

Kettle River Echo

Trails to the Boundary Society 3990 Hwy 3, Rock Creek, B.C., VOH 1Y0

Distributed to: Bridesville, Rock Creek, Midway, Greenwood, Westbridge, and Beaverdell

News Items & Ads: echoeditor@trailstotheboundary.com
Contributions for the next newsletter are asked to be submitted no later than the 15th of the month.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

Trails to the Boundary is happy to announce the launch of our new website: https://www.westboundary.com/



This website has long been in the planning. It replaces our old website, which dated back to 2017. Thanks to a provincial REDIP (Rural Economic Diversification) grant we were able to develop the new website in 2023. You'll notice that the look & feel of the new website is much different. Features of the new website:

- More user choice over Notifications; you can choose which communities you want to see and which categories
- More user choice over Calendar; you can choose events by community and by category
- More user choice over Directory listings
- Businesses can now self-enrol in the Directory; you can add photos, social media, and website links, opening hours; you can change it whenever you need to, through a secure ID and password linked to your listing
- Expanded Community Services & Visitor Information sections
- New feature: promotion of facilities in all communities that are available to rent
- · New feature: community project descriptions
- Expanded Contact section that directs you to 7 different people, depending on your inquiry
- Past issues of the Kettle River Echo are online; eventually we'll scan in the older paper issues going back to the start of publication in 1975
- · Promotion of Visitor Centres across the Boundary
- Addition of a History section, including the promotion of locally written biographies and histories

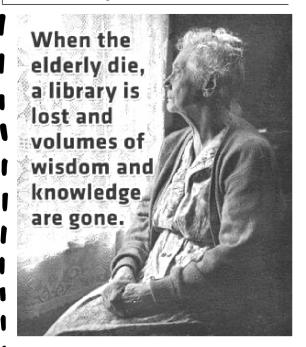
Yet to come: Invest Here, Industries, Community Profiles, Business Supports, Non-Profit Supports, Regional Projects

Thanks to the following:

- Our Summer Youth who worked on our new West Boundary logo
- Our Website Steering Committee who sat through many meetings advising us along the way
- Photo credits: Ciel and Sherri
- Our Development Team: Ryan, Sherri, Vicki, Emmalee
- Special thanks to Ryan at Csek Creative for your patience, your guidance, your toolbox, and your sense of humour!

Kindness is like snow.
It beautifies
everything it covers.





TRAILS TO THE BOUNDARY WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED LOCAL HISTORICAL PICTURES TO OUR RIVERSIDE CHRISTMAS TREE.

THE PHOTOS HAVE BEEN ENTERED INTO A BOOK THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BOTH RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS TO ENJOY WHILE AT THE CENTRE.

WE WELCOME ANY ADDITIONS TO THE ARCHIVE. SIMPLY BRING YOUR PHOTOS IN SO THEY CAN BE SCANNED AND ADDED TO THE BOOK.

REMEMBER, OF COURSE, THAT WE MAKE HISTORY EVERY DAY.

PICTURES DO NOT HAVE TO BE OLD, MERELY SIGNIFICANT.



Richard Cannings, MP South Okanagan-West Kootenay

From the Hill

One of the major wins for Canadians the federal NDP produced in 2023 was Bill C-58, legislation that will prohibit the use of replacement workers during a lock-out or strike in federally regulated industries such as transportation, banking and telecommunications.

Workers around the world have only one power to balance the relationship with their employers. And that is their work, the labour they provide to make the products or provide the services that give their employers their profits. The withdrawal of that labour, or even the threat of that withdrawal, is the only thing that levels the playing field in labour negotiations.

So when negotiations break down and workers feel that a strike is the only option left for them to obtain a fair collective agreement, and then the employer brings in replacement workers to break that strike, the playing field is tilted steeply in favour of the employer. They have no real reason to bargain in good faith with the workers, or bargain at all.

The NDP has put forward this legislation eight times in the last 15 years, and it has been defeated by Liberals and Conservatives alike, so we are very happy and proud that we have forced this government to table this legislation. Not only does the use of replacement workers take away any power that workers have to undertake fair negotiations, it often tears communities apart. Especially small communities that have few opportunities for good work. If workers go on strike in that situation and the company hires scabs, those replacement workers are taking away jobs from their neighbours, their relatives. This increases tensions within the community, and those tensions sometimes escalate into violence.

