

# Insight Into the Arts

Artspace Ticket and Information Centre  
10003 - 100th Street  
Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 3Y5

This newsletter  
printed on 100%  
recycled paper

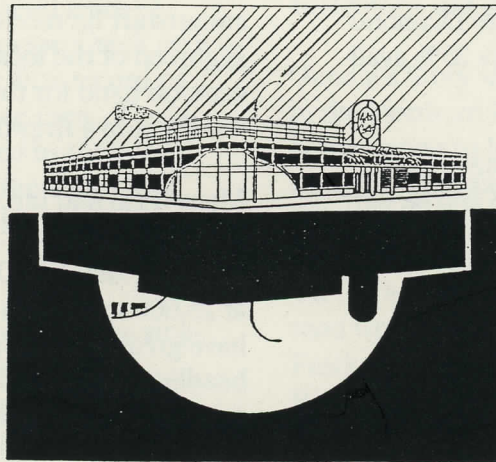
Information Hotline 785-1992  
Fax # 785-1510

## *Bright Nights In June*

Applause will ring in June 1992 when the North Peace Cultural Centre officially opens its doors for business after seven years of development. The Official Grand Opening on June 26 and 27 is appropriately named "Bright Nights in June". The bright lights of the Gala Opening will focus on the hard working committees of the North Peace Cultural Society that have shown fortitude and tenacity in finishing the sometimes controversial facility in Fort St. John.

The Cultural Centre began in 1985 with a \$1,000,000 Provincial Expo Legacy grant followed by a \$500,000 Federal DOC Grant. Phase I included the purchase of the vacant Hudson Bay building in the heart of Fort St. John and the structure altered to accommodate 40,000 square feet. Private and corporate contributions of \$1,000,000 along with a provincial GO BC grant of \$650,000 were not quite enough to complete the construction of Phase II.

The last of the required capital was arranged through the City of Fort St. John with the assistance of the District of Taylor. Final construction of the \$4.2 million building began in 1991, three years after Phase I.



The North Peace Cultural Centre has the first performance theatre for the North Peace. The 400 seat theatre will be open for conferences, public meetings, concerts, plays and touring groups.

The community's Public Library will offer first class services available in the Cultural Centre. Local contributions by the Bingo Association and the Kinsmen have assured proper equipment in this new expanded space.

The Public Art Gallery is scheduling touring exhibitions and art shows and competitions. The unique Gallery Shoppe will be a popular stop for tourists as well as residents.

The Artspace equipped with a 1300 square foot sprung wood floor plus equal carpeted space will be available for community functions, wedding receptions, and daily classes for pre-schoolers, youngsters and adults.

The North Peace Cultural Centre was designed for versatility and flexibility by Howard/Yano Architects of Vancouver. The Building Committee has kept the Phase II construction on time and on budget. The spot-light will shine on the North Peace Cultural Centre on 100th Street and 100th Avenue (the 100% corner) in Fort St. John, British Columbia on June 26 and 27, 1992.

### *Inside This Issue...*

- \* Stage North to Mexico
- \* Band Students Win Provincial Honors
- \* Community Events Calendar
- \* Local Dancer to Dance with Winnipeg Ballet
- \* Partly Arts Series Update
- \* From the Editor



# FSJ Children Festival Shaping Up

The first Fort St. John Children's Festival featuring Charlotte Diamond of Vancouver and Canadian Content of Winnipeg will be held in the Fort St. John Curling Rink on June 18, 19, 20. The Federal Department of Communications has granted the Children's Festival \$6,000 to assist with the \$30,000 budget.




The festival will have a mix of local performers such as clowns, magicians, singers, dancers and storytellers to compliment the shows by professional touring artists. Local artists are welcome to contact Barb McCracken at 785-0456 to become involved in the Children's Festival.

To help raise funds for the Children's Festival, the committee has tapes and videos of Charlotte Diamond available at the Artspace. Each tape makes 25% available to the Children's Festival budget.

Volunteers and craft items are needed to make the children's Festival a success. Call 785-0456 and be part of a fun event.


## HOW TO BE A LOCAL HERO



**TAKE ADVANTAGE  
OF THE TAX MAN**

Local Heroes save their charitable tax receipts when they give money and take advantage of the credit for charitable giving on their tax form. You can use the money you save to be an even more generous Local Hero.

A New Spirit of Giving  
A national program to encourage giving and volunteering.



# FSJ '92 Committee Update....

The celebration year of 1992 is now underway, and the festivities are already pulling people out of the winter doldrums.

The Fort St. John '92 Committee were busy kicking off the year's celebrations with their local Opening Ceremonies which were held February 7. Many people braved the cold to be a part of the evening which included an event walk-on, performances by the Figure Skating Club, Can-Canettes, Northern Dance Society and speeches by noted dignitaries. Speakers for the evening included Member of Parliament, Mr. Frank Oberle, Mayor Steve Thorlakson, Terry Thompson, Executive Director of Rendezvous '92, and Mark Wigglesworth, Chairman of the local committee. The casual evening allowed the dignitaries to don their Rendezvous gear, the Frank Oberle wearing the sweatshirt he received from the local committee. Eighteen of the local groups holding events in the year were on hand for the event walk-on, and a community bonfire and a fireworks display rounded out the evening.

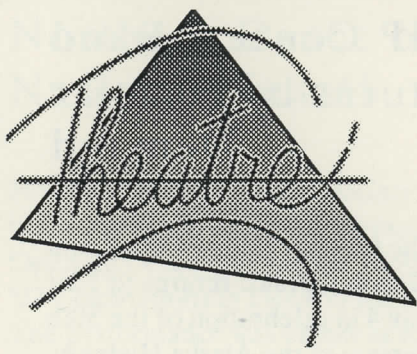
Many local and international events will be taking place in the City this year, the largest being the International Airshow, July 19. Organizers are predicting attendance at 25,000 spectators for the world class event that will have great static displays and superb performers, headlined by Canada's own Snowbirds. If you are interested in volunteering, and viewing the Airshow at no cost, contact the Airshow Society at 785-1992.

If you are planning on having an event during the year, let the local committee know. They are located in the Artspace. For more information, call the Tourist Informations Centre, 785-6037. Plan to have your relatives visit for the fun - it is just as far from their door to yours as it is from yours to theirs!!!

Eve Lepinski, coordinator for the FSJ '92 Committee presented Mr. Frank Oberle with a sweatshirt to wear at the Opening Ceremonies recently held in the FSJ Recreation Centre.







## Jazz Dinner Concert

On Saturday April 25th the Northern Lights Jazz Singers will be having a Dinner concert at the Pioneer Inn. Any profits from this evening will go towards buying seats for the new theatre.

The Northern Lights Jazz Singers consist of four men and four ladies and has been in existence for about 3 years. The group has been performing at all kinds of functions between Fort St. John and Dawson Creek on a regular basis. Last May they made their first recording and have become extremely popular since then. The Northern Lights Jazz Singers are directed by the very talented Merrill Flewelling, who is also the director of the Northern Lights Chamber Choir. Merrill also plays the piano for the Jazz Singers.

For the Dinner Theatre Evening, the group will be singing songs from the 40's, 50's and also some of their numbers from their recording. They consider this appropriate music as this is the 50th Anniversary of the building of the Alaska Highway.

For a trip down memory lane, join the Northern Lights Jazz Singers at their Dinner Concert on Saturday, April 25th. They will be doing the music of Glenn Miller, George Gershwin, Hoagy Carmichael, Benny Goodman, Cole Porter and several numbers that were recorded by the Manhattan Transfer. We hope that you can make this nostalgic evening of great entertainment.

The tickets are \$30 per person which includes dinner and concert by the Jazz Singers with a dance to follow with music by Systems by Trail. Tickets are available at the Artspace and for more information please call 785-1992.



## *Northern Dance Extravaganza*

*May 1 & 2, 1992*

*North Peace Secondary School*

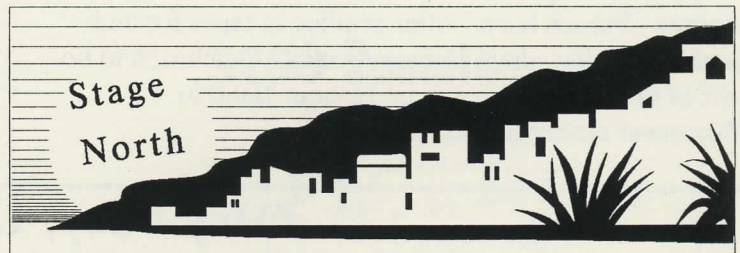
## Stage North Goes to Mexico

Stage North's next production is "Jennie's Story", a drama by Canadian playwright Betty Lambert, directed by Kevin Truscott. Stage North has been invited to perform "Jennie's Story" at the International Amateur Theatre Festival in Monterrey, Mexico. The club will represent Canada at this international event, which includes groups from the United States, Norway, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Colombia and the Dominican Republic as well as a number of Mexican groups. The festival takes place from March 16th to March 22nd with Stage North's production "Jennie's Story" opening the festival on March 16th.

