



New VARDA Trail at Swift Creek P10



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Thursday July 4, 2024
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Hazel and her mom competed at the beanbag toss game on the library lawn during Canada Day festivities in Valemount. View more images of how the Robson Valley area celebrated Canada on P2 /LAURA KEIL

Tourism Valemount requests train shelter

By ABIGAIL POPPLE, LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Tourism Valemount’s board of directors is asking for an enclosed train shelter to be installed near Main Street. Currently, passengers are meant to wait on a concrete platform near the tracks, with no roof or protection from the wind. After two passengers were found waiting for the train in -30° weather in February 2019, Council asked Via Rail to provide an enclosed shelter, but the shelter has not come to fruition.

At last week’s council meeting, Tourism Valemount Executive Director Marcie Down made a presentation on the need for a shelter near the railroad for Via Rail passengers.

“Passengers are waiting out in the elements, unprotected, for the train. We would like to inquire into how we can assist in having a shelter installed at the Main Street location,” Down said.

Other small municipalities have successfully implemented Via rail stations, she added, citing McBride’s still-functioning station and a heated, enclosed glass shelter being built in Huntsville, Ontario.

Drawing on statistics from Via Rail’s annual reports, Down noted that demand for rail travel through northern B.C. is growing. According to the company’s 2022 report, train services on the Jasper-Prince Rupert line saw about 142 passengers per week – this rose to 232 per week in 2023. The company does not tabulate statistics for Valemount’s stop, though Down said she tried to obtain them.

“The Tourism Valemount board of directors would like to know how we can move this initiative forward, what steps we (and Council) can take together to have an end result of a well-lit, heated shelter put in place,” Down said.

Councillor Pete Pearson said this issue has been ongoing since Valemount’s previous shelter was relocated to Golden Years Lodge following vandalism.

“It would be nice to find a way for us to be able to support an initiative to try and get a shelter of some sort back,” he said.

Torgerson said that while Council

CONT’D ON P3

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CANADA DAY Celebrations

Valemount



Ara leaped to catch bubbles blown by mom Natale, while Leif and Amelia closely supervised the bubble machine in the background. /RACHEL FRASER



Spencer waves his flag from the tallest perch. / RACHEL FRASER

McBride

Right: Mayor Gene Runtz tested attendees Canadian knowledge with some Canada Day trivia after MLA Shirley Bond's speech. /SPENCER HALL

Bottom: Volunteers from the Whistlestop Gallery hosted a plethora of kid's activities, including a game of Cat and Mouse, pictured below. /SPENCER HALL



Blue River

Pete Gawazuk led the parade with his team of horses with many locals joining in. Organizers say the day was "clear and perfect." / SUPPLIED



Three-year-old Kohl Preston from Spring Lake Alberta won second in the nail pounding contest at the Blue River Canada Day Celebration. Face painting was done by Scott Burgoyne. /SUPPLIED

Province deliberating regulation of psychotherapy in BC

Currently no minimum training required

By Rachel Fraser

The Province has recently concluded the first step in regulating psychotherapy in BC. On June 24th, public consultation wrapped up on whether to designate the practice of psychotherapy as a Health Profession under the Health Professions Act, after which the government will decide on formal regulation.

Despite decades of lobbying by the profession, counsellors and mental health practitioners remain largely unregulated in BC. The exceptions are those registered with either the College of Psychologists, requiring a PhD in psychology, or the BC College of Social Workers, which are regulated outside of the Health Professions Act altogether.

Chantel Fewtrell, a counselling student offering online sessions to Valley residents from her home in Golden, said she supports the move.

“I think it will legitimize the profession, as well as make it safer for people. They know that they’ve got competent practitioners.”

Fewtrell is completing both a psychotherapy diploma and a PhD in Psychology but coming from a regulated background as a Registered Nurse, she found going into this profession there are so many grey areas, and the requirements are vague. Echoing advocacy groups, she expects that regulation will increase access to therapy by increasing the confidence of benefit providers and insurance programs that currently only cover Registered Psychologists or Social Workers.

“I think they’re more likely to endorse something that has tighter regulations around it,” she said.

The term “psychotherapy” is loosely defined, and generally used interchangeably with “clinical counselling” in BC as an umbrella term for a variety of modalities of talk therapy used to treat mental disorders and other mental health-related problems resulting in a patient’s psychological suffering, according to an explanatory note provided by the Ministry of Health.

Without regulation, there is no minimum training required to call oneself a psychotherapist or clinical counsellor and begin offering services, nor is there any binding disciplinary process for damage caused by incompetence or ethical breaches.

Professional member organizations such as the BC Association of Clinical Counsellors (BCACC) voluntarily self-regulate. In recognition of Masters-level education in a counselling program, ongoing professional development, and adherence to its standards of practice and code of ethics, the BCACC provides its members the designation of Registered Clinical Counsellor. The Association of Cooperative Counselling Therapists of Canada offers a competency-based Registered Therapeutic Counsellor designation with different educational or experiential qualifications than a master’s degree.

These organizations have complaints processes and can discipline their members for breaches of ethics, but participation is voluntary. A counsellor facing a complaint or disciplinary process can simply quit the

organization and continue offering services without a registered designation.

If approved, the rollout of regulation and how it will affect current practitioners is well in the future and no details are yet available, but other regulated provinces offer clues. According to the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association, though the others did not regulate around a single professional organization or exclusively admit one designation type, all new applicants registering to practice psychotherapy or clinical counselling require master’s degrees in counselling-related disciplines.

In the Robson Valley, local mental health supports are limited to those provided through the Northern Health Community Mental Health and Addictions programs, and Robson Valley Community Services (RVCS), though many private-practice counsellors, such as Fewtrell, based elsewhere in the province offer remote video or telephone sessions.

When asked what designations or education are required for counsellors serving the Valley as part of their mental health and addictions programming, Northern Health issued a statement confirming they employ a Mental Health and Addictions Clinician, and saying only that it is too early to say what effect regulation would have on the programs they offer here, and that they are committed to providing access to mental health and substance use services in Valemount and will work to ensure continuity of care through any regulatory changes. A job posting for that role in similar BC communities lists the qualifications required as a Bachelor’s Degree in an allied health, behavioural or social science or equivalent related knowledge, skills and experience.

Donalda Beeson, Co-Executive Director and Manager of Therapeutic Services for RVCS, said that Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) clinician is required to have a master’s degree, but not necessarily to have a Registered designation. Other roles that include counselling require a bachelor’s degree.

“As such, while working in counselling programs they cannot perform psychotherapy but rather are meant to provide psychoeducation,” she said.

Psychoeducation is another broadly defined term that can have some overlap with psychotherapy. According to the mandate for the The Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling, and Empowerment Program for Children and Youth Experiencing Violence, a counselling program administered by RVCS, the focus of psychoeducation is on empowering the program participant through information and strategies, building coping skills and helping the participant explore their feelings and experiences.

The Ministry of Health said in an email that the decision to designate “psychotherapy” as a new health profession under the HPA is made by Cabinet, in regulation, and that feedback from the consultation will be used to inform that decision. No timeline on that process has been provided, and results of the public consultation are not yet available.

Train shelter CONT'D FROM A1

does not make decisions during delegations, staff will exchange contact information for Village staff and CN Rail with Tourism Valemount, since the current concrete platform is on CN’s right-of-way.

Councillor Hollie Blanchette asked if Tourism Valemount has a vision for what the shelter would look like. Down said she’s following the construction of Huntsville’s shelter closely and may draw inspiration from it, though shelters tend to vary from community to community.

Councillor Hugo Mulyk also said the lack of an enclosed shelter has been an ongoing issue.

“Some Band-Aid plans have been tried over the years, and it hasn’t really worked all that well,” he said. “I think the timing is really good for this... I think there’s been interest in trying to do something that just kind of disappeared, but the timing right now seems to be good for it.”

