

CEREMONIES FEATURE LOCAL CHILDREN

by Sue Killen

Dance vignettes depicting the history of our North Peace area will be an exciting visual portion of the B.C. Winter Games opening ceremonies.

Beginning with native Indians, dance students from Jellisons Studios will trace the development of this land as well as the arrival of various immigrant settlers.

For the finale, 128 intermediate grade elementary students, from eight

schools in the area, will step into the arena spotlights as symbols of the 8 different regions included in the B.C. Winter Games (as well as representing the future), these dancers will be divided into 8 groups - with each group clad in capes of a specific color.

Choreographers Judith Craig and Anne Russo were faced with the logistics of co-ordinating such a large number of performers. They are

teaching the dance routines to a sponsor teacher from each of the schools. That teacher will select the students from their particular school and then guide them through the routine. Rehearsal times for each school 'team' have been scheduled already. Judith and Anne will attend a number of the rehearsals to help iron out any 'bugs'.

Each team will rehearse separately for four weeks,

becoming familiar with the music and dance patterns. Then prior to the ceremonies, 3 full-company rehearsals will blend all the performers into a cohesive unit.

Promising to be a delightful beginning to the B.C. Winter Games, the dance depictions also provide the children - too young to participate in the competition - with an opportunity to be a part of the 1984 B.C. Winter Games.

New course for kids in Artspace

Artspace for children, session three, starts January 9, with interesting new classes added to the already successful courses. Have you ever wondered what is involved in putting together a newspaper? Here's the chance for 11 to

13 year olds to find out. Nigel Hannaford, editor of the Alaska Highway Daily News, will be teaching junior journalism in session three. News and editorials, reporting, advertising layout and art work will all be covered by

the students as they put together their own newspaper.

Pipe major Jane Walden of the Fort St. John Rotary Pipe Band will be teaching beginner bagpipes for children aged eight and up. Miss Walden will be instructing on the chanter, the wind instrument used to learn the basics of piping, and reading music, fingering and basic music theory will be covered in this first six-week course. Chantors will be provided with an option to buy.

Well-known local artist Phyllis Ljuden will be

teaching art to 11 to 13 year olds. Students will be working in acrylic paint, a versatile medium, which can be used to learn water colour, as well as oil techniques.

For more information on all the classes to be offered in session three, phone the Artspace, 785-1983 or drop by to pick up the session three brochure available now.

Register for session three classes by phone from January 3 to 6 or in person on Saturday, Jan. 7. Registration fee for each six-week course is \$10.

Art Briefs

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The Artspace offers unique Christmas gifts for last minute shoppers: Notecards designed by children, pottery by Bob Young until December 16 and then also pottery by Forrest Hutchinson, colour photographs by Brian Mitchell, Treeline I and II, books of local stories and poems by Peace Country writers, handmade, solid-wood sleighs for children. Stop in to browse and have a coffee with the friendly staff.

ARTSPACE CHRISTMAS

A Christmas party for families involved with Artspace for Children will be held on Saturday. Parents are reminded to phone the Artspace to allow some indication of the number of people to expect. A schedule of exciting events, including tree ornament making, carol singing and a visit from Santa Claus will complete a fun afternoon. Phone 785-1983 very soon, please.

MEETING COMING

The Arts Council will have the monthly meeting on Monday, Dec. 19 at the Artspace at 8 p.m. All groups are asked to send a representative. Mukluk arts events and the B.C. Winter Games arts activities will be on the agenda for discussion.

FEBRUARY WORKSHOP

Ron Halgerson of the Canada Council, Jimmy Cleary of B.C. touring council and a representative from the Cultural Services Branch will be in Fort St. John on February 18 and 19 to present a workshop on how to increase public awareness of your group or event. All organizations are welcome to attend. For Further information phone 785-1983.



KINSMEN PRESIDENT Phil Wright presents a cheque for \$543.56 to Ann Russo on behalf of the Artspace for Children. The

money has been used to buy a large industrial type vacuum cleaner.

BEHIND THE SCENES



by Sue Killen

Stage North is well known in our area for their quality productions of both old favorites and less familiar plays. Most of us are witness to the polished final product, and often do not realize what mammoth "behind the scenes" effort made the public performance a reality.

Although Stage North's production of *Fiddler On The Roof* will not open its doors to the public until

the end of January, preparations for the play began two months ago.

