

COMMUNITY FOREST MEETING RECAP

A proposal has been submitted for a community forest in the Big Lake area that will be managed by the City of Williams Lake in partnership with the Williams Lake Indian Band. 84% of the proposed area and 94% of the harvest proposed is derived from the forest area around Big Lake, Horsefly and Miocene. The proposal does not address the serious concerns repeatedly raised by the residents in the communities or by community representatives from Big Lake, Horsefly, and Miocene. The opportunities the proponents have proposed through which our communities would participate in management decisions and receive economic benefits are unacceptable.

On Sunday Feb. 24th, 2013, 95-100 concerned residents from Horsefly, Miocene, Big Lake and 150 Mile House attended a meeting hosted by the Rural Community Forest Working group. Sam Zirnheld and Jack Darney led the meeting and provided updates and information to the audience. The working group has been engaged with the proponents for more than a year and a half in an effort to develop a framework so the rural communities can participate in management decisions and receive economic benefits from the forests surrounding their communities. This effort has not been realized in the proponents current application. Special guests attending the meeting included, Mike Pedersen, Central Cariboo Forest District Manager, Bob Simpson and Joan Sorley. Unfortunately, none of the proponents invited, attended the meeting. Many residents attending were wondering two things: first, how this process could get so far before the community that lives in the proposed area is properly consulted and included, and how is it possible that a City can claim the forests surrounding a small community?

The proponents know that the rural communities do not support the current proposal; however, in a recent attempt to demonstrate that they do have some support they've sent a request to specific individuals and organizations asking them to write letters of support. Those folks need to be aware of our concerns and proposed solutions. As one local resident stated : *"One thing is clear, we need to vocalize our position on this to key people. Because the proponents have been working on this for two years they seem to see this as basically a done deal, so just a few letters are not going to be enough. We need to make our voices heard by sending lots of well thought-out correspondence to the proponents, the Ministry of Forests, the City of Williams Lake and our MLA."*

Toward the end of the meeting a resolution was unanimously passed reaffirming that the rural communities do not support the application in its present form. We want the application delayed and we want the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to get involved and facilitate some meaningful meetings with the proponents and rural communities.

Please direct letters or emails to:

Gerry.MacDougall@gov.bc.ca (Ministry of FLNRO, Southern Interior Regional Director)

Mike.Pedersen@gov.bc.ca (Ministry of FLNRO, District Manager)

bob.simpson.mla@leg.bc.ca

mayor@williamslake.ca (City of Williams Lake Mayor Kerry Cook)

For further information contact Jack Darney, 250-243-2162

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CHURCH NEWS

Big Lake Community Church meets every Sunday at 11:00 am at the Community Hall. Everyone is welcome. Potluck Sunday is the first Sunday of every month.



Everyone is welcome.

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2013

***Submissions and delivery ***

Submissions for April (including events during the first week of May 2013) should be sent to: biglakenewsletter@gmail.com

Printing and delivery takes approximately 7 working days at the beginning of the month.

Please remember this when making your submissions. We want to make sure everyone's news is included.

If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter, via email, just send us a request at biglakenewsletter@gmail.com and we'll put you on the mailing list.

Big Lake Websites

- www.biglakeranch.net
(Great Community website maintained by Ken Waters)

Contact Email Addresses

- kwaters@biglakeranch.net
(Big Lake Community Website)
- biglakenewsletter@gmail.com
(Big Lake Newsletter)

BLCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BLCA Annual General Meeting will be taking place at the Hall on Wednesday, March 27th at 7:30pm. Memberships can be renewed at that time. Also election of vacant director positions will take place also. Come out, take part, and get involved.

FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER



Although it may not feel or look like it, spring is just around the corner. The Big Lake Fire Dept. burns grass areas/fields for a donation, so if you would like this service, give Karl or Leanne a call at 243-2130 and we'll put you on the list. Elections for the Fire Department were held on February 27th. All positions were filled by the incumbents.

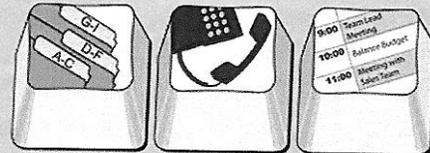
This is a great group of volunteers who donate

A big thank you to all past, present, & future people who have quite kindly taken the time to snow plow the Fire Department's entrance & exit. It is greatly appreciated, especially when most of you, if not all of you, haven't received any money for doing it. Just another way our community's people volunteer their time! Thanks again.



many hours in the community and are always there when you need them. Volunteers, in this group have undertaken training and certification to be prepared, for that moment when they are called to assist.

