Overwhelming opposition to mosquito control at meeting in Winlaw

by Jan McMurray

About 70 people attended a meeting about the proposed mosquito control program at the Winlaw Hall on April 26. Judging by the crowd’s reaction to the speakers, the overwhelming majority of people present were against mosquito control. Of the 13 members of the public who spoke, only one spoke in favour of the proposed program.

“It’s quite obvious that the program would be defeated if the vote were taken here today, but there are other people who live in the area,” said Area H Director Walter Popoff at the end of the meeting. “My position is to remain neutral and provide you with the opportunity to make a decision through the referendum process.”

The referendum will take place in conjunction with local government elections on October 20. Director Popoff said there would be a polling station in Winlaw, and perhaps one in Slocan, too.

Six panels were on hand to answer questions: Dirk Lewis of Morrow BioScience Ltd., Jennifer Yeow of the Slocan River Streamkeepers, Ryan Durand of EcoLogic Environmental Consulting, Uli Wolf and Shari Imada of the RDCK's Environmental Services Department, and Director Popoff.

Imada presented a summary of the mosquito control feasibility study that was completed by Morrow BioScience Ltd. The study concluded that it would be extremely feasible to deliver a program from north of Vallican to just south of the Village of the Slocan, and it would result in a dramatic reduction in mosquito annoyance. The program would run from mid-May to the end of July. It would involve the application of Bti, deemed by Health Canada to be effective and safe with minimal risk to human health and the environment.

The Bti would be applied only in the Crown land floodwater habitat along Slocan River – not in ponds or static wetlands, and not in standing water in people’s yards. The study says it would be applied by hand, and once per year by helicopter.

The cost of the program would be $74,400. The residential tax rate would be 39.4 cents per $1,000 and the business tax rate would be 97 cents per $1,000. The referendum question will ask if residents are in favour of paying 41.1 cents per $1,000, because this is the rate when the residential and business rates are combined.

Jennifer Yeow spoke about the importance of mosquitoes in the wetlands – they are food for other animals. Because Bti is effective only in the larval stage, she is concerned it will be effective for only one to two weeks. She’s also wary of the aerial application of Bti. “We’re protective of the wetlands we have helped build. We don’t want to see it there, but it will be if there is aerial application.” She said there is no question that Bti is safe for humans and a lot of animals, but there’s not a lot of information on indirect effects. “These kinds of things have had unknown consequences and I am concerned that if we approve this, down the road, we might have regrets.”

Ryan Durand said Bti has been well known for a long time to be incredibly safe, but more recent studies are showing possible effects in amphibians and birds. “So we don’t know quite what we’re getting into if we open this door.” Durand said he doubts the effectiveness of an early season application in flood waters when the area is full of wetlands.

He feels there should be a specific question on the referendum about the aerial spraying of Bti, which he described as “a can of worms.”

Dirk Lewis of Morrow BioScience explained that they included the aerial application in the study to avoid “sticker shock.” The company has been delivering a mosquito control program in Cranbrook for 17 years and hasn’t had to do an aerial application until this past year. He said they tend to do aerial applications only when ground applications are unsafe or impractical. Buffer zones are maintained with aerial spraying, he said. “We target areas where we know the floodwater species are.”

Cecil Fominoff was the first member of the public to speak, giving an impassioned plea “to stand up and say no to poison.”

Many people expressed concern about taking mosquitoes out of the food chain. How does that affect the creatures that eat them, such as frogs, bats, swallows, dragonflies, and the western toad? They expressed concern about the unknown long-term and cumulative effects the program may have.

The one person who spoke in favour of mosquito control offered the example of Mary, who lived in the Lardeau for 20 years and used Bti in her fish pond. Mary “still had frogs” and saw no adverse effects.

Dirk Lewis clarified that the goal of any mosquito control program is not eradication. “There are still a lot of mosquitoes, but there is a reduced annoyance. It just makes it comfortable for a period of time.” He said that if he has accidentally missed a site, the mosquitoes instantly come back. However, he acknowledged there is definitely an impact on the food chain.

“Bti predominantly affects mosquito larvae, but it can affect other midges and blackflies. But does it have no adverse effects? This is a decision the community has to make. It does take part of the food chain out, and that’s a reality.” In Meadow Creek where Mary’s place was, it was unbelievable there before the program, so these are the things you have to balance out.”

One woman pointed out that we live in a very short timeframe, so it’s not our place to change the system for our own personal reasons without knowing the long-term consequences. Another appealed to everyone to ask their hearts and consciences if a mosquito program is ethical in a world where 200 species are dying every day. Yet another said, “The Lemon Creek spill happened just five years ago and is still a raw wound in everyone’s heart and soul, so how short are our memories? Do we want to inflict on our beautiful environment, that is just starting to recover, yet another thing that comes from scientific manipulation of creatures that are a nuisance to us but have an important place in the food chain?”

Several people suggested bat houses and swallow boxes as a means to control mosquitoes. One man said he has had great success with swallow houses he has built himself at a very low cost. Lewis said he loves the idea of bat houses and swallow boxes, but pointed out one drawback – there would have to be a large population of mosquitoes to sustain them. “If you don’t have enough mosquitoes, they’d be hungry by August and then things like infighting happen.”

One resident pointed out that the taxes required for the program would not be negligible, and another pointed out that the healthy mosquito population keeps land prices reasonable.

“The intent of the meeting was to impart information so the residents are informed, but it’s the other way around – we’re getting a lot of information from residents about the possible impacts of the program,” Area H Director Walter Popoff remarked at the end of the meeting.
Mudslides disrupt travel across the West Kootenay

A mudslide near Brilliant, about two kilometres north of Castlegar, occurred at approximately 8:15 am on April 18, depositing about 3,000 cubic metres of debris on Hwy 3A. The road was open to single lane traffic by 9:30 pm, and was fully re-opened the next day, April 19, at 7 pm. The RDCK activated its Emergency Operations Centre, declared a State of Local Emergency, and issued an evacuation order for a single property in the vicinity of Sentinel Mountain forest service road in the Thrums area due to the slide. The property owners were able to return home on April 21 at 9 am.

A slope failure just south of Enterprise Creek on Hwy 6 has resulted in single-lane traffic since April 17. A Ministry of Transportation spokesperson reported on April 27 that small amounts of debris continue to come down onto the northbound shoulder, and a catchment area will be created once the soils are no longer saturated. Upslope snow melt appears to be the source of the water.

“Returning this section of the highway to two-lane traffic is weather dependent, so there is no estimate for reopening at this time. Ministry staff are continuing to monitor the area, and traffic control is in place on a 24-hour basis to ensure peoples’ safety,” the spokesperson said.

The Enterprise Creek area was identified as a high risk area for debris flows in an analysis done after the 2007 Springer Creek fire, which spread all the way to Enterprise. There was private logging done on this slope 20-25 years ago, as well, but the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development says there is no evidence that the logging is contributing to the failure.

Post-fire rehabilitation work was done in this area. Straw and grass seed were applied on the slope by helicopter, and grass seed was deposited by hand on the fireguards of the 2007 Springer Creek fire. Remediation work was completed in Van Tuyl creek in 2014.

A slope failure just south of Enterprise Creek on Hwy 6 has resulted in single-lane traffic.
Caribou Habitat Restoration Fund announced after dismal census count

by Jan McMurray

Mountain caribou populations continue to rapidly decline. The annual aerial census for mountain caribou in March counted 19,000 caribou in the province, compared to 40,000 in the early 1900s. It counted only three animals in the South Selkirk herd and only four in the South Purcell herd.

On the heels of the census, at the BC Wildlife Federation’s annual conference, the Province announced a $2 million grant for the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation to aid in caribou habitat restoration, and the creation of a “comprehensive caribou recovery program that includes engagement with Indigenous communities, industry, recreationalists and the public.” The ministry hopes to have a draft plan in the fall.

On April 20, the Province announced that it has “initially committed to $27 million over three years to build a comprehensive, science-based approach to protect and preserve BC’s 54 caribou herds.” The public is invited to provide input until June 15 at engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou.

“We need immediate action,” says John Bergenske, conservation director of the environmental organization Wildlight in a press release. “If we keep stalling, there just won’t be any caribou left to recover in the southern herds. If the province won’t protect all critical habitat now, then the federal government has to step in.”

Wildlight says that over the past year, the South Selkirk herd has lost nine animals, leaving only three females in the mountains south of Nelson. The Selkirk herd is the southernmost remaining herd in North America. The South Purcells herd is down to three males and one female from the 16 animals reported last year. “This is a devastating loss for BC’s two southernmost remaining caribou herds,” states a Wildlight press release. Meanwhile, the 2007 Mountain Caribou Recovery Implementation Plan, largely seen as a failure by environmental groups, continues to be followed, a ministry spokesperson said.

“Our mapping and analysis clearly shows that logging and road-building has been ongoing in mountain caribou critical habitat, even in areas that were supposedly protected for caribou in 2007,” says Gwen Bridge of the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y). “New proposals for extensive helicopter-based recreation in the South Purcells are illustrative of the many stresses facing caribou in southeast BC. We can’t just keep talking about caribou recovery, we need action.”

A BC government media release says roads, trails, right-of-ways and seismic lines make caribou vulnerable to predators such as wolves, bears, and cougars. The Caribou Habitat Restoration Fund will help to restore caribou habitat and decrease predatory attacks through reforestation, fencing, fertilization and other measures.

New conservation officers, but none posted in West Kootenay offices

by Jan McMurray

There will be 20 new conservation officers on duty this fall in BC, bringing the number of COs in the province up to 160. None of the new officers, however, will be posted in the West Kootenay. The closest postings are in Grand Forks and Creston.

“Many communities want their own conservation officer – COs protect, educate and are important members of community. While we are adding 20 additional officers, we cannot meet the desire of every community for an officer at this time,” said George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

Eight of the new officers will be posted in locations with existing positions, while 12 will fill new positions in locations with the highest need. These high need locations are Grand Forks, Bella Coola, Port Mc Neil, Vernon, Mackenzie, Chetwynd, Haida Gwaii, Duncan, North Fraser zone (two positions), Chilliwack, and Aldim.

“The Conservation Officer Service considers a number of factors when determining where most urgent safety needs exist – call volume, geographic location and officer safety, among others,” Heyman said. “We try to strike a balance when making decisions, however we must make deployment decisions based on the most urgent assessed needs. We will fill existing positions, while 12 will fill new positions in locations with the highest need. These high need locations are Grand Forks, Bella Coola, Port McNeil, Vernon, Mackenzie, Chetwynd, Haida Gwaii, Duncan, North Fraser zone (two positions), Chilliwack, and Aldim.

