

The Dawson City Community Hospital is still under construction behind the current Health Centre.

Do We Have Some Problems Here?

Stories on page 3.



What caused the spill at the new Wastewater Treatment Plant?

in this Issue



Diamond Jubilee Award
Gerry Couture helped set gov't policy on the environment.




Meet Curtis Collins
YSOVA has a new program director.



Good News you can Bank on
The City of Dawson takes over the Old CIBC buildin - at last.

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Max's has watch batteries!

STORE HOURS:
MONDAY TO SATURDAY
10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.
SUNDAY
NOON TO 5 P.M.

What to SEE AND DO in DAWSON now:

This free public service helps our readers find their way through the many activities all over town. Any small happening may need preparation and planning, so let us know in good time! To join this listing contact the office at klondikesun@northwestel.net.

Events

IN CONCERT: QUASAR SAX QUARTET: FROM BACH TO ZAPPA:

Sunday, Mar.3 at KIAC. Doors open at 7 p.m. \$15 in advance/\$18 at the door.

CONTRA DANCE: Contra Dance is back! Tuesdays starting Jan.22-Feb,26, 7:30-9 p.m. in the RSS Ancillary Room.

Meetings

IODE DAWSON CITY: Meet first Tuesday each month at home of Joyce Caley at 7:30 p.m. For info call Myrna Butterworth, 993-5353, Joyce Caley, 993-5424. Recess for summer July-Oct.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH #1: Meet second Thursday each month at Legion Hall (3rd and King St.) at 7:30 p.m. Contacts Helen Bowie, 993-5526, Myrna Butterworth, 993-5353.

PIONEER WOMEN OF THE YUKON: Meet third Thursday each month at 7:30 p.m. at YOOP Hall. Contact Myrna Butterworth, 993-5353. Recess for summer June, July and Aug.

Klondike Institute of Art and Culture (KIAC)

IN THE ODD GALLERY: MINING THE ARCHIVES: THE BIENNIAL DCAS MEMBERS' EXHIBITION: Jan.24-Feb.22. This year's exhibition seeks to comment on the influence of time and place upon the arts in this small community.

PIANO LESSONS WITH BARNACLE BOB: Feb.20-April 17 (no class March 27. 8 half hour lessons, 2:30-5:30 p.m. \$138.

GUITAR LESSONS WITH NIJEN: Full! Next session dates TBA.

YOGA WITH JOANNA MCDONALD: Wednesdays 7-8 p.m., Thursdays 12:05-12:50 p.m. \$8 drop-in/5 classes for \$30.

SATURDAY DROP-IN PAINTING: 1-4 p.m. in the KIAC Classroom. \$5. Inspire and be inspired by other artists. Bring your own ideas and painting surfaces. Paints, brushes and easels are supplied, no instruction.

KIDS DANCE WITH KATIE PEARSE: Starting after school on Tuesdays Jan.22-April 2 (no class Mar.26) \$77-\$86. Tiny Tutus & Tights (ages 3-4), Dynamite Dancers (ages 5-6), Junior Jazz (ages 7-9), Jazz (ages 10-13). Call KIAC at 5005 for more info. Pre-registration required.

FILM SELECTION COMMITTEE: Just watch movies and tell us what you think! Film selections are for the 14th annual Dawson City International Short Film Festival. Screenings Mondays and Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. at the KIAC Classroom. Contact Dan at filmfest@kiac.ca.

CONFLUENCE MEMBERS' GALLERY CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Exhibition slots offered to DCAS members: May 23-June 16, June 20-July 14, July 18-August 11 *Dates may be subject to change. For more info contact Ange at 5005 or programs@kiac.ca

13TH ANNUAL YUKON RIVERSIDE ARTS FESTIVAL CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: The Yukon Riverside Arts Festival takes place August 15-18 in Dawson City. Initial review date: April 1st. Visit www.kiac.ca/artsfestival/participate to find out how to apply.

SOVA

ADMIN OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Thurs, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

LIBRARY HOURS: Monday-Thursday 4-7 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m. Library materials are now available for check-out by the community. Stop in for more details!

ART SUPPLY STORE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday, noon-1 p.m., Thursday 4-5 p.m., Sunday 1-3 p.m.

Dawson City Community Library

BERTON HOUSE READING: The Dawson City Community Library will host a presentation by Berton House writer-in-residence Chris Turner on Tuesday, February 26 at 7 p.m.

Conservation Klondike Society

DEPOT HOURS: Sat, Sun, Mon: 1-5 p.m., Tues: 3-7 p.m. Donations of refundables may be left on the deck during off hours. Info: 993-6666.

Dawson City Recreation Department

Get the Rec & Leisure Newsletter & stay up to date. Website: www.cityofdawson.ca. Facebook: "City of Dawson Recreation". Contact us at 993-2353.

The Downtown Hotel

SOURDOUGH SALOON: Happy Hour every day 4- 6 p.m. Hockey Beers offered to local hockey teams as well as during NHL hockey games.

WEEKLY SPECIALS: Mondays - Mexican Mondays; Tuesdays - Board Game Night & Scrabble-Thon; Wednesdays - Wing Wednesday; Thursdays - Ladies' Night; Fridays - Rum & Reggae; Sunday - Caesar Sunday All Day & Open Mic @ 8 p.m. hosted by Barnacle Bob

The Westminster Hotel

FRIDAYS: JD MCCALLEN IN THE TAVERN: Every Friday, 5:30-9:30 in the Tavern. Country, Bluegrass/Folk/Rockabilly. Special guests weekly.

SUNDAYS: SMALLIE SUNDAY AND SUSU ROBIN: Sundays starting at 4 p.m. in the Tavern. Listen to the musical talents of Susu Robin on the piano and ukulele and enjoy happy hour small drafts!

Regular live entertainment in the lounge on Friday and Saturday, 10 p.m. to close.

Chamber of Commerce & Town Council

CHAMBER MEETINGS: Regular meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at the Downtown Hotel.

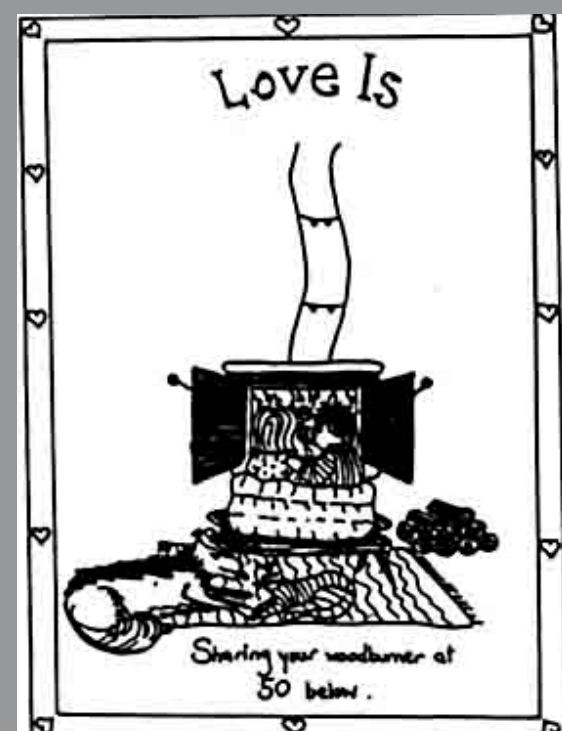
COUNCIL MEETINGS: Regular meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Special Meeting times are posted at the Post Office three business days in advance. Posted meetings are public.

Klondike Visitor's Association

TREK OVER THE TOP: 1st Run: Feb.28-Mar.3; 2nd Run: Mar.7-10.

DIAMOND TOOTH GERTIES WINTER OPENINGS: During the Trek

FROM THE KLONDIKE SUN ARCHIVES



OPINIONS

Uffish Thoughts: That really isn't the hospital name we chose here

By Dan Davidson

The news that the Yukon Hospital Corp. has finally announced the names it has chosen for its two satellite hospitals in Dawson and Watson Lake came as a distinct disappointment to citizens of Dawson who voted on a list of three names that they were given to consider late last fall, just a few weeks before the YHC's latest update visit to the community.

I have to admit that I don't recall just what all three of the choices we were given were, but that's because two of them received very few votes and the winner was one that hearkened back to the Gold Rush and the man who founded the first hospital in the town.

There was a time when the current Dawson City Health Centre was known as Father Judge Memorial Hospital, and it handled many of the services (including local births) that our brand spanking new Dawson City Community Hospital will provide when it finally opens late in May (according to the latest information).

Over the years the services offered changed along with the name of the building. The current sign says "Dawson City Health Centre" but the new paint job was a poor one and

you can still see "Dawson City Nursing Station" underneath it.

The local vote in favour of retaining a reference to Father Judge was overwhelming, and we were told by the local committee that had organized the vote that this is what the name would be.

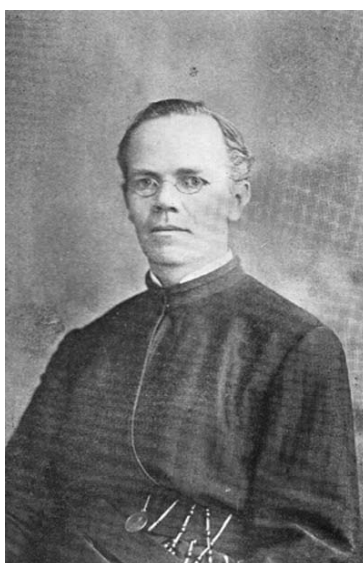
So certain was this outcome that the name was used during the public meeting that was held here in late November and when I wrote up the report on the meeting I noted that this decision had been taken.

In the interim no one has bothered to correct me on this. I won't go so far as to say that I never make a mistake when I'm writing, but I get very few comments disagreeing with any of my regular reporting. If people want to argue with me, it's usually about something that I've written here.

Amusingly enough, I once had a person write that my editorials had too many of my own opinions in them.

YHC's community liaison person, Val Pike, is quoted as saying that the names for the two hospitals (Fill in the Blank Community Hospital) came about after consultations were held in both communities.

"The term 'community' came up on several occasions and so the board decided that that would be an appropriate



name for both the Watson Lake Community Hospital and the Dawson City Community Hospital."

I suppose I should not be surprised. This decision allows for a common brand between the two facilities and has the same basic structure as "Whitehorse General Hospital", which is the mother ship for these satellites. Further, this decision is of a piece with most of those taken with regard to this facility, many of which have been in opposition to local expressions of opinion.

To be clear, the current town council and the medical clinic, which has served this town for decades, have both declared themselves in favour of the *fait accompli* which is the new hospital. Both will admit,

when pressed, that they are not happy with the way the project was presented and the strong-arm tactics used to promote it, but since it's a fact of life, they state that it will be a net benefit to the community and the region.

I think that this is a reasoned response to the situation and that, in the end, they are correct. I do thank the stars that the town has no financial liability for the facility and I hope it works out as well as it is supposed to.

Local objections to the hospital (with a very few notable exceptions) had to do with its location, which even the architectural firm admitted posed a problem in the design phase. A petition containing more names than the number of people who had voted for the Yukon Party MLA, who was our member at the time, was ignored in the Legislature after it was offered up by the Official Opposition of the day, and was misrepresented by both YTG and YHC as an objection to the entire project.

That was never the local issue. The aging Health Centre had been an object of concern from before the time I arrived here in 1985. The location chosen was the one that YTG's own local advisors recommended against, even though it had

been traditionally accepted that an eventual (somewhat smaller) replacement for the nursing station/health centre might well go there.

When the town council of the day offered support for the originally discussed replacement health care facility, this letter was later trotted out falsely to indicate support for the satellite hospital project.

While the hospital corporation would later claim to have had many consultation meetings, the ones I attended were about informing us of their intentions rather than consulting us about anything.

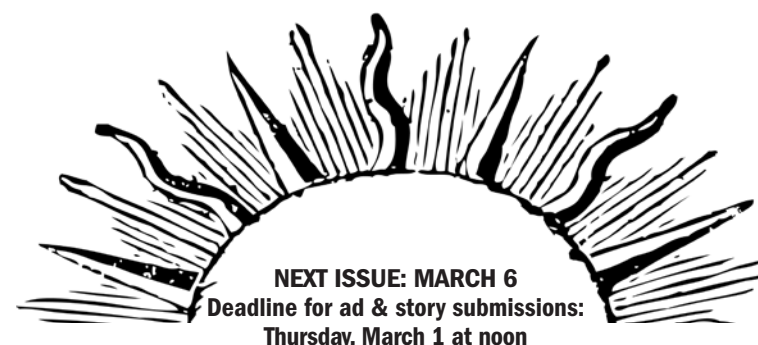
However that may be, the deed is done (well, nearly done) and, unless something else happens to delay the completion (Oh - see page 3) yet again, we will soon see how it all looks and works.

In the end, it may turn out to be a good thing, and the people who live on Sixth Avenue across from the construction zone will certainly be happy to get their street access back again.

Still, you would think that the very least they could have done was to allow us to choose the actual name for the building.

We want to hear from you!

The Klondike Sun is produced bi-monthly. It is published by The Literary Society of the Klondike, a non-profit organization. Letters to the editor, submissions and reports may be edited for brevity, clarity, good taste (as defined by community standards), racism, sexism, and legal considerations. We welcome submissions from our readership. However, it should be understood that the opinions expressed herein may not always reflect those of the publishers and producers of the Klondike Sun. Submissions should be directed to The Editor, Bag 6040, Dawson City, YT, Y0B 1G0, e-mailed to uffish20@hotmail.com, directly to the paper at klondikesun@northwestel.net or dropped off in the drop-box at our office in the Waterfront Building, 1085 Front Street. They should be signed and preferably typed (double-spaced), or saved on a digital file. If you can give a phone number at which you can be reached, it would be helpful. Unsigned letters will not be printed. "Name withheld by request" is acceptable and will be printed, providing the writer identifies themselves to the Sun editorial staff. A Publishing Policy exists for more details.