One of the worst such event was the strike at the Giant Mine in Yellowknife in 1992. That gold mine had been the mainstay of the Yellowknife economy for many years, but a new owner demanded cuts from the union, then locked the workers out. The company then hired replacement workers to keep the mine going, to keep the profits rolling in. Hostilities quickly rose and culminated in a bombing within the mine that killed nine miners--one of the worst mass murders in Canadian history.

This is why we need anti-scab legislation. And this is why British Columbia and Quebec brought in anti-scab legislation for provincially regulated labour sectors decades ago.

Critics say that this legislation may allow strikes and lockouts to drag on, but in fact it usually has the opposite effect. What impetus does the employer have to end a strike if they can use workers to keep things going, keep the profits coming? Many of the longest labour disputes in Canadian history are those involving scabs—because the employer has no reason to bargain with the striking workers.

Fair collective bargaining has not only brought Canadian workers good wages that they can raise their families on. It has benefited society in general in many ways that we often take for granted.

A lot of those benefits began when the workers in the Rossland mines formed the first Canadian local of the Western Federation of Miners in 1895. That local went on to advance many of the first labour laws in British Columbia and Canada, laws that brought in the five-day work week, the 8-hour work day and laws enforcing safe workplaces—the first workers compensation act.

So when you go home for the weekend, when everyone in the country goes home at 5 o'clock after an 8-hour work day, and when every worker in Canada knows they have the right to a safe work place, they can thank the members of the Rossland local of the Western Federation of Miners.

That's the benefit of having a healthy and fair system of labour relations. At the centre of that system is the right of workers to withdraw their work—and replacement workers destroy that system.

So, remember there are two sides to every labour dispute, that intransigent employers are just as often the cause of those disputes as intransigent workers are. And the best negotiations, the fairest negotiations, and often the shortest negotiations, are those where both sides have an equal balance of power. And that's what Bill C-58 brings to the federal labour scene.





A NEW 4-H YEAR BEGINS

The Boundary "C" 4-H Club is excited for the 2024 season! The first meeting of the year was held on January 11th at the Rock Creek Fairgrounds and saw many returning members, along with some new faces. Elections for the 2024 Club Executive positions were held and members discussed plans for the upcoming year. The club will have 4 divisions this year: Beef, Sheep, Horse, and Dog. The registration deadline for members is January 31st so anyone interested in joining has until then. Contact "A" Leader Becky Lindquist @ (250) 528-0164.



Main River Tomen's Institute 86th Annual Valentines Quilt & Fibre Arts Show plus Lunch

Wednesday, February 14th from 11 am to 2 pm at the Westbridge Hall, 2935 Hwy 33 in Westbridge \$15 per person

Enjoy the beautiful work of local crafters and artisans, have a wonderful lunch served by the ladies of the Main River WI.

There will be door prizes and a silent auction plus plants and books for sale!

For more info, contact Lynne at 250-446-2616

Way', Tansi Pow Wow Program 2024 RECLAIMING OUR RITES TO CEREMONIAL DANCE

Red Earth Medicine wishes to express gratitude to the community for participating and celebrating the historic Honouring Our Youth Pow Wow, held at Boundary Secondary School, last December. Many attendees travelled through a major snow storm and poor driving conditions to celebrate this first in several decades event.

Flowing from this is the 2024 Pow Wow program Reclaiming Our Rites to Ceremonial Dance. Reclaiming Our Rites offers a journey of growth, community connections and healing.

Focused on supporting indigenous youth and the leadership within them, the youth's journey is strengthened by family and the community upholding them. All community and ages are welcome to participate in the entire program, parts of the program, or a single aspect of the program. Space and funding are preferential to indigenous youth and families.



- Plans are in the works for 8 sessions for Regalia making and 3 individual weekends for professional Pow Wow dance training, Hide tanning, and attending a neighbouring community's Pow-Wow.
 - The Reclaiming Our Rites program will close with a full day celebration hosting our own local Pow Wow

Registration/program overview McArthur Centre 1355 Veterans Lane Greenwood, Jan 20, 11 am to 1 pm.

