FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2019

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rising crime and drug use in their neighbourhood. (Paul Clarke - Capital News)

Connor Trembley Capital News Staff

dents Association intend to submit a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsperson about the negative cameras. impacts that low-barrier supportive housing is having on their neighbourhood.

The complaint, approved by the association on Nov. 18, is part of a larger concern shared by residents in the neighbourhood about the alleged ongoing drug use and crime they're seeing from people currently

living in low-barrier housing, such as the Heath House. During the meeting, association members said they had already sent a letter to at least one city official asking for help to fix the drug and

crime problem — but to no avail. The letter asked the city to in-

Members of the Rutland Resi- crease lighting on local streets, improve sightlines in Rutland by pruning hedges and install security

In September, the association also sent a letter to the minister of municipal affairs and housing, as well as the minister of mental health and addictions, to share their concerns about low-barrier housing in Rutland. The letter was also sent to local MLAs.

Rutland Residents Association president Peter Pagliocchini said they are particularly concerned about the number of needles and other drug paraphernalia residents are finding in the Mills Road and Sylvania Street area, where Heath housing, it's necessary to work with

House is located.

"That area needs to be cleaned up as best we can. That includes stepping up policing and creating ongoing surveillance," said Pagliocchini.

"When police come to the area, they (drug users) go away. And when the police go away they comeback."

Mike Gawliuk, director of service delivery and program innovation with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), which operates several low-barrier housing properties in the city, said his organization is committed to ensuring low-barrier housing doesn't have a negative impact on the Rutland community.

neighbourhoods to ensure that any outstanding issues are addressed. We are committed to being a responsible and accountable landlord," said Gawliuk.

"Any concerns people have are things that we want to sit down and discuss face-to-face with them.'

While he acknowledged the association's concerns, he said low-barrier housing, such as the Heath House, is an essential way to help those who are less fortunate in the community.

"Benefits that we see from supportive housing have to do with individuals achieving improvements in their health, improvements to their connection to necessary services like counselling and a better connection "When it comes to supportive to their family," said Gawliuk.

Continued on Page A12



Kelowna Capital News



OC board of governors shakeup

Paul Clarke **Black Press Media**

The Okanagan College board of governors has a new chair and vice-chair.

chair, following the resignation to 2005. She was also a former of Chris Derickson, who left the position after he was elected chief of the Westbank First Nation.

Juliette Cunningham, of Vernon, was elected as vice chair to replace Morgan.

in this role," said Morgan, in a Co-ordination for Women's Safepress release.

programs about to come on - Community Builder award for 2016 Woman of the Year by Verstream, and work beginning on our next strategic plan, Okanagan College is at an exciting juncture."

Morgan was chief of the Gloria Morgan was elected Splatsin Indian Band from 2001 president of the Enderby and District Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the RCMP's E Division Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

She has also served on the board "I'm looking forward to serving of the Provincial Community ty and was the 2016 recipient of "With a new building and new the Community Leader Awards

the North Okanagan.

Morgan has been on the Board of Governors since 2016.

Cunningham was a former Vernon city councillor, as well as vice-chair of both the Regional District of the North Okanagan board and Okanagan Basin Water Board.

Cunningham is also a business owner with an extensive history of working with non-profit boards such as the Women's Centre. Junction Literacy, People Place, Museum and the Early Years Council. She was also named Vernon's tion," said Derickson.

non Women in Business.

Derickson resigned from his position on Tuesday because his new task as chief for Westbank First Nation warrants more of his attention than he could otherwise offer.

"I've learned much in my years serving on the college board, including what a vital role the college plays in the cultural and economic fabric of this region. I look forward to building on the already strong relations between OC and the Westbank First Na-

need to find an opening

for other kinds of con-

versation. This is a great

example of where hu-

manists can step in and

change the terms of the

While there are specif-

ic pillars of interest, the

hub will focus on medical

ethics, the environment,

digital humanities and

Both Garrard and Le

Normand cite several ex-

amples of everyday situ-

ations where humanities

can play a significant role

in scientific conversations

and resolutions including

medically assisted death,

justice by social media

Over the next year, the

Okanagan public hu-

manities hub will host a

and climate change.

discussion.

public history.



Raif Fleihan is owner of Lake Country's Airport Inn, which was ordered shut down for health and safety concerns this year. (File photo)

Lake Country hotel owner charged with assault

Michael Rodriguez Capital News Staff

The owner of the controversial Airport Inn in Lake Country was arrested and charged with assault last week.

Raif Fleihan was charged with assault with a weapon, uttering threats and breach of recognizance in relation to events that occurred at his motel on Nov. 13.

RCMP did not divulge the nature of the charges or the incident that led to his arrest.

Fleihan was in court on Nov. 15 for his first appearance. His bail was set at \$500 and he is not currently in custody.

In 2017, Fleihan's Airport Inn was shut down for health and safety purposes after a deck collapse warranted safety measures to be taken.

Despite numerous fines by the city and a revoked business permit, Fleihan continued operating the hotel, at one point housing nearly a dozen people.

On Aug. 20 of this year, Lake Country council ordered the motel of 20 years to be shut down within 45 days, with all residents gone and the building boarded up with a fence around the perimeter.

In an effort to extend the date of closure, Fleihan's lawyer asked council to delay the remedial action to ensure tenants could find appropriate housing.

On Oct. 1, council decided to uphold remedial action, giving the tenants until Oct. 7 to begin leaving due to safety violations and the lack of an occupancy permit.

Then on Oct. 18, a suspicious fire burned one of the unoccupied wings of the building. Police are still investigating the deliberately

set blaze. Fleihan currently has the property listed for

sale but is staying in the building while a buyer is sought.

His next court appearance is scheduled for Dec. 10.



professors are using the power of arts, history and philosophy to build bridges and address the world's most pressing issues in an era when divisions in society seem more prevalent than ever.

UBC is putting a spotlight on the human side of research through the creation of a public humanities hub for both the Vancouver and Kelowna campuses.

Associate professor Brigitte Le Normand director of the Okanagan hub, said the initiative is designed to bring the university's brightest thinkers from the humanities together to explore emerging public

number of critical problems and we have a tendency to turn to scientists and engineers for the an- tory professor, said reswer," said Le Normand.

"Technology certainly has a lot to contribute. but humanists can step in by asking how can we across both campuses.



Associate professor of history Brigitte Le Normand is the academic director of UBCO's public humanities hub. (Contributed)

even frame the problems policy questions. even frame the problems "We're faced with a in the first place and how does that shape the solutions we develop.'

Le Normand, a hissearch from the Public Humanities Hub will be interdisciplinary, bridging connections in faculties

Kelowna

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While it supports UBC's research culture, it will also publicize and organize humanities research and amplify the work of humanists on the Okana-

gan campus. Adding critical thinking and reasonable voices to those solutions is part of the humanities mandate,

says Greg Garrard, a professor of environmental humanities at UBCO.

There is a need for different voices when it comes to research and problem solving, he said.

We might turn to technology to solve our issues but it may be that technological solutions are not

speaker series, inviting the public to learn from experts about a number of topics. There are also plans for a conference in July where

the researchers will highlight some of the work taking place at UBC.

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Special honour for West Kelowna cop

Connor Tremblev Capital News Staff A West Kelowna RCMP commander was recognized for his out-

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standing service during Dixon was one of 40 lice Forces by RCMP a ceremony held inside recipients from over commissioner Brenda Rideau Hall in the na-

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24 police detachments tion's capital on Oct. 31. who received the Order Staff Sgt. Duncan of Merit of the Po-

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Lucko and Governor General of Canada Julie Payette at the ceremony. According to the Governor General's website, the award was established in 2000 to

honour exceptional services or distinct merit displayed by people working in Canadian police services. Dixon's career with

the RCMP spans across 28 years, with 11 of those years spent working at the West Kelowna detachment as a non-commissioned officer

As part of his duties, Dixon has also been in charge of delivering policing services for Peachland, Joe Rich and Big White during his time with the RCMP.

