notice of **Public Consultation Meeting**



Temporary Use Permit No. 282

Subject Property: Block G District Lot 7365 Cariboo District

Purpose: to allow racing (Automotive Sports use) on an existing racetrack oval and ancillary concession (Take-Out Food Outlet) for a three-year period

**Meeting:** there will be a public consultation meeting on Thursday November 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm at 100 Elm Street, Valemount BC

Consideration: the Regional District Board will consider issuing TUP No. 282 during the Board Meeting on Thursday November 16, 2023 at 1:30 pm at 155 George Street, Prince George BC

For more information visit bit.ly/RDFFGCurrentApplications



# **Community Events**

**VALEMOUNT** 

WED Nov 8th 6:30-8:00 pm Free public presentation Fire weather: the making of a beast by John Valliant. Watch on the big screen at the Valemount Public Library, or view at home using the link:www.crowdcast. io@bclibraries-present Call 250-566-4367 for more info.

FRI Nov 24th Seniors are invited to join us for some Creative Writing and sharing from 2:00pm-3:00pm, location: Valemount Library (1090A Main St). This is a free program brought to you by RVCS Seniors Program made possible with funding from CBT, registration is required.

### **Ongoing Valemount Events**

MONs Family Place Drop-In is on Mondays from 9amnoon with Hannah. Come for the connection with other families, parenting resources and fun for you and your 0-6 year old children at RVCS (99 Gorse St). For more information call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc. org. Sept. events listed below:

November—6 to the 27 No FPDI

TUES, WEDs, THURS **StrongStartBC** at Valemount Elementary School 11:30-2:30 starting Oct. 3rd. Free dropin program for children 0-5 years accompanied by their caregivers. Enjoy play-based early learning incl. songs, stories, art and more. Stop by the school for more info.

WEDs **Oldtimers band and music night** at the Golden Years Lodge 7pm. All welcome! Bring an instrument, listen or dance.

THURs ages 8 to 12 years are invited to join our **Worry Dragons program** happening at the Valemount Library (1090A Main Street) from 3:00-4:00pm starting Oct 26 to December 7. Come along with Child and Youth Mental Health Staff to tame your Worry Dragons. This program is designed to help children with anxiety learn new skills to cope with their worries. Parents will need to attend the first and last sessions and registration is required contact RVCS at 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org

THURS Free **Drop-In/Coffee House** at the Golden Years Lodge the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month from 10 am until 2 pm. It's open to everyone regardless of your age. If you currently have any 'mobility issues' call Derek 250-613-6905 for a ride in the accessibility bus.

WEDs & SATs **Yoga** at the Hall. Yoga classes for every body. Hatha yoga Wednesdays 6:30-8pm. Yin Yoga Saturdays 9-10:30am. Includes breathwork, strengthening and relaxation. \$15 drop-in or 10-class pass \$120. Please bring mat and props. Questions call/text 250-566-1740.

THUR's Senior women are invited to register **Reflections**, **Repair**, **Reviva**l for a guided counselling group for female seniors to speak safely around experiences of violence and trauma, in the company of others with shared experiences June 29th & July 6th from 3-4pm. Registration is required contact 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org.

FRI's Starting Nov 17 to Dec 15th Rolling with ADHD Caregivers are invited to attend this parenting program, 5 sessions starting Nov 17, 24, Dec 1, 8, and 15th from 9am-10:30am at the Valemount Library (1090A Main St). Rolling with ADHD is an 8 module series that covers practical tools and strategies for caregivers of children with (diagnosed or undiagnosed) ADHD and includes what research shows works for kids and families living with ADHD. This program is brought to you Child youth Mental Health & Family Support staff. Registration is required contact RVCS at 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org for more information.

SATs 10am-11:15am **Creative writing group**. Join us for writing and friendly conversation at the Rocky Mountain goat office. Everyone welcome. Contact Laura for more info at lauraishere@gmail.com / 250-566-5135.

SUNs 1-3 pm **Crafty Stitchers meet** downstairs at the Valemount Public Library everyone welcome! 250-566-4367 for more information.

SATs 10am-1pm the Valemount United Anglican Church have a **thrift store**, on 7th and Cedar!

SATs 3pm **Cribbage tournament** followed by dinner at the legion and kitchen party music 6-8pm. Bring your acoustic instrument and take part in some laid-back sing-a-longs.

SUNs Pancake breakfast at the Valemount Legion Sundays 8 to 11am. By donation!.