*Ongoing registration accepted for all or individual sessions / workshops. Please email to register at redearthmedicine1@gmail.com

Funded by Red Earth Medicine and the Department of Canadian Heritage / Indigenous Sport Unit / Sport Canada

2023 West Boundary Christmas Bird Count

by Norma Howes

Our 39th annual West Boundary Christmas Bird count had 23 participants who sighted 57 species and 2871 Individual birds. In 2022 there were 58 species and 1851 individuals, so the count is up 1021 individuals. The count area includes all the West Boundary starting at Eholt to Anarchist Mtn, up Mt Baldy, and north to Carmi.

Our count starts Christmas day and goes until New Years Eve. Participants may observe and record every day or whenever convenient. However, only the highest count of any species on any day is recorded. Our count is less formal, less rule-bound and hence more fun but a great way to see how well the birds are doing in the area.

Many thanks to all the participants and a Special Thanks to Fred Marshall for all the years of recording the count. My first year recording the birds has been very exciting to see the numbers come in and hear what was up in the different areas of the Boundary and how the weather effects some birds. Welcome to our 3 new counters.

With very mild weather and sometimes foggy weather, some participants said it was so quiet for a couple of days of fog, and their count was down but generally some flocks were larger.

The highest count was Lorri Harpur's sighting of a flock of 500 Snow Buntings with 10 more sighted in Beaverdell area. Next was California Quail at 290 with average flock about 37. Then, Pine Siskin at 220 with Lorri Harpur reporting a big flock of 200. Then the Black-capped Chickadee with 203, some seen by most participants The Common Raven coming next at 182 with a couple of large flocks plus lots of individual sightings. Then 166 Mountain Chickadees. Lots of Redbreasted Nuthatches seen as well. A large flock of (150) Bohemian Waxwings were sighted by Lorri Harpur.

So happy to have some owls on the list this year. Great Horned Owls, a Pygmy and Great Grey recorded. The ducks were in short supply and no Canada geese were sighted that week. Twenty-six bald eagles and quite a few Hawks and Grouse. Only 3 Robins and one Towhee were recorded. See the complete list in the next column.

If anyone has a bird-related sighting, or wants to join the count, contact me, Norma Howes, by text 250-528-0406 or email knohow7@outlook.com.

We are planning our third annual Bird Day at Riverside Centre sometime in March—a day to celebrate the birds in our area. More information to follow.

West Boundary Christmas Bird Count 2023 By Norma Howes							
# Participants 23		# Species 57	# Individual 2,871				
Mallard	14	Belted Kingfisher		European Starling	25		
Common Goldeneye	15	Black-Backed Woodpecker		American Robin	3		
Common Merganser	10	Downy Woodpecker		Bohemian Waxwing	150		
California Quail	290	Hairy Woodpecker		Cedar Waxwing	47		
Gray Partridge	14	Pileated Woodpecker		House Sparrow	15		
Ruffed Grouse	17	Northern Flicker		Evening Grosbeak	30		
Blue (Sooty) Grouse	2	Northern Shrike		Pine Grosbeak	6		
Wild Turkey	55	Canada Jay (Gray)		House Finch	150		
Rock Dove (Pigeon)	22	Steller's Jay		Cassin's Finch	6		
Eurasian Collared Dove	67	Black-Billed Magpie		Pine Siskin	220		
Mourning Dove	3	Clark's Nutcracker		American Goldfinch	30		
Great Blue Heron	1	American Crow	86	Snow Bunting	510		
Golden Eagle	2	Common Raven	182	Dark Eyed Junco	70		
Coopers Hawk	1	Black capped Chickadee	203	White Crowned Sparrow	1		
Northern Goshawk	1	Mountain Chickadee	166	Song Sparrow	9		
Bald Eagle	26	Chestnut Backed Chickadee	10	Spotted Towhee	1		
Red-tailed Hawk	6	Red-breasted Nuthatch	141				
Rough-legged Hawk	2	White-breasted Nuthatch	26				
Great Horned Owl	3	Pygmy Nuthatch	8				
Northern Pygmy Owl	1	American Dipper	3				
Great Grey Owl	1						



Ghost Town Boundary Falls

By: Vic Boychuk

A few miles south of Greenwood near Boundary Creek and beside the Dewdney Trail was Boundary Falls, which at one time had the usual collection of stores, a post office, school, etc. It was a natural headquarters for prospectors. The rolling hills had food for their horses. Boundary Falls was also an entry point to many mining camps in the area. The first business to open in Boundary Falls was an assay office by W.W. Gibbs (April 1894). A couple of weeks later Thomas Hardy opened the Boundary Hotel which offered "the best liquor and cigars". Later Conkle and Donald built a livery stable. At this time no one had built a general store in all of the Boundary except for two small stores in Rock Creek operated by the Chinese. A couple months later George Rendell opened the first general store in Boundary Falls.