"I take pride in my commitment to serving Canada." said Dixon. 'Each and every day I strive to make things



At the order of merit award for police forces ceremony held Oct. 31 at Rideau Hall were (from left) RCMP Commissioner Brenda Lucki, award recipient West Kelowna RCMP Staff Sgt. Duncan Dixon, and Governor General of Canada Julie Payette. (Mathieu Gaudreault photo)

of each of the communities I serve and I she said all the award rethoroughly enjoy the ca- cipients should be proud maraderie I share with of their career accommy employees of whom plishments made so far. I am humbled to serve

alongside."

better for the residents commissioner Brenda accumulation of the and security of Cana-Lucki at the ceremony, outstanding work you have done over the past several decades," said Lucki.

"You have dedicated "This award recognizes more than just During a speech by a single action, it's an to protecting the safety munity.

dians while improving the lives of those around you."

According to the City of West Kelowna, there your careers and many are 26 RCMP officers

many personal hours stationed in the com-

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Positive feedback to Syilx language course

Twila Amato Black Press Media

This is their first time teaching together and things are looking up. Co-teachers Michele Johnson

and Krista Lindley are bringing a program that teaches Syilx to the Westbank First Nation. Johnson first started teaching

the course in Penticton. Lindley was one of her former students.

Because this is the first time she's offering the course in West Kelowna, Johnson thought there would only be a handful of people signing up, saying the original plan was to teach Syilx in her living room.

But 25 people ended up registering, so they rushed to find a bigger space in time for this week's start.

Lindley found a room at Westbank First Nation's Youth Building

As for the thought of a bigger class, both Johnson and Lindley called it intimidating.



Michele Johnson is one of the co-teachers for the Syilx language program in West Kelowna. (Twila Amato - Black Press Media) "It's scary but good. It's exciting people interested in learning to realize that there are so many (Syilx)," Lindley said.

"We had a core group of two or three people that we knew Thursdays from 5 to 8 p.m.

(were interested)... I ordered some chairs, I ordered 12 textbooks and 25 people signed up. And I just can't fit 25 people in my home," Johnson added.

Johnson said the program is open to anyone who may be interested.

She said they're hoping more people from non-Indigenous communities come to learn Syilx.

"We're making it wide open. We have plenty of space now. We have a linguist coming, a few teachers from the Sensisyusten Band School are coming that are non-Indigenous," Johnson said.

"We welcome the spouses, family members and friends (of current students). We welcome everyone.

'This is a totally inclusive wraparound program based on kindness and inclusivity.'

The first level of the program will be taught for four months.

Classes are on Mondays and



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Opinion Laugh, just laugh

At one time or another, we've probably all heard the old cliché that laughter is the best medicine.

Like many of its counterparts, the reason that phrase has hung around so long is that there is some truth to it. A lot of truth, when it comes to humour.

As far back as the 1300s, a professor of surgery was recommending humour as a post-operative therapy, according to one source. Surgery must have been in its infancy then but it appears the benefits of laughter were already known.

Enough with the history lesson, you're probably wondering where this is going. Well, given the stress level most of us are dealing with, whether it's from personal issues, external ones like work or social issues, or in the case of political junkies watching various scenarios unfolding around the world, we all need to laugh a lot more.

There are a lot of studies proving that good humour promotes healing and speeds physical recovery, but it's also well known to help on a mental level as well.

Among other things, laughter is really good at promoting the release of endorphins. That's our own internal feel-good chemicals, the ones runners enjoy when they're out there on the road.

That's part of what makes laughter such a good stress reliever. According to studies, laughter lowers blood pressure, epinephrine and glucose levels, all good things for counteracting stress.

There are other ways to reduce stress. Yogi's tout stress relief as one of the benefits of their ancient practice, for example. Laughter yoga is a much more modern technique that promotes mimic the act of laughing with the goal of creating positive emotions. It doesn't take very long for imitation laughter to become very real laughter, especially if you're doing it with friends.

That's another benefit of laughter. It's contagious, and it promotes the creation and strengthening of social bonds. It's like endorphin dominoes — when one person starts laughing, others will join in, even if they're not quite sure what everyone is laughing about.

So whatever you're getting stressed about - social issues like homelessness, climate change, the political situation in Canada, the impeachment hearings in the U.S., the upcoming election in Britain — laugh first. It makes it easier to deal with as you're getting on with doing something about it.

For all the benefits laughter can bring to dealing with life, it's best to make our experiences as positive and hilarious as possible.

-Black Press

Y NEWSPAPER

OUR HISTORY IN PICTURES



A group of workers construct the railbed of the Kelowna Line of the CNR beside Kalamalka Lake circa 1922. (Oldphotos.ca photo)

No quick fix for homelessness

It's the local issue that just won't go away.

For several years now the City of Kelowna has grappled with a growing homelessness problem.

It's not alone. Tent cities have sprung up in other cities across the country. In Kelowna, the plight of those

getting worse with each passing month, with winter just around the corner

The multi-faceted issue, which City affects the entire Confidential community, has ALISTAIR no easy answers, WATERS and as Mayor Colin Basran said

earlier this week.

no quick fixes, either. Faced with questions about the speed of the work being undertaken through the city's Journey Home initiative, Basran repeatedly said while the problem is being addressed, it won't be solved in the short-term.

cause there is no where for those on the street to go.

Recently built social housing developments in the city are already full, shelter space is at capacity and for those roughing it out in tents on the sidewalk of Leon Avenue downtown, there apliving on the street appears to be pears to be no help in sight with no cold-weather shelter currently in the works this winter.



out on Leon each night, only to be moved along first thing each morning by the police and city bylaw officers. At night they are back

and cycle repeats itself. It's no way to live.

While Journey Home may be a slow process, it was never intended to provide a quick fix.

It was, and remains, a five-year plan to address the problem, a

Part of the reason for that is be- plan that requires outside assistance to achieve its goals - such as more housing for those those on the street and, just as important, the wrap-around services and supports many of them need.

While the issue of the city's homeless has remained in the spotlight for several years, the issue drew even more attention earlier this week with the announcement two businesses in the downtown plan to pull up stakes and move out because of issues they claim are associated with the homelessness problem.

They are not the first to complain.

Mental health, drugs and crime are all issues on the street and they affect not only the homeless, but businesses and other residents as well.

The homeless need help, and so does the rest of the community.

But the "us and then" mentality that appears to be surfacing as frustration over the issue grows is not going to help solve it.

There are no easy answers here. If there were, this issue would not exist.

The city finds itself in the unenviable position of having to deal with a problem that has, in part, landed on its streets because it has been successful in making Kelowna a desirable place to live — even if that means living on the street.

But the city can't solve the problem alone, despite the calls from many, on both sides, to do just that.

As was stated during the preparation of the Journey Home initiative, success will take a community effort.

The problem is the community has not come together to deal with it.

Sure, some elements have, but others remain on the sidelines criticizing it and calling for unrealistic measures to get those on the street out of sight and out of mind.

And that is not helping.

Alistair Waters is a regional editor with Black Press in Kelowna.

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Letters

TOYS"R"US

Page 1, please note, the correct NOW price for the Laugh & Learn Crawl Around Car -Pink (sku 102056) is NOW 29.97.

