

# JUANITA & STANLEY SARMAGA

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

**HERRICK - Clarence Charles**  
Herrick passed away October 16,  
1974 at Spirit River, Alberta, at the  
age of 80 years.

Mr. Herrick was born at Castle  
Rock, Colorado, and has resided in  
the Woking District since 1927. He  
is survived by his wife Lucy; sons  
Robert, Willis and Clifford all of  
Woking; daughter **Mrs. Stan**  
**(Juanita) Sarmaga**, Bezanson; 6  
grandchildren, brothers Archie of  
Spirit Lake, Idaho; Ted  
Craigmont, Idaho; sisters Grace  
Thomas, Lenore, Idaho; Juanita  
Rudd, Seattle, Washington.

Funeral services were held at  
Grace Gospel Church, Spirit River  
on Saturday, October 12, 1974 at  
2:00 p.m. with Rev. Loven of-  
ficiating, interment followed at the  
Spirit River Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements by the  
Oliver Funeral Home.

### LUCY MAY HERRICK

Mrs. Lucy May Herrick passed away Sunday, Feb. 3, at Woking, Alta. at the age of

85. She was born in Thedford Mines, Quebec. She came to the Peace Country in 1928 and resided on the family farm until her death.

She is survived by two brothers: Albert and Gladwin of Quebec; three sisters: Ruby, Myrtle and Alice of Quebec; two sons: Willis of Woking and Cliff (Harriet) of Woking; daughter Juanita (Stan) Sarmaga of Bezanson; daughter-in-law Ann Herrick of Grande Prairie; five grandsons; three granddaughters; two great-granddaughters: Glenda and Tammy. She was predeceased by her husband Clarence and son Robert.

Funeral service for the late Lucy May Herrick will be held from the Grace Gospel Chapel, Spirit River, tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. with Rev. MacNair officiating. Interment to follow at Spirit River Cemetery.

If desired, donations may be given to the Canadian Cancer Society or the Alberta Heart Foundation.

Funeral arrangements by the Oliver Funeral Chapel.

## Taught school in 1927

# 50 years were forgotten at nostalgic Bezanson reunion

Submitted by  
Elmer McLaughlin

A spur-of-the-moment reunion of former students and their spouses was held Aug. 23 in the Bezanson Legion Hut in honor of a former teacher and his lovely wife.

Murry and Martha Skinner of Thunder Bay, Ont., returned for a brief visit to our community where he had taught from 1927-31 in the old Lindsay School, 2½

His classes were from Grade 1 to 8, with as many as 72 pupils in a large one-room school, and his salary was \$1,000 per year.

The first hour of the reunion was a happy time of getting re-acquainted, then moved on to reminiscing about many hilarious incidents which took place at school. As if by magic, 50 years dropped away, we were kids again and the Hut literally rocked with

Lunch was served and all too soon we said goodbye to this warm, loving couple which we hadn't seen in over 50 years.

Their story is on page 386

in our book "Smoky River to Grande Prairie" and is worthwhile reading. We all wish them the very best of health and happiness for many years to come.



Gathering for the nostalgic evening were (front row, l-r) Dorothy Allen, Evelyn Gammon, Murry Skinner, Martha Skinner, Alice Weegar, Dorothy Ringle; (middle row, l-r) Elmer McLaughlin, Nick Smashnuk, Bea Fells, Annie Oe, Grace Menard, Louise Kimble; (back row, l-r) Fred Ford, Bohdon Hawryluk, Alfred Robideau, John Sarmaga and Stan Sarmaga.



# Move underway to declare old Bezanson historic site

By Herald-Tribune staff

It will likely be next spring before the old Bezanson townsite is declared a historic site.

Alberta Culture staff who deal with historic sites have been involved with an archeological dig in Fort Chipewyan and so weren't expected to get to the Bezanson agricultural

society application until fall.

Hopefully the approval will come by next spring, said Janet Sarmaga, a spokesman for the group.