A Valemount train shelter could serve as a model for communities of similar sizes, Mulyk added.

Councillor Pearson said the Village also needs to consider that Valemount doesn’t have taxi or transit services, so passengers who disembark at Valemount will need a way to get to one of Valemount’s hotels once they leave.

Councillor Donnie MacLean added that passengers should have access to washrooms as well, since people often wait four to five hours for delayed trains.

“Ms. Down, thank you so much again,” Torgerson said at the end of the presentation. “We’ll commit to getting those contact pieces over to you to get the ball rolling.”

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MCBRIDE COUNCIL NOTES

McBride Council: UNBC research, Robson Valley Legacies update, hydrant painting

By Andrea Arnold

The McBride council meeting on Tuesday June 25, 2024 provided Council with a presentation from a UNBC research team, an update on the Robson Valley Legacies housing development and allowed them to vote on the hydrant painting project presented at the previous meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Gene Runtz.

UNBC Research

Joseph Shea, a representative from a group of researchers and students from UNBC presented to Council on their “Community Adaptation to Changing Mountain Snowpacks and

Geohazards” project, funded by Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS). The group has been working with the Regional District, the Village of Valemount, Community Forests and Ministry of Forests researchers. Shea said much of the focus in the McBride area has been around water.

The focus of the project is on the vulnerability of community water systems, trends in observed and modelled snowpacks and how accurate real time observations for data showing temperature, humidity, wind speed, snow depth, soil moisture and others can be obtained.

The group would like to install a real time weather station on Lucille Mountain possibly around an elevation of 2000m or so. The group has already installed a similar station at the base of the Valemount Community Ski Hill. These stations can also help with avalanche and wildfire risk forecasting.

The group also wants to conduct alpine snow depth surveys for areas affecting the Dominion Creek watershed using an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), as well as investigate snow storage potential in adjacent watersheds.

Shea said that the group would like input from the Village as they proceed with their research.

Councillor Joe Kolida stated that the more data that can be collected the better, and that he is sure there are community members that would be helpful to hear from on the matter of the location for the weather station. Mayor Runtz said that what they are doing is exciting.

Robson Valley Legacies update

The second presentation of the evening was from Doug Monroe, on behalf of the Robson Valley Legacies senior housing development.

Monroe began by thanking the council for the invitation to come provide an update. He said that they have been working to create an aggregate and concrete product that will allow them to construct wall panels within their facility in preparation for construction. Testing of this product is in the final stages of analysis.

Both Monroe, and Profor employee Keith MacMaster are ACI certified Concrete Field-testing Technicians as well as PCI Level 1 and Level 2 Quality Control Technician/Inspectors. This means Profor will be eligible for production for the concrete components for commercial purposes.

They have secured two local sources for their sand and gravel aggregate needs, as well as the specialized equipment needed to manufacture the product. They have also been stockpiling construction materials in anticipation of a 2024 start.

A home on an adjacent property that has been purchased as part of the project is currently being used as a rental for healthcare professionals, and there are plans to renovate a portion into a kitchen for a senior based meals on wheels program.

Monroe hopes to have permits in place to begin construction of the first four-plex structure later this year.

Council received the presentation and expressed interest at the progress and future potential of the overall project.

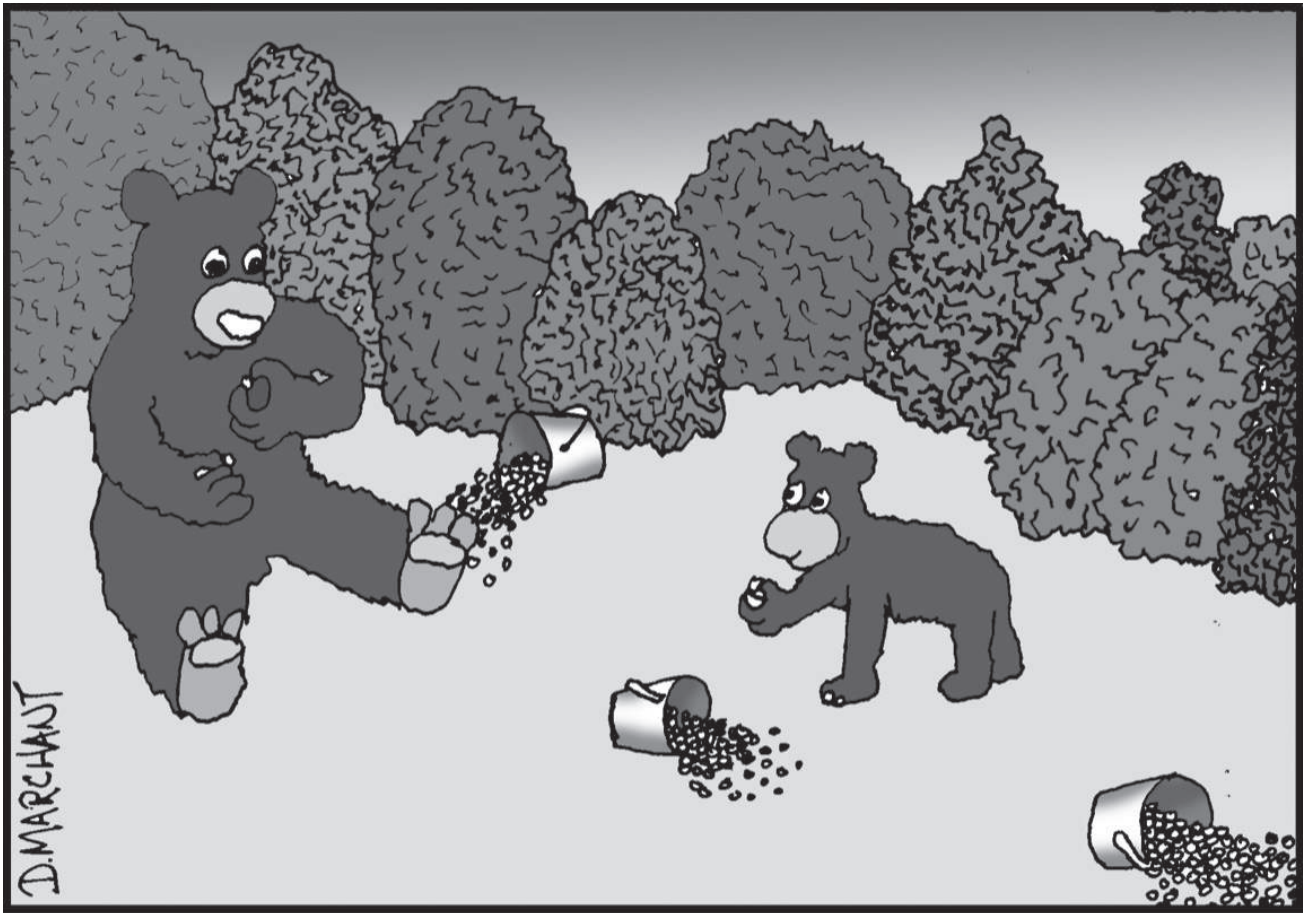
Fire hydrant painting

Council approved the Whistle Stop Gallery’s request to paint fire hydrants using summer student employees as long as the painting does not interfere with the function of the hydrants. Councillor Kolida asked CAO Jeanette McDougall if the fire department had been consulted to make sure functionality of the hydrants would not be impacted. She said she would check into it.

Council then voted to proceed 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 other two in-camera items listed were struck from the agenda, no reason given.

The regular council meeting was recessed at 6:38pm.



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Global Thoughts

Assange: Free at Last, But...



