

Theft earns six months in jail

Citizen staff

From Prince George provincial court

July 8

Ardella L. Brennan was sentenced to six months probation and given a conditional discharge for theft under \$5,000.

Thomas P. Bresser was sentenced to one day in jail for causing a disturbance.

Daniel M. Cahoose was sentenced to one day in jail for two counts of failing to comply with a sentence, surcharge or disposition.

Ernest L. Clare was fined \$2,000 for driving without due care under the Motor Vehicle Act. The offence was committed in Mackenzie.

Dale T. Eherstien was fined \$1,000 and is prohibited from driving for one year for driving while impaired and was fined \$575 for driving without a licence under the Motor Vehicle Act. The offences were committed in Smithers.

Lewis A. Lank was fined \$1,000 and is prohibited from driving for one year for driving while impaired.

Casey L. Mitrovic was fined \$1,000 and is prohibited from driving for one year for driving while impaired.

John C. Weiers was sentenced to 29 months and 20 days in jail and was issued a lifetime firearms prohibition for two counts of possession for the purpose of trafficking and one count of possession of stolen property over \$5,000.

Elliot A. William was sentenced to one day in jail and nine months probation for breach of an undertaking. The offence was committed in Vernon.

Sabina H. Haskell was sentenced to one day in jail for breach of probation.

July 7

Isaac W. Zackary was sentenced to one day in jail and one year probation and issued a 10-year firearms prohibition for assault causing bodily harm and to one day in jail for three counts of breach of an undertaking.

Shaun McCook was sentenced to seven days in jail for breach of probation and breach of an undertaking.

Tyrone J. Williams was sentenced to one day in jail for breach of probation.

Brittany G. Lee was sentenced to one day in jail and two years probation for two counts of theft under \$5,000.

Jonathon C. Antoine was sentenced to 30 days in jail for possession or use of a stolen credit card and one day in jail for breach of probation.

Joseph J. Czernisz was sentenced to two years less a day in jail and issued a 10-year firearms prohibition for assault.

July 3

Vincent A. Martin was sentenced to 174 days in jail and two years probation for one count each of theft under \$5,000 and possession of stolen property under \$5,000.

Clinton V. Provencal was fined \$300 plus \$378.47 in restitution and a \$50 victim surcharge for mischief to property under \$5,000 and to 18 months probation with a suspended sentence plus a \$50 victim surcharge for threatening to cause death or bodily harm.

Lucas H. Sam was sentenced to one day in jail for one count breach of probation and three counts of breach of a recognizance or undertaking. The offences were committed in Fort St. James.

Ricky T. Gregory was sentenced to one day in jail and one year probation and ordered to pay a \$700 victim surcharge for robbery.

Justin T. Glaas was fined \$690 for driving without reasonable consideration under the Motor Vehicle Act.

Dale E. Hovey was fined \$345 for failing to stop at a stop sign.

Justin K. Kooyman was issued a one-year restraining order subject to a \$500 surety for assault.

July 2

Stephen J. Krewusik was issued a one-year restraining order subject to a \$500 surety for criminal harassment.



Alex Van Leeuwen looks at the ripples in the roof of his mother Carol's mobile home on Louis Drive. They feel the quality of the roofing job is below standard. Citizen photo by David Mah

Shoddy workmanship leaves woman in over her head

Mark Nielsen
Citizen staff

When Carol Van Leeuwen came across a Canada Mortgage and Housing program to help low-income homeowners pay for their renovations, the elderly Prince George resident thought she found the answer to her housing woes.

But she's now embroiled in a battle with CMHC over who should cover the expenses, as the result of work that has left her modest Hart area mobile home in no better condition and possibly even worse off than before.

It all began two winters ago when she applied for help through the CMHC's residential rehabilitation assistance program, which provides up to \$16,000 to make a home healthier and safer to live in.

In Prince George, the program is administered by B.C. Native Housing Corporation, which has a contract with CMHC to deliver social housing programs to aboriginal and non-aboriginal people in rural and northern B.C.

Van Leeuwen, 64, saw the program as a opportunity to repair a badly leaking roof, and a timely one too, because she was about to undergo chemotherapy and was worried she would be too weak to keep her roof clear of ice and snow as she had in previous winters.

The program normally requires a client get three bids, but can accept as few as two.

Although she did get one bid, Van Leeuwen, 64, had trouble finding a contractor willing to take on the job, and in answer, B.C. Native Housing gave her the name of someone they claimed was reputable.

Trouble was, said Van Leeuwen, he made a suspiciously low bid of \$2,500 to fix the roof as part of a \$14,000 package of upgrades to her home, that included replacing the siding and doing some interior work and didn't bother to climb up onto the roof to give it a closer inspection.

The contractor referred by B.C. Native Housing was awarded the contract but later changed his mind and did not want the job. However, with chemotherapy looming, Van Leeuwen convinced him to reconsider.

