

Larry Walper Trucking & Lumber

...Where purchasing your lumber is like visiting a neighbour...

A handy business with lumber and building materials is right near our back door. Larry Walper has been running it, just up the highway, since 1962...



"I paid \$3500.00 for it, and the guy I bought it from, Kramer, bought it for \$250.00. It's 10 acres. It's kinda gone up since then. I had to put in a commercial approach because it was a requirement, and people were going off into the ditch, even when they were sober.

I was 14 when I came to B.C. from the prairies. We had two boxcars containing the farm equipment that we had used on the 180 acres my Dad owned back there. I was in charge of a lot of it, including the milk cows. They were in the boxcar, and I had to milk them, feed them and everything. We did custom work with the equipment because, back then, most people had no equipment of their own.

Dad and I were in the lumber business as well, until I lost an eye when I rolled a tractor. I was pretty sick with spinal meningitis too, and the doctors were too slow, it drained itself. I went from 160 lbs. to 104 lbs. That was in '56. Then I went back hauling logs, and because I had only one eye, I was hit in my truck by a train. The truck went about 100 feet. I was pretty sore, and the doctor told me to quit, but I bought another truck and kept on truckin'. I hauled logs for 17 years, until the logs got scarce. In 1972, I went to the Tappen Mill and worked there, and traded my old truck off for a fork lift and a lumber truck. I did this as a sideline until they sold the mill. Then I had to get serious. That's when I bought this place. When my dad died, I got a third of the estate, so that's how I could afford to buy this business.

I do wholesale/retail business. The lumber yards in town gave me a rough time sometimes. I hauled

over 8,000 loads from the Adams Lake Mill, but now we are too small for them. I'm supposed to go all the way to Kelowna to buy lumber that went right past my door. And there's not much building going on any more, since people can't build their own homes any longer. Got to have a ticket to build. Big fish are eating the little fish. I still do a lot of hauling for other outfits. I do all my driving, can't keep another driver busy.

I don't have computers here. I got enough trouble with walk-and-talk phones, with all those buttons. I didn't want a cell phone either, but I finally had to get one. They save me a lot of fuel. Fuel is so expensive it is causing lots of trouble.

I try to keep my prices down. Turnover is slow now, and I don't want wood to sit here for even a year. That's too long. But I still do a bit of business. It keeps me out of mischief and I get to see my neighbours once in awhile."

May Line-Up

*Sunday	2:00pm	Drop-in Badminton
& Thurs.	9:30am	Sunnybrae Comm. Hall
*Fridays	10:00am	Bev's Hiking Group, carpool Meet SLE Golf Club park.lot
*1 st &3 rd Thurs.	10:00am	Shuswap Needle-arts Guild Sunnybrae Seniors' Centre
*Sat. May 3	7:30pm	Coffee House, Carlin Hall
*Sun. May 11		Mother's Day
*Sat. May 17	6:00pm	Ukrainian Dinner Sunnybrae Seniors' Centre
*Sun. May 18		End of free CSRD Yard Waste
*Sat. May 21	7:00pm	Carlin Hall, AGM
*Sat. May 24	9-3pm	BbQue lunch-H.burgs,hot dogs Sunnybrae Seniors' Centre
*Sat. May 24	10-3pm	Country Market, Carlin school See insert page for details
*Sat. June 7	7:30pm	Coffee House, Carlin Hall, for 2nd Harvest-last of season
*Sat. June 7	8:00am	Lions' Pancake Breakfast Sorrento Market

*To advertise your event free call 250 835 8580 or
e-mail: sunnybrae@mail.com*

Report from the Co-op AGM

Once again, the Annual General Meeting of our local Co-op store turned out to be a very enjoyable and community spirited event. There were many of our 'citizens' in attendance at the Sunnybrae Seniors' Centre
....cont'd pg. 2

...cont'd. from pg.1, Co-Op AGM

on April 8th to listen to the accomplishments of our local Co-op, which we are fortunate to have within a short drive, saving many a trip into town. It was reported that there is money in the bank, for the first time in five years. New memberships are increasing at a faster rate. A few interesting facts: within the year's reporting period, there were 1,282,003 litres of regular gas sold, up 88,000 from the previous year; 37,686 cones scooped for a total sales of \$120,273. Plans are continuing for the 2015 Centennial celebration, so keep posted.

