Nakusp Hot Springs Road re-opened after May 31 washout
by Claire Paradis

Cecile Letting and Dwain Foster were two of the 37 people who unexpectedly spent the night at the Nakusp Hot Springs when the road washed out on May 31. The couple were soaking at the springs with friends around 5 pm when Constable Lee Bellamy announced that the road down the mountain was closed.

Bart Chenuz, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) Area Manager, said it was a combination of high snowpack levels and a rainstorm that caused the deluge of debris to come down and destroy the culvert at Dinner Creek. Guests at the Cedar Chalets and campers in the campground opened their doors to the mudslide refugees and thanks to everyone pulling their doors to the mudslide refugees enough beds for everyone.

For the Letting-Fosters, the heroes of the hour were Nakusp Hot Springs employee Rick Offerman and RCMP Constable Lee Bellamy.

“We were well taken care of, well accommodated,” said Foster. Letting commented that “Rick and the RCMP made it feel…fun!”

For his part, Chemuz was very happy to have YRB, Galena Bay Construction and Russell Hopf Construction quickly respond and get to work with MOTI to reopen the road.

“They’re just awesome,” the MOTI manager said. Chemuz was also impressed with the level of cooperation and understanding from the Village of Nakusp.

Around 8 am, Letting, Foster and the other unplanned lodgers received word that they had 45 minutes to gather their belongings and get into a convoy. The road had been repaired enough that a single string of cars and trucks could get down the hill, said Letting. The convoy was hurried through by the road crew who worked actively to clear a passage through the water and dirt.

Road crews worked to control the water and re-establish drainage immediately after the washout. Repairs were done so quickly that Nakusp Rec-Parks was able to post on Facebook that the Nakusp Hot Springs were open 10 am to 9 pm as of Thursday, June 9.

“Kudos to the staff of the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure and YRB, our local Highway Contractor, for their quick response and excellent efforts to reopen the road as soon as possible,” read the post.

“Our main goal is safety,” stressed MOTI’s Chemuz, who added that the plan is to rework an entire corner which will improve sightlines as well as increase drainage through the largest replacement culvert. A second backup culvert is also being installed. Fortunately, road crews are in town at the moment so the time is right to do road improvements, Chemuz said.

Chenuz said single lane traffic led by a pilot car will continue until the 1.1 km of road is repaved, which he estimates may take two weeks.

Zwicky Road landslide evacuation alert rescinded after geologists’ report
by Art Joyce and Jan McMurray

The evacuation alert for six homes below the Zwicky Road landslide near Kaslo was rescinded on May 30. Geotechnical experts visited the site in late May and determined that the likelihood of continued landslide activity was low.

The six properties were under evacuation order from April 18 to April 28, and under evacuation alert until May 30. Another 41 homes nearby were on evacuation order until May 30. Another 41 homes were on evacuation order from April 28, and under evacuation alert from April 18 to April 28, and under evacuation alert until May 30. Geotechnical experts visited the site in late May and determined that the likelihood of continued landslide activity was low.

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High water affecting New Denver shoreline amenities

by Katrine Campbell

Part of the Mori Trail along the shoreline of New Denver has been flooded and damaged, but the Village was expecting it and isn’t worried. Chief Operating Officer Catherine Allaway said they knew when construction began last year there were questions about how high water would affect the trail, but as the high water mark differs from year to year, “we would just have to wait and see.”

The Village decided to get as much work done as they could at low water and hold back on the final surfacing. Now that the damage is done, they have the budget and labour to modify the trail to avoid damage in the future.

“Allaway says they looked into cutting a new trail around it but after a walkabout with the engineers concluded the bank was too steep. “It wasn’t feasible. It would have been a tremendous undertaking, and would have eaten up such a huge portion of the budget there would be nothing left for the rest of the trail,” she said.

The trail is open on the beach at low water, but at high water trail users must take the path up the bank to the Bellevue St to bypass the cabin. Allaway says the Village is trying to get the most extensive things done first, and placement of amenities and access routes, with accompanying signage, will be the last items done.

“The information from the high water level this year will inform those decisions,” she said. “Last year, we didn’t know whether this would be a test year or not. We know there is potential water damage, and we’ll consider our options once the lake level is past peak.”

• High water levels are also doing damage at the other end of the lake. The boat launch on the south side of Centennial Park has been closed due to debris, and the short walkway to the wharf has been disconnected from its posts.

“There is unacceptable strain with the wave action and the debris,” Allaway said. “It was twisting in a way [Public Works] thought we were going to lose it.” The crew also moved a bunch of logs which were causing damage to the wharf. The boat launch was closed “because it’s extremely hazardous.” The COO has a warning for residents and visitors. No logging to take place in Centennial Park!

“One industrious resident was logging from the lake,” she said, and was told to stop dragging logs out of the water onto park land.

The logs will likely be used for firewood for the campground, although “we may go through a process to make logs available” to the public.

Joy Kogama at the Langham July 11

Joy Kogama was born in 1935 in Vancouver. Her best known work is Obasan, published in 1981, a novel that was recognized internationally as representative of the Japanese Canadian war-time experience. In 1982 she won the Book of the Year Award from the Canadian Authors Association. It has also been adapted into a children’s book, Naomi’s Road, which the Vancouver Opera adapted into a 45-minute opera that was performed in various cities.

Interned with her family during WWII, she has worked tirelessly to educate and help redress a dark moment in Canadian history. In 1986, she was made a Member of the Order of Canada and in 2000 she was made a Member of the Order of British Columbia. In 2010, the Japanese government honoured her with the Order of the Rising Sun for her contribution to the understanding and preservation of Japanese Canadian history. Her latest work, a memoir titled Gently to Nagasaki, was published in 2016.

Soramaru Takayama is a member of the Vancouver artist collective, Tasi. Sora brings his innovative poetry monologue to Vancouver by way of ongoing solo performances and through collaboration with nationally recognized poets visiting from Japan. His first poetry book Taki to Buranko was published in 2014, taking him on three successful tours in Japan. In 2015 he was featured in a short documentary film created by Global Work, a Japanese lifestyle brand. The film was part of a national broadcast and online campaign about Japanese nationals living inspiring lives abroad.

He has performed for the Canada Japan Friendship Association, Joy Kogawa House, and was commissioned to create and perform a poem for the 110th Anniversary of the Vancouver Japanese Language School and Japanese Hall. Sora hosts an annual event, Japanese Poets North of the 49th, that is funded by the Canada Council for the Arts. He is the founder and owner of Yum Paddling & Co.

Contact the Langham for details, 250-353-2661

Women’s Wellness Day

Sunday, July 9th at

The Old Fire Hall 9am-4pm

A full day celebrating wellness complete with Breakfast, Lunch, and choice of four breakout sessions including:

-Yoga-Dear Self: I Love you - Bringing Down The Stress
-The Power of Touch - Intro to Ayurveda
-Financial Wellness - Healthy Sexuality
-Food Skills for Families - Sexual Diversity
-Reflexology for Relaxation - Art Therapy
-Healthy Relationships - Introduction to Yoga

Featuring a Keynote Address from NATALIE CLARK, PhD

Space is Limited, so reserve your spot now!

To Register, go to www.eventbrite.ca

Search “Women’s Wellness Day” Nakusp, BC, Canada

Registration closes July 2nd

Questions? Call Carlee Hughes 250-265-3674 x205 or **Travel Subsidies Available for Seniors**

**Childcare subsidies available**

Joy Kowaga with Soramaru Takayama.
Slocan River flooding hits 20-year high, prompts evacuation

by Art Joyce

Water levels in the Slocan River reached a 20-year high on June 1, causing the Regional District of Central Kootenay to issue evacuation orders and alerts for parts of the south valley. Residents in 56 homes in Crescent Valley were temporarily evacuated. No damage to homes was reported.

Temperatures above 30 degrees Celsius, followed by high rainfall, prompted the sudden discharge of water from last winter’s high snowpack levels. Similar conditions caused alerts to be issued by the BC River Forecast Centre across the province.

“On June 1, the Slocan River reached a 20-year flood level,” explains Andrew Doran, RDCK Assistant Emergency Programs Coordinator. “The reason the evacuation order was given is that the rise was twice as fast as normal. The river forecast over the past few weeks has fluctuated between 20- and 100-year flood events.”

The RDCK on May 30 issued an evacuation alert for Slocan Valley West Road and provided multiple locations for residents requiring sandbags. By June 1, the Regional District had declared a State of Local Emergency, upgrading the alert to an evacuation order for 35 homes on that road, which faces directly onto the Slocan River. By 7 pm that evening, another 21 homes were ordered to evacuate on Woykin Road, Indian Point Road, Arrow Road, Little Slocan South Road, Passmore Lower Road, Picard Road and Koch Siding. The Passmore and Crescent Valley fire halls were set up as reception centres for residents needing services. However, according to Doran, no one had to stay overnight at their local fire hall. They were sent to hotels, stayed with friends, or camped out. A few decided to stay in their homes despite the order.