Rendell had a difficult time getting his first order via Penticton as the Okanagan River changed course as a result a ferry had to be built which took a month, due to flooding the shipment had to go through Osoyoos, across the border, through the Colville Indian Reserve then back to Rock Creek and finally to Boundary Falls.

In the fall of 1894 James and Robert Kerr opened a butcher shop. A dance hall was built just in time for a Christmas Eve dance. Early 1895 saw a lot more businesses move into Boundary Falls. Henderson and Martin opened a stage line which ran to Marcus, Washington and back twice a week. They also provided saddle horses to the miners. Then came a Post Office and more residences were built.

The future of Boundary Falls didn't look so great because Greenwood and Anaconda were attracting businesses at a rapid rate. In 1896 some businesses moved to Greenwood, Midway or Anaconda. By 1897 there was only one hotel, a general store and a few houses left. With the building of the Smelter, Boundary Falls was back on the map. In 1903 Boundary Falls had CPR passenger service, a school was built with 10 students and two more Hotels were built.

The Boundary Falls Dam

In 1898 Greenwood Power and Light Co. built a hydroelectric plant near Boundary Falls. Construction started on the dam in 1898 and was completed in 1902. This was the first dam built in the Boundary area. About 300 ft. above the falls the dam was built of concrete and wood 40 feet wide, 60 feet high. The water was carried from the dam in a wooden pipe along the side of the cliff beside the falls with a tressel (with a walkway) 1450 feet downstream to the power building. The drop from the dam to the powerhouse was 130 feet. The powerhouse housed a 200 hp. (150 KW.) 4,400-volt three phase turbine. The building was constructed of cement blocks and housed the office, the generator, turbine, and a cot for use by the night shift. The foundations of the dam, some of the walkway clinging to the side of the cliff, and part of the foundation of the power plant are all that remain of this pioneer dam.

Until 1921, when it was shut down due to low water levels, it supplied electricity to the town of Boundary Falls, City of Greenwood, and a few mines in the area. West Kootenay Power and Light then began to supply power to the City of Greenwood and surrounding area







The Sunset Smelter

Late 1900 saw 40 workers employed to construct the "Standard Pyrite Smelter." (also called Boundary Smelter and The Sunset Smelter). In 1901 The Boundary Falls Smelter was built and was blown in on June of 1902. In its heyday the smelter employed over 200 people.

The high operating costs, coke shortages, shortage of ore, financial difficulties, and low copper prices eventually took their toll and by 1907 the smelter was permanently closed. The facility and the town of Boundary Falls passed into oblivion.

Today the old town site of Boundary Falls is privately owned. Beside the Boundary Creek lies a mountain of slag and a few pieces of scrap iron are the only reminder of the smelter. The falls themselves are a beautiful site, but very few people know they exist.

Rodger Gee and Dan Self

cutting the

ribbons to the medical centre

addition.

ROCK CREEK MEDICAL CENTRE

Historical Background:

- The Rock Creek Medical Centre was opened in 1977.
- At that time, there was one doctor working two half-days per week with one Medical Office Assistant

Today, we have:

- 2 Nurse Practitioners at 0.75 FTE each
- One medical doctor, an internist, on average two days per week
- One social work nurse, part-time
- One nurse coming in 1 day per week
- One chiropractor coming in one day per week.
- Two Medical Office Assistants

Current Situation:

- Reception area space was inadequate as it was designed only for one person and no IT equipment.
- The examination room next to the reception area was not conducive for multi-purpose functions and activities.

Solution:

- Expand the reception area and examination room to the north utilizing the existing space that was there because of the existing deck.
- Provide additional and replacement cabinets and countertop space.