Despite the delay, the society went ahead with a proposal to install picnic tables and hiking trails this summer.

She said the work was to be done without disturbing anything.

The county has given the society approval to work on the site, located 10 km south of the current hamlet on the banks of the Smoky River.

Sarmaga said the picnic ground, which would be for daytime use, would be near where the town was located in the early 1900s.

From the picnic ground, one would be able to see the confluence of the Smoky, Wapiti and Simonette rivers which makes for a scenic view, Sarmaga said.

The agricultural society is still looking for information and pictures about the

old townsite since there were up to 200 people about 1911, but only four families in 1920.

When the railroad came south from Rycroft to Grande Prairie, and not the original townsite as promoter Ansel Bezanson had hoped, the town died.

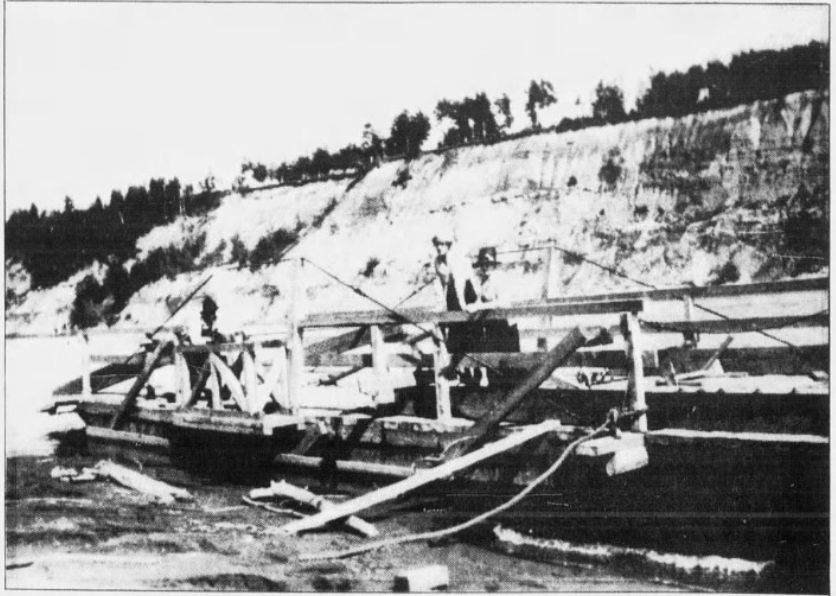
Sarmaga said Bezanson had written to places as far away as China to promote not only Bezanson, but the entire Peace Country.

A book written by Bezanson, called Peace River Trails, was published by the Edmonton Journal.

He saw Bezanson as being a key community in the area because of its key location at the confluence of the three rivers.

Before the demise of the original townsite, several businesses were in existence and most of the Edson Trail traffic came through the settlement.

A flour mill was built, said Sarmaga, but it never turned a wheel. It was later moved to Sexsmith.



The ferry across the Smoky River in the early 1900s.

Janet is Stanley & Juanita's daughter-in-law

The Daily Herald-Tribune

[Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada • Fri, Sep 13, 1985Page 2](#)

# Bezanson functions offer good food and good friends

By BEA FELLS

BEZANSON — The Golden Years Club held a card party Oct. 26 with six tables. Winners were: Ladies' first — Cathrine Klassen of Debolt; second — Hazel Weegar; Men's high — George Lavrick; second — Art Lowen. Travelling prize — Flora Mellun of Debolt.

Many friends and relatives of Elmer and Joan Ford, and Keith and Kay Coney gathered at the Bezanson Hall Oct. 26 for a happy event — their 25th Wedding Anniversary. A buffet supper was prepared by family and friends, for about 200 people. Brenda and Ernie Ford, and Kim, Kelly and Scott Coney, children of the happy couples, got the occasion started and had lots of help from everyone.

Following the supper, entertainment included songs, skits and toasts. This was followed by a dance until the wee hours of the morning.