Auditions were held, with the chosen actors/actresses starting to learn their parts immediately. Director Fred Galloway has the challenging task of guiding and perfecting each character encompassed in the musical.

And while props and sets are not integral to the performers learning and molding their roles, they too must be produced in time.

Doug Xenis started designing the sets at the same time the other work commenced. At this point, both sets and props are under construction. Doug has between 4 and 10 people assisting him. Some are actors who did not gain parts in the play, and still others are people who like to be involved only in the non-acting portion of the production.

Costume design, depending on the production, can also be a very involved process. Stage North's "*Wizard of Oz*" required elaborate costume preparations for such characters as the Cowardly Lion and the Tin Man.

In contrast, *Fiddler On The Roof* will utilize period clothing from the Russian Ukraine during the time of the Tzars. Not as detailed, perhaps, but still requiring time and attention.

Betty Ann Xenis explained that 2-3 people will be seeing to the costumes. As well, the company may rent some outfits for the musical. Betty Ann also commented that since costumes are one of the

hardest things to get done, a creative wardrobe mistress is always a great benefit to any company.

Hand in hand with costuming is make-up. Carol Edwards is in charge of this department for *Fiddler On The Roof*. Since special effects are not necessary in this instance, Carol (along with 2-3 assistants) will concentrate on accenting the bone structure and balancing skin tones for each performer.

So far we have actors, the props and set people, wardrobe and make-up. What else is required before the curtain can go up on opening night?

Well, a musical would be sadly lacking if there was no orchestra!

There is roughly a 3-step process involved here. When the score is ready, each musician must acquaint himself with his particular part. Then, under the baton of the conductor, every one becomes a harmonious section of the entire orchestra.

It is no small feat to produce a musical number that is in tune, in time,

and is augmenting rather than overpowering the actors!

The "final" process is to co-ordinate and blend the orchestra with the singers. A knowledge and "feel" for the music is important, for the actors cannot stand and watch the conductor, as can the musicians.

Creating the dance steps and teaching them to the performers is the task of the Choreographer. And when singing and dancing are combined, the Choreographer and Musical Director have that much more of a challenge.

Without the lighting and sound technicians, the audience would not be able to enjoy the sights and sounds of a delightful play such as *Fiddler On The Roof*. Norm Bryson is busy at work as the Lighting Manager, ensuring all will be ready to go on opening night.

Carol Edwards is wearing a coat of many colors for this musical. As men-

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Fiddler cont'd

tioned before, she is in charge of make-up. In addition, Carol is overseeing publicity for Fiddler On The Roof, and has the major responsibility of Producer for the play.

When asked just what this position entailed, Betty Ann Xenis explained that the Director is in charge of the actors: the Producer is, basically, responsible for everything else. He or she must organize the entire production, which involves many meetings and lots of phone calls.

With so many people involved in all areas of the musical, it is not common to hold general meetings. Usually, just the heads of each department get together to verify progress and to iron out any problems.

Approximately one week before opening night, the company will

start doing technical run-throughs, using the now completed props and sets, as well as the lighting and sound. Betty Ann stated that these run-throughs are very time consuming as all the "pieces of the puzzle" must be fit together. Often, the first time around will take three times as long as the public presentation!

Dress rehearsals begin a few days after the initial technical run-through, and are run only 2 or 3 times. In this way the actors become accustomed to performing with their costumes and yet do not run the risk of damaging the outfits before opening curtain.

"The show itself is the pay-off for everyone," Betty Ann commented. "It makes up for all the long hours and the frustration encountered."

So hats off to everyone contributing their time and talent to Fiddler On The Roof. And with opening night not that far away, it's almost time to wish them luck... "Break a leg, everyone!"

ART EXPLORATION

by Sue Killen

After a highly successful 1983 season, Artspace For Children organizers are busy preparing for Session 3 classes.

Artspace For Children is an exciting program for children from 2 years to 13 years of age. Those involved in the planning and implementation of the classes believe that the Arts are an integral part of a child's learning experience, and that every child deserves the opportunity to express and develop their natural creative abilities.

Session will include many of the popular programs from previous sessions, as well as two new ones.

Preschoolers have four programs to choose from. **Arts Discovery**, for 3-5 year olds, is an integrated

program of Art, Music and Drama using imaginative themes to develop a child's creativity. Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 10-11 a.m. (this session was not included in the brochure, but will take place) and Thursdays from 1-2 p.m.

