

# Kettle River Echo

Trails to the Boundary Society  
3990 Hwy 3, Rock Creek, B.C., V0H 1Y0

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

News Items & Ads: [echoeditor@trailstotheboundary.com](mailto:echoeditor@trailstotheboundary.com)

Contributions for the next newsletter are asked to be submitted no later than the 15th of the month.



*"Be curious, be adventurous  
and make the most of  
every opportunity."  
– Unknown*

Find Me



## FOOD HUB BREAKING GROUND

Expect to see activity at the Boundary Food Hub property soon! We have contracted Stoic Commercial Construction Corporation to construct our commercial food processing facility in Rock Creek. The steel frame building will be completed to lock up stage this Fall, with interior construction slated for the Spring

## TIRES HIT THE ROAD



With a small grant from the TCT (Trans Canada Trail Society), Trails to the Boundary Society has undertaken the removal of tires from the rail trail right away in Midway, BC.

Barry Rathburn (trail manager) has spearheaded the project for us. He has submitted a brief history of how the tires have accumulated over the years:

*"How the tire dump got its start is anyone's guess. But here is what we know so far. In pulling the tire pile apart in July, we found a number of clues as to its origin. First, we found a large amount of tire treads and pieces of tires that had blown out on the highway. Typically, these pieces are picked up by a highway's contractor to keep the road clear and safe. Next, we found a tire with the date of 1965. We found tires of all types, ranging from garden tractor, motorcycle, passenger cars, to heavy duty loaders. We even found two truck tires with the letters MCON on them.*

*A couple calls to Tire Stewardship BC and Liberty Tire revealed that the vast majority of these tires could be recycled at no cost, provided that they were stacked, sorted and clean. An excavator, two labourers and four hours later, we had excess of 700 tires.*

*Then on August 6 the first truck and 53-foot trailer arrived to start hauling those tires. Some six hours later the truck left, fully loaded, leaving approximately 420 more tires for the next trip. All but 20 of those tires will be hauled away for free sometime this summer. However, the last 20 tires are heavy duty commercial and together weigh approximately 3-4 tonnes which at \$650 per tonne will cost close to \$3000 to ship out.*



*In closing, I just want to shout out a huge Thank you to Darrin Metcalf of Pourboys, Joel of TSBC, and Greg and Jackson of Liberty Tire. None of this could have been done without your help."*



Trails to the Boundary is hoping to secure provincial funding for the \$3000 to have the remainder of the tires hauled away, have the site completely cleaned up, levelled and planted to grass seed by fall.

Submitted by Pat Henley ~ Trails to the Boundary Society president

1-800-421-2437

ANKORS

1-800-421-AIDS

HIV/AIDS Network, Outreach & Support Society  
www.ankors.bc.ca information@ankors.bc.ca101 Baker Street, Nelson, BC V1L 4H1  
Ph: (250) 505-5506 Fax (250) 505-55071324 2nd St. North, Cranbrook, BC V1C 4T6  
Ph: (250) 426-3383 Fax (250) 426-3221

You are invited:

## International Overdose Awareness Day Event

Please Join us on August 28<sup>th</sup> as we acknowledge International Overdose Awareness Day, a global campaign to raise awareness around overdose prevention, reducing stigma, and acknowledge all loved ones that have lost their lives to toxic drug poisoning.

We invite all service providers, community members, and all individuals affected by overdose to our event, where we will:

- Share resources and best practices for overdose prevention and response
- Honor the lives lost to overdose and support those affected
- Help to reduce stigma around substance use and homelessness
- Foster connections and collaboration among service providers and community members

**Date: August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Gyro Park in Grand Forks B.C**

We encourage you to participate in this event and help us make a difference in our community.

Please RSVP to [tanis.gfankors@gmail.com](mailto:tanis.gfankors@gmail.com) by August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, to let us know if you will be attending, or if you have any questions.

Let's work together to raise awareness and support those affected by overdose. We look forward to seeing you there!

## SENIORS BEING SEEN

## Upcoming Sessions ...

**Thurs. August 21 - 11:00 am**

In lieu of our regular 1:30 program we will join the 11:00 am "Welcome Back Social!" Join us to reconnect with friends, help plan coming activities & events, honour our volunteers and get to say "goodbye" to our special summer staffer, Lydia Wamsley. Our customary great food will be provided to you, as our esteemed friends and community members!

**Thurs. August 28 - 1:30 pm**

Lydia Wamsley (not quite finished with us yet!) presenting: "A Brief History of 4-H and What it Has Meant for My Educational & Career Path."

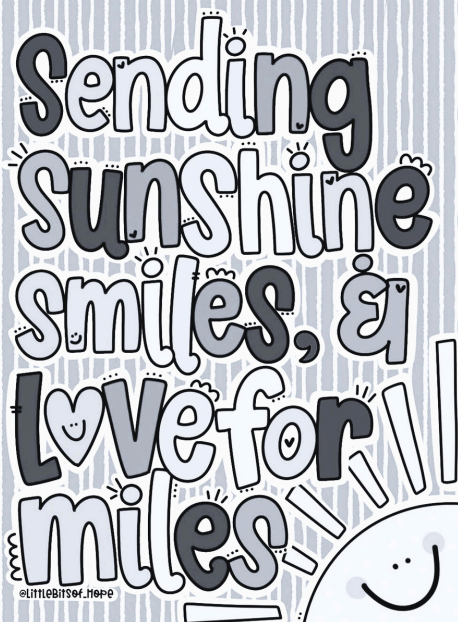
## THURSDAYS in September (exact dates TBA)

We look forward to:

- Adrienne Haynes presenting the "second installment" of her book
- Michele Paradise "Showing and Telling" about her fabulous little store "Paradise" in Greenwood
- Special programs about the energies and beauty of crystals, "non-traditional" & super-sustainable building materials
- And possibly MORE! Check "Event Calendar" at West Boundary Connect for program updates.

