Wildfires rampage through our wilderness, algal blooms are more common in our lakes and oceans, our glaciers are retreating at alarming rates, temperatures are rising – there’s no doubt that our climate is changing. That was the message at the ‘Hot and Bothered in the Kootenays’ Water, Drought & Climate Change Forum in Nelson, April 23, 2016.

Welcoming addresses began with Bonnie Harvey on behalf of the Ktunaxa Nation. “Water is fundamental to indigenous cultures.” Nelson Mayor Deb Kozak spoke of the growing influence of local governments on water policy. RDCK Director Ramona Faust pointed to the need for conversation about water and bade delegates to “have a great forum – talk in meaningful ways.” Bessie Wapp told the story of a wildfire near the co-housing project where she lives. “Extreme weather is the new normal.”

Robert Sandford was the first speaker. The EPCOR Chair for Water and Climate Security at the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health, he gave a global perspective on the warming world. He said that warmer global temperatures are creating new bacterial and viral strains, eutrophication of water is causing large algal blooms and creating opportunities for invasive species. On Lake Winnipeg, he said there are algal blooms of 17,000 square kilometres. Lake temperatures are rising twice as fast in Canada as in the rest of the world. “Follow the water,” he said. “It will show the way to sustainability.”

Dr. Mel Reasoner spoke about local concerns with a short talk about climate change in the southern Selkirks. “Last year was exceptionally hot. We had more rain in the spring and less in the summer. Temperatures are expected to continue to rise.” He advised the audience to plan to adapt. “The average year in the 2050s will be like the hottest two percent of the 20th century.”

Ben Pelto has worked on glaciers all over the world for the last 11 years. He made the point that glaciers provide water, and with glacier mass declining, river flows are reduced. “Our local glaciers are expected to lose 67-99 percent of their volume by 2100.”

Uli Wolf and Colin Innes gave an overview of local water supplies. Wolf is the RDCK’s Environmental Services Manager. Innes is the Director Public Works and Utilities for the City of Nelson. Wolf said that the RDCK administers 19 water systems, of which nine are surface water, seven groundwater and three that draw directly from Kootenay Lake. He said that climate change will cause droughts, floods, and more erosion and landslides. Innes spoke about the City of Nelson’s water sources and potential water sources. “We’re in pretty good shape. We have options available.”

Registered Professional Forester John Cafro spoke about wildfire and the interface – where forests meet communities. He says that 40,000 hectares of land falls into this category in our area. It costs $5,000–$10,000 per hectare to clean this land up so it’s no longer a hazard.

Megan Lohman, the Regional District of East Kootenay’s Community Energy Manager, spoke on the need to adapt to climate change and to mitigate its worst effects. She stressed the need for local solutions. “We spend $600 million on energy in our area. It costs $5,000–$40,000 hectares of land falls into this category in our area. It costs $5,000–$10,000 per hectare to clean this land up so it’s no longer a hazard.”

Rosie Simms, the Water Law and Policy Researcher/Coordinator for the POLIS Water Sustainability Project at the University of Victoria, brought the group up to speed on the new Water Sustainability Act. While she generally approves of the thrust of the legislation, she notes there are still quite a few problems. “A lot of stuff has been carried over from the old Water Act.” She says that much of the act is colonial in its language, there are no regulations yet, and it’s discretionary. She says that, on the good side, groundwater is now regulated, environmental flows are recognized, and water pricing is now in place for large users of the resource. There are two areas that still need work: water objectives and planning and governance. “This act is still a work in progress.”

Anna Warwick-Sears of the Okanagan Basin Water Board told the group about her experiences delivering water in a part of the province with fewer water resources and a higher population than the West Kootenay. “First,” she says, “do the obvious. Secondly, don’t wait for senior government.”
Slocan Valley provides more input into SD8 facilities plan

by Lori Thompson and Sheri Walsh

SD8 trustees were scheduled to make some very difficult decisions about school closures, particularly in the Slocan Valley and Meadow Creek, at their regular meeting on May 3. In the months leading up to that decision, they received a huge amount of public input. At the April 19 board meeting, Slocan Valley, Meadow Creek and Nelson parents and elected officials filled the gallery, and watched presentations by Winlaw PAC representatives Edan DuPont and Shonna Robertson, and Slocan Mayor Jessica Lunn. They peppered trustees and district staff with questions and comments for an hour before the board meeting commenced.

At a public meeting on April 18, close to 80 people filled the WE Graham Community School gym anxious to discuss the proposal to close either Winlaw School or WE Graham with seven trustees, Superintendent Jeff Jones, Secretary-Treasurer Kim Morris and Director of Operations Larry Brown. The meeting was facilitated by consultant Cathy Scott-May.

How did the top ranking scenario of rebuilding Winlaw Elementary (WES) School change the third and fourth ranking scenarios of closing either Winlaw or WE Graham (WEG)? Secretary-Treasurer Morris explained that when the Ministry of Education considers rebuilding schools, they first look at whether there are health and safety issues at the existing school, and then at the capacity utilization of the school, that of nearby schools, as well as the district average. Although considerable maintenance is needed, there are no health or safety issues at either school. Furthermore, even though Winlaw is fully utilized now with enrolment projected to increase to well beyond its capacity in the next few years, district staff do not believe that the Province would rebuild WES or add space with nearby WEG running at 27 percent utilization. There is a much stronger case for building a new school in Nelson while there is no chance that the Province would fund two new schools in SD8. Therefore, the scenarios for closing either WES or WEG moved to the top.

It was pointed out that if WES were to close and every Winlaw student attended WEG, WEG’s utilization rate would only increase to about 60 percent. However, the initial results of a parent survey being conducted by the WES PAC show that one-third of families would transfer their child to Brent Kennedy, one-third would exit the school district and only one-third would send their child to WEG. There was uncertainty about whether Brent Kennedy could accommodate that many additional students while the loss of students from the school district would negatively affect the average capacity utilization in the Slocan Valley and the district. Alternatively, closing WEG would require adding space to WES to accommodate the additional Slocan students. When asked if funds to expand Winlaw are available, Morris’s response was that the district “would work to make those funds available. But do we have $1.5 million sitting in the bank right now to put an addition on Winlaw? No.”

Many people offered suggestions to increase the utilization of WEG, such as adding a Slocan campus of the Wildflower school and French immersion, expanding the current outdoor programs, and offering a K-12 curriculum. Superintendent Jones stated that new and expanded programs had not been scored in the draft facilities plan because staff did not think that these projects would attract new students, but rather would simply shift students from one SD8 school to another.

Partnering with community groups and local governments was also suggested; however, although this would add some rental income to district coffers, it would not increase student capacity utilization nor reduce long-term maintenance costs.

The district agreed to explore co- or community ownership of WEG if the community proposed it, because those options would reduce the district’s maintenance costs and the number of empty seats at the school.

District staff outlined the school closure process described in the School Act and district policy 460. There would be consultation meetings with parents, the community, and staff, which could result in an alternative solution to closure. However, if a school were to close, meetings would be held to develop transition plans for students and staff and to plan how students from the two schools would be combined to optimize their learning opportunities.

Scott-May called on PAC chairs to describe what their PACs were doing. Winlaw PAC chair Edan DuPont described the parent surveys, and discussions with WEG parents, RDCK Director Walter Popoff, and the Slocan Village council. She added that some parents want to develop viable options with business plans was well beyond their scope within the tight time frame. WE Graham PAC chair Maegan Deighton said she would ask WEG parents to complete the survey and added that they were a very small, inexperienced PAC.

As the meeting drew to a close, everyone in the audience seemed to agree with the sentiment so strongly expressed by Joanne Ellis that “not all children come out of equal households.”

When changes like this are made are those the children we lose.” She went on to say that several ministries recognize the high number of vulnerable kids in the Slocan Valley “so please, please consider them when you are considering saving dollars and start fighting the people who are causing the harm; don’t cause any more harm to this valley.”

The two presentations made at the April 19 board meeting can be found at http://www.sd8.bc.ca/?p=3507 (under the ‘Draft Plan’ heading), while public comments from the April 19 board meeting are transcribed on pages 5 to 9 of the May 3 board meeting agenda at http://www.sd8.bc.ca/Meetings/Agendas/Agenda05032016.pdf.

Hungry bears are now awake

With the onset of this early spring, western toads are not the only mountain species coming out of hibernation and traveling down to the valley bottoms to feed and breed. Grizzly and black bears are now out and about, hungry and sharing some of the same terrestrial habitats, such as avalanche paths, with toads. However, toads are not a food source for hungry spring bears; these amphibians exude an uninviting skin toxin that deters most predators.

After six months of den slumber, living only off of their body fat, bears awaken with an appetite. Cubs, born around February and nourished on their mother’s milk, will now need to learn about the 50 or so plant foods they will depend on for most of their lives. Very quickly after den emergence, adult bears without young begin searching for mates and nutritious foods at lower, snow-free elevations. These early food sources consist mostly of fresh greens such as grasses, sedges, dandelions and more. As spring progresses, grizzly bears normally follow the snow line back up the mountain, relishing nutritious foods such as roots and corns that have melted from under the snow. A lucky bear may happen upon a good source of protein from an animal that has perished over the winter. Early spring food sources only provide bears with enough calories to maintain body weight and they often continue to lose weight until more abundant, higher-quality foods become available later on in the summer. At this time of year, unmanaged human food sources are a real temptation, because they often provide good nutrition for a hungry bear.