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PM driving Canada apart at the seams

City of West Kelowna spending concerns

The cost of this new firehall have been purchased for about

wondering if there will be a refer- lion dollars.

endum as there was with the West

firehall in West Kelowna, but I am could be from five to eight mil- \$1.5 million and council is pushing

Kelowna City Hall.

To the editor:

To the editor:

Regarding the new West Kelow-

Apparently there will be a new

na firehall could cost millions.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is using the politically correct vehicle to promote another culture that is completely intolerant of all who are opposed to his political ambitions.

His (divide-and-conquer) 'diversity-is- ourstrength' tactics are an ugly testament to the fact that our beautiful country has never been more divided.

Like former prime minister Stephen Harper, Trudeau is pitting one province against another, and region against region, by insisting on meeting premiers one at the time, as opposed to all of them as a group, to solicit consensus and solutions on issues of common interests, gave them both considerable leverage to accomplish their own personal, political goals, to the detriment of the welfare of all Canadians.

Trudeau's all-out assault on Alberta's oil industry is incomprehensible.

He was elected to serve and protect.

For Albertans, this is a fight for their future, radically different from Quebec, SNC Lavalin, Bombardier, Canadian natives, and other special interest groups, who constantly are soliciting the federal government (Canadian taxpayers) for more billions in welfare.

Trudeau and the bleeding heart brigades are busy tearing our beautiful country apart at the seams.

He even offered the \$600 million in a coercive attempt to get the media on his team, a media that we at one time cherished as the champion defender of our civil liberties.

As a society, we are in a lot of trouble, as our federal political parties also have given their leaders the powers of dictators in an attempt to eradicate the democratic process in our Parliament.

Some of the good news is that Swedish teen climate change activist Greta Thorburn

and her billion-dollar off-shore corporate sponsors are gone.

We have also recently been in- lots without most taxpayers being

formed that two residential lots informed of any of this.

They fought valiantly to give Trudeau another four years.

forward on the rezoning of those

Lin Newton

West Kelowna

The goals and ambitions of her sponsors are well documented by now, and so are the insidious undertakings by those helping Conservative leader Andrew Scheer deep-six Max Bernier's campaign.

They will be remembered next election.

We can now focus on how we are going to use our intellectual assets to pursue the real climate culprits, not the Canadian oil patch that is keeping our homes warm and cozy, but the massive polluters like China and India that are literally choking on massive amounts of pollution they are pumping into the air we all share, and help them reduce the emissions that are a real detriment to our very existence. Andy Thomsen

Kelowna

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA)/Dysfunctional Families is a Twelve Step, Twelve Tradition program of men and women who grew up in dvsfunctional homes.

We meet to share our experience of growing up in an environment where abuse, neglect and trauma infected us. This affects us today and influences how we deal with all aspects of our lives

ACA provides a safe, nonjudgmental environment that allows us to grieve our childhoods and conduct an honest inventory of ourselves and our family—so we may (i) identify and heal core trauma, (ii) experience freedom from shame and abandonment, and (iii) become our own loving parents. You are welcome to come and join us as we journey toward wholeness.

Wednesday ACOA Fellow Travellers Group 6:15pm-7:30pm First United Church 721 Bernard Avenue Information: 778 214-9917 No meeting on Christmas Day or New Years Day

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- NOVEMBER

Atco trailers offer alternative to tent cities

To the editor:

the hot topic issue of the tent city on Leon Avenue.

Just as in any community, nobody wants a tent city in their backyard, but thing" at the time...oops, the homeless still need to be somewhere.

opinions on the homeless population in this province. Some of these people have

mental health issues which are hard to control. In some cases, I truly be-

lieve the institution or fa- more than 18 years ago. I am writing in regards to cility where they may have they were doing "the right guess it didn't work did it?

I have no pity for the drug I personally have mixed addicts as I believe we all make decisions in our own fate.

There are so many resources available for overcoming addiction, as I did with my alcohol problem

I feel for elderly persons previously resided, closed with no pension or those because a previous provin- middle aged, permanently cial government thought injured from work and can't obtain employment to sustain themselves.

I have absolutely zero use for those that are perfectly fit and able bodied to join the ranks of the working class.

However, the fact remains they still need to be housed somewhere. With the decline of work cilities with temporary septic

in the oil fields, why not tanks, and a mess hall for eating. bring in rows and rows of the Atco trailers used as bunkhouses for the drilling

that matter.

sleep, proper washhouse fa-

As far as I know, you don't have to pay tax on a structure without a solid companies that are probably sitting in mothballs in the foundation.

thousands, and place them I also agree with a ous letter that I read on city-owned land here in running ranches Kelowna, or other municipalities in the province for homeless people coul for room and board These otherwise unused warm, dry place to trailers would provide to the and three square n homeless a warm place to day.

Jeff K

Offering solution to get homeless off the stree

To the editor:

A possible compromise for some of the "homeless.

Would it be possible to create a safe area for both the folks needing protection from the elements and that is acceptable for citizens, police, bylaws, health services and city hall.

And all who can or want to help by simply using steel containers for short-term housing.

Add a couple of wise stipulations, such as an agreement for those to qualify for this housing help if they seriously look for work with the help of employment opportunities or assisting the many volunteer organizations who need help.

By having a governed place for local homeless (not those drifting) who would not abuse this opportunity may be a good stepping stone

to those in transition.

It takes at least 90 days to restart independence for health service, food and clothing availability and money generated by working along with government support, etc.

If you could reach out to both those who 'have been there" and those who really want to brake the chains and addictive lifestyles the now find themselves in, we may have a viable option that seriously may work on several levels.

Many of these folks are quite capable of finding a solution, with the guidance of established systems now in place may help control a way back for them if we can work together.

These different-sized steal containers can be movable, safer, warmer, cleaner, controlled by qualified individuals.

Make them fire and air safe with or fire department monitoring as part of th

Find a workable site that would work city/provincial control is just a thought everyone a chance to get back their se and pride.

Might be a solution question to those who care. It may work in any municipality.

Used containers are quite reasonable yes there will be inevitable obstacles/control issues.

Just a thought as part of a solution that has probably been questioned or thought of by others as an option if balanced by needs vs. wants and, of course, finances.

Joel Rickard Kelowna

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le. and	CHICKEN SOUP BASE NO MSG

News West Kelowna firehall opponents launch petition

Connor Trembley Capital News Staff

A resident in West Kelowna has started an online petition against a proposal to build a new firehall in the Lakeview Heights neighbourhood.

In late October, the City of West Kelowna announced the current firehall on Olalla Road would be decommissioned and relocated because it had exceeded its life expectancy, unable to accommodate the future firefighting needs of the community.

The online petition — which

bags of any kind. rocks, soil, sod,

pet waste, or

kitchen scraps

has almost 100 signaturesstates the city did not consult the public about the proposed location of the firehall, on a land parcel combined from lots at 2509 and 2515 Harmon Rd.

The petition also states the city did not complete a traffic study, stating it will create more noise in the mainly residential neighbourhood.

This was done without any prior notice or approval of the residents of our community," resident who started the pe-

tition.

"For residents of our community to get approval for any new residential builds or additions requires the city and neighbourhood's approval.

"In this case, the city is operating under its own agenda without any regard for the people of this community." Zumpano said the new fire-

hall location will also make it more unsafe for drivers in the area.

"The firehall is being built said Vincenzo Zumpano, the on (Harmon Road), a street for West Kelowna Fire Resthat is the main access for cue, said there were multiple Lakeview Resident, said she

Lakeview Heights off of the Boucherie Road/Stuart Road intersection. Is an already small and tight intersection," said Zumpano.

Despite the opposition, Mayor Gord Milsom said in October that the new location would help the department meet the future needs of the growing West Kelowna and Westbank First Nation communities.