The members of the cast include Marian Truscott as Jennie, Cindy Rost as Molly, Bernie Cardin as Harry, Kevin Peterson as Father Fabrizeau, with the role of the mother, Edna, split between two actresses, Sandy Blatchford and June Ainsworth.

"Jennie's Story" will be performed on March 6th and 7th in the Northern Lights College Multi-purpose room before going to Mexico with the set that will be used in Mexico. The play will also be performed after Stage North returns from Mexico on April 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, and 11th in the Northern Lights College Multi-purpose room.

At the end of April Stage North will again take to the road when they travel to Fort Nelson for the Zone Festival which will determine if they will be attending the BC Festival of the Arts Provincial Competition.



### **\*\* Did you know....**

The arts are Canada's 11th largest industry, representing fully 4% of the Gross National Product, yet they receive only .8% of the total federal expenditure?

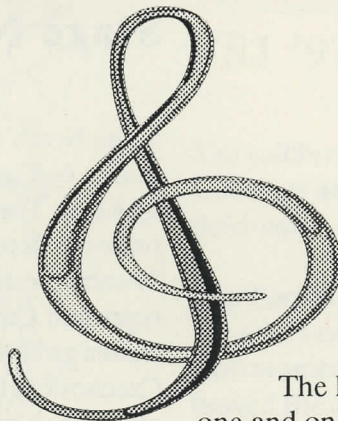


## Community Bands Compete... In Terrace

In Terrace, in Edmonton, and here at home, the Fort St. John School and Community Band has a busy Spring schedule. The Junior and Senior Bands are competing in the Pacific Coast Music Festival in Terrace in April. They travel to Edmonton and Spruce Grove in early May and will host Edmonton Bands in Fort St. John for a special community concert to be held outdoors on May 23. The Fort St. John and Edmonton bands will play in late afternoon on May 23 at Charlie Lake Provincial Park. The Fort St. John School and Community Bands will perform their Spring Concert on May 20 at North Peace Secondary School.

The Bands in School District #60 have grown to over 350 students ranging in skill and talent. Under the direction of Ms. Kathy Eades and Mr. Bruce Johnson the beginning band of Squeaks and Squawks to the very accomplished senior and jazz bands have given children and adults in the North Peace the opportunity to make music.

The Bands have performed at Airing the Arts, Christmas shows, Concerts and at the Totem Mall this year. Four students were chosen to play in the Provincial Honour Band. They are Michelle Roung - clarinet, Michael Kurschat - trumpet, Don Barnetson - flute, and Patricia Lindsay - French horn. After sending in tapes for auditions in October, these four musicians were chosen to be part of the 80 piece Provincial Honour Band in Vancouver earlier this month.



## RCMP Concert Band Returns by Popular Demand

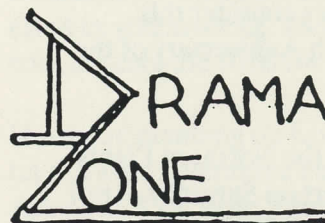
The Concert Band of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police returns to Fort St. John on May 4 in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Alaska Highway.

The lively band entertained an audience of 600 just one and one-half years ago when they performed at the North Peace Secondary School gym.

The FSJ'92 Committee is hosting the RCMP Concert Band to Fort St. John. The concert Band is touring the Alaska Highway with a special 50th Anniversary salute to the Celebrations.

The RCMP Concert Band is a colourful delight as well as a musical treat. Dressed in their "Reds", the thirty member band play jazz, swing and marches with a big sound. The RCMP Concert Band represents Canada by taking their music to every corner of the globe. They are not just a military band. The concerts include crowd-pleasing peppy arrangements familiar to everyone, followed by themes from films and innovative medleys.

Tickets will be available early April at the Artspace and at the RCMP office. Proceeds from this benefit concert will be used to assist '92 projects in Fort St. John.



## "Hey Baby, It's Dracula"

Dracula as a nice guy? This is hard to accept after years of seeing , variations on the age-old horror story. However, the North Peace Secondary School drama students under the direction of teacher Daniel Vecchio will stage the hilarious farce "Dracula Baby" making Dracula something other than frightening.

"Dracula Baby" has a cast of 20 and is a full length musical comedy featuring wonderful costumes by the dozens. The entire family will delight to the gypsies, monsters, mummies and werewolves who sing and dance their way across the stage in the North Peace Secondary School drama room.

Tickets will be limited since seating space is small at the North Peace Secondary School drama room. The show plays April 23, 24, 25 and April 30, May 1, 2 for only 6 nights and tickets will go on sale in early April at the Artspace and North Peace Secondary School.

Director Vecchio has a solid support production crew including Assistant Director Chris Bender who is remembered for his comic role in Dirty Works at the Crossroads last year. Teachers Pat Humphries and Dawn Friessen will coach the musical numbers and student Patricia Lindsay will provide the piano accompaniment.



## Northern Dance on the National News!!

Northern Dance Theatre Society had a spot on the National News when they performed at the televised Opening Ceremonies of the Alaska Highway Rendezvous '92 Celebrations in Dawson Creek on February 15th. The performance was excellent rehearsal for when Northern Dance travels to Edmonton with approximately 35 dancers for the very large and exciting dance competition "Showstoppers". If the dancers qualify at "Showstoppers", they have the opportunity to attend the National Finals in Los Angeles during the latter part of July.

Northern Dance Theatre Society would like to extend their appreciation to the community for the support provided in their most recent fundraising event, the Chocolate Mint Marathon. Several local businesses and individuals purchased large quantities of chocolates to assist with their expenses to the Showstoppers competition - thank you all ever so much.

The Annual Northern Dance Extravaganza will be taking place this year during the weekend of May 1 & 2 at the North Peace Secondary School. Performances promise to be as terrific as last year!! Don't miss it!!

### *Continuing a Successful Season of the Partly Arts Series '91-'92*

"Jest in Time"

Friday, March 27

Dr. Kearney School 8 PM

Mime, theatre and dance of absurd day-by-day incidents revealed as humorous and fun.

"Lively and Skillful"



"Lorne Elliott"

Wednesday, April 8

MacKenzie Inn 8 PM



A wacky performance by a stand-up comedian and musician with keen observations of today's trends and idiosyncrasies.

"Original and Funny"

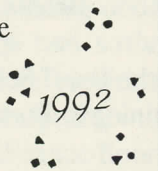
*Experience Canada*

## National Talent Search for 125 Young Performers

Auditions \*February 29, 1992\* in Prince George

Join the Cross-Canada Tour April to August 1992 promoting Cross-Cultural understanding and National pride in the stage show "Spirit of a Nation"

For further information  
Jo-Anne Merkel in Prince George  
604-562-4882 phone  
604-562-6690



## Buy a Theatre Seat

Be The First Community to Have

### A Full House

Before the Theatre Opens

### \$200 Donation



Your Benefits:

- \* Tax Deductible Receipt
- \* Name on a Permanent Plaque on the Seat
- \* Your Support of the Completion of the Theatre in the Cultural Centre



## Andrea Dances in Swan Lake

Many young ballet students aspire to be a ballerina and perform with a well-known ballet company in a famous ballet but few make it all the way to the top. But Fort St. John's Andrea Van Donselaar has made her dream come true.

Andrea is currently on a five week Western Canada Tour with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet dancing in the Swan Lake Ballet. Andrea's fan club from Fort St. John recently attended the Swan Lake performance in Edmonton to see her in an understudy role in the famous ballet.

Andrea has been honoured with two understudy roles though she is still a student at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet school. Before she entered the Royal Winnipeg in 1990, Andrea had spent a summer with Ballet BC and another at the Banff School of Fine Arts. She has taken ballet training in Fort St. John since she was seven years old.

Fort St. John is proud of Andrea and looks forward to following her career as a ballerina.

## Images and Objects X in Vernon in 1992



Nine communities of the Peace Country will be represented when 15 visual artists attend the BC Festival of Arts in Vernon at the end of May. Fifteen regional works of art were chosen to join the hundreds from around the Province for the 10th Annual Images and Objects Art Show at the BC Festival of Arts.

The artists who can participate in workshops and seminars at the Festival are Audrey Skoreyko from Fort St. John; Inez Demuynck, Moe Boucher, Shirley Ravelli, Phyllis Fynn and Lawrence McGillvray from Dawson Creek; Freda Murphy and Audrey Gaddy from Taylor; Sherry Leigh Tobber and Stacy Thomas Pshyk from Chetwynd; Duane Coulson of Toad River; Suzanne Dixon from Pouce Coupe; Marg Baker from Arras; Emily Mattson from Rolla; and Leanne Smith from Tumber Ridge.

Artists attending the BC Festival of Arts will receive travel and accommodation assistance from the Government of B.C.. The Peace - Liard Regional Juried Art Show will be held in Tumber Ridge in 1993. Over 150 entries are expected for the Spring Show.