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Canada

LETTERS

Liberal MLA takes issue with name of Dawson’s hospital

Press release

Klondike MLA Sandy Silver is urging the Yukon government to rethink its plan to name the new health care facility in Dawson City, the Dawson City Community Hospital.

Community consultations last fall produced Father Judge Memorial Hospital as the preferred name, the interim Liberal leader noted at a chamber of commerce lunch on Feb. 13.

“There was a name chosen, produced by the people who

live here, and I’m calling on the government to listen to that advice,” he said.

“Many residents I have spoken with are disappointed with the new name, particularly with the way the decision was arrived at.

“Last fall, people were asked for their opinions, and now they have been told those opinions don’t mean anything. It appears the entire process was a waste of time.”

Silver said people are probably more upset about

the process than the actual name.

“A decision had already been made and then with no discussion at all people found out that their choice had been turfed and another name chosen,” he said.

“It’s not too hard to fix this, and I’m urging the minster of Health (Doug Graham) to listen to the wishes of the community.”

The name change is just the “latest snafu for a project that has been mishandled since it was first announced in March, 2004,” Silver said.

“ Originally budgeted at \$5.2 million, the final price tag in Dawson will likely be over \$30 million. There have been issues over the location of the facility, the level of care that will be provided and the employment opportunities for existing staff.

“This is just the latest in what has been a train wreck from the get-go. There is a disconnect, a lack of communication and a lack of presence in the community that has been voiced for months and has still not been addressed.

“Unfortunately, naming the hospital has added to this ongoing concern,” he said. “There’s a chance to get this part right, and I hope the minister responds positively.”

Silver also said he is interested in reviewing the Auditor General of Canada’s report on the construction of the Dawson City and Watson Lake hospitals, which is to be released later this month.

You will not believe your eyes, ears and tongues!!

Submitted

An increasing amount of food is GMO or contains GMO’s. What is GMO? GMO means Genetically Modified Organism. It is a process made possible by the discovery of DNA in 1972 by Paul Berg. Corporate giants are now broadly using this technique; they modify crops at their very core. “It is to improve plants” they say. They do not ever mention the side effects of such modifications or the implications of such a process. On top of that, a lot of the advantages of the modifications turn out to vanish as other plants get used to the pesticides, or are

not really better all together. Wouldn’t it be surprising than a natural plant that has gone through millennia of adaptation could be outperformed by a brand new plant?

When a plant is genetically altered, something completely foreign is added to it. The plant, even though it looks absolutely normal, is a completely different organism. Seeds have been evolving very slowly within nature. GMO are new borns. They haven’t been put through the test of time. We know what foods are good to eat. We know very little about those “new” foods.

The studies that have been made to guarantee the safety of those “new foods” are now turning out to be biased at best, completely erroneous according to most. No surprise that in Europe, foods containing GMO’s need to be labelled very clearly.

Because GMO foods do not need to be labelled in North America, those ingredients end up being in about 70% of processed foods.

The practical reality is:

- GMO foods are found to be linked to diabetes, cancer, autoimmune diseases and inflammatory diseases.
- GMO seeds are copyright

and are infecting non GMO seeds. Since the GMO crops are invading non GMO crops, soon all seeds of GMO crops are going to be literally owned by the corporations. Monsanto for example has been bullying farmers that do not buy their seeds or that have GMO seeds in their crops. (See the documentary movie - the world according to Monsanto)

How great would it be to have a self-spreading-copyright essential crop? Well, even if it isn’t the best food out there, a company with a lot of economic clout could bend a few rules to get such a great product on the

market. And people getting sick from it decades later could never prove anything anyways.

You could call it a brilliant tactical move, or a crime against humanity, depending on which side of the fence you are.

I keep on marveling at how much political clout big money has.

Do your own research.

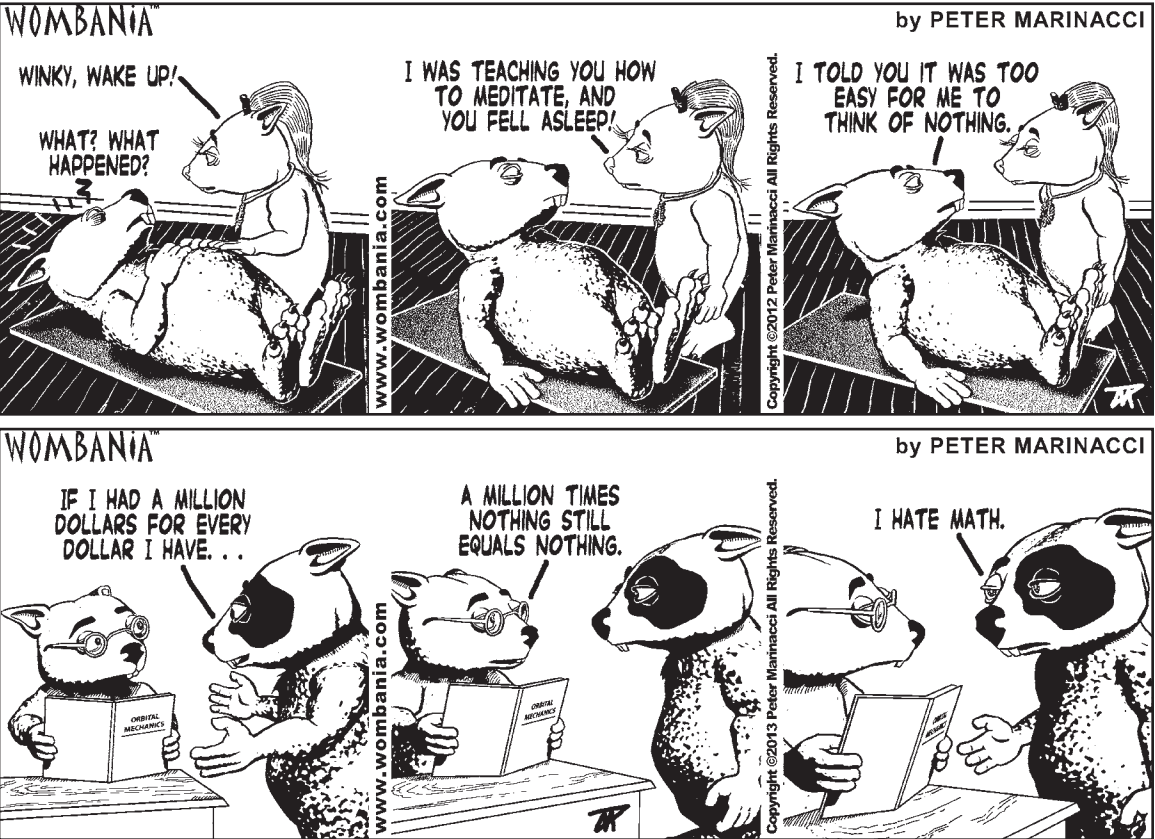
This is one of the reasons the **Dawson Food Safe Advocacy Group** has gotten together and supports local food production. If it is local, we know what it is and the money stays here.

Gravity is a cruel Mistress

by Robin og Bretland

Walking home on Tuesday the 12th, I looked towards the heavens embracing the opulent ocean green of the sun’s plasma within our atmosphere and above the Milkyway . A beautiful scimitar light in the heavens cut by the moon; reminding me of Alba. Pondering as I walked to turn about, witnessing a pool-cue of blazing yellow red light, descending through the atmosphere; a meteorite large and close. A sign I thought..... Coal Creek has been vaporized!

WOMBANIA BY PETER MARINACCI



Couture Honoured for Contributions to Public Policy on the Environment

Story & Photo
By Dan Davidson

Gerry Couture was presented with a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal at the Legion Hall in Dawson on February 7.

Speaking of behalf of Yukon's MP Ryan Leef, his Dawson Agent, Bob Laking, read from the citation.

"The Diamond Jubilee Medal is presented to Mr. Couture in commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of her Majesty's Accession to the Throne and in recognition of his contributions to Canada.

"While Gerry has been a shining star in Yukon's environmental movement, he has contributed hugely to public policy development. He was an early member of the Fish and Wildlife

Management Board when it was pre-implemented, became the first chair when it was established, and as such he was instrumental in setting the tone of post Umbrella Final Agreement Yukon. Specifically he was at the center of establishing the new Placer Regime and is still a respected expert on this important piece of enabling legislation.

"He suffered personally when he was made a target by radicals during the process, but now most parties are content with the regime.

"Gerry was a member of the Royal 22nd Regiment before he came to the Yukon, where he homesteaded at Thistle Creek. He presently lives in Bear Creek near Dawson City with his wife, Jan.

"(I) wish to take this opportunity to personally

thank Mr. Couture for his indelible service and contribution to Yukon and Canada. It is because of the unwavering commitment and dedication of individuals like Gerry that our community prospers."

Couture, not one to blow his own horn, had a few words to say after the presentation.

"I'm really honoured by this. I really appreciate the fact that this celebrates Her Majesty. As for me, there were a whole lot of people that contributed as much or more than I did. I just happened to be the front man and so I accept this in their name."

The ceremony was attended by a dozen or so of the Coutures' friends and neighbours, a number of them from the Bear Creek Subdivision.



Jan and Gerry Couture.

GREAT LEADERS: He Had a Dream

by Lisa McKenna

"I have a dream that my four

little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their

skin, but by the content of their character."

Martin Luther King Jr., August 28th, 1963

He was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 15th 1929, the son and grandson of Baptist ministers. After receiving a B.A. in Sociology (at the age of 19), a Bachelor of Divinity (at 22), a PhD (at 26) in philosophy and theology (the study of the nature, attributes, and governance of God) and becoming an Ordained Baptist minister he followed in the family footsteps and had his first full time ministry from

1954 to 1959 in Montgomery, Alabama.

In 1955 Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her "whites only" seat on the bus. This was to change King's life forever.

In an effort to emulate his hero Mahatma Gandhi, he took up the cause of freedom for the black people. King once said, "Gandhi was probably the first person to lift the love ethic of Jesus above mere interaction between individuals to a powerful and effective social force..."

King was elected president of the Montgomery Improvement Organization, where he started a boycott against the buses and their laws of segregation. He figured if 60% of the black population supported his non-violent protest he would have achieved success, 100% of the black community didn't ride on the buses for 381 days! During this time black protesters were arrested, beaten, and King's house was dynamited. The whole time they upheld the creed of passive resistance and it worked! The Supreme Court outlawed all segregation on public transport.

King became a leader in the civil rights movement. He was elected to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference as president giving



him full access to a national platform where he continued to elaborate on the continued and widespread discrimination against the Blacks. His speeches gave hope to his fellow blacks and raised the nation's consciousness towards the discrepancy between the whites and the blacks.

In 1963 he organized a massive campaign in Birmingham, Atlanta where over 3,300 NON-VIOLENT protesters were arrested, including Mr. King. He also led a peaceful march to Washington D.C. where he delivered his famous "I have a dream..." speech. King was also strongly opposed to the war in Vietnam but he stuck to Gandhi's teaching of 'turning the other cheek'. King was arrested over 30 times, being released once by John F. Kennedy on the eve of the 1960

cont'd on next page ---->



Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in General Assembly

March 2-3, 2013

Change of venue:

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Hall
Dawson City

Saturday & Sunday

Breakfast from 8:30 am • Assembly from 9:30 am

Free daycare • Meals provided • Rides available • Door prizes

Saturday Night Dinner 5:30 pm

For more information call 993-7100

Transport from Whitehorse available on request.

Act now! Please call 1-877-993-3400 by Thursday, February 21.

For local rides call 993-3629.

New YSOVA Program Chair Sees Vast Potential for the Future of the Arts College

Story & Photo
By Dan Davidson

Dr. Curtis Collins comes to the post of program Director and Chair of the Yukon School of Visual Arts (YSOVA) full of enthusiasm for the fledgling institution's potential and for Dawson City itself. An art historian by education, Collins spent nearly 20 years working his way from a Bachelor of Arts (York University) to Master of Arts (Concordia) and Doctor of Philosophy: Dept. of Art History and Communication Studies (McGill). During that time he assembled an impressive resume of directorial and curatorial posts from Fredericton to Regina and coupled these jobs with teaching at seven different colleges and universities across the nation.

He has an even longer list of exhibitions, installations and performances that he has organized, as well as a bibliography of published articles and a variety of memberships fellowships and awards.

He also likes to mention that he was a member of the silver medal winning Canadian World Ultimate Frisbee team in Sweden in 1996 and continued this interest up to being a member of Regina's Ultimate Flying Disc Club. He also skis and cycles and is looking forward to doing both here.

In fact, his habit, since relocating here at the beginning of February, has been to go out for a daily ski and this resulted in him meeting one of the Yukon Quest teams out on the Yukon River, an experience that he found

very impressive.

"I'm an art historian," he said. "I'm not a practicing artist, but I've done lots of teaching at a variety of universities across Canada. I've always sort of straddled the academic world and the curatorial/public gallery scene as well."

He comes to Dawson from Regina, where he was the Director of the Dunlop Art Gallery and Film Theatre at the Regina Public Library, as well as an Instructor with the Department of Fine Arts at the First Nations University of Canada.

His specialty there was the history of Native Art, which works well here considering that the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in are partners with Yukon College and the Dawson City Arts Society (DCAS) in the governance of YSOVA.

Collins sees his role as promoting the college, assisting it in becoming even more a part of the Dawson community, as well as helping it to move to the next stage of its existence as an institution.