VWS Bear Smart would like to urge citizens to: Store garbage where bears cannot access it and set it out as close to collection time as possible. Use bear-proof bins. Store pet food inside and do not feed pets outdoors. Avoid gardening with bone meal or fertilize. Bring bird feeders inside. Compost properly, without oils and animal products; locate the bin in an open area away from bushes. Burn barbeques clean; wash and store them covered and out of the wind. Use electric fences around beehives, orchards, livestock pens and chicken coops.

You can call us for help: Rural Area H (Slocan Valley) contact: Evelyn Kirkaldy, VWS Bear Smart Coordinator, 250-359-6611 or email: eckbears@hotmail.com, New Denver and Area K (Arrow Lakes) contact: Bree Lillies, WildSafeBC Community Coordinator, 250-534-8210 or email: newdenver@wildsafebc.com. www.wildsafebc.com, www.facebook.com/wildsafebc

Help both farmers and bears

Installation help, advice and 50 percent cost sharing on electric fencing from Grizzly Bear Consistency Solutions.
50 percent cost sharing for bear-proof bins may be available in some RDCK areas. Contact: Gillian Sanders, 250-353-1317 or grizzlyfencingproject@gmail.com

FRIDAY, MAY 30 – 10 AM - 4 PM

10:00 am – Ribbon-Cutting and Speeches

Free cake, lemonade or coffee while supplies last

Free Admission – All Day!

This project was made possible with funding from CKCA and CBT

GRAND OPENING OF THE SANDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE BOARDWALK

Sandon Historical Society president Dan Nicholson stands on the newly constructed wheelchair-accessible boardwalk with contractor Jim Poonan.


Hungry bears are now awake

submitted

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WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE BOARDWALK

Sandon Historical Society president Dan Nicholson stands on the newly constructed wheelchair-accessible boardwalk with contractor Jim Poonan.
Summit Lake toads to be featured in Wilderness Committee film

by Jan McMurray

Filmmakers producing a documentary called Toad People were in the area April 21-25 filming the Summit Lake western toads and the passionate group endeavouring to protect them.

Co-directors Isabelle Groc and Mike McKinlay are producing the 30- to 40-minute film for the Wilderness Committee. They hope to have it completed by fall, and to take it on a tour that will include Nakusp.

“Toad People is about people involved in saving species at risk in their own backyard,” said Groc.

“The film is about species at risk in general, but toads are our thread, our champion species throughout the film.”

Three years ago, Groc met a group of people in the Chilliwack area trying to save toads from being crushed to death while migrating across a busy road. The Chilliwack group organized detours, educated across a busy road. The Chilliwack group of people in the Chilliwack Wilderness Committee. They hope to involved in saving species at risk visually, through our different species.

Filmmakers Mike McKinlay and Isabelle Groc recently came to Summit Lake to make some footage for their film about western toads and other species at risk.

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Groc has produced nine five-minute films with McKinlay, each on a different species.

“BC doesn’t have any species at risk legislation and we want to change that,” she said. “We’ve found it effective to connect people with species at risk visually through our films.”

For more information about the film: toadpeople.org, facebook.com/toadpeople/ To view the short films on species at risk: vimeo.com/isabellegroc.

Nakusp Art Party the hit event of the season

by Art Joyce

The Old Firehall the evening of April 30 was packed with animated conversation and inventive costumes as residents enjoyed art, music, and many examples of creative originality. Judging by the response, Nakusp’s Art Party was the hit event of the season.

In addition to examples of painting and drawing, and the metal art of organizer Kate Tupper, there was live music in the upstairs lounge, the paper marbling expertise of Karen McMillan, custom costume creations by Pamela O’Neil, a 3D chalkboard for graffiti, and a dance floor hosted by DJ Chris ‘Fuzzy’ Warren, complete with fully stocked bar.

Tupper says a donation from Nakusp Euso covered basic expenses like the Old Firehall rental and other costs. A basket raffle was generously supported by donations from Nakusp merchants and artisans. Not only did this mean not having to charge artists to exhibit, but Tupper was also able to give them a private dinner in advance of the event. Among the performers were Cassia, Jesse Booth, and Puppets on the Move.

“I wanted people to be able to keep 100 percent of their sales,” says Tupper. “It’s rebal. I came up with the idea while talking to a friend of mine. He said, ‘well I wouldn’t go to an art show but I would go to an art party.’”

Tupper conceived the event partly as a fundraiser for the sculpture she is creating for the new Galena-Shelter Bay ferry. The project is being supported by a major project grant from CKCA, but when one of the funders failed to come through, she realized she had to do something to fill the gap. And with the loss of the Alfa Guild, it was also an opportunity to fill another gap that had opened up in the arts and culture community.

“I grew up here so I was really passionate group inspired the film. “This is a great thing that there were similar initiatives around BC, on Vancouver Island, where they have moved toadlets across the road in buckets, and in Whidbey where they are trying to protect one of the last populations there,” said Groc. “And then we heard about Summit Lake and we knew we had to include it in our film.”

Summit Lake is important, as it is one of the largest western toad breeding sites in BC. Recently, local people tried to stop logging in the toads’ core terrestrial habitat in the forest across the highway from the lake. For the past several years, efforts have been made to save the Summit Lake toads from highway mortality by installing culverts and a tunnel, and bottlenecking them across the highway at the annual toadfest event.

Groc says that while they were here, she and McKinlay met with Jakob Dulisse, local biologist who has been studying the western toads at Summit Lake since 2010. They met with wildlife biologist Wayne McCreery at Fish Lake, where he is studying the toad population, and with Grant Trower, Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program board member, at Duncan Dam.

“Grant helped us understand the impacts of the dams and the resulting loss of habitat for toads and other species at risk, and how important it is to protect what’s left,” she said. They also spoke with several citizens involved in the logging protest. “We had very little time, but we met a group of very warm and wonderful people who are incredibly passionate about toads. It was fantastic!”

In her position as species at risk project coordinator at the Wilderness Committee for the past six years, Groc has produced nine five-minute films with McKinlay, each on a different species.

“The film is about species at risk in general, but toads are our thread, our champion species throughout the film.”

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Nakusp Art Party turned out to be the hit of the season at the Old Firehall April 30 with artists, artisans, musicians and a dance party.

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The Valley Voice
May 4, 2016
Thank you, Galena truckers

Galena Contracting is logging at Tate Creek, about 10 km south of Faquier. I live at the Faquier end of the gravel road where the loaded logging trucks come down a long hill. This has always been a worry because my dogs and sheep do not always remain where they are supposed to be, and the grass on the other side of the fence is definitely much greener.

This time, I don’t have to worry. Galena’s logging trucks slow right down like this was a school zone. Galena truckers, I cannot thank you enough!

Elsie de Boer
Faquier

Chemtrails, anyone?

The atmospheric spray program got off to a bang this year with an unprecedented number of spray planes seen at the north end of Kootenay Lake on March 31. As well as the usual stripes across the sky, there were X’s and V’s.

Since then, there have been sightings up here almost every day from morning to night. And that about does it for the factual part of this story, because other than seeing them, I have no idea what’s going on. Seeing a commercial airliner, with its horizon-to-horizon smoker dispels the lie that they are all just airplanes with no other purpose.

Seeing a commercial airliner, with its exhaust pipes riding by on their way to Kaslo, I have no idea what’s going on.

Harvey Armstrong
Johnson’s Landing

Kaslo patronage

On average I spend approximately $700/month in Kaslo on groceries, pharmaceuticals, auto expenses and repairs, and dining out. In the summer with family and friends visiting, much more is spent in Kaslo. However, with the Kaslo Village council encouraging motorcycle tourism but not monitoring and enforcing the noise bylaw through the RCMP, I expect our expenditure of the summer months will depreciate with the noise of illegal motorcycle exhaust pipes riding by on their way to Kaslo.

Therefore, if I’m annoyed by loud bikers this summer, I will boycott Kaslo and I will encourage my neighbours and family to do the same. That is over $8,000 annually from just myself taken out of the Kaslo economy. My Kaslo patronage benefits more than one or two merchants.

It’s just as easy for me to shop in Nelson as it is to shop in Kaslo.

P.A. Reid
Balfour

Interfaith climate change statement

Here in Nelson, a local interfaith group has come together to advocate for climate justice and to urge all citizens to participate in the transition to a zero-carbon future. The following groups are working together for carbon pollution solutions and sharing spiritual practices:

- Ascension Lutheran Church, Cathedral of Mary Immaculate, Kootenay Shambhala Meditation Centre, Nelson United Church, St. Saviour’s Anglican Church, and Yasodhara Ashram.
- Pope Francis’ climate change encyclical, Laudato Si’.
- We are working on plans to join other local groups and institutions in creating a plan to get to zero-carbon use in the Nelson area.
- The Ingrid Rice cartoon is a satirical look at current events in politics and is sponsored by the Kaslo Hotel. The Hotel does not necessarily share the political views of the artist.

The Ingrid Rice cartoon is a satirical look at current events in politics and is sponsored by the Kaslo Hotel. The Hotel does not necessarily share the political views of the artist.

Laura Cader
Nelson United Church

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor and community news articles from our readers.

Letters and articles should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material.

Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libelous. Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances.

Opinions expressed in published letters are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Valley Voice.

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The Valley Voice
May 4, 2016
Hills mailboxes and the community board

Recently, the mailboxes in Hills were moved from Bonanza Road to Hills Upper Road. Many reasons were given for this, all valid, and I had no objection to the movement of the mailboxes. What I objected to was the complete lack of consultation with the community at large about the new placement and the property owners that are affected, namely myself and my family. There seems to be a contingent of people who claim to represent our community interests, but so far, I have heard of no public meetings or private consultations with those directly affected.

