

# The Elk Valley Miner

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 17

Serving Sparwood and Elkford

NEWSSTAND PRICE 25¢ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1984

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Trails and Tales — 16

Classifieds — 14, 15

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Elk Valley Miner TV Week

## Library funding behind its 10 years of service: chairman

The Sparwood library operates with the lowest budget in the Elk Valley and is one of the most feebly funded libraries in the province, according to David Paine, the library chairman, who asked the district council for another \$3,000 on top of the provincial budget allotment of \$23,000.

He said extra help for the librarian is necessary because the board could be disciplined for failing to keep up minimum working hours required in the provisions of the provincial grant of \$9,335.

"At the moment, our librarian is overworked and underpaid," Mr. Paine said about librarian Jim Bertola, who makes \$39.45 an hour during his 37½-hour week. Mr. Paine said the provincial government requires the library to have staff working 65 hours a week, and to fulfill part of this commitment Mr. Bertola is working some hours without pay, Mr. Paine said.

When asked by Alderman Simon Senycz if any complaints had been received from the government, Mr. Paine ad-

mitted that none had. But he said working hours are not the only default in requirements outlined in the Provincial Quantitative Standards for Public Libraries for a community of 4,000 to 5,000. The library is required to have 15,000 books on its shelves. Including the 1,500 books in the Bruce Ramsay collection, the total is 11,870.

The library's proposed budget of \$50,350 includes the salary of a part-time worker to help the librarian. A part-time worker or assistant similar to the individuals employed in

Fernie and Elkford libraries would be hired, according to Mr. Paine.

The budget proposed by the board includes an amended district grant of \$26,000, \$10,599 already allotted by the Regional District of East Kootenay, \$9,335 from the provincial government and \$4,433 from other sources.

Lola Chapman, chairman of the council's finance and administration committee, stressed that the budget allotment of \$23,000 was only a provisional budget item and that changes could be made by the final budget in April.

She said that she supports the library but tried to keep the grant in line with the overall restraint theme of the provincial budget. Attempting to keep the grant from increasing in a 6 per cent ceiling, she said the library grant was one of the exceptions at 9.5 per cent. The board wants a 23.8 per cent increase in its grant.

library is still at the bottom of the heap in the Elk Valley, Mr. Paine said. The Sparwood library must pay rent at its location in the basement of St. Barbara's Church. The \$7,200 maintenance and operation expense at Sparwood library contrasts the \$300 annual expenses of the Elkford library; \$4,500 for Fernie. This expense represents about 15 per cent of the Sparwood library budget.

Even though the library receives the lowest municipal grant in the Elk Valley, Ald. Chapman said

her investigation of library budgets took in the East Kootenays.

A chart included in the library board's report to the council outlines the \$4.60-per-resident contribution the district makes (\$5.30 if the \$26,000 grant is awarded) compared to \$6.30 (\$6.90) in Elkford and \$7.20 (\$8.20) in Fernie.

If the library gets its increased grant of \$3,000, a part-time worker would be hired by the library to work between 12 and 15 hours a week, according to Mr. Bertola. The 2½ hours of operation would

likely remain the same, but the assistant could then work Saturday, allowing Mr. Bertola to complete necessary administrative when the library is closed on Mondays. He now works Tuesday to Saturday.

Mr. Bertola said library circulation of books has been increasing and that he has noticed a number of new faces. "A lot of people have been coming in because of the price of books," he said. Ald. Chapman has arranged to meet with the library board.

## 126 will work at Westar

During the Westar Mining shutdown that begins this weekend, 126 union and staff employees will remain working.

When the Balmer mine and office officially shut down March 18, the underground mine will continue cutting coal, employing 43 miners until the shutdown ends April 1. The panel 6 hydraulic monitor crews will cut coal, which will be stockpiled outside the mine entrance.

Another 20 UMW workers will be kept on at the Elkview plant load-out, union secretary Jim Caldwell reported of the company's plans. Three dumper operators and seven warehouse workers make up the rest.

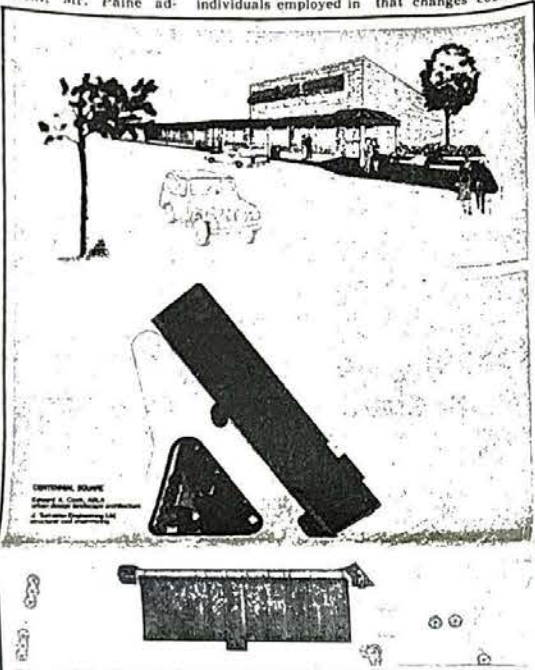
The remaining 59 employees working during the shutdown are Office and Technical Employees Union workers and staff, community relations supervisor Mavis Walmsley said.

Mr. Caldwell said the union is currently going through the seniority list to ask members if they want to work in the specified areas during the two-week period. "A lot of people don't want to work ... they'd rather be in two weeks off than work in a different area," he said.

The company claims to have about one million tonnes of metallurgical stockpiled at its Roberts Bank terminal and at the Elkview load-out, but union estimates put the total at 1.2-million. With unit trains arriving about once a day, the company said it expects to reduce the coal inventories by 200,000 tonnes.

## Miner office moving to the Square

The Elk Valley Miner office moves to a new location this Friday. The office will be located in Centennial Square, above Bottomley's Fish and Chips.



Top, architect's rendering of paving stone and shrubs at pedestrian stop. Bottom, sketch shows overview of square, marking awnings and wider sidewalks in proposed Square concept.

## Square plans major design improvements

A facelift planned for Centennial Square and the downtown commercial area will link business frontage designs with the architectural theme of the mining monument and fountain.

Handsome awnings, decorative paving-stone walkways, wider sidewalks, shrubs and trees and many other design techniques to aesthetically improve the area need only the support of the property owners in square for the construction to begin as early as July.

The Downtown Revitalization group unveiled its plans for the square at a meeting of the Centennial Square association last Wednesday morning. The construction start is aimed

for the day after Coal Miner Days, which is held at the end of the June.

The revitalization group has been working with the District of Sparwood for about two years to obtain grants and low-interest loans for improvements. A series of public forums last year established a preliminary architectural draft of the design changes, but this sketch has been modified to reduce the cost of the original \$500,000 development to about \$350,000.

The revitalization group calculates the cost of a special 20-year revitalization loan to be about \$94 per business in the square. The provincial loan, applied for by the District of Sparwood two years ago,

does not require payments until two years after it is given.

Metal awnings would be constructed over the walkway around the square and on second-floor windows to create a theme in the area.

The walkway itself would be expanded, and 12-foot sidewalks would be poured on two sides of the square leading to the mall. The parking lots on each end of the square would be lined for stalls and landscaped pedestrian crossing stops established.

In addition to the physical changes, the square intends to market itself with large sign constructed by St. Barbara's church, listing all of the businesses and professionals in the square.