Funding (We want to thank and recognize our Corporate donors as well as individual donors):

- The Kettle River Lions Club \$10,000
- The Osoyoos Credit Union \$5,000 through its Community Giving Program. This is now the third time the Osoyoos Credit Union has invested in the Rock Creek Medical Centre.
- Regional District Kootenay Boundary
- Two significant private donations as well as other smaller private donations

Thanks:

- · The volunteer directors.
- Volunteer labours particularly Roger Gee, and Dan and Hazel Self. Several other Lions members were also able to assist in this construction project.

Future Plans and Aspirations:

- Acquire additional medical equipment to assist our Nurse Practitioners
- Provide other health services.



Fine Yarns & Art Supplies * Books * Natural Health * Locally Made Goods * Gifts

276 South Copper in Greenwood (236) 867-6760









SUDOKU

Solution on page 10

Solution on page 10								
		2		6	8	7		
3	8	9			2	4		
			3					5
	7			4			1	
	4	5	6		1			3
			6 2		5	9		
		4						
	1	8			4			
7	9							



Welcome to 2024 and happy new year to all!

As we deal with the recent bitter cold snap, I especially want to thank the ranchers who have worked so hard to



Regional District of **Kootenay Boundary**

tend to animals and deal with severe conditions in order to feed us all. Please know that you are appreciated as always. As we look ahead into spring and summer, I would encourage everyone to do their best with water conservation as snow pack is currently low and we can each do our part to enjoy water without wasting it.

We also need to be mindful of the upcoming wildfire season. Boundary Community Partners Association will be looking into funding training courses to educate locals how to fight wildfires. BCPA will be consulting with BC Wildfire Service and local firefighters and societies to investigate the best options for training. If you're interested in learning how to protect yourself and the forest, please email your contact information to: boundarycpa@gmail.com

CORNER

Sharen Gibbs, Director, RDKB/E **West Boundary** 250.689.0177 areaedirector@rdkb.com

"Winter is a season of recovery and preparation."

RDKB BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

GRANTS-IN-AID DISTRIBUTED FOR AREA E

(January 10, 2024 Board Meeting)

- Big White Tourism Shuttle Bus: \$20,000
- Big White Mountain Community Development Association - general liability insurance: \$4,468
- Boundary Central Secondary School Quebec trip: \$3,000
- Rock Creek Community Medical Society Children Family Connections rent: \$780
- Rock Creek Community Medical Society cabinets and countertops: \$1,500
- Okanagan Nation Alliance Fish in Schools: \$1,000

Equipment Financing for Beaverdell Fire Service

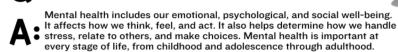
The RDKB Board of Directors has authorized up to \$109,000 to be borrowed, under Section 403 of the Local Government Act, from the Municipal Finance Authority, for the purpose of purchasing a new fire tender for the Beaverdell Fire service. The loan will be repaid within five years.

This is a portion of the RDKB Board Highlights. To subscribe directly to the full RDKB Highlights:

https://jointheconversation.rdkb.com/board-<u>highlights</u>

NEON COUNSELLING

What is Mental Health?





Mental health is more than the absence of a mental health condition or illness: it is a positive sense of well being, or the capacity to enjoy life and deal with the challenges we face. Mental health can change daily based on a number of concerns such as workplace stress, financial stress, school, parenting, grief, trauma and physical health.

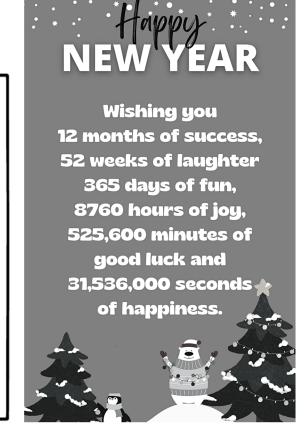
Just because you have the above, does not mean you have a mental illness. Mental health does not mean mental illness. It means health of your mental state. Having a mental illness is something that needs to be diagnosed and medically treated. Mental health is something that affects your daily well-being, doesn't get diagnosed or treated with medication.