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 pm at Riverside Centre, 3990 Hwy 3, Rock Creek, BC.

For suggestions and/or further information, please contact Programme Coordinator – Michele (Shelly) Garrison at [shellygarrison1@gmail.com](mailto:shellygarrison1@gmail.com) 250-442-2415 or check our monthly schedule online at [www.westboundary.com](http://www.westboundary.com)



Call Heather 250 443 5461

[the\\_yellowdoor@shaw.ca](mailto:the_yellowdoor@shaw.ca)

Downtown  
Greenwood BC



[facebook.com/VictorianInspired](https://facebook.com/VictorianInspired)



## ♥ Westbridge Thrift Shop, in its 21st year: More Than Just a Store. Where kindness finds a home. A Lifeline of Love, Community, and Connection

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

In our little town of Westbridge, tucked beside the community hall, there's a humble shop that holds something extraordinary. The Westbridge Thrift Shop isn't just a place to find affordable clothing, books, tools, and household goods—it's a place where kindness lives. Run entirely by volunteers, this nonprofit shop supports the Westbridge Community Hall, helping cover heating, maintenance, and the costs that keep our gathering space open and welcoming. Every donation and every purchase help keep the hall warm, the lights on, and the doors open for events, meetings, and celebrations. But the impact goes far deeper than dollars. For many in our community, the thrift shop is more than a store—it's a lifeline. It's a place to be greeted with a smile, to share a story, to feel seen. It's where someone might find a warm coat and a warmer conversation. It's where isolation softens, and connection begins.

### 👏 To Our Volunteers: Thank You

You are the heart of this shop. You give your time, your energy, and your compassion. You make this place feel like home. You remind us that no one is ever truly forgotten. Whether you shop, donate, or simply stop by to say hello, you're part of something beautiful. The Westbridge Thrift Shop is proof that a small space, powered by love, can make a big difference.

### SPECIAL APPRECIATION AND THANK YOU TO JEFF SARSONS

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Jeff for the hundreds of hours he has dedicated maintaining and supporting our Westbridge Community Hall and Thrift Shop. His unwavering commitment, technical expertise, and quiet reliability have been the backbone of our maintenance efforts for years. Jeff's contributions went far beyond the tasks at hand—he brought a spirit of generosity, patience, and professionalism that elevated everyone around him. Whether it was troubleshooting a stubborn issue or simply showing up, rain or shine, Jeff was always there. As he steps away, we want to acknowledge not only the work he's done but the legacy he leaves behind.

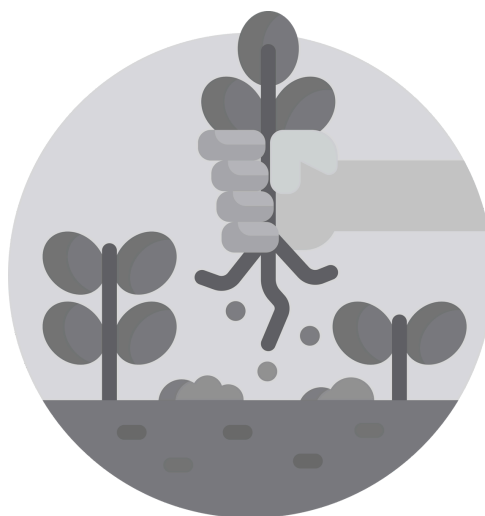
On behalf of the entire surrounding communities, thank you, Jeff. Thank you for your time, your talent, and your heart. You've left a mark here, and we're better for it.

We wish you all the best in your new home—and know that you'll always have a place here.



**Olivia Schneider, Invasive Species:**  
July 17th, presenting  
"Landscaping With Indigenous Plants  
to Beautify Your Home While  
Protecting Our Habitat."

## SENIORS BEING SEEN PRESENTERS



**Isisius Western, the Hutton Elementary  
Indigenous Culture And Student  
Success Facilitator :**  
August 7th,  
"How to Safely Identify and Prepare  
Edible and Medicinal Plants Native in  
West Boundary."

## West Boundary Li'l Explorers

Li'l Explorers is an outdoor, play-based group for families with at least one child aged 0 – 6.



### July and August:

Wednesdays 9:30 – 10:30  
McMynn Village Park, Midway

Registration is not required.

For more information email  
Mary-ann.dennis@bfiss.org



Boundary Family Services  
info@bfiss.org  
www.boundaryfamily.org

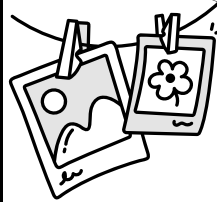
1200 Central Ave  
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0  
250-442-2267 or 1-877-442-5355



## MAIN RIVER WI

The Main River Women's Institute quilted a Bargello quilt in autumn colours in 2018. It is in excellent condition and is for sale at \$800, which was our cost. It is displayed at Riverside Centre if you would like to see it.