Jason Brolund, the fire chief

hundreds of residents of reasons why the city chose didn't want the new firehall that location for the proposed firehall.

'Property size, proximity to transportation, and availability of land were main reasons why that location was chosen. Our goal to keep the firehall centrally located in community," said Brolund.

We're committed to working with local residents in the design of the project and to be good neighbours as the facility begins to operate."

Anna Szovek, another

because it will create more noise.

"We have lived in this community for 20 years and have enjoyed our quiet, friendly neighbourhood," said Szovek.

City of West Kelowna, please don't devalue our homes by putting an unwanted fire hall on our residential street."

While detailed design of the new fire station will begin in 2020, a timeline for its construction hasn't been determined yet by the city.



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rdco.com/yardwaste

The City of Kelowna is seeking public input on the future of transportation in the city. (File photo)



Autism service dog to assist Kelowna youth

Daniel Taylor Capital News Staff

An autism service dog team will officially graduate from B.C. and Alberta Guide Dogs in Kelowna this week.

A young boy named Kyan will graduate with his new autism support dog, Mikey, after two weeks of working one-on-one with autism support instructor Michelle Murray.

B.C. and Alberta Guide Dogs breeds, raises and trains autism support dogs that are provided to children ages 3-10 with moderate to profound autism.



Kyan and his service dog Mikey have been training together for two weeks. (Contributed)

provided, along with cost to families for eight years. These certified training and after- the working life of support dogs are care support, at no the dog, typically for an autism support

For Kyan's family,

valuable support for his interacting with other children.

"Some kids with have difficulty mak-ing friends," said Kyan's father Rick. "Mikey is so lovable

and Kyan is warming up to him quite quickly.

"We see him and Kyan being best buds and also being a great primer for other kids to meet and interact with Kyan.² Mikey will be the

family's second autism support dog from B.C. and Alberta Guide Dogs. Kyan's brother

Dylan was placed

dog means safety and with an autism sup- of our pod everysecurity but is also port dog, Logan, where we went," Rick back in 2008 as the continued. organization's second graduate in B.C.

"Our kids were tire-ASD are lonely and lessly supported and are reminded of the who was the nucleus dogs and amazing dog.

program.'

ther Rick were on "Mikey has huge hand at the Orchard paws to fill and in Shopping Centre on just a short week we Thursday to share the impact of receivprotected by Logan magic of these special ing an autism support

Kyan and his fa-



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Housing project 'bold step forward'

Mackenzie Brittor **Capital News Staff**

UBC Okanagan will soon offer substantial environmentally friendly student housing.

A plan to bring a \$18.7 million zero bold step forward." project has started on Waldron, it represents a window into the future.

housing project for students, called Skee- ity. na, is being built to an

sive House standard that will run without using fossil fuels. "This really is a

emission housing said Waldron, UBC Okanagan's former planning and development.

"Part of the beauty

STOP SLIPPING

START GRIPPING

"Essentially, what energy-efficient Pas- you're doing is making a super-efficient shell compared to conven-

tional buildings." Waldron was part of bring the Skeena project to life with the help campus and for Dave director of campus of the \$18.7-million er it's for heating or loan from the B.C. cooling. government.

When the building The new affordable of the Passive House officially opens in

concept is its simplic- September 2020. it will house 220 students on six floors, five of which will be built with a wood frame on a concrete base.

"The best way to the team that helped conserve energy is to simply not need it in the first place, wheth-

'With Passive House buildings, you invest in your structure as opposed to a bunch of fancy mechanical and electrical bells and whistles, which makes it really long lasting because there aren't as many moving parts.?

The Passive House standard is a successfully tested building standard for energy efficient, comfortable and affordable house construction.

Once up and running, Skeena will be equivalent to a net-zero energy-ready building.

The UBC Okanagan campus in Kelowna. (Contributed)

"This means it will lope, but not break the majority of builders." be so efficient, it could bank while doing it. meet all its energy needs with renewable ly important because said.

"UBC is always try-

"I think that's realenergy generation on if you just build the site, such as solar or most advanced envigeothermal," Waldron ronmental building with no thought to cost, it's not going to

bon-neutral programs provides an important incentive to drive further climate action to get to the university's goal of zero carbon. "Eventually, that's

For Waldron, car-

to. It's the ultimate goal — carbon neutral, you want to get there. Exactly what that looks like hasn't been finalized yet, but UBC has taken a lot of positive steps that will help achieve that



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\$20,000 funding boost for school trades programs

Paul Clarke **Black Press Media**

Local school districts throughout the Okanagan have received thousands of dollars from the provincial government to help young people learn important trade skills.

The Central Okanagan School District the North Okanagan-Shuswap School District received \$30,000 while the Okanagan Similkameen and the Okanagan Skaha school districts received \$20,000 each.

The money is part of \$1.37 million given to 51 school districts and independent schools across the province for trades programs for the 2019-20 school year.

It is also part of a larger pool of money (\$12.4 million) earmarked for seven new programs to helps thousands of youth, women and under-represented groups to get the training and support they need for apprenticeships and employment in the skilled trades.

Okanagan College also received \$1.5 million for its Women in Trades Training Program.

"Our government is committed to moving the dial for women, young people and under-represented groups who want to reap the economic benefits of a good paying, family-supporting career in the trades," wrote Melanie Mark, minister of advanced education, skills and training.

"We value the tradespeople who work hard every day to keep our

lights on, our homes warm and our cars running.

'These new programs will open pathways to opportunity for young people who wish to pursue their dream careers in the trades, while also ensuring employers have access to an industry-ready labour force received \$40,000, to continue building

the best B.C. According to the 2018 Labour Market Outlook, it projected nearly 71,000 trades job would open in the province over the next 10 years and skilled workers, including millwrights, heavy-duty mechanics and car-

penters would be in high demand.

port to city council on Monday, chairman David Graham said the Kelowna Games were the most

successful in its history, resulting in a \$60,000 surplus to be shared between the city and the BC Games Society. Graham said a recom-

Michael Rodriguez Capital News Staff

The City of Kelowna will have an extra \$30,000 in its pocket in 2020 to spend as a legacy to the

2019 55+ BC Games. While presenting a re-

mendation will be made to council sometime in the new year on how its half of the funds should be invested within the sports sector. More than 4.200 athletes

competed in the four-day event in September, with the assistance of over 1.500 volunteers.

"Some of the sports were very well attended," said Graham.

ONLINE SAFETY BEGINS AT HOME

So did pickleball."

"Ice hockey had nearly cities restaurants and ho- games is yet to be com- ria and then Abbotsford. Graham.

500 athletes. Dragonboat tels for being full through- pleted. racing also had about 500. out most of the event, but an audit to determine the

Seniors Games prove profitable

The 2019 55+ BC Games kicked off in Kelowna on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2019. (Ashley Wadhwani - Black Press Media)

Graham also lauded the economic impact of the followed by Greater Victo- in Kelowna," admitted

"None of those Games Next up, the Games are expected to be as sucmove on to Richmond, cessful as they were here



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SPCA holiday bake sale Child rapist loses fundraiser returns

Connor Trembley Capital News Staff

If you're a cookie or cake enthusiast, you might want to stop by the BC SPCA Kelowna branch on Saturday, Dec. 7, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The branch has announced that their annual Holiday Bake Sale will be taking place to help raise donations for stray and neglected animals.

SPCA Kelowna branch manager Sean Hogan said the bake sale is a win-win for those with a sweet tooth and for those who love animals. "It's such a sweet event,"

said Hogan.