MON through FRIs the **Valemount Seed Library** is available in our lobby during business hours at RVCS Valemount (99 Gorse St). Office hours: Monday to Wednesday 8am-4pm, Thursday 10am-6pm and Friday 8am-4pm Come take free seeds to grow in your garden this summer. By saving seeds, we can maintain genetic diversity, adapt to changing environmental conditions, and save money by not having to purchase new seeds every year. Made possible with funding from CBT. For more info call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc.org.

MON through FRI Contact the Valemount RVCS Office to book your **Community Garden Plot**. Cost \$25/year, Volunteer 8hr/year, tools provided. Contact 250-566-9107 or email events@rvcsbc.org for more info or to sign up.

MON through FRIs the Free Food Farm Stand and Pantry are available for anyone who would like free, fresh produce. We accept donations of unprocessed fruits and veggies. The stand is accessible in the front lobby at RVCS Valemount (99 Gorse St) and is available to everyone-just help yourself! Emergency top-up food is accessible to our clients and anyone who walks through the door. Call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc.org.

# **MCBRIDE**

THURs Nov 2nd McBride's Men's Shed Led by men, for men! Is inviting men who are looking for ways to stay active, engaged and social this spring. Join our Men's Shed Meetings and activities. Refreshments provided. Location McBride RVCS office (942 3rd Ave) from 3-4pm. In collaboration with McBride Adult Literacy, this program is made possible with funding by the United Way. Registration is not required, for more information call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc.org

WED Nov 8 McBride Mustangs Girls Volleyball vs First Responders. Concession open @ 5:30pm, Game begins at 6:00pm

WED Nov 8th Drop In Tech/Media Day Drop in for support and tech help with your device and social media. From 9am-3pm closed for lunch 12pm-1pm. Funded by CALP brought to you by McBride Adult Literacy Program. No Registration required contact RVCS at 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org for more information.

WED Nov 15th Come out and join us for an afternoon tour of Valley Museum's latest exhibit featuring Otipemisewak: The People Who Own Themselves, a narrative series of acrylic paintings by Prince George Metis Erin Stagg on Wednesday, November 15th from 1-3pm. Meet up at the Valley Museum (521 Main Street). If you are in need of a ride, call Sandy at 1-844-324-2004. No registration required. Funded by CALP brought to you by McBride Adult Literacy Program.

SUN Dec 3 McBride Winter Craft Fair 12-4 @ Robson Valley Community Centre. Hosted by McBride Secondary School PAC, The girls vollleyball team and the boys basketball team.

# **Ongoing McBride Events**

MON through THURs, McBride RVCS now has a **FREE FOOD PANTRY** that's available to all! Emergency top-up food is accessible to our clients, preschool program and

Send us your event to ads@goatnewsmedia.com or call 250-566-4606. Use 40 WORDS or less and we will publish it FREE up to a month before

anyone who walks through the door. We share and accept donated foods that are safe and fresh for use. Contact RVCS at 250-569-2266 or email foodsecurity@rvcsbc.org. The local Food Bank is also available: 250-569-3186.

MONs **Family Place Drop-In** is on Mondays from 9amnoon at RVCS (942 3rd Ave). Join for connection with other families, parenting resources and fun for you and your 0-6 year old children. No registration required. For more information call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc. org. **Upcoming themes:** 

November —6 Remembrance day craft

November —13 Sat Holiday: No FPDI

November —20 National Child Rights Day-The Right to play- Finger Painting

November—27 Tumble time at RVCS

WED's Youth ages 10-13 are invited to join the Youth Book Club Starting Nov 22nd until Dec 20th Wednesdays 3-4pm at the McBride Library (521 Main St) . Brought to you by Community Adult Literacy Program and in collaboration with the McBride & District Public Library. No registration required.

TUESs **Tuesday Night Jam** has moved inside and is now playing in the CN Station Lobby, 6:15-8:30. It is an open jam; musicians, singers, and onlookers welcome. For more information call David at (250) 569-2569.

TUESs **Chess Club** - 5-6pm at the library. All ages and abilities welcome.

TUE's Come and join us in McBride for **ASL Sign Language** 12pm-1pm at RVCS office in McBride (942 3rd Ave). Drop in for beginners to advanced. Learning a second language improves cognitive and literacy skills for all ages. Plus it is lots of fun! Brought to you by McBride Family Literacy Program

TUEs ages 8 to 12 years are invited to join the **Worry Dragons program** happening at the RVCS office in McBride (942 3rd Ave) from 3:00-4:00pm starting Oct 24 to December 5. Come along with Child and Youth Mental Health Staff to tame your Worry Dragons. This program is designed to help children with anxiety learn new skills to cope with their worries. Parents will need to attend the first and last sessions and registration is required contact RVCS at 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org for more information.

