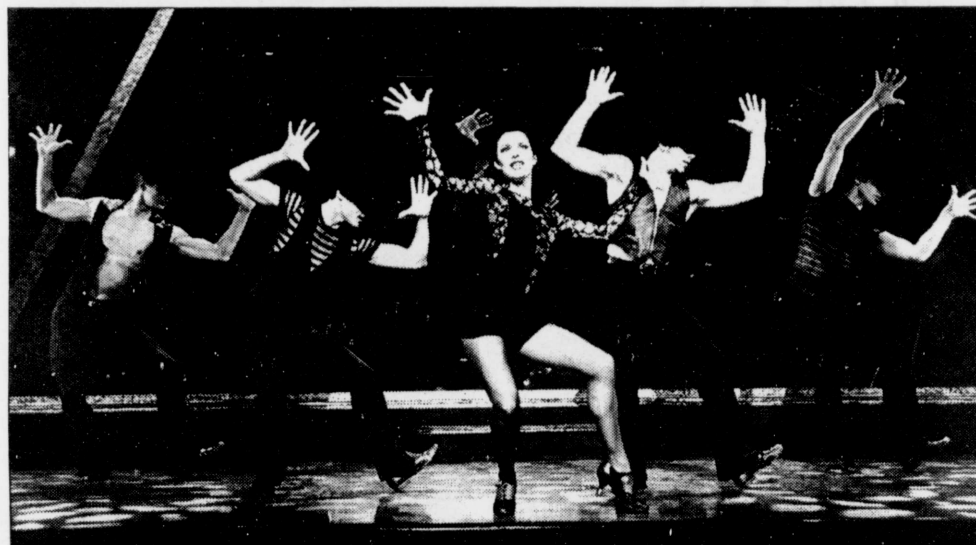


Gang/Land



An all-professional cast and crew bring the hit Broadway production of *Chicago* to the PG Multiplex on October 7. The story centres around prohibition-era Chicago gangs. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Old art gallery waits for new task

With the opening of the Two Rivers Art Gallery, the city has in a sense acquired something out of nothing. The current facility is a functional and architectural success that will carry the city forward into new eras. Their old facility, recently vacated, was a functional and architectural embarrassment. One curator called it "a tank." The arts did not thrive in that place, they were merely sustained.

The old art gallery now sits empty on its 15th Avenue lot. So much attention on the Two Rivers has distracted general attention from a building many in the arts community were happy to put behind them. But what is to become of the old clunker that is owned by the city?

"What's occurring is, the city has received two or three requests to use the facility, one in particular from the Community Arts Council," says leisure services director Tom Madden. "What city council has agreed to is not take any

action on these requests until the OCP (Official Community Plan) process is completed. That should be by end of 2000. Development Services is looking at the lands around the facility, and lands in general, and when that process unfolds there will be some further idea. If there are recommendations to change it, or comments from the public on what to do with those lands, then council will make decisions."

The Community Arts Council, caretakers of Studio 2880, is the only other tenant on the same property. The old gallery is their neighbour. They have been able to use the now vacant building for workshops and their Try Us Out Festival. The Special Olympics will also be temporarily moving in to use it as office space for that upcoming event.

"We are looking at a short-term agreement with Special Olympics until March of next year, because they are being held in Prince George," explains real estate

services manager Ian Wells. "It is a short-term use. We are not putting a tenant in place there that would do any improvements to the building, only to tell them after the OCP that they have to move out."

The zoning for the old gallery is P-2, which takes in cultural facilities such as the library, museums, playhouse, ice rinks, swimming pools, etc. It is a 4.14 acre site that includes the old gallery building, Studio 2880, a city

warehouse, parking and grounds. The Community Arts Council has asked to amalgamate their Studio 2880 activities with the available space in the gallery, to further promote the arts in the community. The city has indicated they may wish to develop the lands for other purposes. A recent series of meetings on the OCP revealed no new information regarding that parcel of land, although more consultations are planned.

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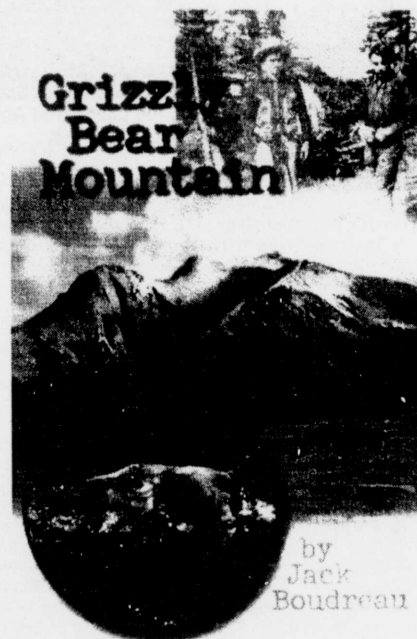
Jacqueline Baldwin, *Threadbare Like Lace*
8 PM, October 05

BESTSELLERS

History of BC

1. Adventures of Yukon Joe
2. Crooked River Rats
3. Crazy Man's Creek
4. In the Shadow of the Peaks
5. Prince George: Rivers, Railways, & Timber

IN STORE NOW



Grizzly Bear Mountain

Crazy Man's Creek, by local author Jack Boudreau, spent two years on the BC Bestsellers list. Caitlin Press has just released the sequel, *Grizzly Bear Mountain*. Jack Boudreau shares his childhood adventures growing up in the small community of Penny where he and his brothers inherit a love of the wilderness from their father. But the main focus of his book is a life spent hunting then photographing the majestic grizzlies of Northern BC, and sharing, as Jack writes, "so many memories of these magnificent animals".

Home of Art Space

Saturday, October 28, 2000
Hart Community Centre
4900 W. Austin Road
962-6260



Doors Open 8:30 pm
\$20.00 per person

Midnite Lunch & Free Midnite Shuttle

Prizes for Best Costume

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