"We've been doing this fundraiser yearly because it's so popular for the folks who don't have time to bake but want to buy donated baked goods and help the animals out at the same time."

tendees will also be able to mal in their life. pick up a pet-friendly gift



The cats and dogs at the SPCA looking for a new home will be assisted by proceeds raised from the Kelowna branch bake sale set for Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (File photo)

Last year's event was an support the branch.

As part of the event, at- basket for that special ani- outstanding success. In total, \$3,400 was raised to help

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appeal of sentencing

Michael Rodriguez Capital News Staff

A man convicted of raping a child and producing child porn lost his sentencing appeal in Kelowna court.

According to a Nov. 19 judgment from the B.C. Court of Appeals, the man pleaded guilty to sexual interference of a child under 16 and making child pornography in February 2015. In December 2016, he was sentenced to seven years in prison, serving consecutive sentences of five years for sexual interference and two for making child pornography.

The man is only due to a publication

potentially identify the victims.

The man was 43 years old at the time which he was caught by police in the act of sexually violating a

12-year-old. On S.C.W.'s laptop and camera, police found 129 images and eight videos of the child that met the definition of child pornography.

The videos must be experienced to appeal on grounds fully understand the that he believed the full measure of the crushing depravity of the acts," said Justice ing a psychological Mark Takahashi the 2016 sentencing.

"They were witness identified as S.C.W. to the psychologiin the documents, cal dismemberment and decapitation of ban that protects any the sexual being of a information that could pre-adolescent child.

"Breathless in their found that the judge brutality, there are no words to describe the despair one felt for the of the 2012 arrest in child or the loathing for (the appellant), except a deep and abiding sadness.'

five years.

At the time of arrest, the abuse had been taking place for more than a year and S.C.W. had been in a position of trust with the child for more than

of the sexual offence S.C.W. sought the against a child increases as the age of the child decreases," said sentencing judge erred Justice Richard Goepel in his dismissal of in principle in rejectthe appeal. "Taking into account the age of risk assessment that concluded he posed a the victim is an approlow risk of re-offendpriate consideration of the specific facts of the ing and considering his victim's young age as individual offence."

an aggravating factor. S.C.W. has remained In the judgment, in custody since his the Court of Appeals sentencing in 2016.

Residents association filing complaint

From Page A1

individuals to get a roof overhead, let them end homelessness and allows them to take next steps in their life to move forward."

In an effort to mitigate some of the issues, Rutland resident Christopher Bocskei said he has undertaken a project that investigates how other communities in the province deal with local drug and crime issues associated with low-barrier housing.

"We're looking at what issues some of these facilities have been experiencing, including those in Nanaimo, Maple Ridge, Grand Forks and Victoria," said Bocskei.

"By talking with different Facebook groups in these communities about the

issues going on from these facilities - in-"Supportive housing is an opportunity for cluding fire alarms consistently going off in the buildings from people cooking crack in their rooms, to drug dealers moving to areas around these facilities and bringing in more crime — we're looking at what Rutland can do to hopefully mitigate these impacts.

The Office of the Ombudsperson is an independent statutory office of the provincial legislature that impartially investigates individual complaints about unfair administrative actions taken by local and provincial authorities.

In addition to resolving individual problems, the investigation of a complaint can lead to systemic improvements





was under no obligation to accept or give weight to the assessment. The court also found that the victim's age

was relevant to assessing the vulnerability of the victim and the age difference between the victim and S.C.W. was relevant to assessing his culpability. "The egregiousness

Fireside Festival drops 2020 lineup

Daniel Taylor Capital News Staff

Kelowna's Fireside Music Festival has revealed its 2020 lineup, chock full of local and Canadian music acts.

The music festival began seven years ago as a way to bring together local artists who were never able to see each other play due to their conflicting schedules. The first festival of

sorts was held in a Lakeside home where the artists played all day and night by a roaring fireplace (hence the festival's name) on a Sunday in January.

Since then, the festival has grown, now hosted at popular venues such as the BNA Brewing Company, attracting bigger names which has attracted larger audiences.

This year's three-day festival will be held from Jan. 24 to 26, 2020, hosting acoustics in the day time, hip hop artists and DJs at night and concluding with the main event on the Sunday which features solo and group acts across genres.

"The people are amazing, the music is amazing, there's artists, there's entertainment, there are vendors, there are all sorts of cool stuff to do," said event coordinator Aaron Desilva.

"All the venues have great vibes. It's a really great way to start the year off by experiencing local music.2

Desilva said this year's festival will feature more hip hop artists than ever before, showcasing the genre's local artists on a standalone night in the Mission to open the festival.

"I am a huge hiphop fan myself and I know there's a really cool emerging scene in Kelowna," said Desilva.

"I want to make sure that the scene is present at the festival and



Fireside Festival will be held over three days in Kelowna from Jan. 24 to 26. (Contributed)

's golf

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THURSDAY Karaoka - Starts at 6nm

50¢ wings Cribbage 1pm

own night because it at Fireside and I know doesn't really overlap with the rest of the festival.³ Desilva noted the ex-

perimental rocker, Andrew Judah his band, at the festival.

"He's a local guy Sunday's headlin-

WEDNESDAY

Liver & onions \$10.50 3-6pm Meat Draws @ 7pm

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facebook.com/anaf376

TUESDAY

Bar open 11-7pm Cribbage 1pm

Kitcher

Kids, a Canadian First and his band are so in B.C. talented and so en-

gaging," said Desilva. Kelowna a few years Another notable ago and their perforis a must to check out name to play this mance blew my mind," year's festival will be said Desilva.

it definitely needs its and it's his first year er, Snotty Nose Rez ets and view the full he's going to bring the Nations hip hop duo Festival, visit the Fire-

most insane show. He from Kitimaat Village "They played

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lineup for the Fireside side Festival website.



Cirque Du Soleil's Axel will come to Prospera Place in June 2020. (Contributed)

Cirque Du Soleil coming to Kelowna

Daniel Taylor Capital News Staff

Cirque du Soleil will skate into Kelowna next summer with a new on-ice spectacle.

Cirque du Soleil has announced its new on-ice show that will spin you into the vibrant world of Axel – a breathtaking acrobatics show, live music and stunning graphics.

According to a news release, Axel is a young graphic artist, and musician, who dives into his hand-drawn universe as he falls

in love with the captivating Lei. Together they jet off on a fast-moving quest to retrieve the stolen light from the supervillain Vï.

In the epic fantasy, graphic art and music intertwine to create the supercharged world of Axel.

Cirque Du Soleil will perform at Prospera Place in Kelowna from June 18 through June 21, 2020

Tickets for the general public on sale now at www.cirquedusoleil.com/axel.

Sun, Nov 24 7:00 pm



VERNON

HEAR IT ... LOVE IT....

News **HOPE Outreach spreads early holiday cheer**

Twila Amato Black Press Media

Last Monday's pizza night was special — it was HOPE Outreach's Christmas in November night.

It's a chance for the group to give and do a bit more than they usually do.

"Essentially, it's our opportunity to spoil the girls with more things than we can throughout the year...there's fun and games, sometimes we get to bring in beauticians, which is really exciting," HOPE Outreach executive director Kathleen MacKinnon said.

"They get to get some fancy shoes, maybe stock up on clothes.

She said because they only have two volunteers going out every night, they can't always carry all the clothes, toiletries or personal hygiene products that many women need.

Monday night's gift bags were wrapped in festive paper. There was also a pile of

jackets, sweaters, and other season

MacKinnon pizza nights typically have food and games but for special editions like Christmas in November, they try to bring in beauticians to make the women feel special. She said it's about provid-

ing the homeless or those who may be fleeing from domestic violence with a light-hearted safe space.

She added that what she wants to see is more people helping others.

'I think the misconception is thinking (those who suffer) are not our people. But really, everyone is our people. There's lots going on — this isn't a one-person solve issue.

