

BRITISH COLUMBIA BRIEF

Yet another Liberal MLA backing away

SAANICH — For the second time in three days a B.C. Liberal MLA has announced he won't be running in next year's provincial election.

Murray Coell says it's been an honour to serve the Victoria-area riding of Saanich North and the Islands for 16 years, but he wants to spend more time with his family.

At the same time, Coell says he'll be working with Premier Christy Clark to ensure the riding remains in Liberal hands in the election next May.

On Monday, Surrey-Tynehead MLA Dave Hayer announced he would not seek re-election after 11 years in public office. Fellow Liberal MLAs Kevin Krueger and Kash Heed recently announced they, too, will not be running again.

There's also been speculation about the intentions of some of Clark's key ministers, including Kevin Falcon in finance, George Abbott in education and Penticton MLA Bill Barisoff, who has been Speaker of the House since 2005.

Barisoff let out a hearty laugh when he was asked this week to comment on his political future. "Nothing at this point in time," he said.

Flood threat recedes in B.C.

ENDERBY — A week of warmer weather and a halt to June's seemingly endless rains mean evacuation alerts that have been in place for weeks in B.C.'s Shuswap region are finally being lifted.

As flooding fears recede, the Regional District of North Okanagan has rescinded evacuation alerts for all of the Shuswap River from Sugar Lake to Mara Lake.

The City of Enderby is also dropping its alert for several riverside properties but officials warn the Shuswap River continues to run high and fast, and extreme caution should be used near the waterway.

In the central-eastern B.C. Village of Valemount, residents of four homes along Swift Creek have been allowed to return to their properties after an evacuation order was removed.

The community, 300 kilometres southeast of Prince George, was hit by flooding caused by rain and spring run-off last month and Swift Creek began rising again last weekend as a heat wave increased snow melt. There were concerns rising waters could threaten areas of the riverbank weakened during the June flood, but the level of Swift Creek is dropping.

—The Canadian Press

Border water fears eased with tentative deal

OSOYOOS — Fears that Canada might lose control over Osoyoos Lake water levels could be laid to rest, under a proposal being considered by the International Joint Commission.

The IJC will be holding public hearings in Osoyoos and Oroville, Wash., later this month into the upcoming renewal of regulations governing water levels on the lake, which straddles the Canada-U.S. border.

Osoyoos Mayor Stu Wells, who chairs the Okanagan Basin Water Board, said U.S. authorities had earlier suggested they might seek a directive that would have forced Canada to release a set amount of water into the Okanagan River in Washington — regardless of water levels in the lake itself.

The current 25-year pact sets minimum and maximum lake levels, with allowances for more water to be stored in the lake during drought years. The agreement, known as the "orders of approval"

for Osoyoos Lake, is due to expire on Feb. 22, 2013.

Wells said the OBWB was concerned U.S. officials originally wanted, for the first time, to include talks about water flows over the Zosel Dam near Oroville.

"If we're talking water flows over the Zosel Dam, we're starting to talk about water guarantees which we had never had in the previous treaties," he said. "Now, we're going: 'Oh, oh. Are we going to have start guaranteeing water?'"

Wells said such an agreement would be especially tough during drought years, when the impact could be felt throughout the Okanagan as far north as Vernon.

However, the Osoyoos Lake board of control, which operates under the IJC, commissioned a report that suggested water flows over Zosel Dam should not be considered at this time.

The U.S. has tentatively agreed with the recommendations.

—Special to The Daily Courier

Fire

Continued from page A1

The fan vent was like a chimney, he said, so firefighters extinguished the flames, then pulled the entire vent out.

"All of the electrical system did what it was supposed to. The breaker went off. Just some insulation has been melted in the ceiling. We're popping a hole in the ceiling right now just to make sure there's no extension (fire spread)," said Light.

Fortunately, there was no seri-

ous damage to the church, but firefighters had to tear a small area of the roof and ceiling space apart to ensure there were no errant embers.

Senior pastor Mike Penninga said the small exhaust fan was located in an attic above the gymnasium "but they got it out and they're cleaning up now so I think we're OK."

He was just learning the details from the fire department for himself as several firefighters rolled up their hoses and others took church officials inside to examine the damage.

OBITUARIES



NEWTON, WILHELMINA (WILMA) NOOTIGDAGT-HAS

It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of Wilhelmina (Wilma) Newton at the age of 84. She passed away peacefully at home with family by her side. She is survived by her husband Jack of 64 years of marriage. She is also survived by their eight children; Hille (Lora), Joanne (Richard), Linda (Brian), Ron (Lin), Anita (Paul), Ken, Joyce, and Jack (Ethel), 18 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren, all of whom loved her. She inspired many, with her kindness and her strong will to live. She leaves a hole in the heart of those fortunate enough to have known her. Thanks to all those who have cared for her over the years. Celebration of Life will be held at Faith Lutheran Church, 250 Gibbs Road W, Rutland, BC on Sat, July 14 at 11am. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Arthritis Society.