WED's Free Parent Workshop **How to Talk so Kids Will Listen** starting Oct 25th from 7-8pm at the McBride
Centennial Elementary School limited spaces Registration is required contact RVCS at 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org for more information. This workshop is brought to you by RVCS' Family Support Program and the McBride Centennial Elementary School.

THURs & FRIs **Weekly Adults' Programs** at the McBride Library: Fibre Artists (Thurs, 10:30am), Writing Group (Fri, 1.30pm). Call 569 2411 for details.

MONs & WEDs it's time to **Dance during Community Fitness** with Jodie at the Elks Hall. Twice weekly from 7:15pm-8pm this drop-in program offers free admission to seniors and youth. Other age groups are invited to pay by donation or pay what you can. Call 250-230-8035 for info.

# **TETE JAUNE**

**Tete Jaune Community Club** meetings the first Tues. of the month.

# DUNSTER

SAT Dec 2 **Dunster Christmas Market** 2-5pm at the Dunster Schoolhouse

# Valemount traffic committee pitches 60km speed along Hwy 5

By Spencer Hall, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, RMG

The Village of Valemount's Traffic and Transportation Committee requested council provide a letter of support of the committee's proposal to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to lower the speed limit along Hwy 5 between the Best Western and Swift Creek bridge to 60 km/hr and implement a no passing zone in the area

The Traffic and Transportation Committee is a public committee that includes a member of council, a Village staff member, and three members of the public who are voting members, as well as stakeholders that include a member of the RCMP and a

representative of the Ministry.

Pearson said the committee has met twice since it was created and have worked to come up with easy initiatives to make the Highway 5 and 5th Avenue intersection

He said because of the amount of exits and entrances on Highway 5, the committee decided to advocate for the removal of passing lanes

"They set you up for disaster because if somebody is slowing down to make that turn, somebody two cars back might not see a signal light and pull around," Pearson said

He said he's usually the last person to advocate for lower speed limits, but it was "low hanging fruit" to address safety concerns on the highway.

"The bigger scope of things and what to do with traffic and the situation with a whole corridor. It's going to be a challenge," Pearson said.

He said the Ministry is usually receptive to simple fixes and adjusting the speed limit and changing the lines on the road to a double solid would be easy for the ministry to implement.

Pearson said other initiatives the committee will be advocating for is more attention to line painting and changing the no parking signs on Karas Drive to no stopping signs.

According to Pearson this change is to increase enforcement to cut down on the amount of semi trucks parked along the

road.

"A no-parking ticket is like \$40. A no stopping ticket is a traffic infraction and the level of enforcement steps up," he said. Something Pearson is also pushing for is an active transportation lane — a four-foot wide green painted lane specifically for pedestrians and cyclists — along Karas Drive from 5th Avenue to 7th Avenue.

"My long term goal and I promote it everywhere, even our official community plan, is active transportation. I walk and I bike as well and Karas Drive is a nightmare," Pearson said.

He said infractions along active transportation lanes are enforceable by police.

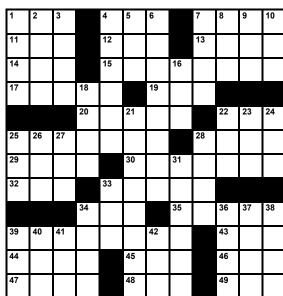


# ROSSWORD

Answers on P13

- 1 Cruise ship amenity
- 4 "There you are!"
- 7 Wheat husk
- 11 Golden Rule pronoun
- 12 Hoedown participant
- 13 100-cent unit, on the conti-
- nent
- 14 "It's \_ \_ Unusual'' 15 Trained
- 17 Rodeo sight
- 19 Really bad coffee
- 20 Allow
- 22 Sizzling
- 25 Chorus
- 28 Vibrant glow 29 Listeners
- 30 Pitched suddenly
- 32 Like some martinis
- 33 Race official
- 34 Devour
- 35 Butchers' offerings
- 39 Reverse, as a veto
- 43 Propel a boat, manually
- 44 "Peter Pan "pooch
- 45 Not to mention
- 46 Notable period of music
- 47 Leaves off