Presently, YSOVA offers a foundation year, which is accepted as the first year of a Bachelor of Fine Art (BFA) Degree and is transferable to numerous BFA granting institutions across Canada. Students who have been successful here can transfer to Emily Carr University in Vancouver, B.C.; the Alberta College of Art and Design in Calgary, Alberta; OCAD University in Toronto, Ontario; the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax, N.S.; and the University of the Fraser Valley in B.C., with campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Mission, Hope and Agassiz.



A next step, after six years of successful operations, would be to expand the offering to a full, two year diploma program. Collins is interested in being part of that process, and what he has seen of the program and facilities so far, convinces him that it can be done.

One thing that the governing board wants to see is more activity in the building in the summer. Currently it is mostly host to a series of themed exhibits in the Confluence Gallery on the main floor.

"We could run a painting course here," he says, thinking in particular of the *en plein aire* style which would take advantage of the natural and man-made scenery around Dawson.

"There's a possibility we may be able to get a local printing press and put it downstairs and offer printing courses."

That concept got a bit of a kick-start during last

summer's print symposium that was run in the old Dawson Daily News building alongside the Yukon Riverside Arts Festival. The Klondike Institute of Art and Culture (the program arm of DCAS) partnered with Parks Canada in this project.

Collins also sees the balconies around the joint YSOVA/Yukon College building as a possible site for performance art of some sort during the summer months.

He sees this kind of cultural diplomacy as being a big part of his role where ever he works. Appreciating the art world is often a matter of becoming more

familiar with its vocabulary and intentions, and Collins believes himself capable of carrying out that task in an effective and friendly manner.

He has arrived in Dawson with a long range vision for both the college and himself, looking ahead five, perhaps as much as ten, years. That's a bit of a change for him, but he feels this place has the potential to keep him energized for that length of time, given all the promise that he can see here.

GREAT LEADERS: He Had a Dream

<----cont'd from previous page
presidential election thereby swaying the black peoples' votes in Kennedy's direction.

King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. A Nobel Peace Prize is given out to one who benefits mankind through acts of peace, arising through supporting fraternity between nations, the abolition or reduction of standing armies

and holding and promoting peace conferences.

In the last sermon he delivered he said that he had "been to the mountain top and seen the Promised Land." Perhaps this was a premonition of his demise for the next morning, April 4th, 1968, at the age of only 39. He was assassinated while

standing on a hotel balcony in Memphis, Tennessee. His assassin was an escaped convict named James Earl Ray and he was sentenced to 99 years in jail. I wonder what the world would be like if Lincoln or J.F.K. or Gandhi or Martin Luther King Jr. had lived out their lives. Don't you?

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Marching for Justice in Columbia

Story & Photos
By Anna Vogt

I have never been so exhausted, so tired, so dirty or so exhilarated in my life than when I, along with my community of Mampuján, Columbia, marched 73 kilometres to the city of Cartagena. Seeing Idle No More taking Canada by storm helps me remember our march and the amazing potential people have to create change when they are drawn together in a new way.

Just as Idle No More has not come out of nothing, but instead rises out of a history of resistance, culminating with Aboriginal people in Canada engaging in creative actions to protect their treaty rights. so our march didn't just happen at the moment. My community also had rights to protect, enshrined in the court order as victims of armed conflict that they had received over a year ago, but also rights as human beings to a life lived in peace and with dignity.

Ricardo Sequoia, the director of Sembrando Paz (Planting Peace), the local organization I work with, arrived in the community and inspired all of us by reminding us of the courageous work of Martin Luther King Jr. and the Black civil rights movement, where creative non-violence was a key strategy. As a community, we decided to walk to the government building in the capital to create awareness of our situation and to demonstrate that Mampuján may have received beautiful promises but the reality was never fulfilled. The community

was still living in poverty.

It was not easy to become organized, or to leave the community at four in the morning the first day. People were frightened and unsure if they could walk that far, or what could happen to them along the way. Many people remembered leaving the community when they were displaced, carrying all that they could as they fled their homes, even though this day was different - community members were choosing their own future and walking together to improve their lives.

However, one of the most emotional moments of all occurred as we walked into Cartagena. The city has been the site of what many movies are made of: epic pirate battles, treasure, romance, and slavery. The ancestors of members of my community had built the fortifications surrounding the city and been sold in the very plaza we were marching through. But this time, it was not a march of forced servitude until death. Rather, it was a march of empowered people who knew who they were and would stop at nothing to demand their rights as equal citizens of Colombia.

It was also a march that inspired those around us. Mampuján is not the only community made up of victims of armed conflict - the majority of Colombians have been impacted by the over forty year internal strife. People in the market in Cartagena offered us food, asking how they too could join in, as other victims of armed conflict.

With blisters and joy we finally made it to the government

building, meeting with the governor and dialoguing to establish working groups and new ways of walking forward. But one of the best results of all was the change within the community itself.

It was worth every step to arrive in Mampuján afterwards, dirty and exhausted, to hear the community applauding all of us as we wearily stepped off the bus. People were there to greet us with hugs and words of encouragement. Kids were excited to talk about how they saw us on television and people that had no desire to participate beforehand were excited about taking part in upcoming activities. We even had enough food left over to distribute among everyone in the community, whether they marched or not. When faced with an obstacle today, people remind each other of how they walked to Cartagena and they have hope.

Of course, not everything was perfect. It was really hard. I even ended up having a nice cry on top of a pile of cabbages at one point. But, we did it and it changed both us and our situation. That, I believe, is my hope for the Idle No More movement. Change through actions that bring people together, that empowers, and that allows everyone to live a life of dignity.



The signs say "Walking for the Holistic reparations of the Victims"



Stay safe this heating season

Hi, I'm Mike Marcuson, Deputy Fire Marshal

Take these simple steps to safeguard your family and your home:

- ✓ If you burn wood, clean your chimney and your stove regularly;
- ✓ When cooking never leave your stove unattended;
- ✓ Make sure candles are out before you leave a room;
- ✓ Test your carbon monoxide detectors and change their batteries regularly; and
- ✓ Check your smoke alarms and change their batteries.

Home safety is everyone's responsibility, please do your part.

www.community.gov.yk.ca



PROTECT YOUR HOME. PROTECT YOUR FAMILY. PROTECT YOURSELF.

Dawson Buys the CIBC Building, Ending a Long Debate Over its Future

Story & Photo
By Dan Davidson

Scarcely a public meeting has gone by since the mid 1990s when someone has not raised the issue of the decaying former CIBC bank building on Front Street and what the City of Dawson was doing to resolve the issues it presents.

No surprise then, that it came up again at the municipal services review public meeting on January 29. Mayor Potoroka dodged the question, on the perfectly acceptable pretext that it was not actually a municipal services issue, but there were other reasons for not discussing the building that night.

The very next day marked the signing of an agreement between the building's owner, Michele Palma, and the town, resolving an issue which has been a perpetual thorn in Dawson's historic image ever since the CIBC moved out and into the Dawson Plaza on Second Avenue.

The press release, printed here last issue, was terse and to the point, but lacking in specifics.

"Dawson City is pleased to announce that it reached an amicable settlement with local businessman, Michele Palma, in respect of the former CIBC bank building located on the waterfront of the Town. The settlement reached provides for Dawson City to purchase the Building from Mr. Palma. Dawson City appreciates Mr. Palma's contribution to Dawson City's history."

Failing this settlement, the town and Palma would have gone to court in April to settle once and for all the issue which was stirred up by former Mayor Peter Jenkins in the summer of 2011, when he announced that the town actually owned the building (which was sitting on land that the territorial government had transferred to the town at the request of the Steins' administration) and was going to take it over.

While there appeared to be a strong case for his assertion at the beginning of the very public debate,

City Manager Jeff Renaud and current Mayor Wayne Potoroka said on Feb. 4 that after \$35 to \$40 thousand worth of legal wrangling on the matter, the best advice of the town's lawyers was that they could easily spend that much again and stand a good chance of losing the case.

"Every indication that we were given was that we had a limited chance of success in court," Potoroka said.

"We had a stronger case," Renaud added, "and then as it developed in discoveries, we started getting the sense that our opportunity to win that was slowly eroding."

So, after a good deal of deliberation, combined with engineering and structural advice as to the worthiness of the building, and advice from a restoration planner, the town made Mr. Palma an offer, and he decided to take it.

The sale price was \$170,000.00, money taken from the town's financial reserves. Renaud says this does make a dent in that administration reserve account, but the town can afford it and it takes one of the most negative issues in the community's public discussion off the table.

This expenditure has no impact on any of the town's regular departmental spending on regular services.

"You have to weigh out the public good," Potoroka said, "your chances of success ... how much money you're willing to spend in pursuit of that limited chance of success."

There were other possible resolutions to the situation, but one that was most undesirable involved moving the building. The historic value of the CIBC building rests in the facts that it is an early institutional building, one of just a few left in the nation with that particular style of shaped metal cladding, and the place where the poet Robert Service worked as a teller before he struck it rich with his verse. If you move the building it loses a lot of its significance right off the bat. It needs to be sitting right next to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board Plaque



The Old CIBC Building and the Keno are landmark sites on Front Street.

that defines it.

"The people of this community now own probably the most significant historic building in town," Potoroka said.

The Mayor's Facebook page, where the bare bones press release appeared over the weekend, already has 100 "likes" for this posting, and 38 comments that range from "happy dance" to paragraph long business proposals, including everything from moving the

bank back in there to turning it into "a Goldrush era themed brew pub with a river view patio."

That last item isn't as odd as it might seem, since historic photos show that the building once had a deck/wharf extending out to the river.

Renaud has already received a number of serious proposals from people who want to be involved in restoring the building in some way.

There were discussions two or three years ago within the CIBC

organization regarding the future use of the building, but the bank has refused to comment specifically when officials have been contacted about this.

Renaud has already identified some possible funding sources that might help to finance restoration, including a National Historic Sites Cost Sharing Program, which the federal government has just announced will be continued for another year.

"We're entering into a new

era with this building now," Renaud said. "We've gone through the battles with a local individual to a point where now we're looking at the rebuild and the restoration."

Next steps including getting the services of a restoration architect, creating a plan and applying for grant funding to begin that process. The town hopes to carry out exterior work as early as this summer.



yukon
hospital corporation

Dawson City Hospital has the following openings:

REGISTERED NURSE

Regular Full Time (6 positions): Competition # 2012-256

Regular Part Time (2 positions): Competition # 2012-262

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE

Regular Full Time (4 positions): Competition # 2013-028 to 2013-031

Regular Part Time (1 position): Competition # 2013-032

COMBINED LAB/X-RAY TECHNOLOGIST

Regular Full Time (1 position): Competition # 2013-052

Visit our website at www.yukonhospitals.ca for more information on these and other job opportunities.

Please send your resume/application quoting the appropriate competition number to:

**Human Resources Department
Whitehorse General Hospital
#5 Hospital Road Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 3H7
Email: whjobs@wgh.yk.ca**

Yukon Hospital Corporation is committed to employment equity. We thank all those who apply and advise that only those candidates selected for further consideration will be contacted.

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If so, please contact
info@newroadmedia.ca



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 26th, 2013

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Meeting at 7:00 pm

Diamond Tooth Gerties

Nominations for the Board of Directors of the Klondike Visitors Association are now open

We will be filling a minimum of 5 Director positions. Nominations will be accepted at the Association office up to and at the Annual General Meeting, at which time nominations will be accepted from the floor. Eligibility lists are posted at the Post Office & the KVA Office.

Don't forget to get your 2013 membership!

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Gamache investigates the death of a wonderful victim

The Cruellest Month

By Louis Penny
Headline Publishing Group
372 pages
\$10.99

Three Pines, Quebec, seems like such a quiet, idyllic little village. The major characters that we have come to know include a nationally famous poet, another woman who would like to be a poet, a married couple who are artists, a gay couple who run a B&B/Inn and a smattering of other people who turn up from time to time.

It's also a lethal place, for people seem to die there in all seasons of the year. In this, the third of Penny's Chief Inspector Armand Gamache mysteries, we arrive in town for a third season of murder.

It is April, T.S. Elliot's "cruellest month" according to "The Wasteland" and the village is celebrating Easter Weekend, though sometimes the passage of time in Three Pines is a little obscure.

"Time eddied and swirled and sometimes bumped into it, but never stayed long and never made much of an impression."

Much like Agatha Christie (and she has won the Christie Award a number of times now) Penny spends a lot of time introducing the place and the people that we need to know in order to make sense of what follows. We are eight chapters into the story before the police are even mentioned.

Readers of the two earlier books will know of the Hadley house, the scene of the murderous climax of an earlier novel and a place full of haunting menace for both the residents of the town and the Sûreté du Québec homicide team that will eventually be dispatched from Montreal to deal with the latest strange death.

It was a dreadful place to hold a séance, and when one member of the circle drops dead - apparently of fright - after the visiting wiccan practitioner (everyone calls her a witch) has set the stage for a spiritual visitation, it seems at first that the explanation for this particular death might be quite routine. The woman, Madeleine, was already dying of cancer, though she hadn't told anyone and it wasn't obvious yet. In

BOOKENDS

by Dan Davidson



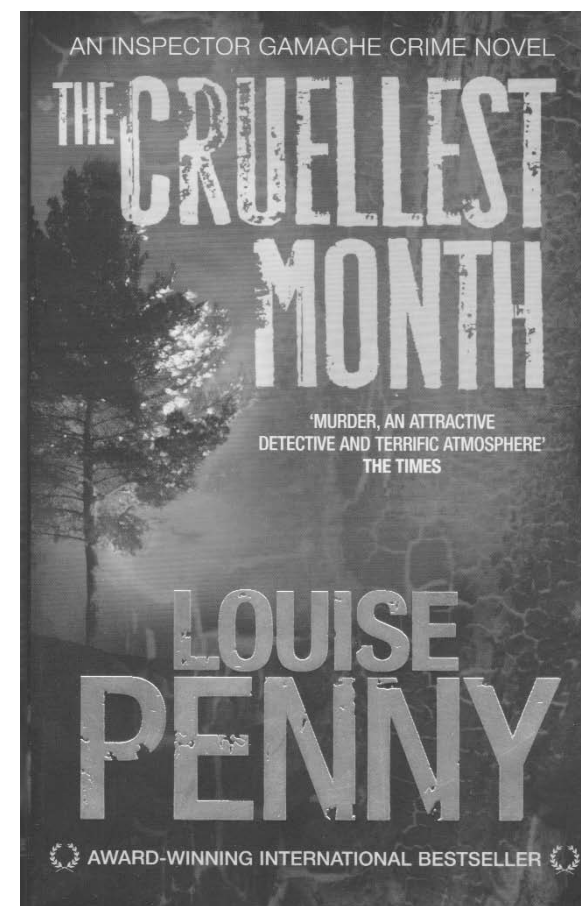
In addition, her heart had been weakened by the treatments used to drive away the first bout of the disease.