## Capsule to be sealed in mall wall until 2024

A small, steel box will be sealed Monday morning after the official ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new Overwaila store.

The box — Sparwood's first time capsule — will contain important letters, current and vintage photographs, documents and current newspapers. It

will be cemented into a space near the new south entrance to the mall and won't be opened until the year 2024.

Four years has been chosen as a limit for the time period because that time period is determined to be the lifespan of the mall structure.

The official ceremony to mark the Overwaila opening will take place shortly before 9 a.m., Monday March 19. Officials from the Overwaila food chain, store manager Bill Cruikshank, construction project managers and the mayor and council of the District of Sparwood

will attend the official ceremony for the vault.

The dimensions of the 4-by-16-by-18-inch box are enough to contain the material collected by Sparwood Mayor Toto Miller. Letters from the Elk Valley Recreation Society, Westar President Gary Livingstone, the United Mine Workers of America local 7292, the Elk Valley Recreation Society, the Premier, Lions Club, Kinsmen club and various other groups still submitting contributions will be placed in the box.

The schools are also expected to submit material, according to mayor, who intends to write his own message on the "Elk Valley" in Sparwood in 2004.

In addition to the written material, pictures of Michel-Natal dating back to 1910, obtained from the provincial archives and library, will be included.

The community plan and a photograph of the district staff and council will complete the municipality's contribution.

When the block-sized box is welded together and placed in its home carved-out space in the wall, a bronze plaque will cover the space.

## Crows Nest gets 2 awards for reclamation work

Crows Nest Resources Ltd. has received two of four major reclamation awards presented by the technical and research committee on reclamation activities.

The awards, presented on March 1, are certified by the president of the Mining Association of B.C., Tex Enemark, and Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Stephen Rogers.

The Line Creek mine won a citation for outstanding reclamation achievement on the Line Creek property in the coal mining category.

The Telkwa coal project in northwestern B.C. won the citation for outstanding reclamation achievement on exploration property.

Mr. Jim Lant, environ-

ment manager at Line Creek, said the award belongs to everyone at



... Will anyone be here to read this in 40 years?

Crows Nest Resources, "All the employees should be proud of their commitment to environmental awareness. They're the ones who portray the 'little' of environmental concern and this is evident throughout the property. We strive for cleanliness and environmental awareness and will continue to maintain our commitment. Congratulations to all employees."

Crows Nest Resources won a citation last year and, two years ago, the company won the outstanding reclamation award, a one-kilogram piece of jade. Last year Westar won the jade award for the third time.

## 'Little Pepsi' fingerprinting to start in April

Children enrolled in the Sparwood day-care centre's pre-school program will be among the first to be photographed and fingerprinted next month in the Lady Lions' "Little Pepsi" child identification program.

Adopted from a U.S. model and initiated in Sparwood last fall, the program will provide parents with a card containing fingerprints, a photograph and essential information about their child.

To be offered free to children from pre-school age to grade 7, the program is designed to aid police in a search for a missing child and to prevent the child from occurring in the valley.

When the film the Lady Lions have ordered arrives and the members of the Little Pepsi committee and its volunteers have been trained, the program will begin sometime next month, according to Valerie Brooks, public relations representative for the group.

She said the group has raised about \$2,000 in donations from businesses, private individuals and service groups. At \$1 a photograph, this will permit about 1,000 to get the cards, but more money is being canvassed for the program intended to in-

clude the estimated 2,000 in the grade 7 and under age level, she said.

The photographing and fingerprinting should take a couple of weekends and the high school will be the likely location for the program. Except for training from a RCMP fingerprint specialist being flown in to teach the volunteers how to take the prints, the police are not involved in the program. All information gathered is confidential and, like the photo and prints, is intended only for printing on the cards, which will be kept by parents in the unfortunate event of an emergency.

Though the program is designed for the specified age group, other people can come to get their child identified. "We won't turn anyone away," Mrs. Brooks said.

When the group, chaired by Eileen Ward, initiated the program, it was intended to cover the entire Elk Valley and Crowsnest Pass, but, for now, the program will concentrate on Sparwood. Child identification problems in the neighbouring communities, Mrs. Brooks said. "We'll get our own area done and then we can take it to the other areas."

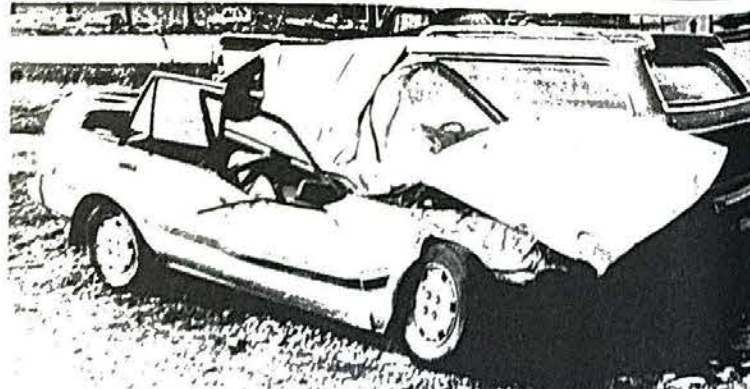
The committee includes Houde Miller, secretary-treasurer, and Lady Lions



Photo by Barbara Coultas

## What winter?

Carl Hill, 6, enjoys the spring weather on a swing in Elkford. The unseasonably nice weather has everyone thinking of summer.



## Crunch

The demolished car of Harloy (George) Sell sits at the Husky parking lot after it rolled off Red Cedar Drive late Sunday last week.

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## BLACK LIST OF DEFAULTS

### Racquet court booking questioned

The logic behind the new phone-in racquetball court booking system was questioned at last week's Sparwood council meeting by a resident who said the system was losing money for the district and unfairly making the courts more accessible to out-of-town players.

Ron Saad said the phone-in system has produced a "black list" of names — people who have called in and not played or paid for the courts. These courts then sit unused for 45 minutes. He told the council that he saw no difficulties with the other system of booking a court in person and paying at the time of booking.

Now, players can call in and book courts 48 hours in advance. The phone-lines are busy at 7 a.m., when the centre opens, with people reserving the courts for prime-time play, according to Parks and Recreation Director Gary Walker. But he said the phone-in system is not being abused by people. The "black list" of about 15 names prevents the people from booking further courts until they pay for their unused court. Once a court is booked, it cannot be cancelled and must be paid for, Mr. Walker said of the new system.

Mr. Saad said he was not challenging the phone-in system, but merely wanted to know why the district replaced what he and others felt was an equally good system.

"We're losing a lot of numbers of people," Mr.

Walker said of the other system. People who work and could not make it to the centre early enough in the day were not able to book prime-time spots, he said.

"It's a common problem with booking courts... this way everybody gets a crack at it."

The change in booking procedure has not altered the level of play. "We're finding that the courts are booked 75 to 100 per cent of the time," Mr. Walker said.

The main reason for the change in procedure was because the recreation department found that the courts were being used most by people who were not working or by those who were down at the centre at a convenient time to book.

"We wanted to make it more convenient for the majority of the players," including people from Sparwood Heights who would find it more difficult to get to the centre, Mr. Walker said.

Though the "black list" is a byproduct of the phone-in system, the names on the list are not exclusively people from out of town.

"A good percentage of the names on the list are familiar," Mr. Walker said. Mr. Saad agreed that the names he recognized on the list indicated the offenders were not out-of-town residents but people from Sparwood. And the black-listed players are paying, the recreation director said.