The eight conservation officers filling existing positions are being posted in Quesnel, Terrace, Creston, Prince George, Merritt, Fort St. John, and the Lower Mainland (two positions). Conservation officers are located in 45 offices in eight regions across the province. They work on a zone-coverage basis, where officers respond to complaints and concerns anywhere in the zone. The eight zones are: Kootenay, Okanagan, Okinca, Peace, Coast, and Skeena.

“While officers are located in a community, they are responsible for responding to calls anywhere within their assigned zone, and if needed they may help cover emergency situations outside their zone,” explains Heyman.

For law enforcement and security reasons, the Conservation Officer Service does not specify the number of officers in a particular area.

The new officers were sworn in on April 26 in Victoria, and will start training at the Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy this fall.

Cannabis co-op looking for investors

Submitted

The Kootenay Outdoor Producer Co-op has secured an incredible real estate opportunity: it can purchase the Georama Growers complex in Blenheim for its home and new central facility.

“This has been the big missing piece of our puzzle,” says Todd Veri. “We have the local knowledge, workers and climate to produce premium organic outdoor cannabis – we have both large and micro farms on which to grow – and we have Health Canada allowing for both outdoor production and our co-op business model. What we were missing was a place for us to produce our transplants and process our harvest.

The co-op is looking for local investments to buy the complex. Such an investment now will pay dividends to both investors and the Central Kootenay for many years to come, Veri says.

There are two possible ways to invest:

- General members of the public (who live or own property in the RDCK) are limited to investing $5,000 as a Founding 150 member.
- Individuals and they will be able to purchase multiple shares.

Please note: the investment shares being offered are not voting shares, and you will only be registering to invest now; the co-op won’t require the funds until later this summer once the Cannabis Act becomes law.

For further information please email kootenay.outdoor@gmail.com or give Todd Veri a call at 250-353-7326.

Waste Transfer Stations

CHANGE TO HOURS OF OPERATION

The hours of operation have changed at the Edgewood / Kaslo / Slocan waste transfer stations.

For more information contact the RDCK or visit our website.

Environmental Services Department
Phone: (250) 352-8161 / 1-800-268-7352
Email: wastedept@rdck.bc.ca
Web: www.rdcc.ca

BC Hydro

Power smart

Planned power outage:

Sunday May 6, 2018

We have scheduled a planned outage for work related to the Nakusp Transmission Line Project on:

Date: Sunday May 6, 2018
Time: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

All customers on the transmission line from Burton to Nakusp and from Nakusp to Silverton will be affected.

This April, we started work to restore and repair the 100 km long transmission line that serves 3,000 customers in the Nakusp area. The Nakusp Transmission Line Project will improve safety and ensure continued reliability for our customers in Nakusp, New Denver, Bourse, Burton, East Arrow Park, Glenbank, Hills, Malakwa, Rosebery, Silverton and Summit Lake. We expect we will need to schedule planned outages when five line methods cannot safely be used.

Visit bchydro.com/outages or call 1 800 BCHYDRO (1 800 224 9376) for more information.

Have you heard?

Location: IDA Community Pharmacy 309-6th Avenue, New Denver
Date & Time: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Call to reserve your spot today: 250.358.2500

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New Denver, BC V0G 1X0

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ONLINE EDITION

May 3, 2018 The Valley Voice
Angry Notley
Did you know that there is a pub in Kaslo named after the premier of Alberta? The Angry Notley!
Phil Trotter
Kaslo

The Metis Prayer
The Métis Prayer and applying sacred wisdom to current events

...And when my life fades away like the fading sun
May my spirit go back to you without
SHAME
SHAME on the executive branch of government (RCMP) for the killing of Peter de Groot.
And DOUBLE SHAME on the RCMP for taking Slocan Village residents hostage for five days.
And SHAME AGAIN on the sniper for refusing to release his notes to the Independent Investigation Office.
I sincerely believe the de Groot family version of what transpired on that dark day.
Marlee Mantoux
Jacques Savard
Winlaw

Open letter to Minister Michelle Mungall
The prime minister says that the Kinder Morgan project is in the national interest. However, would it not be more accurate to say that taking Alberta oil to market is in the national interest? Then why not build a refinery instead?
Sell aviation fuel, foam insulation, accurate to say that taking Alberta oil for refusing to release his notes to the Independent Investigation Office.
I sincerely believe the de Groot family version of what transpired on that dark day.

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.

Mundell

Kaslo sewer ‘farness’
FACT. For 13 years, the Village of Kaslo did not pay annual sewer operating fees for Village properties that lie within the Sewer Specified Area.
Sever member-owners paid the bill for these Village properties. Since 2011, the Village has contributed towards annual sewer operating properties for their properties involved was appearing.

The attack occurred when the OPCW investigation and took place before it could begin its work and report its findings to the UN.

BCSICP statement on missile attack on Syria
The BC Southern Interior Peace Coalition committee member-owners and individuals attending a peace meeting in Kelowna on April 14, 2018, condemn the joint US-UK-France missile attack on the Arab Republic of Syria on April 14, 2018. The attack violates the will of the people of Syria and their choice of government. The Arab Republic of Syria is a member state of the United Nations.
The US-UK-France attack was an illegal act of aggression under the terms of the UN Charter.

The attack took place as the war was ending and a diplomatic path to peace for the people of Syria and all countries involved was appearing.
The attack on Syria, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) was en route to Damascus to investigate an alleged use of chemical weapons in the Syrian city of Douma and to determine whether or not chemical weapons had been used. BCSICP is disappointed and dismayed that the joint US-UK-France attack interfered with the OPCW investigation and took place before it could begin its work and report its findings to the UN.
The US-UK-France aggression was carried out in spite of Russian government warnings it would retaliate against any attacks on its military forces, in Syria at the invitation of the Syrian government to fight terrorists. The fight against terrorists is ostensibly also the goal of the US government as well as states that also has military forces in Syria. The attack ran the risk of a military confrontation between nuclear powers.

Prime Minister Trudeau was briefed on April 14, 2018, of the first contact. Fourteen people were injured and one was killed. The Ktunaxa Nation is also justifiably very interested.
The US-UK-France aggression was carried out in spite of Russian government warnings it would retaliate against any attacks on its military forces, in Syria at the invitation of the Syrian government to fight terrorists. The fight against terrorists is ostensibly also the goal of the US government as well as states that also has military forces in Syria. The attack ran the risk of a military confrontation between nuclear powers.

Prime Minister Trudeau was briefed by the US government of its intention to attack Syria and gave his full support. By giving full uncritical support to the joint US, British, French action, the Canadian government waived the opportunity to act independently of US foreign and military policy, weakening the prime minister’s stated policy of not committing Canada’s military to the conflict in Syria.

Canadian government support for the US-led coalition attack on Syria does nothing to hasten the end of the war and reduce war tensions in adjoining countries, and makes Canada complicit in a violation of international law.
We call upon our government and all MPs to uplift Canada’s responsibilities as a member state of the United Nations, to actively promote and support all diplomatic actions and initiatives to end the war and permit the people of Syria to live in peace, rebuild their country and decide their own future without outside interference.

Don Currie, BCSICP contact, West Kootenay Slocan

Lakeside destruction needs a penalty greater than its rewards
Kootenay Lake is diminishing by nibles. At the moment, 63% is still pristine with good fish habitat and shoreline vegetation, but each spring, the low water proves an irresistible temptation to lakefront owners. Excavators grind onto Crown land beaches. Backhoes unfurl their claws. The result is dredging, infilling, beach creation, loss of vegetation... actually less noble than pirana bites.

Aren’t there laws to protect from this? Yes, there are. Commencing work on the Crown land without approval is considered to be in trespass and may be subject to enforcement actions. In all cases, anyone who is planning to do work on Crown land must first contact FrontCounterBC, or retain the services of qualified professionals to do so on their behalf. There are nine federal Acts involved, four sets of federal regulations, eight provincial Acts, and four RDCK bylaws. The Ktunaxa Nation is justifiably very interested.

Unfortunately, there is another unofficial law of the Kootenays, that I have discovered during my 40 years living here. “Do it. If caught, plead ignorance. Accept the fine as a cost of achieving your lifetime goal.” No hoops to jump through. Yet, much more simple and effective.

Here is a story from the Argenta Flats, where the late Ruth Boyd and her husband Bob kept pigs. These pigs lived in a muddy pen, denied access to a luscious vegetable garden by an electric fence. The pigs knew the deterrent, but the rewards outweighed the consequences. They would sneak in anticipation before even latching those electric strands, but the carrots continued on page 5.
When millions of dollars is being spent to public policy on the backcountry, then all such backcountry should be closed to vehicles. Such backcountry should be declared a no-fly zone for helicopters. Helicopters in BC should only be allowed to fly a maximum of 500 metres above the surface of numbered highways. Helicopters are harassing our wildlife out of existence. Just ask anyone with domestic animals about the effect of helicopters flying overhead and these animals are somewhat to motorized noise.

When the Ministry of Forests or Environment need to access the backcountry, they can walk in and walk out. Given helicopter costs at thousands of dollars per hour this would be economically effective. Walking the ground is cheaper, faster and more effective. While we will better sense of what is happening in the backcountry than flying over it at high speed. This would make them much more effective at their jobs. No helicopter should be allowed to land in the area without the permission of the government or Crown corporation unless it is first approved by a taxpayers’ association. The use of helicopters paid for by the people of BC needs to undergo and indepth intensive investigation.

Harvey Armstrong
John’s Landing
Backcountry roads
Written on the wall of a country cabin is the following:

“Though we all will disappear
We wish to be remembered for
Sweat, blood and beauty
Leave them forever great.”

Some people in the Ministry of Forests are dedicated to taking this popular but illegal activity to碎 pieces. They are busy destroying public facilities (roads) that provide access to the backcountry, despite public protest. We paid millions of dollars to have these roads built and now we pay millions of dollars to have them destroyed.

Does it not make sense that the Public Policy of BC?
The reasons the ministry gives for destroying our facilities defy logical thought, especially when it comes to the revenue for fire fighting costs (by air only), or they deny to plan to the backcountry burn, or is there some private interest being served, or maybe the person who will be responsible to the person in the public service? We fully support the request for work so essential to community safety. However, as any funding for fire protection comes from taxation, we are aware of the pressures and limitations this request may cause. There are 18 fire departments across the RDCK. Each fire service area has a different assessment area – and so such changes in one service may impact taxpayers more than an identical increase in another service.