Main River WI is looking for the history on Westbridge, as it's our 90th year anniversary on March 16, 2026. If you have any antiques, newspaper articles, pictures, and/or memorabilia we would be interested in hearing from you. Please contact Lynne at 250-446-2616 or drop by the thrift store on Thursday, Friday or Saturday.



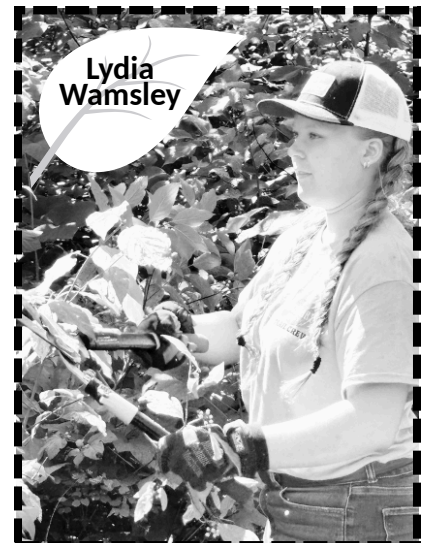
## SUMMER STUDENT FINISHES UP

TRAILS TO THE BOUNDARY SOCIETY IS SAYING "GOODBYE" TO OUR 2025 CANADA SUMMER JOBS STUDENT, LYDIA WAMSLEY. LYDIA HAS BEEN A HARD-WORKING AND ENTHUSIASTIC MEMBER OF OUR TEAM UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF BARRY RATHBURN (TRAIL MANAGER) AND EMMALEE WILLIAMSON (RIVERSIDE CENTRE MANAGER).

HER DUTIES HAVE INCLUDED: TRAIL MAINTENANCE, CANOPY REMOVAL, AND INFRASTRUCTURE PAINTING. SHE HAS FAMILIARIZED HERSELF WITH PORTIONS OF THE TRAIL WITHIN OUR 155 KM PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE PROVINCE AND HAS MET AND CHATTED WITH PEOPLE FROM THE WORLD OVER AS SHE PROMOTES OUR VALUABLE RESOURCE.

LYDIA'S WILLING, EFFICIENT AND ORGANIZED APPROACH TO WORK HAS BEEN AN ASSET TO OUR WEST BOUNDARY COMMUNITIES. HER FRIENDLY MANNER HAS BEEN A PLEASURE TO ALL WHO HAVE MET HER.

*goodbye*



# SUDOKU

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**RCBFA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -Dean Corbett**

It's getting late! Time is running out! But preparation is all important! Things are gearing up around the fairgrounds as we prepare for another wonderful community event on Saturday-Sunday, Sept 13-14. That is the earliest date in September possible, so please note it well and be there on time and on the right days!! The grass is green, the flowers are blooming, the new fences and upgrades are looking good, and all we need besides fine weather is lots of participation at the pre-fair work bees Sept 6 & 7 and a few more volunteers to assist on fair days. Remember the tangible advantages of being a fair volunteer like free passes, but also the intangible contributions and positive effects that you and your family can have on our thriving community by volunteering! For details, please call the office at 250-446-2465 weekday mornings.

Lately, the fairgrounds have been prepared, but are you? The RC Fall Fair experience is much more enjoyable and interactive when you enter your projects. Almost all classes have free entries with prize money paid for 1-2-3<sup>rd</sup> placings and more in the livestock shows, so there is nothing to lose and a lot to gain by entering. Is your thumb green? How about bringing your appealing potatoes, squishy squashes, seedy sunflowers, purple posies or perfumy potpourris? If you like livestock, there is still time to hobble your horse, clean-up your calf, puff up a fluffy sheep or corral your cherished chicks. There are canning classes for pickled peppers, bountiful beets, cute cucumbers or peaches and pears. You can bring your favourite photos, your creative crochet, your wonderous woodworking or your corn cobby hobby! It is late, so please pardon my late-night alliterativeness, or is it illiterateness? (Not to mention this constant bothering from AI-Co-Pilot which just will not... GO AWAY!!!! aarrrrgh!!)

It is not too late to get your creative juices flowing and come up with something to make our fair more interesting for you and all our attendees. We have judicious judges who carefully consider each entry in their area of expertise. Lately, I liked to judge baking. Tasting the pies, cookies, slices, and cakes was very satisfying! But then I got stuck, among other things with that old Scottish standard: plain scones. My enthusiasm quickly dried up! Grandma Corbett (nee Mc Quinney) pronounced them "scuns". No offence intended to you scun connoisseurs as I am sure that wonders can be done with scuns! Just look "Scone" up on the internet and there are thousands of recipes to make scuns palatable, but I am waiting for someone to show me a great scun. Uh-Oh, this may just backfire. I'll be dreaming of a scun inundation tonight! Enough of my "Scun" rant, like I mentioned above, it is getting late!!

I hope you have a chance to enjoy some of the acts on stage this year! I have These Dreams about the Heart Tribute Band, "Barracuda" because the original Heart played a dance at my high school in downtown Newton in 1970. It made me feel like a Magic Man dancing as Ann and Nancy Wilson were Going Crazy on us in the gym until late that night! I'll be sure to stick around and not be late for their performance on Saturday night. Heck I may even do some head banging while they wale!

I look forward to seeing you there on time and sporting your free wristbands and volunteer ribbons, as well as proudly showing your projects at this year's fair!