The Highways representatives involved, Don and Bart, have been great. They were professional, courteous, friendly and clear on what was allowed. They also noted the push for the move was from within the community. Last fall, we were visited by Highways representatives and a community member claiming to represent the interests of our community, stating the mailboxes would be moved and sites were being considered, including the current site that is located on our property. I was very clear about my objections – I thought the site was unsuitable as it was so close to the property line, without tree coverage, resulting in a loss of privacy, and the area is so narrow that it would be hard to navigate.

Legally, highways has an easement in that section of our land and we have no legal grounds to stop the placement of the mailboxes. Several sites were being considered that day that may be worked better than the current site.

Most people who move to Hills do so for the privacy and quiet. The mailboxes have always been a place for community members to stop and have a chat and catch up. It’s often the only moment they have to spare before going back to the garden or children, etc. Now, most are mindful that they are standing on private property, so they don’t stop nearly as long anymore, if at all. I have come to accept the mailboxes’ placement; it is more central and easier for folks to walk to the mailboxes’ placement; it is more central and easier for folks to walk.

On the other hand, a sound-making device such as a siren pointing forward on an ambulance or police car is louder as it approaches and quieter as it passes. It is clear that the exhaust could be pointed toward the front of the motorcycle, this could improve awareness of an approaching motorcycle. It might even provide a heightened sense of satisfaction, as the rider could better experience their own exhaust resonance.

I have heard stories of people startled by loud motorcycles as they pull alongside and as they passed. The drivers did not hear the loud exhaust until it was right beside them and the shock caused them to swerve, luckily away from the motorcycle. They could have a scared rider on the vehicle on the other side or worse into oncoming traffic.

If a motorcyclist really wanted to improve riding safety, there are sensible alternatives to loud exhaust pipes. For example use a loud horn, wear high-visibility clothing, wear a brightly coloured properly certified safety helmet, or put a sign on their bike with the hall and tennis courts. If the community had been consulted, that site could have been suggested for the mailboxes as well.

Will the stimulus program fix things?

We have embarked on a $29.4 billion a year multi-year stimulus program. Has the economy become better and we simply have to perk it up or is there something more drastically wrong? Can money alone solve the problem? John Kenneth Galbraith, the famous Canadian economist, said people should learn about economics so the economists can’t fool them. Maybe some of the people running the economy should be replaced to save us running costly deficits to fix the problems.

Iilberi has gotten rid of its banks and put its bankers in jail. By 2008, Icelandic banks had made a lot of loans which defaulted in the financial crisis of that year. Rather than bail the banks out, which would bankrupt the country, the government of Iceland let the banks fail and put 26 high-level bankers in jail. Now Iceland is reforming its monetary system, with the government taking over the role of the banks. Frosti Sigurjonsson wrote a proposal for monetary reform which is passing its way through their parliament. It is very interesting and readable and can be found by entering the author’s name in a search engine.

Our mounting debt could bankrupt us. We pay $30-40 billion a year to the banks in interest charges. Prior to 1974, the government financed its spending with interest-free loans from the Bank of Canada. In 1974, world bankers persuaded the government to end this practice, arguing it would cause hyperinflation, and to borrow from private lenders instead. Five years later in 1979, we did get inflation and along with it stagnant economic growth a condition that was named stagflation. The government could save us running costly deficits to fix the problems.

The cheap loans found their way to stimulate the housing crisis of 2008, central bank money to federal, provincial, and municipal governments. May we win the case, along with the stimulus program, will fix things.
The Valley Voice   May 4, 2016

New Denver council, April 26
by Katrina Campbell

• Council received confirmation that the Village is getting $4,000 from Columbia Basin Trust to help complete a structural assessment for Bosun Hall. CBT Program Coordinator, Patrick Dimmer, said in her letter the Trust was in the process of drafting a contract for the project.
• Council provided a grant-in-aid of $812 to the May Day Committee to cover the rental of Centennial Park and the PA system May 19-23, and a $100 grant-in-aid towards the Citizen of the Year award. The committee was also given permission to hold a beer garden in the park, use village streets for the parade middays, and use the Centennial Park property south of Bigelow Bay. The family of Peter Roulston to install a memorial bench on Village-owned property south of Bigelow Bay. There are no benches on this property and staff noted a bench would provide additional amenities for anyone visiting Bigelow Bay. The family will pay for the purchase and installation; the Village will look after ongoing maintenance.
• The Village has a total of $11,115 in Community Development grant funding from the RDCK this year – $2,078 carried forward from last year plus this year’s allocation of $9,037. Community Development funding comes from BC Hydro and Columbia Power Corporation grants in lieu of taxation for their electricity generating facilities in the Regional District.
• A request for a $200 grant-in-aid from the Nelson Police Department was refused. The money was to support its ‘Emergency Services Camp 2016’ but as “the program does not directly benefit local youth, staff does not recommend approving the group’s request for financial support.”
• Council received a letter from Elections BC asking for support as it starts to prepare for the provincial election on May 9, 2017. Elections BC will be booking locations for voting places, and will work with facility managers on security and logistics. Advance voting takes place April 29-30 and May 3-6; general voting will be on May 9.

26: Structural assessment for Bosun Hall

Welcome all members and the general public to the Slocan River Streamkeepers Society’s Annual General Meeting on Thursday, May 26 at Passmore Hall (3656 Old Passmore Rd.) at 7:00 pm. Slocan River Streamkeepers Society (SVHTS) has released its new logo for the Slocan Valley Rail Trail has just been released. The stylized logo features a trail winding between mountains with a backdrop of Frog Peak tying it all together.

“I think anyone who has used the trail will find this design very easy to identify with, and will become a great calling card to others to discover the story we have in the Slocan Valley,” says Hilger.

The original design was created by Prefix Media, a local company.

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Lucerne grad to intern in WHO headquarters this summer

Danika Hammond, a political science student at UBC, will work at the world headquarters of the World Health Organization this summer.

“Going to Haida Gwaii wasn’t directly related to my degree studies but there are lots of related environmental issues,” says Hammond. “It was more of a complementary study toward what’s motivating me in political science, which is climate change and First Nations issues. We looked at Haida Gwaii as a case study of how you can have more influence over decision making on resource use.”

Hammond even learned some of the Haida language in the immersion school at Skidegate, and said she felt honoured to be taught traditional basket weaving by an elder.

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Lucerne grad Danika Hammond, a political science student at UBC, will work at the world headquarters of the World Health Organization this summer.

by art Joyce

Danika Hammond, who has just completed her third year of a political science degree at UBC, recently got some exciting news. She has been accepted into a summer internship with the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland.

Hammond will be working in the WHO’s Healthy Environments unit for 13 weeks. The program takes a unique perspective on climate change – how it affects human health. This fits right in with her goals of integrating her study of politics with a passion for the environment.

“It’ll be the longest I’ve ever been away from home,” she says. “I was chosen based on my environmental knowledge, not my knowledge of health, which I don’t know much about but obviously I’ll learn more when I’m there. There’s so many ways that climate change is impacting human health.”

Hammond and her colleagues will be working on a multimedia communication project, web report writing, and some graphic design for WHO’s Breathe Life campaign, which looks at air pollution and how it impacts human health.

The project will be a well-deserved break from the program, says Hammond.

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Nakusp students to compete in Junior Dragons’ Den championships by Jan McMurray

Students in the Nakusp Secondary outdoor education and entrepreneurship program will be competing in the Kootenay-wide Junior Dragons’ Den championships on May 7 at the Charles Bailey Theatre in Nelson. The program is sponsored by the Boundary regional competition in the Junior Dragons’ Den. Last year, Nakusp students have been manufacturing and marketing the fishing flashers (lures) for three years now.

Junior Dragons’ Den has “a really great experience!” Abby says. “We competed two years ago and it was good, but this year, we put a lot more into it and we’re getting a lot more out of it.”

In preparation for the competition, community members Vivien Berry and Lynda Lafleur came into the class and helped the students improve their business plans for the two products. At the regionals, competitors had two minutes to make their pitch for their ideas, followed by an hour of self-presentation. They were then given five minutes to present their idea to a panel of judges. The presentations were evaluated on marketing, strategy, product, financials, team, and community impact. The students are looking forward to the final competition to see how they will fare against the other teams.

The finals will be a little tougher,” Abby acknowledged. “For the preparation for the finals, Abby says they will update their business plan to reflect their sales since the April 21 regional competition. The manufacturing and marketing of the fishing flashers (lures) for three years now.

The competition is being developed now, and we want to be ready for them. We have to produce 500 flashers for them and any prize money they win goes right back into the businesses. These three processes of equipment will cut down on manufacturing time.

Increasing production is one of our major goals,” said Cam. “The schedule for next year’s shows is being developed now, and we want to be ready for them. We have to produce 500 flashers for the shows,” he says. This year, Cam wrote grants, as well, and is very grateful for funding from the RDCK, the Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce, the CBF and the Nakusp and Arrow Lakes Community Foundations.

The prizes at the Junior Dragons’ Den championships will be $1,500 for first place, $1,000 for second place, and $500 for third place. The winners are determined based on audience vote (20 percent) and the judges’ input (80 percent). The Nakusp Secondary students are happy to be helping the community, and are looking forward to competing.