In the **Just 2's** program, instructor Louise Riddell provides a captivating variety of art and musical activities designed especially for 2 year olds. The time for these classes is Thursdays from 11-12 noon (changed from the 10-11 time slot stated in the brochure).

Jana Jordan introduces rhythm through the use of records, songs, rhymes, musical games and elementary rhythm instruments in her program **Music Makers**. Classes will be divided into two age groups; 4-5 years of age (Wednesdays

3:30-4:15 p.m.) and 6-8 years old (on Wednesdays 4:15-5:00 p.m.).

Piano Play provides exposure to beginning piano theory and tonal development through games, activities and songs. It's not uncommon for instructor Helen Woolley to have several youngsters at the piano simultaneously - happily playing simple chords and note patterns while she fills out the piece with a melody! 3-4 year olds will gather Tuesdays from 1:15-1:45, while 4-5s meet Tuesdays from 11-11:30 or 2:00-2:30.

6-8 year old children may also receive beginner piano instruction from Helen. Those with no previous piano instruction will meet on Mondays from 3:15-4:00 p.m. Classes for children continuing from Session 2 are scheduled for Mondays

from 4:00-4:45.

Included in the Artspace For Children music program is **Guitar**. Gerry Jong's classes (for 10-13 years olds) will be Saturdays 11:00-12 noon.

Artspace For Children is not able to offer the popular **Happy Feet** in Session 3; but it will return for Session 4. Also not available for Session 3 is **Drama Is Doing**. Because of his involvement with Stage North's production of "Fiddler on the Roof", instructor Ken Best must wait until Session 4 to resume these classes.

Due to popular demand, Heather Hanaford will teach one more session of **Introduction To Pottery**. Designed for children 8-10 years

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page 2



The fun is in the doing. These youngsters got right into the swing of things at an Artspace For Children gathering. Handmade Christmas decorations must have added warmth to many a household this year.

Art cont'd

old, the course teaches them the basics of making pottery without the use of the wheel.

For those with a penchant to paint, Jane Birchell and Phyllis Ljuden offer **Art Classes**, where children will draw and paint, using a variety of materials. Jane will instruct 8-10 year olds (Thursdays 4:30-6:00 p.m.) and Phyllis the 11-13 year olds (Saturdays 10:30-12 noon).

One of the two new classes is **Bagpipes for Beginners**. It will be instructed by Jane Walden, the Pipe Major for the Fort St. John Rotary Pipe Band. Open to children 7 years and older, the course will include reading music and basic fingering skills. Students will be supplied with chanters - the wind instrument that bagpipe skills are developed on.

The other program new to Artspace For Children is **Junior Journalism**.

Children 11-13 years old will learn reporting, production techniques and advertising for a junior newspaper.

Children will also have the opportunity to "trip the light fantastic"! Both **Irish Dancing** and **Scottish Country Dancing** are being offered for those 8 years or older.

Dance Discovery, recreational dance involving movement through music, offers classes for the following age categories; 5-6 years, 7-8 years, 9-11 years and 12-13 years. As well, an Intermediate Class is scheduled.

All classes for Session 3 of Artspace For Children begin the week of January 9, 1984 and will run for 6 weeks.

Registration may be done by phone from January 3-6 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (phone 785-1983), or in person on Saturday, January 7 at the Artspace from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.

With such a diversified program, children can pluck, paint, patter...to their hearts content!

ARTSPACE FOR CHILDREN A REALITY

by Susan Killen

In many school districts, cutbacks have resulted in a much less extensive fine arts program than was enjoyed in previous years. Of course, this does not mean there are now fewer children interested in the various art forms. If the school system is not able to provide the opportunity and instruction for a full arts program, then it is important that another avenue be available for the children.

