



MANHUNT — A Sunday robbery near Knox United church had Prince George police scouring downtown for a suspect. A contingent of RCMP fanned out around the area trying to locate the lone male. The incident took place at about 4 p.m. with the suspect reportedly fleeing on foot. By 5 p.m. new information suggested he had made it to a vehicle and a description was relayed to investigators, who were still following up as of press time.

Citizen photo by David Mah

Pepper spray incidents attract police

Frank Peebles
Citizen staff

Police are certain there is a connection between a pair of pepper spray incidents on apparently random strangers.

Late Saturday/early Sunday morning was when they and medical personnel attended to people caught be surprise when the assailants opened fire with bear spray.

“We had the first incident at the Mohawk gas station on Central Street, then a couple of hours later we were called to The Generator for the second one,” said Prince George RCMP Staff Sgt. Bill Hudyma.

The description in both instances was scanty, but suspiciously similar: two or three males in a red car. They acted without any real provocation and didn’t seem to know anyone involved.

“Two males got sprayed at the Mohawk. They were talking to a couple of guys, the assailants, in the lineup at the counter, then a bit outside, and one of them couldn’t hear

the last thing one of them said so he approached them and suddenly he comes out of his car with a can of spray and fires it at them,” Hudyma said.

That was 10 minutes before midnight.

Within two hours, police were rolling again for the same reason, this time in an even more populated public space.

“Down at the Generator they let the pepper spray fly inside the building, or very close to the building,” said Hudyma. “Again we were looking for the red car.”

Pepper spray is a highly painful substance if it comes into direct contact with most people. It particularly irritates the nose, eyes and sinuses and can carry in the air for a wide area, especially in a confined space like a room or the side of a building.

Anyone with information on these incidents or know who these suspects might be is asked to call Prince George Mounties at 250-561-3300 or pass it on anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS / www.pgcrimestoppers.bc.ca.

IDL lowest bidder on River Road

Citizen staff

A bid of \$2.6 million is the frontrunner for construction work on River Road.

The bid by IDL Projects came in a shade lower than the next competitor for the job.

“River Road is a main industrial road to and from the CN intermodal facility, and heavy truck traffic is projected to increase with the intent of the work on this road to improve safety for all road users,” said Scott Bone, manager of Supply and Fleet Services, who is recommending the bid be accepted.

“The project consists of road and drainage upgrades,” Bone said. “Key elements include road widening and reconstruction, focusing on upgrades to achieve a collector standard,

storm drainage improvements, ground water collection, bicycle lanes, street lighting, left had turning movements into the intermodal facility and Lakeland Mills, access driveways into existing properties, and raising of the existing road profile to meet recommended 200 year flood plain levels.”

There were five bids altogether.

— IDL Project Inc. ... \$2,627,937.00

— R.F. Klein & Sons ... \$2,672,822.00

— Kode Contracting ... \$2,730,544.99

— Magnum Road Builders Inc. ... \$2,971,283.50

— Twin River Developments ... \$3,061,014.33

The work is expected to take about 80 days from commencement, sometime later this spring.

Council to talk about wildfires

Frank Peebles
Citizen staff

Tonight is the next public meeting of city council, and mayor and council welcome the public starting at 7 p.m. to discuss a variety of topics.

The agenda includes a number of zoning and development considerations, a public update of the Railway and Forestry Museum’s state of affairs leading into the tourist season, the 2010 Bike to Work Week campaign, a presentation related to the proposed Residential Wood Innovation Comprehensive District, updates on the CNC U-

Pass agreement for students riding city buses and on the spring clean-up initiatives now underway around the city, plus a number of other items of public interest.

One of the main topics of discussion will be new rules for getting money from the Wildfire Mitigation Program administered by the Union of B.C. Municipalities. It could, according to local officials, result in our city getting much less money each year than what we have been recently for wildfire prevention work.

The agenda for tonight’s meeting is available online at www.city.pg.bc.ca under the City Hall link.

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