CommunityCalendar

► May 9

Gardening With Indigenous Plants with Alice Wolczuk at the Fraser-Fort George Regional Museum. Discover which plants thrive in this region and how to use them, starting at 7:30 p.m. Call 562-1612 for more information.

► May 11

DP Todd Dry Grad will hold a car wash in the Safeway Parking Lot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by donation. Call 563-0686 for more details.

PG Mountaineering Group goes rock climbing today & tomorrow. Gear, knots, rappelling, hazards and rope handling will be covered, in perfect safety. Call 564-9397.

Salvation Army Home League holds a Spring Tea & Sale at the Salvation Army Citadel from 1-3 p.m. Strawberry Shortcake, fruit salad, beverages, craft sale, etc. Cost is \$2.50

Duchess Park Dry Grad holds a giant garage sale from 10-4 at Parkwood Mall parking lot. Huge variety of items, refreshments served, all donated items welcome. Call Andie (563-6260) or Shirley (562-8381).

► May 12

Active Support Against Poverty holds a housing forum on "The Future of Affordable & Rental Housing in B.C." in room 1-306 at CNC at 1:30 p.m. Speakers include Michael Shapcott of Cooperative Housing Federation and several political candidates.

► May 13

CHADD, a support group for parents of ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder) children, will meet at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at the Northern Interior Health Unit. For more info phone Kathy 962-5479 or Darlene 962-5733. Guest speaker will be Dr. Laurie McKinnon from Intersect. For more info phone Kathy 962-5479 or Darlene 962-5733.

PG Pro-Life Society meets at 7:30 at the Salvation Army Citadel (777 Ospika). Call Barbara at 963-9189.

Central B.C. Rental Association (landlord support group) invites all residential property owners/managers to the library multipurpose room at 7:30 p.m. Call 964-9664.

Class act sends cranes flying

By DAVID PLUG

Free Press staff writer

A thousand paper cranes made by a Seymour elementary class will be winging their way to Japan soon.

The 23 students of the Grade 5 class showed pluck in taking on and completing the project, says teacher Lorraine Chrobak.

"It started out as an art project," she says, "But they made it their goal to finish [the cranes] and I think that they should get some attention for it."

The story behind the making of the cranes begins in Hiroshima, Japan with a 12-year-old girl named Sabako. The radioactive fallout from the atomic bomb that ended the Second World War gave Sabako leukemia.

To ward off the fatal disease, her friends suggested that she make 1,000 cranes as a symbol of hope using the traditional Japanese paperfolding art of origami. The leukemia claimed Sabako's life in 1955 after she had folded only 644 cranes. Her classmates finished the thousand cranes to place in her coffin.

Her story was novelized in Sabako and the Thousand Paper Cranes. Mrs. Chrobak's students read the novel in December as a class assignment and asked to make their own cranes to send to the annual peace festival held in Hiroshima.

"My first reaction was 'Oh really? Who is committed?'

and they all put their hands up," she says. "They took it on themselves to finish and were really gung-ho about it."

"I think they really had empathy for the child [Sabako]."

Since January, the students worked both at home and in class to reach the target of one thousand. "We even worked on them when we were supposed to be doing math," says one girl.

The cranes stand only twoand-a-half inches high and making them from the fourinch square pieces of paper involves 16 folds and 32 maneuvers.

"The first one took me about 10 minutes and I did it wrong. But now it only takes me two minutes." says Sarah Erskine, 11, who folded 130 cranes.

Tesia Carr, maker of 217 cranes, says that a competition with her friend Regan Whelan kept her concentrated on trying to complete as many as possible. Whelan led the class with her 348 cranes.

The Seymour cranes will be flying to Japan in a pair of large boxes after some with damaged wings are replaced.

Turn in those old eye glasses

The PG Rotaract Club is collecting used eye glasses. They will be part of a humanitarian aid package sent to Zimbabwe. Any glasses will be gratefully accepted, and can be dropped off at UNBC Registrar's Office, PG Savings, Deloitte & Touche, and the PG Free Press. They will be collected until May 31 as part of Rotaract's International Service Project.



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SPRING CLEANINGMAY 10, 11, 12, 1996

A spring clean-up opportunity will occur on this weekend to allow local residents to dispose of yard debris at the following locations:

COLLEGE HEIGHTS – South end of Domano Blvd
WEST – Park Drive near the mailboxes
BOWL WEST – 5th Avenue and Pilot
BOWL CENTRAL – 3rd Avenue at Walrous Park
EAST – Blackburn Community Hall
HART HIGHWAY – Centenial Park & Glenmore Drive

Your yard debris can also be disposed of at the Heather Road Landfill at no cost.

Proudly brought to you by the Civic Pride Committee and the management of PG Sanitation and Laidlaw Waste Systems. For more info call our hotline at 561-7745.