Through the hard work and dedication of the originators of "Artspace for Children", a developmental arts program for the children of Fort St. John will begin September 19. The objectives, as set down by the Advisory Board, are as follows: 1) To establish an ongoing arts program offering classes in theatre, music, dance, ceramics, and visual arts focused on personal development and creative expression. 2) To develop an arts identity unique to the Peace Country through the arts experience of our children. 3) To provide the opportunity for local artists and teachers to share their talent and expertise. 4) To ensure that these classes are avail-

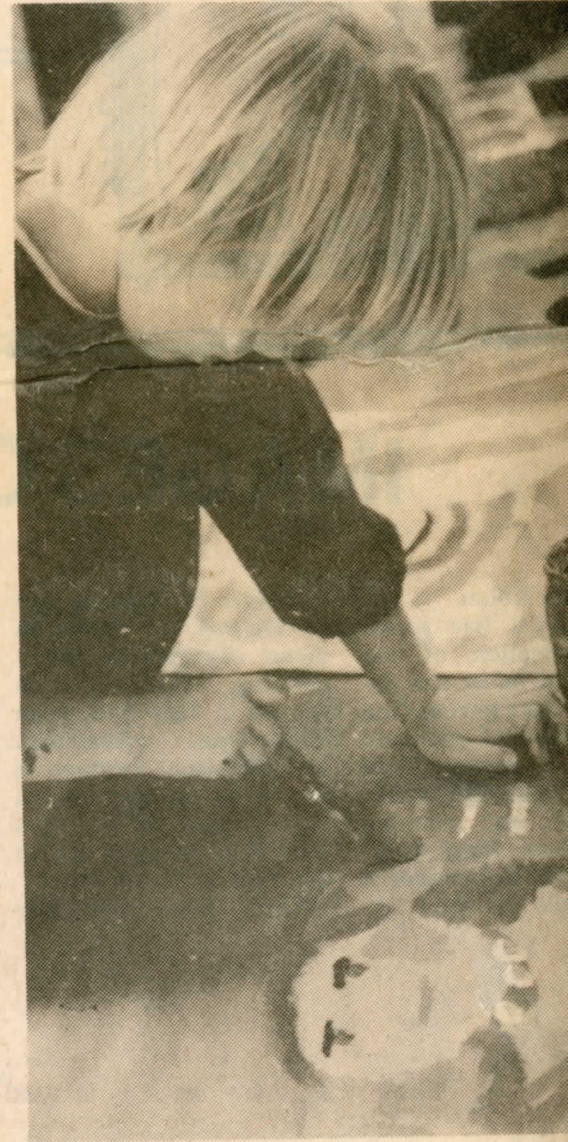
able to as many children in the community as possible. The pilot project encompasses 5 six week sessions, and will offer 10-15 courses per session. These weekly classes will be available to children all the way from pre-school to adolescence (elementary school age). Up to 150 children will be registered for each session. Those applying for the first session but not able to take part, will be given priority placement in the next session. Registration for the first session is September 17 at the Artspace from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ef'Artspace for Childr will be a member group of the Fort St. John Community Arts Council. It will be represented on the Council by an Advisory Board composed of educators, arts specialists and parents from the community. The Board will be responsible for the overall operation, the philosophy, and the content of "Artspace for Children". In addition, the Board hires the co-ordinator for the program. Anne Russo has been chosen for this position, which includes quite a number of responsibilities. Program

development, administration and evaluation, staff co-ordination and resource development will be carried on her capable shoulders.

The various programs are being developed by professionals from the community who have experience and training in their individual art fields. The courses will be taught by those developing the program and by additional instructors who are active artists and teachers in the community. As part of their practical experience students from the Northern Lights College Early Childhood Education Program will assist the pre-school instruction.

Co-ordinator Anne Russo explained that a \$10,000 Canada Council Grant went a long way in making the Artspace for Children program a reality. Out of 625 applications, only 100 were awarded grants. And only 20% of these were from B.C. All those involved with the program are to be lauded and thanked.

Through their talent and determination a quality, multi-disciplined arts program is now a reality in Fort St. John.





THE TWO ONE act plays Adam and Eve and Couples will be going ahead this Thursday night at Northern Lights College. They were delayed a week by the

strike. Here Daniel Vecchio and Kim Chandler play in Adam and Eve. Showtime 8pm.

Adam and Eve reviewed

Stage North's latest production, "ADAM AND EVE & COUPLES THEREAFTER" opened Thursday and will run for only six more performances. "Adam and Eve", based on a story by Mark Twain, is a charming and offbeat version of the Garden of Eden. Daniel Vecchio is an innocent and bumptious Adam whose main occupations are resting and going over Niagara Falls in a barrel. His main problem is a talkative, inquisitive, charming and irritating Eve (Kim Chandler) who makes him "anxious." You have to see this play if only to find out the world's first (and worst) joke. Scott Olson adds a sinister touch as the tempting Snake. This play is lighthearted, whimsical, and, ultimately, touching. Daniel, Kim and Scott are all appealing and talented performers.