On June 2 at 4 pm, the evacuation order was rescinded for all of Slocan Valley West Road, leaving only one home on Woykin Road and three on Picard Road still affected. On June 3, the homes on Picard Road had the order rescinded, leaving the home on Woykin Road under evacuation order due to concerns about an upstream log jam. By June 5, all affected residences remained on evacuation alert only. The Regional District has not had to repair any damages but did do some preventative work on Slocan Valley West Road, raising the road level.

This was done at the recommendation of Emergency Management BC and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, not as a result of flood damage but as a means of shedding water and maintaining access.

On June 8, the forecast was for the river to rise again, expected to peak on June 10 slightly higher than the day of evacuation. “It’s just a matter of what the temperatures do, and if the freezing level in the mountains comes down enough to slow the runoff,” says Doran. “We’re monitoring the situation and we have local fire departments keeping an eye on it. It should return to normal fairly quickly.”

All affected properties will remain under evacuation alert until further notice. “We want to make sure people are safe around fast-moving water and stay away,” says Doran. “We’ll be prepared to move on evacuating areas again should it become necessary.”

Kootenay Lake residents were also affected, with lake levels rising to 1,751 feet (533.7 metres) by June 3, a metre higher than last year’s maximum. The lake last reached this level in 2012. Then as now, Nelson experienced flash flooding and its lakeside soccer fields were underwater. Interior Health said at least 15 communities have been monitoring their water supply since flooding began. Nelson issued a boil-water advisory on June 2 after its water screening system became clogged with debris and the heavy runoff raised water turbidity levels.

According to the BC River Forecast Centre, the South Thompson and Shuswap Rivers remained on “flood watch” as of June 6 while most other rivers had been downgraded to a “high streamflow advisory.” Other rivers affected included the North Thompson, Kettle, Salmon, Nicola, Similkameen, Granby, and Mission Creek, as well as tributaries affecting expected to rise rapidly, but that no major flooding is expected. Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible. A “flood watch” means that river levels are rising and will approach or overflow their banks. A “flood warning” is issued when river levels have already overflowed their banks, with flooding of adjacent areas.
Air B&Bs
Air B&B has 35 listings for Kaslo. But there is nowhere to house anyone applying for work. The Kaslo Hotel kitchen is closed until further notice. Other restaurants in Kaslo cannot find staff, either.

My question for council is: Do Air B&Bs pay commercial taxes on their short-term rentals? Do they have insurance? Have they purchased business licenses? Lack of employee housing is killing Kaslo. 968? We will be lucky to have 900 if there is no long-term rental housing in town. But lots of untaxed, unpermitted and uninsured short-term rentals to compete with the motel and the hotel, both which both pay taxes.

What will council do about it? Why not go online and tax each unlicensed rental? Strange concept – level the playing field, and help local business while you are at it.

John Eckland
Kaslo

Climate action opposites
In his June 8 article in the National Observer, Barry Saxifrage contrasts the climate change tactics and results for both Canada and the United Kingdom. The UK has passed a ‘carbon budget’ law that requires the government to meet annual climate targets. Currently, the Canadian government is not required to meet any targets for there is no enacted law. The UK approach could be described as ‘outcome based’ – a common practice in educational curriculum development. You first design what you want to happen, then design a series of measurable steps to make it so. It allows for regular feedback to determine if outcomes are on track.

Canada, it seems, has a general climate action goal; but the general climate action goal; but the seriousness of the downside to serious action is not from some subservient position of as equal partners in confederation and the need for environmental rights equal Alberta’s in the need for environmental right” and “the federal government against the needs of protecting the environment. It’s our environment and our economy that’s at stake here, we need to think twice.

Mr. Saxifrage’s article, the UK approach seems to offer a clear process with regular monitoring. Canada may want to consider an outcomes approach – reverse engineering if you will.

Ron Robinson
Nelson

‘5G’ – not grand
5G is the most hazardous generation of radiation because of its unlimited numbers of new frequencies potentially to be released. We already know the existing frequencies from 2G-4G are hazardous and causing biological harm – the 5G will be devastating.

One of the purposes of 5G is to enable driverless cars, although the primary purpose of 5G is not just driverless cars but to create IoT (Internet of Things). Like other microwaves, we can look to animals to see their reaction. When 5G was being tested over pastures where cows were grazing in Europe, farmers described their behaviour as a kind of ‘mass agility.’ Like the cell phone frequencies, only ‘choppier,’ these microwaves slice through us on a molecular level – an invisible massaging of the air space, which disturbs animals and humans and of course the navigational capabilities of butterflies and bees.

5G is being implemented all over the US. There are bills being pushed through at every state level all being done simultaneously. Over 80 towns in Ohio have protested against its installation. Although Bill 649 allowing cell phone sites almost everywhere already passed the Senate in California with flying colours, there may be a temporary pause due to public concerns. It needs to be fought against vigourously.

The recognition of the seriousness of the downside to wireless technologies is mounting.

Daphne Fields
Slocan

How important is a driverless car? Really, what are our purposes? Shouldn’t we get a handle on them before we keep on yanking up the frequency potentially to be released. We already know the existing frequencies from 2G-4G are hazardous and causing biological harm – the 5G will be devastating.

For the need for environmental sanity, happy cows, clear-minded bees,

Andy Shadrack
Kaslo

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 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.
Concerned about rally car track proposal

As a long-time resident of Blewett, director of the Blewett Conservation Society and co-chair of the Blewett Watershed Committee, I am greatly concerned by the proposal to build a rally car track in the Rover Creek watershed in Blewett.

When the proponent, Patric Maloney, initially applied for his heliskiing licence, we consulted with him extensively. At that time, our concerns included noise, disturbance of wildlife and interfering with the public’s enjoyment of the area. He assured us that his operations would not interfere with the considerable skiing, hiking, hunting, wildcrafting and other activities of people. He agreed to restrict his activities to the winter months and to avoid areas of the Bonnington Traverse for his heliskiing operations. This proposal to diversify his operations and build a rally car track contradicts those agreements.

The Rover Creek watershed and the Bonnington Huts are among the most intensively used in the area by the public for recreation and food and firewood gathering. People from Blewett, South Slocan, Crescent Valley, Thrums, Bonnington and further afield all use it as a primary access to the wilderness.

The Copper Mountain Hut and the slopes and peaks of Copper Mountain, Siwash Mountain and Connor Peak are all in the same valley and hence, sound travels as far as it pleases. It will simply become impossible to enjoy these wilderness destinations with the noise and dust generated by a rally track.

Many, many hunters use this area annually for supplying their needs for meat, pointing to the considerable area of the use by anglers. Bow hunting is allowed in the refuge. I believe, and this is within the window of the actual proposed activities. Animals including caribou, wolverine, grizzly and birds will be displaced permanently due to noise and disturbance.

The track is in an area known to have many sensitive areas. Many of the flows that are intermittent, surging up and then disappearing underground again. What kinds of hydrological studies have been the associated systems due to climate change. Increasing dryness during the summer months has already been the cause of many wildfires in the area (e.g. Sitkum Creek, 2015). As nearby residents, we have concerns about fire hazard due to vehicles and the sparks associated with their operation, especially in a racing setting in the wilderness where sparks can easily ignite the surrounding forests. In the fire season, existing fire suppression resources are already overtaxed. As taxpayers, we are not interested in seeing our monies spent on fire suppression caused by inappropriate commercial operations. Why should BC taxpayers be expected to pay this bill while we risk the destruction of our homes?

There is no mention whatsoever of the impact to, and response of, the local community. Many of the flows they are interested in seeing are tributaries of the Kootenay River, the valley of the Kootenay, and the local community (e.g. Sitkum Creek, 2015). As nearby residents, we have concerns about fire hazard due to vehicles and the sparks associated with their operation, especially in a racing setting in the wilderness where sparks can easily ignite the surrounding forests. In the fire season, existing fire suppression resources are already overtaxed. As taxpayers, we are not interested in seeing our monies spent on fire suppression caused by inappropriate commercial operations. Why should BC taxpayers be expected to pay this bill while we risk the destruction of our homes?

It wasn’t always ‘shared use’ – the logging and trespass. 'No Timber Sales' forestry maps. A current ATCO map of the Kootenay area shows that 45% of the area has been, or is slated to be, logged. The deadline to submit comments on this proposal is June 23, at www.arfd.gov.bc.ca, file #4403367

K.L. Kivi Blewett

Water is life

“Water is Life, and without clean water, nothing can live” proclaims a 1970s Environment Canada poster.