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

BY GWYNNE DYER

Julian Assange, the founder of Wikileaks, is a free man at last after spending almost all of the past fourteen years in jail or other forms of confinement. He has just arrived home in Australia to be greeted by his family, including two young sons who have never seen him except in Belmarsh Prison in London. But it is the bad guys who won. They have won because Assange's ordeal will prevent a dozen or a hundred or a thousand potential whistle-blowers who have information that the public needs to know from blowing their whistles. Indeed, that's why Assange had to be put through all that misery. He did no harm, but the example he set was a huge threat to the secret state. You can call it the 'deep state', if you like, but it's not the imaginary one that excites populists like Donald Trump. It's the 'intelligence' services that hide their actions, lie to and spy on the public, and sometimes murder people, like the CIA in the United States, the DGSE in France, the SVR in Russia and RAW in India. They are enormous bureaucracies with a greatly inflated sense of their own importance. Their stock in trade is secrets, so by definition (although not necessarily in fact) those secrets are important. Hunting down and punishing people who reveal those secrets is a vital part of protecting

the brand. An example, not entirely at random: Julian Assange's enormous dump of documents in 2010 concentrated on the US wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the piece that got the most attention was a video and audio clip from an Apache gunship flying low over Baghdad in 2007. The crew are debating whether there are armed men among the civilians on the street below, and one says impatiently "light 'em all up." So they spray the street with machine-gun fire, saying things like "It's their fault for bringing their kids into battle" and "Look at those dead bastards." They even shoot up an ambulance that comes to help the wounded. Assange didn't hack any government computers, nor was anybody killed or injured because of his revelations. He was very careful about that, although the US government falsely claimed both things. He spent fourteen years in custody or in hiding simply because he deeply embarrassed American officialdom. First, the US government tried to get the British government to extradite him so that he would face an American court, but failed. Then Washington got the Swedish courts to demand Assange's extradition from the United Kingdom on two deeply implausible rape charges, apparently believing

that Sweden would then send him to the US. At this point he was arrested in Britain – but Sweden never carried through, and eventually dropped the charges. And so on and so forth for fourteen years until finally, just before he is sent to the United States and is facing life in jail for no crime at all, President Biden offers him a plea bargain in which he pleads guilt to just one of the 18 false charges, and the United States accepts that his last five years in a British jail count as enough jail time served for that single non-crime. A happy ending, of sorts. Happier at least than Mordechai Vanunu, the Israeli who confirmed the existence of Israel's nuclear weapons in 1986 and was jailed for 18 years (11 years in solitary). He's still not allowed to leave Israel or speak to foreigners. Happier than Edward Snowden, a former CIA employee who revealed huge amounts of data about the US National Security Agency's global surveillance programmes in 2013. He is still stuck in Russia, where he was changing planes when the State Department cynically canceled his passport. Why are there so few whistle-blowers precisely when we need them most? Just look what happens to them.

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The West: Enormous Changes at the Last Minute

By GWYNNE DYER

By Friday (5 July), we will know the outcome of the British election. On Monday (8 July) we will know the result of the French election. And by the middle of the month it will be clear whether Joe Biden remains the Democratic presidential candidate in the United States. If he does, then Donald Trump will probably win the election in November. Very little of this was planned. The British election was expected this year, but in October or November – until Prime Minister Rishi Sunak surprised everybody (including his own Conservative Party) by calling it early. It was a gamble that failed. No national election was expected in France until 2027, but President Emmanuel Macron called the National Assembly (parliament) elections three years early after his party took a severe beating in the European elections early last month. Another dramatic gamble that has failed. And the Democratic Party seemed certain to choose Joe Biden as its candidate for the presidency again despite some muttered misgivings in the party about his age (81). That certainty imploded after Biden's poor performance in the first TV debate with Donald Trump last week, and there is now a panicky debate within the party about replacing him.

So there we suddenly are, with three of the four biggest Western countries, containing about half of NATO's population, facing elections that may radically change their political orientations. In the American and French cases, their next governments may be hard right, with fascist undertones. The United Kingdom's election is the soonest and the least alarming, so let's start there. The Tories (Conservatives) have been in power for fourteen years by now, so time would have eroded their popularity even if they had wonderful and successful policies. Their policies were neither of those things. They left the European Union (Brexit) and lost free access to Britain's largest market by far. They imposed savage and needless austerity measures simply to serve their ideological goal of shrinking the state. Things went crazy in the last five years, during which the country had four different Tory prime ministers but only one election. The party had run out of ideas, so the Conservative members of parliament broke up into vaguely ideological gangs and started fighting each other. One prime minister was forced to resign for serial lying (Boris Johnson), another for crashing the economy (Liz Truss). The British economy rotted and the National Health Service is near collapse. The only question for the Conservatives is whether

this election will be merely a catastrophe (two terms in opposition and then maybe a come-back), or a full-scale extinction event from which there is no return. The Conservatives have been in office for more than half the time since the 'modern' party was founded 190 years ago, but apart from Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists in the years before the Second World War they have never before had to face a challenge from the right. Nigel Farage's Reform UK Party is nationalist, populist and dog-whistle racist, but it is a far more sophisticated operation than Mosley's ridiculous blackshirts. Farage's goal is to supplant the traditional Conservative Party as the natural home for right-wing Britons, but he is not averse to achieving that goal by a hostile take-over of the Tories. There are prominent figures in the Conservative Party, fearing near-annihilation in this week's election, who see this as their only plausible route back to power within the next decade. The populist wave that threatens to engulf the West is a long-term threat in Britain, too – but for the next five years, at least, the Labour Party will govern with a massive majority. It will take longer than that to repair all the economic and social damage that has been done, but at least it's a start. Elsewhere, the picture is darker.

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Valemount Council: Via Rail shelter, annual report, ReDi grant committee applicants

By Abigail Popple, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Valemount Council heard a delegation on building a Via rail station, discussed the Village’s annual municipal report, and made its appointments for the Resident-Directed grant adjudication committee at last Tuesday’s regular meeting.

Mayor Owen Torgerson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Council amended the night’s agenda to add an in-camera session. After approving minutes from the June 11th regular meeting, Council moved on to the night’s delegation.

Delegation

Executive Director of Tourism Valemount Marcie Down made a presentation to Council highlighting the need for an enclosed shelter where Via Rail passengers can wait for the train. While Council cannot make decisions during a delegation, Torgerson said staff would share contact information with Tourism Valemount’s board of directors to begin discussion on the possibility of building a shelter.

Read more about the shelter in this week’s issue.

2023 Annual Report

Each year, the Village must make an annual report outlining the year’s activities and progress on ongoing projects available for public viewing before June 30th, in accordance with the Community Charter.

Completed projects included in the 2023 report include the purchase of a building for Village and Northern Health staff housing, procurement of a new garbage truck, and the installation of new playground equipment at Centennial Park, among others.

Council moved to approve the report.

“We got a lot of stuff done. Congratulations, Council and staff,” Torgerson said.

Statement of Financial Information

According to the Financial Information Act, local governments must prepare an annual statement of financial information and make it available for public viewing by June 30th of each year. Staff recommended Council approve the 2023 statement so it could be made available online.

The statement includes the remuneration Council and staff received in 2023, and the amount of money paid to suppliers for various goods and services.

Council unanimously approved the statement.

Grant for Lheidli T’enneh meeting

Valemount staff requested Council approval to apply for a Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) grant that would provide funding for a meeting with Lheidli T’enneh First Nation.

UBCM administers grants for community to community (C2C) meetings, with funding from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Indigenous Services Canada. The C2C program aims to support reconciliation efforts between First Nations and local governments.

Staff hope to hold a C2C meeting with Lheidli T’enneh leaders in October, to begin building a relationship similar to Valemount’s relationship with Simpcw First Nation, according to the staff report. The grant covers up to \$10,000 in costs, which staff anticipate will be sufficient for the meeting.

Council unanimously approved the request.