The CWL held a chicken supper Oct. 27 at the hall, serving about 250 people. There was also entertainment for

young and old upstairs after supper — bingo, bazaar table, fish pond, guessing games, etc.

Bezanson GYC sponsored the South Peace Crib Tournament Nov. 2 at the Legion Hut. There was a very nice turnout of 96 people — 24 tables.

The trophy went to Spirit River, with a score of 1,411.

The first pair of trophies went to Merle and Polly Patterson of Bezanson, with a score of 1,428.

The second set of trophies went to Dorothy Mansfield and Myrtle Gordon of Grande Prairie — score 1,426.

Thanks to everyone for coming out and making it a big success for us.

Also, thanks to the ladies who set the buffet dinner out so nicely: Pearl McLaughlin, Lorna Nellis, Allie Weegar, Margrite Lavrick, Anita Sarmaga. You did a wonderful job ladies!

Eleven club members went to Goodwin to their opening card party Nov. 2. It was a lucky day for Buster Patterson as he won the men's high that night, as well as winning the trophy in the crib tournament.

# Bezanson site nears historic status

By KATHY MURRIE  
Herald-Tribune staff

Another milestone in the saga of the old Bezanson townsite is about to be reached.

Local residents have been working to have the old townsite, south of the

present day village, designated a provincial historic site. This Saturday, a notice of intent for that designation will be handed over to the County of Grande Prairie from Alberta Culture.

The ceremony will take place at 4 p.m. on the old townsite, with all former residents and others interested in the historic area invited to take part. Smoky River MLA (and provincial hospitals minister) Marv Moore will make the presentation.

Jim Bezanson, son of town founder A.M. Bezanson, was going to be coming up from his home in southern B.C. but will be unable to make it.

Gertrude Mattinson, daughter of Bezanson's brother Percy and a former resident, has confirmed her intent to be there Saturday. The day is also the new town's annual Sports Day and an expedition will leave for the old site at about 3 p.m.

## LAST STEP

Janet Sarmaga chairs the Bezan-

son Agricultural Society's historic committee and has been involved with the project over a year.

"The notice of intent is probably the third step and the last one before the actual designation," she explained. The county has already given the group the go-ahead to develop the area as a campsite, but plans were held up for several reasons.

Alberta Culture had asked the site be left untouched pending a decision on whether or not to have an archaeological dig to investigate the area's ancient past. That idea was later rejected. Although the site near the Smoky and Wapiti Rivers was used by early native people, it has suffered a lot of river erosion and isn't considered a major research site.

The other hold-up to development is funds, admits Sarmaga. "It will take a lot of volunteer work and funds. We plan a campground with the old townsite fenced off, so you can walk through it only. The camp stalls will carry names of former residents and buildings. We hope to have a live-in

care-taker." Funding sources are being explored now.

## MOUNDS ARE THERE

There isn't a lot left of the town that existed from 1906 to about 1920. The last buildings were moved to the higher new townsite in 1923, but Sarmaga says "the mounds are all there from where the store, the livery stables, the (A.M.) Bezanson house stood. The ferry crossing is on the (present-day) Ross Adam ranch.

"What we want to do is have a legend indicating what was where in the old townsite, marking off places with picket fences and pedestals with a capsule history and photograph of the original buildings.

"Ellis Turner of DeBolt has showed us where the buildings were. He was the last person to move off the townsite.

"Jim Bezanson has a number of old photographs and is helping us gather them and the history."

Later the group hopes to act on a request by Turner to have a monument included on the site to pioneer women of the Peace.

"It's appropriate," says Sarmaga. "Most of the pioneer women came through the Bezanson area and there is nothing like that anywhere else in the Peace. Also, Mr. Turner says the first Mrs. (A.M.) Bezanson died at the townsite in childbirth."

A first attempt at doing something with the old townsite was made about 10 years ago, but fell through. Sarmaga says it was a little tougher getting support this time partly because of that, but interest is growing now.