We would like to clarify how we have responded and acted upon the request from the Central Kootenay Fire Chiefs Association that RDCK firefighters be remunerated for the valuable efforts of our firefighters. We are and continue to work with our firefighters to find that balance between appropriate compensation and value to the taxpayer.

Aimee Watson, RDCK Director
Kaslo mayor and Area D Director
respond to RDCK Fire service remuneration

Dear residents of the Kaslo/Area D Fire Service,

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Ed Varney
Area D

Suzan Hewat, Mayor of Kaslo

Time is running out to learn from nature

One time about 30 years ago, I took a trip to Belize. I guess I was tired of winter. While walking a country road, I saw ahead of me some little leaves moving across the road in single file. When I was closer, I saw that under each fingernail-size leaf was a little ant. These were other little ants not carrying leaves heading for the trees they like. Everywhere they go, they leave a scent trail behind them so that they can find their way back. When one gets home with a leaf, the others get the message and off they go on the trail. They can strip an orange tree or cacao or any of a number of varieties of vegetation in one night’s time. Down the road, they chew up the leaves and grow a fungus that they live on. This is a symbiotic relationship. They cannot live without each other. So I would go out after dark to patrol with a flashlight for these activities. Looking up, in the trees, I would see the lions shining from these nocturnal mammals. On the ground, the wee- wee were busy night and day.

It was these nights that the aroma in the air was especially pleasant, more so than daytime. I was told that is because there are still plants that only flower for the fruit bats. Before I left, I saw the crown increasing in population at an alarming rate.

Today, big corporations like Mobil want us to go on the world to seek money. I hope in this way that they are going to seek money with the soil biosphere and continuing with monoculture. Nature was doing this successfully for a long, long time as a poly-culture. There are scientists who say we know almost nothing about what is going on in the soil. Time is running out.

Frank Nixon
Winlaw

continued from page 5

lettuce were well worth it.

The answer to lakeside destruction is a penalty that is greater than its rewards. Instead of a fine that a wealthy landowner can absorb, give them a permit to restore the natural contours of the lake and its natural vegetation. At the owner’s expense. With publicity in the Valley Voice and the Nelson Star.

There should be no net benefit to stealing from the future. In reality, we are just tenants and caretakers of the land we think that we “own.” We are here such a short time. I have the privilege of working with North Kootenay Lake Hospice. These human beings, at the end of their lives, have educated me about the important thing in life, and it is not a million dollar view across a private manicured beach. It is a good relationship to your family, to your community, to your environment.

Gerald Gannet

Kaslo

Trudeau dead set on Kinder Morgan

After meeting with Notley and Morgan, Trudeau said the Kinder Morgan pipeline will be built, as it saying it long and hard enough will make it true. At the same time, he and his finance minister are beating the buses for investors in the $7.3 billion pipeline, and Notley is talking about Alberta building the pipeline. Notley is talking about fractional selling, but that interest has dropped to almost zero. The best price (by far) for the filthy diluted bitumen (dilbit) to Burnaby since 2014. Notley is talking about Alberta building the pipeline. At the same time, he and his finance minister are beating the buses for investors in the $7.3 billion pipeline, and Notley is talking about Alberta building the pipeline. Notley is talking about fractional selling, but that interest has dropped to almost zero. The best price (by far) for the filthy dilbit to Burnaby since 2014.

The government is saying that the pipeline will be built, while electric cars continue to capture more of the car market, the demand for oil will decrease.

The very first oil resources to go south are being replaced. The amount of electricity from coal continues to capture more of the power market, the demand for coal is down.

The reasons the ministry gives for destroying our facilities defy logical thought, especially when it comes to the revenue for fire fighting costs (by air only), or they deny to plan to the backcountry burn, or is there some private interest being served, or maybe the person who will be responsible to the person in the public service? We fully support the request for work so essential to community safety. However, as any funding for fire protection comes from taxation, we are aware of the pressures and limitations this request may cause. There are 18 fire departments across the RDCK. Each fire service area has a different assessment area – and so such changes in one service may impact taxpayers more than an identical increase in another service.

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Frank Nixon
Winlaw
Early Boats on Slocan Lake to be launched May 10 at Knox Hall

by Art Joyce

Hennig von Krogh, New Denver history buff and Village councillor, has just published his second book of local history, Early Boats on Slocan Lake, profiling most of the major boats on Slocan Lake during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Von Krogh will launch the book May 10, 7 pm at Knox Hall.

“I’ve lived here for 40 years and where do you go for information on boats? says von Krogh. “We’ve got such a long history of boats on this lake and there’s no information on it. Now at least there’s a well-referenced timeline.”

Some of the ‘star’ boats profiled include the William Hunter, Slocan, Sandown, Rosebery and Iris G. Of course, the real stars of the settler era in the West Kootenay were the steam-powered sternwheelers such as the Moyie and the Minto. So many – including the famous Touchstones – are waterlogged. Many – including the Slocan – are formally listed as historic vessels, but there’s no information on it. 

Community members will have a chance to find out what happened to the William Hunter? Von Krogh was able to find the answer in an obscure old newspaper, the Slocan Drill of March 1905, which stated: “The old William Hunter, Sandown little steamboat, was brought down here (to Slocan City) on Sunday from Rosebery, being her first visit in years. She has been lying under water for some time, and she is to be pushed up on the beach at high water, dismantled, and broken up.”

It had been decommissioned by the CPR in 1903 after a long working life, but its remains today are disputed. Both its propellers survive, one of them in Silverton and another in a private collection in Slocan.

Early Slocan Lake has just published his second book of.

The book will be available at Mountainbarn, Raven’s Nest, the Silvery Slocan Museum, and Newmarket Foods, as well as in Nelson at Otter Books and Touchstones.

As our educators and community continue to identify mental health as an area of strength, we are happy to be able to host this event.

The Valley Voice May 3, 2018

COMMUNITY

The Silvery Slocan Historic Society invites you to the Book Launch of:

Early Boats on Slocan Lake

by Hennig von Krogh

Thursday, May 10, 2018

7:00 PM at the Knox Hall

Introduction to the book, followed by refreshments

Books available, $20.00 each

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Thank you for your support! Raffle tickets are available at local businesses. Proceeds will benefit local programs and student bursaries.

District Superintendent’s Report

School District 10 districts across the province and UBC to improve mental health literacy for staff, students and parents. With the expertise of Dr. Stan Kazner, teams will participate in a ‘train the trainer’ symposium, learning skills to teach mental health literacy and build capacity in their own schools and the district. The SD 10 team consists of two school counsellors – Keith Greenhal at NES and EES and Pam Kohn at Rosebery. SD 10 is also a vice-principal Brent Cook.

As our educators and community continue to identify mental health as an area of strength, we are happy to be able to host this event.

The Silvery Slocan Historic Society

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May 6 power outage allows power pole replacement near Burton

by Claire Paradis

The power will be out on May 6 from 7 am to 7 pm from Burton to Nakusp to Silverton when BC Hydro returns to the restoration and repair work on the Nakusp Transmission Line Project. This time, power poles on a remote part of the line near Burton will be replaced. The work requires the use of helicopters.

Multiple crews are lined up for the work, and delivery of materials and equipment to the sites began Monday, April 23. BC Hydro advises residents and drivers that there will be minor traffic delays along Hwy 6 near Burton while the helicopter work is underway.

Just over one third of the more than 800 power pole structures along the 100-kilometre-long line, originally constructed in 1957, are damaged or in poor condition. Last year, Hydro crews spent 10,000 person hours completing work on 103 structures. A remaining 246 structures are scheduled to be replaced or upgraded.

During the summer, crews will continue to replace and repair structures that are accessible by truck between Nakusp and Fauquier. For this work, crews will use a specialized boom truck to lift the energized line and install a new pole, which allows for the power to stay on. Last spring, the wire along the entire transmission line was upgraded to make sure crews could safely use this technique, and to minimize the use of helicopters.

The power will be out from Burton to Silverton on May 6 while BC Hydro replaces remote power poles near Burton via helicopter. Pictured here is a BC Hydro crew replacing a pole with the help of a specialized boom truck to lift the energized line. This method allows for the power to stay on, but can only be used in accessible locations.

The Slocan Ramblers close the Langham’s guest artist series

by Pat Johnson

They put on one of the most vibrant and boundary-pushing acoustic music shows I’ve seen in some time. It’s rare for Canadians to play this music with such authority, passion and yet ability for experimentation,” says Tom Power, host of CBC Radio’s ‘q’.

Tremendous playing combined with a variety of vocal styles transcends the genre and becomes just superb soul-stirring music. Not to be missed!

Tickets at the door are $22; advance tickets are $20 at Sunnyside and Willow in Kaslo. Doors open at 6.30 pm. www.thelangham.ca.

The Slocan Ramblers return for another set of blazing, beautiful bluegrass at the Langham.
Second graphite quarry a possibility in the valley

by Katrine Campbell

A company from Cranbrook announced it has acquired a “high quality graphite project” in the southern Slocan Valley, 1.5 km east of the existing Eagle Graphite Corporation property, owned by Eagle Graphite Corporation.”

The similarly named Eagle Plains Resources Ltd (EPL) says the Slocan quarry is “tied by Katrine Campbell

SIFCO, the Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative, has received $1 million from the Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) to continue its landscape-level Strategic Wildfire Protection Plan.

Mt. Sentinel student wins $87,000 scholarship to attend UBC

by Jan McMurray

Slocan resident and Mt. Sentinel grade 12 student Adriana Burton has received an $87,000 Centennial Scholarship from UBC.

The scholarship will take me through the full four years,” Adriana said in an interview. “It’s a huge help for me and my family.”

Adriana plans to attend UBC in Vancouver in the fall. In her first year, she will take general sciences, and hopes to get into engineering in her second year. “I’m considering electrical engineering and computer engineering. I’m still trying to decide which I want to specialize in — it depends on how I find the course content.”

Adriana says she put a lot of time and effort into her application for the scholarship, which is awarded based on academic performance, community service, and financial need.