ReDi grant committee

Council reviewed applications from residents to sit on the Columbia Basin Trust’s adjudication committee for Resident-Directed (ReDi) grants. Each year, an adjudication committee made up of a Council liaison and Valemount and Regional

District residents selects projects to receive ReDi grant funding.

Four residents applied for a seat on the committee: Eugene Jamin, Jane Weeks, Rick Plamondon, and Cindy Etty.

Council unanimously approved to appoint all four applicants to the committee.

Mulyk thanked the applicants.

“This is welcome news,” he said. “Having this interest so early... is gonna definitely be very helpful for next year.”

Pearson also thanked applicants.

Trans Mountain land use

In late May, Council gave initial approval for Trans Mountain to renew its temporary use permit for a lot within village bounds as the company wraps up construction, restoration and cleaning of pipeline sites in the area. Since then, the Village distributed notices of the temporary use permit application so nearby residents would have the opportunity to provide input on the permit.

Torgerson said the Village did not receive any feedback.

Council unanimously approved granting the permit, and moved on to discuss their reading file.

Columbia River Treaty

The Columbia River Treaty, which governs Canada and U.S. use of the Columbia River for hydroelectricity and other services, is currently under negotiation as the current treaty may be terminated after this September if a new one is not signed.

Treaty negotiators sent an update to the Local Governments Committee, which Council reviewed.

Pearson said the treaty is an opportunity to negotiate for a weir to be built at the Kinbasket reservoir, which would provide access to the lake for recreational activities year-round. He also said he heard from two residents in the past week who had to temporarily leave the village due to dust exacerbating their breathing problems, and suggested using the treaty as a way to broach the subject of air quality with BC Hydro.

He asked if Hydro had provided any data on air quality to Valemount Council.

Torgerson said such data has not been shared, and added that the PM10 sensor in Valemount that measures air quality does not provide real-time updates.

BC Hydro Resource Breakfast

BC Hydro wrote to invite Valemount Council to its annual Resource Breakfast Series, to be held September 17th-19th. The event brings together resource ministers, local government officials, and leaders in the natural resource industry to discuss news and ongoing projects in B.C.’s natural resource sector.

Pearson asked if Council would book travel plans for the event soon. Torgerson said the event overlaps with the UBCM annual general meeting, which does not yet have a published schedule. He said Council will wait to plan for the Resource Breakfast until the UBCM releases the meeting’s schedule.

In-Camera session

Council moved to an in-camera session in accordance with sections (d) and (k) of section 90 (1) of the Community Charter. Section (d) allows a council meeting to be closed to discuss the security of the property of the municipality, while (k) allows closed meetings to discuss negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

Torgerson adjourned the open session of council at 7:30 p.m.



Valemount Community Forest Co. Ltd.
and
Valemount Industrial Park Co. Ltd.

Annual General Meeting

- **Date:** Thursday July 18th
- **Location:** Valemount Community Hall, 201 Gorse St.
- **Time:** AGM starts at 5:30pm
- **Refreshments provided**

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Magic Show - World of Curiosities
Valemount & McBride Sat. July 6th Starts at 10:15 at the McBride Library and 2pm at the Valemount Public Library.

JULY 8-12 McVALE CAMP SPIRIT 2024! Camp Spirit comes to the Robson Valley yet again! Camp Spirit provides equipped leaders to nurture the spirit of each child, in order to support children and families to live lives of faith, hope, and compassion in the world. Location: McBride Anglican United Church with bussing for campers from Valemount! We welcome your children to "McVale Camp Spirit 2024!" \$175 with Bursaries available. Call Kim with any questions: 250-968-4467. Website: www.campspirit.ca

Valemount Museum Kids Summer Program
Fridays 2-3pm. 1:30pm drop off. July 12th to Aug 23rd. Ages 6-12. Themed activities, crafts, games and more. Sign up at the museum or email museum@valemount.ca

Mindfulness Camp - Valemount & McBride
Join RVCS Staff for this years Mindfulness Camp for 5-10 year olds! This camp includes, snacks, mental health education on topics such as big emotions and senses, games and crafts, story telling, walks, and more! At the end of the camp, children will receive a take home goody bag with information and tools on the topics we have explored! Registration is required and spaces are limited.

McBride: July 15-18 9am-12pm at Steve Kolida Park
Valemount: July 22-25 9am-12pm at Centennial Park

Summer Book Bingo McBride - Library
Book Bingo is back in 2024 at the McBride Library, with 9 challenges for you to complete by August 24th. If you complete the challenges, you will be entered into a prize draw for a grab bag of goodies, and you will be awarded 100 house points for your Summer Reading Club house. Pick up your bingo card next time you visit the library, or download it online.

Dungeons & Dragons - McBride Library
For ages 12-18, the classic fantasy storytelling game. Join us on Tuesdays from 3.30-5.00pm at the McBride Library. Bring D&D dice if you have them!

Wacky Wednesdays - McBride Library
Wacky Wednesdays is our old "Fun Fridays" summer program for kids, but on a different day! Kids aged 5-8 are invited to join us on

Wednesdays from 1-2pm, and kids aged 9-13 are invited to come along from 3-4pm. We have three special Science Camp sessions that will be a combined group (starting at 1pm). Please contact us for more details or to register your child. Starts July 3rd! (see Wacky Wednesday Science Specials below for these special events which interrupt regular programming).

Wacky Wednesdays Science Specials at the McBride Library
We are offering three special Science workshops from 1-2pm for kids aged 5-13. Spaces are limited for these three science workshops, so please sign up soon. See details below:

Wed 17 July: Science Snippets
Be a chemist & discover the difference between baking soda & powder. Create a fantastical creature while investigating genes. Make a pompom launcher to explore physics. Discover aeronautics by building & testing a plane.
Wed 7 Aug: Magical Science
Discover a magical force that will levitate particles. Scatter light & create illusions that will thrill your audience. Experiment with colourful teas & unusual potions on this magical science adventure.

Wed 14 Aug: Discovery Zone
Join us for an action-packed adventure where you'll explore colour chromatology, investigate why trees are important to engineers & create an

Sunshine Stories July - McBride Library
10:30-11am. An early literacy program for children ages 0-5 and caregivers. Songs, rhymes, stories and fun! In partnership with Decoda Literacy. Runs each Thursday until September 5th!

Board Teens - McBride Library
Board Teens is a new program aimed at teens (ages 12-18), who are invited to come play some of the library's many board games every Thursday from 3-5pm. Have a favourite game you like to play? Bring it with you!

Summer Reading Club - Valemount Library
At the Valemount Public Library Ages 6-12. Join us at the library every Wednesday at 1:00pm for crafts & activities during the months of July & August. Start date July 3. To register, call 250-566-4367.

Summer Weekly Challenges - Valemount Library
Complete weekly challenges and enter to win prizes at the Valemount Library! Fun for the whole family to do together.
Week 1 - Play outdoor games in library yard
Week 2 - Have a picnic
Week 3 - Decorate sidewalks with chalk
Week 4 - Go on a bike ride
Week 5 - Build a sandcastle
Week 6 - Go on a nature walk
Week 7 - Look for constellations on a clear night
Week 8 - Find a new recipe and cook it together with your family

Read to Me Club - Valemount Library
Ages 0-5. Come to the Valemount library during the months July and August and receive a reading log. Keep track of your weekly reading for a chance to win prizes.

Teen Summer Reading Bingo - Valemount Library
Ages 13-18 Come to the Valemount Library during the months July and August and receive a bingo sheet. Keep track of your reading for a chance to win prizes.

Adult Summer Reading Bingo - Valemount Library
Come to the Valemount library during the months July and August and receive a bingo

Christmas in July!

Sat. July 13th

At Twin Peaks Resort

11am-4pm
60 Jack Adams Road, Valemount



Bring the whole family! 

- More than a dozen local vendors
- Candy Apples & Sweets
- Kids Activities
- Face painting
- Feed the goats and the mini horse!