Alderman Simon Senycz said he would be disturbed

if the phone-in system were creating problems with calling in and using someone else's name as a joke. "I would be worried about it if people were calling in and fooling around with the system."

The council is considering asking for the number of a credit card or licence number with a name so that a person will be protected from having to pay for a court booked in a crank call.

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## Soccer gets jump on baseball season

The Sparwood minor soccer association wants to get the jump on the baseball season this by registering children early. The booth in the mall last Monday signed up children from ages 6 to 15 for a new season and improved out-of-town schedules. Tracey Bergen, president of the league, said players this year can look forward to out-of-town play in tournaments. And scheduled games will be held at least once a week with Elkford or Crowsnest Pass teams, she said.

This is the third season for minor soccer in Sparwood. About 170 children signed up last year for the sport, 200 the first year. Many players were disappointed last year that games were not more regularly scheduled, but this year that problem has been solved, Mrs. Bergen said. "Last year we had a real big problem with the games." In addition to the games schedules, the registration day for soccer

was the same day as baseball last year. "We lost a lot of kids to baseball."

The league, which hopes to get play started by April 16, introduces another category — 14- to 15-year-olds. All teams are mixed, with the girls and boys playing on 6- and 7-year-old teams (they don't travel out of town); 8 and 9; 10 and 11; and 12 and 13.

The condition of playing fields is the big factor in starting the season. The first game wasn't held until May 5 last year.

## Rayco gas is stolen

Rayco Steel's vehicle compound was broken into last week and about \$300 of gas was siphoned and a small tool box stolen. The fenced compound was locked when break-in on the night of March 5 occurred.

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# TOXIC SPILLS, FIRES Plan prepares for disasters

An emergency program that would co-ordinate communication and various facilities like the hospital and fire department in the event of a disaster in Sparwood has been drawn up by a group of community professionals.



Helping hands

Grade 3 students at Sparwood Elementary school, these two girls are getting experience at the Sparwood Public Library so they can work at the school library next year. Left to right, Carolyn Boivin, 9, and Nicole Houston, 9. The girls also attended the Sparwood Library birthday party early last Saturday.

A series of meetings began in January with the fire chief, hospital administrator, mayor, police chief, provincial emergency co-ordinator and ambulance unit officer to update Sparwood's 10-year-old disaster plan.

The program, which was designed on a model adopted in Castlegar in 1981, will handle five major categories of emergencies: train derailment, with an ensuing gas or toxic chemical spill; truck accident, involving gas or toxic chemical spill; forest fire; a drought; or a prolonged loss of power to the area.

The main function of the emergency plan is to co-ordinate communication, according to hospital administrator Bill Ayyotte. After a telephone "out" system alerts important facilities, such as the hospital and the District of Sparwood office, each group can assume certain responsibilities outlined in the program.

The program proposes that a command group act as the central authority during a large crisis. The mayor, the administrator, senior RCMP officer, fire chief, emergency social services representative and Area A director would compose this group.

In the event of an emergency, the proposal recommends that the Harmer gate be used as a point from which to notify the members of the command group. The RCMP is likely to be the origin of information about a disaster. Each of the members of the command group would be notified from Harmer gate and in turn, each of the facilities required in the event of an emergency.

The emergency program was initiated after the hospital finished updating its own emergency program a few months ago. When it wanted to align its program with the program of the district, the community outline was found to be based on an outdated 1974 model. Bill Ayyotte, the hospital administrator, was assisted by RCMP Staff-sgt. Glen White in drawing up a proposal for a disaster strategy.

Other members of the group, which met in January but completed most of the work last month, include fire chief Don Willmott, Cal Laybourne, provincial emergency program co-ordinator and Bob Clowers, provincial ambulance services unit officer.

The group also consulted Westar Mining, Crows Nest Resources and Byron Creek Collieries, the three coal mines in the district. Mr. Ayyotte said Staff-sgt. White was particularly valuable in helping to get the program revised and as a resource person, since he was involved in two major emergencies while on duty in northern B.C. One incident involved the death of 22 people in a collision of a tar truck and a bus. The other incident was a major forest fire.

Westar Mining has donated the use of the camera and laminator for the cards.

Members Anne Martin and Cindy Cook. Mrs. Brooks said she is proud of the group's achievements in getting the new program established. "I think we've come a long way with these people."

In addition to the cash donations received from businesses and community groups, the Pass Bot-

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The Elk Valley Miner office will be located in Centennial Square in Sparwood.

(Above Botttomley's ... on Corner) Still at the same number: 425-6411

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## FROM PAGE ONE 1,000 kids for now

ing Co. has paid for the cards to be used in the program, the origin of "Pepsi" in the program. In the United States, the widespread program was sponsored by Dr. Pepper and called the Pepper program.

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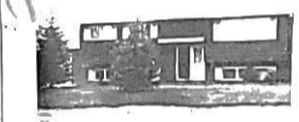
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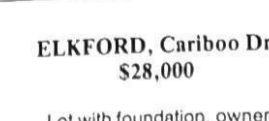


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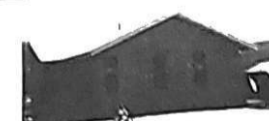
ELKFORD, Cariboo Dr. \$28,000  
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# The Elk Valley Miner

More than 3,300 newspapers distributed weekly to provide blanket coverage of Sparwood, Elkford and the Elk Valley between. Published each Wednesday morning from the office of Elk Valley Communications Ltd., Box 820, Sparwood, British Columbia, V0B 2G0 Phone 425-6411

HEIDI DALBY  
Reporter

TOM HOGUE  
Editor and Publisher

SHARLEEN DE ANNA  
Bookkeeper

## Life in 2024

This week's paper will be sealed in the commemorative time capsule at the Greenwood Mall on Monday and won't be read again until 40 years passes.

By the time the year 2024 rolls around the valley will look somewhat different, though the changes are likely to be gradual over the years.

Here are a few predictions of the big news items in the year 2024:

The Elk River mall in Fernie is NOW LEASING for a possible construction start in 2025.

The City of Hosmer and its suburbs - Sparwood, Elkford and Fernie - bids unsuccessfully to host the Winter Olympics.

Six-lane Highway 3 is closed temporarily by a snowstorm. When it opens a day later, the speed limit is reduced to 200 kmh because of the occasional white-out patches. The Elk Valley subway system notices a dramatic increase in traffic because of the closure.

The Independent Green government decides to build another coal slurry pipeline from the coast to Sparwood. The proposal to build a canal from Sparwood to Vancouver is defeated in the legislature by vote of 355 to 155.

After a long debate, the suburbs of Sparwood and Elkford decide to

share the cost of building a domed stadium. The Westar Corporation offers to contribute \$50-million to the project, which is designed to seat 120,000.

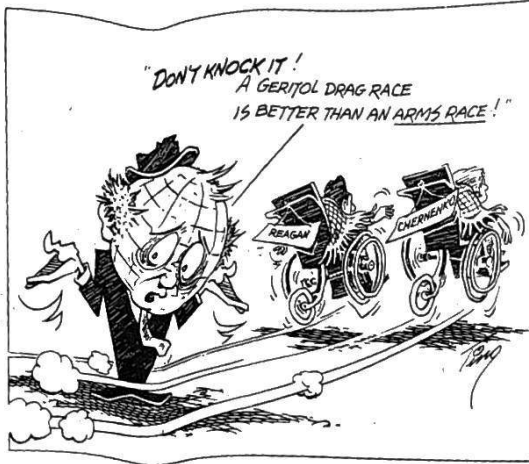
Sparwood Mayor Ben Doratty is re-elected to office for another 5-year term. He promises to provide more computer readouts to his electorate. The issues during the three-month campaign include the hotly-contested mono-rail bypass to serve the 30,000 residents of Sparwood Heights and the lighted curbs and moving sidewalks referendum in lower Sparwood.

