

FRED & ALICE JENNINGS

Mentions in [The Daily Herald-Tribune](#), Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada





This was yesterday

By ISABEL CAMPBELL

THOUGH "SPRING COMES SLOWLY UP THIS WAY" wildlife was venturing into populated districts with winter-liberated abandon as if revelling in new freedom.

Bezanson area was aroused to a flurry of speculation by appearance of a bear, but a bear no two viewers agreed as to size and color.

"A bear, variously described as 'all white', 'yellowish white with dark markings' and 'cinnamon colored' has been sighted by at least five district residents, touching off a wave of speculation on the mysterious addition to the district's bear population" reported the Herald-Tribune, June 24, 1954. "Speculation runs the gamut from 'albino' to 'visitor from northern climates'.

"First sighted two weeks ago, the bear has been spotted at least four times since then in the general vicinity of the Smoky River, four miles south and east of here. Fred Dewhirst says 'a cinnamon bear' lumbered out in front of his car a few days ago. He is positive it's the same bear others have seen at a distance as 'white'.

"Gordon Hestler who farms about five miles from Bezanson, was the first to report the 'mysterious' bruin. He spotted him as he was walking on the banks of the Smoky about half a mile east of John Stark's home.

"District residents say that the next man to spot the bear was Lawrence Parrish . . . Jack Haworth who farms a mile south of the Stark's saw what he thought was a white calf on the fringe of the bush about 200 yards away. Going outside he crept up on the animal and recognized it as a bear before it lumbered off into the trees . . . Mel Newman working in a field, was reported to have also seen the bear . . . Since reports of the bear began to circulate in the district some believe it is an albino.

"At least one resident who has lived in the north many years, is said to be convinced the bear is a Kodiak. His theory is the late spring thaw in the mountains is in some manner connected with the bear's appearance this far south."

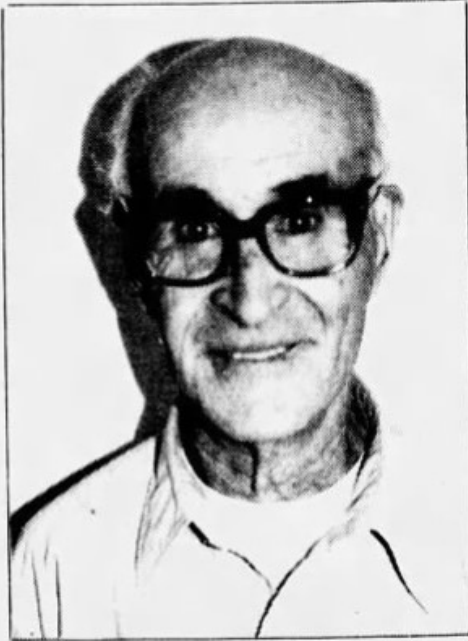
Fred Jennings who operated the little store at the Smoky Bridge picnic grounds and his brother-in-law Lawrence Gaboury, tracked down a pair of young fawns spotted bounding across the highway after hearing shots followed by a car pulling away.

"'We were certain the mother was dead' recounted Fred to a Herald-Tribune reporter June 24, 1954. 'There's a story that young fawns will never leave their hiding place if the mother is alive'. The men searched the river banks for some trace of the doe. They found nothing. 'I think she was wounded and went as far back in the bush as she could' said Fred.

"The young fawns, thought to be about ten days old, were taken to Jennings's store by the bridge. A makeshift pen was built in the yard and the fawns went on a milk diet fed through a bottle. Reporting to game authorities Fred was given a permit to keep the fawns until they were full grown. Their destination then will probably be either Jasper or Banff National Park where they can live out their years under the watchful eyes of park officials.

"In a few days since the deer have been in their new 'home' scores of district residents have dropped down to the Smoky to see them."

Eugene Gaboury, 92, of Grande Prairie



On Tuesday, April 30, 1991 Gene Gaboury, resident of Grande Prairie

Care Centre (Central Park Lodge) passed away at his residence at the age of 92 years.

Gene was born in Little Falls, Minnesota on August 11, 1898. He moved to Canada in 1912 where he settled in Rosthern, Saskatchewan.

He met Mary Lemke and they were married August 20, 1920 at Rosthern.

They moved to the Peace River area in 1928. The couple resided in the Fitzsimmons area until 1955, moved to Goodwin where they resided until 1985 when they moved to Grande Prairie.

Gene Gaboury is survived by children: Sadie and John Sarmaga, Bud and Lucielle Gaboury, Lawrence and Faye Gaboury, Alice Jennings; 14 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; brothers and sisters:

Edmund Gaboury, Irving and Nita Gaboury, Evelyne Reneault, Phoebe and Rene Bouchard, Pam Clark, Mable Lavassier.

He was predeceased by his wife Mary in 1986; infant son Billy in 1922; sisters Cara, Eva, Leena; and brother Eddie.

Funeral service for the late Eugene Gaboury will be held from Oliver Funeral Chapel, 10212-102 Street, Grande Prairie on Saturday, May 4, 1991 at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Vern Begalke officiating. Interment to follow in Glen Leslie Cemetery.

If friends desire, memorial donations may be made to Camp Tamarack or to the charity of one's choice.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Oliver Funeral Chapel and Crematorium, Grande Prairie. Telephone 532-2929.

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OBITUARY

Melody Fournier, 48, of Vancouver

Melody Fournier, daughter of Alice Gaboury (Jennings), passed away at the age of 48 years on July 2, 2004 in Vancouver, B.C.

A memorial service celebrating her life is being held at the Bezanson Legion, Saturday, August 21, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. A lunch and fellowship will follow.