Please leave your pets at home!

Summer Fun at the Valemount Library!

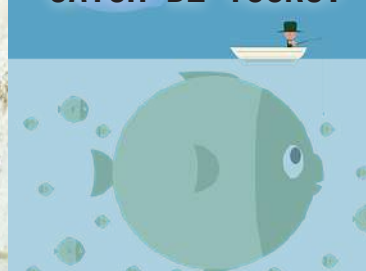


Open 7 days
4:30-9pm



Summer nights and the Caribou Grill...
The perfect combination!

WILL THE BIGGEST CATCH BE YOURS?



Valemount Marina Association's
ANNUAL FISHING DERBY
Aug 31-Sept 1st 2024

Family fun event.
Camping available at Griffin Sawmill, Yellowjacket and Horsey Creek.

Enjoy the many events being offered this...



SUMMER EVENTS 2024

sheet. Keep track of your reading for a chance to win prizes.

Summer Reading Club McBride & Valemount
Valemount Library - join us at the library every Wednesday at 1pm for crafts and activities at the Valemount Library. Ages 6-12. Register at the library. You will also receive a reading log to Keep track of your reading this summer and enter to win prizes.

McBride Library - Reading logs, stickers and bookmarks are available for kids at the library now, and this year all the family can join in, with a series of weekly challenges! Each participant will be in one of four houses: House of Unicorn, dragon, mer or griffin. Completing your reading logs and weekly challenges will earn house points, and the winning house at the end of the summer will have the medal ceremony party decorated in their honour! Call in at the library for more details.

Pancake Breakfast
Pancake breakfast at the Valemount Legion Sundays 8 to 10:30 am. By donation!.

Oldtime Music & Dancing
WED Oldtimers band and music night at the Golden Years Lodge 7pm. All welcome! Play music, listen or dance.

Family Place Drop In Program - Valemount & McBride
If you have questions, are looking for parenting resources, or just need to chat, you can join us in person 9am-noon every Monday in McBride or Friday in Valemount. Our weekly targeted programming is a great way for kids ages 0-6 (with their caregivers) to play, connect, explore, and learn!

McBride on Mondays
July 1- No drop-in; statutory holiday
July 8- Dinosaur dig
July 15- Making ice cream sundaes for National Ice Cream Month
July 22- Bouncy castle fun
July 29- Painting with marbles and salad spinners
August activities TBA
Valemount on Fridays
July 5- Obstacle course at Centennial Park
July 12- Fire hall and truck tour with Chief Lalonde
July 19- Bouncy castles at Centennial Park
July 26- Sing along at Centennial Park
August activities TBA

Sprouting Memories with our Families with RVCS - Valemount
Aug 22nd Let's harvest the plants we've been nurturing all summer long. No registration required for this activity for families and their young children. Further harvesting details to come later in the season.

Infant Massage - Valemount
Come learn about the benefits and techniques for infant massage at 99 Gorse Street, RVCS on Wednesdays starting July 10 to August 28 from 10:30-11:30am. This program is subject to date changes. Registration is required as there are limited spaces available. Ages 0-12 months with an adult only (no siblings). Brought to you by the RVCS Infant Development Program. To register, please contact the office at events@rvcsbc.org 250-566-9107 (Valemount) 250-569-2266 (McBride).

Robson Valley Music Festival - Dunster
Aug 16th-18th 2024. A family-friendly celebration of music, art and community, in Dunster BC, the heart of the Robson Valley. Huge line-up of local and international artists. Festival located on River Road. Weekend passes available for pre-purchase. Visit www.rvmf.ca for more info.

Puzzle Piece Pioneers – McBride
August 29 Come do a puzzle of the world and brush up on your world geography at 942 3rd Avenue, McBride from 1-3pm. Everyone is welcome. Drop in event. Bring your questions or technology you need support with also. 250-569-2266 / events@rvcsbc.org for more info.

Valemount Marina Fishing Derby
Aug 31-Sept 1st 2024 Valemount Marina Association Annual Fishing Derby. Camping available at Griffin Sawmill, Yellowjacket and Horsey Creek.

Senior/Adult Programs

Cornhole Game McBride
Let's have a blast with a game of Cornhole on Thursday, July 11 at 1pm-3pm at RVCS 942 3rd Avenue, McBride. Adults/seniors are welcome to join.

Coffee House Valemount
Free Drop-In/Coffee House at the Golden Years Lodge the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month 10 am -2 pm. It's open to everyone regardless of your age. If you currently have mobility issues, call the CARE-A-VAN 778-915-8550 for a ride in the accessibility bus.

Donkeys n Donuts for Seniors – McBride
This popular event will now happen on Friday, August 2nd between 1-3pm. This is a drop in event for seniors/grandparents only. Due to the nature of the programs, it is for seniors to connect with animals as a therapeutic session.

Tech Café – McBride & Valemount
Are you looking for some basic tech help with your gadgets? We're here to help! Join us in McBride on Thurs. July 4 from 11am-12pm and 1-3pm at 942 3rd Ave McBride. Adults/seniors welcome. No registration required. In Valemount Drop in at #16 - 1295 Gordon Road every Wednesday 10-noon. Any questions, contact Regena Bergen 250-566-4601.

Summer Walking Group – McBride
Join us for a walking group on Tuesdays throughout the summer. Whether you're a seasoned walker or just starting out, our group welcomes everyone. Walking is not only great for your physical health but also fantastic way to meet others. This group runs July 2, 9 and 30, and again August 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 2-3pm beginning from 942 3rd Avenue, McBride. Adults/seniors welcome. Contact 250-569-2266 / events@rvcsbc.org for more details.

Adult programs/events

Men's Shed Meeting - McBride
Thursday, July 4th at 942 3rd Avenue in McBride. Join the guys at 3pm on the first Thursday each month. Men's Shed Canada is a volunteer based organization that aims to improve the physical and mental health of men by giving them an opportunity to meet together, socialize, create projects, and find ways to help the community. No registration required.



Visit Valemount.ca

Tourism Valemount is a proud supporter of events in the Robson Valley!



  TourismValemount



2024

Email mcbridemenshed@gmail.com for more info.

FRI July 5 Dunster Film Festival @ The Dunster Community Hall. Doors open @ 6:00pm. Show starts at 6:35pm. By donations for the Dunster Station Museum.

July 13th Christmas in July at Twin Peaks Resort.

Birch Tree Teachings

July 15th & 22nd, let's get creative and learn about nature. Enjoy an afternoon of traditional teachings on the birch tree and its uses. Adults and seniors are welcome. Registration is required: 250-566-9107 / events@rvcsbc.org.

Valemount: July 15th from 12-3pm at RVCS 99 Gorse Street.

McBride: July 22nd from 12-3pm at RVCS 942 3rd Avenue.

MON JULY 15 12-3pm let's get creative and **learn about nature** at RVCS 99 Gorse Street! Come out and enjoy an afternoon of traditional teachings on the birch tree and its uses. We will also make a craft from the bark. Adults and seniors are welcome. Registration is required: 250-566-9107 / events@rvcsbc.org.

Northwest Mud Racing Association Mud Races - Valemount

August 3rd & 4th, 2024, Join us at the Canoe River Campgrounds to watch the side by side 200ft mud drags, junior racers, blown alcohol dragsters, and the mega hill n' hole trucks. Ear protection strongly advised. The front gate does have limited supply of ear protection for sale. Saturday Races start at 1pm. Sunday Races start at Noon. Spectator gates open at 11am on Saturday. Sunday they open at 10am. We race till each truck has made or attempted two passes.

Soapstone carving workshop - Dunster

August 4 10-5pm Soapstone Carving workshop with Lisa Day (\$40).