"Couples Thereafter" is a series of five vignettes that carry on the theme of male-female relationships. They strike a more serious note than "Adam and Eve"

but each has its own touch of true to life humour. Ann Ragan and Scott Olson play a young couple on their honeymoon in the 40's — Scott portrays the nervous young groom to perfection, with Ann adding a contrasting note of sweet, but knowing, assurance. In "Score", Lisa Oleschko and Warwick Driscoll play

Adam and Eve

Continued from page 2

a tennis match with invisible opponents which shows up the weaknesses, and finally the strengths, of their marriage. "Permanence" takes place in a tent in the rain. This segment allows Daniel Vecchio to demonstrate his versatility as he and Sanna Skoreyko take us through a married couple's quarrel with a few surprising twists and a sadly sweet conclusion. In "Norma", Diane Henry plays a flakey and self-centered woman to Jim Chapman's sincere young man as she attempts to break off her affair with him. And Jack Temple and Sandra Spencer, two proven performers (who can forget the Cowardly Lion? Watch for him in "Fiddler on the Roof"!) delighted the audience in "Countdown", with their portrayal of a couple who has been married too long and lost the bond of laughter.

The bond of laughter, however, is not lost on this evening. These plays will make you laugh often, sigh occasionally, and perhaps remember a few moments in your own lives and loves. "Adam and Eve and Couples Thereafter" has something for everyone.

These plays had to be postponed and just opened last night. They will run Friday and Saturday, November 18 & 19, Thursday to Saturday, November 24-26, with absolutely the last performance Thursday, December 1st. The seating only holds 100, so be sure to get tickets early to avoid missing these heart-warming and thought provoking plays.

Front Row Centre

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Canada Music Week continues with CKNL program on Music Through The Ages. 6:30-6:40 each day.

No Artspace for Children classes today, Thursday or Friday due to the Art Group Show and Sale, 785-1983.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

"Adam and Eve and Couples Thereafter", NLC Stage North, 8:00 p.m., 785-6981. Tickets at Artspace and at the door.

Art Group Show and Sale, Show begins, 9:00-5:45 p.m. Show, Sale begins at 6:00 p.m. Artspace, 785-2506.

Rotary Pipe Band Practice, 7:00 p.m. Beginner; 8:00 p.m. whole band. Legion Hall.

Mukluk Society Meeting for all groups interested doing an event during January 28-February 5, Jades Garden, 7:30 p.m., 785-1983.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Art Group Show and Sale, Artspace, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., 785-2506.

Riverboat Ragtime, Concert Series No. 2, N.P.S.S., 8:00 p.m., 785-6061.

"Adam & Eve", N.L.C. Stage North, 8:00 p.m., 785-6981. Tickets at Artspace and at the door.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Annual Potter's Guild Show and Sale, Totem Mall, 9:30-6:00 p.m. 785-5550. Reasonable prices, same as last year. pottery makes nice Christmas presents.

Art Group Show and Sale, Artspace, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 785-2506.

Volunteer Seminar on Legal Responsibilities, Taylor Community Hall, 1:00 p.m. through banquet, pre-register, Zenith 2770.

"Adam and Eve", N.L.C. Stage North, 8:00 p.m., 785-6981, tickets at door.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Canada Music Week Recital as Sunday Afternoon Performance by Music Teachers Association, students play own compositions, Mennonite Church, 1:30 p.m., 785-4553.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

"Wood and Horns" art show and sale by Dan Bridge. Artspace, until December 2nd, 785-1983.

Scottish Country Dancers, Dr Kearney School, 7:00-9:00 p.m., 785-0849.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Needlecraft Guild Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Artspace, 785-1983.

COMING EVENTS: "Wood and Horns" Art show and sale by Dan Bridge at the Artspace, November 28 to December 2.

Workshop Players "SLEEPING BEAUTY" on December 2 and 3 for four performances at Central School.