It’s little wonder her application was successful. She has an average of 96%, and an impressive list of community service achievements. She is the CEO of the Mt. Sentinel grad class, and recently started volunteering with the Slocan Fire Department and Search and Rescue in Castlegar. She is a founding member of the school’s Environment Club and has been active with the club for the past three years. She sits on the student council and did so last year, as well. She has been a volunteer at the computer lab in Slocan for the last three years, and has volunteered for the Food Bank Garden and the library in Slocan in the past.

“I’m really excited about going to UBC in the fall and am really thankful for the scholarship,” she said.

Adriana Burton has been awarded an $87,000 scholarship from UBC.
British Columbia introduces provincial cannabis legislation

submitted

With public health and safety as the top priority, the Province says, it has introduced legislation to provide clear and responsible access to non-medical cannabis in British Columbia.

"The legislation intends to provide a sound foundation for the regulation and safe cultivation and consumption of cannabis by adults and prohibitions for minors."

In addition, the act includes an extensive compliance and enforcement regime to ensure legal non-medical cannabis protects children and youth, prioritizes public health and safety, and keeps cannabis off the hands of criminals and keeps roads safe. A key component of this enforcement regime is a new community safety unit that will target illegal sellers.

The Province engaged local governments, and Indigenous communities and organizations as part of the development of the CCA and CCLA. Engagement with these groups and organizations is ongoing.

In addition, amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) will address drug-affected driving in BC. A first phase of proposed amendments to the MVA will provide police with additional tools to remove drug-affected drivers from the road.

The legislation will now take time to debate and review the proposed pieces of legislation, before they are finalized and passed into law. Whatshan Reservoir by Mountain Water Research ($25,180); documenting bull trout abundance in Whatawha Reservoir by Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRD) ($26,976); protecting endangered Northern Leopard frogs from invasive bullfrogs by BC Wildlife Conservation Society ($26,617); protecting wetland stewardship and restoration in the Kootenays by BC Wildlife Federation ($209,220); collecting baseline bat data before Whitenose Disease arrives in BC by Wildlife Conservation Society of Canada ($54,186); connecting transboundary wolverine habitat by Montana State University ($33,903); protecting grizzlies by learning more about huckleberries from Birchdale Ecological Research Institute ($33,905); State University ($33,905); connecting transboundary wolverine habitat by Montana State University ($33,903); protecting grizzlies by learning more about huckleberries from Birchdale Ecological Research Institute ($33,905); State University ($33,905); connecting transboundary wolverine habitat by Montana State University ($33,903); protecting grizzlies by learning more about huckleberries from Birchdale Ecological Research Institute ($33,905); State University ($33,905); connecting transboundary wolverine habitat by Montana State University ($33,903); protecting grizzlies by learning more about huckleberries from Birchdale Ecological Research Institute ($33,905).
The 2018 camping season has begun, and the Village of New Denver would like to welcome new and returning visitors to Centennial Campground. The 2018 Centennial campground policy includes new changes to reservations, generator times, and permitted generator times, and there are changes to reservations 2018 Centennial campground policy.

Residents of New Denver are reminded that outdoor burning is regulated by the RDCK. Outdoor burning permits are available from April 1st to May 15th and from September 30th to November 15th – for more information please contact the Village Office, weekdays between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. Council thanks all residents for their cooperation.

**CENTENNIAL PARK & CAMPGROUND**

The 2018 camping season has begun, and the Village of New Denver would like to welcome new and returning visitors to Centennial Campground. Residents are advised that the washrooms in Centennial Park are open for the season.

**NIKKKEI INTERNMENT MEMORIAL CENTRE**

As of May 1st, the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre is open daily from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. Residents and property owners who would like to visit can obtain a free pass from the Village Office.

**Mt Sentinel and LV Rogers students to be trained in CPR and AED use**

Students at Mt. Sentinel and LV Rogers Secondary Schools will soon be learning how to save lives with CPR and AEDs (automated external defibrillators).

On April 16, grade 10 phys ed and health teachers from the two schools were trained by paramedics to teach these skills to their students. The program is organized by the Advanced Coronary Treatment (ACT) Foundation, a national charitable organization.

“Our goal is to see every young person with the skills and knowledge to save a life,” said ACT Executive Director Sandra Clarke in an interview.

Clarke explains that the ACT Foundation is contacting every public school secondary campus across Canada about the program. She says that because grade 10 Physical & Health Education is mandatory in BC, BC schools typically choose to have grade 10 Phys Ed & Health teachers trained to teach their students these life-saving skills. ACT arranges for the paramedics to train the teachers, and raises the $5,000-$6,000 to purchase the training mannequins and AED training units, which they donate to each school.

Clarke says the students learn not only the skills of CPR and AED use, but also how to recognize the developing signs of heart attack and stroke, the importance of calling 911 right away, and what to do while waiting for the ambulance to arrive.

“We’re urging the BC provincial government to put this in the curriculum,” Clarke explains. “That’s a very important step to ensuring it’s being taught province-wide and being continued over the years.” She adds that it has been included in the Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba high school curriculums.

Apparently, the training pays off. “We’ve had many successes throughout BC and across Canada,” says Clarke, and “when we interview students who have saved lives with their training, they are very modest, and say they were just doing what they were taught to do. They learn young, it becomes a skill that they carry with them throughout their lives.”

ACT has set up the program in 240 secondary schools in BC – that’s 96% of them – with 46,000 students trained annually, so far. An impressive 460,000 BC students have already been trained in CPR.

The “students love it; the teachers love it; and it’s immediately relevant to the students. We’re seeing amazing reception throughout BC and across Canada,” Clarke says.

The training and equipment for the Mt. Sentinel / LVYR session was provided thanks to ACT, British Columbia Emergency Health Services, AstraZeneca Canada, Sanofi Canada, Amgen Canada, Apex Geoscience Consulting, CBBC Wood Gundy Nelson, Kaleninkof Lumby Co. Ltd., Kootenay Slocan Lions Club, L.V. Rogers Secondary School Parent Advisory Committee, Nelson & District Credit Union, RHC Insurance and the Rotary Club of Nelson.
Three 1970 VWs, One 1998 GMC Van. All four – $2650 OBO, this week only.
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Tristan and Heather welcome visitors to the world of the Nakusp and District Museum at the Centennial Building open house April 28.

Gerry Conway announces the Centennial Building open house on April 28 with a few bagpipe tunes.

Mayor Karen Hamling cuts the cake at the Centennial Building open house on April 28.

Three 1970 VWs, One 1998 GMC Van. All four – $2650 OBO, this week only.
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Mosaic artwork by Slocan Valley artists brightens up Hall Street in Nelson

by Jan McMurray

Slocan Valley artists Rabi’a and Carl Schliching are livening up Nelson’s Hall Street with Rabi’a’s amazing mosaic artwork. The pair was awarded a City of Nelson contract as part of the Hall Street ‘Stores to Shores’ revitalization project.

Rabi’a’s striking mosaic work has been installed at two locations – at the top of Hall Street near Boomtown Emporium and just above the Kootenay Co-op Radio station office. The third and last installation will decorate the planters at Hall Street Park on the waterfront once the City completes the park.

‘Dancing Myself,’ one of Rabi’a’s sculptures, now takes a prominent place at the top of Hall Street. After tying for second place in the People’s Choice category at the 2012 Castlegar Sculpturewalk, the sculpture was leased by the City of Nelson and placed next to Touchstones. It was moved to its new home on Hall Street on Monday, April 23.

Rabi’a explains that she created the sculpture with mosaic on one side only in 2012, intending it to be viewed from the front side only. To prepare it for its Hall Street location, she finished the back with mosaic, too. She loves how the piece shows the evolution of her style over the years, from 2012 in front to 2018 in back.

Rabi’a’s mosaics adorn the Hall Street cement stairway near ‘Dancing Myself’ and near Kootenay Co-op Radio. The mosaic pieces on the stairs depict Nelson culture, with scenes of busking, drumming, the ski hill, the Capitol Theatre, Nelson architecture, and more. She points out Slocan resident Georges Perriere in the soccer scene, wearing one blue sock and one red sock. “It’s storytelling,” she says.

Incidentally, Perriere donated the large rock that serves as the stand for ‘Dancing Myself.’

The mosaics are done in coloured glass, which are much more durable than glazed ceramic tiles.

“I’ve been working on this all winter at my house,” says Rabi’a, explaining that she cuts the glass into small pieces and sets them down on mesh. Schliching helps with the design and installation work, and does all the paperwork. “I couldn’t do this without him. He’s very capable and professional,” Rabi’a says.

With access to more than 35 workshop opportunities over the weekend, participants can experience everything from sound healing to formulating classes to permaculture and herb farming, as well as a multitude of herb walks, demonstrations, movement therapy, flower essences, elixir crafting, medicine making and much more.

The conference will feature local presenters such as Shanoon Bennett, Gregoire Lamoureux, Brendan Murray-Nellis, Kori Doty, Garliq, Hansa, Drea Phoenix and Keith Davis alongside those from further afield including William Morris, Chanchal Cabrera, Murisa Muricano, Josh Sarvis and Kelly Dunn, Terry Willard, Katalen Yardley, Yarrow Willard, Jeanne Lam, Bev Maya, Malcolm Saunders and many more.

Co-organizer of the event Colleen Emery says these types of events are crucial to connect those working within herbal communities near and far in an effort to share and learn from each other. The Kootenay Herb Conference runs biennially, opposite the Island Herb Gathering in Cumberland, their sister conference.

The Friday night event is open to the local community for free. It begins on Friday, June 1, with registration opening at 3 pm followed by a plant walk led by Mary Boulding, RHT along with the launch of the vendor marketplace. Soup and bread will be served and folks are encouraged to bring a potluck dish. The children from Winlaw Elementary School will perform a play, followed by vignettes from the conference presenters.

Conference passes include all meals and access to all workshops. Tickets are going fast and are on sale now on kootenayherbconference.com All details of the event can be found on the website; follow the conference on facebook.com/kootenayherbconference or instagram.com/kootenayherbconference.

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Rabia’s striking mosaic work has been installed at two Hall Street locations. This is at the top of Hall Street near Boomtown Emporium.
Master’s in Education research project at The Whole School

submitted

The Whole School principal Anniah Lang is in the process of completing her Master’s Degree in Education from UBC West Kootenay Rural Education Program. She will complete her degree this July, using her students as her research subjects.

Her project focus is ‘student engagement through writing in an outdoor learning environment’. The students focus on writing and language arts in the great outdoors at the Slocan Valley Rail Trail, surrounding farm fields, forest areas, paths, and byways – and being creative about it.