Madeleine dies on page 55 and we turn the page to meet Gamache in a moment of family intimacy. Four pages later he is informed of his next case, and begins to assemble his team. What he does not know at the point is that his powerful enemies have begun to assemble his ruin, and that his own actions of some year earlier, when he cleaned up a corrupt vigilante unit in the upper echelons of the force, will haunt him throughout the case at hand.

There are two tracks to this story, for though we have been aware of the Arnot Scandal over the course of the series, it is only here that we learn exactly what happened. Gamache has to explain it to his chief lieutenant, Beauvoir, in order to make his game plan clear as both cases heat up.

The assault on Gamache, carried out by means of a well orchestrated release of ambiguous information to the lower class Montreal tabloids is, in many ways, more compelling than the murder at hand, but Penny manages to hold our interest in the lesser of the two mysteries and lay down enough red herrings in both cases to keep us guessing.

In particular, she manages to cast a lot of doubt on just who might have killed the luminous Madeleine, for she is one of those natural bright lights that everyone loves, and who always seems to excel in relationships without really trying. Her ex-husband even goes so far as to suggest that he drove her out of the marriage because he



was being blinded by her light, something for which he does not blame her one bit.

Who would kill such a person? That's the mystery here.

As for Gamache's problems within the Sûreté, these are not a mystery to us. We know exactly who is plotting against him and the only mystery is that the otherwise canny chief inspector seems unaware of just who that is.

Penny's website reveals that *Still Life*, the first of the Gamache novels, has been made into a television movie for the CBC, and will star British actor Nathaniel Parker, who will be known to fans of BBC mysteries for his starring role as Inspector Thomas Lynley, the character created in the mystery series by Elizabeth George.

The Penny books have been translated into nearly two dozen languages all over the world now, though it was years before they were actually released in French in Quebec. Her website, blog and Facebook page contain some interesting anecdotes about her writing life, and the CBC website contains a fine interview that she did with Shelagh Rogers on "The Next Chapter" about a year ago.

We're Curling!

Commercial Bonspiel Results, January 11-13

The scores (far right column) for each team are caculated from the best of four games (see legend at bottom of chart). The total score also indicates total money won.
Out of 13 teams, in first place with \$160 was team Wes Peterson.

	Game #1	Game #2	Game #3	Game #4	Total
1 Arctic Inland					80
2 Corey Clement					0
3 The Dicks					120
4 Chilly Peppers					80
5 KIAC					40
6 Rocks A Head					20
7 KNHS					80
8 Wes Peterson					160
9 Percy DeWolf					40
10 Bonanza Market					140
11 Borealis Painting					100
12 KVA					100
13 Fraser's					80

Win: \$ 40

Tie: \$ 20

Loss: \$ 0

Photos by Karen MacKay



Akio Saito and Dan Sokolowski get out the measuring stick to make this close call.



Champions of the 114th International Bonspiel A-Event, the ELKS.

114th International Bonspiel Results, February 1-3

- Winner A-Event:** ELKS (Evan Rensch),
2nd LAMBS (Akio Saito)
- Winner B-Event:** Plan B (Luis Gerberding),
2nd Team Heinz (Heinz Naef)
- Winner C-Event:** MELTS (Mark Castellarin),
2nd Team Dewell (Rod Dewell)
- Winner D-Event:** Team Fraser (Ian Fraser),
2nd Generals (Wes Peterson)

See photos from the A-Event Finals between the ELKS and the LAMBS (right).

The Klondike Sun congratulates the winners from the Commercial Bonspiel and the International Bonspiel. Good curling, everyone! Thanks also to Beat Kaelin for sharing the scores and Karen MacKay for sharing your photos.



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Inmate is refusing to consume solid food

By Chuck Tobin, *Whitehorse Star*, February 8, 2013
Reprinted with permission

An inmate at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre who is refusing to eat solid foods is on constant medical watch in solitary confinement, an official confirmed this morning.

Tricia Ratel, director of corrections, said the inmate is monitored constantly.

He has been offered medical and counselling services, but corrections aren't able to interfere with his rights to choose not to eat solids.

For privacy reasons, Ratel said, she's not able to discuss his medical condition, release his name or his age, nor could she say off the top of her head how long he's been refusing to eat solids.

She did confirm the inmate has lost weight, though she would not say how much.

"Of course, we have to respect his right to do that," Ratel said. "We cannot interfere with that, medically or otherwise."

"He is making informed

decisions, but we are monitoring his health."

A nurse, she said, has been assigned to check on the inmate four times a day.

"Sometimes he agrees to see the nurse and sometimes he doesn't," Ratel said. "He is consuming fruit juice, water, tea, Tai tea, kelp tea, and we have recently got him organic blueberry and cranberry juice, at his request."

The director said the inmate volunteered to be moved into solitary confinement, away from the general population where inmates are relatively free to leave their cells and move about freely in the common area.

At this point, however, he would not likely be allowed to return to the general population automatically upon his request, because of the health risks associated with not eating solid foods for so long, she said.

Ratel said at this point the monitoring required should the inmate begin eating solid would be more difficult if he were permitted to return to the general population.

Up until recently, officials with the Department of Justice have been unwilling to either confirm or deny information coming out of the jail about the so-called hunger strike.

Justice spokesman Dan Cable said Thursday it was decided recently to discuss the matter publicly to some extent, given the information coming out through social media, some of which is being circulated by the inmate himself.

Mark McDiarmid has been in contact with the *Star* over the last couple of months, describing his case and the reasons behind his solid food protest.

The 34-year-old McDiarmid maintains he has been treated unjustly and harshly by the Yukon's system of justice, from before his arrest on a charge of assaulting an RCMP officer in Dawson City through to his ongoing confinement at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

A handful of others who know of the situation through direct contact with

McDiarmid, or who have family or friends who've served time at the jail, have also contacted the *Star* to express how serious they believe the matter is.

Mostly recently, a letter from McDiarmid's family and friends pleads for assistance for their son and brother.

"To any news agency, reporter or lawyer that is willing to help financially, legally and anyone interested in helping to get the below information out to the public," reads the opening sentence in the two-page letter.

The letter goes on to describe McDiarmid's view of the case. By law, the *Star* is limited in what it can publish.

The court has ordered the standard publication ban on evidence pertaining to several criminal charges McDiarmid is facing.

The family letter, however, says McDiarmid also started fasting on Oct. 27, 2012 – a year to the day that he was shot and arrested by the RCMP – to protest conditions at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

Among the concerns raised by the family was an issue with heating – or the lack of.

At one point during December's cold snap, the letter contends, the temperature in McDiarmid's cell was between 12 and 14 C.

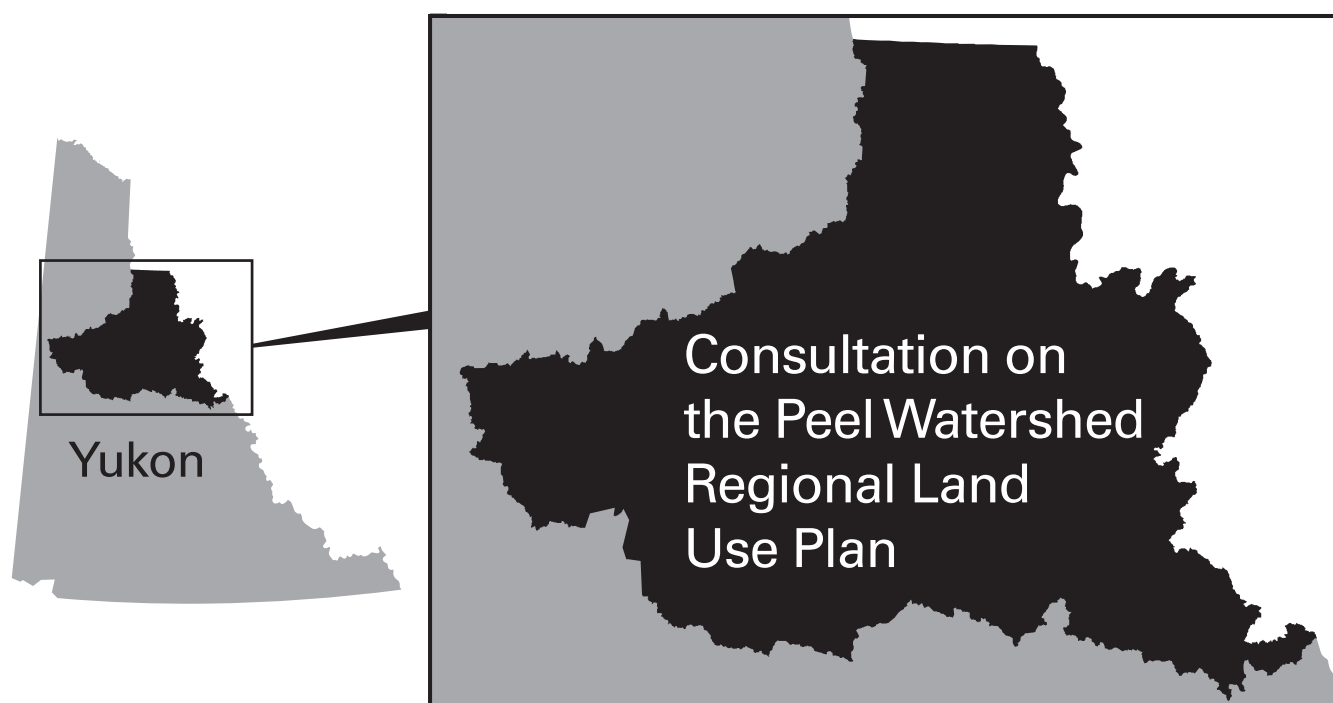
The director of corrections acknowledged this morning there is a problem with the heating system at the new \$70-plus-million correctional centre.

Ratel said she could not be more specific because the matter is being dealt by the Department of Highways and Public Works.

Cable said inmates are provided with additional sweaters and blanketing when required.

Communication staff with Highway and Public works were still pursuing information this morning regarding the heating system at the correction centre.

Reminder: submit your comments by February 25, 2013



Until February 25, 2013, Government of Yukon is consulting on the Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan.

Your valuable feedback will help finalize the Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan and provide guidance for the long-term use of Yukon land and resources.

For more information, and to provide your comments, visit the consultation website and complete the electronic feedback form or call toll-free 1-800-661-0408 ext. 3183.



www.peelconsultation.ca

Yukon
Government

The Toonie Tourney Report

Submitted

The Dawson City U7 soccer team traveled to Whitehorse over the January 11-12 weekend to play in Whitehorse Minor Soccer’s Toonie tourney.

Coach Caribou says the team performed extremely well and adjusted to playing after taking a loss on Friday 4-2. On the Saturday, the team rebounded and played 3 matches before noon and went undefeated, posting a tie, win and tie.

Coach Johnny says during the 3rd match on Saturday, if the team scored it would have put them into the semifinals. Rachel ‘the rocket’ Kormendy hit the post while Kaitlin Sollosy stood her ground to post a second straight shutout.

Coach Johnny was pleased with the team’s performance and enjoyed the almost heart-attacks from many of the parents during the 3rd game on Saturday when team Awesome Dawson came so close to winning.

Coach Johnny would like to thank the parents who participated in the tourney which provided a great learning experience for Dawson kids.



Team ‘Awesome Dawson’ included:
Rachel ‘the rocket’ Kormendy
Kaitlin ‘the rock’ Sollosy
Teagan ‘Messi’ Ewing
Rohan ‘the spider’ Renaud
Kailer ‘kamikaze’ Freeman
Ryan ‘the destroyer’ Cleland
Beatrix ‘the golden boot’ Duncan
Eli ‘the magician’ Cairns
Francesca ‘bend it like Beckham’ Nunan

Another Premature Blast



By Lisa McKenna

He was born October 3rd, 1954 and he died in a helicopter crash on August 27, 1990 making him only 36 years of age.

He was an American guitarist, a singer/songwriter, and a record producer who revolutionized American Blues in the 1980's. After trying his hand at the drums and the saxophone he began playing the guitar at 7.

He formed his first band, called the 'Chantones' when he was 10 and they performed in a local talent show. He started and joined numerous bands like Black Bird, Kracker Jack, the Night Crawlers, Cobra, and Triple Threat.

His music was influenced by Albert King, Freddie King, Otis Rush, Muddy Waters, Jimi Hendrix, Lonnie Mack, and jazz instrumentalist Kenny Burrell.

In the fall of 1983 he opened up 17 Moody Blues concerts and he played in the Sidney Opera House. He was the first musician to be awarded both Entertainer of the Year and Instrumentalist of the Year.