May 10, 2016 is AUXILIARY DAY

The Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary in Nakusp would like to once again thank both our loyal customers at the Thrift Shop and our faithful donors who never cease to amaze us with the quality of the donations we receive. We are grateful for the support of all our endeavour’s as an Auxiliary and we thank you for this. The following is a list of the donations made by the Auxiliary from Jan. 1, 2015 to arch 31, 2016.

Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary Donations January 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medial Monitor</td>
<td>$2759.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nakusp Public Library</td>
<td>$484.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nakusp Secondary School</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bursaries, Mature Students</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrow &amp; Slocan Lakes Comm Services (Halcyon House Medial Monitor)</td>
<td>$39,552.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrow &amp; Slocan Lakes Comm Services (Better at Home Bus Service)</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrow &amp; Slocan Lakes Comm Services (Halcyon House Medial Monitor)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total January 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016 $172,419.08
The Village will be giving notice to the RDCK that the Village of Kaslo, in suspending its own Building Bylaw, recognizes that the RDCK bylaw is not complete and therefore permitting application process with minimal municipal involvement and further will not request the 10 percent administrative fees required by the Regional District bylaws.

- Council authorized Mayor Suzan Hewat for travel to the Slocan Valley Mayor’s meeting on April 13.
- The budget, tax rates, sewer rates and parcel tax, and water parcel tax bylaws were given three readings.

Spring Festival of Awareness in Johnson’s Landing

Sarah Salters Kelly is coming to the Kootenays.

On the May long weekend Sarah Salters Kelly will be facilitating two workshops at the Spring Festival of Awareness near the top of Kootenay Lake in Johnson’s Landing.

Sarah has ten years experience in teaching personal growth and healing programs, busing her initial format on the personal experience of healing the homicide of her mother and the teachings she has received through elders in the Andes, Amazon, Canada and the USA. Her style is clear and comprehensive, enabling each participant to believe and remember that healing has no limits. Sarah’s greatest gifts lie in illuminating the source of suffering within and offers tools for liberation. Sarah has just completed a workshop on Shamanic Medicine Making and a Fire Ceremony. She is one of ten facilitators offering workshops at the festival. There is a limited amount of space at the festival and over half the wildlife activity. In 2013, the North Kootenay Lake Bear Smart Program transformed into Kaslo WildsafeBC to expand to other species as well as wildlife.

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**VISITOR INFORMATION**

**Hot Springs**

**Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa** - Kelso
- Tel: 1-888-689-4609 (250) 265-3554
- Fax: (250) 265-3887
- Web: halcyonhotsprings.com

**Nakusp Hot Springs, Chalets & Campground** - Nakusp
- Tel: (250) 265-4528
- Fax: 1-866-999-4528
- Web: nakusp hottsprings.com

**Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort** - Ainsworth
- Tel: 1-800-668-1171 (250) 229-4212

Experience our unique Hot Springs cave and pools. Savor fabulous food in our dining room and then enjoy the comfort of one of our 45 air-conditioned guest rooms. Wireless internet available.

**Campgrounds**

**Nakusp Municipal Campground** - Nakusp
- Tel: (250) 265-5000
- Web: nakuspzm.com

**Centennial Campground** - New Denver
- Tel: (250) 358-2867
- Web: newdenv.on.ca

**Silverton Municipal Campground** - Silverton
- Tel: (250) 358-2472
- Web: silvertonmunicipal.ca

**Springer Creek RV Park & Campground** - Silverton
- Tel: (250) 355-2266
- Web: springerexus.com

**Kaslo Municipal Campground** - Kaslo
- Tel: (250) 353-2662
- Web: kaslo.municipalcampground@yahoocom

**Woodbury Resort and Marina** - Kaslo
- Tel: (250) 353-7717

**Museums**

**Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre Historical Site - New Denver**
- Tel: (250) 358-7288
- Web: newdenv.on.ca/nikkei

**Slyver Slocan Museum** - New Denver
- Tel: (250) 358-2201

**Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre** - Sandon
- Tel: (250) 358-7920
- Web: sandonmuseum.ca

**Galleries**

**Studio Connexion Gallery - Fine Art** - Nakusp
- Tel: (250) 265-8888
- 2013 AVE. NW. Nakusp

**The Langham Cultural Centre** - Kaslo
- Tel: (250) 853-2961
- 447 LAKESHORE BLVD. Kaslo

**Museums**

**Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre Historical Site - New Denver**
- Tel: (250) 358-7288
- 306 Joseph St.
- Web: newdenv.on.ca/nikkei

May 1 to Sept 30, 10:00am-5:00pm. Open daily. The only historic site in Canada dedicated to the history of the WW II internment of Japanese Canadians in the West Kootenays. Interpreters display, original internment buildings and period artifacts offer visitors an immersive experience in this extraordinary period in Canadian history.

**Slyver Slocan Museum** - New Denver
- Tel: (250) 358-2201
- The old Bank of Montreal building at the foot of New Denver’s main street, restored to circa 1900. Special tours welcome. 250-358-2201 or 250-358-2556 for further information. Hope to see you.

**Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre** - Sandon
- Tel: (250) 358-7920
- Web: sandonmuseum.ca

Open 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Located 13 km east of New Denver, on Highway 3A, just west of the historic Kootenay River Bridge. Admission: $7.00 adult, $6.00 senior, $5.00 child (6-15) and $20.00 family.

**The Langham Cultural Centre** - Kaslo
- Tel: (250) 853-2961
- 447 LAKESHORE BLVD. Kaslo

A national historic site and the centre for art and culture in Kaslo. Art exhibitions in the main exhibition gallery, and smaller galleries are always changing. During WWII, Japanese Canadians were interned here – visit the interpreter exhibits at this Japanese Canadian Museum. Open daily 10-4 pm. Gallery open 10-4 pm.

**Visit the...**

**Hot Springs**

Hot Springs Village and Spa Lakeshore Resort is open year-round. Ancient healing waters soothe mind, body and soul. Pamper yourself near Spa Relax in our cozy cabins or luxurious suites. RV hook-ups available. Enjoy our food and wonderful views from the Kingfisher Restaurant.

**Chocolates**

**Jennifer Chocolates** - Nakusp
- Tel: (250) 265-1799
- 914 Ave. Our local artisan chocolate makes everything from scratch and is available on location at the chocolate shop/indulge in a dark chocolate truffle or cool off with a frozen banana dipped in chocolate. Bring the family and experience the fine art of chocolate making right in Nakusp.

**Houseboat Rentals**

The Kaslo Shipyard Company - Kaslo
- Tel: (250) 353-2866
- 1-800-554-1657
- Web: kaslochipyard.com

Houseboats for rent. Cruise, fish, and explore scenic Kootenay Lake from the comfort of a houseboat. Enjoy the quiet hidden coves, sandy beaches, islands, and fresh water fishing. Choose from four custom-built, seaworthy cruise vessels, each fully furnished with a spacious Lower House, full galley, full bathroom, and complete sleeping facilities for four, six or eight people.

**Outdoor Shops**

**Valhalia Pure Outfitters** - New Denver
- Tel: (250) 353-7755
- Corner of Hwy 6 and New Denver-Slocan Rd. Visit Kaslo’s main street. Join the adventure. Outdoor clothing & gear. Paddles & sales and rentals. Open: Sunday May to November 10:00 am - 6:00 pm.
Spring Market and other news from the Whole School

submitted

Just as you are thinking about planting, pruning and the return of the sun, the 19th annual Whole School Spring Market comes along to help celebrate the season. On Saturday, May 14 from 10 am to 3 pm, the Whole School (5614 Highway 6, Winlaw) hosts a huge plant sale, local artists, vendors, a silent auction, barbecue, savoury snacks, baked goodies and, of course, loads of children’s activities. Admission is $2.

“Spring Market is a tradition at the school, and now with the garden project it feels appropriate that we celebrate spring with our larger community and showcase what we’re planning in the garden,” says Jessie Seward, school board chair.

Whole School students are designing and building the garden in consultation with certified permaculture experts Jenna Hopper and Jordan Saunders.

“We are setting the stage for the future by ensuring we have a strong design, so you will likely notice lots of soil production and garden construction happening over the next few months,” says Ciaran Ward, garden coordinator and parent.

Students will build a garden that provides a healthy, outdoor space for curricular learning about growing food, nutrition, food preparation, and food preservation. Whole School students hope to work alongside community members, food bank clients, staff, and parent volunteers to grow healthy food and offer an education space about permaculture for community members and other schools.

“My son is enjoying the school’s approach to spring this year with the new garden project. They are learning about soil, composting and micro-biology – so lots of digging in the dirt,” says parent Roxy Corrigan.

The garden is part of a long term plan to build an indoor-outdoor classroom building and interpretive centre to give students exposure to permaculture design, the lifecycle of plants, and an opportunity to share their knowledge and skills in the community.

“It is our hope that the garden will become a key piece of what makes our school unique - a platform for learning and community engagement,” says school coordinator Josée Corrigan.

• The school announced a new scholarship fund for secondary student graduates who attended The Whole School as elementary students. The fund is in memory of Zackery Harvey. Students can pick up applications from The Whole School or through their secondary school. Donations to the fund can be made directly.

• Registration for Kindergarten is happening now and any new family interested in the school (for children of any age) can call and set up a time to visit. Financial support is available. For more information contact the school at wholeschool@gmail.com or call 250-226-7737.