## Gallery Society Searching for Artists

The Peace Arts Gallery Society and the North Peace Art Society are gearing up for the 9th Annual Art Auction to be held at the MacKenzie Inn on the evening of May 1st.

Every year these two groups organize this fantastic fundraiser for the new Gallery in the Cultural Centre. The Gallery is looking forward to moving into their new location in the Centre where they will be able to bring in touring shows and exhibitions.

Artists and businesses are welcome to donate artwork and artistic raffle items for this fundraiser. If you would like more information on how to donate or to get involved in other ways please contact Nadean Graves at 785-5343 or the Art Gallery at 787-0993.

## North Country Dancers and Canadian Helicopters Working Together

The North County Dancers are a local line dance group that was started over 2 years ago. They specialize in highlighting events such as Christmas and retirement parties, fairs, parades, and fundraisers. There are 10 members in the group that all enjoy having fun and providing entertainment.

To help with costumes, travel and music the North Country Dancers recently held a raffle with the help of Canadian Helicopters. A 1/2 hour helicopter ride for four people was generously donated by Canadian Helicopters. On Friday, February 14th the draw was made by Derrick of Canadian Helicopters. Jennifer Arneson was the winner and she recently stated that she plans to take her family with her.

The North Country Dancers would like to extend a thank-you to Canadian Helicopters for their donation and for all of the people who bought tickets for their support. They look forward to the summer and taking part in the various '92 Celebrations. For information on the group and for bookings please call Pam at 785-1992.





**Break A Leg to NPSS Drama Students**  
**\*\* High School Drama Zone Festival \*\***  
**February 27th 6:30 PM Unchaguh Hall, Dawson Creek**  
**Fort St. John performs "Canadian Gothic" and "Anastasia"**  
**Winning Play goes to BC Festival of Arts**

## Art Doesn't Cost ... It Pays

There's a perception that the arts are a cost to society, always requiring subsidies and grants to produce their music, films, plays, books, dances, etc. Not a bit of it is true, said Statistics Canada in its 1986 report, Cultural Statistics: The Economic Impact of the Arts and Culture Sector.

"The arts are not just deficit-ridden spongers," the report said firmly.

GDP (gross domestic product) measures the value of production in Canada. In 1981 (latest figures then available), arts and culture accounted for \$5.2 billion of the GDP, StatsCan found, 1.7 per cent of the \$314.5 billion total. That was more than tobacco, rubber/plastics, textiles, clothing, and furniture and fixtures, and about the same as the metal and mines, food and beverage, electrical power, gas/utilities, and accommodation/food service industries.

Primary and intermediate spending by arts and culture groups totalled \$9.1 billion, with \$12.7 billion of direct, indirect, and induced impact on GDP, or four per cent. (Direct impact results from direct expenditures by the arts and culture sector. Indirect impact comes from interactions with other, supplying businesses, leading to indirect demand for goods and services from other industries; induced impact reflects the re-spending of wages and salaries earned in arts and culture and in supplying industries.)

Every dollar spent by arts and culture groups had \$2.50 of direct, indirect and induced impact on the GDP. That's the multiplier effect. Every job multiplied into 2.4 jobs. The performing arts were higher \$2.70 of impact for \$1, with jobs multiplied by 2.5.

These multiplier ratios are "Still in the right ballpark" in 1991, Michel Durand, the report's author, said in an interview from Ottawa. Other studies refer to an impact of three to five times an arts group's budget.

The Statistics Canada report began, however, with a warning: "To substitute the economic value of the arts for their creative and spiritual value would be a severe distortion. However, to ignore their economic importance, and especially their usefulness in promoting balanced economic growth, would also be a serious mistake."

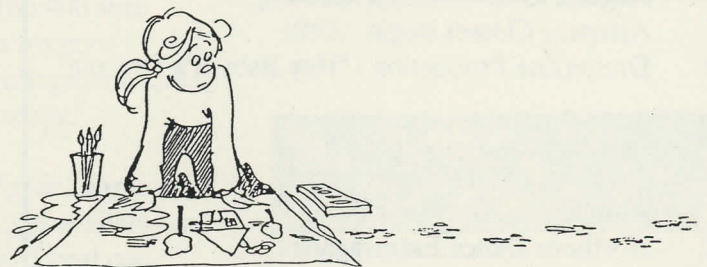
## Artspace Classes Into New Space

The dream will soon be a reality when the doors open in the new Cultural Centre toward the end of the Spring Session of Artspace Classes. The new environment will offer a roomy, bright atmosphere for continuing development of the preschool program and numerous courses for young people as well as adults. The three large areas of the Artspace will facilitate scheduling of various classes at the same time.

The wet crafts room is a self contained area with a tile floor for easy clean-up and suitable for sculpture, crafts and cooking classes. The sprung wood dance floor of 1300 square feet is perfect for Ballroom Dancing and other various dance classes as well as aerobics. The carpeted space is suitable for dry crafts, modelling and certified courses requiring a large area and will accommodate up to one hundred participants.

Due to the Easter Holiday weekend registration will be held from Tuesday, April 21 to Friday, April 24. The classes begin the week of April 27 in the current Artspace and will continue for eight weeks. If the building plans remain on schedule, the last few weeks of the Spring Session will be held in the new Cultural Centre.

Brenda Bloxham - Artspace Classes Coordinator



### *From the Editor:*

Insight into the Arts is published quarterly by the Fort St. John Community Arts Council at the Artspace.

Submission deadlines are 2 weeks prior to printing.

Next Deadline: May 15, 1992 / Next Issue: June 1, 1992

The Artspace Staff edits and designs the newsletter.



## Calendar of Events

### February

- 26 Historical Society AGM and Dinner
- 29 Friends of the Library Book Sale

### March

- 5 Regular Meeting Cultural Centre Committee
- 6/7 Stage North Production - "Jennie's Story"
- 7/8 Figure Skating - Ice Carnival
- 9 Decorator Basket Workshop - Quilters Guild
- 17 Regular Arts Council Meeting
- 23 Regular Quilters Guild Meeting
- 27 Partly Arts Concert #5 - "Jest In Time"
- 29 Music Teachers Recital

### April

- 2 Regular Meeting Cultural Centre Committee
- 3-5 Stage North Production - "Jennie's Story"
- 8 Partly Arts Concert #6 - "Lorne Elliott"
- 7-20 Avor Thompson Art Show
- 8-12 North Peace Performing Arts Festival
- 9-11 Stage North Production - "Jennie's Story"
- 12 Honours Concert Performing Arts Festival
- 11 Around the Twist Workshop - Quilters Guild
- 13 Regular Quilters Guild Meeting
- 21 Regular Arts Council Meeting
- 21 -24 Artspace Classes Registration - Session III
- 23-25 DramaZone Production - "Hey Baby It's Dracula"
- 25 Jazz Dinner Theatre
- 26 Music Teachers Recital
- 27 Regular Quilters Guild Meeting
- 27 Artspace Classes Begin
- 30 DramaZne Production - "Hey Baby It's Dracula"

### May

- 1 Annual Art Auction
- 1/2 Northern Dance Extravaganza
- 1/2 DramaZone Production - "Hey Baby It's Dracula"
- 4 RCMP Concert Band Performance
- 7 Regular Meeting Cultural Centre Committee
- 19 Regular Arts Council Meeting
- 20 Spring Concert School & Community Bands
- 23 Fort St. John & Edmonton Concert Bands
- 25-6 Beth Ardill & Susan Wuthrich Art Show

## Happenings in Other Places

- Sport/Art Juried Exhibition  
February 26 - March 28 \* Vernon
- BC Creative Arts Show  
March 8 - 10 \* Vancouver
- Etching Workshop with Steve Mills  
March 13 - 15 \* Tumbler Ridge
- Pacific Contact  
April 1 - 5 \* Vancouver
- Peace River Zone Theatre Festival  
April 23, 24, 25 \* Fort Nelson
- BC Festival of the Arts  
May 27 - 30 \* Vernon



Peering out of the new work spaces in the Cultural Centre office Eve Lepinski of Fort St. John '92 and Brenda Bloxham of Artspace Classes imagine how the new building will be once all the construction is complete. The new Cultural centre will have a Grand Opening June 25 & 26.



# Insight Into the Arts

Artspace Ticket and Information Centre  
10003 - 100th Street  
Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 3Y5

This newsletter  
printed on 100%  
recycled paper

Information Hotline 785-1992  
Fax # 785-1510

## *Cultural Centre Ready*

The "Big Move" into the new North Peace Cultural Centre is scheduled for May 30. Within a few weeks of the "move", the entire building will be in operation with the Public Library, Artspace, Public Art Gallery and a 413 seat theatre.

After seven years of development the residents of the North Peace are looking forward to the use of the \$4.6 million facility. Events and theatre productions have already been scheduled into the new building.

The new facility manager, Ian Forsyth, arrived from Vancouver May 1 to begin organizing the operation of the Cultural Centre.