He settled down with Double Trouble and for over 7 years it was sold out concerts and gold albums. He has been awarded 5 W.C. Handy awards (W.C. Handy was "The Father" of blues, one of the most influential American songwriters there was. These awards were changed in 2006 to become the Blues Music Awards), he is an honorary admiral in the U.S. Navy, was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame, won a Grammy for the Best Contemporary Blues Album, entered the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Rolling Stones magazine named him 7th out of top 100, Guitar World named him 8th in a line of the top guitarists.

"Well now tell me what in the world can be wrong?"
"If time is all we got then


Baby let's take it" Well he had his time but it wasn't enough. Rock and Roll, and Blues would be in a whole different space if Stevie Ray Vaughan would of continued to rock or world.

At his Memorial he was given the highest honors as Stevie Wonder, Jackson Brown and Bonnie Raitt sang amazing grace.

SORRY!

My article on 'being' can't 'be'! It's stuck in my computer! I guess computers and apple juice don't mix. But never fear it is on my hard drive so I'll be able to reclaim it from there so I just keep on 'being' and it will 'be' in the paper soon.

- Lisa McKenna



Happy 50th Birthday
Philippe Bartholomeus!

How do you feel to be
half a century old?

Love,
your much younger wife



Yukon NDP
Official Opposition

Official Opposition
Leader Liz Hanson
invites you to a Dawson
City Community
Meeting
Tuesday, March 5th
at 6:30pm
Odd Fellows Ballroom
Everyone welcome!

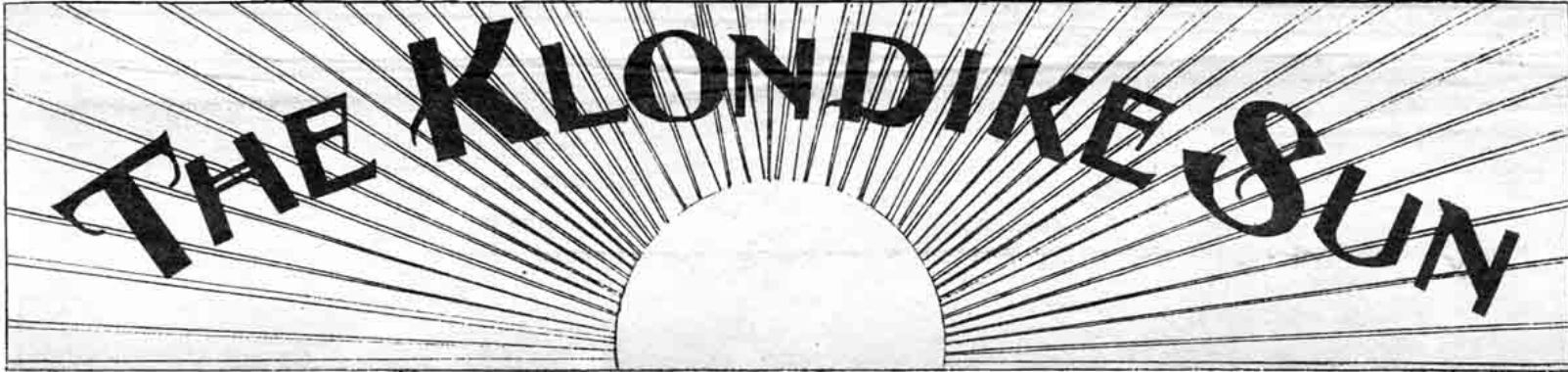
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TWENTY YEARS AGO IN THE SUN



DAWSON CITY, YUKON

The weird weather issue

Vol. 4, No. 11

Thursday, February 11, 1993

60¢

New Winter recreation weekend break-ins

by Dan Davidson

Recreation is certainly the primary purpose of the Bonanza Centre, but as far as Dawson recreation director Peter Menzies is concerned, those miscreants who are making up their own weekend games by breaking into the building can just go and play somewhere else.

The centre has been the target of three break-ins since the beginning of the New Year, most associated with times when there has been legitimate weekend activity in the curling rink.

Coleman Johnson's fast food bar in the lobby has been hit a couple of times. Johnson doesn't want to go on the record about it, but Menzies says Johnson's outlet lost some money the first time. He doesn't leave any cash or easily disposable goods there any more. On the second occasion, a week or so later, the

thieves tipped over Johnson's Coke vending machine.

"I'm not sure if they got anything and nothing was missing anywhere, but the machine doesn't work any more," Menzies said.

The next night, also the weekend of January 23, the intruders attempted forcing several doors inside the building and finally did get into a storage room. Again, nothing was taken.

"They had access to things, too," said Menzies. "It was really strange. In the stained glass area they could have taken some hockey equipment or a ghetto blaster. They seem to be looking for cigarettes or booze."

Eventually, recreation staff found that the fire exits to the building had been tampered with and that was how entrance was being gained. This leads to the thought that people who were in

the building earlier in the day deliberately left the fire doors slightly ajar and actually removed the deadbolt that secures the ice area from the lobby.

The access problems have been fixed and no one's been in for a few weeks now, but Menzies says the police are still looking into matters.

"A lot of people have said that when there's bonspiels on that things like this are more apt to happen, but it's the first time we've had a problem since I've worked there, which will be 3 years next month."

The R.C.M.P. are indicating to the inter-agency community that there isn't a general problem with small scale crime of this type by teens, Menzies says. What little there is, is done by a very few people.

Getting the Ball rolling

by Brent Morrison

The Klondike Centennial Society's Inaugural Ball is quickly approaching. Set to coincide with the arrival of the Yukon Quest competitors, the Klondike Centennial Society is hosting a "Casino Night" Friday, February 19, then following it up Saturday night with the Ball. "The KCS wants to throw its support behind the Quest, and kick off the Decade," states chairperson Jon Magnusson. Both events take place at Diamond Tooth Gertie's.

Two hundred fifty tickets went on sale January 19 in Dawson at \$60 per couple and \$35 per person. While organizers admit that ticket sales haven't been as large as expected, they also realize that Dawsonites are in the habit of making last minute purchases.

Mayor Peter Jenkins will provide the opening ceremonies to officially begin the Ball Saturday night. Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. with cocktails, followed by dinner at 6:30, and dancing and gambling at 9:00.

The eighteen piece *Circumpolar*

Swing Band of Whitehorse provides the entertainment. The band was well received at the Dawson Music Festival during the summer of '92.

The organizers are hoping most people will attend the Ball in 1898 attire, but semi-formal dress is also acceptable. "We want something that grabs the imagination and attention of others," is the official word from KCS. They also felt it was time, "to quit talking about winter tourism and do something."

With the KVA, the Dawson Chamber of Commerce, and the Klondike Centennial Society trying to promote winter tourism in the town, the KVA board was interested in opening Gertie's early. When the KCS approached them with a request to host the Casino Night and the Ball, giving them specific events, the board approved the opening.

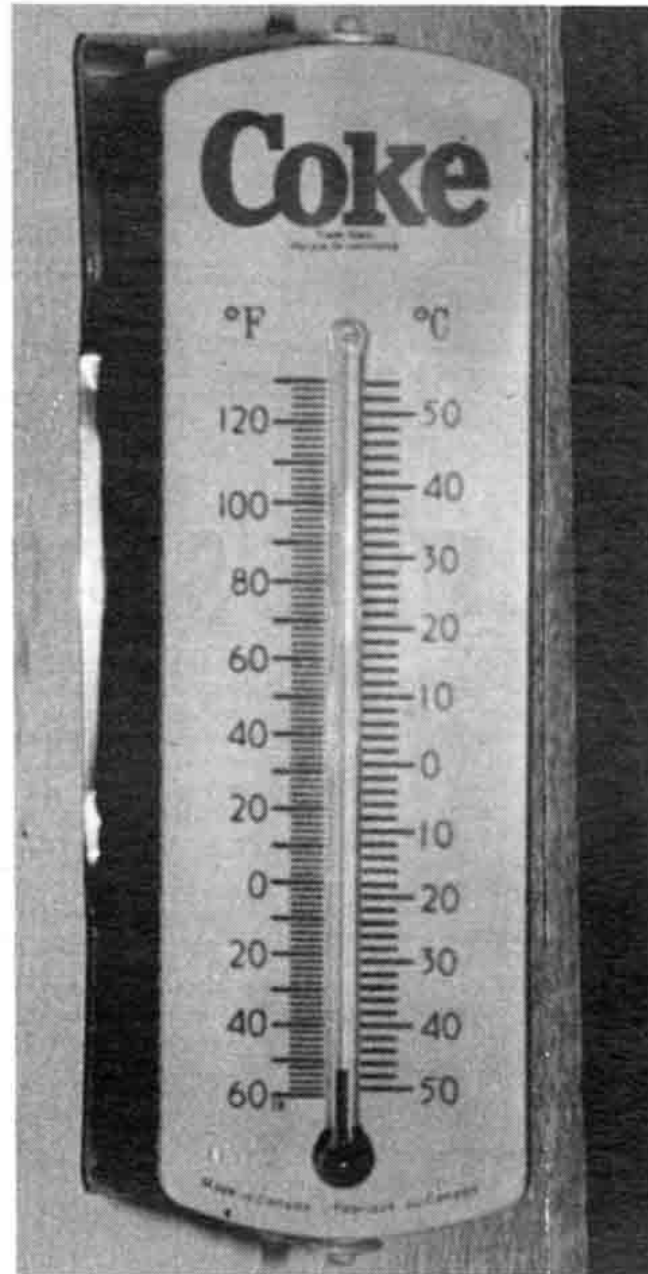
Gertie's usually opens during the last weekend of February when the town hosts an oldtimers hockey tournament and the Top of the World Curling Bonspiel.

In the past, this was also the weekend that the Quest hit town, but in an attempt to attract more competitors the Quest has been starting earlier. Many mushers felt the Quest was too close to Alaska's Iditarod race, and opted out of the Quest for the bigger purse offered in Alaska.

Last season the Quest started two weeks earlier, and with Gertie's poor showing during the 1991 operating season, it couldn't afford to open two weeks ahead of schedule. It takes a week to re-open Gertie's and costs about \$2,000.00 per week just to heat the building. KVA manager Bob McConkey admits Gertie's being closed that weekend, "was a real disappointment to everyone." This year the Quest is starting only one week earlier.

The committee had discussed the idea of a Ball last year, but ran out of time to go through with it. They felt it was an ap-

Cont. on pg. two



The mercury huddles on Feb. 2 at 8:02 a.m. Our bilingual thermometer tells the story. It was cold, folks.

Photo by Kathy Jones-Gates

What's Inside

Northern Stores pg. 7

Weather Report pg. 11

Yukon Quest pgs. 14-15

Congratulations Joanne pg. 23

Dawsonites can Grab A Cab once more

**Story and Photo
by Alice Thompson**

Patricia Seip officially started up “Grab a Cab” Taxi service on February 5 this year. I met up with Patricia and the other driver, Marty Leaf, in front of the Keno Paddle Boat. I took a few pictures of them with their cab... the day had started out overcast but just as I started taking pictures the late afternoon sun came out and provided some great lighting. Afterwards Patricia and I went to the Downtown Hotel have a coffee and a warm place to do an interview while Marty took the cab out on a call.

I started out by asking Patricia how she got the idea for adding ‘Grab a Cab’ to her existing B&B operation (Juliette’s Manor).

She answered: “After living here for almost 3 years there’ve been a few occasions when I wished there was a taxi here, and a lot of my guests in the B&B of asked why there wasn’t a taxi service already in town”

Patricia also related a story about what happened to her in 2010, before she moved from Edmonton to Dawson to open her B&B business. A former

Inuvik resident, from the age of 19 on Patricia and many of her friends would fly out to Dawson for Discovery Days. Then, in the spring of 2010 she flew in to surprise a friend in Dawson, and had to catch a ride from an airport employee to make it in to town.

Patricia went on; “It is quieter for me in the B&B in the winter, and having a cab provides an additional service to the town that I feel it needs. I did a little bit of research and a lot of people said that a cab would do well here... so here I am!”

There is a long pause then Patricia gives me a sidelong look, and says “You expect me to be wordier but I’m not a very wordy person.”

I acknowledge her discomfort with being interviewed, and then I ask about her car which I consider to be a very cool looking vehicle driving around Dawson. Patricia brightens.

“I like the classic cars. Lorraine (what she calls her cab) is a 1980 Pontiac Parisienne. Lorraine is big and comfortable and classic, and drives like a tank... she’s great. And Lorraine is metered.. I think it is a fairer system than flat rate.



Driver and owner of “Grab a Cab” Patricia Seip, Driver Marty Leaf, and “Lorraine”, their 1980 Pontiac Cab shine in some late afternoon Dawson sunshine in front of the SS Keno sternwheeler.

When I lived in Inuvik I worked in the automotive parts industry and also used to demolition derby, though it was a shame to see all those old classic cars get crunched”

Patricia gives a big enthusiastic smile;

“Lorraine would be a pimp demolition car... but she’s too valuable to me.

It’s only been a week but

I’m feeling optimistic this will be a valued service to the community. I expect it will be much busier in the summer and at that point I would like to expand into two cars, and add another classic car to the fleet.”

Bootie Time at the Cultural Centre

Story & Photos by Alice Thompson

Freda Roberts taught her class about making baby size booties in traditional Hän and Gwich’in styles during the first two Saturdays this February. The class was held at the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre and was well attended by local crafters. Most members of the class were making their baby slippers for a specific friend or relative, though Angela, the local coordinator for the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program, plans to give her pair to one of the new mothers she is working with.

Many beautiful examples of beadwork stitching came out of the class with most favoring traditional Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in floral designs.



- Photos: clockwise from the top left*
- Faye is already an experienced local beader but took the class to make a pair of booties for a friend’s baby
 - Freda Roberts explains some points of bootie construction to Hayley, a workshop participant. Hayley created a peach floral pattern”
 - Angela decorated her pair of booties in vivid cobalt and yellow floral beadwork.
 - Echo created a more contemporary design to give to her three-month-old cousin.



