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LETTERS

Cont'd from page 19

to Ashcroft and down the Fraser Canyon to Hope.

The people in these areas need proper cell service coverage. As you probably know, the lack of cell service can and has jeopardized the lives of people who have been injured or involved in vehicle accidents. This is a real concern for safety for the people in more isolated rural areas – probably across B.C.

There is a petition now being circulated that simply states, "We do hereby petition Telus Communications to immediately install working cellphone towers on Birkenhead Mountain and Mission Mountain's microwave transmission sites. Safety of the residents and visitors of the Mount Currie to D'Arcy corridor, Anderson Lake, Seaton (sic) Portage is the reason for this petition." As New Democrats who are interested in supporting issues affecting our constituents, Gwen and I are asking you to support this petition effort. I am sure that you will be hearing further of this petition in the future. For further information contact Laurie Lausen, P.O. Box 308, Pemberton, B.C., VoN 2Lo, telephone (604) 452-3353.

Dick Harrington
Federal NDP campaign manager
Chilliwack-Fraser Canyon NDP
HOPE

Nesters helps kids affected by war

Dear Editor,
Playground Builders wishes to thank Nesters and its customers for the donations received on Saturday (Sept. 18) during the store's Customer Appreciation Day. The funds raised will support workers in war-ravaged Afghanistan to construct a playground for children near Kabul.

We are currently raising funds for Playground No. 61. We build play, we create hope. Thank you Nesters, thank you Whistler.

Keith Reynolds
Playground Builders
WHISTLER

Missing man's family offers thanks

Dear Editor,
We would like to officially thank each and every member of the Search and Rescue teams and RCMP officers who participated untiringly in the search for Jonathan and Rachael; we will always be grateful for the selflessness of these individuals. We extend our gratitude particularly to the head of Pemberton SAR, Dave Steers, and Staff Sgt. Steve LeClair for providing us with daily and detailed explanations, including photos, of all the search attempts carried out and ensuing plans. The diligence, patience and compassion of all involved in the search is remarkable and continues to help us get through this most difficult ordeal. We would also like to thank Simon Talbot and other volunteers for their continued efforts, as well as all the friends and family of Jonathan and Rachael who are keeping the memories of our loved ones alive. Thank you, and above all, never forget Jonathan and Rachael.

for the evening.

Also, to our sponsors, Dave Halliwell of FRUV, Emanuela Bartoia of Farfalla Hair and Esthetics, Cheryl Massey of Usana Health Sciences and Chef Vincent Stufano of the Fairmont Chateau Whistler for their early support. We thank the Four Seasons Resort Whistler for their support, and for hosting some of our special guests overnight.

With heartfelt gratitude to our local First Nations elders – Georgina Nelson, Martina Pierre, and Gwen Harry, and also to her son, Rick Harry, who led the drumming circle, and to Tina James, who led us in a peaceful meditation completing the evening.

We also wanted to thank our supporters who gave fabulous door prizes: NeoAlpine Studio, Scandinave Spa, Rocky Mountain Soap Company and Inside Out Boutique. Also, special thanks to Julie Kelly, Linda Marshall, Arianna Nagle and Maria Alberti.

Thank you to everyone in the Sea to Sky communities who supported and attended the event, and to all those of you that were hoping for a ticket at the door!

We are proud to donate funds for the Howe Sound Women's Centre, as well as the Council of the 13 Indigenous Grandmothers (featured in the film For the Next 7 Generations).

If you want to know more about the film or other upcoming events, or if you attended the event and wanted to provide your feedback, please contact Caterina Alberti at www.cross-overcoaching.ca.

With peace in our hearts, and shared gratitude, thank you!

Caterina Alberti
Crossover Coaching
Hailey Guille
Perfect Fit Strategies
WHISTLER

Invasive plant species be gone

Dear Editor,
Thank you, local Weed Gods and Goddesses.