'I think everyone should take the time to educate themselves on ways in which we can show compassionate love and kindness to folks.

"I just want to drive home that everyone in our community is part of our community and that should be elevated to the max."

HOPE Outreach is always open to donations, whether warm items for the colder it be time, money or clothing and toiletry items.



Some of the HOPE Outreach volunteers discuss how they can better assist those in need of the charity's support. (Twila Amato - Black Press Media)

Connor Trembley SUMMERLAND SUMMERLAND Multi Day, Multi Event Winter Festival

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Book drive to benefit Uganda children

Capital News Staff

Okanagan College trades and apprenticeship students are helping provide education material to vulnerable children globally --one book at a time.

The department has announced that they've partnered with Niteo Africa Society - an education organization that provides quality education for Ugandan children — to create a book drive and send a shipping container full of books to a literacy centre in Uganda.

To help fill the container, people can drop off their books outside of the OC trades atrium at the OC Kelowna campus until Nov. 29.

The department has asked that donated books be written in English, are either new or gently used and do not contain excessive violence for the children reading them.

The department said it will not be accepting encyclopedias or magazines for this book drive.

To help raise awareness for the initiative, OC's trade and apprenticeship students are also converting a shipping container into a literacy centre and placing it in front of the Evangelical Church in Kelowna.

The facility will act as an education centre and a permanent book collection station for Okanagan residents.



Seniors

Set aside sibling rivalries to care for parents

valuable.

ground rules

share.

place to start.

Today's adult children and their parents are going through a new kind of family transition

With the increasing longevity of parents into their 80s and 90s, often while experiencing chronic illnesses, their adult children may be involved in caring for them for up to a decade or more.

Siblings, and in some cases step-siblings, may not have a roadmap for caregiving that will help them deal with the many practical and financial issues that go with it.

Dynamics and family patterns are sure to emerge as siblings face the need to come together more intimately when the declining health of one or both parents is surfacing.

It helps to check in with yourself with a sense of inquiry to see if you are feeling yourself being pulled into an old pattern of behaviour that you played out in the family mobile and question what reactions that may be triggering.

Whatever the old roles were, it serves you to re-examine them now. Don't look to one sibling to be the peacemaker or to mom or dad, who often cannot fulfill this role anymore.

It helps if everyone takes responsibility for being mature. The platform of family caregiving is the perfect motivator.

Creating a way to keep the lines of communication open takes some work and strong intention.

Keep in mind that parents can often tell their kids different things about how they are doing.

Trying to keep everyone on the same page takes each person recognizing that it is time to let go of old ways and be committed to honest, direct communication



and understanding of how the vulnerability of aging and loss can affect

a parent's behaviour. This commitment can only start with each sibling's desire to do it differently and then get on the train and participate fully with this clear

intention. It takes letting go of your defenses and being willing to listen listen and then listen some more.

What is the outcome? As siblings, you understand each other better and you also come to understand yourself and your vulnerabilities in a new way.

And in between all of be heard — if they don't it, there is great pride in feel heard, frustration being able to help your rises

parent and feel a sense Ask the other person of satisfaction that you to share their point of are doing something view. Asking for input very important and shows that you care and have interest in learning When having a fami- more about how the ly meeting to engage in other person feels.

a dialogue about your Resist the urge to plan caregiving of a parent, a comeback or a rebuttal. Your brain cannot

there are a few basic listen well and prepare If you can't all meet to speak at the same in person, a skype contime. Keep a check on your ference call is a good

option. Start with an "inner voice" and focus agreement, start your on the person in front discussion with the of you. Help the other common ground you person understand your side, too.

Sometimes just agree-Describe how you ing that the discussion feel, your thoughts, your ideas and the reasons will be hard is a good behind your thought Ask a sibling to help process. Communicate you understand his or clearly and simply;

or in code.

Move the conversation forward: Find some common ground again. Make a suggestion and then ask for feedback from your sibling (s). Keep in touch: more attention is needed after a tough conversation. Check back in and see how your sibling (s) feel

about the outcome. And remember, life is impermanent. Sharing in caregiving is a door that opens you to your own soul. Don't miss the opportunity. Marjorie Horne is the owner of Caresmart

Seniors Consulting and the host of The Engaging in Aging Radio Show on AM1150 every Sunday at 9 a.m. Contact her @ 250-

863-9577 or email marher side. People want to don't speak in circles jorie@caresmart.ca.



CRIS Adaptive Adventures Annual Polar Bear Dip 2020 Freezin' for a Reason

Wednesday January 1, 2020 1:00 - 3:00 pm **Registration 1pm** DIP Time - 2:00 pm sharp! Tugboat Bay Beach, Kelowna B.C.

Exciting new things happening, don't miss the historic event this 'freezin' season

NEW: Pre - registration required FEE: registration fee of \$20 per dipper – prizes for extra fundraising

Register online at www.trellis.org/crispolarbeardip

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WHY THIS EVENT? This is an annual fundraiser held to fund programs for C.R.I.S 'Community Recreation Initiatives Society'. Our Goal for this fundraiser and to help fund these yearly local programs is \$25,000. C.R.I.S. wants to ensure that every child, youth, adult and senior has the opportunity to enjoy outdoor recreation.

CAPITAL NEWS





Lingering Elbow Injury? Shockwave Therapy Cleared Scar Tissue on Okanagan Sun Athlete (and may do the same for you!)

Paid Advertisement

Nick W., Quarterback with the Okanagan Sun, had this to say about his experience with Shockwave Therapy at Glenmore Chiropractic: I have been having on-going elbow pain that's been affecting me with

Football and just everyday life such as work. I had tried quite a few different treatments over a long period of time but nothing compares to the results I received from Shock Wave. Compared to how I was feeling at the start of my football season I would say I had about a 90% success rate after my treatments. I would definitely recommend Shock Wave therapy not just to an athlete but anyone! The staff at Glenmore Chiropractic were amazing as

well! They made it really easy to book appointments and answered any question I had. Definitely a place I would go back to. - Nick W., Quarterback with the Okanagan Sun. After 8 years of treating with Shockwave Therapy I can say that 85% of my patients who have found relief with Shockwave Therapy sought other therapies first without success. So why is Shockwave Therapy working when other treatments are not? The answer revolves around what has happened to the tissue inside your injury; the reason why your injury persists. Whether your injury occurred from a trauma or from repetitive activity, both causes create microtears in the muscle. The body has only one answer for this, and that is to create scar tissue. Scar tissue is weak, inflexible, prone to re-injury and attaches to other healthy tissues creating an unwanted bridge called an adhesion. Once this happens, any use of the muscle causes friction, heat and tension in the muscle, which limits the amount of oxygen entering the injury and creates even more scar tissue. Your body enters a cycle of inflammation, pain and scar tissue formation that it cannot get out of.