Today water takes a back seat to other issues like industrial jobs and economic bounty for the Province. The provincial government allows industrial companies access to watersheds. In the Kootenay area, there is a close call that has not been, or is slated to be, logged.

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I have copied my colleague…

We asked the Interior Health Authority.

The Interior Health Authority was petitioned by the community of the Kootenay, when we filed a Section 29 under the Drinking Water Protection Act in 2016. Any BC citizen that thinks there is a threat to their water can file a Section 29. A year later, the Interior Health Authority Environmental Officer declined to investigate, stating in part: “As a matter of jurisdiction, we believe it is not appropriate to apply a Section 29 investigation to the legal framework and approvals processes of forestry activities of MFLNRD.”

We asked the BC government’s “Living Water Smart.”

The BC government states on their website: “The quantity and quality of our water supply is essential to public health and sustainable communities.” That sounds like an excellent idea! Then they go on to say: “Protecting our water supply means regulating its use so that water is available to sustain environmental, economic and human needs.” Again, economics and industry hold the same place of priority as water for environmental and human needs.

We asked the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources.

The Deputy Minister of FLNRDo (as per “Environmental Protection & Management Regulation”) includes the Glade Creek community watershed and recognizing that it “requires special management to protect the quality or quantity of water, or the timing of flow of water.” Again, this sounds very positive. But that objective set by government (i.e. protecting water values in community water supplies) applies “only to the extent that it does not unduly reduce the supply of timber from British Columbia’s forests.” (FRPA, 2016) (emphasis mine)

Since the Minister of the Environment, the Drinking Water Protection Act, the Interior Health Authority and the Ministry of Forests are all abdicating responsibility to protect our water, what are we left with?

We are left with a system that provides no protection, places the same importance on economics as safe drinking water, and assigns almost no responsibility for damage done to water sources. There is a lack of public confidence in water protection because the current industry model of self-regulation (replaced the more palatable ‘professional reliance model’) exists with a negligible method of public consultation and a decrease in checks and balances from the Ministry of Forests. And just in case that does not grant enough leeway to industry, there are further loopholes including a ‘due diligence’ defense in case of contraventions and the fact that the government considers water that is ‘tratable’ to be uncompromised.

So, who is actually responsible for this task of protecting our water? Well, we are: the water users and suppliers. Ironically, the Drinking Water Protection Act makes water users “ultimately responsible for ensuring users are protected from drinking water health hazards.” The responsibility does not rest with the industry that logs, mines, dumps, drills or otherwise alters the water quality of BC citizens.

So that is what we will do. As many citizens and communities across BC have done over the years, we will, out of necessity, protect our water. Accelerated resource extraction based on a model of maximizing short-term profit should not, and does not, trump water. Water is the priority – our forests that produce that water is our priority. Water is life and without clean water, nothing can live.

H. McSwan
Glade Watershed Protection Society
Silvertown Councillor Leah Main re-elected to national FCM board

Silvertown Councillor and RDCK Director Leah Main has been re-elected to the board of directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), where she has served since 2015. Board elections took place at FCM’s June 1-4 national conference, which drew 2,800 municipal leaders from across Canada to the nation’s capital.

“It’s an honour to be chosen by my peers to continue serving on FCM’s national board,” said Main. “Some of our biggest challenges here in the Central Kootenay are also national challenges – whether that’s jobs, growth or climate change. And we’ll keep pressing for federal action that makes life better here at home and across Canada.”

FCM is the national voice for 2,000 local governments, representing more than 90% of all Canadians. As a member of FCM’s board, Main helps set the direction for an organization that is effectively transforming the role of municipalities on the national stage.

Over the last year, FCM has achieved unprecedented engagement with the federal government on local and rural priorities. Following intensive advocacy by FCM, Federal Budget 2017 committed to invest $81 billion in infrastructure over 11 years – including affordable housing, transit expansions, green infrastructure, and $2 billion specifically for rural, northern and remote priorities.

“This is a critical year coming up for municipalities. We’ve got unprecedented federal investment on the table, but we need to make sure they get the details right. Then we’ll be ready to turn investments into real outcomes in our community: better roads, more affordable housing, and access to improved telecommunications. And that means economic growth and a higher quality of life,” said Main.

Slocan Waterfront Restoration & Development Society hosts event triggered by interest in what happens now that the sawmill is gone and the waterfront is up for sale.

If you love Springer Creek and the Slocan waterfront, and see the importance of these assets to the future of the Slocan Valley, come to this event and consider becoming a member of the society. The AGM is planned for September.

ALFA Art Walk party

Celebrate the arts with us!
ALFA Art Walk is having a Party Friday June 23rd from 4:30 to 8:00 at Heritage Nursery by the Nakusp Marina
Artists in attendance
Art display and refreshments
Entertainment with Boombassa Drummers and DJ Aversive
Everyone Welcome

BC Hydro Open House

Nakusp

BC Hydro is hosting an open house in Nakusp to provide information about our operations, programs and activities in the Nakusp area.

When: Wednesday, June 21, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location: Nakusp Senior’s Hall, 210 – 8th Avenue NW, Nakusp
Topics include the operation of our Columbia facilities and expected summer Arrow Lakes Reservoir levels, Columbia River Water Use Plan programs, Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program, and other BC Hydro programs and initiatives.

For more information, please contact Jen Walker-Larsen at 250 814 6645 or by email at jennifer.walker-larsen@bchydro.com.

COMMUNITY

Expect Pedestrians

Slocan Waterfront Restoration & Development Society hosts event...

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY
Have your say in the future of resource recovery services in the RDKC!!

The RDKC has commenced a process to update the regional Resource Recovery Plan to determine the direction for delivery of waste and recycling services over the next 10 year period. Residents can provide feedback by filling out a short online survey posted at www.rdkc.ca/RPRPlan. Survey is also available at local municipal offices or any RDKC landfill or transfer station.

For more information, contact Resource Recovery@rdkc.bc.ca or 250-352-8161 or 1-800-268-7325

To fill out the survey and be eligible to enter a draw to win a $100 gift certificate for a local business of your choosing.

The Valley Voice June 15, 2017
Knox Hall renovations to proceed; Bosun Hall needs more study

by Katrine Campbell

Interior Health has started recruitment for a new physician for the Slocan Community Health Centre to take over Dr. Mike Mager’s practice when he leaves later this summer. This announcement was made by IH on June 9.

Cheryl Whittleton, Health Services Administrator at IH, says the job posting is on the IH physician recruitment website (www.healthimprovement.ca) and the provincial Health Match BC website.

“These two websites, along with word of mouth between physicians, and put public washrooms and showers at the Bosun. Others called for a new, larger-capacity hall, some suggesting that the Knox be sold to raise money for a new purpose.

Council first discussed the survey results and staff’s recommendation to proceed with renovations at Knox Hall at a Committee of the Whole (COTW) meeting May 30. After much discussion, the committee decided on a sixth option, to proceed with the renovations on the Knox Hall while developing plans for the Bosun Hall.

This recommendation was taken to the public in a presentation at Knox Hall June 6 and was expected to go before council for a vote at the June 13 council meeting. About 15 people attended the June 6 public meeting to hear Mayor Ann Bunka and Recreation & Cultural Services Coordinator Amanda Murphy present the findings of the public survey and the recommendations reached at the COTW meeting.

The staff members who compiled the survey results and wrote the report said “Space sharing opportunities, detailed functional planning, prioritization and exploring funding options and opportunities are all important next steps.”

Murphy explained that the Knox Hall was an easier fix, as it has no major issues. The renovations (estimated at $271,350) would cover the main concerns – moisture infiltration and insulation deficiencies – as well as minor renovations and space improvements.

In other words, commented one person, “Knox Hall is not a Pandora’s box.”

The condition of the Bosun is more serious. According to the report, ‘it has major structural and foundation issues that will need to be addressed prior to pursuing any renovations that would see improvements to the functionality and aesthetics of the building.”

The estimate for major issues is $457,500, provided there are no issues with the walls. 9dot Engineering reported no visible problems with the walls, but its mandate didn’t include cutting holes to check their condition. The total estimate to restore the Bosun and improve the space by extending the back and installing new washrooms was $927,500.

If council decides on the sixth option, the next step is to draw up detailed reconstruction plans and a budget for Knox, and then start looking for grants. The Columbia Basin Trust has Built Heritage grants to “support the preservation, rehabilitation, and/or restoration” of heritage buildings, but the deadline for this year’s applications was May 4. The Village will submit a detailed application next year, and will search for other sources, said Bunka. The timeline for completion is two to three years.