Limited space. Participants must be 13 years old and older. To register email dunsterstationmuseum@gmail.com

Glass mosaics workshop - Dunster

August 11 10-4pm Glass Mosaics with Rea Chartier (\$20). Limited space. Participants must be 13 years old and older. To register email dunsterstationmuseum@gmail.com

Robson Valley Music Festival - Dunster

Aug 16th-18th 2024. A family-friendly celebration of music, art and community, in Dunster BC, the heart of the Robson Valley. Huge line-up of local and international artists. Festival located on River Road. Weekend passes available for pre-purchase. Visit www.rvmf.ca for more info.

Valemount Marina Fishing Derby

Aug 31-Sept 1st 2024 Valemount Marina Association Annual Fishing Derby. Camping available at Griffin Sawmill, Yellowjacket and Horsey Creek.

Annual Terry Fox Trek

August 24, 2024. Trek up Mount Terry Fox in Valemount, BC in support of cancer research! Three different routes available. Register at terryfox.org/all-events/mt-terry-fox-trek/

Sept.13-15 Fall Bike Fest happening over the weekend. A celebration of all things mountain biking. Shuttles, mini contests and social events. Please watch for the Valemount Bike Facebook page for a release of more information and ticket

sales.

Pine Needle Baskets workshop - Dunster

September 22 10-4pm Pine Needle Baskets with Heather Zahn (\$20).

Limited space. Participants must be 13 years old and older. To register email dunsterstationmuseum@gmail.com

Ongoing adult events

Fibre Artists

On Wednesdays the McBride Library host the Fibre Artists' group 10am-12pm: come knit, sew or crochet with us! Beginners welcome. Online option available for anyone who would like to join us that way – please call the library for info on 250 569 2411.

Crafty Stitchers

Sundays 1-3 pm Crafty Stitchers meet downstairs at the Valemount Public Library, all welcome! Call 250-566-4367.

German Conversation Club

Join us on Wednesday mornings at the McBride Library for a fun German language conversational class with Lilly. All levels and abilities welcome, from beginners to advanced. For further details, call the library on 250 569 2411.

McBride Library Writing Group

Our Writing Group for adults meets every Friday afternoon 1:30-3pm. We tend to chat for the first 30 minutes about what we are working on, then we sit silently for an hour to write. Our writers are working on a range of things – novels, memoirs, poems, short stories, dissertations. Writing something? Come join us!

Tuesday Night Jam 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.

MONs ASL Club meet weekly at the EFree church McBride. 12:30pm - 1:30pm. Beginners welcome! Contact Lonnie Lorenz if you have questions 250.569.7657

Farmer's Markets

Valemount Farmers Market

Thursdays at the Visitor Info Centre 4-7pm.

McBride Farmers Market

Fridays 11am-2pm. at the Pavilion in Steve Kolida Park. Make it Bake it Grow it or gently used items. Table space \$10.00/ wk Children under 12 \$2.00/wk. For further information contact Jackie Edwards 250 569 7101

Dunster Farmer's Market

Saturdays at the Dunster Community Hall 11:00 to 1:00. Vendors welcome - no charge for table. Burger Concession. Bedding plants, baking, crafts, odds and ends, etc.. From JULY 6-SEPT 28.



Enjoy summer fun in the beautiful
Robson Valley Region



Shirley Bond
BC United MLA
Prince George-Valemount
Shirley.bond.mla@leg.bc.ca
F/ ShirleyBondforBC
X/ ShirleyBond

Honey Bee swarm rescue

By ANDREA ARNOLD

When McBride area residents Florian Gasser and Ashley Flavel discovered that their bee hive had split and several thousand of their honey bees were making a break for freedom, travelling slowly across the couple's property in a swarm, all the while, protecting their queen they contacted Robson Valley Beekeepers Club president Karine Dubreuil, for help.

Dubreuil was at work, so she sent her husband, Brad Arnold, to help capture the rogue bees that had anchored themselves way up a tree, out of easy reach.

"This particular swarm was about a couple thousand bees," said Dubreuil.

Arnold, Gasser and Flavel first assessed the situation. The bees were hanging off a branch high overhead. They decided that using the tractor bucket would be the best option to reach them.

Once everyone was suited up in the bee suits, covered head to toe with protection against angry bee stingers, Flavell lifted Arnold and Gasser as high as the tractor would allow.

Arnold explained that the container that he was using is a zip up mesh laundry hamper. The pair got themselves into position and in one swift motion, jarred the branch so a majority of the bees fell into it. The hamper was quickly zipped up and the two men were lowered to the ground.

Not every swarm collection goes swiftly the first time, and this was not an exception. Once everyone was safely on the ground, and still covered in angry bees, it was discovered that, in the same spot, there were already two large groupings forming back on the branch.

"That might mean the queen is still up there," said Arnold. "We will need to try to get as many as we can."

The pair headed back up with just an open box this time and made quick work of depositing the bees into the box, and then transferring them into the laundry hamper once they were back on the ground.

All three, Flavell, Arnold and Gasser are members of the Robson Valley Bee Club and are very familiar with bee behaviour. They were able to observe through the actions of the captive bees that the queen was among those captured.

"The worker bees will migrate to the queen in order to provide protection," said Arnold as he pointed out a growing pile of bees in the corner of the hamper.

Dubreuil started beekeeping four years ago. She attended a weekend introduction course that the Robson Valley Beekeepers club was hosting, and was hooked. Arnold quickly also became a member.

"Honey bees can swarm for different reasons but

usually it is because of not enough space in the hive or a failing queen that is not doing a great job," said Dubreuil."Humidity and high temperatures and poor ventilation in the hive can be a factor as well. The old queen will leave with part of the hive population, and the young queen will stay. When the new queen emerges, that's when the swarm happens if the weather is good!"

This swarm of bees were transported to Dubreuil and Arnold's home, but they do not always have to be relocated after they have swarmed. As long as there is a new hive with adequate space, they will be content. However, if the beekeeper does not have more room, the swarm takes flight.

"Swarms usually settle in a nearby tree or other objects until a new site has been found," said Dubreuil. "When they swarm it's kind of a pit stop until they decide where they want to have their new home. They can stay there for an hour or even a couple days."

She says that this year she has dealt with four swarms. Three aside from her own hive splitting. She says that this particular case and location was one of the more tricky as far as location goes. However, overall, regardless of location, she finds that bees within a swarm seem to be less aggressive than one might expect as they are more focused on protecting their queen than outside elements.

"Bees are fascinating little creatures that live in a whole different world," she said. "They know more than we think."

Dubreuil believes that helping the bee population is a very important cause.

"They are pollinators that are vital to the food we need to survive and they provide high quality food: honey, royal jelly, pollen and also beeswax, to name a few," she said. "To anyone that wants to start beekeeping I strongly recommend being part of a club and having a mentor to help them at first for sure."

A month after being relocated, these specific bees have settled into their new hive and Dubreuil reports that they are doing great.

Top: Thousands of honey bees create a protective wall around their queen.
Middle: Brad Arnold holds the laundry hamper carefully once a majority of the bees have been captured. Protective clothing prevent him from being stung.
Bottom: Arnold and Florian Gasser take a second crack at capturing the bees that eluded their first attempt./ ANDREA ARNOLD



VARDA clears new trail at Swift Creek

By RACHEL FRASER

The Valemount & Area Recreation Association trail crew has completed a new 1km section of hiking trail on its recently acquired Swift Creek property. The new section offers a loop option through the forest back to Main St. for walkers or bikers enjoying the Dyke trail along the creek. "There's a junction at the base of the hill," said Curtis Pawliuk, Executive Director of VARDa. "We put a picnic table there, to try to make it a bit more of a community space for now." Instead of continuing up the ridge to the lookout, or returning the way you came in, a hairpin left will take you back to exit behind the BC Hydro lot, about 40 metres from Main St., and another 40 or so from the #6 trailhead you came in on. According to Pawliuk, GDA Contracting donated time for brushing, and the VARDa trail crew completed the work. The trail also passes through a historic dump site, with some old cans and discarded miscellany. Though there is no significant incline or elevation gain, the trail is rough and uneven, and not stroller- or wheelchair-friendly.



