

Butterflies bring smiles to grieving relatives

400 Monarch butterflies released at Central Okanagan Hospice Association's annual **Butterfly Effect event**

Special to The Dally Courier

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ove is like a butterfly—it goes
where it pleases and it pleases
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passed."
The Butterfly Effect has become an annual staple at Falcon Ridge Farms on Rifle al staple at Falcon Ridge Farms on Ridge Road People puy \$50 for a monarch or \$75 for three to bonour loved ones by releasing the butterflies at the same time in the rolling bills of Kelowan. What the cateropillar sees at the end is what the butterfly sees as the beginning, says Susan Steen, executive director of the Central Okanagan Hospice Association. "We wanted to give the community some-thing they could embrace. It wesn't \$300 for a ticket at a dimer."

One family brought their mother's ashes for the butterfly release. The beauty of the



Isabella Graziotto coaxed a monarch butterfly to perch on her hand at a Glenmore farm on Sunday, Hundreds of people grieving lost relatives released the monarchs as a healing exercise.

on Sunday, Hundreds of people grieving los ing exercise.
surroundings cases the pain of loss, but grieving with others also helps, said Henselwood, COHA's president.
"People who don't even know each other are crying together in the memory of those (who died). There is a social aspect to know you're not alone... Maybe you're releasing one of rive but we're all doing if for the same reason."
The butterfilles are imported in the pupa stage from California and brought to adulthood in Langley.
They're fed watermelon sliess and Gabrarde before owner Kim Sutton and husband Jeremy transport them to Kelowna for the release.
Nica Graziotto brought her two daughters and two nieses to Sunday's event.
They released four butterflies to commemorate their four great grandparens.
"What an amazing way to honour loved

ones," she said.

"The girls were totally blown away by it. They were like "wow" . . . It was great—something well always remember."
One of the four kids got close up and personal with a monarch soon after the release. Eabella Graziotto was able to coave the butterfly onto her finger in a flower garden.

"I broaded two florescents."

garden.
"I brought my finger really close to its legs and it kind of climbed on," the 14-year-old said.
"It was really cool. Being able to look really close at it instead of seeing it far away is a lot different. I was really determined." Proceeds go toward to the hospice association, which operates Hospice House on Ethel Street.
Hospice staff and volunteers provide care to erminally ill patients and counselling to families at no expense.

Rain doesn't quench fire threat

By The Canadian Press

VANCOUVER — A change in weather could offer british Columbins a break from an otherwise ferocious start to this year's wildfire season, but a provincial official says a few days of rain isn't necessarily enough to hit the reset button on weeks of soaring temperatures and parthed conditions. "It does appear that we've get a bit of a temporary reprieve from the current situation — but we are still very early in the summer — but we are still very early in the summer but we have the summer but we have been successful to the summer but we have been successful for the summer but we have been summer but we have been summer but we have been summer been summer but we have been summer been summer but we have been summer but and the summer but we have been summer but on the summer but of summer but of summer but of summer but of summer but

Saburday.

So far in 2018, 1,086 fires have consumed nearly 2,800 square kilometres across the province— a substantial jump from this time last year, when 487 fires had burned a mere 200 square kilometres.

B.C. has spent more than \$1,000 million so far this year fighting wild fires, having burned through its annual budget of \$85 mill. Inho by the end of last month.

About 2,400 personnel are busy fighting the dames — whether on the fire lime or in support positions — more than 1,000 of which are contract workers.

B.C. has called in about 100 personnel from outside the province. Including from Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes.

On Monday, 20 Australian firefighers are scheduled to arrive into B.C. to help with fire selled efforts, while another contingent of Down Under personnel will soon show up to assist in other Western Canadian provinces. The provincial government has also signed a one-month contract to use the Martin Mars water bomber based in Port Alberni.

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Skrepnek had promising news about the ongoing battle against the province's top-pri-

orgoing nattie against the provinces top-priority fire.

Crews managed to contain just under a third of the Puntzi Lake fire, an aggressive blaze raging in B.C.'s central Cariboo Region, about 150 kilometres west of Williams Lake.

The fire more than doubled in size on

The infore than doubled in size on Saturday, from 30 to 70 square kilometres, thanks to strong winds and an abundance of dry brush and timber. So far several properties have been de-stroyed by the flames, including a hunting

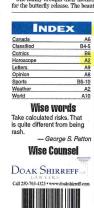
outpet by the names, including a hunting and fishing lodge. An order to evacuate re-mains in place in the region, affecting 90 properties, while more than 180 remain on evacuation alert.

evacuation alert.

B. C. has lifted all of the air-quality advisories in southeastern B.C., although smoke advisories remain in place in the povince's northwest and Central Interior, Provincial Health Officer Perry Kendell said on Sunday. "Depending on local conditions people should be alert for diminishing air mainty"—they'd see and smell the smoke, 'said the

province's top doctor.

There remain 22 fires of note in B.C., six states of local emergency and 143 evacuation orders and alerts.



GAS WATCH

125.9 at several stations

Roving inspections still not the right answer: water board

Adding three more roving inspection statins to hunter for possible zebra and quagga mussels in function good enough, says the Okanagan Basin Water Board. In a news release, the water board applauded a play high better board of the province from three to six. This is generally very good news. Inspection stations in the province from three to six. This is generally very good news. Inspection and decontamination in the Kootenays helps protect the Okanagan." said OBWB executive director anna Warvick Sears. This being said, the OBWB would prefer the province ensure the most defensitive, conservative approach possible, with a minimum of the permanent inspection stations in the B.C. Alberta to border."

System will speak abouthern Nevada Water System will speak about the ragency's efforts to compare the canada-U.S.

Two killed in head-on collision

VERNON — Two women have died after a headon collision over the weekend.

Police in Vernon say a vehicle veered into the
noncoming lane on Highway of early Stunday.
Both women, aged 22 and 35, were declared dead
at the scene after driving into an oncoming
wehicle.

A 32 year-old woman and a 26-year-old man
from Armstvong, who were travelling in the othere which were taken to hospital.
The pair was erroutely injured but both are expiected to recover.

No names have been released.

— The Canadian Press

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