Retired tycoon Toto Miller finishes writing his 600-page autobiography, citing the factors that helped his fledgling smoke shop grow into the Miller Cigar Factory. Sparwood's second-biggest employer next to Alf Obray's "Big Satellite" space equipment rental agency.

The Sparwood Leopard Skin service club welcomes former Premier Len Gundlock to speak at a well-attended fund-raiser in the Sparwood Convention Centre.

Long-time resident Tilo Porco encourages local businessmen to see the tourist benefits of building a space-shuttle landing strip in the valley.

Science fiction has an uncanny way of coming true, doesn't it?



## Shhh ... it's the librarian

One aspect of Jim Bertola's job is to keep people quiet in the Sparwood Public Library.

At least that's the stereotypical role of a librarian: someone whose main occupation is telling people to "be quiet" and sending out overdue book notices. Of course, like any librarian, Jim he does much more.

Cataloguing books, magazines and periodicals, administering the everyday activities of the business-like institution, keeping abreast of

events in the community and regularly reporting to the library board are some of the behind-the-scenes responsibilities of someone who is always available to answer questions or assist in a search for information.

This week marks the 10th anniversary of the Sparwood Public Library and in the celebration it is fitting to review the hard work of the librarian who helps to maintain this important community institution.

## FROM THE B.C. LAW SOCIETY

### Obscenity redefined

From Law Society of B.C.

"The federal government proposes to make extensive amendments to the Criminal Code and most people would think that at least one of the goals would be to clarify the law, and not to make it more obscure and more difficult for the courts to interpret. The proposed new definition of obscenity is an example.

One of the most difficult sections of the Criminal Code to interpret has been the section on obscenity, and the reason for this is that people and judges cannot agree on a common definition. Here is the current definition of obscenity in the Criminal Code:

"For the purposes of this Act any publication, a dominant characteristic of which is the undue exploitation of sex, or of sex and any one or more of the following subjects, namely, crime, horror, cruelty and violence, shall be deemed obscene."

The problem is illustrated by two cases involving Playboy Magazine. In May of 1962 Playboy was found to be obscene under this definition. In 1968 Playboy was acquitted under the same definition, even though the girls in the 1968 magazine were more exposed than the one in the 1962 version.

The courts have been struggling with this definition for years and, although, cases have gone in all directions, at least those cases have produced examples as to what is obscene, and what is not.

The new proposed definition will make this problem much worse. Here is how it reads:

"For the purposes of this Act any matter or thing is obscene where a dominant characteristic of the matter or thing is the undue exploitation of any one or more of the following subjects namely, sex, violence, crime, horror or cruelty, through degrading representation of a male or female person or in any other manner."

There are two significant changes in the new definition. One is that for a matter to be obscene, sex need not be linked with the violence or horror as is required by the present definition. So, if a judge finds a movie or magazine to unduly exploit horror or violence alone, he can de-

clare it obscene. By that standard, he could probably convict the evening news on any station, let alone horror movies such as the Godfather.

What concerns many lawyers is that this new, broad definition of obscenity will be impossible to interpret and apply, and without clearer guidelines, it will be years before the courts will be able to make any sense out of the section.

The second problem relates to the phrase, "through degrading representation of a male or female person." How are the courts to interpret the word "degrading"? The Oxford dictionary defines degrading as "bringing into dishonor, or contempt."

The result is that if a movie or magazine has a predominant characteristic of horror or cruelty, which brings into dishonor or contempt a male or female person, it is obscene. Documentaries about the Second World War and the holocaust would fall within the definition.

A famous old American judge once said, "I can't define obscenity, but I sure know it when I see it."

Could anyone say that with confidence, if the new definition of obscenity passed?

## FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

### Yes

By Vicar Rick Frey  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Elkford

For anyone who is an old-time black and white western fan, like myself, I'm sure that you must remember the TV series Daniel Boone. On this show, Daniel had an Indian friend by the name of Chinichook. And although I'm sure that many an Indian used the line, Chinichook probably said it more than anyone else. The line I am referring to is: "White men speak with forked tongue."

Fork tongued — what an interesting concept, a phrase that so clearly defines a type of behavior familiar to not only the white man, but to all men throughout all ages. The words "fork tongue" describe a tongue with two points: one which speaks one thing, and the other which says the exact opposite. To describe it in another way, a man with a fork tongue would be someone who makes a promise of "yes" and then says "no" later on. This is so typical to all of us.

On the other hand, God does not say both yes and no; rather, as the Scripture tells us in the book of II Corinthians: "No matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ." Ever since the beginning of time, God has said yes to us. Beginning at creation, He said, "Yes, I love you and wish to take care of you forever." Yet, in return for his yes, we said no.

While Adam and Eve spoke of loving God with one side of their tongue, the other part of the fork was pledging allegiance to the devil. Yet, God continued to say yes. Now He said, "Yes, I still love you, and yes I still wish you would come back to Me. Yes, I love you so much that I will send a Savior to you." But did man change?

The Bible tells us that men continued to speak with fork tongue. In fact, our wickedness even increased. But God's message still did not change. He continued to say, "Yes, I will send you a Messiah who will forgive all of your sins without any cost to you." Then, just as he promised, that very special day arrived. All the promises God had ever made were fulfilled when Jesus came to earth. Suddenly God's yes became a triumphant "YES! yes." He said, "It is finished! Yes I have come into the world that you might have life and have it abundantly. Yes, although I knew no sins, I became sin so that you might become righteousness."

While we were helpless, our God said "Yes." On account of the death of Jesus Christ, our sins were forgiven. Moreover, through the death of Jesus Christ, God proved to us that He does not change His mind... He will go to any extreme to prove His love for us — a "Yes" that will never change.

Dear friends, understand and believe this simple truth. There is absolutely nothing we can do to deserve God's "Yes." Just as a child does nothing to deserve the love of his parents, so do we do nothing. Yet despite our failures, shortcomings and even the grossest of sins, God's "Yes" for you remains.

## Store is milestone

The opening of the Overwaita store is a milestone in the drive for expanded commercial services in Sparwood and the Elk Valley.

The 30,000-square-foot store, which officially opens Monday, March 19, is a shopper's paradise. Hat's off to the grocery store's planners and mall developers for having the foresight and confidence in the valley to offer such a facility to its consumers.

The store is the largest tenant in the ongoing Greenwood Mall expansion. If the appealing style and convenient design of the store are indicators of the renovations still to come in the rest of the mall, the building will be an aesthetic addition to the community as well as welcome re-

lief to shoppers who felt they had to leave town to find variety in goods.

Almost concurrent with the Overwaita expansion, the Downtown Revitalization Committee unveiled its plans last week for architectural improvements to Centennial Square and the commercial core. This ambitious group of property owners and merchants has a come up with a detailed plan to beautify the area and make shopping more convenient. Canopies, paving stone, coordinated signing and alternate parking stall patterns will blend with the Rotary fountain in the centre of the square to unite business frontages and make shopping more enjoyable all year-round.