Enjoy Scottish country dancing

Scottish Country Dancing (SCD) did not develop, as many think, from the antics of an unnamed Scot who accidentally got a thistle up his kilt! It did develop from a combination of peasant village dances at one end of the European social scale and dances from the royal courts at the other. From the Middle Ages it had a chequered career of varying popularity until in the early years of this century when the modern styles & standards of SCK

were established. Since then the popularity of SCK has expanded world wide. At this point let me make it clear that SCK is not (a) restricted to Scots or (b) restricted to wearers of the kilt! It is universal and can be learned and enjoyed by anyone. Our class in Fort St John illustrates this. We have Scots, English, Canadians, Ukrainians, Spaniards, engineers, teachers, clergymen...! The classes held in Fort St John under the auspices of Northern Lights College started in September 1982 and continued on Monday evenings until May 1983. During that time we

learned well over twenty dances - Reals, Strathspeys, Jigs, and had lots of fun! That is the keynote-enjoyment.

The whole purpose of dancing is for enjoyment, although there are spin-offs like fitness, meeting new friends, and the chance to perform in public. Last year we had demonstration teams dancing at Barn's Night, Celtic Night, the Artspace, and we set up our own St Andrew's Night celebration that was a great success. SCD is a social event and not to be confused with Highland Dancing, that is a solo dancing style. We'll be starting classes again in September on Monday nights. Details will be in the Northern Lights College Classes schedule but you can also contact Peter Keudal at 785-0849 for information.

You will be very welcome and no previous experience or other dancing ability is needed. These classes are only for adults but there are moves afoot to try and get classes going for children too. There is no charge for classes.

We had a successful first

year and look forward to an even better second year. Come dancing with us! Peter Keudal (member of Royal Scottish Country Dance Society).

There Must Be More Of Them

by Peter Kendal

More of them? Who or what are "them"? "Them" are those of you who want to do some Scottish Country Dancing!

If this applies to you then why not come along to Dr. Kearney Junior High School on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in Room 132. That's when we have our class where we learn Scottish Country Dancing and have a lot of fun in doing it.

You don't need a kilt, or a partner, nor do you need any previous experience or knowledge.

learned four different dances-it's as easy as that!

AHN Aug 31/83

Want to learn Scottish dancing?

The Scottish Country Dance Group led by Peter Kendal has developed in its first year as a small but energetic and fun-loving group of adult dancers. The group has met regularly once a week to learn the dance steps and join in both

quick-paced jigs and reels and the slower strathspeys.

We became better known to the community through our performance at Burn's Night in January. Other performances followed in the Artspace at "Arts Alive," at a Celtic evening

in April, and at the Peace Lutheran Care Home. We are a recent member of the Fort St. John Community Arts Council.

We would be delighted to welcome new dancers to the group. No prior knowledge of the dance

step is necessary and there is no charge. Dancing takes place each Monday evening at Dr. Kearney Junior Secondary School from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For further information please telephone 785-0849 or 785-9508.

end of the class they had

Arts Review
Alaska Highway Daily News Nov 24/83

"Curtain Call"

by Sue Killen

Stage North actors and directors are well into rehearsals for their upcoming evenings of dramatic presentations.

The community theatre company, in co-operation with Northern Lights College, will present "The Diary of Adam and Eve" and "Mixed Doubles". They will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday for 3 weeks, beginning November 10.

The Diary of Adam and Eve is a light, but touching piece of dramatic effort that in no way smears the original biblical characters. An adaptation of a Mark Twain story, it has previously been presented in Vancouver by City Stage.

Co-directed by Fred Galloway (instructor of Performing Arts Department of Northern Lights

College, Fort St. John campus) and Daniel Vecchio (Bert Bowes drama teacher), the play stars Daniel as Adam, Kim Chandler as Eve, and Scott Olson in the role of the serpent.

Daniel, whom Fred describes as a natural comedian, has played in past Stage North presentations, and in short order will be preparing for his next role, in Fiddler On The Roof.

The Diary of Adam and Eve will be Kim's Stage North debut. A talented young actress, she has been accepted for an audition to Julliard. The New Year will see her travelling to San Francisco for this prestigious audition.

Scott, the youngest of the trio, is an up-and-coming high school drama student, whose cred-

its include the one-act play "Picnic On The Battlefield".

Fred Galloway offers high praise for the talented actors from this area. "I am always impressed with the talent that emerges in this town. Despite the fairly transitory nature of the population, new talent always appears."

Both The Diary of Adam and Eve and Mixed Doubles (a series of vignettes illustrating relationships) will be presented in the multi-purpose room of the Northern Lights College, as theatre in the semi-round.

Curtain time for each evening will be 8 p.m. Those people wanting to obtain tickets for the Stage North production can purchase them at the Artspace, or at JRS.