Whole School students are introduced to baby chicks. The school’s vision of an indoor-outdoor classroom is coming alive, with students starting to build a garden at the school with certified permaculture experts this spring. Check out the Whole School Spring Market on May 14, 10 am - 3 pm.
Winlaw Water Day returns to Mama Sita’s Café, May 7, 2016

submitted

Every year around this time, folks in the Slocan Valley get together just to share their love of water. This year the event will take place on Saturday, May 7 from noon to midnight, based at Mama Sita’s Café in Winlaw. The event begins with a blessing by Robert Watt from the Sinixt Nation. A donation from the event goes to the Food Bank in Slocan.

During the day an outdoor market with a wide range of vendors and community groups will set up around the restaurant. Look for crafts and face painting at the special Kids’ Zone. A special feature this year will be a puppet theatre performing throughout the afternoon for everyone to enjoy.

A popular feature of the annual event is the parade with the Samba Marching Band leading a colourful collection of dancers and assorted water lovers of all ages. The parade flows down to the Slocan River where everyone once again re-commits themselves to protecting and recognizing the value of water lovers.

Throughout the day and evening, live music will take place with many popular local and regional performers taking the stage. Some of those include Red Eyed Soul, Li’l Dave and the Blues Wave, Thee Sideshow, the Cedar Creek Stringband, Jemma Luna and many more. Just like the diversity of the Slocan valley, there’ll be something for every musical taste. The entertainment takes place outside during the day and moves inside as the evening cools. There is still space for more vendors and community groups who may wish to participate in the day. The best way to make contact, if you wish to get involved, is by visiting the Facebook site for Mama Sita’s Café.

Mama Sita’s Café is on Hwy 6, approximately 30 km north of the Hwy 3A junction. As this is always a busy event, drivers are asked to used caution when passing through the area.

GRIZZLY FOOD

Yellow Glacier Lilies (aka Avalanche Lilies) come out as the snow melts, often in the rich moist soils of our subalpine meadows. Glacier Lilies generate enough heat to melt and bloom through the last few inches of snow. Grizzlies, with their long claws, rototill beds of lilies and eat the starch-rich bulbs (corms) - a favoured spring food.

Nakusp Interact Club hosts 30-hour famine

by Jan McMurray

What does it really feel like to be hungry? Twenty-five Nakusp Secondary students have a much better idea after participating in the 30-hour famine April 29-30.

Each student consumed just water, a bit of juice, and a half cup of rice over the 30 hours from Friday, April 29 at 1 pm to Saturday, April 30 at 7 pm. The grades 8-12 students stayed at the school for the overnight event, hosted by the Nakusp Interact Club.

Brianna McKay, Nakusp Interact Club treasurer and team captain for the 30-hour famine, said Crystal Larder of Half Acre Harvest donated sandwiches at the end of the fast on Saturday. “I’ve never seen 25 teenagers eating in silence before!” she said.

This was the Nakusp Interact Club’s international project for the year. The 30-hour famine is an initiative of World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.


The Hound of the Baskervilles radio play on April 30 at the Bosun Hall showed off some of New Denver’s finest talent. Liz R. Tora Bachrach as Sir Henry, Hank Hastings as Dr. Watson, and Matthew Fry as Sherlock Holmes.


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NSS students participated in the 30-hour famine hosted by the Interact Club April 29-30. Bill Gao, Daniel Hockman, Darla Shular, Mathias Brindamour, Kyley Laplante, Ashley Friedenberger, Madison Rahn, Andrew Harper, Kimberly Roberts, Maija Larder, Kiley Waterfield, Taylor Moody, Jayda Pederson-Bodnar, Rhys McLeod, bottom row: Oliver Kang, Carmen Larder, Skye Cunningham, Taylor Glentworth, Katira Niquidet, Emma Hundey, Cara Mighton-Cameron, Sonja Petterson, Maria Vasquez, Zoe Zinselmeyer, and Brianna McKay.

The Hound of the Baskervilles radio play on April 30 at the Bosun Hall showed off some of New Denver’s finest talent. Liz R. Tora Bachrach as Sir Henry, Hank Hastings as Dr. Watson, and Matthew Fry as Sherlock Holmes.
The night was spent at a ‘capsule’ hotel, each in a horizontal cubical equipped with personal TVs with headphones, pajamas, slippers, towels, shampoo/conditioner, toothbrush/toothpaste, and lockers. On their last day in Japan, they visited the 45th floor observation deck at the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building. Then, they took the elevator to 55th floor – five floors underground in the basement – to catch the Narita Express back to the airport.

Slokan River Streamkeepers’ freshest of activities

submitted

The Streamkeepers are surfing into activity this spring with a widening wave of wetland research and restoration, as part of the Slokan River Riparian Restoration Program. Anyone involved with the group’s ongoing work toward protection and restoration of aquatic and riparian ecosystems, to identify and implement restoration projects.

The Streamkeepers have carried out annual fish counts in the Slokan River, planted soil-holding and shade-providing vegetation on river banks, inventoried wildlife dependent on the river and tributary streams, and monitored water quality. As an example of this last activity, the Streamkeepers continue to partner with and work with the Columbia Basin Water Quality Monitoring program.

For a pleasant taste of their conservation activities, the public is invited to join in ‘Spring Bugs Day’ – a family fun event the organization (in cooperation with the Slokan Region Assessor’s Office and Monitoring Project, or SWAMP) is hosting on May 15 in Winlaw. Insects are part of the food chain, vital for feeding fish, frogs, bats, birds, and other creatures.

Here’s a way to learn more about rivers and wetlands and see some insects under a microscope. The event will be organized by environmental educator Shanon Bennett. Participants will meet at the Sleep is for Sissies café, 5686 Hwy 6 in Winlaw, at 1 pm. Attendance is by donation.

Another important date: the Streamkeepers will hold their 2016 AGM on May 26, starting at 7 pm, in the Passmore Hall (3656 Old Passmore Rd). The cordially invites to attend.

New members and residents interested in becoming active on the board are welcomed. Membership dues are $10/year. Make any inquiries about the Streamkeepers to organization director Rhia Mackenzie at 647-877-8855.

Will the federal government lay charges in the Lemon Creek fuel spill case?

We are one step closer to knowing the answer to this question, now that the investigation into the spill has been completed.

The federal government has until July 26 this year to lay charges. Under the Environmental Management Act, charges must be laid within three years of an incident. The fuel spill occurred July 26, 2013.

Who let the dogs out?

submitted

Slokan Valley residents are invited to attend a community meeting on responsible dog ownership. The meeting will be informal and educational in nature.

The intent is to let Area H residents know what kind of response to expect from the RDCK, the SPA, and the CRMP when they report concerns about aggressive dogs.

This session is being co-hosted by Walter Popoff, Director for Electoral Area H.

Everyone is invited to this event at Crescent Valley Community Hall, May 19 from 7 to 9 pm.
Nakusp council, April 25: Snow plow and caboose to be in place by July 1

by Jan McMurray

• Council authorized the Nakusp Rail Committee to proceed with the acquisition and transport of the CPR snow plow and caboose, and appointed the committee as a select committee of council.

Nakusp Rail Committee Chair Tracy Fetters updated council on the project. Under the umbrella of the Arrow Lakes Historical Society, the committee has raised $20,249 in grants and donations. This is more than enough to transport the two pieces of equipment to Nakusp and to prepare the site in the community park. Fetters said they hoped the pieces would be in place by before July 1.

Terry Welsh added that the Village would only have to provide some in kind support to assist with the site preparation.

The committee is in the process of applying for status as a society so that they can continue to raise funds and recruit volunteers to restore and maintain the snow plow and caboose. Once a society, the select committee of council will be disbanded. The Village, as the owner of the pieces, will enter into an agreement with the society regarding the upkeep of the old railway treasures.

Nakusp student's life changed by trip to Parliament

by Claire Paradis

Nakusp high school student Brianna McKay says her experience at the Forum for Young Canadians in Ottawa between March 19 and 24 this year changed her life.

The Forum gives students the opportunity to meet sitting politicians, gain exposure to Canada’s political system and learn about how the country works.

Brianna, a personal connection with history has taken place has given her studies. When she saw a picture of Pierre Trudeau and the Queen signing the constitution in her socials class, it reminded her of her time on Parliament Hill.

Getting exposure to Canada’s other official language and seeing how the country works rather than hearing about it or reading it in a textbook has fired Brianna’s passion for politics, and she is now considering a career change.

Mayor Hamling gave “huge thanks” to the committee members for their time, effort and enthusiasm. Welsh recognized all committee members, giving special mention to Beth McLeod.

• The Village has received a pesticide licence from the Ministry of Environment. Village staff has applied Roundup to two ball diamonds, and to a patch of knotweed after consulting with the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society. Terry Welsh, Director Recreation & Parks, said they would use pesticides only to eradicate invasive plants and to address the degradation of an asset, such as the ball diamonds. “They will only be used as a last resort – and never for cosmetic reasons,” he said. Councillor Mueller made Welsh aware of two other large knotweed patches.

• Hot springs revenue is up. Terry Welsh, Director Recreation & Parks, reported that total revenue for the first quarter of 2016 was $132,462, compared to $107,686 for the same period in 2015 and $86,966 in 2014. There were 9,330 customers in the first quarter of 2016, compared to 7,176 in the first quarter of 2015 and 7,699 in the first quarter of 2014. During the annual shutdown of the facility April 18-25, new flow meters were installed and the heat exchanger project was completed. Trees were removed immediately behind the chalets and the slope was reshaped to reduce negative impacts on the stream.