Janet is Stanley & Juanita's daughter-in-law

The Daily Herald-Tribune

Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada • Wed, Jun 11, 1986 Page 18



# Spirit River wins Bezanson tourney

Contributed by BEA FELLS

BEZANSON — Spirit River Club was the winner of the big trophy when Bezanson Golden Years Club hosted the South Peace Crib Tournament Nov. 15.

Second-place winners were Willie Monroe and Frances Goodland as a team.

The 60 crib players from the six clubs attending had a very friendly and enjoyable afternoon.

Thank you all for coming and making it the success it was. Also, thanks to our kitchen help. They did a real good job. Helpers were: Allie Weegar, Lorna Nellis, Betty Ford, Molly Lavrick and Anita Sarmaga.

The doily raffle was held, with Dorthea Mansfield winning the first and second draws and Hazel Weegar the third draw.

Bezanson school boys won the volleyball tournament for the county schools this year on Nov. 15. Congratulations Boys!

The Wild meat supper Nov. 22 was a big success. Some of the dishes were very tasty. They had moose, deer, alligator, squirrel, cougar, bear, frog legs, and quite a few different kinds of fish. There was also beef, ham, turkey and chicken.

A card party on Nov. 25 had six tables. The winners were: Ladies' High — Ruth Patterson, 145; Low — Molly Lavrick; Men's High was Art Patterson, 145, and Low, Willie Monroe.

## SYMPATHY TO SARMAGAS

Deepest sympathy to John and Sadie Sarmaga, also Anita and Stan Sarmaga, on the passing of their sister Annie Herrick, also an old school friend of many from Bezanson.

The G.Y.C. held their annual meeting Nov. 27 with 19 members in attendance. There was much discussing our drop-in centre, which is beginning to shape up for the near future.

We had our annual seniors' Christmas Party last night. Supper and social evening, card playing, carpet bowling and shuffleboard.

The curling rink at Bezanson opened with a mixed bonspiel on Nov. 26. The rink is open to anyone wanting to get in the square draw. Get in touch with anyone on the ag. board.

The Jim Fells Memorial Crib Tournament was held Nov. 29 with 29 players. The winners were: first - Edna Anderson, second - Bell Heasler, third - Pete Dorksen of DeBolt. It was an enjoyable afternoon.

Sis Welander from Edmonton spent the weekend visiting her mother Bea Fells, also new great-nephew Tyler Fells; also Louise and Herman Kimble (aunt and uncle), and Grace and Wilfred Menard. We all joined in a card game at Menard's.



# OLD BEZANSON TOWNSITE:

## 'One of the most beautiful places in the world'

By CHRISTINA GRANT  
Herald-Tribune staff

Driving along the circuitous 10 kilometre dirt road to the old Bezanson townsite, one is left wondering how in the world such a location was ever discovered, let alone chosen.

But as the bush gives way to a splendid view over the Smoky River, the choice becomes more understandable.

"This is one of the most beautiful places in the world," proclaims Wendy Geary as she rests with husband Brian on a log rail along the bank.

Like many others, the Grande Prairie couple only just discovered the peaceful spot — located southeast of Bezanson.

"It's a good place to relax; to come and think. And you don't have to drive too far."

Officially opened four years ago, the provincial designated historical site is an undertaking of the Bezanson Agricultural Society.

And according to the chairwoman, it's not done yet.

"This is a long-term project," Janet Sarmaga says. "We'll always be doing new things and improving on what we have."

Funding has come largely from the Alberta Recreation and Parks' Municipal Recreation/Tourism program. A total of \$250,000 was committed in 1987, with \$90,000 having been spent so far.

Volunteer labor and donations have also played a major part.

The development is both a historical site and a campground. There are basic camping facilities, including 25 campsites with rough-hewn picnic tables and fire pits, and a log group shelter with wood stove.

A ball diamond and a children's play area flank a communal water pump.

Sarmaga says the picnic area overlooking the Smoky River several hundred feet below is a popular day-use spot.