The Bosun is another matter altogether, much more complicated, said Bunka and Murphy. Council has the extensive report from 9dot Engineering, but has much more info to gather and many decisions to make. Should it repair the structural and foundation problems? What happens if there is more deterioration than originally identified, in inaccessible areas? The public survey showed a lot of people wanted more from the hall than the existing structure could handle.

Replacing, rather than repairing, the Bosun was the preference according to the residents’ survey.

Physician recruitment underway for Slocan Community Health Centre

by Jan McMurray

Interior Health has started recruitment for a new physician for the Slocan Community Health Centre to take over Dr. Mike Mager’s practice when he leaves later this summer. This announcement was made by IH on June 9.

Cheryl Whittleton, Health Services Administrator at IH, says the job posting is on the IH physician recruitment website (www.healthimprovement.ca) and the provincial Health Match BC website.

“Two websites, along with word of mouth between physicians, and put public washrooms and referrals to physician jobs in Interior Health,” she said.

When asked if there was a local committee to help IH with recruitment efforts, Whittledon said no committee has been formed at this point. “Our priority was to get the position posted. I’ve had a number of conversations with local elected officials and those conversations will definitely continue in the weeks ahead.”

On May 16, Dr. Mager informed Interior Health that he was leaving the community. His exact departure date has not been set.

IH assures the community that current services will continue. Dr. Mager, Dr. Chuck Barkthuler, nurse practitioner Donna Gibbons, and IH staff will continue to support the care needs of local residents.

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The packs are separated into four times of day that you may take your medication (breakfast, lunch, supper, bedtime). Ask us about this free service!

Phone: 250-353-2224 (Kaslo)
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**Share your feedback**

FortisBC will be submitting an electricity rate design application to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC). It will determine how customers will be billed for the electricity they use. We are reviewing the current electricity rate structure and are inviting customers to participate and provide feedback during the process.

Join us on June 29 at the Sandman Hotel, Columbia Room, 1944 Columbia Avenue, Castlegar.

The session will start at 6 p.m. with a presentation from the BCUC. FortisBC will present from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For more information, visit fortisbc.com/elecricityratedesign.
Speeding driver forces vehicles off the highway

by Katrine Campbell

Police are looking for a reckless driver who forced two vehicles off the road, totalling one of them, but they don’t have much to go on.

Mid-morning on June 5, Cst. Ben Nickerson reports, a smaller silver SUV was northbound on Hwy 6 between Slocan and Silverton. On at least two occasions, the vehicle entered the southbound lane to pass and forced two southbound vehicles off the road. There were no injuries.

Wanda Palmer of New Denver was one of the unlucky drivers. She says she was on the “twisty little corner” on the south side of the Enterprise Creek bridge when the vehicle came around the corner towards her. It wasn’t trying to pass another vehicle, but was going too fast for the road, pulled wide and forced Palmer off the road and into the dirt. Luckily for her, she says, the concrete barriers had been removed.

Palmer drove back onto the road, and a few minutes later was waved down by the driver of the first vehicle that had been run off the highway. Unfortunately for that driver, his truck was totalled, although he was unharmed.

“He’s lucky he’s alive,” she says. “He hit some big huge rocks, lopped off about six or eight trees” and sheared off the vehicle’s tires. “I stayed until the cops arrived and gave them a description” of the SUV and the driver.

“She couldn’t have been local.”

Slocan Valley Home Hardware re-opened by local family

by Art Joyce

The Dutoff family has re-opened the Slocan Valley Home Hardware store in Winlaw and will be offering a full range of hardware products.

The store is managed by Matt Dutoff, with his parents Fred and Pearl and his wife Melanie as business partners. The family is best known locally as the owners of Four Seasons Greenhouse, established in 1985. Matt grew up working in the greenhouse and says the family business has prepared him well for the new venture.

“I’ve been working the greenhouse with my folks ever since I could walk,” says Matt. “We’d originally been looking at this property as a possible Four Seasons highway frontage before the hardware store opened.”

Matt says that, contrary to popular misconception, the Home Hardware chain is not a franchise but a dealer/owner purchasing co-op. The Dutoffs will stock Home Hardware house brands as well as other national brands. Home Hardware is helping with a suggested inventory, but this will evolve with time and customer requests. Special orders are welcome.

“What we did was we bought into a purchasing co-op; what that entails is the sign, the red shirts, and the flyers. But that’s as far as it goes; the rest is absolutely up to us. We ran as an independent for a while, but my God is it hard getting decent wholesale rates, building a credit rating. Whereas with Home Hardware it was like the mother ship landing.”

Matt says he understands that consumers in the past have been disappointed by the quality of some products stocked by the store, particularly tools. But he has plans to up his game by introducing higher-quality products. Customers can order online and arrange to have items dropped off at the store, but Matt would prefer if people stop in.

“Some trees will have to come down when he shut down,” says Matt. “We do have aspirations to eventually become an actual building centre to fill the hole that Bartel left when he shut down,” says Matt.

“Some trees will have to come down and we’ll do some landscaping so it doesn’t look like a crater in the middle of Winlaw.”

Customers can order online and arrange to have items dropped off at the store, but Matt would prefer if people call him first. “If I don’t have it, I can order it in.”

Winlaw Home Hardware will be open seven days a week, 9 am to 5 pm, 10 am to 4 pm Sundays.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Slocan Lake RCMP at 250-358-2222.

“The tough getting a low-cost tool for the weekend warrior that I come from; a family that’s hard on their tools so I understand the frustration when something falls apart. But we recently learned that just by making deals with the Home Hardware brand has a lifetime guarantee. There’s also a 30-day money back guarantee as long as you have your receipt and original packaging. If the packaging isn’t intact then the warranty applies.”

Matt’s wife, Melanie, who breeds award-winning Australian shepherds for professional dog shows, says she is happy to be overseeing the pet food line. Matt says she firmly put her foot down against stocking poor quality pet foods, so the store will feature the made-in-BC pet food line Riplee’s Ranch. “I had someone come in today who was very happy we had it because he was having to order it from the coast.”

The family discussed whether or not to put stocking plants produced by Four Seasons but decided not to, given that the greenhouse is only a few minutes’ drive away. “There was talk about putting a garden centre here, and we may still do so in future. The problem is Winlaw’s water is sub-par, high in iron, so I don’t think it’s good for plants.”

As for future expansion, the Dutoffs are optimistic. The family plans to talk to the Recycling Council of BC about opening a depot at the store so that paint cans and other hazardous waste can be properly disposed of. Matt envisions transforming the store’s physical location as well.

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submitted

Continuing the family tradition, Sunnybrae artist Maureen Howard will show her first series ‘Out my Front Door’ at Studio Connexion Gallery in Nakusp until June 30. For decades, three gifted artists from the same family, Senia Howard, Lois Howard-McLean and now Maureen Howard, have illustrated the natural wonders of Sunnybrae, the small community that lies between Bastion Mountain and the Shuswap about 15 km west of Salmon Arm. They all searched for ways to interpret that beautiful environment onto canvas and, like some well-aged wine of the region, the artistry has evolved and grown in texture and complexity. Maureen’s love of the outdoors is reflected in her bold and dynamic acrylic paintings.

An active member of the arts community, Maureen has participated in juried and invitational shows. She mainly paints landscapes and also ventures into creating abstract paintings. The play of light on the trees, seasonal spectacles, and the never-ending changing vista of the lake are part of an inspiring view out her front door. Constant gratitude to her mother and grandmother is expressed not only in her work but her life.

Social media has offered great exposure for Maureen and her Facebook page, Sunnybrae Studies, has showcased to her followers her work process and what is flying off the easel. She says that she has sold more paintings this year than she ever has and has been painting up a storm.

Come meet and greet the artist or reconnect with Maureen who lived in Nakusp some 20 years ago. The gallerist is hosting a reception on Friday June 16 from 5 to 8 pm. Refreshments will be served. Studio Connexion Gallery is located in the heart of Nakusp only 2 1/2 short blocks from Broadway St. at 203 Fifth Avenue NW. Hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm and it is always open by appointment. For more details, call Anne Béliveau at 250-265-3386 or 265-8888. Follow the gallery: www.facebook.com/studioconnexion.

Power line upgrading successful, but more to be done
by Katrine Campbell

BC Hydro says it was able to complete “a significant amount” of the work it had scheduled for June 4 when power was shut off for 12 hours between Fauquier and Silverton so crews could work safely.

“We had approximately 20 crews on site so we could do as much work as possible while the power was out,” says spokesperson Mary Ann Coules. “The crews replaced all of the 284 automatic sleeves on the transmission line conductors and 93 of the 196 automatic sleeves on the distribution line conductors between the Monashee and New Denver substations.”

“These new automatic sleeves will allow crews to continue project work and safely replace poles and equipment along the line without turning the power off. During the outage, our crews also completed 13 structure reframes, which upgraded the structure’s crossarms or insulators.”