• Council agreed to seek approval from the electorate to borrow $425,000 over 15 years for a water tender for the fire department. Annual payments would be about $31,500. Electoral consent will be sought through the alternative approval process (AAP), where information on the borrowing is published in local newspapers and voters can register their opposition to the borrowing. If 10 percent of the electorate register their opposition, the Village would have to hold a referendum. Council directed staff to make sure there is information on the Village website about the proposal. Mayor Hamling suggested that the Village produce a newsletter to inform residents about it. She also mentioned that Area K Director Paul Peterson has agreed to contribute the cost of the tender. Although Area K residents won’t be taxed for it, and won’t be part of the AAP process, Councillor Zelenski said like them to be informed, as well.

• Council discussed several requests from Kootenay Sufferfest.

“Definitely I’m rethinking my career path. I’m thinking of going into politics now because of [the Forum],” said Brianna. It was the Forum that gave Brianna a personal connection with history has taken place has given her studies. When she saw a picture of Pierre Trudeau and the Queen signing the constitution in her socials class, it reminded her of her time on Parliament Hill.

Getting exposure to Canada’s other official language and seeing how the country works rather than hearing about it or reading it in a textbook has fired Brianna’s passion for politics, and she is now considering a career change.

“We talked a bit about how he got involved. You know, he’s got a politics on all levels.”

Most of the discussion focused on the road closure request for the Sufferfest Criterium race on May 15. CAO Laurie Taylor said the closure would affect 30 homes, the campground, Halcyon House and the Emergency Services Building. The circular route goes from Broadway and 8th Avenue NW through 10th Street NW to the corner of 10th Street SW, and 4th Avenue NW to the corner of 4th Avenue NSW and 8th Avenue NW to the corner of 8th Avenue NW and Broadway NW. Council is agreed to the closure from 9 am to 11 am, subject to the written agreement of the residents along the route. Sufferfest has agreed that the race will be shut down in the case of an emergency.

Council also agreed to close the road between the park and the beach on May 14 from 8:30 am to 10 am and May 28 from 8:30 am to noon for Sufferfest races. Sufferfest will receive a 50 percent fee waiver for gauze rentals as per policy.

• The Village has received a budget update. The CAO reported that there have been 19 incidents so far in 2016: three chimney fires, one wildfire, two cooking fires, one vehicle fire, three false alarms, four motor vehicle accidents, one ambulance lift assist, three burning complaints, and one tree on a Telus line. Backyard burning is allowed by permit for fires under one meter and by authorization from the Fire Chief for larger fires. “Wildfire Management Branch Initial Attack Crews are training and getting ready for a busy year,” he said.

Warren said there are 19 members of the Nakusp department, and he’d like to have 25.

• The budget and tax rate bylaws were given three readings. Adoption is scheduled for the May 9 meeting. Of the total 2016 operating budget of $4.8 million, $978,300 will come from taxation. This is 5 percent more than the Village collected last year. Residential taxation will make up 70.8 percent of the $978,300; businesses will make up 25.6 percent; light industry 3 percent; and other 0.6 percent.

PAL'S Mother's Day Annual Plant Sale Fundraiser

Saturday, May 7, 2016

Many quality plants for sale including annuals, perennial beds, bedding plants and more!!!

All donations gratefully accepted.

Please call 250-265-3792 or info@pals-online.ca

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The Arrow Lakes District Arts Council Presents

SARAH HAGAN

on Sunday, May 8

In an afternoon of beautiful piano music

at the Bonnington Arts Centre

2:00 pm

Doors open at 1:30 pm

Tickets at the Box Office

Children 6 & under free

Family $50 [2 + 2]

25 Adults $20 Seniors $15 Students (60 & over) (17 & under)

The Arrow Lakes

District Arts Council

Under The Trees • 9 am - 2 pm

Building 28, Box 280, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1R0. E-mail: twelsch@nakup.com. Further information is available through the Village Office.

The Village thanks all who apply, however only those chosen for interviews will be contacted.

The Village of Nakusp Job Posting

HOT SPRINGS CASHER/ATTENDANT

Casual Part-time

The Village of Nakusp is currently seeking two Hot Springs Cashier/Attendents on a part-time basis for approximately 28 to 35 hours per week for days, evenings, and weekend shifts. Duties include superior customer service, electronic admissions and reservations, maintaining facility hygiene and cleanliness standards, training & acquising activities, operating the concession, and janitor/labour work.

Minimum requirements are a High School Diploma, a Class 5 Drivers license, and a dependable vehicle.

Please forward your resume to the Village of Nakusp – Box 280, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1R0. E-mail: twelsch@nakup.com. Further information is available through the Village Office.

Passionate about youth, want to lead work and organize activities in the community?

The Nakusp & Area Youth Society is currently recruiting a part time Youth Coordinator.

To view the full posting please visit www.nays.ca or WorkBC in Nakusp. Closing date May 12th.
**RCRD board, April 21: Electric vehicle charging stations proposed**

*by Katrine Campbell and Jan McMurray*

*An electric vehicle charging station infrastructure project was presented to the board by Trish Delome from the Community Energy Association (CEA). The CEA will partner with the private and public sectors on the project, which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase electric vehicle tourism, and facilitate electric vehicle ownership. The association is applying for federal funds, and the board agreed to send a letter of support. Funding from the RCRD will be discussed at the May board meeting.*

*Dehnel said transportation is responsible for approximately 63 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the Kootenays, and that the Kootenay Boundary Local Government is open to support the idea.*

**Hydro installed surge arresters on the distribution lines that run below 60 kilovolt transmission lines. The surge arresters limit overvoltages should the lines come into contact and protects equipment from damage.**

**BC Hydro also continues extending its Emergency Management Program to remove hazard trees; storms and trees contribute to outages in Nakusp and New Denver.**

**Community paramedicine expands throughout British Columbia regions.**

*At least 80 new full-time community paramedics will be brought in as part of the implementation of community paramedicine, as well as augment emergency response capabilities. Positions will be posted across the regional health authorities. The selection, orientation and placement process is expected to take about four months.*

**SD8 adopts balanced 2016-2017 budget**

*Despite an unconscious last-minute attempt by Nelson trustee, Curtis Bendig to amend the budget recommended by the 23-member Budget Stakeholder Engagement Committee a day earlier, the Kootenay Lake Board of Education adopted its preliminary 2016-2017 budget unanimously on April 19. School boards are required to submit balanced budgets to the Ministry of Education by June 30 or face dismissal and replacement with a provincially appointed trustee. The board’s year’s budget is based on projected student enrolment of 4,768 students, an increase of 66 students over this year. Teaching staff will increase by 75 teachers across the district, but several long standing staff development initiatives were cut. Reductions were also made to funds allocated to schools, travel, meeting and office expenses, contracts with local service providers, small school student support services, and cultural arts programs. As well, the district Vice-Principal of Innovative Learning position was eliminated.*

**Meth and heroin bust near Nakusp**

*Two Nakusp residents have been arrested and charged with possession of methamphetamine and heroin.*

*On April 18 the RCRD RCMP, working in partnership with the Nelson detachment regional General Investigation Section arrested a man and woman along highway 6 near Nakusp. As a result of the arrest, police have charged 35-year-old Saeidy Jones and 45-year-old Kenneth Millar with Possession of Methamphetamine and Heroin for the purposes of trafficking. They will appear in Nakusp court on May 26.*

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**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF SLOCAN
NOTICE OF PROPOSED DISPOSITION OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY**

Pursuant to section 26 of the *Community Charter*, public notice is hereby given that the Village of Slocan intends to proceed with the disposition of vacant commercial lands legally described as Slocan 18, Block 5, Lot 299, in the Village of Slocan. The lands will be sold to Courtney & Russell Hublert of Ice Creek Lodge for the purpose of developing a year-round store front and office space. The consideration to be received by the Village of Slocan for the disposition is $1,000.00. Consistent with the Village of Slocan’s regular meeting on May 9, 2016, written comments regarding this matter will be received at the Village Office until 4 pm on Thursday, May 5th, 2016.
Pianist Sarah Hagen rounds out the ALDAC season

On Sunday, May 8, the Arrow Lakes District Arts Council will present classical pianist Sarah Hagen in the last concert of this season’s series.

When, as a child, she first understood what it meant to pull notes off a page, throw them into the air, and wonder at their magical effects, she knew that music would forever be her life: her oxygen, her solace, her offering, Hagen says.

“I was recently asked what inspires me. This is both an impossible question and a non-brainer. Everything inspires me: my astounding colleagues, three words strung together in a novel, a ridiculous joke, baskets of poignant memories.”

Sarah Hagen has been heard in concert halls and on airwaves throughout North America and Europe. Her interpretations have been described as “outstandingly inventive” and performed with “infinite skill.” She was named the BC Touring Council’s 2015 Artist of the year.

Low kokanee numbers prompt early closure on Kootenay Lake

The kokanee sport fishery on the upper west arm of Kootenay Lake will be catch and release only for the remainder of the fishing season. Sport fishing will remain open, but anglers will have to release any kokanee they catch.

Earlier this spring, anglers landed fewer kokanee than usual in this part of the lake, which could be an indication that the overall numbers are down. The closure is a precaution aimed to support long-term kokanee conservation efforts.

Meanwhile, the Province is concerned with kokanee numbers throughout Kootenay Lake. Last fall, biologists counted 18,000 spawning kokanee in the main body of the lake and its tributaries, the lowest number since the annual count started in 1979. Scientists estimate that the fish laid 4.26 million eggs, down from a high of 265 million eggs in 1981.