Snacks were served and a door prize for everyone in attendance. Thank you Co-Op for your fast, friendly and fabulous service over the past year.

Take Note: Cougar Sightings

There have been unconfirmed reports of cougar sightings, along with increased deer kill, in the area of Sky Blue Waters / Lakeview Estates and the Bible Camp. Be on the safe side, be aware and especially vigilant regarding the safety of children and pets.

The Arts District

**Solo Art Show, Janice Cleland
Reedman Gallery in Blind Bay**

Janice Cleland is a local Shuswap Artist, who paints from her secluded forest studio in the Shuswap Highlands of British Columbia. Canadian landscapes



and still life, created in acrylic, pastel or oil, demonstrate the talent and techniques that Janice brings to her artwork. Whether just down the road, at Shuswap Lake,

painting a southern view of Copper Island, or on a road trip to the middle of the Cariboo, Janice has brush in hand, applying colour to canvas in a style that reflects her love of the wide open spaces; beautifully rendered artwork that reminds us of the many memorable places in British Columbia waiting to be captured on canvas.

Many of Janice's pieces have been selected and shown in juried art exhibits. She is a very active artist with membership in various art groups, including the Blind Bay Painters, the Shuswap Art Gallery and the Federation of Canadian Artists.

Mark your calendar to visit this local artist's **Solo Exhibition on May 17 and 18, 9am - 6pm in the Reedman Gallery, lower level of the Blind Bay Hall, 2510 Blind Bay Rd., in Blind Bay B.C.** Take an opportunity to view, enjoy or purchase affordable and

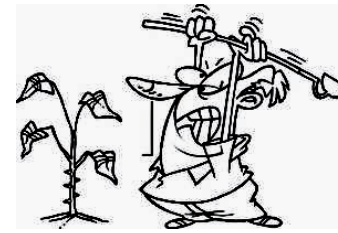
memorable Canadian artwork by Janice Cleland. You can also participate in the draw at the end of show for a hanging basket donated by Bloomin' Backacher and a painting donated by the artist.

Her online gallery can be viewed at: jstudioart.net.

**Hello again from your Garden
Guru!**

Well, gardening is upon us, and it seems only a few days ago we were shovelling snow. Now, we are fighting weeds, and though it is not 10 degrees below freezing, it is still chilly in the wind. Now is the time to

get out the the..... are you ready? The Roundup. Using chemicals of any kind goes against my judgement, but there are times when the battle with weeds becomes a war. I have discovered what is, to me, a barely acceptable way to use this troublesome chemical for edgings and spot treatment. Works on poison ivy too.



Purchase a bottle of already-mixed *stuff* (I won't use the word more than necessary) and use it straight; follow directions, with my adjustments. If you get the strong stuff that needs to be mixed, by all means, MIX IT TO DIRECTIONS! You can be sure that Monsanto wants you to use the maximum amount of their product, so don't double up. Instead, put a little bit of dish soap in your mix, to get more solvency going for you - about a quarter teaspoon to a quart of mix. Soap makes the *stuff* stick better too.

OK, here is the new idea, tried and true! Get a small paint roller, and a small tray, and apply the *stuff* with the roller. You get no overspray, no waste and no *stuff* on your skin. By the way, if your skin is not green, the *stuff* does little harm. It's the carriers that are very bad for you; the *stuff* is designed to work with chlorophyll, so you are relatively safe.

Now, cut around the perimeter of the edging, about 6" away from the garden, so you don't kill the grass in your lawn. Apply the *stuff* inside the area you cut. Make a small gobstick to spot-treat dandelions without killing a football sized bit of lawn. What's a gobstick? It's a stick with a gob of cloth on the end. What did you think?

This is best done when the weeds are growing fast, and unwanted grass should be getting a bit taller than you want your lawn to be. You get more *stuff* travelling to the roots that way. Then, sit back and wait.