Policies and procedures for operation will be in place soon and arts groups will be able to plan their next season in the new building.

The Building Committee has kept the construction schedule on budget and as close to "on time" as possible. The Building Committee consisting of John Herron, Harvey Ruddell, Larry Evans and Chairman Mike Waberski have worked with Howard/Yano Architects and Kalmar Construction through this past winter to complete the final construction of the Cultural Centre.

Two Employment and Immigration UIC Programs are currently

in progress to get the Cultural Centre open. Three construction workers have been on the job in the building since September helping tradesmen in a variety of ways. Three other UIC employees are working with the Opening Committee to plan the Gala Grand Opening.

The Opening Committee of Brian Palmer, Teresa Ruddell, Joe Havixbeck, Ella Fraser and Trail LeClerc are planning the Gala Grand Opening for June 26/27. "Arts Edge" of the Knowledge Network will be in Fort St. John to film the Opening for television. Tickets to the Gala Opening will available soon.

### *Fort St. John Children's Festival June 18-20, 1992*

Featuring:

- \* Charlotte Diamond
- \* Canadian Content
- \* Jacques Chauvin

For Information:

- \* Barb McCracken 785-0456
- \* Looking for volunteers to help in various areas.



### *Inside This Issue...*

- \* Stage North to Provincials
- \* Alcan Craze of '42
- \* Community Calendar
- \* 1992-93 Partly Arts Series



# Stage North to Provincials

Stage North recently took first place in the 1992 Peace River Zone Theatre Festival held in Fort St. John. This entitles the group to attend the provincial competition at Mainstage, which is sponsored by Theatre BC, in Campbell River June 6-13.

The group performed their recent production "Jennie's Story". Cindy Rost won for best actress, Bernie Cardin was chosen best actor, and Marian Truscott received a special award for best costume design.

Thirteen Stage North members will attend Mainstage and will take part in numerous workshops all pertaining to the different aspects of theatre. Linda Scarfo, one of the members that will be attending says, "Many of the workshops are educationally oriented and it will be an excellent experience for all of our members".

Fort Nelson may not have won the overall competition but some of their group will be attend Mainstage since they won the award for scene development. John Barry of Fort Nelson also received an award of recognition for Directorial Acumen in working with the ensemble.

Good luck to Stage North in their performance of "Jennie's Story " at Mainstage.

## Summer Entertainment at the Derrick

Summer evenings in Fort St. John will be packed this year again with the performances and talents displayed at Doin's at the Derrick.

Doin's at the Derrick began last year as part of the Music '91 celebrations to attract tourists and to entertain them while they were here. The response of the tourists as well as the groups that wanted to perform was so overwhelming that the Historical Society and the North Peace Museum have decided to continue the event again this summer.

The performances take place on the Derrick Stage on the front lawn of the Museum. Each evening there will be a different group taking the stage to entertain. Doin's at the Derrick will begin on June 15th and will continue until August 15th.

All groups are welcome to participate in this community minded activity. Please contact the Museum at 787-0430 for further information.

## Alcan Craze of '42



To celebrate the construction of the Alaska Highway, Stage North will present the "Alcan Craze of '42" beginning July 17th. The Alcan Craze was written by local playwright, Debra Butler. The writing of the play was funded by Canada Council under the Explorations Program. The play was completed in February with some rewriting to be done after the play is cast to accommodate different character traits.

The Alcan Craze of '42 is a historical dramatization based on the experiences of people that were connected in some way to the construction of the Alaska-Canada Military Highway during the months of March to October, 1942. In a recent interview with Debra Butler she said, "Most of the characters in the play actually were involved in the Hudson's Bay Company Store during that time. I tried to make the play as authentic as possible by using real people for the characters as well as inserting actual news clippings to be read by the characters during the play," she stated.

The play will be directed by Tom Kirschner and produced by Sandy Allen. Debra will continue to be involved in the play until production time. She hopes that people who attend the show leave feeling that they have been "informed as well as entertained".

The play will run on July 17, 18, 23, 24, and 25th in the new theatre of the Cultural Centre.

If you would like to get involved with this historical event please contact Tom at 785-0505.

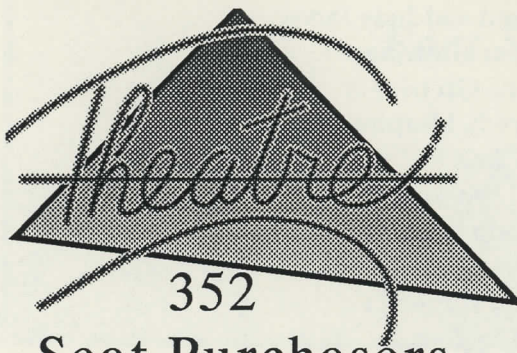
## Garage Sale Items At the Artspace

Take Away for a Donation  
Drop in 9 AM to 5 PM  
Monday - Friday until May 15th

- \* Display Cases
- \* Cabinet Stereo
- \* Christmas Decorations & More
- \* Music Books
- \* Curtains

Phone 785-1992 for more Info





## Seat Purchasers

Knutson's Holdings Ltd.  
 Moray Stewart  
 Yvonne Mercer  
 Roy Blackwood  
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian Palmer  
 Dr. and Mrs. John Woronuk  
 Marian and Kevin Truscott  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Wetzel  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tony Brummet  
 Beth Todrick  
 Stan Kary  
 In Memory of Esther Kary  
 Lois and Roy Mumby  
 Leslie and Greg Lindsay  
 Jessie MacLean  
 Tall Totem Transport  
 Shirley and Garth Wortman  
 Diane Henry  
 Barbara Godbersen  
 Bert Van Donselaar  
 Hazel Van Donselaar  
 Sharon and Richard Britney  
 Mary Telford  
 Betty - Ann and Doug Xenis  
 Shirley Pomeroy  
 Janelle Urchenko  
 Linda and Dave Scarfo  
 Dr. Becky Ann Temple  
 Linda Gentles  
 Don Sim Ltd.  
 June and Quinn Davidson  
 Jason Popesku  
 J.W. Smith  
 J.L. Petzold  
 Linda London  
 Teresa and Rodney Zoerb  
 B.F. Earthy  
 Marilyn and Wayne Hemsley  
 Kay and John Booth  
 Glen Ireland  
 Patrick Walsh  
 Wayne Gretzinger  
 Arist - o - Cut  
 Pat Wicharuk & Andy Hunter  
 Trail and Sandra LeClerc

Superior Property Management  
 Jack Temple  
 Jack Temple  
 Willa Temple  
 Willa Temple  
 Rose Buschta  
 Rosalind and Dave Ross  
 Joseph Temple  
 Shirley Nelson  
 Sylvia Marti  
 Ellen Patterson  
 Roberta and Alin Long  
 Alwin Holland School  
 North Peace Music Teachers  
 Bruce Ross  
 Shannon Ross  
 Brennan Ross  
 Ryan Ross  
 Bronwen Ross  
 Viggo Pederson  
 Yolande Harrison  
 The Birley Family  
 Reneta Van Ilberg  
 Philip Rempel  
 Jana Jordan  
 FSJ and District Kennel Club  
 Cameron Travel  
 Harvey Ruddell  
 Teresa Ruddell  
 Noni Ruddell  
 Family of Doug Babcock  
 Ellen Patterson  
 Morfydd and Volker Kroecher  
 Katherine Kvile  
 Karalyn Kvile  
 Joan Patterson  
 Everett Patterson  
 Senior Citizen Branch #58  
 Lorraine's Fabrics and Drapery  
 Jessie MacLean  
 Beta Sigma Phi Zeta Kappa  
 Beta Sigma Phi Zeta Kappa  
 Hazel Maisonneuve  
 Ted Maisonneuve  
 Ellen Patterson  
 Edna Yaeger  
 Karl Wuthrich  
 Magdalena Wuthrich  
 Anonymous  
 Anonymous  
 Cody and Amber Aubin  
 Lucien and Deb Aubin  
 Edna Adlard  
 Audrey Bartell  
 Meredith and Eleanor Temple  
 Garry S. Callison, Q.C.