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## The Depression Years

By: Vic Boychuk

Thousands of young, single men had few options during the economic crisis of the 1930s. They criss-crossed the country by train looking for work or a decent meal. Some of them left their homes because they didn't want to be a burden to their parents. As the number of jobless transients grew, the federal government feared they could threaten public order. Bennett's military chief, General Andy McNaughton, warned that the unemployed could launch a Communist revolt.

In October 1932, Prime Minister R.B. Bennett had decided to create a nationwide system of camps to house and provide work for single, unemployed, homeless Canadian males. The men were sent to rural relief camps where they could neither vote nor organize. The camps were voluntary, but those who resisted could be arrested for vagrancy (now that's freedom). They were to be hidden away to become forgotten. The first camps were located in remote areas such as the Kootenays, the Interior BC, and the coast. In all there were 144 camps, 57 of which were in British Columbia. At Rock Creek there was a camp with 40 men, Boundary Falls had 35 men, Carmi had 25, and Cascade City had 50 men.

The men cleared bush, planted trees, built roads, and buildings in return for room, board, medical care and 20 cents a day for a 44-hour week. They were paid one-tenth of what an employed labourer would make doing the same work. They were referred to as "The Royal Twenty Centers". On March 1, 1932, the Boundary Falls Camp closed when the men refused to go to work.

The relief camps were poorly maintained barracks and overcrowded. The men were provided with insufficient food and medical care. The work was physically demanding, accidents happened, injuries were common. Men often faced discrimination, and minorities were not allowed in these camps. This caused a great deal of resentment among the

men, who were isolated from society and often lonely. Led by Arthur "Slim" Evans, an officer of the Workers' Unity League (WUL) the men decided to unite in 1933. The Workers' Unity League helped the men organize the Relief Camp Workers' Union. In December 1934, 1500 men, in various relief camps in British Columbia, went on strike in Vancouver. Steve Brodie, a Communist, organized the men into brigades. Over 700 men flooded into the recently remodelled post office (now Sinclair Centre). A second group entered Hotel Georgia, while a third group entered the Vancouver Art Gallery. City council was able to negotiate for the men to leave the hotel for \$500. The other two groups of protesters, however, held their positions for weeks, as the police waited for orders.

Because the post office was a federal building, the RCMP led the assault with tear gas. The protesters responded by smashing the windows for ventilation and arming themselves with whatever they could throw. After the smoke cleared it is estimated that 42 were hospitalized, (five of them police officers). Steve Brodie was singled out and beaten by the police and was left with a permanent eye injury. Later that day, as news spread, some 10,000 supporters turned up at the Powell Street Grounds to protest police brutality. In the end, "Bloody Sunday" yielded no resolution, and no one was arrested for participating.

After a two-month protest, they returned to the camps when a promise of a government commission to look into their complaints. When a commission was not appointed, a second strike was approved by the members, and a walkout was called on April 4, 1935. On June 3, 1935, hundreds of men began boarding boxcars headed east in what became known as the "On-to-Ottawa Trek". Although the trekkers were illegally riding the freight trains, railway officials went out of their way to help the protesters out by changing timetables and making unscheduled stops to accommodate

them. Cities along the route did what they could to get them on their way as quickly as possible, even if this meant giving them money. They were well organized and had a lot of public support.

Prime Minister R. B. Bennett stopped the protesters in Regina Saskatchewan on June 14th. Eight trekkers were allowed to go to Ottawa to meet with the Prime Minister.

On June 22nd the Ottawa meeting turned into a shouting match, with Bennett accusing Trek leader Arthur "Slim" Evans of being an "embezzler." Evans, then, called the Prime Minister "a liar". Well, that was the end of the meeting. The trekkers went back to Regina and were planning to continue on to Ottawa when the RCMP and City Police tried to arrest Evans. That was when all hell broke loose, a riot lasted for 6 hours.

In the end 140 Trekkers and citizens were arrested. Charles Miller, a plainclothes policeman, died, Nick Schaack, a Trekker, later died in the hospital from injuries. There were hundreds of injured residents and Trekkers that were taken to hospitals or private homes. Those taken to a hospital were also arrested. The police claimed 39 injuries in addition to the dead police officer but denied that any protesters had been killed in the riot. The hospital records were altered to conceal the actual cause of death.

Premier Gardiner sent a wire to the Prime Minister, accusing the police of "precipitating a riot" while he had been negotiating a settlement with the Trekkers. He was also planning to feed the men and send them back to their camps. An agreement was then negotiated. Bennett was satisfied that he had smashed what he believed was a communist revolt and Gardiner was glad to rid his province of the strikers.

In the 1935 federal election Bennett's Party fell from 139 seats to 39. You know the rest of the story. By 1939 most of the camps were closed.





# RDKB BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

## August 2025 Board Meeting

### Columbia and Western Rail Trail

Given the economic, social, cultural, and historical importance of the Columbia and Western Rail Trail, the Board will send a letter to the Province of BC urging it to reverse its decision to designate the Columbia and Western Rail Trail as a non-status rail grade and to work with user groups and other ministries, both Federal and provincial, to identify, mitigate and proactively manage safety concerns.

### Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch's Engagement on Cannabis

Staff will inform the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch that it supports the sale of cannabis at events.