The new trailhead is behind the BC Hydro lot, about 40 metres from Main St, on an access road. /RACHEL FRASER

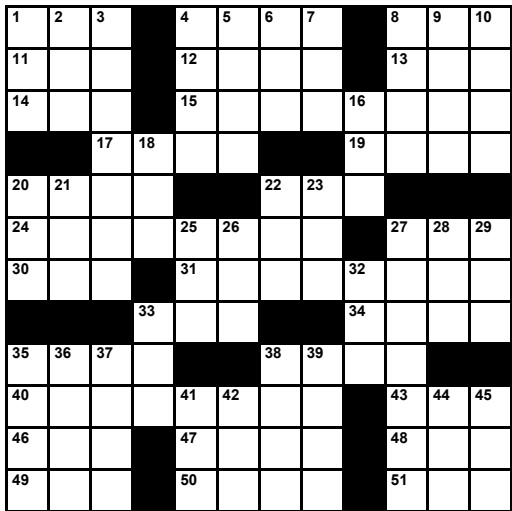
PUZZLES



CROSSWORD

Answers on P17

- Across
1. Slalom
4. At the high point of
8. Administrative branch, Down e.g.
11. Wrestler's win
12. Yearn
13. Go horizontal
14. Banners, text links, e.g.
15. African trumpeter
17. Student's book
19. Is inquisitive
20. Blue pencil
22. Took a seat
24. Made of lava
27. Not edible any more
30. Conger, for one
31. Probiotics. e.g.
33. Camp fire residue
34. Tall tale
35. Be hot and bothered
38. Eager
40. Thanksgiving month in the US
43. Neon e.g.
46. Common verb
47. Painter's estimation
48. Game animal
49. In accordance with
50. Nominates
51. Crafty
- Down
1. Health center
2. Tease
3. Impart, as values
4. Tiptop
5. List
6. Number
7. Gusto
8. "What a shame"
9. Milieu for Lemieux
10. Big Apple team
16. Prop for a magician
18. And so on...
20. Time for celebration
21. Anonymous litigant
22. Dog command
23. Appear
25. Type of braking system, abbr.
26. "No way"
27. Citrus fruits
28. Pine tree
29. Drier, in a way
32. Get a good look at
33. Wonder
35. Cold spell
36. Flew



37. Perpetually
38. Not rot
39. Historical times
41. Yoga class need
42. Undergarment
44. Nothing but
45. Light blue shade

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

Thinking, Rethinking

On a week that begins the day after a Saturn retrograde and heads straight into a Neptune retrograde, thoughts repeat. They come back to you like animals seeking food in your yard. If you leave something out for them, they'll be especially keen to come around for a nibble. Just because they're in your yard doesn't make them yours. Looping thoughts may need interruption, which can be achieved. New moon in Cancer on Friday will do what it can to help.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People you didn't understand before are now relatable, a sign that you've grown in wisdom, compassion and experience. Your life keeps showing you a pattern of continual growth, and it's something to be proud of. "If you want to awaken all of humanity, awaken all of yourself." -- Lao Tzu

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You love a challenge, especially one that has a cash reward at the end. This is because you have wants so niche that it would be impossible for anyone else to fulfill them with their idea of a prize. This week brings opportunities to make bonus cash you can put toward your goal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Like a juggler, your work will be one launch after another, always flying a thing or catching it, never holding on for long. One aspect of your act that is so impressive is just how long you can keep it going. It's the repetition and concentration over time that will cause people to pay attention -- well, that and your charming banter.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The social life unfolds in unexpected ways. You'll connect with a wide variety of people, and you never can quite tell where it's going or when your favorite interaction of the day is coming. It's your openness that attracts people and brings out a side of them that could surprise you both. It's what makes this week so interesting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's a change you really want even though you know it will take work -- yours, theirs, society's ... You will see progress this week because you focus small and do what's within your realm of ability. Tone-wise, the start of the week is intense, but it lightens up toward the weekend. The end of the week brings a playful mood and the right people to enjoy it with you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your relationship with risk will be a theme. When you gamble and win, take the prize and stop. It's the people who hang in too long, greedy for bigger wins, that wind up losing in the end. The end of the week sees you testing limits, not recklessly but with grace. You'll dance on demarcations and charm the boundary-makers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). This is a week of communication that happens often, honestly and

in different ways. Sometimes, you blast a message to everyone at once. Sometimes, it's whispered to one person. Don't overthink it. Friendly communications that are dashed off without worry will be witty and lucky. It's the intention that matters and is deeply felt.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Here comes another jigsaw puzzle. Turn the pieces -- turn them! If you try to fit them in the first way they are handed to you, you'll surely miss the fit. Also, it helps to know that most people are inclined to work inside the frame they are given, but often this frame is unintentional. Keep looking for new ways to work things out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's time to ask once more -- what do you wish your fairy godmother would do for you? Whatever it is, do it for yourself -- an excellent start. Conflicting advice will be part of the challenge this week and also part of the fun. You'll have a sense about what to choose, and this sense is something to cherish -- a gift in and of itself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your attitude is the "everything" that makes "everything else" possible. This week, you have no problem matching your energy to the task at hand. You'll have the right energy for the job, the right amount of effort necessary to make things happen and the reasonable expectations you will need to continue the momentum.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). This week, your business is the business of making things happen. While there's nothing wrong with processing, pondering or speculating about how things will happen, it's not nearly as compelling as your business. Making things happen is exciting. It's attractive, and it's what everyone will be talking about for weeks to come.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Cynicism is one of your least favorite qualities. Let the cynics make fun of the world. You'd much rather celebrate the things that are going right, and when that is not the vibe, well, making fun of yourself in the world can also be a source of connection and healing. You're open to all kinds of ways of righting the wrongs.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS: You reduce some things, like the number of commitments, and you take on and slow other things down, like the pace of certain relationships and events. Other parts of your life increase and accelerate, giving you a win you've long wanted. More highlights: You'll have a spotlight and a bevy of buyers for what you're selling. You'll enjoy a windfall because of a risk you take first with heart, then with your wallet. Libra and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 1, 5, 44 and 17.

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.

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

Answers on P17

The Toughie

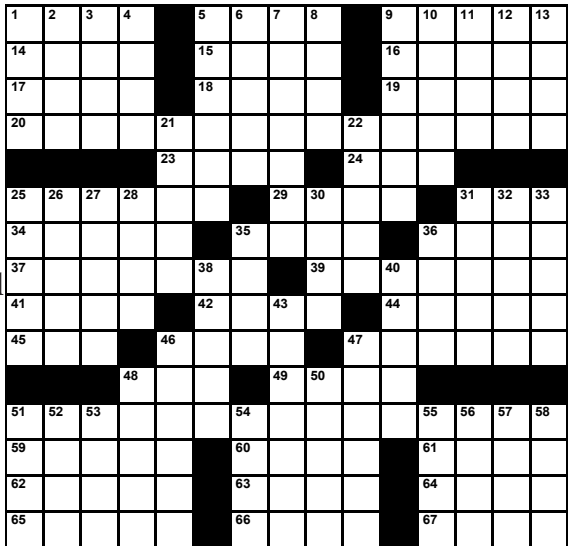
Answers on P17

- Across
1. Part of a jazz combo
5. Lux. neighbor, abbr.
9. Whirls
14. Sea flier
15. Super server
16. Part of Nasdaq, abbr.
17. EPA's concern, briefly
18. Oenophile's selection
19. 1945 Allied conference site
20. "Shape of You" line
23. Rendezvous
24. Original manufactured item
25. Pass
29. Author Andersen
31. ____ Paulo
34. Hermit, e.g.
35. Throughway
36. Org. for retirees
37. "____ vain" 1972 song
39. Beatles song
41. Olympic track legend Zatopek
42. Sweetheart
44. Popular brand of stationery
45. 18, 19, and 20 of a series
46. Bern's river
47. Kitchen gadgets
48. Beast in the Bible
49. Madison and Fifth
51. Hues Corporation song lyrics line, "Don't ____"
59. Pleasant way to walk
60. Maker of holes