"May she have her paintbrush in her hand as she listens to the harmonicas in Heaven."



LANGLEY, JAMES, L. May 19, 1953 - July 7, 2012 Age: 59 Residence: Kelowna, BC

Killed suddenly and tragically on July 7, 2012 in Vernon, BC of injuries arising from a plane crash. Jim, (or Jimbo), to his many friends, was first and foremost a loving husband who remained devoted to his wife Shaida over their long and happy life together. He was also a loving and caring son to his parents, the late Leonard and Jacqueline Langley and a loving son-in-law to Abdul and Roshan of North Vancouver, BC. Jimbo was born and raised in Regina, SK and remained fiercely proud of his prairie upbringing and the perspective and skills that it provided him with to subsequently craft a meaningful and well-lived life. He was many things to many people. He was a successful entrepreneur, a skilled outdoorsman, an accomplished tennis player and a proficient skier and a world-class rum drinker! He was a skilled aviator who was passionate about airplanes, flying and all things "aviation related". Less known perhaps is the fact the Jim was a "favorite uncle" to many impressionable young people over the years, (some related, many not), who looked to this larger-than-life man as a role model. His sometimes gruff exterior masked a truly kind heart. He was always ready to lend a hand to those less fortunate. His ability to make and keep deep friendships over many years is a further testament to the quality of his character. He will be sadly missed but not forgotten. Jim is survived by his wife Shaida, sisters-in-law Sheneez and Shairoz (& husband Ali), brother-in-law Iqbal (& wife Hiqmat), and Shaida's parents Abdul and Roshan. In addition, he leaves behind his much-loved nephews Omar and Ahmed, Kian and a special niece Nina. An informal celebration-of-life service will be held in the near future in Kelowna. Friends and family can expect an email notification of the particulars when they are finalized.



HAYMOUR, REFAI (RAY) July 16, 1966 - July 6, 2012

Peacefully and courageously, Refai (Ray) Haymour passed away on July 6, 2012, after an intense battle with an aggressive cancer. He was surrounded by his loving family and the prayers of the many people whose lives he touched. Ray was described by all who knew him as a man who lived life fully. While his accomplishments are too many to list let it just be said that he was extremely successful in his endeavors and yet he always put people first, creating winning and supportive teams. Above anything else, he cherished his family. He is survived by his loving wife Barb and his three sons, Jordan (14), Joel (12) and Ryan (9) who are their pride and legacy. Ray's parents, Sohail Mohamed, along with his sisters, Rita (Ray), Hindy (Da Efaf (Pete)), and Tamman; his maternal grandmother F. his nephew Jeff, nieces Janelle and Jenna, and a large loving extended family join together in loss while preparing to also celebrate his amazing 45 year life. Ray spent his early years in Calgary and then in Kelowna where he finished his Bachelor of Science degree which led him to a professional life in Vancouver, where he and Barb together made their home and their own family with the three boys. To get a break from their busy schedules and to spend time together with family, Ray, Barb, and their boys spent as much time as possible in Kelowna, their second home. Ray loved to play hockey, golf and water sports whenever he could. He modeled a winning spirit and passion for sport and life. Ray joins his grandfather Albert and Uncle Adél. About two men with whom he shared so many fine qualities. Ray had an extensive family and network of friends and colleagues. Ray is dearly missed. His influence will be present with us always. We invite all friends and family to join us for a funeral service on Saturday, July 14 at 1:00 p.m. at The Delta Grand Okanagan Room, 1310 Water Street, Kelowna, BC. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Refai Haymour to InspireHealth at www.inspirehealth.ca. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.springfieldfuneralhome.com or www.rayhaymour.com



MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to make a tribute to a person or society in the name of your loved one here are some choices:

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY 1-800-403-8222

KELOWNA: 202-1835 Gordon Drive, V1Y 3H5

PENTICTON: #101-166 Main Street, V2A 5A4

SUMMERLAND: PO Box 174, V0H 1Z0

HEART & STROKE FOUNDATION OF B.C. & YUKON

1-866-432-7833

#4-1551 Sutherland Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 9M9

KELOWNA GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

2268 Pandosy Street, Kelowna, BC V1Y 1T2

www.kghfoundation.com

KELOWNA'S GOSPEL MISSION

251 Leon Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7N3

250-763-3737

www.kelownagospelmission.ca

KELOWNA COMMUNITY FOOD BANK SOCIETY

1265 Ellis Street, Kelowna, BC V1Y 1Z7

www.kelownafoodbank.com

250-763-7161