### Civilian Protection and Global Humanitarian Concerns

The Board passed the following resolution:

Whereas conflicts around the world are causing unacceptable civilian suffering, including in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and many other regions; Therefore, be it resolved that the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary express concern for all innocent lives lost in conflict and urge the Government of Canada to support peace efforts and humanitarian aid wherever civilians are at risk, via letters to our three Members of Parliament.

### Area E Grant-in-Aid approved

- Grand Forks Rotary Club - Scan for Life Committee: \$1,000
- Boundary Country Regional Chamber of Commerce - business promotion in Area E: \$6,000

Next Board meeting: Wednesday, August 27, 2025

This is a portion of the RDKB Board Highlights. To subscribe directly to the full RDKB Board Highlights: <https://jointheconversation.rdkb.com/board-highlights>



## IN MEMORY ~ ANNIE MOLENKAMP 1932 – JULY 12, 2025



On July 12, 2025 Anna, Adrianna (Annie) Molenkamp passed away peacefully at the age of 93 in Rock Creek, surrounded by her family. She was born in 1932 in the fishing town of Ijmuiden in the Netherlands where she grew up in a family of 14 children to Emma and Philip Peil. As a young girl, Annie lived through WWII, became a talented seamstress, sewing and mending for family and friends, and eventually married the love of her life Adrianus (Art). They had three children and in 1966 they boarded a ship and immigrated to Canada where their 4th child was born. The family moved to a farm in Cloverdale where Annie worked countless hours in the fields and selling their own produce and import foods in their store Columbella Farms.

In 1994 Art and Annie retired to Osoyoos, where they embraced the local community and their parish St Annie's Catholic Church, joined the Community Choir and Annie became known for her welcoming hospitality. Annie also took up painting and her beautiful work was displayed on the walls of the Osoyoos Art Gallery, local wineries and restaurants and now lives on with her memory in the homes of many people.

Art and Annie were married for 68 years and were inseparable. They spent many hours fishing in Molson Lake and traveled across Canada and the U.S.A., Russia, Singapore, Australia, Italy and Spain. In 2020 Art and Annie made their final move to live with their daughter and son-in-law Walter and Lisa Siewert in Rock Creek.

Annie was a kind, generous, hard-working and fun-loving person. She will be remembered for her love of family and friends, flowers, telling jokes, gardening, playing games, strong faith, creativity, cheering for the Canucks and making wonderful meals. Annie went out of her way to make every holiday and vacation a special occasion for her children and grandchildren. Her dedication to her family is a legacy that will live with us forever.

Annie will be very much missed by her husband Art, daughters Lisa (Walter), Maria (Gary), her sons Clem (Linda), Phil and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank Nurse Practitioners Jennifer and Amanda Crocket for their loving care and support in her final days.

A Celebration of Life will be held at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Osoyoos B.C. on September 12, 2025 at 10:30am.

In lieu of flowers please consider donating to the Osoyoos Art Gallery or offering a random act of kindness in memory of Annie.

# ROCK CREEK & BOUNDARY FALL FAIR



## FAIR SETUP WORK BEE

Saturday & Sunday  
Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am

Lunch will be provided  
Bring your gloves, tools, rakes & excitement!  
There are jobs for all ages & experiences

**Volunteer for 4 hours and receive  
a free day pass for the Fair!!**

You could also win a prize, including  
Amusement Ride Tickets!!

We hope to see you there as we get ready for  
Our 80<sup>th</sup> Fall Fair!!



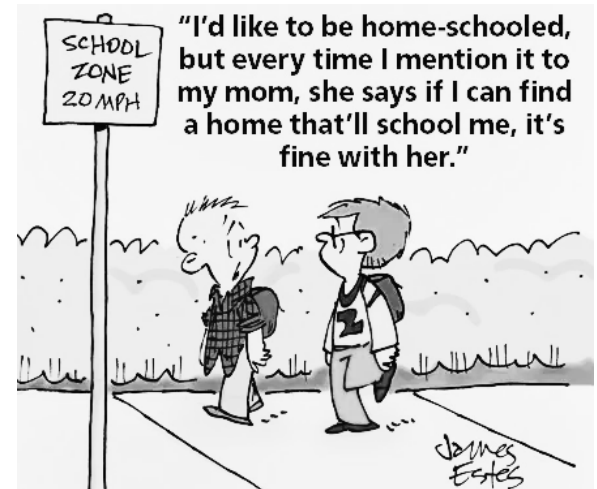
## SCHOOL STARTS SEPT. 2

School District No. 51  
2025/2026 bus schedules will be  
posted on August 29, 2025 at  
<https://www.sd51.bc.ca/our-district/transportation/>

**Reminder:**  
Dismissal is at 11:30 am (11:12 am @  
GES) on the first day (Sept. 2).



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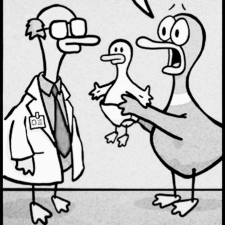


TAKING YOUR KID TO THE

## DOCTOR

WHEN THEY'RE  
A BABY

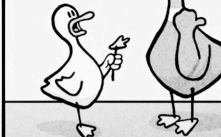
HE  
SNEEZED!  
HELP HIM!