Several more outages are planned so crews can replace and upgrade the structures, crossarms, hardware and conductor components on the transmission line. The first of the outages will likely be in the fall, Coules said.

“Again, we would like to thank our customers for their support while this work was completed.”

Other work planned by BC Hydro, not requiring the power to be shut off, includes completing right-of-way vegetation and brushing, and undertaking vegetation and lighting studies to determine if reliability can be substantially improved by undertaking clearing and installing surge protection devices.
Lucerne Teacher Gary Parkstrom receives Teachers Building Leaders Award

submitted

Lucerne School teacher Gary Parkstrom was presented with the Teachers Building Leaders Award at the grad ceremony on Saturday, June 3. The national award, started in 2015, is granted by the Loran Scholars Foundation, with support from the McCall MacBain Foundation, and recognizes teachers who provide early inspiration, guidance and growth opportunities to their students.

To receive this award, a teacher must be nominated by a former student who has become a Loran Scholar – a young person selected for Canada’s most comprehensive undergraduate award from a pool of over 4,400 applicants, on the basis of character, service and leadership. Parkstrom was nominated by Danika Hammond, who was named a Loran Scholar in 2013, and recently completed her studies in Political Science and First Nations Indigenous Studies at UBC.

“When I reflect back, not only Danika Hammond, graduating Loran Scholar, presents Lucerne School teacher Gary Parkstrom with Teachers Building Leaders Award. Lucerne Teacher Gary Parkstrom receives Teachers Building Leaders Award out of my teachers but also out of my community mentors, the first person I think of who has had the most profound impact on my life, is Gary Parkstrom. I know I wouldn’t be where I am now without his mentorship, guidance and support,” Hammond said.

From Grade 8 onwards, Hammond had several classes with Parkstrom. He also introduced her to a global leadership youth conference which set her life path in an entirely new direction. “It was the turning point where I became heavily involved in directed, meaningful service activities in the school, the community and in a global context. Mr. Parkstrom had seen my potential and pushed me to act on it.”

Parkstrom joined Lucerne School in 2007 and currently teaches Social Studies and Fitness. He was surprised and grateful to receive the award, as well as a congratulatory letter from the Governor General during graduation ceremonies at the school on Saturday.

In a statement supporting his nomination for the Teachers Building Leaders Award, Lucerne Principal Trish Hawkins wrote, “Mr. Parkstrom is a natural leader who builds capacity in his students. Not only does he lead classroom activities and discussions that extend students’ thinking and develop character, he takes them outside to build confidence and self-esteem. Mr. Parkstrom has taken our secondary students rock climbing at Skaha Bluffs, mountain biking in our back-country trails, hiking, skiing, snowshoeing and camping. He builds physical capacity and while doing so promotes emotional and intellectual capacity. His students are encouraged to take risks, to take responsibility and to demonstrate leadership for the younger students here at Lucerne. He builds leaders who in turn build leaders.”

For Hammond, the award represents a perfect opportunity. “I find that people don’t usually get to express their gratitude in such formal ways as the Teachers Building Leaders Award. I really appreciated being able to present it. I felt really excited to share with the school and community the profound and lasting impact that Gary Parkstrom had on my life, to be able to reflect four years down the line and take the time to recognize his influence and the way he inspired me.”

The Loran Scholars Foundation is a national charity that partners with 25 universities to invest in young Canadians who demonstrate character, service, and leadership potential. The Foundation selects up to 33 of the top applicants from over 4,400 students as Loran Scholars, through a rigorous selection process involving up to three days of interviews at the regional and national level. Established in 1988, it has supported 572 Loran Scholars to date.

The Loran Award, valued at $100,000 over four years, comprises a $10,000 annual stipend and a matching tuition waiver (unique in Canada), up to $10,000 in funding for summer internships, a week-long orientation expedition in Algonquin Park in Ontario, one-on-one mentorship and participation in the community of past and present scholars. For more information, visit: www.loranscholar.ca.
Lucerne 2017 graduates: responsible, active, friendly

by Jan McMurray

The Lucerne School stage was beautifully decorated with greenery for the graduation ceremony, a telltale sign of the Class of 2017’s affinity for the outdoors. In her opening remarks, Principal Trish Hawkins said the 2017 grads “stand out because they have a strong work ethic, are responsible, active, friendly, and superb role models for our younger students.” These admirable qualities were underlined in teacher Richelle Johnston’s introduction of each graduate. Rayan Duerichen is “a self-starter with a no-nonsense, get-it-done attitude”; River Fantuz is “in tune with himself, self-confident, and genuinely kind”; Jewel Jennings is “beautifully loving, full of resilience, and gracefully creative”; Anthony Maximuk has “an innate willingness to care, work hard and support those around him.” Quade Nicholson-Chodat is “driven by his own passions and pursues his own interests intently, and has an innate curiosity in all things science”; Viktors Vilks is “an avid mountain biker who has picked himself up and dusted himself off” many times; Claire Yaremchuk is “a calm, collected and oh so cool young woman” who “always seeks the silver lining.”

Lora Lee Brekke brought greetings from the board of education, and advised the students to “do what you love and do it often,” “open your hearts to new things and new people,” and “travel often – getting lost will help you find yourself.” Superintendent Terry Taylor spoke about zugunruhe, a German word that describes the restlessness and heightened anxiety observed in birds just before they migrate. She used this as a metaphor for the transition time that the graduates are experiencing now. “You will sense and know your way like migrating birds,” she said. “There are many things enroute for you – many places of refuge – but the urge is strong to change. You will fly. Your wings will carry you and you will fly, whether you are at the edge of the flock, in the lead, or hugging the corners. There is a place for you and you will find your place.”

The ever favorite slide presentation gave a glimpse of the grads’ earlier years, and then the Valedictory address was given by Rayan Duerichen and Claire Yaremchuk. Just before the scholarships and awards were presented to the grads, Danika Hammond, 2013 Lucerne alumni and Loran Scholar, presented teacher Gary Parkstrom with the Teachers Building Leaders Award. Graduating Loran Scholars are invited to nominate the teacher who most impacted their lives for this award. Hammond said she nominated Parkstrom, who “inspired me to become a leader,” and felt it was fitting that the grad had chosen him as their guest speaker.

Gary Parkstrom put together a slide show for his guest speaker address. Called ‘Raised in the Mountains,’ the show featured a few slides of each grad on the various school trips over the years canoeing, skiing, hiking, rock climbing, and mountain biking. “If they keep the strength of being raised in the mountains close to their hearts, they can get through any kind of difficulties,” he said.

The class highlights were given by Viktors, and River presented the class prophecies. Anthony acknowledged and thanked all the teachers and staff at Lucerne School. The ceremony concluded with the turning of the tassels and presentation of the diplomas by Principal Trish Hawkins and Superintendent Terry Taylor.

Scholarships and bursaries:

Arrow Lakes Teachers’ Association Scholarship:
New Denver Community Pharmacy Congratulations Graduates!

Best wishes to Rayan, River, Quade, Jewel, Anthony, Viktors & Claire The Lucerne Class of 2017

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Congratulations, Graduate!
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Management & Staff of Carson’s Corner & Valley Foods
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Tracy and staff would like to congratulate the 2017 Graduates.
Best Wishes!
92 Broadway   Nakusp

Congratulations to the Graduating classes of Nakusp and Lucerne Secondary Schools!

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Congratulations to the Graduates of 2017

Congratulations to the Graduates of Nakusp Secondary School 2017

592 Broadway Street
Nakusp 250-265-0060

Best wishes to the doctors & Staff at Saddle Mountain Medical Clinic

Congratulations to the Class of 2017

Erling Johnson Memorial: Renee Goodman; Vera Johnson Memorial: Taylor Grandbois; Janine Bourge Memorial: Courtney Hall; Nakusp Scholarship Society: Madison Rahn, Lee Coates, Ryan MacDonald, Cameron Larder, Emily Reske, Broden McLean; Arrow Lakes Historical Society (Harry Murphy Memorial): Emily Reske; Garth Haggart Memorial: Maija Lampimaki; Betty Walton Memorial: Maija Lampimaki; Joan Fowler Memorial: Kalen Jones; Bill Robison Memorial: Kalen Jones; Needles Reunion: Broden McLean; Dave Grimshaw Memorial: Broden McLean; Sarah Stykell Memorial: Broden McLean.

Congratulations Graduates! We wish you nothing but smooth sailing as you embark on this new voyage of discovery.

Waterbridge Ferries
Ferry Operators at Galena and Arrow Park

Bon Marché
DOLLAR $ DOLLAR
416 Broadway Street Nakusp

Congratulations Graduates! We wish the graduating classes of Nakusp and Lucerne Secondary Schools of 2017 all the best in their future endeavours.