“Teaching students outdoors allows us to experience and interact with the world in a new way and build connections with the wider community and each other,” says Geddis. “We become comfortable in nature and develop positive experiences of school together.”

The focus on outdoor learning is building resiliency not just in the students, but in parents as well. “I’m surprised by what my daughter is capable of when it is expected of her,” says one parent. “It made me really excited to find out that she would be part of the research project because it meant she would have more outside time at school and a unique learning experience that she might not get otherwise.”

The movement at the Whole School to integrate more outdoor learning time into the daily rhythm of the school week fits neatly with the students’ renewed activity in their permaculture garden, the other outdoor classroom focus this year. The idea for the garden, to have a collaborative, community-involved project, is coming to fruition with the help of Eliza Geddis, Eli Geddis, Tanner Davies, Una McInnis-Gniewotta, Gerald Hogarth, Ruby Reebrock, and Linda Pope writing creatively.

Homesteaders’ memoir launches in Slocan

submitted

A new book is shedding light on life on homesteading in the Slocan. Author Allan Warner’s memoir of his family’s efforts to carve out a homestead in the wilderness is an intimate portrait of the Slocan Valley from the 1920s to the 1950s.

Filled with humour, adventure and insights into a bygone era, the book brings to life the people and places they knew during the Great Depression, the Second World War and the Japanese Canadian internment.

The Slocan Valley Historical Society invites you to the book launch at 1 pm on Saturday, May 19 in the Village of Slocan council chambers. The author will read from the book and sign copies, which will be available for purchase for $25. All proceeds will benefit the historical society. Refreshments will be served.

Originally published in a limited edition for family members, this illustrated 120-page book has been expanded and annotated by the historical society.

Royal LePage Selkirk Realty in Nakusp is seeking a self-motivated individual to fill a part-time reception/administration/bookkeeping position. Applicant must have knowledge of bookkeeping, typing and computer skills, including Word and Excel. Simply Accounting would be a great asset.

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Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society hosts event to honour volunteers

To mark Volunteer Week in Canada, on April 15 the Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society hosted its third annual ‘Get Your Just Desserts’ event to honour and thank more than 100 exceptional Slocan Valley volunteers.

Guests were treated to prizes and games designed to help them mingle and network including finding their birthday twin, or in some cases, birthday triplets, from among the attendees. There were thanks from local dignitaries, delicious desserts and a selection of beverages, and a birthday celebration of sorts for three birthday triplets, from among the attendees. There were thanks from local dignitaries, delicious desserts and a selection of beverages, and lots of community networking.

The dedication and commitment of the Slocan Valley’s volunteers was praised by special guests MP Richard Cannings, Regional District (RDCK) Area H Director Walter Popoff, Mayor of New Denver Walter Popoff, and New Denver Councillor Nadine Raynolds. A message of appreciation from MLA Katrine Conroy was delivered on her behalf by Legacy Society chair Alex Berland.

This year, Get Your Just Desserts was held at the Vallican Whole Community Centre from 3 to 5 p.m. The Sunday afternoon timeframe pleased many attendees who commented they could now travel to and from the event in daylight.

“We’re pleased we could offer this community-building event to thank Slocan Valley volunteers,” said organizer Val Mayes, a board member of the society that manages the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund. Mayes made a humorous star appearance at the event as her alter-ego ‘Professor Valeria Fibonacci’ to introduce a game involving the mathematical Fibonacci sequence. She explained how, thus far, the Legacy Fund’s monthly donor pool has grown following that sequence and that the fund is actively seeking additional (math pun!) monthly donors to reach the next number in the sequence. The good professor pointed out that monthly giving is easy and painless. Instructions to become a monthly donor are on the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund’s website www.slocanvalleylegacy.com at ‘Give to the Fund.’

Legacy Society fundraising director Lorna Visser urged those present to consider the legacy they personally wish to leave for the community they obviously love, given the amount of time spent volunteering. “We’re often told to live in the moment and in general that’s good advice, but when it comes to building community we also need to think of the future. I hope we’ll all think about what kind of Slocan Valley we want to leave for those who come after us,” she said. She encouraged people to be donors as well as volunteers, and to consider putting bequests to their favourite local charity and/or to the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund in their wills.

Get Your Just Desserts was made possible by grants from RDCK Area H Director Walter Popoff and the Columbia Basin Trust. With receipt of this generous gift, the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund now stands at approximately $210,000 and growing.

Each year the interest on the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund plus some additional top-up funds provided by the Kootenay Savings Foundation are granted to worthy charities and community organizations operating programs in the Slocan Valley.

This year’s successful grant recipients will be publicly announced at the Society’s Annual General Meeting on May 29 at the Slocan Legion. All Legacy Society members are invited to attend and new members can get memberships at the door.

FREE tenant rights and responsibilities workshop

Questions about being a renter in BC? The Advocacy Centre is offering a free workshop in Kaslo on tenant rights and responsibilities, tips for a successful tenancy and what options are available if problems arise. The workshop will take place on Tuesday, May 8, from 5:30-7:30pm at the Kaslo Seniors Hall, 312 4th Street.

The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. To register, contact the Advocacy Centre at 250-352-5777 or advocacycentre@nelsoncares.ca.
Joyce to tour new novel Mountain Blues
submitted

Join New Denver author Sean Arthur Joyce for a reading from his new novel, Mountain Blues, due out May 15 from NeWest Press. Joyce will be featured at this year’s Elephant Mountain Literary Festival in Nelson July 12–15 and will tour BC and Alberta with the novel. He will launch the book in New Denver, Slocan, Nakusp, and Nelson in May, followed by a launch in Calgary May 31. This will be followed up by an East Kootenay tour in early June.

Mountain Blues is the story of a small village in the Valhalla Mountains that must struggle to save its emergency ward from government cutbacks. When reporter Roy Breen arrives in little Eldorado after 15 years working at a big city newspaper, burnt out and ready for a slower pace of life, he is soon drawn up in the town’s crisis. He must decide whether to blur the lines between objective observer and activist, knowing that closure of the community. It’s the best of both worlds: for crap, lyrical prose, an engaging narrative, memorable characters, including an emotionally articulate cat, and a lightness of touch that is as surprising as it is delightful.

Poet and author Tom Wayman, who makes his home in the Slocan Valley, has this to say about the novel: “Joyce depicts with élan a cast of eccentric characters, and the spectrum of forms their resistance takes—from successful to nonsensical—in response to the petty and/or harmful consequences of governing bureaucracies and social constraints. Mountain Blues, like any well-crafted song or other enduring work of art, entices us to appreciate its particulars while effectively sharpening and broadening our perception of the larger world.”

Nelson author Brian D’Eon gave Mountain Blues a strongly favourable review. “Joyce cannot hide the love he has for his characters. He loves not just their strengths but their flaws, their best intentions, their sweet humanity.”

Joyce will host book launches at the following locations: Nelson Public Library, Thursday, May 24, 7 pm; Bosun Hall, New Denver, Friday, May 25, 7.27 pm; Nakusp Public Library, Saturday, May 26, 7 pm; Slocan Community Library, Sunday, May 27, 1 pm. The Langham will host the Kaslo launch on Sunday, June 10, at 3 pm.

To pre-order the book visit the NeWest Press website at newwestpress.com/books/mountain-blues or Amazon.

Johnny Pettigrew on guitar, and sax player Davis Manning, a founding member of the Tragically Hip. According to the band’s website, “before Paul Langlois joined the band, the boys played with Davis Manning: an older, more experienced musician. Davis was the Hip’s saxophone player.” But Manning was faced with a choice: adopt the gruelling pace of a rock band’s touring schedule or stay close to his family in Kingston, Ontario. He chose the latter but continues to record new music.

“He plays sax like Miles Davis played trumpet,” says Pettigrew. “Equally adept on piano or guitar, Roxanne Hall has an eclectic repertoire that covers rock, country and jazz over a 30-year career. Pettigrew and Hall recently completed the recording of a new album also titled Balance, an all-acoustic set of mostly ballads that features Manning on saxophone. The more introspective tempo of the record reflects personal crises experienced by Pettigrew during the last few years, including the premature death of his son. Blues guitarist Tim Williams, a Juno award winner and recent two-time winner of the Memphis Blues Challenge, also played on the record. The album was recorded in Slocan and Vancouver and is on its way to Calgary for mastering.

“We hope to do a couple off the album, but it’s not what you’d call dance music, and this is a dance,” says Pettigrew. “We’re going to mix it up with originals and covers and keep everybody moving.”

Pettigrew plans to release the new album on vinyl as well as the usual formats later this year. He is planning a subsidiary business called Balance Live Recordings, which could record anything from an especially promising street busker to concerts.

President Dan Nicholson says funds raised will be used to complete the society’s museum renovation project. “We’re going to create an entrance at the rear of the museum that will be wheelchair accessible. It’s going to finish off the museum according to the plan that was drawn up in the 1990s when Ben Eales drew up the original plan.” Phase 1 of the wheelchair access was the boardwalk in front of the museum, which was completed in 2015. Other funding sources for the project have come from CKCA, which is providing $20,000 of the total $40,000 budget. An application has been made to the Slocan Valley Legacy Society, with the balance made up from the society’s reserves.

Tickets for the dance are $20 and are available at the Valley Voice office in New Denver.

WE Graham Community Service Society 1001 Harold St, Slocan New Computer Lab Hours Sun, Mon, Tue: Open 1 - 4 PM Wed: CLOSED Thu: CLOSED (Used by KCDS:930 AM – 4 PM) Fri, Sat: Open 12 - 5 PM

Johnny Pettigrew, a.k.a. Johnny Tornado, will perform with his new band, Balance, at a Slocan Historical Society fundraiser, May 20.

PALS MOTHER’S DAY PLANT SALE is coming up May 12th. Contact PALS if you have any plants (1 gal size or bigger) or plants to donate.

Looking for my forever home! Call is a beautiful long haired, young adult female. Call is spayed, very friendly, very social and loves being with people although she does not like dogs! Please call PALS at 250-265-3792 if this sweet, petite lady is the one for you.

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SUNDAY, MAY 20 DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 DANCE AT 9 PM SILVERTON MEMORIAL HALL
Art goes public thanks to new Trust program

submitted

Communities in the Columbia Basin already benefit from spectacular natural surroundings. Now they have the opportunity to enhance their aesthetic values by increasing the presence of public art thanks to a new three-year, $750,000 program from Columbia Basin Trust, called Public Art Grants.

