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SPORTS: Champion Mount Doug Rams return /A21

Black Press

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

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Betty Emery and husband Gerry serve up some table tennis at Monterey Recreation Centre. Betty scored three gold medals in the Senior Games in Burnaby.

Christine van Reeuwijk/News staff

Senior Games sweethearts

Decades of practice keeps Oak Bay couple going for the gold

Christine van Reeuwijk
News staff

Five decades together doesn't dampen a partnership according to one Oak Bay couple. Betty and Gerry Emery started their table tennis pairing as high school

sweethearts at Mount Douglas secondary.

"We play really well together. We've been married 57 years so we should have those things worked out now. We've had a lot of practice," Betty said.

She, however, has more gold medals from the 2012 B.C. Senior Games than Gerry does. Betty scored three golds, one alongside her husband, during the Games in Burnaby. Gerry earned a gold and a silver.

Betty's played table tennis since her childhood days of rumpus room ping pong, right through to three previous

Games. Now she's among the 140 members in the Monterey 55-plus club.

"I think there's a waiting list to get in," she said.

The husband-wife team had a fan club at the games, with kids and grandkids gathering in the stands for the mixed pairs finals that went to five matches.

PLEASE SEE:

Monterey team up to the challenge, Page A6



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Doobie-ous tax bill mellows out marijuana club

Canada Revenue hits medicinal marijuana provider with \$150,000 HST bill

Daniel Palmer
News staff

A Victoria medicinal marijuana club is being forced to pay \$150,000 in backdated taxes on its estimated \$2.5 million in annual sales.

Canada Revenue Agency began investigating the Cannabis Buyers' Club of Canada and owner Ted Smith in early May, after he admitted in a B.C. Supreme Court case that he had not been paying taxes or employee deductions.

"Honestly, I'm just happy I'm not

going to jail," said Smith, who has operated the club for 16 years in Victoria.

"In a way, this is kind of a step towards legitimacy for us."

Smith won the court case in April, which struck down a section of federal regulations that made the sale of edible marijuana and other products to medicinal users illegal.

As part of his evidence, he admitted the club had been avoiding tax payments.

"The police actually took that judgement to the CRA and they started investigating me from there," Smith said, adding he will pay the tax bill out of his own pocket and separate himself from future club business.

"I'm going to be left with this mortgage-like debt, but the club's not

going to be affected," he said.

Smith is currently in the final stages of appointing a board of directors with the intention of converting the club into a non-profit society.

Two committees on incorporation and finance are already working to ensure the new organization operates completely within the law, Smith added.

"We'll be a lot more transparent, a lot more accountable. It's a step we've been looking to do for a long time," he said.

"I can live with a \$150,000 debt. But I haven't done anything criminal here at all, I've just not been in compliance."

Smith hopes to use some proceeds from his recently published book, *Hempology 101: The History and Uses of Cannabis Sativa*, to help pay the massive tax bill.

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Light the Night aids cancer fight

The annual Light the Night Walk is fast approaching, and organizers are calling on sponsors and donors to make it the most successful year to date for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada.

The event takes place Sept. 22 at the University of Victoria in support of more than 2,300 British Columbians and 100,000 Canadians living with blood cancers.

Cascades Recovery Inc. has agreed to sponsor the recycling and garbage collection for the Victoria walk.

For more information and to sign up for the event, visit lightthenight.ca.

editor@oakbaynews.com

At Your Service



Monterey team up to the challenge

Continued from Page A1

"Two of our games we had to go right to five games," she said. "They weren't easy games, they were really challenging."

The Monterey team brought home 31 medals.

"There would have been about 200 playing table tennis in all our age groups," she said.

"There were two people that were 91 and could play a good game."

Other Monterey table tennis club winners were Heide Dobbie (silver, bronze), Chris Fox (gold), Sue Jian (gold, bronze), Fred Kong (silver, two bronze), Uschi Leslie (gold, silver), Emi Nakagawa (silver, bronze), Yuji Nakagawa (gold, silver), Kathleen Quilter (gold, silver), Les Quilter (two silver), Bruce Roger (two silver), Mike Sampson (bronze), Norma Sanby (two gold, silver) David Smylie (bronze) and Dick Stone (silver).

Senior's drama at Games

The Monterey Senior Players scored a 'gold hat trick' at the B.C. Senior Games. In the one-act play competition the Monterey Senior Players won three gold medals, one silver and a bronze.

The Players topped the podium in best play. Greg Finnegan, the group's current playwright-in-residence, won gold for best original script for his one-act play *In the Mood*. Roger Walker scored gold for best actor. Silver went to Dana Baecker and Rita Humphreys for best direction and long-time club member Peggie Freeman earned bronze in the best actress category.

Can't snooker her

Joy Hughes, 89, a resident of Carlton House in Oak Bay, received a gold medal for Snooker at the B.C. Senior Games.

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Sunday, September 16th, 2012
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (BAS230)
10:00 am Church School