STAGE NORTH'S NEWSEASON

Stage North opens the '83-'84 season with "Adam and Eve and Couples Thereafter" a light hearted evening of entertainment that focuses on couples — the problems and joys — rewards of close relationships. Northern Lights College, 8:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday for three weeks, starting Thursday, November 10.

Adam and Eve will play here

Men and women together have been the subject of discussion from the beginning of time. Stage North's first production of the '83-'84 season takes a light hearted look at the perennial interest in relationships with an evening of one-acts. "The Diary of Adam and Eve" features Dan Vecchio as

Adam, Kim Chandler as Eve and Scott Olson as the serpent. "Mixed Doubles" featuring Scott Olson, Ann Ragan, Warwick Driscoll, Lisa Olesnko, Sanna Skorkeyko, Dan Vecchio, Diane Henry, Jim Chapman, Jack Temple, Sandra

Spencer, is a series of scenes reflecting on phases of relationship from the fresh young couple to a pair who spent forty years together. It's a funny and touching evening and everyone see a glimpse of their personal lives somewhat throughout the evening. Opening night is Thursday, November 10, 8:00 p.m. at the College and production runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday three consecutive weekends.

Tickets are available at the Artspace and Phone 785-1983 for further information.

A Glimpse of Life Together

by Sue Killen

With each stage of life comes different adjustments and pressures we all must cope with. In Stage North's *Couples Thereafter* (originally titled *Mixed Doubles*), the 5 different "stages" of married life are illuminated.

Each scenario is set in a different decade and involves different couples at varying points in their marriages. No doubt we all can recognize something familiar in each of the scenes.

Directed by Doug Xenis, (N. Peace Senior Secondary's drama teacher) *Couples Thereafter* will be presented along with *The Diary of Adam* and *Ever* beginning November 10. Both will play Thursday, Friday and Saturday for 3 weeks in the Northern Lights College Multipurpose room. Curtain time for each evening is 8 p.m.

The first of five "Scenarios", *Man's Best Friend* joins a honeymoon couple in the late 1940's as they journey by train. Scott Olson and Ann Ragan,

both familiar Stage North performers, will depict the newlyweds.

Set in the late 1950's, *Score* stars newcomers Warwick Driscoll and Lisa Oleschko as a couple in the 10th year of marriage. Joining them in a tennis match is another, imaginary couple.

20 years of marriage have past for the couple in *Permanence*. It is the 1960's (era of the love generation), and the couple-played by Daniel Vecchio and Sanna Skoreyko are on their annual tenting vacation.

In *Norma*, an older woman married for 30 years is about to break off her relationship with a younger man. The players, Diane Henry and Jim Chapman, meet in a park shelter.

Taking us into the present day is *Countdown*. Two experienced Stage North players-Sandra Spencer and Jack Temple-portray a married couple in 1980's. After 40 years of wedlock much of their communication never goes beyond a superficial level.

the reflector

Telephone
787-1165

9940-100th Avenue

Fort St. John, B.C.

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Volume 1 Number 12

Plays will look at married life

Opening this Thursday, November 17, "ADAM AND EVE AND COUPLES THEREAFTER" is an evening's entertainment to look forward to. Fred Galloway, Dan Vecchio and Doug Xenis have combined their directing talents and Stage North experience to produce a humorous evening of one acts. Kim Chandler is a winsome Eve; Dan Vecchio an unforgettable Adam; and Scott Olson a superior serpent in "Adam and Eve." Jack Temple returns to the stage with Sandra Spencer, Diane Henry and Jim Chapman, Sanna Skoreyko, Warwick Driscoll, Lisa Oleschko and Ann Ragan in a sprightly series of vignettes con-

cerning man and woman together, from the past to the '80's. The show runs every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening for three weeks starting this week, November 17. Curtain time is 8:00 pm at the Northern Lights College. Tickets are on sale at the Artspace.

Alaska Highway
Daily News

Nov 15/83

ADAM
&
EVE
&
COUPLES
THEREAFTER.

Cushion Concert for Kids

A Cushion Concert with Bob Schneider was a sure way to lift your spirits and enjoy family fun this Sunday, November 13 at the Artspace. Bob Schneider is a performer and creator of children's songs and can communicate with children of all ages.

Everyone was invited to bring a cushion to the 1:30 p.m. show or the 3 p.m. show to hear imaginative, fun songs about computers, monsters and other popular subjects children are talking about.