With support from these grants, Basin communities can purchase and install original works of fixed art in well-travelled spaces that are accessible by all. These may include artworks like murals, sculptures or mosaics, and must be created by Basin artists.

The program will enable the public to interact more with art, helping expand the impact of the arts in the region. It will also support and profile Basin artists. “Public art benefits residents and visitors by creating a vibrant atmosphere,” said Wayne Lundberg, CBTR Strategic Advisor. “Public art makes our communities more engaging, enhances our economies and adds to quality of life. It also helps communities showcase local Basin-based artists.”

Basin arts councils, local governments and First Nations are eligible to apply. The grant will fund up to 80% of the cost of the artwork and installation, to a maximum of $15,000. The application deadline for this year’s intake is June 28, 2018. Learn more at ourtrust.org/publicart.

This program is the latest way the Trust has addressed its arts and culture strategy, and its arts, culture and heritage strategic priorities. The Trust also offers an Arts and Culture Venue Grant which opened for its second round on April 26 and is continuing its long-term commitment to its popular Arts and Culture Program, delivered by the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance. Learn more at ourtrust.org/arts/artsandcultureheritage.

and groups who study and promote British Columbia history, through the annual presentation of awards or special certificates, including presentation of his Lieutenant-Governor’s Medal for Historical Writing. This year, these presentations will take place at the BCFH Book Prize Gala on Saturday, 6 to 9 pm at the Nakusp Arena Auditorium.

For more information, and further conference activities, and further information are available at https://www.bchistory.ca/conference/.

New Denver & Kaslo Community Pharmacy

Pharmacy

DID YOU KNOW...

We can bill to all third party insurance plans. Transferring your prescriptions is easy! Just give us a call.

Slocan community market gear up for the season

submitted

by Christina Knight and Hannah Keynes

Join the fun at the Slocan Valley community artist/farmers market this summer.

Slocan will host the valley’s annual summer markets, creating great opportunities for community exchanges and experiences. The Upper Expo park location is easily accessible and offers cool, welcoming shade in the hot summer months.

The community artist/farmers’ market will be happening every Saturday from 10 am – 2 pm, June, July and August. It features a wide variety of foods, special artisan goods and locally grown veggies, garden herbs and plants. Talented local musicians fill the air with their music, while patrons get to sample homemade breads, fair-trade chocolates, refreshing herbal teas and naturally made perfumes, to name a few. Beautiful clothing, jewelry, local artwork, photography and herbal body care are also available from skilled, hard-working individuals. Indulge yourself and, at the same time, support local entrepreneurs. Children can engage in exciting activities at the kids’ tent with much colour, creativity and laughter.

The market will feature live music every week and musicians and bands are invited to take advantage of this great opportunity to publicly showcase your music. Organizers say they are accepting applications from performers who want to play at the market.

Sleeping dragons awake!

submitted

by Jan McNulty

The regularly scheduled Needles ferry service is not going as smoothly as hoped. Another shutdown is expected later this week.

“We ran into issues last night [April 29] so we’ll have to reschedule the installation of the drive cable,” reported Tom Horner, retired cable department supervisor, who was filling in for Dan Brenjoldsen on Monday. “There will be a shutdown later on in the week once we have all our ducks in a row.”

Horner reported that the tugboat was still pushing the ferry back and forth on Monday, April 30, and was keeping to the regularly scheduled Needles ferry refit not completed yet schedule.

The posting on the DriveBC website on Monday, at 10:53 am, on April 30, advised that the ferry was “now open at Lower Arrow Lake following ferry maintenance” and “to expect minor delays until traffic clears.”

Waterbridge Ferries first announced that the ferry would be out of service for the refit two Fridays and Saturday nights in a row – April 20 and 21, and April 27 and 28 – from 11 pm to 2 am.

There were delays at the ferry crossing Monday, April 23 after the first weekend of the refit, as well.

Driver dies as car plunges into river

submitted

Nelson RCMP and the BC Coroners Service continue to investigate a fatal single vehicle collision early in the morning of April 25. The RCMP received a report of a vehicle travelling southbound on Hwy. 5/6 which suddenly left the road, ran down an embankment, across the railway tracks and into the Kootenay River.

Witnesses jumped into the water and pulled the unresponsive driver to the shore, where they began CPR. Despite their efforts, the man was pronounceddead at the scene. The 70-year-old driver was identified as a Nelson resident but the coroner is not releasing or confirming his identity. Personnel from the Nelson Police, BC Ambulance Service, Search and Rescue and the Nelson Fire Dept also responded along with the RCMP.

Anyone who witnessed the crash but hasn’t yet spoken to police is asked to call 250-352-2156.

Neighbours report mix-up over special certificates

For more, check out the BCHF artisan/farmers market on Facebook.
Visitor Information

A Wanderer's Paradise. Where is the journey's destination?

Hot Springs

Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa - Nakusp
Tel: (250) 265-3525
Fax: (250) 265-3554
info@halcyon-hot springs.com
www.halcyon-hot-springs.com

Halcyon Hot Springs Resort is surrounded by the beautiful Lake Hot Springs, overlooking the Okanagan Valley. It is open year-round. Ancient healing waters soothe mind, body, and soul. The hot springs are open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. in July and August. Relax and rejuvenate in our spa. Allow yourself to be cocooned in our private cabins, hot tubs, and soothing surroundings. Our spa offers treatments that blend ancient wisdom with modern technology. Relish in the natural beauty around you. 

Visitor Information

VISITOR INFORMATION

WELL-ROOTED

Hot Springs

Nakusp Hot Springs, Chetla & Campground - Nakusp
Tel: (250) 265-5026
Fax: (250) 265-4528
info@nakusphot springs.com

Nakusp Hot Springs are a year-round destination, offering a variety of activities for all ages. The hot springs feature a natural pool, a children’s pool, and a family pool. Visitors can enjoy a variety of outdoor activities such as hiking, fishing, and cycling. The resort offers comfortable accommodations for all budgets, including tent sites, cabins, and RV sites. Visitors can also enjoy a range of dining options, including a full-service restaurant and an outdoor cafe. 

Visitor Information

CENTENNIAL CAMPGROUND - New Denver

250 358-2361

denvernewcampaunya.com

On the lake in New Denver. 35 sites, w/ electricity & water hook-up, sani-dump, showers, toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

Visitor Information

Silverton Municipal Campground - Silverton

250 358-2472

campground.visitorscenter.com

Located on the lake near Silverton. 40 sites, w/ electricity & water, p/p sani-dump, picnic tables, boat launch, close to amenities. 

Visitor Information

Woodbury Resort and Marina - Nakusp

250 358-7717

Woodbury Resort and Marina is situated on Okanagan Lake, offering visitors a range of amenities including a restaurant, marina, and water sports. 

Visitor Information

Museums

Nikki Intermont Memorial Centre

250 358-7920

sandownumuseum.ca

Open: 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM
Closed: Monday to Thursday, Noon to 5.00 PM
Closed: Friday to Sunday, Noon to 4.00 PM

Visitor Information

S. S. Moyie National Historic Site - Kaslo

250 358-7788

downtownkcaslo.com

The S.S. Moyie was a coal-powered sternwheeler that served as a steamboat and as a placer mining vessel in the Kaslo area. It is now a museum operated by the Kaslo and District Museum Society. 

Visitor Information

The Langham Cultural Centre - Kaslo

250 358-2651

thelangham.ca

The Langham Cultural Centre is a community-based arts organization that promotes the arts and culture in the Kaslo area. It features a range of exhibitions, cultural events, and community programs. 

Visitor Information

Restaurants & Accommodations

The Paddock Steak - Kaslo

250 358-7788

thepaddocksteak.com

The Paddock Steak is a cozy restaurant offering a menu of classic steakhouse dishes. It is located in downtown Kaslo, offering a casual dining experience with a cozy atmosphere. 

Visitor Information

The Lodge at Arrow Lakes - Nakusp

250 265-3518

thelodgeatarrowlakes.com

The Lodge at Arrow Lakes is a year-round destination offering a range of amenities including a restaurant, spa, and indoor pool. 

Visitor Information

Cottage in Hills - Kaslo

250 358-2288

cottageinhills.kaslo.net

Cottage in Hills is a cozy cottage offering a range of amenities including a kitchen, living room, and outdoor space. 

Visitor Information

Caribou Park Cottages & Campground - Kaslo

250 488-7473

cariboupark.com

Caribou Park Cottages & Campground is located on Okanagan Lake offering a range of cottages and RV sites. 

Visitor Information

Woodbury Resort & RV Park - Kaslo

250 358-7717

Woodbury Resort & RV Park is a year-round destination offering a range of amenities including a marina, campsite, and restaurant. 

Visitor Information

VISITOR INFORMATION

Things to Do

Skiing and Snowboarding

Dine and drink

Hotels and Motels

Boating and Recreational Fishing

Events and Festivals

Art Galleries

Museums

Galleries

The Langham Cultural Centre - Kaslo

447 A Avenue, Kaslo. Named as one of the 12 best galleries in the country, this museum is dedicated to contemporary and traditional art. 

Visitor Information

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The Langham Cultural Centre - Kaslo

447 A Avenue, Kaslo. Named as one of the 12 best galleries in the country.
Kaslo council, April 24: Patio licence of occupation policy discussed

by Jan McMurray

• Council received the letter written by the CAO in response to a resident who suggested changing the patio licence of occupation policy. The resident’s suggestion, to require that businesses with a patio licence be open at least 40 hours per week, was already being considered. “Council, staff and the licensees are aware that the policy and the licenses awarded since adoption have not been universally popular with some residents and businesses, but the patios have also been seen to be successful and popular with other residents, businesses and visitors to the community.”

• The minutes of the April 16 Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting were received. At that meeting, the CAO reported that the wharf would probably have to be closed, as some of the support pilings are deteriorating. There is no reserve fund for the wharf. The CAO said a report with options would likely be presented at the next meeting in April 24.

• Also at the April 16 COW meeting, the CAO reported that Public Works repaired a burst in the A Avenue waterline. A tender package was prepared by an engineer in December, but the project may not be able to come to tender. “Council, staff and the licensees are aware that the policy and the licenses awarded since adoption have not been universally popular with some residents and businesses, but the patios have also been seen to be successful and popular with other residents, businesses and visitors to the community.”

• The water parcel tax bylaw, setting the rate at 4.4 per foot of taxable frontage, was given two readings.