## Community Events

Coming events in your community are listed here weekly through the courtesy of Westar Mining. Please send your notice to the Elk Valley Miner, Box 820, Sparwood, B.C., V0B 2G0, or phone 425-6411. This space is for use by non-profit organizations.

C.I.M. Crownest Branch, Technical meeting, Thursday, March 15, 1984, 7:30 p.m., Fernie Legion Hall. Speaker: Dr. George W. Poling (Chairman of Mineral Process Engineering at U.B.C.) Topic: Advances in the Recovery of Placer Gold. Admission: \$2.50 member, \$5.00 non-member.



## Fellowship Baptist Churches

COME WORSHIP WITH US

### SPARWOOD

Sunday Morning Services in SALUS FUNERAL HOME

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Nursery Provided

Evening Service, 7:00 p.m.

and Mid Week Services in members' homes.

Pastor: Rev. Stan Braunberger

1226 Hickory Crescent

Phone: 425-2866

### ELKFDOR

Sunday Morning Services in the Community Recreational Centre Hobby Room.

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Nursery Provided

Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.

and Mid Week Services in members' homes

Pastor: Harry Wilkie

37 Chimo Crescent

Phone: 665-4509

WE BELIEVE "ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS." 2 TIMOTHY 3:16

## Lutheran Churches

### ELKFDOR

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

in Banquet Room of Elkford Motor Inn

Christian Day School

Tuesday, 3:30

in Roman Catholic Hall (800 Natal)

Vicar Rick Frey

865-4521

410-10 Caribou

### SPARWOOD

Sunday Worship: 7 p.m.

at St. Barbara's Anglican/United Church

Christian Day School

Thursday, 3:30

at 1244 Ponderosa Dr.

Call 865-4521

or 425-2992

## Letters to the Editor

The Elk Valley Miner Welcomes Letters to the Editor on issues raised in this paper. Letters should be typed or written neatly and must bear writer's name, address and telephone number for verification. Names will be withheld on request.

## STUDENT NOTEBOOK Yearbook layout complete

By Janet Walmsley

The Yearbook Club has been really busy for the past month. The student pages are finished and club members will soon be working on ads.

Several changes have been made in the format of the book. It was decided to have permanent name for the book and thus the name "The Spartan" was devised in keeping with the Spartan theme. Candy Bantaluke designed a cover with a Spartan on it.

Another change this year is a plastic covering, which will be over the regular cover. Yearbooks will be on sale until the end of the year. They will be \$13.50 after spring break and you purchase your yearbook from Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Basarab, Carolyn Dorr and Janet Walmsley.

Easter exams are being written by the students of SSS this week. The two-hour exams run from Monday to Friday. Following the exams, students are looking forward to a well-deserved break. School will re-open on March 26.

## Guess who?

By Barbara Coutts

There are times when I wish I were political. If I were political I would be able to make reasoned judgments on government policies. I would be able to follow the government's concerns and the Opposition's complaints. I would understand clearly why the Prime Minister does what he does. I would understand the whys and wherefores of the cruise missile testings, the consumer price index and the federal budget. I would be more than "glad" that the Prime Minister is concerned about language rights and self government for the Indian, Inuit and Metis people; I would understand "how" he bludgeons his concern through the myriad paths of Parliament into Acts and amendments and tangible benefits for those who cannot speak out loudly enough for themselves. I would be able to discover the germ of truth — or untruth — in the mass of words politicians spew out, and the media reports.

Being apolitical, reason is ousted by prejudice. I am prejudiced in favor of a politician who quotes poetry, who wears a flower in his lapel, who shows dignity in the glare of publicity focused on a decaying marriage, and courage at a time of national tension and unrest. Who has governed Canada since April, 1968, and who has accepted political defeat and victory with equal equanimity. Who speaks flawless English — and French — who can ski and dance and joke and be a proud and loving father and a man of religion and principle and leadership.

I feel my appreciation of such a man is puny. I should be able to understand why he does what he does not just as a man but also as a Prime Minister. I should be able to understand the machinations of party politics, the struggle for power that goes on behind the scenes. I should not be blinded by the charisma of a man who, in time, and in the history books, will be known as one of Canada's greatest leaders.

The Elk Valley Miner office is moving to Centennial Square Friday.

## Mall developer aims to be done project by August at the latest

When the new Overwaitea store opens next Monday, the renovated government liquor will be quick to follow, clearing the mall of construction debris for a while.

The largest single construction element of the Greenwood Mall expansion, the 30,000 square foot store, called a super-store by the B.C. chain, is also the largest tenant in the shopping centre.

Ken Cantor, project manager of Humford Developments Ltd. of Burnaby, the owner of the mall, said the Overwaitea opening is on schedule and that the

changes and renovations in the existing section of the building will be piecemeal until work is finally completed in about August.

"We hope to do the mall renovations as quick as possible," he said in a telephone interview.

In addition to remodeling the old Overwaitea store for a possible junior department store and drug store, which have yet to be leased, the mall interior will get new floor and ceiling tiles, the walls will be redone and, when the individual construction modifications for each of the merchants in

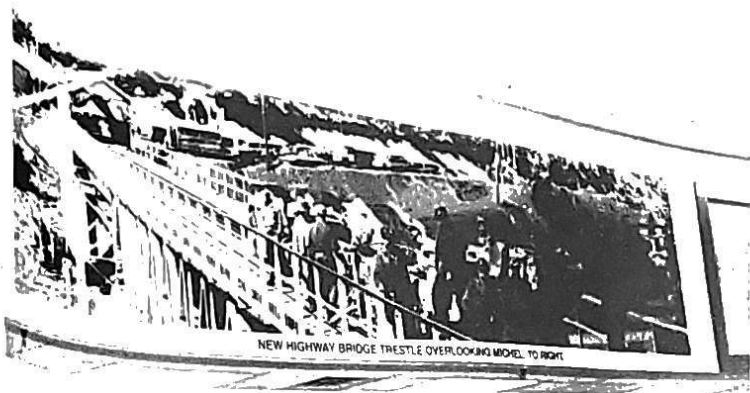
the mall are complete, a new boiler will be installed, Mr. Cantor said. "You can build a new mall in twice the time" of renovating an old mall, he said.

Except for the cold snap in December, the weather has been co-operative, with the early spring conditions helping out the laying of the new roof, he said. The parking lot will be cleared up in the next few weeks, lamp standards placed and lines painted for the parking stalls, he said.

A number of lease spaces are still available in the mall, including a few

small spaces in professional wing at the north end of the mall. Space is still available for a restaurant, ladies' wear shop, children's wear shop, jeweller and other merchants, Mr. Cantor said.

Dr. Meller's office will be moved into the professional building, which will make room for existing and new tenants. Vic's Men's Wear and the Greenwood Florist will vacate the mid-mall stall. The Greenwood Florist will move to the south entrance beside the Overwaitea store. The florist shop may also be open in the next few days.



One of the many blown-up prints of historical grocery store photographs that dot the walls of the new

## Boxers win 12 bouts in card

Elk Valley boxers won nine out of 12 fights at the club's host boxing match in the Sparwood Secondary gymnasium last weekend.

The annual Lions Club-Elk Valley Boxing Club card last Saturday featured Scott Bannink and Lee Gauthier in the final bouts of the night. Both fighting boxers in heavier weight classes, Bannink won a unanimous decision and Gauthier lost a close split decision.