"I did not have the strength to hunt for another contractor or to move in order to avoid the leaking residence," she said in a

letter of appeal to CMHC.

But it became quickly apparent the work was substandard and Van Leeuwen told him she didn't want him to do any further work once the roof was finished. She said an inspector from B.C. Native Housing told the contractor to complete some followup repairs before the roof was considered up to standard.

But Van Leeuwen still had her doubts, particularly after her son, who took over the remainder of the project, discovered black mould deposits while replacing the siding.

The inspector from B.C. Native Housing was called back but, unsatisfied with the response, Van Leeuwen's next move was to bring in a professional roof inspector who found the roof system to be in a failed condition.

He said the entire deck should have been replaced when the home was re-roofed and asserted the work the roofer did do was "very, very poor." The cost of re-roofing the home correctly would cost between \$7,500 and \$10,000 — an amount Van Leeuwen said she simply can't afford.

But when she appealed to CMHC for further help, her pleas fell on deaf ears.

CMHC corporate representative Steve Hall said it's up to the client to hire the contractor and make sure the work is up to standard. If the client is unhappy, he can choose not to pay the contractor and dispute the work that was performed.

"And for us to advance the funds, the client would've had to sign a request for payment from us, indicating that they're happy with the work completed," he added. "And once they do that, we pay and that's it."

Asked about the inspections by B.C. Native Housing, Hall said they're intended to verify that the work has been carried out and no more.

Van Leeuwen is contemplating taking CMHC to small claims court, but Hall indicated her chances of winning the case are slim. "Once they sign off (on the request for payment), they're really in a bind," he said.

Van Leeuwen conceded she did sign a request for payment, but also contended she was under duress from the chemotherapy — her cancer has been diagnosed as terminal — and if she had a chance to do things differently, she would have.

Crimestoppers offers coupon books

Citizen staff

The Prince George RCMP is notifying the public about the Crimestoppers fundraising drive that offers a coupon book to be sold now in Prince George and Vanderhoof.

The Rocky Mountain marketing associates will be going door to door until Sept. 6 selling gift certificate packages — coupon books — containing more than \$700 worth

of free goods and services.

The associates will be wearing bright yellow jackets with the Crimestoppers and Rocky Mountain marketing logos prominently displayed on the jacket. In addition the associates will be wearing a large photo identification card on a lanyard around their necks. They will not be asking for a cash donation but rather selling the coupon booklets for \$25 plus tax.

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PRIMETIME programs on TV tonight 7/13/09									
	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	
CTV	etalk	Access Hollywood (N)	Law & Order: "Knock Off" A tourist is murdered.		Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Folie a Deux"		CBS: Miami Horatio looks into Delirio's past.		
CBC	Coronation Street (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Triple Sensation The top 10 are down to the wire (N)		Just for Laughs		CBC News: The National (N)		
Global	Entertainment Tonight (N)	Entertainment Canada	House "The Greater Good" (PA)		Lie to Me "Depraved Heart"		The Unit "Gone Missing"		
NBC	Evening Magazine	Inside Edition	Law & Order: "Knock Off" A tourist is murdered.		Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Folie a Deux"		Dateline NBC		
CBS	Entertainment Tonight (N)	The Insider (N)	How I Met Your Mother	Rules of Engagement	Two and a Half Men	The Big Bang Theory	CBS: Miami Horatio looks into Delirio's past.		
ABC	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Bachelorette The final three men join Jillian in Hawaii (N)				Here Come the Newlyweds (Season Finale) (N)		
PBS	Rick Steves' Europe	Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow Philadelphia, PA (Part 2 of 3)		History Detectives (N)		Out From the Shadows: The Story of Irene Joliot-Curie		
FOX	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	House "The Greater Good" (PA)		Lie to Me "Depraved Heart"		News (N)	TMZ (N)	

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<i>Friday's Super 7</i> draw winning numbers were 17 25 30 31 33 44 46 The bonus number was 47
<i>Friday's Super 7 EXTRA</i> winning numbers for British Columbia were 36 37 80 98
<i>Saturday's Lotto-6/49</i> winning numbers were 09 11 18 23 29 40 The bonus number was 26
<i>Saturday's BC-49</i> lottery winning numbers were 06 07 11 12 44 48 The bonus number was 30
<i>Saturday's EXTRA</i> winning numbers for British Columbia 13 15 80 91
In the event of a discrepancy between this and the official winning numbers list, the latter shall prevail.

Council agenda

Citizen staff

It could soon become more expensive to use the city's arenas.

City council will consider tonight increasing most hourly and daily rates by 3.75 per cent and hiking the standard rate for ice time at CN Centre by 12.5 per cent.

★★★

Adding the atrium to the city's liquor licence for CN Centre will be considered.

As it stands, groups using the atrium must obtain their own special occasion liquor licence.

★★★

Cedars Christian will seek a two-year extension for five portable classrooms and overflow parking .

★★★

Prince George Public Library will present its annual report.

★★★

Council will be asked to approve a parks and open space master plan.

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