

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



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COMMUNITY



106th birthday celebration set

by **JOHNNY CARIBOU NUNAN**
Citizen staff

Morris Joseph says he isn't sure what to get his father for his birthday on Saturday.

"It's hard to get something for someone who's going to be 106 years old," said Joseph from the T'az't'en Nation band office in Tachie, on Tuesday. "But he does like chewing tobacco. He doesn't have much use for anything else."

He says the birthday celebrations will include a

big meal with all the family's friends and relatives as well as singing, traditional stories and a sleep-over because the community (Middle River) is an hour's drive north of Fort St. James. "He'll be right in his glory," added Morris of the attention Cammie Joseph will receive.

Morris says his dad is still able to walk by himself without a cane and that his memory is as sharp as ever. "He still remembers the early 1900s," said Morris, the youngest of seven children.

Born in 1894 along the shores of Trembleur Lake, Morris says Cammie has lived most his life in the bush, in the traditional ways of his ancestors.

"We're all hunters and trappers born and raised and died in the bush," said Pat Joseph, 66, a nephew of Cammie. Pat moved from Kamloops to Prince George two months ago and is planning on taking part in Cammie's birthday celebrations.

"I'm taking my mother and she's 90," said Pat.

Morris says it's only recently his dad has experienced the luxury of living with running water and electricity which the band put in the nine homes of Middle River.

He says the secret to Cammie's longevity is his dad has always respected other people and nature.

"He gives me advice every day," said Morris. "I hope I pick up some of his good qualities."



Citizen photo by Dave Milne

SUMMER IN THE CITY — The corner of Third Avenue and George Street was busy Saturday as better weather brought out the tables and umbrellas at Java Mugga Mocha and the farmers market at the courthouse enjoyed brisk business.

Residents worrying about fuel station dust problem

by **BOB MILLER**
Citizen staff

As a spell of drier weather returns, local residents say so too will plumes of dust kicked up by chip trucks and logging trucks that use the Husky card lock fueling station on Noranda Road near the Hart Highway.

Nearby residents like Joyce Denluck and her neighbours have been trying to get something done to resolve the dust problem. But Husky Oil says it can't afford to pave the property, Denluck said.

Robin Fairservice of the pollution prevention division of the Environment Ministry, said the ministry is aware of the situation and Husky Oil could solve the problem by paving the lot. If Husky was sandblasting, dumping waste or causing offensive odours the ministry could do something, but it declines getting involved in a dust complaint in a city where there are so many gravel roads.

If the city gets its clean air bylaw passed, which includes dust control measures, the city would have some teeth to do something about the problem, Fairservice said.

Bob Radloff, director of development services for the city, said the problem came to the city's attention about two weeks ago and they're pursuing the matter through the city's zoning bylaw, which requires Husky Oil to pave part of the property.

They don't have to pave the whole property, Radloff said, just the areas most heavily used — in and out lanes, manoeuvring aisles and the service apron.

A letter was sent to Husky Oil on Tuesday, asking the company to adhere to the zoning bylaw by doing the required paving, Radloff said.

One of the residents said the dust is so bad at some times it interferes with sitting on their deck. The dust seems to get into everything, she said. Whenever residents complain to the city, by the time someone gets around to check, it's raining and the problem has disappeared.

Denluck said due to the amount of rain the city has had this summer, dust has not been as bad now as the past, but two or three hours after the rain quits, dust is rising again when trucks pull in.

When complaints are made to Husky, temporary solutions are tried and in a few weeks the dust problem is back, said Denluck, who has chronic bronchitis.

She said the illness was not caused by dust, but the dust is certainly not helping her condition.

Laurel Nichol, communications spokesman for Husky Oil in Calgary, said the company is addressing the dust control problem at the card lock site, looking at the possibility of treat-

ing the gravel to reduce dust and determining costs.

"We need to look at it and make sure it's something that can work," she said, adding Husky will follow up by getting in touch with residents.



Citizen photo by Brent Braaten

PLAZA PUDDLES — Trezley Johnny, 4, cools off by rolling in the puddles at the Civic Centre Plaza. The puddles are caused by the fountains in the plaza.

FOLLOW-UP

In the forests

Unlike the southeast section of the province, where wildfires abound, as of Tuesday, no forest fires had been reported in the Prince George Fire Centre since July 14, says fire information officer George Maratos.

But that may change as the 6-10-day forecast indicates warmer, drier weather is on the way. So far this year there have been 130 forest fires in the region burning a total of 2,731 hectares. Last year at this time there had been 83 fires burning about 463 hectares.

Structure removal

Unused for about 20 years, wood

and steel structures at the site of the former Highways Ministry Isle Pierre ferry crossing over the Nechako River are slated to be removed soon.

Arnica Resource Management Inc. has requested \$3,734 from Fisheries Renewal B.C. to take out steel piling and cross-bracing, treated wood bulkhead and piling, one suspension cable and its associated trolley, and treated-wood support towers.

And \$1,245 in contributions are expected from other sources.

If the structures fall into the Nechako River, wood preservatives would become a toxic material endangering sockeye salmon and local species like bull trout and rainbow

trout, according to Fisheries Renewal B.C.

Regs on the web

Hunting regulations for the 2000-2001 season, published in the B.C. Hunting and Trapping Regulations Synopsis are available on the Internet now at:

www.elp.gov.bc.ca/wld/

The regulations will be available later this week at regional offices of the Environment Ministry, government agent's offices and stores where hunting licences are sold.

Reading Corner

Grandma's and Grandpa's Reading Corner continues to be a popular children's program at the Prince George Public Library's main and Nechako branches.

"It is just fantastic," Marie Kelly, co-

ordinator of children's programming, said Tuesday. "We've had so much positive feedback from everyone — grandparents, parents and children. All ages of children from babies up to 12 years old are enjoying it. Every day we have grandmas and grandpas here, and they're busy reading to the children the whole hour. There are so many smiles on faces." Grandma's and Grandpa's Reading Corner runs for one hour at different times each weekday at the main branch, and Mondays and Tuesdays at the Nechako Branch.

For more information, call 563-9251 and ask for the children's desk.

Top speaker

Andrew McFayden was voted best speaker at last Thursday's meeting of Prince George Toastmasters. Shirley Shorter was named best evaluator of speeches, and Sandra Stewart was

judged best Table Topics speaker.

■ The new Hart Toastmasters Club moves to the Hart Pioneer Centre for its meeting tonight at 7:30. "We had a good turnout last week, with many new people," said Charlie Herger, one of the organizers. "That's positive. There are new people starting to show up each week."

For more information, or to volunteer, call Herger at 562-5645 or Debra Law at 962-9000.

■ Bob Miller, Distinguished Toastmaster and College of New Caledonia faculty member, was voted best speaker at Monday's meeting of Cariboo Toastmasters.

Greg Gale was named best evaluator of speeches at the meeting chaired by Citizen advertising director Bill Jones. Sean Janson was judged best Table Topics speaker. Table Topics are two-minute impromptu speeches.