Only 61 Seats Left

Eileen and Bud Klein  
 Oliver and Helena Mott  
 Gordon Gentles  
 Nicole Sicotte  
 Melanie Sicotte  
 Joan Sicotte  
 Paul Sicotte  
 Czar Resources  
 Patrick, Jody, Janice & Terry Sequin  
 Gordon Gentles  
 Sharon Ohland  
 Dennis Ohland  
 Stage North "The Mouse"  
 Anita McWilliams  
 Katherine Nurnberger  
 Larry Wade  
 Mary Wade  
 Peace Lutheran Care Home  
 Advanced Solutions  
 Geoff Birchall  
 John and Gail Temple  
 Fred Gojmerac  
 Michael Gojmerac  
 Marie Gojmerac  
 Anna's Delicatessen Ltd.  
 Artspace Classes  
 Bob Bennetts  
 Betty Pimm  
 Ted Pimm  
 Clint Pimm  
 Darwin Pimm  
 Pimm's Production Equipment  
 Ruth and Warren Smith  
 Casey's Neighbourhood Pub  
 Miss FSJ Pageant Committee  
 Amy Cosens  
 Robe-From Family  
 Ruth Ann Darnall  
 Dorothy (Dottie) Young & Family  
 In Memory of Marguerite Davis  
 FSJ Elks Speed Skating Club  
 FSJ Elks Speed Skating Club  
 Bowes and Herron  
 Bowes and Herron  
 Pre Cam Rentals Ltd.  
 Pre Cam Rentals Ltd.  
 Quintana Explorations Canada Ltd.  
 Quintana Explorations Canada Ltd.  
 In Memory of Marianne Alte  
 Fred Alte  
 Micheal and Pat Smith  
 Smith Fuel Services Ltd.  
 Hazel Olson  
 Carl Olson  
 Donald and Norma Currie  
 Bobby and Marilyn Binariis



Smith Fuel Services Limited	Fort St. John Country Quilters	Fred and Judy Jarvis
Motorways	Knutson First Aid	Pam Gretzinger
Miller Meter Limited	Carline Myhre Mufflers Ltd.	Eric Gretzinger
Mary Hermans	NP Music Teachers Association	Freda Murphy and Gang
David Lee Family	Merle Hendricks	Wilma Robarge
Dr. Grant Timmins	Mary Humphries	Vi Woodward
Lucy Timmins	Edna and Earl Little	Sorin Popesku
Sheri-Ann Lichtenstein	Lisa Rasmussen	Doug Sinclair
Beta Sigma Phi XI Alpha Delta	Blizzard Towing Ltd.	Ingrid Fischer
Petticoat Lane Limited	Ellen Patterson	Mary Baxter
Metro, Lona, Tannis, and	Wayne Andrew Smith	Bryron Baxter
Trent Semeniuk	Diedre Charlene Smith	Kinsmen Club of FSJ
Diane Bloor	Jennifer Rachel Smith	Susan Popesku
Woodrow - Harry and Marcella -	Stephanie Anne Smith	Ivan Strome
Caroline Chapple	Rebecca Marie Smith	In Memory of Ted Thoveson
Joan and Brian Low	Collier's Jewellery	In Memory of Ted Thoveson
Fort St. John Lions Club	Steve Thorlakson	In Memory of Ted Thoveson
Fort St. John Brewhaus	Tara and Kanda Thompson	In Memory of Ted Thoveson
In Memory of John Todrick	Natasha Mangel	In Memory of Ted Thoveson
Ellen Patterson	Anja Mangel	Charles F. Wrixon
Dr. and Mrs. Birchall	Dr. Gerry Mangel	Donna K. Wrison
Teresa Walsh	Vancouver Symphony Orchestra	David and Lenore Thomas
Jack Keough Family	Marian Truscott	Kathy Thorlakson
Quin-K Silviculture	Beta Sigma Phi Eta Rho	D.W. Wiles
Willa Temple	Doug Sheh Family	D.W. Wiles
Tamara Secrist	M.G. Bogehold	D.W. Wiles
St. Martins Anglican	H and S Block Family	D.W. Wiles
Church Women	Peace Country Rentals & Sales Inc.	D.W. Wiles
Pam Okrainec	Fedderly Transportation	D.W. Wiles
Craig Okrainec	William McColl	D.W. Wiles
R.A.A.	Victor and Mary Wheat	D.W. Wiles
R.A.A.	J.D. and Audrey Anderson	D.W. Wiles
R.A.A.	Butler's Lazy B Ranch	D.W. Wiles
R.A.A.	David and Rosalind Ross	Yvonne Wiles
R.A.A.	P. Odynsky Family	Yvonne Wiles
Evelyn Sim	Gladwin and Audrey Bartell	Brenda Reed
Barbara & Ed Smith	Steel Toes	Laura Ziprick
Bruce Johnson	Steel Toes	Daryl Wiles
David & Rosemary Landry	Shannon Kelly	Rosebrook Flooring & Paints Ltd.
Tom & Bev Lownie	Kerrie Kelly	Rosebrook Flooring & Paints Ltd.
Lads Sport Plaza Ltd.	Linda Kelly	Thiessen Family
Lads Sport Plaza Ltd.	Wayne Kelly	Kilby Kerr
Fred Hendricks	Trevor Thorlakson	Sterling Kerr
Double G Charolais	Deborah and Ross Peck	Regional District Area B
Dorothy Embreus	Ian Stewart	Regional District Area C
Peace Country Quilters Guild	David Toews	Dr. R. G. Moody
BC North Peace Cattlemen's Assoc.	Elsie Toews	Mr. and Mrs. W. Gentles
BC North Peace Cattlemen's Assoc.	Bert Ambrose School	Mr. and Mrs. W. Gentles
Crazy for Food	Persnickity Books	Anonymous
Surerus Pipeline Inc.	NP Savings & Credit Union	Anonymous
Surerus Pipeline Inc.	NP Savings & Credit Union	Anonymous
Surerus Pipeline Inc.	FSJ Knitting Club	Joe Seede
Surerus Pipeline Inc.	Anonymous	Gail Seede
Surerus Pipeline Inc.	Playful Learning Parent-Teacher	In Memory of Nels Ostero
FSJ Duplicate Bridge Club	Store	Mona Ostero
Embleton Construction	Syryda Family	Elizabeth Rudrud



# Fort St. John & Edmonton Bands

Free  
Performance

Saturday, May 23, 1992

Late  
Afternoon

Charlie Lake Provincial Park

## 1992-93 Partly Arts Series Looking Great

Every year the FSJ Community Arts Council along with 25 community minded businesses sponsor a concert series that takes place between September and April. The Series features a wide variety of performances such as comedy, dance, musical, children's theatre, jazz and classical.

From April 1-8, Pam Mroz represented the Arts Council at the annual Pacific Contact conference in Vancouver. The conference offers communities from across British Columbia the chance to view performances of touring groups so they are aware of what is available and suitable for their community.

This year the performances were fantastic and Fort St. John will be presenting a wide variety of very talented groups with something for everyone.

Looking forward to a great season with:

- \* The Colormen - October, 1992
- \* The Gizmo Guys - November 13, 1992
- \* The Lenny Solomon Trio - January 23, 1993
- \* Toronto Dance Theatre - February 6, 1993
- \* Missoula Children's Theatre - February 14-20, 1993



The Colormen are an a cappella group that was formerly known as "The Melloys". They are very upbeat as they perform the old favourites as well as the popular rap songs. The Gizmo Guys are a juggling act that mixes comedy with extreme talent. The Lenny Solomon Trio brings a different view of classical music by adding jazz and country and western to the violin. Toronto Dance Theatre is a modern dance company that is ranked as one of the best in Canada. Missoula Children's Theatre will bring one of their very popular fairy tales to Fort St. John to work with our local children for the third year.

Season tickets will be on sale soon at the Artspace. For further information call Pam at 785-1992.

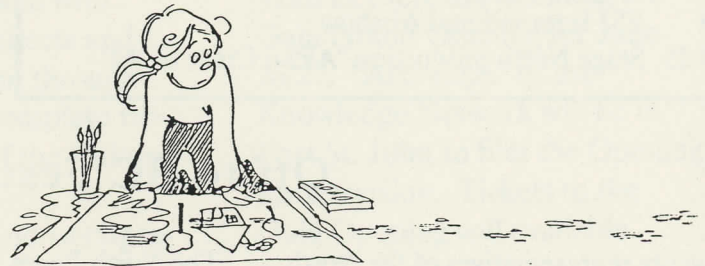
## Artspace Classes Update

After a busy registration week, the Spring Session of Artspace Classes is well underway. Although some of our courses filled on the first day of registration, we were able to accommodate all inquiries by adding additional courses.

Several of our adult craft courses will be held in May and we will accept registrations until that time.

Artspace Classes looks forward to the move into the new Cultural Centre where development of new courses can be done. If you have any ideas on new classes that you would like to see or if you would be interested in teaching a course through Artspace Classes please contact Brenda.

Brochures outlining all courses are available at the Artspace. If you have any inquiries call Brenda Bloxham, the Artspace Classes Coordinator at 785-1992.



## From the Editor:

Insight into the Arts is published quarterly by the Fort St. John Community Arts Council at the Artspace.

Submission deadlines are 2 weeks prior to printing.

Next Deadline: August 15, 1992

Next Issue: September 1, 1992

The Artspace Staff edits and designs the newsletter.



