

THE DAILY SPECIAL

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INSTRUCTIONS
I. See that the official mark is on the paper.
II. Write 1 beside the name of the candidate of your first choice, 2 beside your second choice, and so on.
III. Fold the paper to conceal your vote. Show the back of the paper to the presiding officer and put it in the ballot box.

A photo essay on the weekend's ward voting

Rise in special-needs enrolment exceeds that of regular students

A Surrey school trustee wants all teachers to teach students with special needs. School board vice-chairwoman Kim Evoy says her call is being prompted by the escalating growth in enrolment of special needs students in the school district. Evoy said enrolment growth of special-needs students — in percentage terms — has far exceeded the growth of other students in the district over the past decade. "We're looking at creative, cost-efficient ways to deal with the problem rather than throwing mega-dollars at the problem," she said. However, B.C. Teachers' Federation first vice-president Irene Lanzinger said regular teachers, even with additional training, can never replace those who undergo intensive training in order to specialize in the field of learning disabilities and spend years developing their skills.

Surrey Now

43 schools identified for structural seismic upgrades

The Delta school district has identified 43 school sites for structural seismic upgrades, but only four are considered immediate priorities. A five-year capital plan that includes about \$43 million in upgrades has been submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval. "This is a big year for the school district," director of facilities Frank Geyer said at this week's Delta school board meeting. "It's one of the largest in a few years." At the top of the list are four North Delta schools, with work expected to cost about \$5.3 million. It is to be completed in 2005/06 and 2006/07, if the ministry agrees to the projects and the timeline. Next on the list is South Delta secondary, with structural seismic upgrades to the theatre, cafeteria and two-storey classroom block slated for 2007/08 and expected to cost about \$2.5 million.

Delta Optimist

Accident prompts councillors to consider pedestrian crossing

On Wednesday, city councillors agreed to take a closer look at installing pedestrian-crossing lights along No. 5 Road, between Blundell and Williams roads. Earlier this month, 68-year-old Gurdev Sandher was hit by a car while crossing from her home over to the India Cultural Centre of Canada. While the exact cause of that collision is still under investigation, the death highlighted a need for potential traffic control in the area. A report on the issue — including recommended options — is now being prepared by city staff. Among the options under consideration are a \$75,000 activated pedestrian crosswalk and a \$35,000 flashing-amber crosswalk. Mayor Malcolm Brodie said some of the religious facilities in the area have indicated they would be willing to "partner" with the city in order to help offset the costs.

Richmond News

LAW AND ORDER

Garbage-eating bear cubs shot near Westview shopping centre

NORTH SHORE | Two young bear cubs that were eating garbage and possibly being fed by residents of an apartment complex behind Westview shopping centre were shot by a conservation officer Thursday after being watched, photographed and occasionally chased by onlookers for several hours. The cubs are the fourth and fifth bears shot this year on the North Shore. One of the cubs that was shot is the same bear that was tranquilized last week after making an unwelcome appearance inside the Westview Safeway store. Joanne Mayzes, who lives in the Cypress Gardens complex in the 600-block of Westview Place, said the death of the black bear cubs was a sad situation made worse by residents who kept leaving garbage out and taking photos of the bear cubs because they looked "cute." At times, there were up to 30 adults and children standing around watching the cub, said Mayzes. Conservation officer Colin Copland said he'd heard reports that some people were also feeding the cubs.

North Shore News

Fake-gun carjacker lands a real jail sentence

WEST VANCOUVER | A man who hijacked a car in West Vancouver by pulling a fake handgun on two terrified commuters while he was high on crystal meth was sent to jail for 18 months on Thursday by North Vancouver provincial court Judge Judith Gedy. Cory David Hootnick, 30, of Vancouver, will serve that sentence on top of seven months he has already spent in jail since his arrest on March 19. He has spent much of that time in solitary confinement, according to his lawyer.