The best fight of night was awarded to the match with Gauthier and Couer D'Alaine, Idaho, boxer Larry Cole. Bannink won the award for the best boxer over 100 pounds and Curtis Peterson won the award for best boxer under 100 pounds.

Eight of the Elk Valley boxing club victories were unanimous decisions: Mike Bott, 70 pounds; Shawn Gentile, 75; Jerry Phillips, 90; Kevin Hildebrandt, 119; Mike Schraepel, 95; Troy Bannink, 80; Curtis Peterson, 90 and Bannink, 125.

Jeremy Durellieux, 75, won his fight with a TKO in the third round. Clinton Allen, 60, and Chisholm Miller, 80, lost unanimous decisions.

All of the clubs that entered were pleased with the card, boxing coach John Kovak said. Surprised that his boxers did so well during the night, Kovak said he was happy with the outcome, particularly since most of the bouts were weighted against his boxers.

It is difficult finding matches for his boxers, so he has to go into other weight divisions and invited tough clubs, like the Coeur D'Alaine club, in order to challenge them, the coach said.

Cranbrook, Lethbridge, Kallispell, Montana, and Coeur D'Alaine teams competed against the Elk Valley boxers.

Of the 16 fights staged in front of the audience at the Sparwood arena, 12 were fought against the local boxers.

Two awards were presented at the end of the night to supporters of the boxing club: the Black Nugget Motor Inn received a plaque for allowing the boxing club to use its basement as a practice ring. And Dr. Lurod was given a plaque for his eight years of help at the annual cards, where he volunteers his time as a ring-side doctor, giving physicals and being on hand for emergencies.

The Elk Valley boxers fight in Cranbrook on March 24 at an invitation, Kimberley on March 31 and April 7 and 8 at the Outlaw Inn in Kallispell, where the Northwest Showdown will be held. Clubs from northwestern states, B.C. and Alberta compete in this tough card, Kovak said.

Meanwhile, Lee Gauthier is training for the upcoming intermediate national championships in Halifax in May.

# Come see our new food shopping wonderland...

# MONDAY MAR. 19<sup>TH</sup>

# GRAND OPENING SALE

DOORS  
OPEN

# BEGINS

AT  
9 A.M.

EXPECT THE BEST

# Overwaitea

GREENWOOD MALL, SPARWOOD, BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Seeing and shopping is believing
- Brand new departments
- Bulk foods
- Much larger selection
- Greeting cards
- Great store opening specials
- Win valuable prizes
- Food Hampers to be given away
- Courteous staff
- Freshness that's better than ever
- Quality Meats
- Savings — better than ever
- One stop-shopping

Watch for our big Grand Opening flyer coming to your home next week

**GOOD LUCK  
OVERWAITEA ON  
YOUR OPENING**

*We are proud to have supplied the  
glass, aluminum frames and  
automatic doors on your new  
Sparwood store.*

**CROW GLASS &  
ALUMINUM**

703 Douglas Fir Sparwood 425-0144

**RED ROOSTER**

**Warmly Congratulates  
Overwaitea on the  
Completion and Grand  
Opening of its New Store.**

**RED ROOSTER**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
6 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT 425-2616

Centennial Square SPARWOOD

**We Were Glad To  
Have Worked On The  
Overwaitea Building**

**And Wish The Store  
Continued Success.**

**Central Valley  
Plumbing and  
Heating**

2136 Bakerview St. Clearbrook, B.C. 853-6540

**ALL THE BEST AND  
CONTINUED SUCCESS,  
OVERWAITEA**

FROM THE MANAGEMENT & STAFF OF

**PARADISE  
THEATRE  
AN ADVENTURE  
IN ENTERTAINMENT**

DANCING & DINING 7 DAYS A WEEK  
425-2311 CENTENNIAL SQUARE SPARWOOD

**Congratulations  
OVERWAITEA**

*on your opening next week  
It's a beautiful store!*

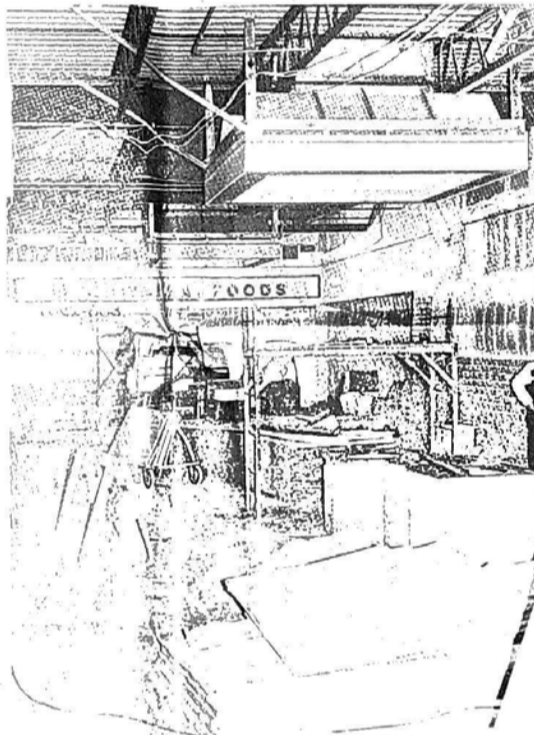
**Humford  
Developments  
Ltd.**

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**Transition**

Above, the bright interior of the new Overwaitea store contrasts the construction zone outside the store in the mall area. The liquor store, where most of the construction is now concentrated, is expected to be open this coming week, shortly after the opening of the Overwaitea.



**Jump rope for heart  
returns to school**

The Jump Rope For Heart will be again be conducted at Sparwood's Mountain View Elementary School this year.

The activity is a fundraiser and awareness drive for the B.C. Heart Foundation. Participating students at the school get pledges for the number of minutes they will be skipping ropes in the gym at the school. Students divide up into six teams, which jump in relays for three hours.

The awareness goal of the program encourages students to engage in rope skipping for their own health, developing cardiovascular fitness, motor co-ordination and endurance. The program is taught as part of school physical education programs across Canada and the U.S., where students began jumping for heart in 1978. The program was introduced to Canada in 1982.

The students at Mountain View will be joining 10,000 across the province in March and April. Sponsoring teacher Shelley Buchanan said a date will be chosen for the fundraising event after the winter break next week.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
OVERWAITEA**

*We're Glad To Have  
Been Part of the  
Work Force*



**KEN'S  
PAINTING**

FERNIE

423-6423

**Pass dominates  
Mites tourney**

The Crowsnest Pass Flyers won the B division in the Mitey Mite tourney in Sparwood. Coleman beat the Flyers 3-2 in first game, sending the Flyers to B division, where they beat Elkford 6-2 and Sparwood 5-4 in finals.

The Bellevue Flames were the second overall, losing to Fernie 5-2 in the A final. The Coleman Cubs victory over Blairmore was a surprise after they had lost to them earlier this season 17-3 and 6-1. Coleman lost their next game to Bellevue 6-2.

Bellevue also beat Sparwood 7-6 in a game which saw each team score once in overtime, Bellevue doing it in the dying seconds. Bellevue won the shoot-out.

**Congratulations  
Overwaitea**

*on your  
Grand Opening*



**Morse  
Construction**

2818 St. John's Str. Port Moody, B.C.  
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RAY HILL SAYS

**"BEST OF  
LUCK**

TO THE STAFF AND  
MANAGEMENT OF

**SPARWOOD  
OVERWAITEA**

ON YOUR BRAND NEW  
STORE"

**SPARWOOD  
FLOORING**

425-2257

**ARMADA  
CONSTRUCTION**

**is pleased to have installed  
the drywall on the new  
Overwaitea building**

All The Success in the Future

ARMADA CONSTRUCTION  
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RENCO SERVICES LTD.