FowlLanguageComics.com

WHEN THEY'RE  
OLDER

I THINK  
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FELL OFF.  
WELL, HOP  
OVER AND  
GRAB AN  
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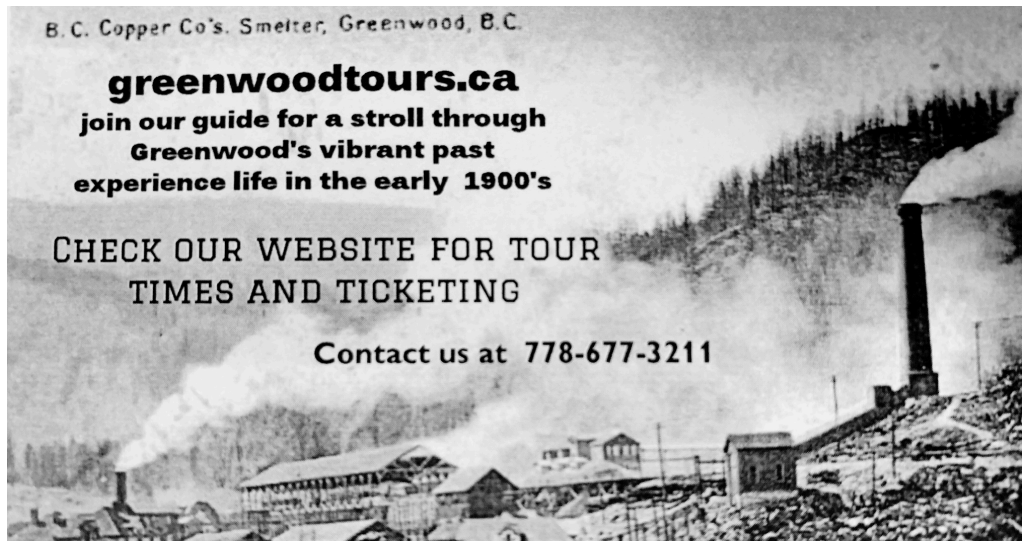
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## 50 BUCKS IS 50 BUCKS

One year, a man at the fair was giving helicopter rides for 50 dollars. Having never been in a helicopter in all his years, Bill begged Helen to let them ride. She refused, quipping "50 bucks is 50 bucks."

The following year, the man was there again, and again Bill begged for a ride. Again Helen turned it down, saying "50 bucks is 50 bucks."

The third year the same exact conversation happened, except this time the pilot overheard. He offered the couple a free ride, but with one condition. They must not make a sound while in the air, or they would have to pay the 50 dollars. Bill and Helen agreed and climbed aboard.

As soon as they left the ground, the pilot began performing hair raising maneuvers in the air, but try as he might, he could not get the couple to utter a sound. When they finally touched down, the pilot turned to Bill and exclaimed, "that was an amazing show of self control, you have earned your free ride".

Bill replied, "well, I nearly said something when Helen fell out, but 50 bucks is 50 bucks."



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### DRUG PROBLEM? WE CAN HELP.

NA is a nonprofit Fellowship, or society, of men and women for whom drugs have become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. Narcotics Anonymous has opened a weekly meeting, as of October 22, 2023, and all are welcome to attend.

100 Rock Creek Road  
(around back, lower parking lot)  
in Rock Creek, BC.  
Time: 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm every Sunday.

Come join us. It is an open meeting - everyone is welcome

Call: 1-855-852-5687  
bcna.ca

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# The Messy River Series



## Article #8 Algae: Slippery Season in the Kettle and what they tell us about Watershed Health



At this time of year, our rivers, lakes, and ponds often run low and warm — and, for many, that means algae! The first sign is someone yelling, “Those rocks are slippery!”

But what actually is algae? Why do some waterways have it and others don’t? Is it harmful? Helpful? How does it fit into the story of our messy rivers? So many questions for such a simple-sounding organism.

**Phycology** — the study of algae — reveals that the answer isn’t simple at all. As Wetland Ecologist, Carol Fischer, a resident of Greenwood explains: “When most people hear about algae, they think of the green “stuff” floating in the water and assume that it is part of the plant kingdom and this may or may not be true for some algae. Scientists are still debating where these organisms fit in. Algae have many characteristics of plants, but they are also lacking some pretty important structures that would put them firmly in the plant kingdom. Other types of algae have characteristics of Protists (single-celled organisms) and some even have characteristics of Fungi (think mushrooms). To make things even more complicated, when evolutionary biologists study algae at the molecular level, it appears that some types are actually genetically closer to protists and fungi than to other algae! Something that looks so simple and familiar is actually a scientific mystery still waiting to be solved.”

Algae is a vital part of aquatic ecosystems, forming the base of the food web. It produces oxygen through photosynthesis, fuels nutrient cycling, and can even provide shelter for tiny fish and aquatic insects. Unfortunately, harmful algae blooms have given the whole group a bad reputation. In some cases, it’s not even the algae itself that causes problems, but the bacteria that flourish when heavy growth occurs.

Whether algae thrives in a particular waterway depends on a combination of factors: nutrient availability, water flow, sunlight, and the presence of grazers (like aquatic insects and snails).

Picture two creeks side by side:

- One is (a Messy Creek) shaded by healthy riparian vegetation, with normal nutrient levels and a good population of grazers. Here, algae is present but balanced — part of a healthy system.
- The other has lost its riparian cover, receives excess nutrients, and has few grazers. Here, algae grows unchecked, creating mats that smother habitat and upset the ecosystem’s balance.