- 48 Approximately
- 49 Before thing or one
- Down
- 1 Harmony 2 Combine, as re
  - sources
- 3 Hatchback
- 4 Meeting points to address
- 5 Suffered from
- 6 Lightweight metal 7 Part of a necklace
- 8 Furrow
- \_'' (Lionel 9 "You Richie hit)
- 10 Silent approval
- 16 Director's cry
- 18 Campaigns 21 Amateur armies
- 22 "Come again?"
- 23 Mineable metal
- 24 Little bit
- 25 Cherry
- 26 "... silk purse out of a sow's \_\_\_\_''
- **27** Zap



- 28 4840 square yards
- 31 Fix
- 33 Street coat
- 34 Eventful times in history
- 36 \_\_\_ code
- 37 Rent
- 38 Move to and fro
- 39 "\_\_\_ night love affair": Bryan Adams
- 40 Moving option
- 41 Upshot
- 42 It's shared by identical twins

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

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

Answers on P13

### Across

- 1. Vacation transport at
- Breckenridge
- 5. Primitive calculators
- 10. Strip near the Mediterranean
- 14. Ticket
- 15. Turned off
- 16. Once-worshipped white
- 17. Former queen of Jordan
- 18. Excessive
- 20 Disco artis
- 22. Australian pop singer 23. Hardy character
- 24. Rot 25. Not originals 29. Chippendales dancer, e.g.
- 30. Pearl Bailey's middle name
- 33. Short poem 34. Asian desert
- 36. Portside
- 37. "\_\_ \_ and out of love ...."
- Alicia Keys
- 40. Beatty and Buntline
- 41. Distillery items
- 42. Skin care brand 43. \_\_\_ roll
- 44. Put one's two cents in? 45. Personal prejudices
- 47. Party for the guys?

46. Rank

- 49. \_\_\_ of Base 51. 70s rocker
- 57. Museum selection related
- 59. Greasy
- **60. Sins** 61. Sportscaster, Iim

by Myles Mellor

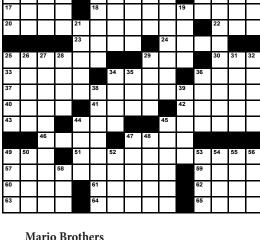
62. Swing about 63. Imagines 64. Sign on a door 65. Wrigglers Down 1. Gob

- 2. Fruit weight in EU 3. "Don't rub
- 4. Playwright O'Casey 5. Liqueur flavorers 6. Incentive, of a kind
- 7. Itsy-bitsy bits 8. Base of a crocus
- 9. Nittygritty 10. Spirit in a sling
- 11. Feelings of modesty 12. Pasta choice
- 13. Away from port 19. Multivitamin supplement
- 21. Enjoyed immensely
- 25. Material for uniforms 26. Made of wood 27. Part-time apartment
- 28. General store on "The Waltons' 29. Budding entrepreneurs,
- for short 31. Intensely interested 32. Cone-shaped heaters
- **34. Pest**
- 35. "How Has the Banshee Cried" (Thomas
- Moore poem) 36. "Zorba the Greek" Oscar
- winner Kedrova 38. Burnt, or practically so 39. One of Nintendo's

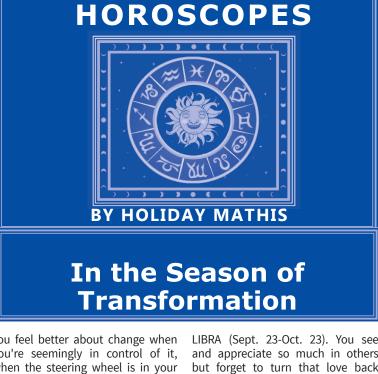
- - **Mario Brothers**

  - 47. Canonized mortal

  - 54. Floor covering
  - 55. Jewish mo. 56. Bread types



- 44. Borscht ingredient
- 45. Cry baby
- 48. Draw, for kids 49. They're not returned
- 50. Remedy 52. Mama's mama 53. Schnozzola
- 58. Dummy