Overwaitea Bursaries help very own local people
Nakusp
We wish the graduating classes of Nakusp and Lucerne Secondary Schools of 2017 all the best in their future endeavours.

Congratulations to the Class of 2017


Nakusp • 250-265-3635

Congratulations to the Class of 2017
The Nakusp Secondary School Class of 2017 embraces change
by Skye Cunningham

The Nakusp Secondary School graduates faced many changes this school year and are looking forward to the ones they will experience in the near future.

Principal Peter Gajda has only been the NSS principal for 10 months, but during that time he has gotten to know the grads very well, he said in his principal’s message at the graduation ceremony on June 10. His motto all year has been: “Embrace the change.”

He advised the students to “especially cherish your family and your friends as if your life depended on it,” in order to have support throughout their endeavours.

During her address to the grads, Nakusp Mayor Karen Hamling said the grad’s June 9 banquet theme of ‘hollywood’ makes her think of success and glamour – but she knows the grads know that success isn’t achieved by “a roll of the dice.”

Her gift to the grads was six-sided player’s dice, as a reminder in the future that luck is not how success is achieved. “It takes risks, it takes hard work, and it takes determination,” said Mayor Hamling.

She encouraged the grads to do what they are passionate about, go out into the world, take action, “because opportunity is the thing that happens in the face of determined action.”

Some quotes included: “Success doesn’t find you, you find it.” “Choose a job you love and you will never have to work a day in your life.” “Let your smile change the world, but don’t let the world change your smile.” “It always seems impossible until it’s done.”

Kootenay West MLA Katrine Conroy told the grads, “I don’t think there’s any failures in life, I think there’s only experiences you learn by, and you move on.”

Chair of the board of education, Lora Lee Brehke shared with the grads her well wishes and encouragement to follow their dreams, “open your hearts, minds, and arms to new things.”

Superintendent Terry Taylor spoke of how many opportunities students have at NSS, despite how small Nakusp is. “Creativity thrives in constraints,” said Taylor.

She said the grads have done “amazing” things and will continue to, even though the school’s population is no larger than 150 students. “Make something great of your life, make the words you speak count, make the actions you take matter,” said Taylor. “Make a difference as a small community.”

Chair of the board of education, Lora Lee Brehke shared with the grads her well wishes and encouragement to follow their dreams, “open your hearts, minds, and arms to new things.”

Superintendent Terry Taylor spoke of how many opportunities students have at NSS, despite how small Nakusp is. “Creativity thrives in constraints,” said Taylor.

She said the grads have done “amazing” things and will continue to, even though the school’s population is no larger than 150 students. “Make something great of your life, make the words you speak count, make the actions you take matter,” said Taylor. “Make a difference as a small community.”

“The constraint of small has enabled greatness.” Indeed that greatness was rewarded at the ceremony. A total of 85 bursaries totalling $72,300 were given out to the grads, courtesy of the generous Nakusp businesses and committees that donated to the Nakusp Secondary School Scholarship Society, said scholarship society representative Ernie Knecht.

Valedictorians Connor Scambler and Renee Goodman both made speeches.

“The past 12 years has been a journey,” said Goodman in her speech. Scambler accompanied by Broden McLean, lead the audience in an acoustic version of Oh Canada, with Scambler playing the guitar.

Master of Ceremonies, Principal Gajda, introduced each grad with the plans they have for the future, their favourite memories from NSS, and a quote that they would like to leave the audience with.

Some quotes included: “Success doesn’t find you, you find it.” “Choose a job you love and you will never have to work a day in your life.” “Let your smile change the world, but don’t let the world change your smile.” “It always seems impossible until it’s done.”
Cici Life Farm Sanctuary opens in Winlaw

by Jan McMurray

The Cici Life Farm Sanctuary for rescued farm animals has just opened in Winlaw. Patricia and Ernest Smuga and their three children were living on a small property on Pender Island with a few rescued chickens and ducks when they decided to ‘go big’ with their farm animal rescue venture. “We’ve always loved animals and we knew we wanted more animals eventually. We also wanted to do something meaningful – something that makes a difference,” said Patricia. “It all came together for us when we realized we wanted a bigger property where we could provide a home for rescued animals where they can be safe, loved and live out their lives peacefully.”

The couple started looking for a larger property on the islands, the lower mainland, and the Kootenays. “We came out to the Kootenays a couple of times before buying and fell in love with the area,” Patricia said. “It all came together for us when we realized we wanted a bigger property where we could provide a home for rescued animals where they can be safe, loved and live out their lives peacefully.”

The couple hopes to host educational events regarding factory farming, puppy mills, overbreeding and other animal abuse issues. The farm is registered as a non-profit society. The Smugas are in touch with the SPCA. “They have lots of animals they need to house, so we are trying to get the property ready.”

Ernest has built a fence around the entire property, thanks to a donation of lumber from the Harrop-Procter Community Forest. They are now working on building a barn. They’ll also need more fencing to separate the animals, tools, and funds to transport animals to the farm. Donations are gratefully accepted. Check the website, cici.life or the Facebook page to find out how to contribute by making a donation, buying apparel, or buying a membership. There is also a GoFundMe campaign (www.gofundme.com/cici-life-farm-sanctuary).

The Smuga family has opened Cici Life Farm Sanctuary for rescued farm animals in Winlaw. Patricia Smuga with one of the rescued goats on the new sanctuary.

Slocan Valley branch celebrates Legion Week submitted

The Slocan Valley Branch #276 of the Royal Canadian Legion thanks the folk of the Slocan Valley and the members and friends who helped at the fundraising events during the past year. In celebration of Legion Week, everyone is invited to join members on July 2, starting at 5 pm, for a barbecue at the Legion Hall in Slocan; a music jam starts at 3 pm if you want to arrive earlier. Slocan Volunteer Firefighters, First Responders and Technical Rescue Society members will be assisting Legion members.

Thanks to community support and a community gaming grant, the branch was able to donate the following during 2016: $4,000 food bank; $3,634 New Denver Pavilion; $500 West Kootenay Science Fair; $500 Slocan Community Library; $3,000 school programs and playground; $2,000 Hallowe’en Hoot; $750 veterans homes and needs; $2,000 seniors’ program; $1,000 KLDH Foundation; $500 Kids Help Phone; $1,500 New Parents’ Program; $250 Appletasks Day Care; $2,016 Veterans Transition Program; $96 Senior’s Housing Society; $1,000 Fort McMurray Relief Fund; $500 medical emergency; $350 track and field, and $100 cancer society for a total of $22,696. The Legion also donates use of the hall for funerals and benefits. The Legion is Canada’s largest supporter of veterans and the cornerstone of communities across Canada, and provides one of the largest volunteer bases in the country. The Legion exists so Canada never forgets. Membership applications are available by phoning 250-335-2672, by dropping into the branch in Slocan on Sunday afternoons, or on the website www.legionbcyukon.ca. Check out member benefits; dues at Branch #276 are only $45 per year and anyone can become a member.

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FibreFeelia
June 24th & 25th, 2017  New Denver, BC
FibreFeelia Schedule of Events

Friday, June 23rd 7 pm – 9 pm
YARN TASTING AT BOSUN HALL
Featuring Yarn from Bad Anna’s Yarn Store, Lanarkhill Hemp, Riverstone Yarns, Saw Much More, Twisted Fae Fibreworks, & Twisted Purl Yarn.
Tickets $20 | Available at Sew Much More.

Saturday, June 24th 10 am – 5 pm & Sunday, June 25th 10 am – 4 pm
MARKET PLACE AT BOSUN HALL
Enjoy a variety of vendors, scavenger hunts, games, and activities for all ages!

VENDORS
- Ballermann Yarns and other items
- Big Blue Moon Hand-crafted baskets (made in Ghana), textiles & other items
- Blue Moon Pottery & Pottery & fibre (Saturday Only)
- Disordoro Ranch Romney wool in all natural colours & fibres
- Frog Peak Creations Project bags for your yarns & crafts
- Heart n Soul Quilts Quilting fabric, patterns & more
- Heritage Sew Sewing machines
- Hello Yell Knit designer & instructor
- Larahiksa Hemp Yarns & designs
- Riverstone Yarns Crocheted hand-dyed yarns
- Saw Much More Yarns, quilting fabrics, fertilizing supplies
- Susan Foot Snow-dyed fabric
- Twisted Fae Fibreworks Hand-dyed clothing, yarn & fibre, needles, spinning supplies
- Valerie Die Cuts for Quilters

Tickets $5 Day Pass or $10 for 2 days & Children under 13 Free.

FibreFeelia is a celebration of fibre art, artists, and passion.