61. Home of the NCAA's Bruins
62. Sealy rival
63. Female equine
64. Calendar abbreviation
65. "You've got ____!"
66. Rate ____ (be perfect)
67. Relative of a gull

Down

1. "____ there, done that"
2. Big name in oil
3. Falling flakes
4. "To thine own ____ be true"
5. Brewer's need
6. The Sorbonne, e.g.
7. South African nation
8. Got bigger
9. Agree
10. Hymn
11. Oasis
12. Part of N.B.
13. Large number
21. Shaded in tone
22. Paris newspaper, with "Le"
25. More cunning
26. Appears ominously
27. Native Alaskan
28. Programming language



30. Sounds of contentment
31. Fry quickly
32. Enthusiasm
33. Some tournaments
35. Surf sound
36. Open a bit
38. Guns N' Roses guitarist
40. Bakery need
43. Ocean vessel
46. Night light related
47. Showy bird's mate
48. Japanese dog
50. "A ____ santé!"
51. Parks that made history
52. Lacking depth and width
53. TLC part
54. Austen character
55. Ram
56. Yearn
57. Lose focus
58. Tall story



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ATM installed in McBride



McBride grocery store TGP threw the switch on their latest store addition, a Scotiabank ATM, on Friday morning. The machine provides customers with a location to make bill payments, as well as allow for withdrawals and deposits.

"We were in a town hall meeting and it was being discussed about availability and options," said store owner Bobby Hurry pictured on the left. Store employee Rick Zombeck joined him for the announcement.

TGP is open 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., 365 days a year. /ANDREA ARNOLD

www.valemount.ca

2025 Permissive Tax Exemption Applications

Section 224 of the Community Charter, gives Council the authority to exempt certain land and/or improvements from municipal property taxes. Council considers Permissive Tax Exemptions for non-profit organizations that contribute to the well-being of Village residents, make improvements to the quality of life for residents, and/or are an extension of Village Services.

A new application must be completed every year and must be accompanied by all required documentation. The deadline for applications to be received by the Tax Office is **July 31, 2024**.

To be eligible for a permissive tax exemption an organization must comply with the guidelines and be approved by Council.

Applications are now available at our office located at 735 Cranberry Lake Road or online www.valemount.ca.

PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTIONS
NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Off-Highway Vehicles

The Village of Valemount Off-Highway Vehicles Bylaw prohibits the operation of Off-Highway Vehicles on public lands within the Village boundaries. Under the Bylaw, the definition of Off-Highway Vehicle includes snowmobile, ATV, UTV, and any 2 or 3-wheeled vehicle that is not "street legal".

Any questions regarding the Village of Valemount Off-Highway Vehicles Bylaw can be directed to the Valemount Bylaw Officer at bylaw@valemount.ca. Questions regarding the BC Motor Vehicle Act can be directed to the RCMP, or the Act can be found online at https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/96318_01.

Parking & Trailers

- Parking within the village is parallel on all streets and lanes unless specifically indicated by either signs or painted lines on the pavement.
- Vehicles parked on Village streets may not remain for a consecutive duration of more than 24 hours.
- Trailers may not be parked anywhere on Village property unless attached to a tow vehicle.
- Double parking and parking on the wrong side of the street contrary to traffic flow is not permitted.
- Regulations not specifically covered by the Village of Valemount Traffic Regulation are covered by the BC Motor Vehicle Act. Valuable information can be found on the DriveSmartBC website: <https://www.drivesmartbc.ca/parking/how-far-away-do-i-park>

Leave your pets at home

If you need to run errands on a hot day, please leave your pet safely at home.

If you see an animal in distress in a vehicle, call local law enforcement (250-566-4466), Village of Valemount Animal Control (250-566-4435) or the BC SPCA Animal Helpline (1-855-622-7722).

Do NOT break the window

While most people mean well when they say they'd be willing to break a glass window to get an animal out of a roasting vehicle, it's strongly recommended you don't.

Only the RCMP and BC SPCA Special Constables have the authority to enter a vehicle lawfully to help a pet in distress.

Not only are you putting yourself at risk when you break a glass window, but you also risk harming the animal.

If the outside temperature is 21°, the temperature inside the vehicle will rise

- to 32°, after 10 minutes
- to 37°, after 20 minutes
- to 40°, after 30 minutes

Visitor Information Centre

Hours as of July 1st

Mondays to Fridays: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Thursdays: 8:30am to 7:00pm

Saturdays: 10:00am to 3:00pm

Sundays closed

Valemount Museum

Thursdays to Mondays: 10:00am to 4:30pm

Tuesdays & Wednesdays Closed



735 Cranberry Lake Road
250-566-4435 PO Box 168

Remembering Melanie Anne Chitty

1984-2024



May 30th 2024 Melanie passed away peacefully surrounded by those she loved. In a world filled with chaos she found her peace in the place she loved above all others, Hidden Haven Ranch.

Melanie leaves behind her soul mate William Chitty and a ranch full of her favourite furry four legged and feathered babies who continually brought her joy, peace and comfort.

Melanie is survived by her mother Elke Almhjell



and stepfather Ed, her father Doug Fleetham (Carol), brothers Russ and Kevin (Kristie) Fleetham and sisters Andrea Almhjell (Matt Morrison) and Allie Fleetham. Her extended family Brad and Carli Chitty, sister-in-law Mikaela Clark (Andrew) and five adoring nieces; Hazel, Rosa, Dawn, Ellie and Lyla.

Melanie was born in Prince George May 13th 1984 and grew up in Vancouver and Chilliwack British Columbia. Mel left home to pursue a career in aesthetics, which led her to Jasper where she met her husband Will. Together they worked at Jasper Park Lodge until relocating to the Robson Valley 15+ years ago.

Mel's entrepreneurial spirit was evident when she envisioned and began Unique Boutique Salon & Spa as sole owner/ operator. Unique Boutique was later nominated for several BC small business awards. Not only was Melanie a great businesswoman, but she took the time to invest and mentor young women along her career.

Mel was always ready to take on a new challenge, working hard to achieve the impossible. Friends

embraced her competitive nature, quick wit and teasing nature knowing her genuine care and commitment to others.

With a deep love of her horses, donkeys and the natural spiritual elements, she was constantly training herself, improving her skills and honing her abilities. Over the last year Melanie had the opportunity to explore more of her creative side, trying her hand at beadwork, pottery and stained glass creations to adorn her home, workspace and those of loved ones and friends.

Melanie's rich and impactful life has touched many, and she will be greatly missed.

Please join her husband, family, friends and community in a celebration honouring Melanie's life at Hidden Haven Ranch, July 6th at 3 pm.

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*Through the Lens
with Leon Lorenz*

This beautiful and rare orchid named Calypso Bulbosa (variety americana) is commonly called fairy slipper or Venus's slipper. It is from the family Orchidaceae. It's on the endangered list in different areas of North America due to habitat loss. I came across these in the Little Lost Lake area. /LEON LORENZ

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Friday Night Summer Menu: Homemade BBQ'd burgers and regular menu items. 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday Pancake Breakfast: 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Bingo - Second Thursday of every month.
Doors open at 6 p.m.

Coming Events:

Bingo July 11th

General Meetings:

Third Tuesday of each month @ 7 p.m.

Hall Rentals available for events, meetings, seminars.
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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 266, 970 Main Street, Valemount

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