You feel better about change when you're seemingly in control of it, when the steering wheel is in your grip and you're moving in the right direction. But we are so often children in a grocery store cart -- steering, but not really. This Scorpio week of Samhain and All Saints' Day is a call to welcome all the changes, whether within or beyond our control. Love it or hate it, life flows the same. To accept change with optimism and grace makes things go smoother.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). This week represents a breakthrough in your mental game. You'll find that you don't always identify with what runs through your mind. Thoughts are just thoughts. When you sense that a thought isn't useful, try adding a disclaimer to the end of it. "I'm feeling anxious... (SET ITAL) but (END ITAL) I can also think of ways things could go well."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Remember your original intentions. The week throws distractions your way, and it's easy to get caught up in the other things there are to want. Until you get back to that one thing you started with, you won't be truly fulfilled. Let your deeper reasons fuel you to be of service and you'll do the work you were meant to do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Stress can be paralyzing, or it can be the necessary push to try something different. Stress can deliver the extra energy needed to do something hard. You'll accept that some amount of stress will help you. You'll find that sweet spot where it's not too much. And you'll use the energy boost to leap over an obstacle.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're conscious that an activity is undermining your goal, though you still may feel compelled to do it. Awareness has stages. What else can you observe about the behavior, such as triggers, environments or people involved? Can you make a plan anyway? Wherever you are in the process at the start of the week, it will improve by the weekend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). On your way to an achievement, you hold yourself accountable, but don't punish yourself. Allow for the wavering that is human and natural in any process. As you cheer yourself on, you're looking for movement in a particular direction, not perfection. Anything that's more of what you want counts toward the goal.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're getting into the energy of having what you want. This should be the fun part. It's the college visit, the test drive, the appetizer platter giving you a taste of what's to come even though, in a sense, you're already there. Make your dreams happen in a small way and the big way will be next.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You see and appreciate so much in others but forget to turn that love back on yourself. Acknowledge your strengths. Embracing the attitudes, habits and characteristics that make you so wonderfully you is a path to self-love and thriving. Could you turn it into a practice? It will dissipate your worries and allow you to shine.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some days roll out like a Bubble Wrap of tasks you can pinch off with orderly satisfaction. But this week is more like Styrofoam packing peanuts -- messy and weird to clean up, though you may be grateful about how nothing is broken, and the tasks are light, if sometimes staticky. Everything gets handled. All stays intact.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Some people don't have a clue how to let loose and have a good time. It's an easier thing to do in an environment that's comfortable. You'll make people comfortable with your warmth and ability to see and be the fun. You will save the party this way -- and save the meeting/date/otherwise boring routine as well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's not always about keeping your eye on the prize. The feeling of the work, your breath and getting the "form" right are all important as well. Whether your performance has to do with making a sale, teaching a class or crossing the finish line of a race, the more connected to the moment you are, the better you'll perform.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You've been cheering the team and taking pictures. This week, you'll step out of the sidelines and into those pictures, taking to heart the cheers of others. Being part of the action, for however long it lasts, enriches your powers of observation in perpetuity, and your joy in equal measure.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A new cycle will begin, but first, the universe is waiting for you to signal the start. You'll initiate this time around the track, not with a sound or a flag but with an act of intent. Cut your hair, buy a new power tool, give old clothes away. The universe awaits your green light.

THISWEEK'S BIRTHDAYS: You measure success by different standards. This will have a lot to do with what you need from relationships and how they fit into your life. You'll come to a place of deep self-fulfillment, so what others add will be like the sprinkles on top -- the delight of new experiences, challenges to keep the adventure interesting, and a constant flow of warmth, inclusion and activity that keeps you engaged and contributing. More highlights: a financial breakthrough, a graduation and foreign travel.

# LOCAL RESOURCE DIRECTORY

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### Accounting



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S	P	Α		Α	Н	Α		В	R	Α	Ν
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# **ROBSON VALLEY & NORTH THOMPSON**

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Through the Lens with Leon Lorenz

The Muskwa-Kechika (pronounced 'musk-quah-kechee-kah') management area is situated in northern British Columbia and covers an area of 16,000,000 acres or seven times the size of Yellowstone National Park. It remains one of the largest remaining tracts of wild land in North America. It's one of my favourite areas to film wildlife and for this fall the woodland caribou was my main subject to pursue in the high country. It was such an amazing experince to finally get into decent camera range undetected by these manificent creatures after crawling on my hands and knees for the last half kilometre.. /LEON LORENZ



Pete Amyoony has lived, worked and gardened in the Dunster area for over 40 years. He tries to deal with the "down to earth nuts and bolts of organic gardening" in his columns.



# Storing Tender Bulbs and Tubers (begonia, glads, cannas, dahlias)

If you have dug your tender bulbs and tubers such as gladiolas, dahlias, begonias, etc, you will have a much better chance of over-wintering them if you know the requirements of each. With the correct storage temperatures and conditions, these bulbs and tubers will last you for many seasons.