Bob Schneider has been performing for six years after having such great success as a teacher of English as a second language. He found that singing with children and having them help create songs improved their English pronunciation and learning process.

Often Bob Schneider is as successful with adults as he is with children. Many adults find themselves doing the motions to the songs and singing along. Part of his successful rapport with children and adults lies in the fact that this '36 year old 'kid' has never forgotten that he was once a child...so he's acutely attuned to what the kids of today want to hear.

His two albums Listen to the Children and When You Dream a Dream are only the beginning of his rising career. He has signed with Capital records to do more albums. Currently, he is touring the western provinces and came to Fort St. John after playing in the McPherson Theatre in Victoria. He will spend a week touring Prince George area schools among other performances in B.C.

Artspace - a success story



THE ARTSPACE ENTERED a float in the Rodeo Days Parade last summer. The Wall People who created the BC

Winter Games murals rode the float and painted a Salute to Rodeo Days along the parade route.

Take an empty space, combine a community-minded landowner and an active bunch of people, offer a much-welcomed community service and the City of Fort St John has an Arts Centre plus Ticket and Information Centre. After one full year of operation, the Artspace serves up to 600 people each week by answering inquiries, conducting arts classes, and providing meeting space for community groups.

The Artspace idea began with the use of the otherwise vacant corner of 100th Avenue and 100th Street as the temporary Alaska Highway Museum in the summer of 1982. Tucker

Enterprises provided the space to the NP Historical Society for minimum rent. The museum project proved to be a great success. Over 6,000 people visited the Alaska Highway Museum during the summer.

The space was then used periodically for arts events until Mukluk Society, the Downtown Association and the Arts Council received a Community Recovery Program Grant, a joint federal provincial make-work program, to employ three full-time positions for community service. The Ticket and Information Centre with the 785-1983 phone number became popular during the suc-

cessful Mukluk Rendezvous of 1982. The phone number is still listed under Mukluk Society in the phone book since Mukluk installed the phones and provided the first 4 months payments.

Arts programs and groups grew in numbers and strength having a central communications place to gather arts information and a place to hold meeting. The Arts Council has 26 member groups who are assisted directly and indirectly by the Artspace. The Artspace is the first "home for the arts" in Fort St. John.

The Arts Council currently offers to sell tickets for all non-profit organizations free of charge through the Artspace. A community calendar of the year's special events is posted on the wall in the office for all organizations who wish to avoid conflicts in booking events. Each week, the Artspace staff compiles the What's Going On calendar of events in the Wednesday Alaska Highway News. Phone inquiries about anything from "where to unload excess vegetables from beautiful gardens" to "who is the chairman of the Stamp Club" are tracked down and answered. No caller is left with "we don't

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know," Every inquiry is answered, even if the staff must make numerous other calls to find the answer.

The Artspace was only able to provide the utility costs last year to Tucker Enterprises and now is able to pay a minimal rent. As the Artspace is used more and more for art shows and meetings, the donations have been put towards the monthly rent. Through the CRP grant and the recent Canada Works program, the Artspace has been able to employ people to manage the arts programs, book the community meetings and provide the ticket and information service.

The Artspace for Children's program, under the co-ordination of Anne Russo, has been successfully established with the help of the 12 arts instructors. Approximately 300 students are registered

each six weeks in the 15 arts classes for children who range from two to 13. This pilot project has received financial assistance from many community organizations. Artspace for Children has provided rental assistance for the Artspace.

Even after one year's operation and the apparent establishment of the Artspace as a permanent service in Fort St John the Artspace and Ticket and Information Centre is only temporary. Plans are underway to make the Artspace a permanent enhancement to Fort St. John. The Historical Society has offered the Pickell House for arts use when the house is moved from Peace Island Park to the new museum site this coming spring. The plans require a basement foundation with minor renovations and some

special features to provide 3,000 square feet of space. The cost to the arts community would be \$50,000. Operation of the facility would require annual utility costs plus one full-time employee but no rent.

The Artspace began as a short-term project and mushroomed into a vital service for the entire community. The arts programs compliment the sports activities in the community to provide well-rounded leisure recreational services for Fort St. John residents. The Ticket and Information service offers an enhancement of Fort St. John for residents, visitors and especially newcomers. Everyone is invited to stop in to view the art shows, purchase a ticket for an upcoming event or have a cup of coffee with the friendly staff. Phone 785-1983 to list your event in the community calendar.