SERVING BC VIA VIRTUAL SERVING IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL IN THE BOUNDARY COUNTRY

(F)(O) NEON Counselling



(C) 250-320-4536 R www.neoncounselling.com



MACP, RCC, RPC Registered Clinical Counsellor

HEALTH EQUIPMENT DONATIONS

Recycle Your Unwanted Medical Equipment

Do you have used medical equipment that is in good working condition that would help someone in our communities?

We need the following types of items:

- · Bath seats and benches
- Wheelchairs
- · Walkers, crutches, canes
- · Raised toilet seats and commodes
- and other mobility aids in working condition:

How to donate to Rock Creek Medical Clinic:

• 100 Rock Creek Cutoff Rd.

We are collecting these items that will be loaned out to the people in our communities so they don't have to travel so far in bad weather conditions.

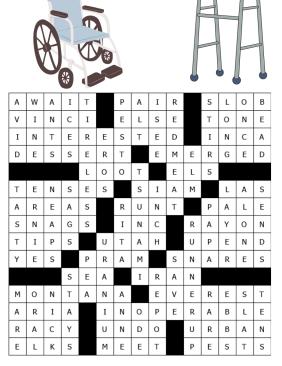
By donating your gently used medical equipment, you are helping people in our communities. Contact:

- Adrianne @ 604-999-4378 adiejansen7@gmail.com
- Bonnie @ 604-999-4378

Due to health reasons, we cannot accept the following items:

- Linens
- · Urinary and incontinence supplies
- Drugs
- Furniture

We, here at the clinic, appreciate your donations.



SENIORS BEING SEEN

<u>Upcoming Sessions...</u>

Jan. 25th
"Living in Unprecedented Times"

Feb. 1st "How to Make Our Own Greeting Cards from Stuff We've Got Handy"

Shawn Bailey

Come and join us for lively presentations, socializing and great locally-catered refreshments. Our free-of-charge programmes with refreshments are Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. at Riverside Centre, 3990 Hwy 3, Rock Creek, BC.

For additional information, please contact Programme Coordinator – Michele (Shelly) Garrison at shellygarrison1@gmail.com 250–442–2415 or check our monthly schedule online at West Boundary Connect.

Recently noted by one of Riverside Centre's volunteers . . . We have been thanked for our exceptional hospitality, especially in our recent and dangerously frigid weather. A world-wide traveller was interrupted in his journey to eastern points due to extreme lows, ice and record snowfalls. Asking if he could ride out the worst of it, in his camper, for a couple of days in our ample parking lot, the Centre did not hesitate to welcome him, invite him to participate in our Seniors Being Seen Program, offer him tea/refreshments and friendly inclusion. Our stranded visitor provided us diverse and candid ideas on world travel, and the importance of cultural differences in addressing common issues in these turbulent times. We wish him safe travels and appreciate his contributions.

A second family group, drive through frequently on their way to Nelson; the children ages 7 to 12 (if we remember correctly) have become accustomed to coming in out of the weather, with Mom, while their electric car recharges. They feel so at home, the youngest is comfortable picking out one of our visitor puzzles, spreading it out on a visitor tables to solve with his sister and Mom while they wait for a recharge. Another thoughtful volunteer found some "Candy Cane" holiday tea to brew for them, further warming their wait.



256 S. Copper PO BOX 76 Greenwood BC V0H 1J0 StellerVista Credit Union formerly Heritage Credit Union



Serving the West Boundary Since 2004



JUST CHAT by Liz Bryan: The Wonder of Snow



A few days ago, I took a short hike with my dog Lark up into the hills behind my place. It snowed in the night, though the temperature was only just below zero, and there were two to three inches of fresh wet, heavy snow to trudge through. Lark loved it, chasing the tracks of deer and coyote. It was so beautiful, even the barbed wire was feathery, and all the fence posts were topped with little boxing gloves. Animal tracks were easy to see, they were everywhere. The old car that washed down the gulley during a fierce cloudburst many years ago was splendidly embellished. Snow is a miraculous transformer.

Snow seldom fell in the south of England in my day, so I well remember the first magic snowfall of my life in the dingy days of post-war London. Everything was suddenly so clean! The untracked streets were shining white, and every tiny garden was suddenly glorious. The snow was soft, and snowballs were easy to make. Not enough snow, though, for a snowman. The temperature was mild and by noon we were back to grey. Later, in the midland town of Kenilworth, we had a Christmas where snow, real crisp snow, smothered the sloping castle fields and I had my first toboggan ride and my first taste of snow when I landed upside down.