SPONSORS

Slocan Valley branch celebrates Legion Week submitted

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Thanks to community support and a community
**COMMUNITY**

**Coming shows at the Hidden Garden Gallery**

**submitted**

“Catch the Spirit,” an exhibition of art by students at Lucerne School, will be the season opener at the Hidden Garden Gallery in New Denver from June 19 to 26. A gala reception will be held on National Aboriginal Day, June 21, at the gallery from 7 to 9 pm. The show features K-6 works by students. This activity is co-sponsored by the Slocan Lake Gallery and the local arts council, sponsored by School District 10. It has been a collaborative effort between the students to present their work in the Hidden Garden Gallery,” says Aboriginal education success teacher, Kristin Kipkie. “This has truly been a collaborative effort put together by the staff of Lucerne, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, artists, crafters and of course the students!”

“The title of the show refers to the inspiration that curator Teri Freeman provided this opportunity for the students to present their work in the Hidden Garden. It also refers to the lasting impression that students drew from studying ‘Catch the Spirit,’ an encaustic artist, Louise Ducharme, June 26-July 1. The opening reception will be Monday, June 26 from 7 to 9 pm and features Western art by Natives. The exhibition titled ‘scapes broadens the concept of landscape to include the elements of ‘scapes that can emerge within the creative process.”

Shakespeare meets the 60’s at the Hidden Garden Gallery hosts New Denver encaustic artist, Louise Ducharme, June 26-July 1.

**submitted**

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**submitted**

The Hidden Garden Gallery invites you to a Food for Thought presentation June 18, “Research by Writers” a talk by Nelson author Jennifer Craig. It takes place at 7:30 pm at the Knox Hall in New Denver.

In olden days Jennifer Craig was born in Yorkshire, England. She grew up in war time, trained as a nurse at Leeds Infirmary, emigrated to Canada, got married, had two children, went back to school, earned a PhD, became an academic and wrote academic twaddle. Enlightenment came when she moved to Nelson in 1994 and attended a creative writing course. Her first book, Yes Sister, No Sister: a Leeds Nurse in the 1950s, was a memoir about training as a nurse. It was published in 2002 after 27 rejections. In 2010 it was re-published for the mass paperback market, moved straight onto the Sunday Times (UK) bestseller list for 17 weeks and has sold 170,000 copies.

She has also published Jabs, Jenners & Juggernauts: a Look at Vaccination, Mary Lou’s Brew and this year, Gone to Per was published by Second Story Press.

She lives in Nelson with a Bichon Frise and is fortunate to have two of her six grandchildren near by.

Her book Mary-Lou’s Brew will be available for sale Monday to Saturday. Admissions is by donation to benefit the Gallery.
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Campgrounds
Kasco Municipal Campground - Kasco
(250) 265-1061
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Conveniently located a short walk from public beach and adjacent to the Community Park, which includes a tennis court, squash court, ball parks and soccer field. Creek in the park every or odd year, during July & Aug. 40 sites. 14 sites with power & water, 26 sites with only water, 1 site with water, septic & water. Hot showers and sauna, open all season.

Centennial Campground - New Denver
(250) 353-2262
www.centennialcampground.ca
50 sites, all with electricity, water hook-up, campers, showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

Silverton Municipal Campground - Silverton
(250) 353-2472
www.thesilverton.com
50 sites, 1 site with electricity, sleep on 15 May to September 30, Tent and trailer sites, fire pits, fishing, picnic tables, boat launch, beach. Close to amenities. New handicap shower and washroom building.

Springer Creek RV Park & Campground - Sicamous
(250) 353-2466
sunnycreek@telus.net
Open May 29 to Oct. 10, Located at 1000 Meridale Rd., Sicamous, turn right immediately off Hwy 8 & enter Village of Sicamous. Full & partial hook-ups, tent sites, campsites, wheelchair accessible washroom and showers, free, pets on leash and seasonal Information Booth.

Lemon Creek Lodge & Campground - Lemon Creek
(250) 353-2403
1-877-970-8090 lemoncreeklodge.com
info@lemoncreeklodge.com
7600 Kennedy Rd., 5 km south of Sicamous off Hwy 8. 30 tent and trailer sites, power & water included, laundry, free showers, pet friendly, downtown location, close to park, beach, playground, 55 Mile' Mosque, coffee and baking. Free WiFi.

Woodbury Resort and Marina - Rosseau
(250) 353-7717
lemoncreeklodge.com
12516 Kenneway Rd., Rosseau, 5 km south of Sicamous off Hwy 8. 30 tent and trailer sites on marina, full breakfast included, 2 dog rentals and licensed casual fish dining restaurant. Next to the trails and fantastic catch & release fishing.

Kariyu Park Campgrounds & Campground - Shushwap
(250) 455-7240
kariyupark.com
Our picturesque property is located just off Highway 6 in Westbank, next to the Kalamalka Lake and Okanagan Lake. We have 7 fully equipped, comfortable cottages and 3 cabins in a forest setting, 12 people with power and water hookups, the rest are basic. Recreation area, gardens, pets, pool, sauna and WiFi.

Mama Stits’ Cafe - Westbank
(250) 256-7070
Down town in the heart of the Slocan Valley Ma’s has fabulous food, good bands and a great atmosphere. Lots of outdoor patios. Breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our famous Smoked Valley beef burger, steaks, mexican cuisine, pizzas, salads, vegetarian and gluten free options, homemade desserts. Open every day 7 am - 9 pm, longer on live music nights.

Woodbury Resort & JB’s Restaurant - Rosseau
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Summit Lake Campground - Summit Lake
On back roads 15 minute drive to summit lake. Great for fishing, hunting, swimming in this clean cold mountain lake. Spacious picnic shelter with wood stove. Bike or hike the Graber Loop to Summit Lake for 200 feet. 35 campsites by reservation or first come, first served, Served, $50/night, Extra Vehicle $12/night, Picnic Shelter reservations $20/day.

Visitor Information
CONTINUED ON FACING PAGE
follows over the Purcell Mountain Range, beginning at what is now Argenta and ending upstream from present-day Invermere. Giving names to geographic landmarks is a form of cultural appropriation. Canada’s new European immigrants were aggressive appropriators, eagerly stamping the landscape with labels that evoked home-country nostalgia and heroics. This was in blatant disregard of the names long before provided from Indigenous cultural contexts. Why, for example, Macbeth Glacier? Why Earl Grey Pass, Earl Grey and Lady Grey Mountains, and Earl Grey Trail? Not to disparage Earl Grey himself. He was, after all, Canada’s Governor General from 1904-11. As it was, he must have greatly embodied the trail in 1908, when after spending a week touring Okanagan orchards, he followed the trail in his official report to the premier, enthusiastically expounding the prevailing colonialist sentiment of the time, he wrote, “The road, the whole way from Argenta to Windermere, was a continuous and delightful surprise to me. I am convinced that if this route were made accessible to tourists, and the steps taken to advertise its attractions, you would bring to this part of your Province a steady increasing stream of visitors and settlers.” Not long afterward, he built a family cabin on Toby Creek, toward the Invermere side of the range.

Although ‘Earl Grey Pass’ was awarded the official name by the Geographical Names Board of Canada in 1910, Mount Earl Grey in 1924, and Mount Lady Grey in 1963, the name ‘Earl Grey Trail’ has no official status. Yet, for some unexplained reason it, too, fell victim by virtue of common usage. The door is wide open to abandoning usage of this name and reverting to Kinbasket Trail or, perhaps better yet, Kenpesq’et Trail. Let us all celebrate Canada 150 by reflecting on the enormous impact that colonization has had on the original Canadian peoples who called these mountains and valleys their home, in their terms. Let us, also, celebrate Canada’s Indigenous heritage, as the History of the Earl Grey Trail photo exhibit intends to do.

The beautiful photo exhibit, curated by the Kinbasket Lake Archives in Kaslo, will spend the summer in the Kaslo Valley Museum in Meadow Creek and, after touring in the East Kootenay, will return to Meadow Creek. This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada’s 150th, a collaboration between Columbia Basin Trust, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast.

Yes, everyone is invited, July 1, at Meadow Creek!
Weatherhead, Certified Sexual Health

diversity and humanity,” said Teresa
attitudes around sexuality, gender
and compassion toward sex-positive
tool toward eliminating misconceptions
misunderstood. Education is the greatest
members who often are mislabelled and
community in an educational way,
create connections within our diverse
the Rainbow Crosswalk initiative.
by donation, and all profits will support
Film Festival on June 16 at 7 pm at the
led Gay/Straight Alliance, is presenting
the Nakusp Secondary School’s student-
First Outfest-Nakusp Film Festival coming June 16
June 15, 2017

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First Outfest-Nakusp Film Festival coming June 16
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with the Nakusp Secondary School’s student-
led Gay/Straight Alliance, is presenting
Nakusp’s very first Outfest - Nakusp
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**THINKING OF STARTING, BUYING or EXPANDING your own business? If so, Community Futures offers business loans, counseling & training; and delivers the Self Employment program in the Arrow & Slocan Lakes area. For more info leave a message at 265-3674 ext. 201 or email Nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

SYLVAIN NOËLL (NOELLE), Please join us for a celebration BBQ in honour of Sylvain (Sylv) Brillon’s life held at 8872 Slocan South Road. Slocan on Saturday, June 24 from 12 to 10 pm. Contact Francine 604-900-7009 for details.