The kokanee fishery in the main lake remains closed.

The Province has put together the women receive an income, education, and the opportunity for fellowship. They are lifting themselves out of poverty and working through challenges that they have overcome, and those they continue to face.

Your participation in this event provides the opportunity to support both the women of Baho Neza through your purchase of jewellery and, through the Stephen Lewis Foundation, grandmothers in Africa as they assume responsibility for raising their grandchildren who were orphaned by AIDS. The Grassroots Grammas have been fundraising for the Grandmothers Campaign since 2011.

This event takes place Sunday, May 15 from 2 to 4 in the afternoon at a beautiful location in Passmore. Tickets are $5 each and can be purchased from any Gramma, or by calling 250-226-7304. Your ticket will disclose the address of the tea. Advance tickets available.

For a map of the closure area, visit: https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Map_of_kokanee_closure.pdf.

Afternoon tea and African jewellery

Join the Slocan Valley Grassroots Grammas for an afternoon of tea, delicious refreshments, and the opportunity to visit with friends beside the Little Slocan River. You will also be able to purchase beautiful, colourful African jewellery made especially for this event by the Baho Neza Cooperative in Kigali, Rwanda. Baho Neza means Live Well, or Live Wholly.

Through the opportunity to work in the cooperative making jewellery, it’s a bug’s day – May 15, from 1 to 4 pm

Join the Slocan River Streamkeepers and SWAMP (Slocan Wetlands Assessment and Monitoring Program) for an educational day outdoors in the wetlands on Saturday May 15 from 1 to 4 pm. Participants will visit a creek and a wetland, collect bugs, and check them out under microscopes. Designed to entertain and educate kids and adults alike, Bugs’ Day is offered in partnership with Slocan Valley Recreation; all proceeds will go to Slocan River Streamkeepers.

This event will happen in various wetlands locations around the Winlaw area with a meeting place to be announced. Please contact Slocan Valley Recreation for details – 250-226-7304.

ADVANCE ELECTOR REGISTRATION

As a result of a 2015 provincial referendum, there will be a special election for the creation of a five-year action plan to guide the recovery of Kootenay Lake kokanee stocks.

The doors of the Bonnington Arts Centre open at 1:30 and the concert starts at 2 pm. Tickets will be available at the Bon Marché/Dollar Store until 4 pm on Saturday, then at the door.

Because it is Mother’s Day, the afternoon performance means families can take mom out to lunch first, then bring her to the concert, or take her to the concert and then out to dinner afterwards. Both the Leland and the K2 Rotor Lodge restaurants are offering special Mother’s Day branches and dinners from 5 pm onwards.

Regional District of Central Kootenay Voters List by contacting:
Regional District of Central Kootenay Office (Randy Matheson or Anita Wijne)
202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, B.C.
Phone: (250) 352-6665 / Toll Free: 1-800-288-7325
8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding holidays)

ADVANCE ELECTOR REGISTRATIONS will only be accepted until close of business on Friday, May 20, 2016. For those electors not on the voters list who register to vote on voting day, two pieces of identification will be required (at least one with a signature) to prove both residency and identity of the elector.

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

RESIDENT ELECTORS:
• age 18 or older; and
• a Canadian citizen; and
• a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately preceding the day of registration; and
• a resident of the Service Area of the Regional District of Central Kootenay for which the vote is taking place for at least 30 days immediately preceding the day of registration; and
• not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS:
• age 18 or older; and
• a Canadian citizen; and
• a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately preceding the day of registration; and
• a registered owner of real property either as joint tenants or tenants in common, are individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust; in the Service Area of the Regional District of Central Kootenay for which the vote is taking place for at least 30 days immediately preceding the day of registration; and
• not entitled to register as a resident elector; and
• not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law; and
• if there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

For further information on these matters, contact the following persons:
Randy Matheson, Chief Election Officer
Anita Wijne, Deputy Chief Election Officer
Phone (250) 352-6665 or 1-800-288-7325

Over 150 volunteers representing more than 40 Slocan Valley organizations attended the Volunteer Recognition event hosted by the Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society April 16 at Winlaw Hall. There were refreshments, three sets of local musicians, and some spontaneous dancing. Area H Director Walter Popoff was there, and told the story of going to register his son for soccer and leaving as a coach and chair of the Rec Commission. Greetings on behalf of MP Dick Cannings were brought by his office assistant. “It exceeded my expectations,” said organizer Val Mayes. The event was sponsored by GST, RDCX,Area H, and the Village of Silvertown.
Nakusp Senior Citizens Centre.
Sunday May 8, 2016, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Nakusp.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who attended our housing seminar despite the cold wet weather! Thanks for edible goodies, garden goodies, but most of all thanks for YOU! Iry and Helene.

SOLDIERS' DAY and VETERANS' DAY Celebration and Exhibition. Saturday May 7, 2016. The Slocan Legion Hall, 802 Harold St. Laces. Invite your basket-making buddies!

JANE LEWIS Celebration of Life, 2:30 - 4:30 pm, Saturday, May 28, 2016, at the Nakusp Thrushes Guild Hall. We will enjoy photos, a memorial recording from members of Janie’s Guadalupe choir, a Quaker period of silence, memories, singing, and light refreshments following. If you cannot attend, but want to share, please feel free to send some words to be read at the Celebration. For information or contributions, email janie@janiekiwi.com

Maplerose (Nelson), mid June-Sept. $60 Per - Teens and Adults.


Arrow Lakes Hospital on Wednesday.

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a message at 265-3674 ext. 201 or email info@futures.bc.ca.

Self Employment program in the Arrow Lakes region that assists with business planning, counseling & training; and delivers the ongoing business training and coaching and usually financial support while you start your business. To learn more call 265-3674 ext. 201 or email info@futures.bc.ca.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES THINKING OF STARTING, buying or expanding your own business? If so, call Community Futures to learn about the free Business Plan workshop open to anyone! And if you’re eligible, you may also qualify for the Self Employment program where you will receive ongoing business training and coaching and usually financial support while you start your business. To learn more call 265-3674 ext. 201 or email info@futures.bc.ca.


Nakusp Foot Care Nursing care for sore feet 250-265-3024

THE FAMILY OF Angelina DeBoni was in a Tea in Celebration of her 90th Birthday.

Sunday May 8, 2016, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Nakusp.

THE FAMILY OF Janie Kiwi, a Tea in Celebration of her 90th Birthday.

Sunday May 8, 2016, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Nakusp.

THE FAMILY OF Isy and Helmut.
THE BROKEN POT
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and river swims. Call now to book your
Slocan Park Hall. $60 or $10 drop-in.
May 28, 8:00am-5:00pm.
EDIBLE PLANT WALK: Sun May 29
10:00am-1:00pm. $40.
WILDERNESS 1st AID: Basic evening Sat & Sun, Jun 3-5, 5-22, Advanced- Final evening Sat & Sun, Jun 30-12, 815. Call for more info.
TOTAL BODY CONDITIONING: 5-3:60-30pm. May 10-21 Slocan Park Hall. 300 or $10 drop-in.

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May 4, 2016 The Valley Voice
per month - watch & garage included.
NS, NP. Available July 1, 2016. Call Erin
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Community

Obituary

SHEPHERD, George Easton

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of George Easton Shepherd on March 7th, 2016 in Vernon, British Columbia. George was born October 17th, 1931 in Calgary, Alberta. He was an avid fly-fisherman and stamp collector. George will be forever loved and his memory cherished by his wife Jackie, to whom he was married for 59 years, his children: Gerolde (Jane), Heather (Paul) and Ian (Dianne); grandchildren: Nobalee, George, Harvey, Leslie, Allie and Heather; great-grandchildren: Matthew and Micah. He is predeceased by his brothers: Bill and Douglas, sisters: Doreen (June), Heather (Paul) and Ian (Dianne); grandparents: Nobile, George, Harvey, Leslie, Allie and Heather; great-grandchildren: Matthew and Micah. He is predeceased by his brothers: Bill and Douglas, sisters: Doreen (June), Heather (Paul) and Ian (Dianne); grandparents: Nobile, George, Harvey, Leslie, Allie and Heather; great-grandchildren: Matthew and Micah.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Alfred Chan and Dr. Harold Yacyshyn for taking such good care of George for many years. In keeping with George’s wishes, there will be no service. Good care of George for many years. In keeping with George’s wishes, there will be no service.

WANTED

RUSTY VOLKSWAGEN bus/van with split from windshield. Any information please call 403-527-2486.

Andrew Rhodes is looking for a ride to and from Vancouver before May 15. Please call 250-358-7985 or email dancewini@yahoo.com.

About a dozen Village of Nakusp employees attended a brief ceremony April 28 to mark the National Day of Mourning for people killed in the workplace. It was organized by Public Works employee Terry Flamond, who was motivated by the recent death of a Vancouver city employee. Flamond said he wants to see more emphasis placed on workplace safety, and plans to organize a bigger ceremony next year and invite all who want to participate.

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription

Only $10-$30
Former New Denver resident wins commendation as RCMP member

submitted

New Denver native Ron Lyver has just retired after a 30-year career as a front-line federal government employee – six years with the army and 24 with the RCMP. Shortly before he retired, he was awarded a commendation for bravery for putting himself in harm’s way to assist a wounded colleague.