## Calendar of Events

### May

- 1 Annual Art Auction
- 1/2 Northern Dance Extravaganza
- 1/2 DramaZone Production - "Dracula, Baby"
- 4 RCMP Concert Band Performance
- 7 Regular Meeting Cultural Centre Committee
- 11 Annual General Meeting - Arts Council
- 20 Spring Concert School & Community Bands
- 23 Fort St. John & Edmonton Concert Bands
- 25-6 Beth Ardill & Susan Wuthrich Art Show
- 24 Historical Society Scavenger Hunt
- 24 Nitty Gritty Dirt Band Concert - '92 Tour

### June

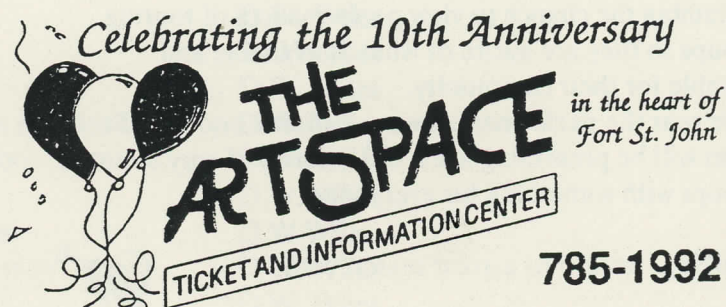
- 3 Up With People Concert
- 15 Doin's at the Derrick Performances Begin
- 13 Arts and Crafts Fair
- 17 Outhouse Races
- 18-20 FSJ Childrens' Festival
- 20 Community Picnic and Yard Sale
- 26/27 Cultural Centre Grand Opening

### July

- 11/12 Country Music Festival
- 17/18 Stage North production "Alcan Craze of '42"
- 19 FSJ International Airshow
- 23-25 Stage North production "Alcan Craze of '42"

## Happenings in Other Places

- Prince George Childrens Festival  
May 20-24 \* Prince George
- BC Festival of the Arts  
May 27 - 30 \* Vernon
- Muskeg North Musical Revue  
June - August 31 \* Dawson Creek
- Large's Country Music Festival  
June 20-21 \* Lower Cache
- Regional Arts and Crafts Festival  
June 27-29 \* Tumbler Ridge



## Off to BC Festival of the Arts

Twenty representatives of the North Peace area will compete in the BC Festival of Arts in Vernon from May 27 to May 31. Two major regional competitions had hundreds of entries competing for the honour of being chosen for the BC Festival. In January the Regional Juried Art Show had eighty entries from which three artists from the North Peace were chosen to go to Images and Objects X as part of the BC Festival. Freda Murphy and Audrey Gaddy from Taylor and Audrey Skoreyko from Fort St. John will be attending art workshops at the Festival.

The North Peace Performing Arts Festival held in Fort St. John in April resulted in thirteen dancers, seven musicians and one speech arts contestant travelling to the BC Festival. The Musicians are Min Hannaford, Joscelyn Hannaford, Rebekah Bell, Tammy Morrison, Rob Stobbe, David Alexander, and a Northern Lights Chancel Choir member. The Speech Arts competitor will be Brock Jellison. The dancers are Amber Webster, Tamara Campbell, Ashley Okrainec, Melanie Cheesman, Julia Boyle,

Candis Ingram, Christy Campbell, Jaqui Pieper, Elward Jellison, Krysta Brown, Kelly VanDamme, Tanisha Anema, and Chrissa Moser. Competitors chosen for the BC Festival of Arts each year receive travel and accommodation assistance from the Government of BC. Workshops, performance and special events are combined with long hours of competition in dance, music, speech arts and other arts disciplines during the BC Festival of Arts.





# Insight Into the Arts

FSJ Community Arts Council Newsletter  
Box 6474  
Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 4H9

Telephone 785-1992

3rd Edition - November 1992

## Community Arts Council Heads in New Direction

The Fort St. John Community Arts Council is well on its way to another successful year in the North Peace area. With the completion of the North Peace Cultural Centre which houses the FSJ Public Library, a 413 seat Theatre, the Artspace Educational Areas as well as an exciting addition to the community with the Peace Gallery North, under its belt now seems like the best time to head in a new direction.

The Arts Council will continue to support the Centre in fundraising activities and will act as an advisory board member but will be working hard in

other areas of arts awareness in the community. The Arts Council executive hopes to raise the awareness in the business community as to the viability of arts as a business. They are planning some exciting events within the Arts Council to raise the awareness of the Arts Council to local groups and encourage growth within the organization. The benefits in belonging to an arts council are many, from insurance coverage to funding assistance to just having someone there to keep your

group or organization on the right track.

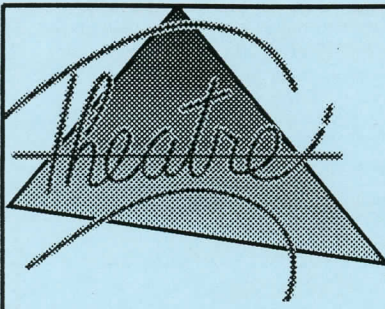
The possibilities of the new direction of the Arts Council are endless and the board and its members encourage everyone to come out and take part in your local Community Arts Council.

Pam Mroz - President

### Inside This Issue:

- \* Stage North Plans Hawaiian Excitement (pg. 2)
- \* Community Events (pg. 6)
- \* Northern Dance News (pg. 5)
- \* President's Report (pg. 1)





## Greetings from Stage North,

We are looking forward to a full theatre season in the new Cultural Centre. With all the hassle of finding a location to do our shows gone, our club gave a collective sigh of relief when we performed our first show in the theatre this summer. At the end of our show "Alcan Craze of '42", I stood on the stage and said, "Yes, We have a home". With some new faces on the executive, some new people on the board and lots of new members we have a large pool of new ideas to draw from to bring you lots of different forms of entertainment. You might find us doing some improv at the local fair.

Stage North Presents

## "Nurse Jane Goes To Hawaii"

Students/Seniors  
\$ 8.00 advance  
\$ 10.00 at door

November 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 1992  
Theatre - North Peace Cultural Centre  
8:00 PM nightly

Adults  
\$10.00 advance  
\$12.00 at door

## "Oklahoma" Comes to Fort St. John

On December 10, 11 and 12th, 46 cast members, a 15 piece orchestra and a pit choir will be set to entertain the community of Fort St. John and surrounding area. The show is one of the largest shows of the year and will use every aspect of the performing arts. The 46 cast members along with the main characters: CURLY played by Adam Alyward, LAURIE, played by Rebecca Bell and ADO ANNIE, played by Tara Macateer have been rehearsing many times a week. The dancing sections of this famous musical are being choreographed by Noelle Jellison of Jellison Studios. The show opens on Thursday December 10 at 8:00 pm and will run for the weekend with a matinee performance on Saturday at 1:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7.50 for seniors and students. "Oklahoma" was presented quite a few years ago and played to a full house every night with a demand for more shows. The popularity seems to be the same for this presentation as tickets are going very quickly. For further information please call 785-1992.



# Regional Arts Council Goes to Print

A short time is left to get into the second printing of the Northern Arts Directory. The Peace Liard Regional Arts Council published the first Regional Arts Directory this past Fall. Nearly all of the 500 copies have been distributed. The directory lists musicians, artists, craftsmen, arts organizations and facilities in the North and South Peace Country. The second printing will be published in early Spring. A free registration for entry into the directory can be obtained by writing to the Regional Arts Council at 10015 - 100th Avenue, Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 1Y7.

The President of the Regional Arts Council, Yvonne Elden of Chetwynd, recently attended the Assembly of B.C. Arts Councils Conference in Fairmont Hot Springs, along with five other arts directors from this region, she contributed to the inquiry sessions about the roles and responsibilities of Regional and Community Arts Councils. The Minister of Tourism Responsible for Cultural, Ms. Darlene Marzari, announced at the conference that Sheila Simard of Dawson Creek had been appointed to the B.C. Arts Board. Congratulations to Sheila. The Regional Arts Council also congratulates John Barry of Fort Nelson as the recipient of the Regional Lescarbot Award presented by the Honorable Perrin Beatty at UBC on June 3. The Lescarbot Award is a prestigious national arts award honoring those volunteers who have contributed many years of service to the arts.

The Regional Arts Council serves the five communities (Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Tumbler Ridge, Fort Nelson and Chetwynd) in the Peace Country by facilitating the communication and development of the arts. Currently, the coordinator, Sue Popesku, is assisting Dawson Creek Arts Council in restructuring their organization for more effective service to its member groups. The Regional Arts Council meets five times each year, one meeting in each community. The next meeting will be January 23, in Dawson Creek.