A restful nature to the site is stressed, and off-road vehicles that can



Brian and Wendy Geary of Grande Prairie appreciate the peacefulness of the old Bezanson townsite.

tear up native prairie grass disallowed. To expand the park's use into the winter, five kilometres of cross-country ski trails (also for mountain biking and hiking) have just been cleared.

The historical component of the park isn't immediately evident. But as soon as one begins to explore the pathways, hints of what was once a bustling town become evident.

"This used to be Mr. Bezanson's house," Sarmaga says, pointing to a berm of raised earth in the grass. A few steps away is a breathtaking vantage point that once took in the confluence of three rivers - the Simonette, Smoky and Wapiti. Brush has since grown up, obscuring the view.

Ansel Maynard Bezanson, Sarmaga explains, was "a promoter" who came up from Edmonton in 1906 "looking for more places to bring people in."

He found three sets of stakes that seemed to indicate a proposed rail line nearby, and so started the development of a town in his name.

The river site was perceived as an excellent location for a sawmill, and by

1914 a total of 14 major buildings — including a bakery, stable, church/school and a restaurant — had been erected in a well laid out village.

"But the railway never came this way," says Sarmaga. "The community slowly died."

A ferry crossing the Smoky River at the settlement delivered many pioneers into the Peace Country. It was moved in 1923 to where the bridge is now along Hwy. 34, leaving the community literally high and dry. Buildings were relocated, abandoned, or torn down.

The last building was moved off the old site in 1926.

Not much is left of the old Bezanson. But Sarmaga feels the markers indicating where each home or shop once stood, and the commemorative bronze plaque fixed to a cairn honoring pioneer women near A.M. Bezanson's house site, provide a meaningful link to the past.

"We want to let people know how important Bezanson is to the development of this country," she said. "It's part of the Edson Trail.

"I believe all history is important to preserve."

The project, with its careful blend of old and new and use of rustic log construction throughout, will serve as a palpable lesson in what the pioneers accomplished for the area.

"Now the young people can remember what happened in the past, and be proud that people moved up here and took the time to develop this."

Eric Chislett, an instructor at the Grande Prairie Regional College and avid cross-country skier, oversaw construction of the ski trails.

"It's one of only a few designed trails in the area.

"The park is beautiful, but not much used in winter. This will help. There's lots of wildlife and the river views."

As she flips through the pages of a guest book at the park, Sarmaga delights in finding names from Montana, Texas and even Germany.

"I feel the Bezanson Ag Society has accomplished something that will benefit the community and the whole area."

Janet is Stanley & Juanita's daughter-in-law

The Daily Herald-Tribune

Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada • Tue, Sep 8, 1992 Page 5

## Harriet Johanna Herrick



On Monday, October 28, 2002, Harriet Johanna Herrick, longtime resident of Woking, passed away at the Q.E.II Hospital Grande

Prairie, at the age of 69 years.

Harriet was born September 14, 1933 at Spirit River, Alberta. She was a member of the Woking Willing Workers for 46 years. Spending time with her family, her children and grandchildren, brought her a lot of joy. She also enjoyed curling, gardening and flowers.

She is survived by her loving husband of 47 years, Clifford, daughter Pamela (Albert) Rupert of Clairmont, son Kelly of Woking, son Wayne (Terry) of Slave Lake, 10 Grandchildren: Annette, Lacey, Sherisse, Ashley Rupert; Tyler, Falyn Heck; Sidney, Ethan, Keith, Janae Herrick, one great-grandson Tyler Burwash. She also leaves two brothers, Stewart Smith and Wallace Smith; two sisters, Iris Yule and Jean (Terry) Chequer, brother-in-law Willis Herrick, sister-in-law Juanita Sarmaga, numerous nieces, nephews and many other relatives and friends.

Harriet was predeceased by her parents Albert and Elva Smith, brother Elder Smith, brothers-in-law Bob Herrick, Stanley Sarmaga and Andy Yule, and sister-in-law Ann Herrick.

Memorial service will be held on Friday, November 1, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. from the Woking Hall, with Pastor Ruby Wiebe officiating.