Therapies most of us try are aimed at reducing inflammation, decreasing swelling, and temporarily reducing pain. If the injury was fresh from a trauma, this may be appropriate. If, however, it is not a brand new injury, or if is due to repetitive activity or seems to have come out of nowhere, it likely now has scar tissue embedded. Also remember that while ice or braces provide temporary relief, these conditions

become chronic around 2-3 months at which time that scar tissue occurs. This scar tissue or adhesions involve muscle fibers "gluing" to one another until the muscle may ultimately become dysfunctional to the point

that even simple

tasks irritate the

This brings us

back to why

Shockwave

Therapy works

not. Shockwave

Therapy breaks

up scar tissue

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function

treatments



DR. RYAN HARRIS One of Canada's Most Experienced Shockwave Therapists Glenmore

Chiropractic

collagen production, increases oxygen to the injured tissue, and creates firmer, stronger muscle fiber. If you have been suffering from golfer's elbow, tennis elbow, carpel tunnel syndrome or another painful arm injury, you know how debilitating these conditions can be. Sometimes the chronic pain is accompanied by a shaking hand or a reduction in grip strength, making simple tasks such as holding a cup of coffee very difficult. Numbness or tingling may also be present. Sometimes the pain and limited mobility extends up to the shoulder and down to the wrist, making it challenging to know where the source of the injury is. Whether the exact cause and source of your injury is known or unknown, and whether or not you have already tried other therapies with limited success, I encourage you to come in for a free consultation. I can help identify the exact site of the injury and determine if Shockwave Therapy is likely to help. If you have chronic pain and/or limited mobility, do not give up hope. Remember, most of my patients who have found success with Shockwave Therapy had tried other therapies first without improvement.

Dr. Harris is very experienced in ESWT (Shockwave Therapy), having performed over 15,000 Shockwave treatments. Results are often experienced within a couple of visits and the treatment is covered by many insurance companies. Call 250-763-3580 to book a free consultation or view Dr. Harris' You Tube video "Shockwave Therapy Kelowna" or go to www.glenmorechiro.com and click "Testimonials".

* Results may vary from patient to patient



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SHOW YOUR LOCAL LOVE. TAKE ACTION TODAY.

Despite life-threatening illness, columnist says he's a lucky man

a chance.

anything.

ous feeding tubes.

- until last night.

My personal pity party began as most normally do. I had allowed a few minor irritants to slide into a spoiled, frivolous frenzy. My steak was too

tough. Certainly when one spends more than their years. A rare life threathourly wage for a meal there is expectation their food will be eatable.

Just a few days before I had deliriously devoured a beautiful, choice prime cut piece of steak at the Cactus Club with little problem and multiple moans of satisfaction. (In fact, Tez told me to lower my volume as I sounded like I was having an orgasm, not dinner.)

Certainly I had reason to be thrilled at to try.



the Cactus chow down since it was the first

steak consumed in four ening bone disease had resulted in two major jaw and four other oral

surgeries. I now have a titanium plate for a jaw, supported by bone from my leg, four teeth in the upper mouth for structural purposes, and less than 25 percent feeling in my tongue and face. Since then I dreamed of someday eating steak again when my gums toughened up enough

Recently, I took a and other equipment being the beer fridge. I chance at Cactus Club showed up with replaceand it worked. So I ment tanks. (Important pushed my luck yesfor a guy in stage four of terday at an unnamed four emphysema). local pub and went for

I complained about a steak sandwich. Not how the 50 air tubes often kink up and Naturally I bitched not work well. He and complained about rummaged through how unfair life was his truck and found a until Tez reminded me plastic swivel which he how thankful I should thought might help.

be that I'm able to eat He left, I put it on, no change. I still get She recalled how I enough air however it went 22 days without a could be better. I fumed sip of water due to the a little bit. Then I altracheotomy and vari- lowed the frustration to overcome me and once My myopic meltdown again slipped into bitch or major temper tan- and complain mode.

trums was put on hold I decided perhaps it was time to head to One of my Vital Air the garage stuffed full heroes who supply boxes of junk and a oxygen tanks, tubes, beer fridge. Main focus

grabbed my portable air tank and trundled out to the chaos.

> Earlier that day dear buddy James the Painter created some shelving spaces - allowing me to organize much of the material stuffed in boxes.

The first box I spotted was the wakeup call I needed.

It was the same box I'd been looking at 11 months ago when attempting to sort through stuff however wound up in the hospital.

By pure luck I had a lung specialist appointment on that fateful day and cut my work in the shed short in order to see the specialist. He put me in emer-

gency and on life support that night. For three days I stick handled in and out of the dead zone because of C02 poisoning.

Staring at that box again reminded me how lucky I am to be breathing at all. How quickly we forget how lucky we are to have what we have.

Without my specialist, my wife, and helpful caring friends I would not be alive. Mental meltdowns about silly little things like 'better, more convenient tubes' and eating steak really don't matter.

I will take a kinked up tube anytime over the alternative of being dead.

As I looked around the shed I suddenly saw the potential for hours and hours of each box turning into a treasure trove, a time trip, a reason of joy.

All because I have a portable air device and the health to be able to even sort through it all. That makes me a lucky and thankful

man.



Kelowna businessperson Renee Merrifield has been included in the 2019 list of Canada's Most Powerful Women, an honour she has been given twice before. (Contributed)

Troika CEO reaches top 100 women power rankings

Michael Rodriguez Capital News Staff

For the third year in a row, a Kelowna businessperson has been named one of the countries top 100 women.

Renee Merrifield, the founder and CEO of Troika Developments Inc., has again found herself on the Women's Executive Network (WXN) 2019 Canada's Most Powerful Women list, marking the first time that a leader from the Okanagan has achieved the honour three times.

When asked about how she felt about being named again, Merrifield said she felt "humbled."

"The first time was surreal, winning took me by surprise," she said.

"Now, I am so proud to bring increased attention to our Okanagan Valley; to know that I am making a difference in our community, province and country; and to believe that I have not only ideas as an entrepreneur, but also strength and tenacity."

The Top 100 Awards span the private, public and not-forprofit sectors, with the initial candidates selected by WXN's Diversity Council.

"We are celebrating 110 of Canada's highest achieving women in fields ranging from arts and entertainment to sports and science," said Sherri Stevens, CEO of WXN.

"All 110 winners exemplify power not through their standing or abilities, but rather through how they inspire, champion and empower others which is why it's very important to recognize and celebrate their great achievements,'

Past award winners includes Canada's most iconic women trailblazers: Margaret Atwood, best-selling author; Dr. Roberta Bondar, astronaut; Arlene Dickinson, chief executive officer of Venture Communications; Christine Magee, president of Sleep Country Canada; Michaëlle Jean, former governor-general of Canada; Heather Reisman, founder and CEO of Indigo Books and Music; and Kathleen Taylor, chair of the board at Royal Bank of Canada.

To mark this year's awards, WXN is hosting an awards gala on Nov. 21 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. More than 1,400 senior professionals will attend.





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Volleyball Owls set sights on B.C. titles

Mackenzie Britton Capital News Staff

The high school volleyball season is almost over and the B.C. championships will soon welcome a brood of Okanagan talent.

Leading the pack of Okanagan-bound high school teams to the 2019 provincials are the Kelowna Secondary Owls with both the boys' and girls' squads picking up No. 2 rankings ahead of the championships in Langley starting Nov. 27.

The Owls boys' team was crowned valley champions last weekend at KSS after cruising through local rivals and going undefeated in the finals.

Owls coach Mike Sadaro said the team performed well in all areas through the valley championships.

"Great serving. Power hitters put on a great show," Sadaro said.

"The Owls are prepared and ready for the provincials."



The Kelowna Owls boys' volleyball squad goes into the B.C. championships as the No. 2 ranked team in the province after winning the Okanagan Valley championships last weekend. (Danica Embree photo)

The Owls will enter the proteam in the AAA division.

vincials as the No. 2 ranked sentation of local high schools who will represent the Okana-

They lead a four-team repre- gan at the championships. Okanagan Mission has launched up the rankings

in the past three weeks as the Huskies are set to enter the provincials as the No. 7 ranked team.

The Mt. Boucherie Bears stay ranked at No. 10 and Penticton Secondary secured the 20th and final ranking position.

KSS is led by nine Grade 12 players who's combined experience has been a big part in the Owls successful season.

The Owls' Javden Lalonde. Tyson Embree, Braden White and Ethan Braam are four KSS seniors who've played together since Grade 10. looking to conclude theirtenure with the Owls this winter as provincial champions.