Now, he has embarked on a career in the private sector, putting his training to good use as a security advisor. And his wife Krista will stay in Alberta until his next retirement, when they plan to return to BC. They have two children, both in university.

Lyver is the youngest child of John and Norma Lyver of Rosebery. He was born in New Denver, but raised in Penticton when the family moved there. After graduating grade 12 in Penticton, he played junior hockey in Summerland and served as an RCMP auxiliary constable. In 1983, he moved back to the valley and worked in the logging industry until 1986 when he joined the army and served with the Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry. In his six years, he was in Calgary, Winnipeg and Germany, with a six-month peacekeeping tour in Cyprus.

After leaving the PPCLI, Lyver joined the RCMP and after training he was posted to Alberta, where he would spend the next 24 years. For most of that time, he was a member of the Emergency Response Team, the ERT.

In March of this year, Lyver and his teammates were awarded a Commissioner’s Commendation for Bravery from Commissioner Bob Paulson for an incident during a 2011 ERT callout in Breton, AB. His team came under fire and he and other members put themselves in harm’s way to facilitate the evacuation of injured team mates.

According to the report, “The Red Deer Emergency Response team was called out after shots were fired from a mobile home. After clearing all of the outbuildings on the property, ERT members moved towards the trailer, where they broke a window to install an electronic recognizance device that would assist them in determining if the home was vacant. They were met with a barrage of gunfire from within the home. One ERT member was seriously wounded and unable to retreat from the line of fire.

“Cst. Lyver advanced towards the window to provide other ERT members cover in their efforts to assist their wounded colleague. Another ERT member was hit. During this time, Cst. Lyver positioned himself between his injured colleagues, stood his ground and returned fire as Cpl. Johnson put himself in harm’s way to pull the most-seriously injured member to safety.”

The wounded officers were air-lifted to hospital. Both recovered from their wounds, but one was left with permanent arm damage. The suspect was eventually taken into police custody, and is now serving an eight-year prison sentence.

Passmore Seniors are an active bunch

submitted

The Passmore Seniors Association Branch #116 holds a fundraiser every year to support them and see old friends, too.

The branch sells raffle tickets; first prize large lawn done quite quickly and you will shortly see the red roof down the small hill to the straight road and you will shortly see the red roof of the centre on your left.

Larry the Lawn Guy

by Jan McMurray

Larry worked for Colin Moss for two years before he started his own lawncare business. "Colin gave me his blessings when I wanted to venture out on my own," Larry said.

He is also grateful to Chris Fox, "Chris and Colin." Larry currently has two part-time employees, and anticipates hiring more people to join his crew soon. Contact Larry, larrythelawnguy@yahoo.ca, 250-358-7772, or 250-265-7281.

The Wind River Flute Quartet from Castlegar will treat the audience to a repertoire which includes classical, jazz, and contemporary, with piano accompaniment. Topping all off are Netta and Tonija: the Fominoff Sisters, one of the Slocan Valley’s favourite duos – exquisite harmonies accompanied by sweet harp music.

The concert runs from 2 pm to 4:15. Tickets are $15 at the door.

The Vallican Whole presents: Mother’s Day Classical & More concert

submitted

Bring your mom, moms-to-be (there seem to be many), grandmoms and friends to The Vallican Whole Community Centre on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 8, for an outstanding morning of music.

The concert feature Jeff Faragher, a suberb classical cellist known to many as part of the exciting Celctic/jazz/classical group Breakwater, as well as conductor and soloist with the Symphony of the Kootenays.

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The Vallican Whole is at 3762 Little Slocan River Road South. Turn off Hwy 6 onto Passmore Upper Rd, cross the Passmore bridge and immediately turn right onto Passmore Lower Rd. Cross the Little Slocan River bridge and head up the hill. Turn left onto Little Slocan River Rd, wind down the small hill to the straight road and you will shortly see the red roof of the centre on your left.

The concert runs from 2 pm to 4:15. Tickets are $15 at the door.

Larry the Lawn Guy operates between Silverton and Nakusp

submitted

Larry the Lawn Guy has his New Denver-based lawn care business, offering his services to residents between Silverton and Nakusp.

Larry operates two large commercial stand-on zero turn mowers, a fleet of seven smaller commercial mowers, and a variety of professional STIHL trimmers and other tools that he says “have become extensions of my arms.”

People know it’s Larry when they see him on his stand-up mower. “I can get the job done quite quickly with that piece of equipment,” he says.

Also an artist, Larry takes time to do the shrub work that he does is esthetically pleasing. “I believe the same care should be taken to the grass as to the garden,” he says.

Larry has just retired after a 30-year career as a front-line federal government employee – six years with the army and 24 with the RCMP. Shortly before he retired, he was awarded a commendation for bravery for putting himself in harm’s way to assist a wounded colleague.

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Larry the Lawn Guy

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Also an artist, Larry takes time to do the shrub work that he does is esthetically pleasing. “I believe the same care should be taken to the grass as to the garden,” he says.

Larry worked for Colin Moss for two years before he started his own lawncare business. “Colin gave me my start, taught me a lot about the business, and gave me his blessings when I wanted to venture out on my own,” Larry said.

He is also grateful to Chris Fox, "Chris and Colin." Larry currently has two part-time employees, and anticipates hiring more people to join his crew soon. Contact Larry, larrythelawnguy@yahoo.ca, 250-358-7772, or 250-265-7281.

The Wind River Flute Quartet from Castlegar will treat the audience to a repertoire which includes classical, jazz, and contemporary, with piano accompaniment. Topping all off are Netta and Tonija: the Fominoff Sisters, one of the Slocan Valley’s favourite duos – exquisite harmonies accompanied by sweet harp music.

The concert runs from 2 pm to 4:15. Tickets are $15 at the door.

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Unframed at Studio Connexion Gallery
submitted

Denyse Marshall will exhibit her new series Unframed in the first show of the season at Studio Connexion Gallery in Nakusp from May 13 to June 4. The opening reception is Friday May 13 from 6 to 8 pm. This is Marshall’s second solo show and this time the local artist has focused on oil on canvas. Last year was a trying year for many people and artists often question themselves. Marshall has been reflecting on what an artist is – is she an artist? She has always had a need to create but never really liked following directions for patterns, recipes, etc., but she thinks there are basics that should be followed when creating.

“Why do we like to keep things orderly, controlled, contained? Does it help us to find a place of acceptance? What if, no matter how hard you try, how much you conform, you just don’t fit? People might call you impulsive, headstrong, spirited...Artistic.”

As humans we like to compartmentalize and often attach labels. Single, racist, depressed, autistic...Do these words really give us a complete picture of who someone is? And if they do/didn’t, would your image be the same as the other person’s? Reading this you might think these are figurative paintings but in fact they are beautiful imaginary landscapes expressed in oil on canvas which translate the artist’s feelings with the help of the palette knife. This new series shows the progression Marshall has made in the last two years. You can truly feel her personal growth as an individual and as an artist. Unframed is comprised of 18 unique paintings waiting to be seen, reflected on, cherished by the viewers.

Studio Connexion Gallery is located at 203 Fifth Avenue NW downtown Nakusp, two and a half short blocks from Broadway Street. Open Tuesday to Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm. For private viewing, you may book an appointment with the curator Anne Béliveau at 250-265-8888 (cell) or fax 250-265-5386.

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Bikes Not Pipes to cycle to Convergence Writers’ Weekend
submitted

Some West Kootenay environmentalists have found a unique way of joining the audience convening on Silverton to attend the Convergence Writers’ Weekend May 13 to 14. Members and supporters of Kootenay for a Pipeline-Free BC will leave Nelson May 12 to cycle through the Shuswap Valley in time to arrive in Silverton for the evening opening event of the writers’ weekend. The weekend features two well-known environmental authors participating in talks, workshops and panel discussions on the theme of “The Spirit in the Landscape.”

“It’s great we can ride to the Convergence weekend in Silverton,” said ride co-organizer Keith Wiley. “The gathering’s topic is a lot of what riding the Kootenay Loop is about: feeling the spirit of this beautiful place.”

Wiley, a co-host of Kootenay Co-op Radio’s EcoCentric program, helped organize two previous Bikes Not Pipes tours, Kootenays for a Pipeline-Free BC loops of the Nelson-New Denver-Kaslo-Nelson loop to protest the proposed Enbridge and Kinder Morgan pipelines in 2014 and 2015.

A Tai Chi Workshop with Boon Loh & James Elser
June 1 & 2, 2016
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Alliance Church, Nakusp
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Leslie 250.265.3325

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Wiley said. “This year’s tour is about the Columbia Basin Trust.” The sponsoring organization for the ride. The sponsoring organization for the tour is the Columbia Basin Trust.

The Bikes Not Pipes ride will leave Nelson at noon May 12 and overnight in Winlaw, arriving at Silverton the next day. The tour will leave Silverton on May 14, overnight in Kaslo, and reach Nelson on May 15. More information, including how to participate, is available from Wiley at 250-777-2020, John Alton at 250-777-1304, or email: noenbridgepipeline@gmail.com

Wiley stresses that riders are welcome to join in at any stage of the ride. The sponsoring organization for the Bikes Not Pipes tours, Kootenays for a Pipeline-Free BC, is a Nelson advocacy group that raises awareness about the dangers of oil pipeline development and other environmental threats.

Previous Convergence Writers’ Weekends were held in New Denver in 2012 and 2013. Financial support for this year’s Convergence has come from the ProVision Fund of the BC Conference of the United Church, RDCK Area H, and the Columbia Basin Trust.