

Did we get it wrong?

Yellowknifer is committed to getting facts and names right. With that goes a commitment to acknowledge mistakes and run corrections. If you spot an error in *Yellowknifer*, call 873-4031 and ask to speak to an editor, or e-mail editorial@nns.com. We'll get a correction or clarification in as soon as we can.

NEWS

Briefs

Rescue training

The Western Canada Search and Rescue Exercise takes place in Yellowknife Aug. 14 to 16.

The Civil Air Search and Rescue Association (CASARA) is hosting this year's event at the Spur Aviation hangar, with 20 aircraft and 100 people expected to attend. Zone Commander for CASARA, David Taylor, said Saturday will see seven hours of search and rescue simulations, and it is hoped that 40 flights will be completed in that time. That is one every 12 minutes.

The exercise will involve Yellowknife Search and Rescue, the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the RCMP.

Volunteer rescue victims are needed to give the exercises a realistic feel. Those interested should contact CASARA's Yellowknife office before this weekend.

Pilots from British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nunavut, Yukon, and throughout the NWT will attend.

— Charlotte Hilling

Mini golf upgrade

Renovations are in the offering for Yellowknife's mini golf course in hopes of attracting more fun-seekers.

The upgrades are being planned by the Centre for Northern Families, which is in charge of the course for the next three years.

"We want to make it look fun and we want to attract people," said the centre's program director Laura Boucher.

She said the idea to give the course a facelift emerged in the spring. The centre is now consulting with an architect.

— Charlotte Hilling

Riders unite

Motorcyclists are invited to the Frame Lake Plaza parking lot on Wednesday night from 7 to 8 p.m. for Ride Night to show off their ride and meet other local riders. The event is put on by the NWT Riders Association and runs every Wednesday night.

— Tim Edwards

Move those legs

The fifth annual Crazy Legs contemporary dance summer school takes place from Aug. 10 to 14. The five-day intensive theatre and dance workshop is taught by professional instructors and is open to ages 15 and up.

See the Crazy Legs website for information.

— Tim Edwards

Have your say

MLAs receive a base pay of \$94,331, which will soon be under review. Do they deserve more? Have your say at www.nns.com/yellowknifer. Poll results will be published in Friday's *Yellowknifer*.

Gold: US\$966.00
Last week: US\$938.20



Charlotte Hilling/NNSL photo

Steve Goff performs in Old Town at the Ramble and Ride festival last Saturday. The well known musician passed away that night at age 60.

Yellowknife loses a friend

Musician Steve Goff mourned by family, friends and colleagues this week

Northern News Services

People throughout Yellowknife reacted with shock and sadness this week when they learned of the loss of musician Steve Goff.

The beloved multi-instrumentalist passed away suddenly on Saturday night, just hours after a spirited solo performance on the wharf in Old Town during the Ramble and Ride festival.

"He left a huge impact on every person he came into contact with," said Goff's wife, balladeer Moira Cameron. "Everyone is writing and saying that. That's his legacy. That's what he has left us."

Goff, 60, grew up in a poor neighbourhood on the east side of what he would refer to as "a little place called London," in which families struggled in the economic aftermath of the Second World War, Cameron said.

"He was a strong advocate for workers' rights," she said. "He had an enormous wealth of understanding of human experience, economics and politics that was part of everything he did."

Goff carried that sensitive appreciation for the human condition throughout his life, expressing his

respect for humanity through music.

He was a member of the Ceilidh Friends, a tight-knit, Celtic-folk quartet alongside Cameron and folk musicians Steve and Dawn Lacey.

The Laceys, including daughter Caitlyn Lacey, are sharing time with Cameron this week.

"Steve was an incredible musician and an accomplished photographer, a gifted storyteller and he was a brilliant, brilliant individual," Caitlyn said. "But, more than that, he was a really good person and he was family and we'll never stop missing him in our lives."

Known by his friends and colleagues as an analytical thinker, he applied himself to geology. His PhD at the University of Alberta focused on the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, which brought him North for the first time in the early 1980s.

Goff met Cameron in 1985 at a ceilidh, the Gaelic word for a traditional community celebration, in Sudbury, Ont., where he worked as professor of geology at Laurentian University.

"It was love at first sound," Cameron recalled.

Goff moved north 21 years ago to

work in his field and Cameron joined him in 1990 after he took a position as district geologist for the GNWT geoscience office. His colleagues are coming to terms with their loss this week, said Scott Cairns, chief geologist with the department.

"Steve was a fountain of geological knowledge," he said. "His knowledge of the geology of the North is irreplaceable."

Settled in Yellowknife, Goff and Cameron organized monthly ceilidhs in their home to exchange songs and friendship with many other artists. That is where they formed their close bond with the Lacey family.

"It wasn't just a musical relationship," Steve Lacey said. "We travelled together. We shared meals. We are like a family. Steve had a knowledge of music that never ceased to amaze me."

War demonstration

Goff, Cameron and the Laceys appeared for the first time as the Ceilidh Friends at an anti-Gulf War demonstration in January 1990. They went on to perform at festivals and concerts throughout the North, nationally and internationally.

"Steve was a consummate professional and brought to the stage a wonderful energy as a performer of music as well as a wonderful, gentle yet passionate storyteller," said Ben Nind, executive director of the

Northern Arts and Cultural Centre. "We lost not only a contributor to the arts scene in the NWT, but also a genuine creative human being who will be sorely missed."

He also loved opera, especially composers Wagner and Purcell. His favourite was *The Magic Flute*, by Mozart.

"He had a real capacity to branch out, playing things like the blues," said friend and blues musician Norm Glowach. "His knowledge of the blues was pretty deep. He would know people that I wouldn't know. He was an academic. He would do lots of study. Lots of reading."

Last winter, Goff began working on a new jazz trio with Steve Lacey and jazz trombonist Bill Gilday.

"I hadn't realized that Steve had this ability to play jazz guitar," Gilday said. "When I first heard him I realized he had an advanced ability to play jazz guitar. He could have been a music professor. He had an extensive knowledge of recordings and specific works of music from the Renaissance to the present."

The trio had already held about a dozen rehearsals last winter.

"I'm sure we would have made it happen this fall," Gilday said.

The cause of Goff's death was undetermined at press time.

Funeral arrangements and memorials were still being planned as of Tuesday.



**DARON
LETT'S
REPORTING**



Friday in *Yellowknifer*

Salute to the fallen

Fire department to dedicate monument in September to deceased brethren