North Shore News

Elderly driver charged after six-vehicle crash

CHILLIWACK | A senior escaped unscathed after causing a six-car crash at the intersection of Luckakuck Way and Vedder Road Wednesday. According to police, the 76-year-old driver drove over the meridian separating the north and southbound lanes of Vedder Road at about 1 p.m. "He was not in control and was all over the place," said Cpl. Sean Sullivan. No one was injured in the crash and the driver has been charged with impaired driving.

Chilliwack Times

Thief steals computer belonging to special-needs student

SURREY | Mena Bains, a student at Princess Margaret secondary who has cerebral palsy, spent hours on a homework assignment for her information-technology class. The assignment was due on Thursday. But Bains couldn't hand in her assignment because a heartless thief broke into her classroom on Tuesday night and stole her laptop computer with its special software. "I felt mad," said the 16-year-old, who is confined to a wheelchair. "I want my computer back but I don't think I'll get it." The laptop was supplied for Bains's use by Special Education Technology BC, an agency of the provincial government that provides equipment for special-needs students.

Surrey Now

Teen stabbed with steak knife

LANGLEY | A high school student in Langley was stabbed with a steak knife and taken to hospital Friday, Langley RCMP said. The 15-year-old student was stabbed in the abdomen shortly after noon at H.D. Stafford Secondary School, said Cpl. Dale Carr in a press release. The youth is expected to make a full recovery, he said. The suspect, also a 15-year-old student at the school, allegedly had a dispute with the victim in the school, stabbed him, and then fled the area.

Vancouver Sun

AROUND TOWN

UBC Apple Festival will include large variety to suit all lovers of the fruit

VANCOUVER | They are increasingly hard to find, but apple lovers in the Lower Mainland can get a taste of some of the world's rarest heirloom apple varieties at this year's UBC Apple Festival today and Sunday. During the 1900s, there were several thousand different types of apples on the North American market. But with production and storage problems or declining sales and consumer preference, it's difficult to find many of these heritage apples today. Despite the introduction of new varieties such as the Aurora Golden Gala, unveiled at the 2003 Apple Festival, the majority of apples now available come from the same few parents: Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Jonathan, Macintosh and Cox's Orange Pippin. Among the seldom-seen varieties that will be available to taste and buy are the Liberty, a crisp, juicy apple from the U.S.; the Belle De Boskoop, a richly flavoured Dutch apple with high vitamin C content found in Boskoop, Holland in 1856, and Bramley's Seedling, England's favorite cooking apple is large with very tart, creamy yellow flesh good for making flavored pies, sauce and cider. Organized by UBC's Friends of the Garden (FOGs), the festival will feature more than 60 varieties of apples to sample, a sale of organic and conventional apples and apple trees, a children's corner, a marketplace, a Harvest Bistro, organic apple pies, live music, a BC Fruit Testers Association display, demonstrations of espalier, grafting and cider pressing, and more.



UBC Apple festival

- 14th Annual UBC Apple Festival
- Oct. 16-17, 11a.m.-4p.m.
- At UBC Botanical Garden, 6804 SW Marine Dr.
- Admission free
- Parking, West Mall Parkade, enter from Lower Mall at University Blvd. All-day parking is \$3.50. Free shuttles will run from parking lot to the Botanical Garden from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

| SURREY |

| DELTA |

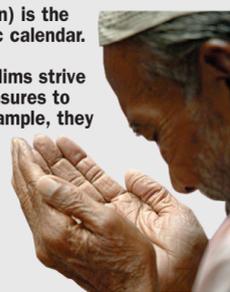
| RICHMOND |

| WESTCOAST BY THE NUMBERS |

Ramadan starts today

British Columbia's Muslims will begin celebrating the holy month of Ramadan this weekend. Most Muslims began their month of fasting and prayer Friday night at sundown, while some will start today. Here are some facts about Ramadan.

1. Ramadan (RAHM-uh-don) is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar.
2. During the month, Muslims strive to go without worldly pleasures to deepen their faith. For example, they don't eat or drink from sunrise to sunset.
3. Some mosques remain open for all-night prayer. And many Muslims read the entire Koran during the month.



Source: Washington Post

VANCOUVER SUN