HSD Celebrates More Space

Story & Photo
By Dan Davidson

In mid January Humane Society Dawson celebrated the opening of its addition, a bright new multi-purpose room with a linoleum floor made possible by grants and donations. A Community Development Grant provided \$20,000 and the remaining \$13,000.00 was fundraised locally, including coin and bill collections in jars all over the town.

One of the reasons for having an open house, said Shelter coordinator Katie Pearse, was to show locals what it was they had helped to build.

The shelter has a reception room, a L-shaped space for dog cages and lots of space outside, including kennels out there when the weather permits. The new room opens up some improved options.

"This is more sanitary, so we'll be doing all of our vaccinations and testing all of our animals in

employee, though there are some part time people and volunteers.

Local vet John Overell once worked out of the building, but now has his clinic at his home in Rock Creek. He is a regular sight at HSD however, and the new room gives him a place to work now that the cats have taken over the space that was once his clinic.

It's also a place where any other visiting vet can work if Overell happens to be out of town for a while. Finding space for visiting vets was a serious problem while Overell was recovering from his motorcycle accident a few years ago and until he was able to return to his practice.

As a registered charitable organization the shelter receive tax-deductable donations to help it with funding. It relies on the sale of straw, fundraising, membership fees, and animal boarding/surrender/adoption fees to assist then with the



The cat room

here. It can also be a quarantine room in case we have a sick animal."

The new room also has its own entrance to the yard, which will allow for a sick animal to be

funding needed to run the shelter.

HSD also receives funding from the City of Dawson in order to provide kennel services for animals apprehended by the



The new room

isolated from the others.

The facility is located in the Callison Industrial Subdivision, can house eight dogs and eight cats. The cats now have a room of their own, with smaller stacked kennels, scratching posts and places to climb, including on top of the duct work for the heating system.

Pearse is the only full time

Bylaw Control Officer.

In addition to services provide at the shelter, HSD had a number of pet education programs that it offers when it can.

"We're planning an obedience school for dog walking for this summer," said part-time employee Willow Tims, who works on the weekends.

Constructivism Revisited by YSOVA Students

Story & Photos
By Dan Davidson

Students at the Yukon School of Visual Arts have been back in class just over a month, but the end of a unit on the art movement called Constructivism and the arrival of the new Program Director, Dr. Curtis Collins, made it a good time to have an exhibit of the work that has occupied instructor Bill Burns' 2D and 3D Studies class during that period.

Burns explained that the YSOVA students have been looking at a lot of work by Alexander Rodchenko, Andy Warhol and Robert Rauschenberg (American) and Jessica Stockholder (Canadian) among others.

While the exhibition was blurred as "Constructivism Revisited", it also explored the Pop Art movement.

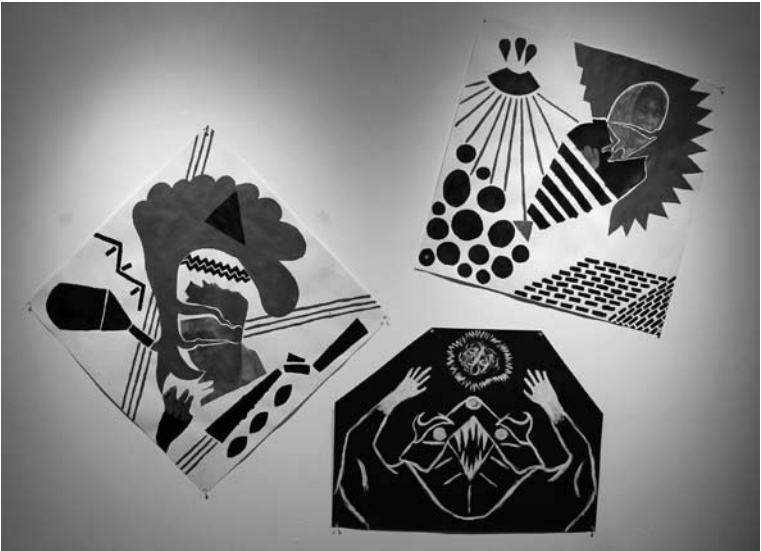
Rodchenko was a Russian artist and pioneer of Constructivism who eventually turned to working in photomontage and photography.

Rauschenberg is described as a precursor of the Pop Art movement in America, of which Warhol is perhaps the best known practitioner, although their lives and careers overlap. Both worked in other art mediums as well; Warhol in film and Rauschenberg as a designer

for dance productions.

Stockholder is a dual citizen of the USA and Canada, and is best known for her site-specific installations, which were described in the *New York Times* in 2009 as "blurring the distinction among painting, sculpture and environment, and even breaching gallery walls by extending beyond windows and doors."

On February 7 and 8 the students showed their new drawings and collages inspired by these artists. All of the works shared elements of drawing, painting and collage and were assembled as more than one piece, the elements interacting. None of the pieces were titled,



which left it up to the viewers to decide what they were about.

There was an informal

opening on the first day and the exhibition was on view on the Friday afternoon.

See Ron James' Dawson on Feb 27

By Dan Davidson
photo provided

The February 27 episode of CBC's "Ron James' Show" will feature the footage that the scrappy comic shot while in Dawson City last May. James performed a evening show at the Palace Grand Theatre, organized by the Dawson City Museum, and then met fans at a find raising reception held at the museum after the show.

The Dawson segment, which will only be a few minutes long, according to James, is described in the show's advance publicity.

"And in this week's 'Ode to the Road', Ron makes the trek to Dawson City, Yukon, where he discovers there's a lot more than gold in 'them thar hills'..."

"We shot there for a full day - day and a half," James said, "but my show is 22 minutes long. It's a comedy show, not a mini-series."

"There's so much to be done on Dawson that I could have stayed there for a month. My mandate on 'Road Odes', is to



find some comedic mileage and the essence of people and place across Canada in the process of a two to three minute piece.

"We like to touch on people, history, geography and the spirit that drives it."

This was James' fourth trip to the Yukon. He's played Whitehorse on three occasions and says he would love to find a way to have a cabin the

territory.

"I can't get enough of it. I took a day on the back end of the trip, stayed by myself and drove up the Dempster Highway. I went about an hour and a half past Tombstone - up beyond the tree line. It was a breathtaking day. I felt like I'd driven into the Pleistocene. My God, it was gorgeous."



Authors on Eighth

"Close Encounter" by Joann Vriend

A Prose submission to the 2012 Authors on Eighth Contest.
The contest submissions had to include Yukon animals.

I know deer are curious, but this doe was special. She stood outside my cabin window, following me with her eyes. Whenever I shut the fridge door she took a few steps back. When I stepped out of her line of vision she came forward. She turned up around 8:30 every morning, shortly after I got up, and stayed for around an hour and a half. I began to look for her, for her huge inquisitive eyes and her graceful figure, and I wondered what was wrong when she was late.

Spotting wildlife always makes me happy. That is partly because it is usually unexpected, but also because animals that haven't been domesticated have an air of freedom about them. This doe was wild. She sprang into the woods when I opened my back door and I could hear her crashing through the brush for a while afterwards. I felt exhilarated every day when she turned up. But after weeks of regular appearances, another feeling emerged. It was my own curiosity, and eventually, determination. I was going to find out what it was about this doe, how far she would go, and if I could convince her I was no threat. I wanted to communicate.

I have seen many caribou over the years, and never had that desire. One winter I chased them, eager for the sight of thousands of them scattered on the hillside, surrounding me. Every weekend, for months, I drove to where they were, saw two or five, or even ten, but never the main herd. Then, one cold and snowy day everyone advised me to stay home and leave the caribou alone. I went off anyhow, and eventually found myself fighting to stay on the highway in the middle of a storm. I learned what the term "whiteout" meant. In the middle of it all I spotted them, shadow figures all around me. They were everywhere, and I should have been frightened because I could easily have hit one with my truck, but I just got a silly grin on my face and kept weaving my way around them. All those caribou lightened my spirit, but I didn't

want to talk to them. They had their world, I had mine, and seeing their ghostly figures in the storm was enough.

But this deer was pushing her way into my world. And now I was pushing back. I tried to go out onto the porch when I spotted her. She ran away. The next day she was back, her big eyes following my movements, her tall ears twitching, taking in all the sounds. It must have been a mule deer, because her ears looked too big for her dainty head. I tried sitting outside before she got there, but on those days she never appeared. Maybe she spotted me before I could see her, because I could feel her presence. Or imagined that I felt her presence. I think, if you tune into it, you can sense an animal near by.

I went on a hike once, and was uneasy the whole time. "I feel there is a bear around here somewhere," I told my partner. His eyes were better than mine, so as we walked he peered into the underbrush and scanned the horizon, eventually using binoculars as I insisted there must be something around. We walked for an hour, fished at a small lake, and walked back. We saw no tracks and no scat but our dog was uneasy.

"He's just spooked because we are," my partner said, but I wasn't so sure. We got to our truck and I leaned against the door, scanning the ditches and trees near the highway.

"Now I feel it too," my friend said, pulling out the binoculars again. "There is something somewhere around, I just don't know where."

I walked to the back of the truck and there they were, a mother and her cub. The female said something to her cub, and the little one climbed a tree as fast as I've ever seen anything move. The mother looked at me as if she was thinking about what she should do.

"Right here," I said to my partner and pointed as I backed up and slid into the truck's side door. We were both inside before the bear

moved, and we told ourselves to be more careful when our instincts told us there was a wild creature nearby.

My doe was avoiding me. She didn't like me messing with the schedule, and I hadn't seen her for days. So I gave up on her, or thought I had. It was hot out and the squirrels were breaking in, keeping me busy finding their pathways and filling their entry points with caulking. I spent more time on the porch, trying to keep cool. One day I barbecued some burgers, ate one and put the rest in the fridge. I



closed the screen door, left the main door open and went for a walk. When I came back the screen door was crumpled up in the yard, the fridge door was open, and there were bits of cheese, bread and fruit all over my floor, as well as two quarts of milk and bear tracks everywhere. How could I be so oblivious? I cleaned up the mess, called the neighbours and learned that this bear had trapped a woman in her trailer the previous day, hanging out on the porch and sampling the contents of her freezer. My mind was on bear proofing for the next week, and I didn't expect to see my doe again. I couldn't forget her though. She was so different.

One day I caught a glimpse of her in the morning, looking timid but peeping into a side window this time. I ignored her. Either she was going to run, or she was going to stay, and if she stayed, I was determined to get closer. I washed my breakfast dishes, grabbed my book and a lawn chair, and parked myself under a birch tree in the yard.

"Come on, little deer," I said in a low voice. "Now's your chance. I want to see you, and you want to see me, so here I am." She played hide and seek. I could see her in my peripheral vision, every half hour or so, but if I turned to her she stepped back and disappeared. I was mesmerized. She was mesmerized. If anything was going to happen, this was the day.

After two hours of reading and glancing up, I thought she had gone. My mind began to wander. I thought of all my hours outdoors, fishing with

my brother, building tree houses with my cousin, hanging around the river and lying in the sand. All those hours were happy hours, but the happiest times were the times I saw moose, deer, caribou, bear and other wild animals. It seemed those animals were free, not dependent on anyone but themselves. Their lives were often hard when food was scarce or when they had to travel long distances to find it. But they were alive, and alert in the way domesticated animals never are. Seeing them gave me hope for the survival of all creatures.

Suddenly my doe was there, staring straight at me. I looked up, she looked down, but she didn't move back.

"Come on," I said, almost whispering. "Come on, now. You can see I'm not going to hurt you." I shifted my leg and she took a step back, just one step. Then a dog began to bark in the distance and my heart skipped a beat. But she didn't run, didn't even seem to care, and moved forward again, one step. I had my chair on the edge of a little clearing, next to a ponderosa pine, and she was at the other end of the little meadow, forty feet away.

I decided to pretend to read my book again, thinking it would make us both calmer. It seemed to work. She started taking little side steps, around the edge of the clearing rather than straight across. She was getting closer to me and I looked up again. She held her ground, stared into my eyes. I

felt a rush of energy, and began talking again.

"You see," I told her. "I'm not moving. All you have to do is come closer. I just want to have a real good look at you, and then you can go. You could even sniff my hand, but you don't have to. Just get close enough for me to feel you're not afraid." Her ears twitched a lot while I was talking, but my voice didn't seem to scare her. She was within twenty feet and no longer seemed very nervous.

I coughed and she turned and did a few of those beautiful jumps deer do. I thought it was over, but she turned, looked at me again, and walked back to her previous position, as if she had decided to keep going from where she left off. I read my book again, She stared, grazed a bit, stared some more, and I put my book down.

"I don't know, little deer, how long this is going to take you, but I'm not going anywhere," I said, keeping my voice low. I tried to keep the excitement out of my voice, because I was starting to feel confident that she wouldn't leave. A great feeling of peace came over me. I could wait forever for this beautiful creature to come to me. And she was going to, I could tell. She couldn't leave. She was eight feet away, trembling, and I thought she was excited too.

For the next hour her attention was on me, and mine was on her. She took a step every fifteen minutes, and when she did I spoke to her, encouraging her to continue. Finally she was right in front of me. I relaxed, felt her beautiful wild spirit and hoped she would stay a minute or two. She was tense again, and I knew it wouldn't be long. Then she moved a step closer and licked my hand. I reached out and patted her beautiful head, between the long ears. That magnificent animal let me pat her for few seconds, then turned and ran.

I could hear her crashing through the brush triumphantly, and I felt a rush of joy as she went back to her own world. I knew that her world and my world were not completely separate. My beautiful doe had taught me that in an amazing way, and I would never forget her.