If you would like to be a part of this vital Big Lake Volunteer Fire/ Rescue team then stop by the Fire Hall on Wednesday evenings. Fire Department practices are Wednesday nights at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome as we are always looking for more volunteers!



Income Tax Preparation

Doreen Sonneborn

Reasonable Rates, Seniors Discount, Family Rates

3200 Big Lake Road
Big Lake Ranch, BC

250-243-2416
sonneborn@xplornet.ca

BIG LAKE 4H CLUB REPORT

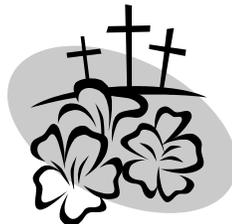


Howdy, folks! Another month has come and gone. Not too much for exciting news. The Big Lake 4-H Club had their second meeting on Valentine's Day, Thursday, February 14th, 2013. 14 out of 15 of our members were there. We elected a secretary, and the executive table handed out a 2013

year calendar. The club speech day was on Saturday, February 23rd, 2013 at the Big Lake Hall. Later on in the year we will be having our annual bottle drive, so remember to save your empties for the 4-Hers! We have not received our project record books, but we expect them probably by next meeting. By for now! *Big Lake 4-H Club Reporter, Maria DiMarco*

OUTDOOR EASTER SERVICE AND BRUNCH

Once again, the Easter Service and Brunch will be held at 10am, Sunday March 31st, at Ray and Sharon Brunek's hay shelter on Parker Road. Please bring a lawn chair or pull up on a square bale and join us for a special Easter morning gathering to celebrate the miracle of Jesus' resurrection after his crucifixion. There will be singing and a short message shared by Rick Green.



C.O.R.E. OFFERED DURING SPRING BREAK

The Conservation Outdoor Recreation Education (CORE) program is for youth who are interested in outdoor recreation, wildlife and firearms safety. The successful completion of the program is required for B.C. residents at age 14 or over who wish to obtain a B.C. resident hunter number card, and a first B.C. resident hunting license. Textbook is included in fee of \$128.00.

Instructor: Caroline Chupa Ages 10-16

Monday, March 25- Thursday, March 28

9:00 am- 2:00 pm Williams Lake Rod & Gun Club

Information forwarded to BL Newsletter by Judy Vanderzwan, Principal of BL Elementary.

VALENTINE'S CHEESECAKE COOK-OFF A SUCCESS!



Cheesecake Contest Results: On Saturday, February 16th, everyone who attended enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner and then had the choice of TEN different decadent cheesecakes to indulge in for dessert. They were all amazing. The most impressive fact is the cheesecakes were once again created by our men. Our three judges, Lorene, Christine, and Esther tasted, discussed and deliberated for quite some time before they could agree on the top 3 finalists. It was a fun-filled evening; besides all the food, the night's entertainment featured an amazing love song and dance routine by a very short and talented, un-named, little mustached guy, and a touching love song sung by the guys, to a dark-haired beauty who disappeared mysteriously before we could all meet her. Thanks to the three couples who participated in the 'Weddie-weds game', which was won by the couple who answered the most questions correctly- Graham and Rosemary Kelsey (Enjoy your prize for this event, the donairs). Our thanks to Karamia's Donairs for their generous support of this event.

The winners were: Honourable Mention- Scott Sollenberger / 3rd Place- Dick Peters / 2nd Place- Norm Bennison
1st place- Robin Chaster for his Chocolate Cappuccino Cheesecake

PUZZLE SECTION

7	6	1						8
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	4			8	7			9
8	9			7	4			
				9				7
2		3		4	5			
6	3		7	5				2
	5							7
4				2				

February's Puzzle Solution

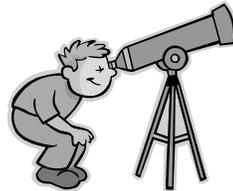
From DEAR to LOVE

DEAR
DEAD
LEAD
LOAD
LORD
LORE
LOVE

From LOVES to HEART

LOVES
LORES
LORDS
LOADS
LEADS
HEADS
HEARS
HEART

IN THE MARCH SKY



March 10 - Comet Pan-STARRS Closest Approach to the Sun. Newly discovered comet Pan-STARRS will make its closest approach to the Sun on March 10. The comet will start to become visible in the morning sky in early February in the Southern Hemisphere. It will gradually increase in brightness until its encounter with the Sun on March 10. By this

time it will be visible in the evening sky in the Northern Hemisphere. It can be seen just to the left of the setting sun. It will continue to be visible in the evening sky for the rest of March and into early April

March 20 - March Equinox. The March equinox occurs at 11:02 UTC. The Sun will shine directly on the equator and there will be nearly equal amounts of day and night throughout the world. This is also the first day of spring (vernal equinox) in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of fall (autumnal equinox) in the Southern Hemisphere.