So next time you step carefully on those slick river rocks, remember — in the right amounts, algae are part of what makes our rivers vibrant and alive; and think about the necessary components of a river to keep it in balance. Our messy rivers, with their mix of habitats, flows, and food webs, help keep algae populations in check and ecosystems in balance.

### What You Can Do

- Maintain natural vegetation along shorelines and streambanks to shade water and filter runoff. A healthy riparian buffer would be 30 meters in width.
- Reduce the use of fertilizers near water — even small amounts can boost algae growth.
- Keep septic systems in good repair.
- Support watershed protection efforts in your community.
- To learn more about algae in British Columbia, visit the BC government’s [Algae Watch](https://bcinvasives.ca/play-your-part/clean-drain-dry/) page.
- Prevent the spread of invasive algae <https://bcinvasives.ca/play-your-part/clean-drain-dry/>
- You can also explore local water stewardship projects at [kettleriver.ca](http://kettleriver.ca).



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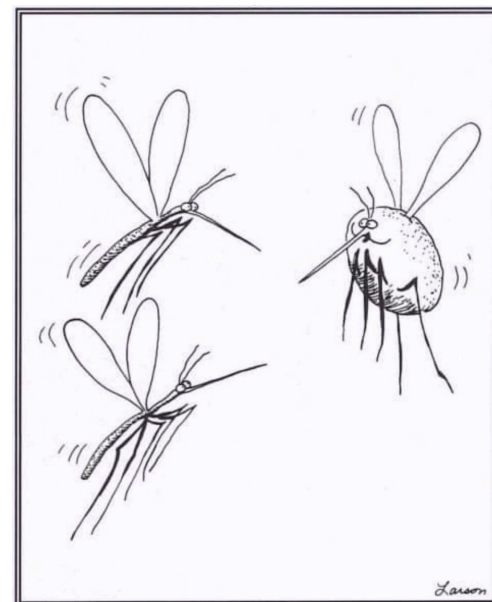
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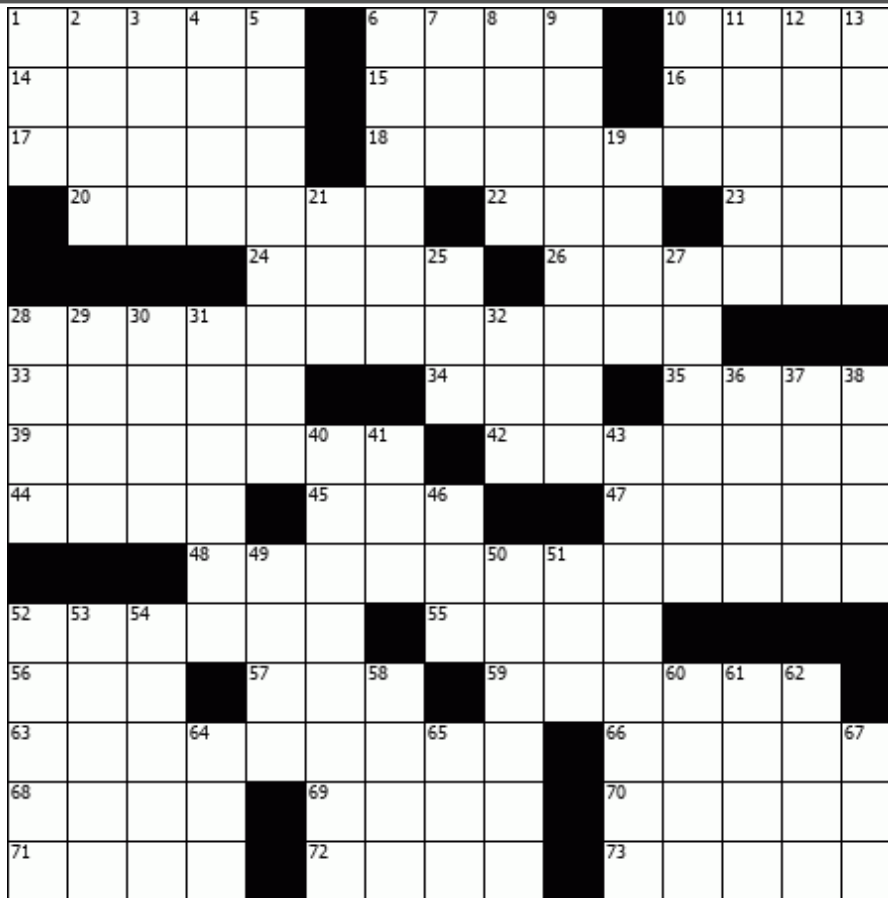


# Crossword

## Across

1. Falafel holders
6. Fine-grained mineral
10. "Want to hear a secret?"
14. Jungle reptile
15. Truant, in the USMC
16. Blues singer James
17. Play for time
18. Linda Ronstadt hit
20. Olfactory stimuli
22. Parking lot topper
23. Hosp. employee
24. Brainstorm
26. Sweetest and kindest
28. Bobby Darin hit
33. It could be stuffed
34. Actor Erwin
35. Stadium sounds
39. Fall, while surfing
42. Finch
44. Glance impolitely
45. U.S.A. defense agency
47. Diamond-studded topper

48. Part of an Otis Redding hit
52. Puget Sound city
55. Combat for two
56. Familiar vow
57. Exist
59. Footwear giant
63. Henry Mancini hit
66. Got into pitch
68. Gardner of fiction
69. Roman ruler
70. Step into
71. Lull
72. Trouble persistently
73. Pitiless