Yukon Quest 2013 Results

Pos. In	Musher Name	Location	Date / Time In
1	Allen Moore (11)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/11/13 6:54
2	Hugh Neff (4)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/11/13 8:10
3	Brent Sass (18)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/11/13 17:49
4	Jake Berkowitz (20)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/11/13 19:03
5	Scott Smith (23)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/12/13 3:55
6	Markus Ingebretsen (2)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/12/13 12:51
7	Normand Casavant (7)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/12/13 14:11
8	Abbie West (17)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/12/13 18:57
9	Dan Kaduce (15)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/12/13 21:58
10	Susan Rogan (10)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/13/13 1:42
11	Ed Hopkins (25)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/13/13 7:20
12	David Dalton (21)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/13/13 8:54
13	Crispin Studer (26)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/13/13 11:33
14	Denis Tremblay (13)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/13/13 15:05
15	Cody Strathe (5)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/13/13 17:56
16	Darrin Lee (24)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/13/13 20:08
17	Brian Wilmshurst (1)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/14/13 0:56
18	Rob Cooke (3)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/14/13 4:50
19	Matthew Failor (14)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/14/13 17:50
20	Dyan Bergen (19)	Fairbanks Start/Finish	02/15/13 17:18



Hugh Neff was the first team to arrive at the Dawson checkpoint and the winner of 4 ounces of gold. Photo by Alyssa Friesen.

This could Revolutionize the Sport of Dog Mushing!

By John Firth (originally in the Whitehorse Star. Used with permission.)

Sometimes it's the small things that tip you off. Take for instance, the 2013 Yukon Quest.

I noticed on their website they had 26 entries. Then, when I went to their office, I noticed the board in the lobby listed 27 entries.

True; they do have a musher's name halfway down the list crossed off, but for some reason, they left the number of entries on the board at 27.

It didn't make sense to me. Why would the Quest disguise a team as a scratched musher?

It took some digging, but I did come up with the answer. When I discovered it, I understood the Quest's reluctance.

It could potentially change the entire sport of dog mushing. In fact, it wouldn't even be dog mushing any more – especially if they perform on the trail the way they do on the silver screen.

My first clue was the foot gear the mushers wear – “bunny” boots.

The second was a rumour that the musher would set a new record for the oldest driver in Quest history – a little over 250 years of age.

The final piece of the puzzle was a review of the team by a dog musher familiar with them. Then I saw their training film for myself.

The Quest has often broken the glass ceiling for dog mushing during its 30 years, but this entry will set a new, and shocking, standard.

Pulling a rickety-looking sled, reminiscent of the hand-made sleds built for kids in the early part of last century, is a team of rabbits.

Yes, you heard me correctly ... rabbits.

But these are not just any ordinary rabbits.

They are Rhosgobel rabbits. An incredibly complex hybrid of bunny breeding and training developed by a musher named Radagast – a self-proclaimed “wizard” from a place called Middle Earth.

Like you, I had never heard of Rhosgobel rabbits either, so I looked them up.

They are possibly the only surviving relative of the eastern hare wallaby from Australia – believed extinct since 1889.

Records indicate it had a reputation for being fast and agile, having endurance (it could maintain its full sprint speed for up to one kilometre and could outrun pursuing

dogs) and vertical ability. (One observer recorded the hare jumping as high as two metres to clear an obstacle.)

The only knock against the hare was its size – it was quite small. Radagast apparently cross-bred the wallaby with a Flemish “giant” – a European domestic rabbit that can grow up to 20 kilos, about the same size as a sled dog.

Since Radagast is approximately 250 years old today, he was a relatively youthful 120 or so while doing all this.

It probably took him the next 13 decades to develop a training program. Dogs like to run in packs, and to focus a pack mentality into running as a team isn't overly difficult.

Rabbits, on the other hand, tend to run in all directions all at the same time. And rather than running with a steady pace, rabbits also tend to combine their running steps with sporadic leaps.

Key to his program, I'm sure, was the fact that Radagast can talk to his team – not the type of conversation a musher has with his dogs based on familiarity and instinct – Radagast can literally talk to his rabbits. He is a wizard, after all, and they do have those giant ears to listen with.

I wouldn't have believed it possible until I saw the training film, rather oddly titled The Hobbit.

I think the title was meant as a misdirection. To deflect the watcher's attention to a mystical fantasy of elves, hobbits, dwarves, orcs, etc., from its real purpose – to give Radagast an opportunity to see his team in action, evaluate performance and plan strategy – much like a professional football player or hockey player watching game films of their next opponent.

The team was impressive.

They set a pace that virtually lifted the bunny sled and musher off the ground – probably not that difficult when one considers that, rather than carrying heavy bags of dog food, all he needs is salad.

A sled flying through the air also reduces drag and enables

the team to run farther, faster without tiring.

The team easily outran pursuing wargs. (A warg is a wolf in Norse mythology, although they didn't look anything like wolves in the film. They did, however, look like good things to outrun.)

To see them weave their way through untouched wilderness at full speed was truly awe-inspiring.

The only concern I might have is that they were training in a New Zealand summer and not an Alaskan-Yukon winter. Minus 30 might come as a bit of a shock.

I did attempt to contact the film's director, Peter Jackson, through his production company, Wingnut Films, to get a comment. He declined to provide any insight into the team or speculate on their race.

Probably nervous about the whole thing.

Can't say I blame him.

I remember Danny Melville, the owner of the Jamaican Dogsled Team, having anxiety fits at the start line in 2009 because his implausible adventure was going to take a leap into the major leagues – just like Jackson's team will be doing this year.

I don't think he's even going to turn up, but you can never tell.

I know I'm going to be there to see Radagast and the rabbits take off.

I want to know what he says to get the team started.

“Mush,” “Hike” or “Let's Go” justmightnotbetheappropriate words anymore. Just what do you say to motivate a rabbit off the start line?

It's those small things that can tip you off to what the future holds in store.

A life-long resident of Whitehorse, John Firth is an international award-winning author of four books on Yukoners and Yukon history (Yukon Quest, Better Than A Cure, One Mush, Rivertime). His column runs on the first Friday of each month in the Whitehorse Star.



By Lisa McKenna

So, other than size (a crow is approximately 20 to 30 cm in length and a raven can reach up to 60 cm) what are the differences between these two birds?

The Raven has black plumage that has a purplish tint to it in the sun, a croaking call, and it dines on carrion. The Raven is often seen as a bringer of bad omens and they play a large part in myths and legends. The Raven, like the coyote, is a mediator between life and death and it can take on the role of the trickster as well.

The Raven is the national bird of Bhutan and it is the official bird of the Yukon and Yellowknife, N.W.T.

The Raven is also a common

symbol among the Viking tribes. In Sweden, due to the Ravens feasting on carrion, the Ravens are known as the lost souls of the murdered. The Norse believed in a pair of Ravens, Huginn and Muninn, who brought the god Odin information and sat one on each shoulder.

In the Pacific Northwest, the indigenous people see the Raven as the creator of life. The Tlingit culture has two Ravens, one who brought the world into being, light into darkness, and one childish Raven that is always selfish, sly, conniving and hungry.

Ravens live up to 40 years old in the wild and as long as 70 years in captivity. They can also soar to great heights like other birds of prey. When they land on a branch their feet



automatically clamp on.

Crows have black plumage, but plain, as well, although they can also have white and brown on them. Crows also are equated with the dark side being a bringer of bad omens and creatures of the occult. They travel in large groups known as murders and have been known to attack man. They have no fear.

Crows are extremely

intelligent, with a complex, highly developed communication system. The Crow can mimic various sounds that usually copy their environment. For instance, if there are neighbouring dogs the Crow will bark!

Crows can also be taught to speak Basic English. Crows use tools! They make tools! They will use breadcrumbs for fishing! They also hide and store their food for off-season feasting. Crows are thought to be the most intelligent bird on earth. Research suggests that Crows can even distinguish one human face from another.

Unlike the Raven, a Crow will only live 5 to 7 years, though a few 20 to 30 year olds have been discovered in the wild and Tata, a pet crow who could not

fly, was 59 in 2006 making her 66 years old in 2013 if she is still alive.

The Irish held that the Crow signified death and war. Australians had the Crow as a trickster and one of their ancestors. The Japanese and Korean mythologies have Crows with three legs! Hinduism holds that the Crow brings information that is not always bad. If a Crow caws outside your door you are supposed to be receiving a special, or important, guest.

Crows like to live near human settlements and Ravens prefer the woodlands. So if some one tells you to "Eat Crow" (being forced to admit to a mistake) tell you would rather eat Raven because it tastes better!

Press Release

Six members of Dawson's fire department will be receiving Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Congratulations to Captains Paul Derry, Torrie Hunter, Henry Procyk, Chris Mayes and Firefighters Barry Hunter and Mike Perry.

The Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal was created to celebrate her Majesty's accession to the Throne 60 Years ago. This commemorative medal is a tangible and lasting way to pay tribute to Canadians whose achievements have benefited their fellow citizens community, their or and the country.

Our commitment to Canada is strengthened when we collectively pay homage to those who distinguish themselves by virtue of their talents, their generosity, and their service to their community and to our country.

Fire Chief Jim Regimbal said that there are so many remarkable, talented, caring people on the fire department and the individuals being presented with the medals are representatives of

that. Eleven medals were nominated by way of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs through the



MEDAL FOR THE DIAMOND JUBILEE
OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Chancellery's Office in Ottawa to Yukon's Fire Service, and six out of the eleven medals will be presented to deserving members of our fire department – Astounding, Regimbal said.

I am proud, as fire chief, to be able to invite the community to this special occasion where we will be honouring these recipients with Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, Regimbal said.

This memorable reception will take place on Wednesday, February 27th at 7pm in the upstairs KIAC ballroom.

Press Release

Bet you didn't know that the Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP) is required by Citizenship & Immigration for permanent residency applications and programs like the Federal Skilled Workers Program?

Bet you didn't know that Yukon College is the only place North of 60, out of 16 cities across Canada, that administers this test?

54 people have sat the test at Yukon College across the three times we have offered the test since October, including a chap from NWT who flew in to take it.

"This is a very big deal in these peoples' lives," says Bente Sorensen, Proctor/Exam Invigilator at Yukon College. She said that with the increase in foreign workers and new people coming to Yukon, this testing has been requested for some time.

The maximum 20 people took the test this past Saturday, including Maxime Gouyou-Beauchamps who despite being from France, needs to pass the test as proof he can speak one of Canada's official languages. Maxime has

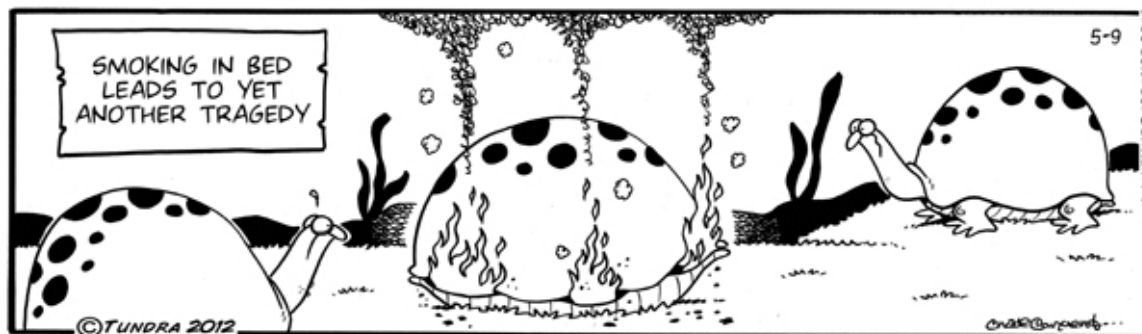
been in Yukon for 18 months. He came just to see the Yukon and fell into working for an exploration company. Now he enjoys all the time he gets to spend outdoors and has no plans to leave.

Michelle Miron, from the Philippines needs to pass the test for her permanent residency also. She has been in Yukon for 2 years working at Canadian Tire. Michelle says that many workers here do not realise how essential the test is for their path to citizenship or that they can take it at Yukon College.

The test costs \$250, which students pay to the private company that offers the tests nationally. Maxime and Michelle will know if they have passed the test by the middle of next week. For more info www.celpiptest.ca

Proctoring or invigilating exams is a little known service of the College. Bente says that beyond our regular students, every year 300 to 400 people sit exams for a wide range of subjects including employment/career certifications such as real estate, entrance exams for other colleges and universities, distance education exams, international exams and certifications. Anything that requires a room and an invigilator to ensure proper exam conditions.

TUNDRA BY CHAD CARPENTER



THIS IS JUST MY OPINION

by Al Sider

Death After Life

In a manner, this is a form of continuation of my previous article. This however, will look at the different aspects that individuals seem to perceive as “after-life” or what occurs to an individual following death. This paper will attempt to show the varying ideas of the subject here characterized, but will also show my own personal thoughts on the matter. I will not state that any personal idea is inaccurate or wrong, I only intend to point out the various potential flaws in each idea, if any actually exist.

The first idea which is commonly held, is that when an individual dies, there is nothing. It is possible that this might be true, but is it true for everyone? This is the big question, I personally believe that it is indeed true, but not true for all. Of course, my opinions on this subject are of a Religious nature, but my opinions will not invalidate any of the other common opinions. I believe that for those who have no hope in an after-life there is absolutely nothing, at least until they are awakened to attend the final judgement. While those who do have hope in an after-life, they have awareness of all—all things previous—all things concerning their individual lives—all things concerning future events of their families and loved ones, and yet more. To elaborate in great length on this one idea (and on the others which follow) would require numerous papers to expound upon each one individually. As a result, each idea will be brief for this particular paper.