*Wishes Sparwood Overwaitea*

*The Very Best on Its*

*Grand Opening*

**RENCO  
SERVICES LTD.**  
Construction Management

Will Renner - President

Port Coquitlam, B.C.

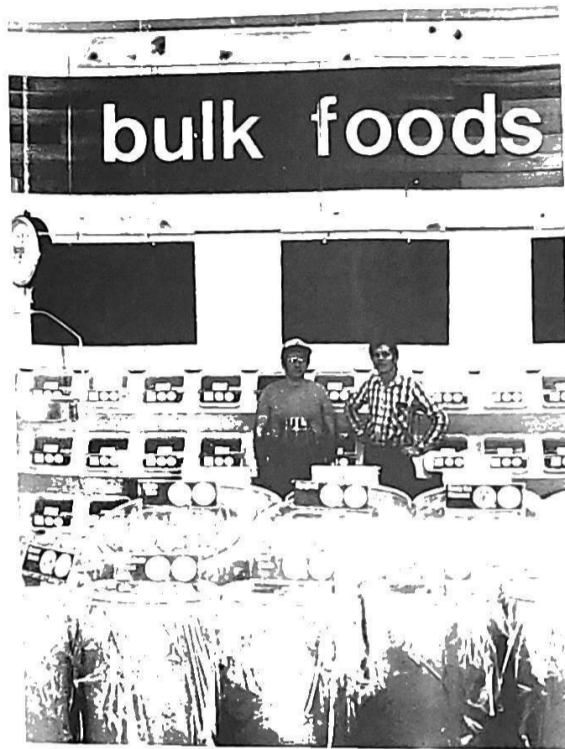


A maze of shelves

The shelves and shelves of products at the new Overwaita fill the 30,000 square feet of the store, which is almost three times the size of the old store.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

The Official Opening of the Sparwood Store Marks the Introduction of Another Fine Overwaita Store in B.C.



Dieter Bahr and Walter Abram

We're Proud to Have Constructed and Prepared the Bulk Foods Section in the New Store.

## ED'S PAINTING

888-1961

Surrey, B.C.

### OPEN A NEW BUSINESS

Join a New 30,000 sq. ft. Overwaita Food Store and Other Major Tenants in the Expanded Greenwood Mall Shopping Centre in Sparwood, B.C.

Spaces Still Available for Jewelry Store, Restaurant, Ladies Wear Shop, Children's Wear Shop, and Other Merchants in This Underserved Market.

For Further Information Call Collect at Humford Developments Ltd. (604) 437-8628 or Ken Cantor (604) 263-6431 After Hours.

### Ideas for leisure centre

A suggestion box at the leisure centre for comments from the public was suggested by the District of Sparwood's public relations committee at last week's council meeting.

The committee recommended other ideas for the council to consider implementing: establishing a sign on Highway 3 to route traffic to the leisure centre, having distance signs to Sparwood erected in Cranbrook and Fort Macleod and creating a hospitality program for local people who deal with the general public.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE GREENWOOD MALL NEXT WEEK?  
EVERYTHING!

FIRST ANNUAL

# SPARWOOD DAYS

March 23 and 24  
in the Greenwood Mall



GAMES FOR THE KIDS

BALLOONS!  
BOB FOR APPLES!

DISPLAYS,  
ACTIVITIES,  
SURPRISES

GAMBLING CASINO

FRIDAY: 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
SATURDAY: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

WIN!  
WIN!  
WIN!

DEMONSTRATIONS

FLEA MARKET

TABLES AVAILABLE  
2 FOR '20  
1 FOR '15

SERVICE CLUB DISPLAYS

SEE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE PLANS UNVEILED



## EAGLES FIRST ANNUAL Meldrum wins funspiel

The Deloy Meldrum rink won the A event of the Sparwood Eagles' first funspiel last weekend.

The turnout of six rinks last Saturday was lower than expected by the Eagles, but the disappoint-

ment will not deter the club from holding more funspiels next year. "A great time was had by

all," Evan Jones said. The Sally Travis rink won the B event and the Lynn Mueller rink won the consolation round, since there were not enough entries to make for a third series of playdowns. On the Meldrum rink are DeLuca, third, Polly Robert Burritt, lead, The Travis rink includes Irving Buttrey, Blair Ketch and Dell Jones. Iola Bertola, Charlie Anselmo and Dave Heatherington complete the Mueller rink.

## Figure skaters pass test routines

Skaters from the Sparwood Figure Skating Club attended their last test day of the season in Cranbrook. Results are as follows: Nicole Rothe and Janice Talarico passed the preliminary figure. Janice Talarico, Pia Lombholt and Andrea Rudzinski passed the preliminary freeskate. Leslie Starkey passed her Junior bronze freeskate. Jennifer Halko and Paula Beswick passed the 10-foot, a Junior bronze dance. Colleen Neilson, Janice Talarico, Pia Lombholt, Nicole Rothe, Cynthia

Brussee and Andrea Rudzinski passed the Swing, a preliminary dance.



### Saplings

These "trees" are practicing for the Sparwood Figure Skating Club's "Sleeping Beauty" carnival March 31.



## MILLS STEAM CLEANING & JANITORIAL SERVICES LTD.

### 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING ON LIVINGROOM, DININGROOM, HALLWAY IN HOME UNDER 1100 SQ. FT. **52<sup>50</sup>**



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The Elkford Figure Skating Club Presents

### "An Ice Spectacular"

2 Shows Monday, March 18  
1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Tickets available in advance at Hair Eloquence and at the door.

\$4 Adults, \$3 Students (13-19)

\$2 Children (4-12)

Sanctioned By The C.S.S.A

## TIME IS RUNNING OUT!... 562-2188



COMPLETE PAINT JOB **\$650**

BOOK BEFORE MARCH 30  
**ONLY 2 WEEKS LEFT**

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
ANY COLOR  
Does not include body work

**CROWS' NEST PASS MOTORS** BLAIRMORE, ALTA.

# \$7513.



## NEW CHEVY CITATION II. CANADA'S LOWEST PRICED COMPACT.

**NO OTHER COMPACT IS PRICED LESS, OR WORTH MORE.**

- 1000 cc. engine
- 1300 cc. engine
- 1600 cc. engine
- 1800 cc. engine
- 2000 cc. engine
- 2300 cc. engine
- 2600 cc. engine
- 2900 cc. engine
- 3300 cc. engine
- 3700 cc. engine
- 4100 cc. engine
- 4600 cc. engine
- 5000 cc. engine
- 5500 cc. engine
- 6000 cc. engine
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- 9500 cc. engine
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- 6500 cc. engine
- 7000 cc. engine
- 7500 cc. engine
- 8000 cc. engine
- 8500 cc. engine
- 9000 cc. engine
- 9500 cc. engine
- 10000 cc. engine

**NOW!**  
LOWEST PRICED COMPACT  
IN CANADA

**CROWS' NEST PASS MOTORS**

WEST BLAIRMORE  
562-2188

**YOU'RE TAKING CHARGE WITH CHEVROLET.**



### The board

The 1984 East Kootenay Community board met for the first time at the Cranbrook campus recently. Ty Colgur of Cranbrook was elected chairman and Harvey Venier was elected vice-chairman. Members of the board are pictured, front row, left to right, Peg Beaton, Kimberley, Delphine Kennelly, Cranbrook, Cindy Brunel, Elk Valley, Jackie Riches, Invermere, back row, Syd Feuz, Golden, Barry McDowell, Cranbrook, Ty Colgur, Cranbrook, Harvey Venier, Cranbrook and Bob Hockley, Cranbrook.



### JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

B.C. HEART FOUNDATION



Sponsored by BRITISH COLUMBIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



### CNP THEATRES ORPHEUM BLAIRMORE

SHOW TIME: 8:00 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Except on Friday, 7 shows 7 & 8 p.m.

The 1984 show will feature the 1984 show by the famous Broadway Musical of 1983 & 84.

Getting It On MARCH 14, 15, 16 & 17 8:00 p.m.

FOR MARCH 18, 19 & 20 SAT. MAR. 17 & 18 10 MATINEE

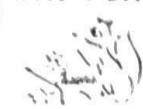
Waco 10:30 p.m.

All The Right Moves MARCH 18, 19 & 20 8:00 p.m.

ROXY COLEMAN SHOW TIME: 8:00 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. MARCH 14, 15, 16 & 17 8:00 p.m.

Star 80 MARCH 15, 16, 17 & 18 8:00 p.m.

### The Fox



PRINCE OF DARKNESS SHOW TIMES: 7:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.

### Terms of Endearment

WED & THURS MARCH 14 & 15 MATINEE

"THE MOST THRILLING MOVIE OF THE YEAR"

### THE RIGHT STUFF

8 P.M. ONLY THU TO TUE MARCH 16 TO 20 MATINEE



# Comedy troupe was starting point for well-known TV stars

Improvisation comedy has helped train the funniest people on the continent. Gilda Radner, John Candy, Catherine O'Hara, Dave Thomas, John Belushi, Eugene Levy... the splitting gag-master after the other.

The Toronto-based Second City troupe is with a few comedy skits originating from the company's own repertoire, then cast members ask for suggestions from the audience. They are asking for off-beat places and situations to act out. So you say: "flea circus ringmaster." Someone else yells out a location: "canoeing up the Amazon." After a few seconds to collect the ideas, the cast jumps into the skit, whose quick plot is directly based on the zany suggestions. The result is often brilliant, often

bizarre but always hilarious. The television stars of Second City started just as these troupe members did: talented but unknown. Johnny LaRue gave his first restaurant critique to an audience unfamiliar with his slobbish manners. And the Mackenzie brothers once instructed the art of back bacon frying on stage to an audience like the one in Sparwood. The tour allows people to see tomorrow's comedy faces starting out. The touring company was established in 1976

and has played universities, resorts and conventions through Ontario in addition to the cross-country tour.

## Dog catcher has mobile #

People trying to reach the dog catcher during the day can call him on a newly installed mobile telephone. The number is H490946. It listed on the answering machine recording as well.



The Second City touring troupe appears at the Sparwood Secondary gymnasium this Friday.

## THOMPSON'S LEPRECHAUN SALE!

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## Tender out for Sparwood Heights work

The tender notice is out for the realignment of Ponderosa Drive and the completion of the mobile home subdivision in Sparwood Heights. The District of Sparwood project involves work on pavement, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, water and sewer mains and manholes.

## PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF CANADA



Kootenay East - Revelstoke  
Riding Association  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
31st March 1984 - 4:00 p.m.  
Club Room, Inn of the South  
Cranbrook, B.C.

Meeting for the purpose of reviewing the general business and election of riding executive. A.G.M. - MEMBERS ONLY. P.C. Kootenay East - Revelstoke Annual Dinner, with guest speaker open to Members and Public. Dinner: 6:30 p.m. Ballroom, Inn of the South, Cranbrook

# FREE CLASS!

The Elk Valley Miner will run classifieds **FREE** for items under \$500. Limit 15 words, 2 weeks.

Drop your classifieds off at the following outlets by Friday, 4 p.m. for insertion the following Wednesday.

- Red Rooster Elkford
- Blue Jay Bakery Elkford
- Big Picture Video Sparwood
- Red Rooster Sparwood

No businesses or professional services.  
Look for the Elk Valley Miner **FREE CLASSIFIEDS** box at these businesses.

**COMPARE—COMPARE—COMPARE—COMPARE—COMPARE—COMPARE—COMPARE—COMPARE**

## SURPLUS STOCK SALE CONTINUES! EVERYTHING GOES!

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BE A WINNER **FREE—FREE—FREE**  
Join in now—Free entry—No purchase needed—12 beautiful prizes.  
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### Sage Creek seeks sales

Sage Creek Coal Ltd. will begin a major drive to market coal now that its plans for a mine in the Flathead valley just north of the U.S. border have been approved in principle by the B.C. cabinet.

Lorne Hunter, president of the company, said the firm will seek markets not just in the Pacific Rim countries, but throughout the world. He was speaking in an interview with the Lethbridge Herald.

Mr. Hunter said the company is still considering its strategy. It has five years to show progress before the approval in principle expires.

He said that at first glance the company sees no problems with environmental changes the province outlined in granting stage 2 approval. The company's consultants are examining them further.

The company is 60 per cent owned by Rio Algom Ltd., the large international mining firm, and 40 per cent by Aberford Resources Ltd. of Calgary. Mr. Hunter said the company's connection with Rio Algom will be a considerable marketing advantage.

He declined to elaborate on a development timetable, saying the future hinges on continued improvement in the world economy and on world events that could stimulate the market for thermal coal.

### Pups tie in Pass

The Sparwood and Coleman pups exchanged six goals in their game at the Bellevue arena on Saturday.

For Sparwood, Hirman-deep Sekon scored three times, Chad Bowen twice and Lee Stickney once.

### Young earth magnet

University of Toronto researchers have found evidence that the Earth's magnetic field existed as long as three-and-one-half billion years ago, though it was then only about half as strong as it is now.

The discovery, which has extended geologists' knowledge of the Earth's internal history back about one billion years, was made by physicist Dr. David Dunlop and graduate geology student Chris Hale when they examined the magnetic pattern of ancient volcanic rocks from South Africa.

Volcanic lava often contains iron, which is magnetized by the Earth's magnetic field. As the lava cools, the iron molecules align themselves, like tiny compass needles, along the lines of this magnetic field. When the lava solidifies, the iron molecules are "frozen" in that alignment.

Unless the lava is later re-melted, this magnetic pattern remains frozen. However, by examining this pattern, how close the lava was to the north or south magnetic pole, and how strong a magnetic field it was subjected to.

When Dr. Dunlop and Hale examined the volcanic rocks, which had previously been dated as three-and-one-half billion years old by visiting Mexican graduate student Margarita Lopez-Martinez, they found that the lava had been erupted at what was then the south pole of a terrestrial magnetic field which was about half as strong as it is today.

Since Lopez-Martinez had also discovered that the rock also had been melted in three-and-one-half billion years, Hale and Dr. Dunlop believe their results are reliable. Scientists generally believe the Earth's magnetic field is created by motions of molten, liquid metal iron in the Earth's core. So the U of T researchers' discovery implies that the Earth had already developed such a core capable of generating a core, cut-off field, three-and-one-half billion years ago — possibly as early as one-half billion years after the Earth itself was formed. (Canadian Science News)

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