**COMING EVENTS**

SLOCAN LODGE meets at Knox Hall in New Denver on May 26, June 23; in Sandon July 22; at Knox Hall in New Denver August, September, October, and November – fourth Friday. In December, we meet with the Nakusp Lodge, December 9. The FRIDAY MARKET happens in your valley every Friday. A great place for you to sell your wares. For info: 250-358-2774.

**The Friday Market happens in your valley every Friday. A great place for you to sell your wares. For info: 250-358-2774.**
**SLOCAN WATERFRONT RESTORATION & DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY (SWARDS) invites you to an evening of food and film. See the documentary “Primeval - Enter The Incomparable” by the Valhalla Wilderness Society and hear about Slocan’s newest society. Saturday, June 17, 2017. 6-10 pm at the Legion, 502 Harold Street. Everyone is welcome! Children under 10 pm. AGM of the ARROWTARIAN SENIOR CITIZENS SOCIETY. Monday, June 26th at noon at the Legion. 502 Harold Street. All are welcome!**

**CONTAINERS**
Road, Hills, BC. Call 250-358-7796. 10" x 10". Cedar 4" x 4"s, etc. 208 Laktin per month + utilities. Call 250-358-2293.

**AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY:**

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AGM of the ARROWTARIAN SENIOR CITIZENS SOCIETY at the Legion, 502 Harold Street. Everyone is welcome! Children under 10 pm.
The sun shone all weekend, an unusual treat for Kaslo Logger Sports. More than 60 competitors chopped, climbed, birled, chokered and chainsawed their way through two days of 26 exciting events. Competitors come from BC, Alberta, Washington, Montana, Oregon and Idaho.

Once again announcers Ben Lefler with his Kiwi accent and his wife Michelle Lefler from Burnaby did a great job of revving up the crowd and paying tribute to the sponsors of the unique lumberjack events. The winners of the Canadian Championship Events: novice obstacle pole, Seth Bergman of Kalispell, Montana; intermediate underhand chop, Brad Barlow of Edmonton; open unlimited hot saw, Wayne Paulson of Spruce Grove; women’s choker race, Erin LaVoie of Spokane; open choker race, Brian Barton of Molalla, Oregon.

All Canadian Championship prizes were purchased locally from the sponsors who provide the funds to run the show. Loggers of the Day winners of the Stihl knives were: Open – Bartow, Molalla, Oregon; Women’s – LaVoie, Spokane, Novice/Intermediate – Seth Bergman, Kalispell, Montana; Local Kootenay – Andrea Hand, Kaslo.

The tree falling event, sponsored by Kalsnikoff Lumber Company and Kootenay Innovative Wood, was handily won by Dave McLeod of Campbell River. This event takes a lot of work to set up so thanks to Jeff and Clint of Sunshine Logging and Dave Sicotte of D.W. Sicotte Trucking. Kat Spencer had a small problem in this event. She cut the wedge on the front and then the horizontal cut on the back, but the tree just stood there. She pushed and wedged and finally jumped up and down bowling all of her 95 pounds against the tree. Finally the tree went over but the Lucky Logger beer can was happy as she just missed it. Better luck next year, Kat!

The Sponsor’s Axe Throw Event was won by Glenn Erickson of Nelson throwing for Gary Burns Consulting and he took home a grass trimmer provided by Main Jet Motorsports in Nelson. The Sponsor’s Stock Saw event was won by Mike May of Salmo, sawing for Sunshine Logging Limited of Kaslo and he took home a leaf blower from Main Jet Motorsports.

About 20 kids raced around the field chokering and chopping. The crowd loves watching these little loggers but the winners disappeared so quickly the only name the reporter got was Mitchell Erickson winning the Boy’s Chop. They all picked up their prize envelopes, though.

The Can/Am Relay is arguably the most exciting event of the weekend. There are six to seven novice-intermediate competitors per team, with at least one woman, competing in seven events. This is the fifth year Kaslo has featured this Canadian-American challenge, with each country winning twice. This year it came down to the final event, tree falling.

Canada was ahead by several seconds but a mistake would be costly as there is a one second per inch penalty for missing the Lucky Logger beer can. Canada’s tree faller was 78-year-old Norm Gagne of Canal Flats. Norm nailed the can and the win for the Canadian Team. The US team is now behind by one but they said they would be back next year looking for redemption.

The silent auction load of logs provided by Sunshine Logging Limited and transported by D.W. Sicotte Trucking Ltd. went to Gary and Yvonne Weintz for the price of $2,200.

One last thing. A toad has taken up residence in the log birling pond. He’s about the size of a soft ball and adorable in a warty sort of way. Bruce gently takes him to the marshy area by the lake during the competition because we don’t want him getting “birled” on. Every year he makes his way back to “his” pond which he generously shares with Kaslo Logger Sports.
Two great authors coming to the Langham submitted
Café Langham Inspired Ideas Speaker Series presents ‘Two Voices,’ a stimulating and enlightening afternoon discussion with two award-winning writers. On Sunday, June 18 at 3 pm, poet and author Gary Geddes reads from his latest book, Medicine Unbundled: A Journey through the Minefields of Indigenous Healthcare. His partner Ann Eriksson discusses her new novel The Performance, recently shortlisted for the General Fiction Award. Each author will share insights into the creative process of writing their most recent works.

The author of more than 30 books over nearly five decades, Geddes has been credited with raising the literary profile of the nation and has long been considered one of Canada’s most important men of letters; his list of nominations is as long as his list of books! The recipient of the 2008 Lieutenant Governor’s Award for Literary Excellence has worked as a university professor, writer-in-residence, critic, anthologist, translator, editor and – most importantly – writer. In whatever genre he pursues, Geddes writes with eloquence and an intense awareness of mystery within the commonplace, and the single human voice singing the commonplace.

Eriksson is the author of five novels who combines a background in biology with her life experiences as a university professor, writer, translator, editor and – most recently – as a university professor, writer, translator, editor and – most importantly – writer. In whatever genre he pursues, Geddes writes with eloquence and an intense awareness of mystery within the commonplace, and the single human voice singing the commonplace. Her most recent book, Medicine Unbundled: A Journey through the Minefields of Indigenous Healthcare, has been shortlisted for the General Fiction Award.

The Performance, her latest novel, is a gripping and poignant drama about trust that intersects the worlds of classical music and the single human voice singing the commonplace. It follows the life of a young woman who, after the death of her parents, takes on the responsibility of caring for her younger brother. As she navigates the challenges of this new role, she must also confront her own past and the secrets that have been kept from her.

The authors will discuss their writing processes and share insights into their respective genres. Gary Geddes will explore the themes of love, loss, and the power of music in his work, while Ann Eriksson will delve into the complexities of family, identity, and the role of storytelling in our lives.

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On Wednesday, June 7, I headed to Nakusp in hopes of eating something unusually special...or especially unusual – something that might have knocked my socks off if I’d been wearing socks. What I ended up with was a thoroughly sumptuous three course lunch...no socks.

I sat down at an outdoor table and sipped coffee. Tyler Leeson, who runs the show, appeared with the first course. He was happy.

I’ve never seen a Caesar salad look as good as this one. It came inside a cone, or “cornucopia,” defined as a “horn overflowing with fruits, flowers and grain.” This “horn” was held together with romaine leaves that were held together with a generous portion of prosciutto. All of that was stuffed with mixed greens, tangy vinaigrette dressing, shaved parmesan and olive oil-soaked crumbs that also absorb lemon zest, salt and vinaigrette. Tasty! The rogue radish slices leap right into your mouth. I do believe this salad could rightly be called “Caesar’s Cornucopia.” An unusual and beautiful tangy tasty treat. No socks required. End act one.

Onward to the second course: A good-sized piece of brisket that has been simmered for 60 hours. That’s two and a half days! It is cooked in a ‘sous vide immersion circulator’ and served with spicy kimchi, which melts in your mouth, and tastes like it simply can’t. It looks good, almost as good as its taste. I became very happy while eating this dish although it was difficult to smile while I chewed. Choose the cut of meat you want: strip loin, standing rib, etc. Unusual? Tyler designs everything!

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