The second idea which is commonly held, is that they become “Guardian Angels” after they die. This is not a novel idea, as it has its roots going back centuries, among the Christian faith anyway. This idea is a beautiful thought, and is also quite comforting in its connotation. Yet sadly, in most cases this cannot be true. I fully believe this to hold truth in the death of a small child, an infant (including aborted and still-born babies), or even a person who suffered from extreme mental disability (formerly called retardation). These individuals, with pure untainted hearts are ideal to being transformed into our “Guardian Angels”.

This concept seems to arrive from a statement spoken by Jesus, after being questioned about a woman who married one of seven brothers, her husband dies leaving no heirs, and so she is married to the next brother. The pattern continues, the brother dies no heirs, and she marries the next brother. This continues until all of the brothers have died and all left no heir. “Whose wife will she be in the resurrection?” This is the question put to Jesus and it is his answer that has led

many to believe that the dead become angels. Here follows is the answer (paraphrased); “The children of earth get married and have wedding feasts, but those deemed acceptable for the after-life are not married, nor can they die anymore, for they are equal unto the angels: and are the children of God, being children of the resurrection.” Luke 20:27-36. While these dead are “equal” to the angels Jesus did not say that they become angels. So, with the exception of those previously mentioned, I do not believe that anyone else who dies becomes an angel.

The third idea I will briefly discuss is re-incarnation. Millions of people around the world subscribe to this seemingly genuine philosophy. The idea that when a person dies they are re-born in a brand new body. Be that an animal body, or a human body, it is an opportunity to correct the mistakes of your life. This is a pleasant idea, but the problem that I have with this idea is that the population on earth, just 5,000 years ago was perhaps a few hundred thousand world-wide, today it is over 7 billion. It is not possible for a population to increase if the same individuals are re-born time and time again. In fact, the populace would decrease if people died and were re-born as animals. A nice idea as I stated, but from my understanding, not possible or feasible.

The last idea that I will expound upon today, is that when a person dies they are in Heaven. While this idea again, may be true for some, it is definitely not true for most. The Bible clearly states that, “absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 5:8, but this refers only to those who believe fully in Jesus as their Saviour. Anyone else who dies is not in Heaven. It is, as stated above, they are in darkness, no memories, no knowledge, absolute nothingness. These would include murderers, thieves, sexual predators, but also good people. These are those who live a good life outwardly, are kind, generous, and sensitive, but—they have no faith, no belief, and worship other things as their god. For some it may be vanity, their appearance is their god. Others, it may be money or wealth, for the pursuit of that commodity has become their god. Yet for others still, it may be their own ideas, the thought or belief that they are always correct, it is their way or the highway, that they know what is best for themselves (and for everyone else) thereby making themselves their god. These good, well meaning individuals will remain in solitude and darkness until final judgement. Of course, I could elaborate much more on each one of these ideas, but unless requested to do so, I will end these discussions here.

Of course, this is just my opinion.

CYFT 106.9 FM:

Dawson City Community Radio



“The Spirit of Dawson”

MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY

1 to 5 p.m. Manager's Mix - Mr. Manager

THURSDAY, February 21

1:30 to 3 p.m. The Party Time - Ben

3 to 4 p.m. The Dog Days of Winter - Dylan

4 to 6 p.m. DJ Robotic

6 to 7 p.m. South Side City Swag - Christopher

7 to 8 p.m. Kajambo! Radio - Paul

8 to 9 p.m. The Classic Rock Showcase Hour

9 to 11 p.m. Foxy's Hours of Death - Jason Fox

FRIDAY, February 22

3 to 5 p.m. On the John - John

5 to 6 p.m. Stockholm Syndrome - Molly

6 to 7 p.m. Rock of Ages - Spruce

7 to 8 p.m. SOVA Radio

8 to 9 p.m. Rockin' Blues Show - Sonny Boy Williams

9 to 10 p.m. Psychedelic - Jim

SATURDAY, February 23

12 to 3 p.m. Youth Broadcast - Adonika and Friends

3 to 4 p.m. The Sounds of Freedom - Connor

4 to 5 p.m. He Said/She Said - Dan & Gaby

5 to 6 p.m. The City Mic - Mike & Steph

6 to 7 p.m. David's Saturday Show

7 to 9 p.m. The Black Radish Show - Victor and Jose

SUNDAY, February 24

1 to 2 p.m. The Sunday Best - Jonna

2 to 3 p.m. No Rhyme, No Reason - Joanna

3 to 5 p.m. Kerry's Movie Show

5 to 7 p.m. Alphabet Soup - Adonika

7 to 9 p.m. Meat and Potatoes - Kit

9 to 10 p.m. Call of the Mild - Matt

Tune your dial to 106.9 FM or
Cable Channel 11 (Rolling Ads) in Dawson City,
or listen live over the internet at www.cfyf.ca!

THE KLONDIKE SUN
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TUNDRA BY CHAD CARPENTER



KIDS' CORNER

Stories and illustrations
by Lisa Michelle

RECTANGLES

A rectangle is like a square in that it has 4 right angles. The difference is that two opposing sides are different lengths.



A football field is rectangular, it measures 360' x 160' (110 meters x 49 meters).

The largest playing field is a rectangle as well and it's the Rugby field with a whopping 472' x 230' (144m x 70m). The smallest is the volley ball court with each side being only 30' x 30' (9m x 9m).



Rectangles also provide the basis of modern architecture. Even though some cultures like the Northern tribes that still build igloos to grass huts built by the natives of the tropics. There are several advantages in owning a round house. No corners to sweep! It allows a 360-degree view, sheds snow, withstand high winds (which is why lighthouses are round), easier to heat with less exterior walls, it can fit on irregular shaped lots, it's perfect for solar heating allowing the panels to follow the sun and I bet that it would be the only round house on the block!

JUST FOR FUN:

Get a pencil and a piece of paper (or sit by your computer) go into a room or go outside and write down everything that is a rectangle. You'll be amazed at how many there are.



Then we have the best rectangular treat...THE ICE CREAM SANDWICH!

In 1905 you could buy an ice cream sandwich for 1cent it usually is made of a slab of vanilla ice cream placed in between two wafers or cookies.

The original ice cream sandwich was called a 'cream between', it consisted of a slab of vanilla ice cream in between two chocolate wafers.

In New Zealand they sell a slab of vanilla ice cream and two pink wafers, wrapped in separate packs I might add. Scotland and Ireland serve what most of North America thinks of as a traditional ice cream sandwich, vanilla ice cream and two rectangular chocolate cookies.

In Singapore one can get 'phia ice cream' which literally means biscuit ice cream, It comes in a variety of flavors that are completely different then the North American chocolate, strawberry, and vanilla. Phia ice cream comes in ripple, red bean(?), yam, sweet corn, durian (a fruit from a tree that can grow up to 1-3 kg and it has a distinctive smell compared to almonds, rotten onions, turpentine, raw sewage and gym socks!. This aroma evokes deep appreciation or utter disgust, but once you get beyond that you find a sweet almond flavored custard.) honeydew, peppermint, chocolate, and chocolate chip.

It is often served on a slice of multicolored bread or in a cone or cup.

Sheep's pupils are rectangular!



Money comes in rectangles too. Rectangles are everywhere!

HEY KIDS!

Send in your list of things that are rectangular and you could win a prize! Contact Lisa at klondikesun@northwestel.net.

CLASSIFIEDS

CHURCHES

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Corner of 5th and King. Services: Sundays at 10:30 a.m., Sat. 5 p.m., Tues. 7 p.m., Wed. to Fri. 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Contact Father Ernest Emeka Emeodi for assistance, 993-5361.

DAWSON COMMUNITY CHAPEL: Located on 5th Ave across from Gold Rush Campground. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Sunday worship at 11 a.m. All welcome. Pastor Ian Nyland, 993-5507.

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH: Corner of Front & Church St. Sunday Services at 10:30. 1st and 3rd Sundays: Morning Prayer. 2nd and 4th Sundays: Holy Eucharist. 5th Sunday: Informal. Rev. Laurie Munro, 993-5381, at the Richard Martin Chapel, Tues - Thurs, 8:30 - noon.

SUPPORT

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Meetings Thursdays, 8 p.m. at Richard Martin Chapel 104 Church St.; Fridays at 1:30 p.m. at Telehealth Dawson Health Centre; Saturdays at 7 p.m. at the TH Community Support Centre 1233 2nd Ave; info 993-3734 or 5095.

MANY RIVERS: Counselling and support services for individuals, couples, families or group counselling. A highly confidential service located in the Waterfront Building. We are a non-profit organization with a sliding fee scale. To make an appointment call 993-6455 or email dawson@manyrivers.yk.ca. See our website at www.manyrivers.yk.ca/.

MINING

WATER LICENCES/ LAND USE PERMITS/ ALL PLANS REQUIRED FOR PLACER MINERS: Call Josée, Fast-Track Land Management at (819) 663-6754, (819) 661-1427 cell, e-mail joseeb@bell.net or jb@northwestel.net. See you in May!

FOR RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT: CIBC Bank building. Size of office space can be customized/ built to suit. Contact: Northern Network Security, 993-5644.



KLONDIKE OUTREACH JOB BOARD

Open Positions:

Accounting & Office Administrators
Camp Cook
Cooks
Daycare Worker
Drivers: Class 1 & 3
Manager: Guest Services
Manager: Operations
Mechanics
Nanny
Outreach Family Support Worker
Senior Accounting Clerk
Servers
Shop & General Labourers
Tutors
Welder

Positions with Closing Dates:

Records Administrator: Feb 21 @ 4
Assistant Park Attendant: Feb 25 @ 4
Assistant Park Interpreter: Feb 25 @ 4
Assistant Park Ranger: Feb 25 @ 4
Community Mental Health Nurse: March 28

Students:

STEP various: Feb 21
Assistant Natural Resources Officer-mining: Feb 28

Positions Out of Town:

Mining - various

ATTENTION EMPLOYERS

You can apply for student funding through:
Canada Summer Jobs ~ Application Deadline is February 28th
and
Yukon Summer Career Placement Program ~ Application Deadline is March 1st

Klondike Outreach is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm & 1pm to 5pm.

For more information, come into the Klondike Outreach office next to the Territorial Agent/Liquor Store. (853-Third Street).

HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed weekends and Stat Holidays

CONTACT INFO

PHONE: 993-5176
FAX: 993-6947
WEB: www.klondikeoutreach.com
E-MAIL: info@klondikeoutreach.com



Illustration by Aubyn O'Grady

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Advertise your business and services with The Klondike Sun! Submit your business card at a normal size of 2" x 3.5", \$25 per issue and yearly billings can be arranged.

Cabin Fever Office & Event Services

Joanne Rice, Notary Public

Phone: 867-993-2490 **NEW**
Cell: 867-993-3678 **E-file**
jorice@northwestel.net

- Income Tax Services: Personal or Business
- Event & Office Support Service • Payroll •
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Alice lives and works locally in Dawson City

To view properties for sale in Dawson and area, call
Alice Thompson
Phone: 993-253

COLDWELL BANKER

Redwood Realty www.coldwellbanker.ca
www.DawsonCityRealty.com



It Figures Bookkeeping

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itfigures@northwestel.net

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Bookends
Dawson news



THE CITY OF DAWSON

P.O. Box 308 (1336 Front Street), Dawson City, Yukon Y0B 1G0
Tel: (867) 993-7400 ~ Fax: (867) 993-7434
NEW WEBSITE: www.cityofdawson.ca (updated regularly)



City of Dawson Draft Animal Control Bylaw PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor and Council invite you to a Public Forum
on the proposed
Draft Animal Control Bylaw

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 2013
6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY OFFICES**

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

- Animal control ▪ Animal density ▪ Keeping of Hens and Bees
- Dangerous Animals ▪ Cruelty to Animals ▪ Public Safety
- Enforcement ▪ Impoundment & disposal of animals
- Licenses & fees

For more information visit www.cityofdawson.ca or
Contact the City Office at 993-7400

Dawson's Fire Department Members to Receive Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal

The community is invited to come out to this special event and
congratulate Captains Paul Derry, Torrie Hunter, Henry Procyk and Chris Mayes,
and Firefighters Barry Hunter and Mike Perry

The event will take place on:

**Wednesday, February 27th 7 PM
Upstairs ballroom of the KIAC building**

City of Dawson Heritage Programme

NOTICE OF INTENDED DESIGNATION OF A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC SITE

Notice is hereby given that the Council of the City of Dawson declares its **intention to designate** the following building and the legal lot on which it stands as a Municipal Historic Site: Canadian Bank of Commerce, also known as Canadian Bank of Commerce National Historic Site of Canada, Situated at 1001 Front Street, in the City of Dawson, and legally described as Lot 1024, Quad 116B/3, Plan 90-66, LTO.

A Public Hearing will be held on **May 6, 2013 at 7:00 PM** in the City of Dawson Council Chambers, at 1336 Front Street, Dawson City, Yukon. City Council will consider all written and verbal submissions with respect to the proposed **Canadian Bank of Commerce Historic Site Bylaw** at the Public Hearing.

For further information please contact:
Micah Olesh, Community Development Officer
993-7414 molesh@cityofdawson.ca



Recreation Department News

Winter programming is underway. For more info:

Phone: 993-2353 web: www.cityofdawson.ca

Facebook: "city of dawson recreation"

Upcoming speical events:

KATTS AGM, Feb.20, 5:30 p.m. at the Yukon College Board Room

Skate Skiing Workshop, Feb.26, 5:30-7 p.m., meet at the Rec Centre

Women's Hockey Invitational: March 2-3

Weight Room Closure: The weight room will be closed for the month of February for repair and the installation of the new equipment.

Watch for announcements on Facebook and the City of Dawson website for Rec updates.

DAWSON CITY - HEART OF THE KLONDIKE