Donations in Harriet's memory may be made to the Woking Willing Workers or the Charity of Ones Choice.

**OLIVER'S GRANDE PRAIRIE  
FUNERAL CHAPEL  
& CREMATORIUM**  
TELEPHONE (780) 532-2929

## C. Willis Herrick, 77, of Woking



On Saturday, August 9, 2003 Willis Herrick, long-time resident of the Woking area, passed away at the Central Peace Hospital in Spirit River at

the age of 77 years.

Willis was born January 23, 1926 at Blackie, Alberta.

He enjoyed farming, travelling, spending time with family and helping his neighbors.

Willis is survived by one sister Juanita Sarmaga of Bezanson, Alberta, one brother Clifford of Woking, Alberta, nieces and nephews Garry Sarmaga, Don Sarmaga, Pamela Rupert, Kelly Herrick, Gayle Unsworth and Wayne Herrick and their families, close friends Merle and Jean Keddie as well as numerous other relatives and friends.

Willis was predeceased by his parents Clarence and Lucy, one brother Robert, two sisters-in-law Harriet Herrick and Ann Herrick and one brother-in-law Stanley Sarmaga.

Funeral service will be held on Wednesday, August 13, 2003 at 2 p.m. from the Community Hall in Woking, Alberta, with Pastor Ruby Wiebe officiating. Interment of ashes will follow in the Bridgeview Cemetery.

**OLIVER'S GRANDE PRAIRIE  
FUNERAL CHAPEL  
& CREMATORIUM**  
TELEPHONE (780) 532-2929



# *Thank You*

The family of **WILLIS HERRICK** would like to thank the following people who made the lengthy illness that Willis suffered bearable. Dr. Gorman for going above and beyond, we appreciated that you were always available. To the Home Care Nurses, doctors, nurses and staff at the Central Peace Hospital in Spirit River for treating him with kindness and making his last days pleasant and comfortable. To Hartmann and Eileen Nagel for showing their respect by lowering their flag. To Pastor Ruby, Oliver's Funeral Chapel, Eileen Nagel for playing the organ and to the Working Willing Workers for the beautiful lunch. Thank you to all our friends and relatives for your kind words, cards, phone calls, and visits they were very much appreciated.

Juanita Sarmaga, Cliff Herrick and their families.

## John Sarmaga 1919 to 2005



With deep sadness, the Sarmaga family said goodbye to John Sarmaga on Saturday, April 23, 2005 at the age of 85 years. John was born on May 21, 1919 at Kleskin Hills, Alberta and passed away at the QE II Hospital in Grande Prairie.

John is predeceased by his father, Stephen Sarmaga (2 August 1981); mother, Mary Sarmaga (2 March 1984); sister, Ann Herrick (21 November 1986); and brother, Stanley Sarmaga (1 September 1989).

John leaves to mourn: his loving wife of 62 years, Sadie; children: Maxine Maxwell (Dave), Donna Bedard, Grant Sarmaga, Gene Sarmaga (Karen), Audrey Curran (Rick); grandchildren: Tom Maxwell, Rudy Maxwell (Allison), Michelle Lynn (Glenn), Jamin Bedard, Angela Bedard, Jeremy Sarmaga, Daron Sarmaga, Clint Sarmaga, Jerad Sarmaga (Nicole), Steven Sarmaga, Isaac Curran, and Jonathan Curran; great-grandchildren: Christina Bedard, Maria Maxwell, and Jenna Maxwell; and sister-in-law: **Juanita Sarmaga**. John will also be sadly missed by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and close friends.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2005 at 2 p.m. at the Bezanson Community Church. Interment at Glen Leslie Cemetery with luncheon to follow at the Bezanson Community Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of John may be made to the West Smoky Legion No. 244, Box 11, Bezanson, Alberta; Canadian Cancer Society; or a charity of one's choice.