The Ladies Auxiliary for BLVFR is once again selling Purdy's Easter chocolates. To get a catalogue and/or place an order, please call Ginny at 250-243-2205. Orders need to be in by March 14, 2013 & will be here March 25, 2013.

Featured ULS Books

Hard Knocks (by Howie Carr) Jack Reilly, a dodgy ex-Boston cop, is trying to make ends meet as a private investigator. When a client is killed, execution style, Reilly finds himself in a whole world of pain. Someone wants him dead-but why? To find out, Reilly must weed through thirty years of duplicity, corruption, and killingō a web of politicians dirtier than mobsters and criminals nobler than senators. He needs to uncover the dangerous truth behind the bribery, blood, and backdoor deals that define the highest levels of both organized crime and State House politics· before it's too late.

Twin of Fire (by Jude Deveraux) While dreaming of practicing medicine, Blair falls in love with her placid sister's fiancée, himself a doctor. Blair's impetuous spirit has won her a medical degree in a man's world -- and captured Lee Westfield's heart. But even as the couple's ardor grows, there are nights when Lee disappears only to return exhausted, haunted. His silence imperils their love, but the truth would imperil her *life*.

XO (by Jeffery Deaver) Kayleigh Towne's music career is just reaching new heights with her huge hit single "Our Shadow" but increased fame is also bringing unwanted attention. An innocent exchange with one of her fans, signed with an "XO," leads Kayleigh into the dangerous and terrifying realm of obsession. Edwin Sharp thinks Kayleigh's songs contain messages that speak directly to him. "Our Shadow" was written just for him, and he announces he's coming for Kayleigh. Then a potentially fatal accident occurs at the concert hall where Kayleigh is rehearsing for a triumphant hometown performance.

Williams Lake Public Library

The National Film Board screening of 'Status Quo: The Unfinished Business of Feminism in Canada', will take place at the Williams Lake Library on Wednesday, March 20th at 7:00pm.

LIBRARY NEWS

Cariboo Regional District Library System . Big Lake Community Library

Esther Kreis, Community Librarian

250-243-2355 during library hours or email biglake@cariboord.bc.ca

Hours: Monday 12:00 to 4:00 pm Thursday 2:00 to 6:00 pm

- Free internet service available for everyone, printer with fax (long distance charges may apply), scanner, and copier.
- We are having an ongoing book sale just outside of the library. There will be a table with all types of books and you can check them out and buy them during library hours on Monday and Thursday and also Monday to Friday while the Hall is open for the Post Office (12:00 - 2:00 pm). Come down to find some good books for a bargain price.
- Check out our impressive collection of magazines . new subscriptions arrived such as *A Needle Pulling Thread, Yes!, Countryside and Small Stock Journal, Mother Earth News, Money Sense, etc.*
- Last but not least we have established a wonderful assortment of movies for all ages.

ULS Paperback Best Sellers for February 2013:

1. *Kill Me If You Can* by James Patterson & Marshall Karp
2. *XO* by Jeffery Deaver
3. *Close Your Eyes* by Iris Johansen & Roy Johansen
4. *Copper Beach* by Jayne Ann Krentz
5. *Betrayal* by Danielle Steel
6. *The Hunter* by John Lescroart
7. *Criminal* by Karin Slaughter
8. *Left for Dead* by J.A. Jance
9. *Twin of Fire* by Jude Deveraux
10. *Hard Knocks* by Howie Carr

Even though the Big Lake Library does not own all of these titles, we are able to get them in for you. Please let me know which one(s) you like to read and they will be available for you usually within a week.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Contact Jack Darney

Fish Derby—June 2013

Country Fair —August 2013



As per Canada Post regulations, **mail cannot be picked up while the mailboxes are open** and the contractor is filling boxes between 1-2pm daily. Please pick up your mail either before or after the mail has been delivered. Thanks, BLCA

Please pick up lost mailbox keys at the Post Office!!

CLASSIFIEDS

BLCA Newsletter Advertising Fee Schedule

SIZE	TYPE	FEE (\$)	ANNUAL FEE
1 X 2½	CLASSIFIED	3.00	N/A
2 X 3.5½	BUSINESS CARD	5.00	50.00
4.75 X 3.5½	¼ PAGE	8.00	75.00
4.75 X 8½	½ PAGE	15.00	150.00
8 X 10.75½	FULL PAGE	30.00	300.00