## Down

1. Some IBM products
2. Small amount
3. Vail device
4. One of Woody's kids
5. "Rebel Without a Cause" actor
6. Programmed command for fixed indentations
7. Leatherworker's tool
8. Big galoot
9. Makes quite a profit
10. Word with soup or shooter
11. Vogue
12. F3.5 and F4.0
13. Reproach bitterly
19. It's cheesy

21. Cookbook direction
25. Patient sounds?
27. King novel
28. Big sports event
29. Peace Nobel
30. "Oh, my!"
31. Strain one's muscles
32. Toy store aliens
36. League type
37. Israeli dance
38. Oscillate
40. Not concerned
41. "For shame!"
43. They participate in big games
46. Icelander's catch
49. Tent tycoon
50. Plow line
51. Start of a giggle
52. Official recorder
53. Hold precious
54. Chills
58. Free from fluctuations
60. It can be a drag
61. Understanding
62. Quick-witted
64. Spiker's barrier
65. Historic time
67. Unbuttered

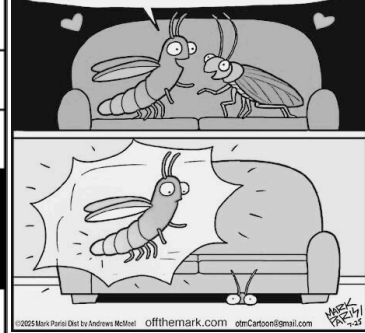
Solution on page 9

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BABE, THERE'S NO REASON A FIREFLY AND A COCKROACH CAN'T BE TOGETHER...



**It's so hot my garlic took its cloves off.**



**Why did the scarecrow win an award at the fair?**

**Because he was outstanding in his field!**

# We've Merged!



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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### MONDAYS

- **Cribbage** @ Parkview Manor (6:30 pm)
- **Walking:** Meet up at McMynn's (9 am)

### TUESDAYS

- **Music Jam** @ Midway Social Centre (1 pm - 3ish) 1st and 3rd Tuesday
- **Greenwood Senior's Thrift Store** open 11 am - 3 pm

### WEDNESDAYS

- **Greenwood Seniors Bingo** (1 pm)
- **Walking:** Meet up at McMynn's (9 am)
- **West Boundary L'il Explorers** at McMynn Village Park in Midway (9:30 am - 10:30 am) - for July and August

### THURSDAYS

- **Kettle River Horse Club** meetings (7 pm) @ the Riverside Centre in RC (second Thursday of each month)
- **Crafts** @ Midway Social Centre (9 - 11:30 am)
- **Kettle River Art Club** in Greenwood meets on the 1st Thursday of each month. New members and guests welcome! Located in the McArthur Centre, 1375 Veteran's Lane. Meeting times vary. Please email for more details to: [info@kettleriverart.org](mailto:info@kettleriverart.org) Several Art Markets are planned throughout the year. For a schedule, more information on upcoming markets and vendor applications, please email: [markets@kettleriverart.org](mailto:markets@kettleriverart.org)
- **Greenwood Senior's Thrift Store** open 11 am - 3 pm
- **Technology Support** @ Riverside Centre (11 am - 1 pm) Feb. & Mar.
- **Westbridge Thrift Store** open 10 am - 3 pm

### FRIDAYS

- **Family Connections** (9:30 am - 11 am) @ Rock Creek Medical Centre (Last one for the season: Friday, June 27)
- **Games:** @ Midway Social Centre (12:30 - 3 pm)
- **Games:** @ Greenwood Seniors Centre (1 - 4 pm)
- **Walking:** Meet up at McMynn's (9 am)
- **Westbridge Thrift Store** open 10 am - 3 pm

### SATURDAYS

- **Greenwood Senior's Thrift Store** open 11 am - 3 pm (closed Saturdays of a long weekend)
- **Lions Meat Draw & 50/50** from 3-5 pm at Prospector Pub in Rock Creek
- **Walking:** Meet up at McMynn's (9 am)
- **Westbridge Thrift Store** open 10 am - 3 pm

### SUNDAYS

- **Walking:** Meet up at McMynn's (9 am)
- **Beaverdell Farmer's Market** (10 am - 2pm) starting May 4
- **Narcotics Anonymous** (12:30 pm - 1:30 pm) Rock Creek Medical Centre basement room

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 21 (1:30 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

- Seniors Being Seen: Welcome Back Social, Volunteer Lunch, and Goodbye Lydia

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 28 (1:30 PM) @ RIVERSIDE CENTRE

- Seniors Being Seen: Lydia Wamsley - "A Brief History of 4-H and what it has Meant for my Educational and Career Path"

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 @ 877 MURRAY ST., MIDWAY

- Boundary District Curling Club Annual General Meeting

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 28 @ GYRO PARK, GRAND FORKS

- International Overdose Awareness event

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 @ SCHOOL DISTRICT 51 (BOUNDARY SCHOOLS)

- School starts with early dismissal

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 @ ROCK CREEK FAIRGROUNDS (9:00 AM)

- Work Bee (bring gloves, tools, rakes, and excitement)

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 @ ROCK CREEK FAIRGROUNDS (9:00 AM)

- Work Bee (bring gloves, tools, rakes, and excitement)

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