The Christmas cards of my childhood always seemed to show evergreens and holly drooping with snow, with sleighs and snowmen, and children skating on frozen ponds. They did not portray the bleak grey Christmases of our world in foggy London. How did Santa and his reindeer ever find us in the smog??? It was a mystery that young sceptics like muself soon resolved.

There is in my childhood memory bank another story of snow. In our London street of identical little houses, each garden had a flowering cherry tree beside its gate. And when the blossoms were out the whole street was lit up in glorious pink. In April one year we woke up to a heavy spring snowfall, and all the cherry pinks were suddenly white. It was a rare and magic moment, soon gone.

A.E. Houseman:

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now Is hung with white along the bough And stands about the woodland ride Wearing white for Eastertide.

A poem come to life. I knew by heart the lines by

I still associate the poem with that memory, even though Houseman was talking about the wild cherry, which has snow-white blooms.

Snow was a rare Christmas treat even in

Vancouver where I spent the first years of my life in Canada, though the North Shore Mountains across the bay were always snowy and available for weekend frolics. But I do remember one city Christmas with snow on the roads and rooftops, the traffic snarled, and people skiing along the sidewalks of Point Grey. We hiked through the snowy woods of UBC's Endowment Lands and when we came home, my kids wanted to build a snowman. Husband Jack had other ideas. With all the snow in the back yard, we made a huge snow elephant, sturdy enough for all of us to sit on.

Past winters come to mind every time I drive a forest road where the snow lies deep and crisp and even, (remember Good King Wenceslas?), and the trees are loaded. I say to myself: "Why, it's just like a Christmas card!"

Now a week or so later, there is a good five or six inches of snow to celebrate, and when the sun came out, briefly, the sky was the bluest blue. And the chickadees are swarming the bird feeders. Chopping wood, shoveling snow and skiing along the railway grade: All's right with my world! But it is a bit chilly.....



the names of those who submitted that idea will go into a barrel and the winner's name will be drawn, at random, from the barrel.

SNOW PACK REPORT

As we are well aware, the Boundary region has less snow than usual for this time of year. According to BC Snow Report, the Boundary snowpack is only 58% of what is a normal snow pack. However, the Province determined this using data from only two sites: Grano Creek (automated) and Monashee Pass (manual), as our other two manual snow stations (Carmi and Big White) are often not measured this early in the season. For information on these snow stations go to the Snow Interactive Map – their snow levels are shown below.

When our snowpack melts in the spring, it gives us the water we need for to recharge our groundwater (aquifers) and rivers. This is needed as nature prepares for the normally drier summer conditions. Now is a great time to consider how best you can prepare to save more water this year, perhaps just by using it more wisely. You might consider using rain barrels to support garden watering, plan for deep watering your trees during the spring allowing for reduced watering in the summer, ensuring there are no leaks in your yard or dripping taps in your house.

We have several more months to accumulate snow, so keep up the snow dances and let's hope this recent cold snap is joined by more of that fluffy white stuff.

For more information:

- https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-landwater/water/river-forecast/2024_jan1.pdf
- https://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/enso/current/
- https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.htm? id=c15768bf73494f5da04blaac6793bd2e



Kristina Anderson I Watershed Planner (shelher) watershedplanner@rdkb.com I T: 250.442.4111

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

2140 Central Ave., P.O. Box 1965 Grand Forks, BC, V0H1H0 Toll-free: 1.800.355.7352 l rdkb.com

Mobile Service

maureen200850@hotmail.com

250-

POURBOYS MECHANICAL

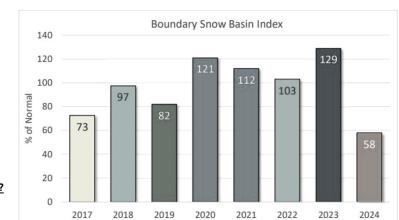
- TOWING
- GOV'T INSPECTION FACILITY
- · AUTO REPAIRS
- COMMERCIAL TRUCK REPAIRS
- TIDES



Darrin Metcalf

250-449-2764

CELL: 250-449-1700



Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BoundaryIntegratedWatershed Website: https://kettleriver.ca/2024/01/jan1-2024/

PHOENIX FIRE

Fire Extinguisher Specialists
Sales & Service



Lyle Stranack

250-446-2256



This is winter time.
Remember to be safe and have a fire extinguisher close to your wood-burning fireplace and stove.