Kaslo Search & Rescue thanks partners in 2017

submitted

Kaslo and Woodbury receive national recognition and activities.

“The residents have made an incredible commitment and devoted hard work to keep their communities safe,” said Nora Hannah, the RDCK Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator and facilitator of the FireSmart Program. “As we move forward into 2018 we are looking at capital plans to develop a base that can accommodate our equipment more efficiently and allow us to respond in a more effective manner to the myriad variety of calls we receive on a weekly basis,” Lettrari says.

Kootenay Co-op Radio celebrates ‘Amplifying the Voices of Our Community’ radio documentary project

submitted

More than 100 local individuals representing 45 local non-profit organizations contributed to Kootenay Co-op Radio’s ‘Amplifying the Voices of Our Community’ radio documentary project. The project is now complete and it is time to celebrate, says the co-op.

Two public project launch parties will be held in Kaslo and in Nelson.

The Nelson launch happens at Touchstones Museum of Art and History at 502 Vernon Street on Thursday, May 3 from 5 to 7pm.

The Kaslo launch will take place the following week at the Langham Cultural Centre, 447 A Avenue on Tuesday, May 8 from 5 to 7pm.

“We will be interviewing some of the people involved in making the project happen as well as enjoying food and drink,” says Catherine Fisher.

“Tecoa Predika and Michelle Rainey from Rainika PhotoGraphik will also be on hand if you’d like to have a tarp shot or photographed, and there will be listening stations set up so you can hear the 20 finished documentaries. This is a free public celebration, and you are also welcome to bring your friends, colleagues, and family.”

The documentaries, funded through a grant from the Community Radio Fund of Canada, will eventually be played on Kootenay Co-op Radio, podcast on its website, and distributed to local libraries, archives, and institutions. The launch party is an opportunity to have a drink, meet and mingle with Kootenay Co-op Radio staff, volunteers and other project participants who have made this project such a success.
Watoto Children’s Choir coming to Nakusp

Submitted

The Watoto Children’s Choir returns to Canada with Signs & Wonders, a “beautiful musical production that celebrates the joy of salvation.” This production boasts a choir comprised of orphans and other vulnerable children and will present new worship music from Watoto Church in Uganda.

Signs & Wonders will be presented in Nakusp on May 31 at Arrow Lakes Alliance church, 200 - 8 Ave NW at 7 pm. The children share stories of how their lives have been changed, and how they have been called into a life of purpose to transform their communities.

Each story declares the miracle of transformation—from darkness to life, from despair to hope, from fear to trust, and from fear to faith.

In 1994, Watoto Child Care Ministries was birthed out of Watoto Church in Kampala where eight orphans and a widow were given the opportunity to become a new family. To date, Watoto has provided holistic, residential care for more than 4,000 orphaned and vulnerable children, including former child soldiers and those born to rebel leaders during the civil war. Some of these have already gone on to become lawyers, teachers, computer scientists, journalists, farmers, doctors, and are impacting society positively as a result.

Each child in the Watoto Children’s Choir has suffered the loss of one or both parents and now lives in a Watoto village.

Updates from the Arrow submitted

• The ALHS gives a big thank you to everyone who turned out to the Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives Vote on April 15. The society members are grateful to have received their request granted, for $23,000, to publish their first coffee table book of historical photographs.

• The Annual General Meeting was held at the beginning of the month and the executive and directors were re-elected for another year. The meeting was followed by Archive Night during which the experience of travelling in a choir helps the children to develop confidence and boldness, as well as broadening their worldview. Accompanied by a team of adults, the choir presents Watoto’s vision and mission by sharing personal stories, music and dance. While on the road, the children act as advocates for the millions of other African children who have experienced the same heartbreaking pain and suffering as they have.

2017 Citizen of the Year

The Valley Voice May 3, 2018 – The Valley Voice

Nakusp council, April 23: School tax spike raises property taxes

by Claire Paradis

A whopping school tax rise of 16.38% was singled out from the financial report for comment by CAO Laurie Taylor. The school tax hike has been requested by the Nakusp School District to raise the school tax rate for Nakusp residents this year, a 2.7% decrease from last year.

The Regional District will receive $67,186, an increase of 7.2% over last year. The residential tax rate is $43.75 per $1,000 for regional taxes: 28 per $1,000 for RDCK; and $1.93 per $1,000 for regional district taxes.

Colleen Scissors, Social Venture Coordinator, Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services, gave a quick presentation about the Return It Forward program.

The program, created by Troy Clark at PharmaChoice, has been taken over by ASLCS and supports youth and people with diverse abilities. Since September 2017, the program has raised $3,500 for various youth groups in the community and has paid out roughly $9,300 in wages.

Scissors asked the Village to partner with the social venture in a village-wide bottle recycling scheme. She proposed that the Village install recycling containers at locations such as the marina, ball diamonds, bus stop, and Nakusp Hot Springs. Return It Forward program workers would pick up the bottles. The Social Venture Coordinator mentioned that the program was already in partnership with KBR Carpark for bottle recycling.

Scissors acknowledged that the bins weren’t cheap, but they would work to divert glass and plastic bottles and cans from the landfill. Councillor Tom Zelekion pointed out that the collection would have to be speedy. Scissors agreed that the bins would have to be checked frequently and that it would be wise to get containers that are hard to access, potentially with a lock.

Mayor Hamling invited Scissors and the diverse ability workers to attend the Downtown Revitalization Plan meeting at the arena on April 30 between 6:30 and 8:30 pm so they could look at the plans and consider recycling containers that would fit in with the project.

The storm sewers will not interfere with the construction involved in the Downtown Revitalization Project. They have been inspected with a camera, and are typically five feet out from the curb. Some of the storm sewer catch basins will have to be relocated, but this is considered a minimal impact on the project budget. The inspection showed that the storm sewers are in good to reasonable condition, but need a flashing drain sediment build-up.

Paul Scissors, a petition from some Canyon residents, petitioned village council to consider setting school tax rates or amounts, and imposing a property tax on residential property for all other services, including school, police, hospital, RDCK, Municipal Finance Authority, and BC Assessment. This is an overall increase of 6.48% for Nakusp homeowners. Nakusp school taxes have increased only 1.6% over last year. The school tax hike has been requested by the Nakusp School District to raise the school tax rate for Nakusp residents this year, a 2.7% decrease from last year.

Nakusp council, April 23: School tax spike raises property taxes

The children share stories of how they have been called into a life of purpose; from fear to faith. Transformation—from darkness to light.

Each story declares the miracle of salvation. This “beautiful musical production that celebrates the joy of salvation” is sponsored by the Nakusp & The Arrow Lakes Rotary Club.

2017 Citizen of the Year

This year we honour

Sandra Watt, Kylie Waterfield & Joan Samu

Tickets are at Hub International Insurance for $30.00 (Dinner included) or at the Legion. Doors open at 6:00 pm. Dinner served by the Legion Auxiliary at 6:30 pm. Sponsored by the Nakusp & District Rotary Club.
AND COACHING, AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT 

LEARNING How to Build a Successful Business 

Business Plan workshop open to anyone!
Community Futures to learn about the free 
starting your own business? If so, call 
HA VE YOU ALWAYS DREAMED
Kaslo EDC.

Thursday 9-12 or by appointment. #23 The
Office hours: Tuesday 1-3, Wednesday &
Coordinator, assisting residents of Kaslo
KASLO HOUSING SOCIETY
Holdings

Thank you for your support!
and cans will help! Call 250-352-9916
seek employment. Your refundable bottles
buying or

SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING AUCTION Benefits the Affordable Housing Society
Thursday May 24 at 6 pm. This year’s auction is a little different. It is more like a fundraiser where people will be bidding on items for the Kaslo Housing Society. There will be silent bidding during the night and a live auction. Items include, but are not limited to: Gift baskets, spa packages, custom jewelry, fine oils, hardware, home decor and more. 

Kaslo Housing Society (250) 353-2282
Kaslo Affordable Housing (250) 353-8061

Kaslo Affordable Housing Society 7525 Slocan St. Box 168 Kaslo, BC V0G 1L0
www.kaslohousing.ca

So what is the Affordable Housing Society? Many people think that if they are renting, they must be affordable housing. But that is not true. Affordable housing is housing that is affordable to the average income earner. Affordable housing must be at least 30% less than the median income for the area. 

The Affordable Housing Society is a non-profit organization that supports affordable housing. We support the most vulnerable people in the community that are in need of housing. 

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May 3, 2018 – The Valley Voice

TEXAS HOLD’EM TOURNAMENT – Saturday, May 19, 7:30 p.m. Shangri-la in the Slocan Valley Legion Hall 502 Hamil St. Slocan. $30 Buy-in. Advance Tickets at Mountain Valley Stamping Slocan or phone 250-355-2672 to reserve. Tickets may not be available at the door. BC Gaming rules will apply. The Legion welcomes members & guests.

SLOCAN COMMUNITY LIBRARY presents local authors Sean Arthur Joyce launching a new Mountain Blues, and Agnes Toews-Andrews celebrating the second edition of The Goddess Lives on Sunday, May 27 at 1:00 PM!

SLOCAN BOOK LAUNCH – New book brings Slocan history alive! Join the Slocan Valley Historical Society on Saturday, May 19 at 1 pm at the Village of Slocan council chambers for the 1st book launchers in the Slocan – A Power Family’s Story. Allan Warner’s memoir covers the 1920s to 1950s, and describes the family’s efforts to carve out a homestead in the wilderness. The author will read from the book and sign copies. Books are available in Good Condition, in-store. 250-365-6887. Reward. 358-2421.

SLOCAN VALLEY RAIL TRAIL – Annual General Meeting of the Slocan Valley Rail Trail Society Thursday, May 17 at the Slocan Park Hall. Meeting 7 pm. New members welcome to sign up from 6:45 on. Want to be part of the Trail that connects us all? Need more info? 1-888-683-SYRT or info@slocanvalleyrailtrail.ca

21st ANNUAL WHOLE SCHOOL SPRING MARKET – Saturday, May 12, 10am - 3pm. Join The Whole School (5614 Hwy 6, Winlaw) for family fun - a plant sale, kids art, children’s activities, local artisans and vendors, and more... at the entrance. Interested in volunteering? Contact Josie Corrigan 250-377-8737 or email whholeschool@gmail.com

READ, SET, LEARN welcomes you and your preschooler to W.E. Graham Community School. Come join us for seven fun-filled Thursdays of local artist and instructor sharing their knowledge and talents. Included on the days will be drawing, music, plant identification, claywork, circus play and more. Healthy snack provided. Thursdays, May 10 until June 23, 10 am to 12 noon. W.E. Graham Community School, 915 Harold Street, Slocan, BC. Call the school to let us know you are coming. Siblings are welcome. 250-355-2123 or email userma13@hotmail.com

AFFORDABLE STEEL SHIPPING CONTAINERS 20 ft. and 40 ft. sizes. Kostandy Containers Sales & Rentals, Castlegar. 250-365-3014.

