

# Kelowna in brief

THURSDAY, 06 SEPTEMBER 2012 02:00 KELOWNA DAILY COURIER



## Water guardians stress its value

Water is so valuable, but by the way many people use - and abuse - it, you wouldn't think so.

That's why the Okanagan Basin Water Board's annual general meeting on Friday has a "Recognizing the Value of Water" theme.

The news release announcing the meeting describes water as life-giving, but often undervalued.

The session runs 8:30 a.m. to noon at Kelowna's Rotary Centre for the Arts. It features the annual general meeting business and guest speakers Stu Wells from the Okanagan Basin Water Board, Leon Louis from the Syilx First Nation, Anna Warwick Sears from the board, author and journalist Chris Wood, and Okanagan Nation Alliance fisheries biologist James Pepper.

The Okanagan Basin Water Board is a collaboration of the three regional districts in the Valley - North, Central and South Okanagan-Similkameen - and is charged with advocating sustainable water management, and with protecting and enhancing the quality of life and environment in the Okanagan Basin.

## Driver behind crash drunk, say police

An early-morning crash Monday led police to arrest a motorist for impaired driving.

The 20-year-old Kelowna man caused the collision by making a left turn from Highway 33 onto Hollywood Road at 6 a.m., RCMP said. Witnesses told police the man's yellow Audi was heading east and made the turn despite traffic coming toward him.

A westbound Chev pickup struck the Audi. The force of the impact directed the truck into a traffic-light pole.

Neither driver was seriously hurt. An officer smelled liquor on the Audi driver. He failed a roadside test and later blew breath samples more than double the legal limit, police said.

He appears in court in December.

## Knox Mountain road open again

A reduced fire risk, thanks to cooler overnight temperatures, allowed the city to reopen Knox Mountain Park Drive on Tuesday.

The road was closed to vehicle traffic Aug. 22 because of a high fire hazard rating.

The City of Kelowna says the risk of fire is still high and that users of the park should be vigilant.

## Duplex project given green light

Dozens of new homes will soon be built near the southwest corner of KLO and Benvoulin roads.

Kelowna city council this week approved a rezoning application, clearing the way for construction of the 74-unit housing project.

The homes will be duplexes. There are already older homes to the south, east and west of the project site.

## Wilden daycare wins approval

A new daycare in the Wilden neighbourhood was given city approval this week over the objections of staff.

Council voted unanimously to support the daycare in the 300 block of Tucker Court. Staff had said there was a lack of parking and indicated children's safety could be compromised.

However, councillors noted it was on a cul-de-sac where there are homes on only one side of the street.

Similar applications from other areas in Wilden might not be supported, councillors said.

## Disabled woman attacked in park

RCMP in Kelowna are looking for two young thugs who pepper-sprayed a mentally challenged woman and her aide worker over the weekend.

The woman's mother, Chris Smith, says the victims were approached by the teens in a park and sprayed directly in the face.

She says her daughter suffered burns to her eyes and face and is emotionally traumatized by the attack.

Police are asking for the public's help in finding the assailants after Saturday's attack in Chichester Park.