Peace River and Fort Nelson-Liard

NORTHERN

# Arts

DIRECTORY

1992



*From the Editor:*

*Insight into the Arts is published quarterly by the Fort St. John Community Arts Council.*

*Submission deadlines are 2 weeks prior to printing.*

*Next Deadline: January 8, 1993*



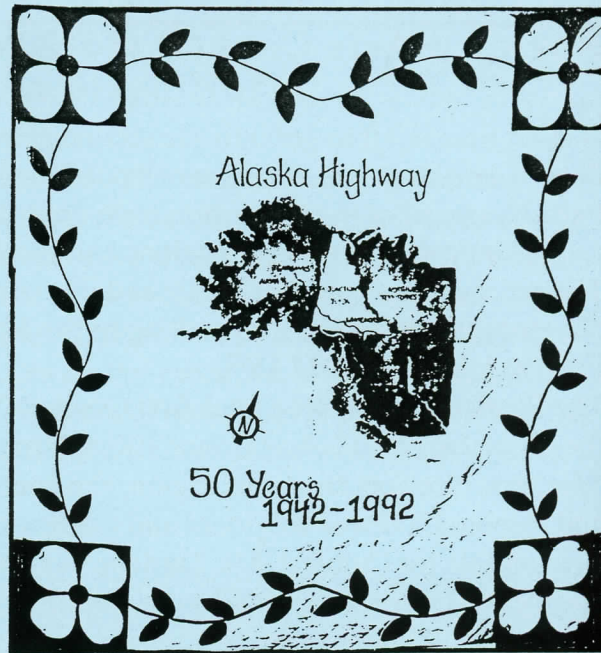
*Legacy of  
Christmas Cheer*

*Annual Christmas Craft Show and Sale*

*Saturday, December 5, 1992*

*10 am - 4 pm*

*Concourse of the  
Cultural Centre*



## Commemorative Quilt Stolen

The Fort St. John Country Quilters are not a large group, they consist of 15 members, but the individuals of this group wanted to make an impression and leave their mark in the 1992 Alaska Highway Celebrations. They spent over 1 1/2 years previous to the celebrations working all of their spare time creating a commemorative quilt. The first step was to have an artist paint BC, Alaska and the Territories. Local artist Charlene Mann painted the quilt in beautiful colors. The next step was for the Quilters Guild to get together and finish the quilt. This took many hours and when the Grand Opening of the Cultural Centre took place the FSJ Country Quilters proudly presented the quilt to be hung in the centre.

On Friday, October 16th between 4:30 and 7:00 pm this historical item was taken from its display area and it has not been seen since. The members of the guild that worked so hard and were very proud of their accomplishment are very sad that this happened. One of the members stated that the ladies were dissappointed that the community did not appreciate all the effort that went into the making of the quilt.

The North Peace Cultural Centre has offered a reward for the return of the quilt. There will be no questions asked, everyone would just like to see the quilt returned to its proper place. If you have any information about the quilt please call the Cultural Centre at 785-1992.





# Northern Dance News

Northern Dance Theatre Society held it's Annual General Meeting on September 22, 1992 at the North Peace Cultural Centre. Elected as President was Pam O'Krainec as well as 7 other new Executive members from a slate of 12.

This past summer the Northern Dance troupe performed and took part in many exciting activities pertaining to the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the Alaska Highway. Pictured below is the troupe in their "Army gear".

Northern Dance performed many numbers at the 4th Annual Airing

the Arts on Sunday, Oct. 25th.

Plans for this year include shows around the region.

Travel plans include Dawson Creek, Fort Nelson, and the Prince George Festival of the Arts. Locally dancers will take place in the Peace River North Festival of the Arts, to qualify for the Provincial Competitions sometime in May.

This year's number of dancers has increased from 40 to 52. New dancers include 9 - 6 and 7 years olds, plus new dancers moved in from Edmonton and Vancouver in the older age groups.



## 1992-1993 Arts Council Executive

### President

Pam Mroz - 785-1634

### Vice - President

Dauna Grant - 785-0323

### Secretary

Brenda Wellard - 785-0988

### Treasurer

Doug Sinclair

### Directors:

Barb McCracken - 785-0456

Esther Oosterbaan - 785-0516

### Cultural Centre Rep

Linda London - 785-8742

### Regional Arts Council Rep

Carol Ingalls - 785-4073

The Fort St. John Community Arts Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month at the Cultural Centre. The meetings begin at 7:00 pm and usually run for about 1 1/2 hours. Each of the 27 member groups are urged to attend the meetings as decisions that affect them are made monthly.

Any questions please call Pam.



## Calendar of Events

### November

- 20 Peace Country Craftsmens  
Christmas Sale 10 AM - 7 PM  
Legion Hall
- 22 North Peace Music Teachers  
Recital 2 - 4 PM  
Cultural Centre
- 24 & 25 Frank Mills Christmas Show  
featuring the Northern Lights  
Chamber Choir 8 PM  
Cultural Centre

### December

- 2 Roy Forbes Concert  
8:00 PM  
Cultural Centre
- 3 Mary Kay Fashion Show  
Cultural Centre
- 5 Legacy of Christmas Cheer  
Craft Sale 10 AM to 4 PM  
Concourse - Cultural Centre
- 6 Northern Lights Chamber  
Choir Christmas Concert
- 10, 11 & 12 North Peace Secondary  
School presents "Oklahoma"  
Cultural Centre
- 25 Merry Christmas

### January

- 18 Artpace Classes Winter Session Starts  
North Peace Cultural Centre
- 23 "Lenny Solomon Trio"  
Partly Arts Concert # 3  
North Peace Cultural Centre 8 PM

## March Date for Regional Juried Show

The 1994 Peace Liard Regional Juried Art Show will open in Tumbler Ridge on March 19. Entry forms will soon be available through your local Arts Council. Coordinator Connie Gainor expects about 130 entries in this show. She is encouraging fabric artists to enter as well as painters and sculptors. Fifteen pieces of artwork will be chosen to enter the Images and Objects XI show at the B.C. Festival of Arts scheduled for May in Trail B.C.. Images and Objects includes 250 artworks from all over B.C. and was viewed by 10,000 people last year. The chosen works receive travel and accomodations assistance to attend the many art workshops at the Festival. The Regional Juried Show is sponsored by the Tumbler Ridge Arts Council, the Regional Arts Council and the Assembly of B.C. Arts Councils.



## Partly Arts Series

The Partly Arts Series got off ~~to~~ to a roaring start on Oct 23/92 with "The Colormen". There were over 280 people in attendance, and the upbeat tempo and quality singing had people on their feet in a standing ovation wanting more. Rupert, Cameron, Jim and Michael played four covers & keys the classics like Under the Boardwalk, the Banana Boat Song & Higher & Higher as well as some original material such as the Colormen Kap and Lil You're Here Again.

It was a fabulous concert and a great way to begin the series.

The next concert will be on Friday, ~~October~~ Nov 13/92 featuring The Gizmo Guys. They are a giggling comedy act with international success. For great family entertainment see the Gizmo Guys.

In 1993 the series will continue with the quality performances with the Henry Solomon Trio, an Toronto Dance Theatre Society and the returning Missoula Childrens Theatre.

Tickets for all shows can be purchased now ~~for~~ at the box office in the Cultural Centre.



# Insight Into the Arts

Fort St. John Community Arts Council Newsletter  
Box 6474  
Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 4H9

Phone: 785-1634  
Fax # 785-1510

## *North Peace Performing Arts Festival Bigger & Better Than Ever*

The North Peace Performing Arts Festival has been taking place for many years in many different venues. School gymnasiums, the Legion Hall and churches have loaned their facilities for this much needed festival. This year however, the fabulous venue of the North Peace Cultural Centre will be used. All of the young people that have entered are very excited and the committee is happy to have a proper adjudicators box that was built into the theatre seats, which will give an air of professionalism to this years Festival. The Festival will start on April 1st at 12 Noon and will continue for full days on the 2nd and 3rd with the Honours performance taking place on April 4th at 1 PM. Competitors will know if they will be attending the BC Festival of the Arts, May 26,

27 & 28, in Trail, B.C. as the provincial placememnts will be announced then.

The Speech Arts adjudicator is Anita Krause from Los Angeles, California, where she worked with the Los Angeles Opera. She has a Master in Voice and has recently signed a contract the Toronto Opera.

She is also related to Elsie Toews who has been involved with the local Festival for many years.

Erica Skowron from Prince George will adjudicate the Vocals and the Wodwinds/Brass section. She is with the Prince George Symphony.

The dance adjudicator is Sherri Kowalski from St. Alberta, Alberta. She is the Artistic Director of the St. Albert School of Dance as well as the highly acclaimed Hot Shoes Dance Company.

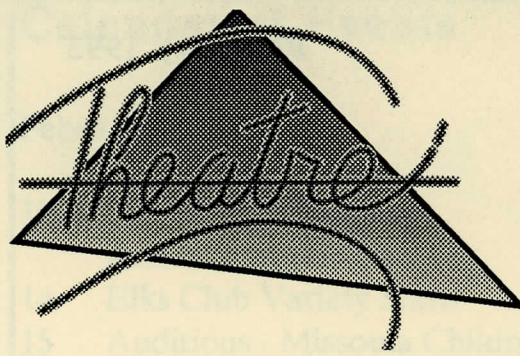
Sherri trained in London, England and has taught Dance across Western Canada and the U.S. She has studied with top dance masters in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Local dancers are excited as well as the students of the Judy Russell and Sonya Fabian studios in Prince George who will be attending.

continued on page 3

### Inside This Issue...

- \* Cultural Centre  
Calendar of Events
- \* Little Shop of Horrors
- \* Northern Dance Highlights
- \* Can-Canettes do More  
Than Can-Can!!