As I said, this is tried and true.

Happy gardening from your Garden Guru!

Letters



The opinions expressed in this column are those of our readers, and not necessarily those of the 'Citizen'.

To Sunnybrae Bible Camp, a big thank you to all of you who came to my home on Sat. March 29, and cleaned my yard and shed; took away 4 or 5 loads of garbage and left me with a clean yard. It had not been cleaned in 15 years, while my husband was not well, and I just didn't have the energy. Thank you! And thank you to the boys that got Al's truck running, cleaned it up and pumped the tire so it is ready to sell.

Tim, Barb and all, what a great job you are doing at the camp, and those young people are terrific! GOD BLESS YOU ALL! Marje Robinson, Sky Blue Waters.

Recently we took some recycling to the bins at the Tappen Co-op. The mess there was disgusting. There was garbage (not recyclables) all around the bins, and bigger pieces behind the bins. I am embarrassed to be a member of a race that can be so disrespectful. The piles behind the bins included a toilet seat. In whose world are they recyclable? A very large piece of corrugated cardboard has blown farther away from the bins. It could easily have been folded, maybe even cut to fit the bins. What astounds me is the fact that SOMEBODY HAS TO CLEAN IT UP! Who do "they" think will pick up their garbage?

While I am beefing about some people's ugly habits, how about the garbage along the roadsides? You dumpers can't tell me that the Tim Horton and Big Mac trash blew out of your vehicles! Cigarette butts! OMG! They are everywhere for dogs and wild animals children to pick up and chew. Hey, Dumper, who do you think you are? Who do you think will clean after you? You are treating the rest of us as if we are slaves, unpaid, unknown entities that wipe up after you. You are fouling your own nest. And mine.

Angry, unbelieving, insulted, I remain, Your Sunnybrae Neighbour.

Sorrento Village Farmers' Market



This wonderful market in Sorrento opens again for the summer on Sat., May 10th, and runs every Sat. until October 11th, 8am-12 noon. Attend and enjoy the

market; visit with friends and neighbours...have a coffee and a chat in the Community Gathering Place. Watch for information on upcoming demos.

Lions Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, June 7th, 8:00 a.m.. Bring your appetite!

TRAIL TALES

...by Walley Walkabout

It's Camping Season Again... I want to bring your attention to a website which will enable you to locate campgrounds, even free ones, all over BC. www.tracksandtrails.ca/2009/04/camp-for-free-in-bc/.

Using the website is quite easy, just locate your departure and destination points and you will see where the campgrounds in between these points are situated, along with a brief description and google maps. On the Tracks And Trails directory, you will find over 900 BC recreation sites, including 600 free campgrounds, 82 National Parks (across Canada) and 425 privately owned campgrounds. The highest rated campgrounds will be awarded "Trusted Campground" and will be shown on the map with a gold star. You won't find plug-ins, or hot showers, at the freebies. However, for the price of two days' camping at an expensive campground, consider purchasing a solar panel at Canadian Tire or WalMart. Just hook it up to a collector battery (any reliable deep cycle spare will do) and, *Voila*, you have power!! Not an excess...but, with vigilance, there will be enough. When you are stopped, place the solar panel in a sunny spot. Make sure to have long connection wires, just in case the weather is hot, as you may then prefer a shady spot to park. Enjoy a summer of camping fun in the back country for FREE.... and in style!!

Walley has another topic to discuss: there are a large number of hiking, biking and equestrian trails accruing here in the Shuswap. These trails have to be maintained; cleared of debris, pruned and upgraded continually, mainly by volunteers. All hikers can easily contribute a bit to keep these trails free of hazards. Just take a moment to kick, or flick, that stick or stone off to the side. It takes such little effort and, if everybody did it, we would dramatically reduce the time needed to maintain our trails. Also, in your travels, if you come across a downed tree impeding the path, or a washout, a dangerous overhang or some such hazard, please report your observations to trailreport@shuswaptrails.com. This is a Trail Alliance site specifically set up to keep tabs on urgently needed maintenance. Your comments will be acted upon ASAP...you even get a reply. How's that for service?