In the boys' provincial AA rankings, two Okanagan teams will battle for the provincial podium.

George Elliot Secondary in Lake Country and W.L Seaton Secondary in Vernon cracked the province's top 16 teams.

The Coyotes will enter the championships as the No. 4 ranked squad, the Seaton Sonics at No. 15.

Meanwhile, girls' volleyball teams throughout the Okanagan will be well represented during the B.C. championships.

Kelowna Christian and Vernon Christian crack the top rankings in the A division, George Elliot and Kalamalka Secondary will represent in the AA division, OK Mission and W.L. Seaton will compete in AAA, and KSS and Mt. Boucherie will battle in AAAA.

While most of the provincials will be played at the Langley Events Centre, the AA women championships will be played in Vernon at Kalamalka Secondary starting Nov. 28.

The remaining Okanagan teams vying for B.C. championships start their quests Nov. 27.

Warriors bring 'happy hour' to home games

Mackenzie Britton Capital News Staff

With a less than ideal start to the season, West Kelowna Warriors fans may not be exactly "happy" with the team's four wins.

But in the wake of energetic new owners and a new president taking over the team, the Warriors will look to turn the page on the season tonight (Nov. 22) when they play their first home game since Oct. 25 and introduce a new special game feature at the rink happy hour.

Happy hour at Royal LePage Place will see half-price drinks available an hour before puck drop, starting for the first time at 6 p.m.

"We want to reward fans for coming early as the players will be hyped by more bodies in the building as they hit the ice," said the Warriors new president Chris Laurie.

"Beyond that, our concession food is excellent and we welcome fans to come early



The West Kelowna Warriors' Max Bulawka has 15 points this season so far. (Garrett James Photography)

for dinner and a drink at an affordable price.3

Laurie, along side new owner John Murphy, were introduced there were no current plans to the Warriors' faithful last week, revealing their plans to turn the franchise around after an infamous stretch of drama unfolding behind the scenes and ultimately impacting the to make the team better, how fan turnout in West Kelowna.

last in the current BC Hockey that's what we want."

League standings with a 4-16-3-2 record, Laurie and Murphy stated at their introduction to make any coaching changes. "He has our support," said Murphy of head coach Brandon West and his staff.

"He's thinking every day how to coach the team better. Bran-Despite the Warriors sitting don's a professional coach and



Fast-charge station grid expands in Kelowna

Michael Rodriguez Capital News Staff

Kelowna's electric vehicle owners now have a new places to charge up with the addition of two new direct current fast-charge (DCFC) stations at Rutland's Centennial Park on Shepherd Road and the Kelowna Museum parking lot on Ellis Street.

The recently installed stations accompany the two charging stations opened in June at the Kelowna International Airport.

"Electric vehicles represent a significant opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution from transportation," said Kelowna Mayor Colin Basran.

'These stations make fast charging readily available for drivers at the three points of entry into our community and close to City centres in Rutland and Downtown.'

According to Electric Mobility Canada, 10 per cent of all new vehicles purchased in B.C. being electric.

The city said the expansion of the DCFC network in charge a compact electric ve- four hours.



Mayor Colin Basran (right) at the new direct current fast charge station on Shepherd Road with Michael Leyland (left) of FortisBC. (Contributed)

emissions reduction goals.

Kelowna supports growth and hicle in about 30 minutes, as compared to a Level-2 station The DCFC stations can that requires about three to

For the service, users will by the BC Utilities Commisbe charged a rate of \$9 per 30-minute charge.

sion and aligns with rates FortisBC charges at other The fee has been approved stations throughout the

province. "Partnering with communities and all levels of government to build EV charging infrastructure is one of the ways we're working to reduce our customers' emissions by 30 per cent by 2030," said Michael Leyland, manager innovative initiatives, **FortisBC**

"The City of Kelowna has been an active partner in helping us place stations where they're needed most and we're grateful for their support.'

The new stations are part of the 12 that FortisBC announced earlier this year, bringing their planned network to 17 stations across 14 Southern Interior communities by the end of 2019.

The city contributed land and partial funding for the new stations and FortisBC also received financial support from Natural Resources Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.

For more information on electric vehicles and charging locations, visit fortisbc.com/ electricvehicle



Cougar spotted near Rose Valley

Michael Rodriguez **Capital News Staff**

A cougar sighting was reported in West Kelowna's Rose Valon Wednesday morning.

SCHOOL OR MINOR

featured in the

The Capital News also welcomes contributed photos

and write-ups from parents & coaches

sports pages of the

CAPITAL NEWS?

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CAPITAL **News**

ident posted to the Rose Valley Community Facebook group saying she spotted Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

A concerned res- Saints on McDou- Safe BC, if you do walk from Mar Jok Elementary School. According to one ley neighbourhood the cougar near the comment on the post made by somebody who works at Mar Jok, the incident was reported to the **DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR**

school.

gall Road, a short encounter a cougar try and remain calm, make yourself look as large as possible and back away slowly, keeping the animal in view.

If a cougar shows aggression or begins following you, keep eye contact, yell and make loud noises.

The B.C. Conserva-

The sighting was also reported to Rose Valley Elementary School. tion Officer Service

Earlier this month, just down the road near Rose Valley Elementary School. According to Wild-





News **Collect seeds now for garden beauty next year**

Being a garden er I always find fall a slightly nostalgic time; as everything is winding down and I know that snow is on the way.

One of the joys at this time of year is seed collection.

seeds, knowing that member that many of they have the capacity to produce life and beauty in the upcoming season and beyond.

At the Okanagan Xeriscape Demonstration Garden, we have been busy preparing the garden for winter.

We so appreciate the year of hard work and learning our volunteers have completed.

They are invaluable in their support of the UnH2O garden.

Last weekend, OXA volunteers collected seeds from many of the garden plants so that we can offer them to the public at next year's Seedy Sunday.

We don't have a date set yet but Seedy Sunday is historically the first week of March at Parkinson Recreation Centre.

One of the plants we harvested seeds from was Alpine Skullcap (Scutellaria alpina), a recent introduction to the garden and well worth its spot.

I'm thankful to xeriscape specialist Gwen Steele who first introduced me to this tough little plant. It is a pollinator magnet and blooms for months on end with little additional irrigation.

It features bluesy purple snapdragon-like flowers, perfect for a dry or rock garden.

Another seed we will be able to offer next year is from Golden Aster (Heterotheca villosa), an Okanagan native which was still in flower in the garden last week.



It has a yellow bloom and is a great mid-border plant for dry conditions.

I love collecting your own seeds reour garden favourites have been hybridized and therefore babies



spring it would be beneficial to research whether or not they When collecting will have a better ger-

the surface of the (subjected to a period will not be a direct of cold or heat).

genetic reflection of It is absolutely vita to maintain a sterile When you decide environment for seed germination to avoid that you are ready to begin propagatthe common fungal ing your seeds in the problem of 'damping off' in which seedlings fail to thrive and eventually perish.

Whatever seeds you mination rate if either harvest, store, and scarified (scratching plant for the future, Î wish you the best seed) or stratified of luck with your seed-starting adventures.

Why not consider an OXA membership as a gift to those family and friends interested in conservation?

Okanagan Xeriscape Association members at one of our spring classes to educate

Perhaps join the mate-adaptive landscapes tailored for our Okanagan Basin? For details or to join, go to the website: vourself about cli- www.okanaganxeri- fied Master Gardener.

Sigrie Kendrick is executive director of the Okanagan Xeriscape Association and a certi-



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Though winter is coming on, gardeners can prepare for the next growing season by working on their seed collection. (Stock photo)



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