## Can Canettes do More Than Can-Can!!!

The local Can-Canettes have taken up acting and singing as well as continuing their very popular career as Can-Canettes. These ladies are very busy. Not only do the Can-Canettes practise their own acts 2 times a week, now they are taking part in rehearsals for the Dawson Creek operetta "The Merry Widow".

"The Merry Widow" will take place in Dawson Creek on March 12 & 13th at Unchaga Hall beginning at 8 PM each evening. Tickets are \$15 per person and are available in Dawson Creek at the Lotto Centre and the Friendly Book Worm. People in Fort St. John can order tickets over the phone by calling 1-782-3607. "The Merry Widow" is a happy love story and this performance promises to be very professional with actors coming from Vancouver and Edmonton, Ukrainian dancers from Alberta and of course our very own Can-Canettes!!!

## Stage North Terrifies Fort St. John

Stage North is proud to present the musical comedy, "Little Shop of Horrors". This "B" Movie Sci-fi musical is about a nebishy plant store clerk named, Seymour who discovers an amazing plant during a lunar eclipse. This plant has the power to make all of Seymour's dreams come true. What chilling price will Seymour have to pay to get his dreams? Come to the North Peace Cultural Centre February 26, 27 or March 4, 5, & 6 and find out. Little Shop of Horrors stars: Kelly Smith, Lowell Constable, Larry Evans, Tom Kirshner, Charles Miller, Marian Truscott, Krysta Brown and Christa Pare. Directing Little Shop is professional actor Ian Forsyth. Musical direction is by Esther Oosterbaan. Showtime is 8:00 pm each evening in the Theatre at the Cultural Centre. Seating for this show will be RESERVED so call early and charge your tickets by phone, or drop by the North Peace Cultural Centre to buy tickets. Prices are: \$12 for adults and \$9 for seniors and students. For information and tickets call the box office at 785-1992.

## Northern Dance News

Northern Dance Theatre Society would like to thank the community for their ongoing support. Looking back to our first fundraiser in the new theatre, "LA Express" and more recently to our annual chocolate drive.

The troupe was honoured with the invitation to dance for the Annual Oilwives convention and the Care Home before Christmas.

One of our highlights for the year is a trip to Edmonton by chartered bus in February to view the Royal Winnipeg's Ballet production of Romeo and Juliet. Andrea VanDonselaar, Alumna dancer has a major role as Juliet's Nurse.

During Spring Break March 13-18, the troupe will be competing in Prince George at the Festival of the Arts. Upon returning home we prepare for Fort St. John's, Festival of the Arts, April 1, 2, and 3rd with an Honors performance April 4th at the MacKenzie Inn. The Annual Fort St. John Dance Extravaganza is scheduled for April 23 & 24 at the Cultural Centre with 3 shows. To wind down the years activities, May 2 is Jellison Studios Annual Recital and Awards. We invite the Public to please support the many varied and talented children within our society that our community is so proud to call our own.

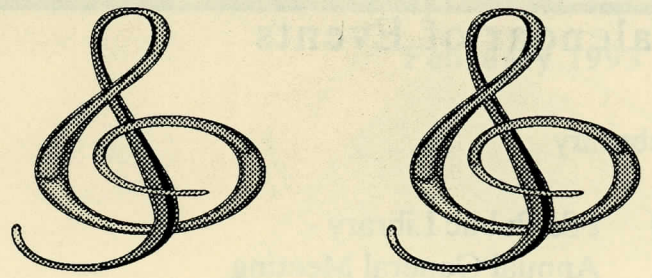


## New & Exciting Artspace Classes

Like many other arts related events and activities throughout the Peace Region Artspace Classes has grown to accommodate quite a few interests and provides much needed preschool programs for the community. Watch for the new brochure being distributed by the North Peace Cultural Centre. It contains a wealth of information about art and leisure activities available in Fort St. John. The brochure is produced three times a year. It is distributed by direct mail to all houses and apartments in the city and is distributed through the schools in Charlie Lake, Taylor, Baldonnel, Buick and Cecil Lake. This does not mean that there are only classes for young people. Adult classes are also available and brochures can be picked up at the Artspace in the North Peace Cultural Centre. The brochure carries information about the new and expanded Artspace classes. It has the hours of operation of the Library and Peace Gallery North, as well as the current pool and arena schedule.

The brochure will act as a clearing house for all arts and leisure information in the region. Advertising space is available at a reasonable cost. The intent is to have the brochure available to small craft and cultural groups, as well as the many leisure and sport groups so that they may increase their visibility to the general public. The opportunity now exists for all cultural groups to draw new members and to make available to the city information about the many opportunities available here. In a recent interview Betty Jean Goodwin - Artspace Classes coordinator stated that they expect the brochure will become THE source of information people will turn to when they want to know what is going on in town.

If you would like information about the brochure and its potential for your group please contact Betty Jean Goodwin at 785-1992.



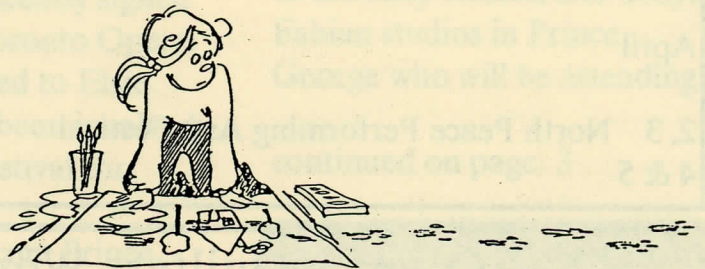
## Festival continued

Entry deadlines are March 6th and Syllabus are available on request from the committee members.

Ticket prices are not set as of yet but will be on sale April 1st. Tickets will be by festival session or by a weekend pass.

The North Peace Performing Arts Festival encourages everyone to attend at least one of the performances (preferably all of them!) to show your support for the fabulous talent we have in our community. The North Peace Festival is a stepping stone to greater things and the Community Arts Council wishes competitors all the best.

Thanks also must go to all of the local businesses whose financial support enables this exciting event to happen each year.



## *From the Editor:*

Insight into the Arts is published quarterly by the Fort St. John Community Arts Council at the Artspace.

Submission deadlines are 2 weeks prior to printing.

Next Deadline: April 30, 1993

Next Issue: May 15, 1993

The Artspace Staff edits and designs the newsletter.



## Calendar of Events

### February

- 10 FSJ Public Library -  
Annual General Meeting
- 14 Elks Club Variety Show
- 15 Auditions - Missoula Children's Theatre
- 20 Missoula Children's Theatre -  
Partly Arts Concert #5 - "Alice in  
Wonderland"
- 26, 27 Stage North presents:  
"Little Shop of Horrors"

### March

- 4, 5 Stage North presents:  
& 6 "Little Shop of Horrors"
- 1-31 North Peace Arts Society Spring Show
- 8 George Fox in Concert
- 11 Duncan Cran Elementary presents:  
"The Wizard of Oz"
- 12 "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline"
- 27 Fort St. John Literacy Society  
Variety Show
- 28 Northern Lights Chamber Choir Spring  
Concert

### April

- 2, 3 North Peace Performing Arts Festival  
4 & 5

## Happenings in Other Places

### First Draft Performance

March 5 \* Tumbler Ridge

### Joyce Poley Music and Fun

March 8 \* Chetwynd

### Hamlet: Theatre Inconnu

March 15 \* Dawson Creek

### Pleace-Liard Regional Juried Show

March 19-27 \* Tumbler Ridge

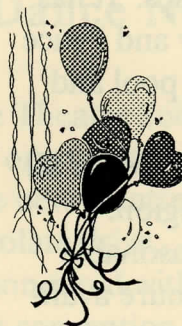
### Vancouver Symphony Orchesta

May 1 \* Dawson Creek

### BC Festival of the Arts

May 26, 27 & 28 \* Trail

## Arts Council News



The Fort St. John Community Arts Council has been meeting regularly on the third Tuesday of every month in the Cultural Centre at 7 PM. All member groups are encouraged to attend to learn about not only what is happening in Fort St. John but throughout the Province. There have been a lot of changes in the Arts Council over the past 6 months we are becoming more involved with the community as a whole as well as doing our part in encouraging arts awareness. There are no longer Arts Council members working at the Cultural Centre therefore member groups wishing to collect their grant money must attend the meetings.

Pam Mroz - President

## FSJ Country Quilters Workshops

### March

8 & 22 Tote Bag  
Instructor: Rose Fuhr

### April

12 & 26 Stained Glass  
Technique  
Instructor: Corinne Tancock

### May

12 & 13 Bargello  
2 day workshop  
Instructor: Dianne Jansson

### June

14 Election of  
Officers  
Theme is Trees