**OLIVER'S GRANDE PRAIRIE FUNERAL  
CHAPEL & CREMATORIUM**

## Clifford Weston Herrick



Clifford Weston Herrick resident of Woking passed away in Spirit River on Monday, May 4, 2009 at the age of 80.

He was born in Blackie, Alberta on October 4, 1928.

His family moved to Woking when Cliff was 3 weeks old. Cliff married his childhood friend Harriet from the farm down the road on June 3, 1955. He will always be remembered as the UFA Bulk Agent in Woking. He has resided in Woking for his entire life.

He is survived by his children: Pamela (Albert) Rupert (grandchildren Tyler Heck, Falyn Heck (Josh Letkeman), step-grandchildren Annette (Scott), Lacey (Rob), Sherisse (Justin), Tyler, Paisley, Ashley (Nick)); sons Kelly Herrick, Wayne Herrick and family (Sidney, Ethan, Keith, Janae); sister **Juanita Sarmaga**; also survived by Harriet's family and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his wife Harriet; brothers Robert, and Willis; brothers-in-law Elder Smith and Andy Yule; and sister-in-law Ann Herrick.

Funeral service will be held at Woking School on Saturday, May 9, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Ruby Wiebe Officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Central Peace Health Complex Palliative Care, Canadian Cancer Society or charity of one's choice.

The Daily Herald-Tribune

[Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada • Fri, May 8, 2009 Page 55](#)



# Bezanson celebrates centennial this weekend

**BRAEDEN JONES**  
Herald-Tribune staff

It's still centennial season in the County of Grande Prairie, and the latest hamlet to celebrate its 100th birthday will be Bezanson on Saturday.

The community located roughly 30 kilometres east of Grande Prairie on Highway 43 was a bustling place 100 years ago.

By 1915, the townsite had 20 buildings including a general store, hotel, blacksmith shop, bakery, church and school.

It was on a busy route followed by settlers coming into the region via the Edson Trail, and doubled as a



**BEZANSON**  
Founder

convenient stop for river boats operating on the Smoky and Peace rivers.

It was poised to be a regional hub. But the railway went through Grande Prairie, traffic slowed on the Edson Trail, and the ferry site moved

down river. The town of Bezanson disintegrated

Bezanson was moved nearer to the highway, but the original townsite about 10 kilometre southeast of the hamlet's current location was preserved with historical markers, a

park and campground.

It was designated a registered historic resource in 1986.

In 1988, it was reopened by the old Bezanson Townsite Committee. Janet Sarmaga was chairperson of the committee at that time.

That old townsite is where people will celebrate 100 years of the community this weekend.

Sarmaga said she is looking forward to celebrating the 100th anniversary of her community.

Festivities kick off at 1 p.m. Saturday at the park.

"It will be like an old-fashioned sports day," Sarmaga said.

"There will be games like gunny-sack races and three-legged races

things like that. There are horse and wagon rides, tours of where the buildings used to be, it will be fun."

There will be the grand opening of the new playground at the townsite and a few words spoken about the historic site revitalization project planned for the townsite.

A flag designed as a commemorative tribute to the centennial of Bezanson by students from Bezanson School, will be flown this weekend, and a special book written by town founder Ansel Maynard Bezanson will be available for purchase.

"Mr. Bezanson wrote the book in 1907," Sarmaga said. "We've had another printing done of it. It's his story of going north from Edmon-

ton and is before he settled here. The government had used that book to promote the settlement of the Peace Country," she said.

Walking trails are open all day, and the baseball diamond and horse-shoe pits will be available for people to play pick-up games.

Speeches are at 1:30 p.m., sports and games run from 2 to 4 p.m. and a beef on a bun supper is scheduled for 5 p.m.

In the evening, old-timey music will be played by a range of local talents.

For more information visit [discoverbezanson.ca](http://discoverbezanson.ca)

[braeden.jones@sunmedia.ca](mailto:braeden.jones@sunmedia.ca)

Janet is Stanley & Juanita's daughter-in-law

The Daily Herald-Tribune

[Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada • Fri, Aug 29, 2014](#) Page 5