Tuberous Begonias need to be ripened before put into storage. They should be moved into a bright, cool window before they have been hit by frost. Keep them cool and reduce watering. After a few weeks, the leaves will yellow and shrivel up. When the tops of the plants can be pulled off the tuber with no resistance, they are properly cured. Then they can be removed from their pots and stored in dry peat moss at 10C (50F) for the winter. If you store them at lower temperatures, they tend to rot.

Gladiolas are best dug on a warm sunny day and dried

in the sun for a few hours. The tops should be cut off about 1 inch (2.5cm) above the corm. The ideal curing temperature is around 30C (85F) for a few days. Once they are well dried and cured, the old corm can be removed. They seem to do best if stored in quite cool temperatures (a cold room or root cellar where potatoes store well is about the right conditions). As long as the humidity is quite high, they do well spread out in boxes or on flats.

Cannas should be dug soon after the first killing frost leaving about 6 inches (15cm) of stem attached to the root. The roots should be cured and dried for a week or so in a warm dry place. Then they can be placed in slightly damp peat and/or sand in wooden boxes with enough peat and sand to cover the roots. The ideal temperature is around 10C (50F). If kept in a cooler or damp place, they tend to rot.

Dahlias are best left in the garden until the tops are killed by frost. Once they are hit, cut the tops off to about 4 inches (10cm) and leave them in the soil for about another week to harden the tubers. Dig the roots carefully as any damage will encourage rot in storage. Spread them out in a dry basement with good air circulation so the tubers toughen and dry well. They can then be stored in large boxes in dry peat or dry sawdust at 7C(45F).

For all of the above, it is best to check the roots and bulbs every month. If there is any sign of rot, remove the rot and throw it away as it will spread to all the remaining roots in storage. Also check for any signs of shrivelling and dampen the peat or sawdust accordingly.

With the cost of bulbs and tubers rising every year, it really pays to learn how to store your own each fall.

# Valemount Curling Club AGM

Monday, Nov. 6th 7 PM - Upstairs 98 Elm St.



Thanks to RDFFG for funding support!



# Local Grant applications 2024 packages now available

Total annual fund is \$10,000.

For online application visit: www.valemountcommunityforest.ca

Email: admin@valemountcommunityforest.ca or Ph: 250-566-4610

Submission Deadline is set for Friday December 1st, 2023 4pm





# **Horse Drive**



The herd is captured from above, manes blowing in the wind. /SANDRA JAMES



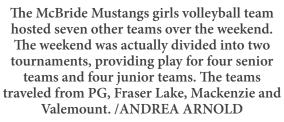
BELOW: As they just went under the railroad overpass this photo was taken from above, With Custin Ryan at the back of the herd ensuring everyone follows the plan. At one point a few horses veered off course but all the riders managed to get them back on track. ABOVE: The herd can be seen with McBride Secondary School in the background as they turn off 2nd Ave. Tom Ryan riding Icandy, Shelly Ryan on G, (both full Lusitano), and Callie Matthews on Parr (Quarterhorse) at the front. At the rear Custin Ryan can be seen on Apache (Lusitano Stallion). / SANDRA JAMES



- 1 Cedars Christian School
- 2 Mackenzie Secondary
- 3 -Valemount Secondary
- 4 Fraser Lake Elementary Secondary School

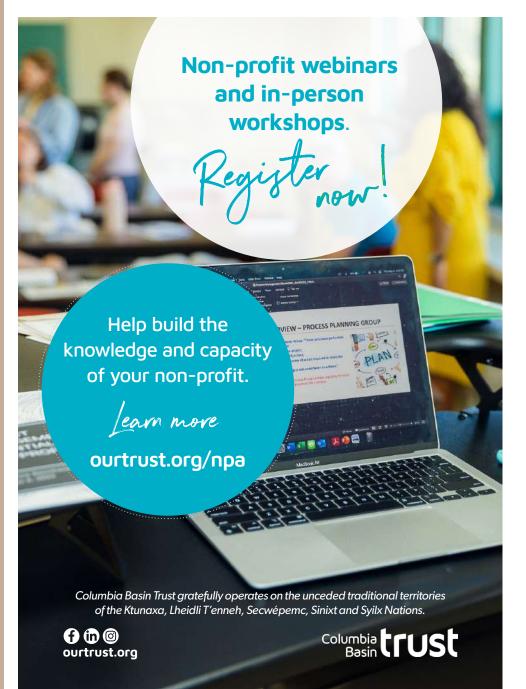
# **Final** Results Junior

- 1 -Fraser Lake Elementary Secondary School
- 2 McBride Secondary
- 3 Mackenzie Secondary
- 4 Valemount Secondary











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