To become a volunteer for trail maintenance, contact www.shuswaptrailalliance.com.

Happy trails...Walley

SC 3

Mud Slide on Sunnybrae Canoe Point Road

In the early hours of Wednesday, April 23, a huge mud and debris slide came down the hillside at McIntyre



Creek damaging the culvert, blocking the Sunnybrae Canoe Point Road, and threatening residences below. McIntyre

Creek is a small creek (most of the time) running via a culvert under the Sunnybrae Canoe Point Road, about 5km east of Herald Provincial Park. Fortunately, it is sparsely populated and, as a result, structural damage is minimal, with no injuries or loss of life. There is undetermined damage to one residence below the slide, where a window has been broken and mud and debris have penetrated the building. You can imagine the clean-up that is going to be required to restore order to the landscaping of the residences involved.

Tappen-Sunnybrae Fire Chief, Kyle Schneider, estimated the slide to be about 100m wide by 15m high. Due to the instability of the hillside and remaining debris, in combination with a forecast for unstable conditions, an evacuation order for the residents of the McIntyre Creek area remains in place until Monday 28, at least. Seven properties remain affected by the evacuation order. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure acted swiftly to have the road re-opened and are still working diligently to clear all the mud and debris from the site. A geomorphologist is on sight trying to determine the stability of the incident site, but the unstable weather is making the decision difficult. Because of the instability of the area and other safety concerns, the public are asked to please stay away from the slide zone and help keep traffic flow at a minimum until further notice.

Waltzing Matilda

This is not about Australia, sorry. It's not even about a jumbuck (more commonly known as a sheep, baby size, I think). It's about a cow.

This heifer was one of a herd we bought when you could buy a herd for \$12,000.00. She was a big, rangy Holstein and she gave us a baby bull right after we bought her. Trying to milk her was an exercise in futility. Her teats were extra-large, and the milking machine probably pinched them. So now, we had a reluctant, young, cow, with an uncomfortable event that happened twice daily. Most cows, when they kick, will kick straight back, or straight forward, toward their belly. This one kicked like a mule, who reaches forward, and rakes a swipe sideways and then to the back all in one motion. Getting close to this big girl was dangerous. When she became nervous, she rocked on her hind feet, doing a dance that earned her the name

“Waltzing Matilda”. We shortened it to Matilda, then to Tilda.

We had many bruises that she walloped out, as we tried to train her for a milk cow. She was death on milking machines. The kind we had was a 5 gallon container, slung on a belt, and hung under the cow. Countless times the milking machines were taken back to the wash racks and cleaned and disinfected. She had lots of milk, but getting it was most difficult. Eventually, we came to an armed truce, and she poured forth many gallons of milk over the following years.

Besides being a fairly good milker, Tilda was an escape artist. She figured out how to slide the bar that opened the swinging gates, and we had many runaways before we found out who the culprit was, and how she nuzzled the bar sideways to open the gate. She nuzzled every door, so we had to be very sure the barn doors were latched at all times. Most bovine escape artists are fence-crawlers, or fence jumpers, both very dangerous for the low-slung milk factories. Tilda must have thought that was beneath her. “See, Bossies, you just open the gate”.

Eventually, we sold the whole milking herd and, of course, Tilda went with them. They went to a couple of young brothers, just starting out in the milk business. They paid little attention to me when I said “You have to watch Tilda. She kicks like a mule, and she can open gates. Your sliding barn door will not challenge her”. My comment was ignored with a polite nod, and a look that said “No cow opens gates, and especially doors”.

A few days later, we stopped in to see how our pets were doing. When we drove into their yard, the whole herd was galloping along the far fence a half mile away. “That black cow opened the door”, one brother said with incredulity, as if he was the first to notice. I asked him to open the door wide, and began calling them. I still can't tell this without getting teary. When they heard my voice, they all turned and ran to me, and into the barn.

I never found out what happened to Tilda, or any of the others. I just couldn't go back.

Memories from the Denim Duchess



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