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

surgery 62. Risqué

63. Unfasten

64. Of the city

65. BPOE members

66. Converge

67. Annoying ones

comprehension (2 wds.) 34. Transmits 9. Mutton, e.g. (2 wds.)

10. Mixes 11. Extensive

12. Fairy tale starter

13. Rosary segment

18. God of love

36. Pinup Hayworth

37. Dad

40. Second place finisher (hyph.)

42. Radioactive element

56. Wanes

57. Mattress support

58. Perfect

gymnastics scores

61. Poem of praise

Solution on page 8











Liz White Commercial Support Officer **OCU Rock Creek**

Business and Personal Account Services

Buy a Home · Buy a Car · Apply for Credit · Invest Money · Save for Retirement Set up Online Banking · Use ATM

Riverside Centre, 3990 Hwy 3, Rock Creek BC · 250-495-6522 · ocubc.com

Schedule an appointment with Liz White at lwhite@ocubc.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MONDAYS

• Cribbage @ Parkview Manor (6:30 pm)

TUESDAYS

- Mix Musical Jam @ Midway Seniors' Center (2 pm 3 pm)
- Blue Grass Jam @ Midway Seniors' Center (3 pm 4 pm)
- Beginner Line Dance Classes @ Westbridge Hall (7 pm 8:30 pm)

WEDNESDAYS

Potluck @ Midway Seniors' Center (last Wednesday of the month)
 5 pm - 7 pm

THURSDAYS

- **Kettle River Horse Club** meetings @ 7 pm @ the Riverside Centre in RC (second Thursday of each month)
- Kettle River Art Club in Greenwood meets on the 1st Thursday
 of each month for a potluck at 12 pm, and meeting at 1 pm.
 Guests welcome! The Art Club is located in the McArthur Centre,
 side entrance, at 1375 Veterans Lane. www.KRAC.ca (250)
 449-5026
- Fibre Arts @ Midway Seniors' Centre 9:30 am 11:30 am

FRIDAYS

- Let the Games Begin @ Midway Seniors' Center (2 pm 4 pm)
- West Boundary Family Connections @ Westbridge Hall (9:30 am 11:00 am) more information on page 9
- Free Community Lunch (12 pm 1 pm) @ Beaverdell Community Hall
- Community Art Program (1 pm 5 pm) @ Beaverdell Community Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25 (1:30 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

• Seniors Being Seen: "Living in Unprecedented Times"

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1 (1:30 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

• **Seniors Being Seen:** "How to Make Our Own Greeting Cards from Stuff We've Got Handy" with Shawn Bailey

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 (11 AM - 2 PM) @ WESTBRIDGE HALL

 Main River Women's Institute Annual Valentine's Quilt & Fibre Arts Show & Lunch

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

 Deadline to submit ideas for the theme for the Rock Creek Fall Fair

"IN THE DELL ART ZONE" Beaverdell Community Art Program Fridays 1 pm to 5 pm

Bring your art projects- if you don't have one to work on, some will be available.

Everyone is welcome, adults of all ages. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent.

Sessions go to the end of March.

FACEBOOK: "In The Dell Art Zone" Beaverdell BC phone/text (250) 492-1134

KETTLE RIVER LIONS CLUB



WE SERVE

PROUDLY SERVING THE BOUNDARY COUNTRY

Greenwood, Midway, Rock Creek, Bridesville & Westbridge

"SINCE 1984"

Contact Us:

KETTLE RIVER LIONS CLUB
P.O. BOX 264
ROCK CREEK, B.C.
VOH 1Y0
EMAIL kettleriverlions@gmail.com



Beaverdell, Westbridge, Rock Creek, Bridesville, Midway & Greenwood

CALL FOR YOUR FREE QUOTE TODAY!

250.528.0256 jbnpaints@gmail.com

|INTERIOR|EXTERIOR| COMMERCIAL|RESIDENTIAL|