On Sept. 9 at the Pemberton Community Weed Pull, the Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council (SSISC) teamed up with their Hot Spots crew, Stewardship Pemberton and local volunteers to address invasive plant species concerns on the Arn Canal. The event was a great success, with bags and bags of knapweed (the targeted species) removed from recently restored sections of the Arn Canal. Many more invasive species were identified and noted. The knowledge and expertise of the SSISC crew allowed for a great educational opportunity for those who partook in the event. Stewardship Pemberton would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the SSISC, Hot Spots Crew and the volunteers who pitched in to make a difference.

Dawn Johnson
Veronica Woodruff
Stewardship Pemberton

Thanks to local kids, kids at heart

To the children of Whistler,

> NEWS FROM THE RMOW

Aging in Place forum coming up

JULIA WARING
RMOW communications officer

Healthy lifestyles, a vibrant economy, affordable housing, protected parks and green space, accessible community services, thriving neighbourhoods, clean air and water, a sustainable environment, healthy public policy, and engaged citizens: A healthy community is all of this, and more.

What is your definition of a healthy community? Do you think Whistler is achieving healthy targets? Whistler residents are invited to have their say at the upcoming Aging in Place Community Forum on Thursday, Oct. 14, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Spruce Grove Field House.

Facilitated by the Social Planning and Research Council of B.C. (SPARC BC), the forum is an opportunity for Whistler residents to talk about issues and opportunities facing the resort community.

"The forum is for everybody and takes into consideration all ages, including people who grow up here, leave for university, and want to come back. The forum looks at how they fit into the community," said Sarah Tipler, Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) Measuring Up coordinator. "It's a chance to have your voice heard."

Feedback from the forum will be the basis for a discussion paper that will be used to inform Whistler's year-long Official Community Plan (OCP) update. To be as effective as possible, community feedback from events such as the Aging in Place Community Forum is essential to the

OCP update.

All ages are invited to take part in the community forum. While acknowledging that seniors (55 years and older) comprise the fastest-growing Canadian demographic group, the forum is an opportunity to address issues facing both young and old.

Aging in Place is defined as the ability to remain in one's home and community safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability throughout life's stages. It is an essential part of the community's Whistler2020 vision: "To be the premier mountain resort community – as we move toward sustainability." The community forum asks residents, "What tools, policy, programming, and infrastructure do you think Whistler needs to make that vision a reality?"

The Aging in Place community forum is one component of the Whistler through the Ages collaborative project, organized by the RMOW, Whistler Community Services, and the Mature Action Committee. The project is funded by UBCM 2010 Age-friendly Community Projects and Planning Grant funding. The RMOW grant application for the project was approved and chosen among more than 70 applications.

Other Whistler through the Ages initiatives include the launch of the Access Whistler Resource Guide for seniors at Creekbread on Tuesday, Oct. 5 at 5 p.m. The restaurant is offering a \$20 special for a three-course meal with a portion of the money going toward the Whistler Community Services Society.

CORRIDOR KITCHENS

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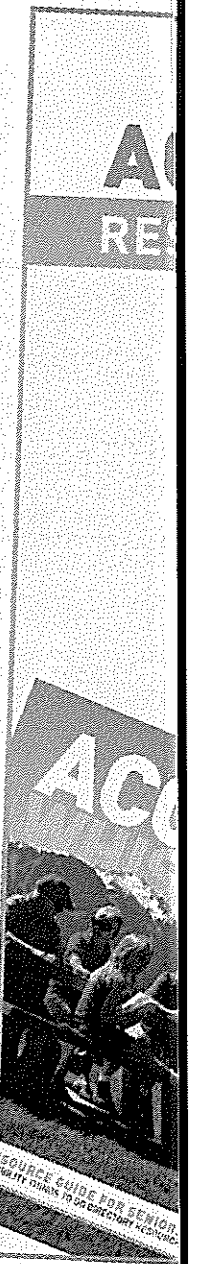
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