SLEET IN THE AIR – The Slocan Valley is located in a region of Canada which has a reputation for being wet. In some parts of the valley, the average annual precipitation is over 100 cm, with snowfall often occurring in the winter months. The Slocan Valley’s climate is wet and mild, with relatively温和的 weather throughout the year. The area is known for its agricultural productivity, with a range of crops and livestock raising activities. The valley’s natural beauty, with its forests, lakes, and rivers, makes it a popular destination for outdoor recreation and tourism. The Slocan River, which flows through the valley, is a major attraction for fishing and boating. The area is also home to a diverse range of wildlife, including bears, deer, and various bird species. The Slocan Valley is located in the southeastern part of British Columbia, Canada, and is known for its warm summers and mild winters. The valley is bordered to the east by the Rocky Mountains and to the west by the Selkirk Mountains. The Slocan Valley is home to several small communities, including New Denver, Newsight, and Castlegar.

CITY OF CASTLEGAR.– New book launches monthly in the Slocan Valley. The City of Castlegar is pleased to announce the launch of a new book, “Becoming Castlegar: A Place for All”, which will be held on June 1 at the Castlegar Public Library. The book will feature a collection of essays and articles written by residents and community leaders, showcasing the diverse and vibrant community that makes Castlegar a special place to live. The book launch will include readings, a discussion, and a Q&A session with the authors. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the City of Castlegar at 250-365-7700 or info@castlegar.ca.

GARDEN HELPER - WE GRAHAM Community Service School Job Posting: Seeking Summer Day Camp Program Leader, 3 months starting June 11. Applicants must be age 15-29, a new hire for WECSS, have First Aid & vehicle. Outdoor experience an asset. Must be organized, motivated and great with children. Hours: 30/week. Wage: 16/hr. Accepting applications now. Please send resume to coordinator@wecss.org.

DAY CAMP ASSISTANT - WE GRAHAM Community Service School Job Posting: Seeking Summer Day Camp Assistant, 8 weeks starting July 9. Applicants must be age 15-29, a new hire for WECSS, have First Aid & experience w/ children an asset. Must be organized & motivated. Hours: 30/week, Wage: 15/hr. Please send resume & cover letter to coordinator@wecss.org by June 18 at 5pm.

DAY CAMP JR. ASSISTANT - WE GRAHAM Community Service School Job Posting: Seeking Summer Day Camp Junior Assistant, 8 weeks starting July 9. Applicants must be age 15-29, a new hire for WECSS, have First Aid & vehicle. Outdoor experience an asset. Must be organized & motivated. Hours: 30/week, Wage: 12.65/hr. Please send resume & cover letter to coordinator@wecss.org by June 18 at 5pm.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 915 Harold Street, Slocan. June 21, 10 am to 12 noon. W.E. Graham Community School. Come join us for a day of celebration and learning. The event will feature local artists, instructors sharing their knowledge and talents. Included on the days will be drawing, music, plant identification, claywork, circus play and more. Healthy snack provided. Thursdays, May 10 until June 23, 10 am to 12 noon. W.E. Graham Community School, 915 Harold Street, Slocan, BC. Call the school to let us know you are coming. Siblings are welcome. 250-355-2123 or email userma13@hotmail.com

璃根木工坊 – Glass + maroon with side buttons. Lost on April 25. Reward. 358-2421.

SILVERTONE – Health Centre is looking for a hairdresser. For inquiries, call Nynie Caxton 250-356-7911 ex 66639 or Stacy Tournard ex 66656. Hairdressing papers and criminal record check are a must.

CUSTOMIAN - WE GRAHAM Community Service School Job Posting: Seeking Summer Day Camp Program Leader, 3 months starting June 11. Applicants must be age 15-29, a new hire for WECSS, have First Aid & vehicle. Outdoor experience an asset. Must be organized, motivated and great with children. Hours: 30/week. Wage: 16/hr. Accepting applications now. Please send resume to coordinator@wecss.org.

WOMEN’S WORKSHOPS – Mary and maroon with side buttons. Lost on April 25. Reward. 358-2421.

NOTICES

SING HU! for CALMNESS, protection, healing and perspective. It’s for people of all faiths, traditions and practices. Check out eckankar-bc.ca/husong.


Next Valley Voice Deadline: April 27, 2018
IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY OF RANDY DUNCAN
July 12, 1988–April 26, 2011

My son
It broke our heart to lose you
But you did not go alone.
A part of us went with you
to the Day God called you home.

A million times we thought of you
A million times we cried.

If loving could have saved you
You never would have died.

Forgive me, Lord, we always weep
For our son we loved so much
But yet we could not keep
Sweet dreams, my angel

–Love Mom, Dad, Amanda, Trevor,
Meagan, Brad, Kayleigh and families

CLASSIFIED/COMMUNITY

Mannethorn’s key is an excellent read
by Dan Nicholson

Silverwolf novelist Simon Lindley’s new book, Mannethorn’s Key is a well-constructed novel, with a complex, yet engaging plot. The book is the first of an epic fantasy trilogy, spanning our world, the fantastic world of Drageverden, and the strange netherworld of Between.

Bartholomew Mannethorn is a former derivatives broker, who has lost everything - his wife, his job and his fortune. Now living on Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside, he spends his time collecting bottles and avoiding his landlord.

In a last-ditch attempt to salvage his life, Mannethorn applies for a job at Burger Buddha’s. During his interview, he is drawn into the Between, where he meets his guide - an enigmatic figure known simply as the guardian of the gate.

Eventually Mannethorn makes his way to Drageverden - a world populated by dragons, grass-eating giants, wizards and other creatures of Lindley’s imagination.

The story takes the form of a quest, where the hero learns a lot about himself, as he solves the mysteries of a new universe.

The description is evocative without being overwhelming. The characters are fully formed, interesting and creative. The author delights in word play, and the reader is carried along on a journey, not only of geography, but also of the human spirit.

The book is an excellent read, and is available through amazon.com. ($4.99 Kindle and $17.99 paperback)

IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY OF RANDY DUNCAN
July 12, 1988–April 26, 2011

My son
It broke our heart to lose you
But you did not go alone.
A part of us went with you
to the Day God called you home.

A million times we thought of you
A million times we cried.

If loving could have saved you
You never would have died.

Forgive me, Lord, we always weep
For our son we loved so much
But yet we could not keep
Sweet dreams, my angel

–Love Mom, Dad, Amanda, Trevor,
Meagan, Brad, Kayleigh and families

CLASSIFIED/COMMUNITY

Mannethorn’s key is an excellent read
by Dan Nicholson

Silverwolf novelist Simon Lindley’s new book, Mannethorn’s Key is a well-constructed novel, with a complex, yet engaging plot. The book is the first of an epic fantasy trilogy, spanning our world, the fantastic world of Drageverden, and the strange netherworld of Between.

Bartholomew Mannethorn is a former derivatives broker, who has lost everything - his wife, his job and his fortune. Now living on Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside, he spends his time collecting bottles and avoiding his landlord.

In a last-ditch attempt to salvage his life, Mannethorn applies for a job at Burger Buddha’s. During his interview, he is drawn into the Between, where he meets his guide - an enigmatic figure known simply as the guardian of the gate.

Eventually Mannethorn makes his way to Drageverden - a world populated by dragons, grass-eating giants, wizards and other creatures of Lindley’s imagination.

The story takes the form of a quest, where the hero learns a lot about himself, as he solves the mysteries of a new universe.

The description is evocative without being overwhelming. The characters are fully formed, interesting and creative. The author delights in word play, and the reader is carried along on a journey, not only of geography, but also of the human spirit.

The book is an excellent read, and is available through amazon.com. ($4.99 Kindle and $17.99 paperback)
Who wants a beautiful artwork for free?

Internationally recognized West Kootenay artist and owner of Mirage Studio, Frantisek Strouhal will showcase his stunning work at the Frog Peak Café in May. The café will display more than 20 of Strouhal’s creations from his series Art Embracing Awareness for one month only, at the end of which one lucky winner of a free draw will take home a gorgeous 8x10 framed canvas print.

Strouhal is a member of the Federation of Canadian Artists board of governors and his art has been exhibited in galleries in Manhattan, Brussels and other high profile international cities as well as throughout BC. His work has received several awards, including the Award of Excellence from Manhattan Arts International, and has been published on numerous occasions, such as his most recent feature in the Mondial Art Academia.

Known for his dreamy, nostalgia-inducing and soul-stirring images, Strouhal says he is excited to bring Art Embracing Awareness to the Frog Peak Café on Hwy 6 in Crescent Valley. Viewers are sure to be captivated and engaged by the ethereal elements permeating the prints, as they enjoy the café’s delicious treats and bright setting.

Make sure to enter your name in the free draw; don’t miss your chance to win a beautiful, timeless work of art to call your own. You can view Frantisek Strouhal’s artworks at www.frantisekstrouhal.com.
by Jan McMurray

The tenth exhibition season at Studio Connexion in Nakusp opens Friday, May 18 with local artist Denyse Marshall.

“It has been an interesting parcours since 2006 when I was selling Quebec antique reproduction furniture from my home,” says Anne Béliveau, owner of Studio Connexion Gallery in Nakusp. The gallery is now 10 years old.

Studio Connexion Gallery had its beginnings in Anne’s fine furniture shop. To complement the beautiful armoires and tables that came from the other side of the country, she asked some local artists to show their work on her walls. Patricia Menton’s stunning photographs and Linda Dixon’s intricate original textile pieces were the first works of fine art in her antique reproduction furniture shop.

And so, when bringing in the furnishings from eastern Canada became too expensive, the transition to a fine art gallery flowed easily.

“At first, it was many artists showing together, and then solo exhibitions appeared. Since 2008, there have been more than 60 exhibitions. Each season has been quite different, although landscape seems always present. I am grateful to be around such beauty each and every day,” Anne says. “I am honored to work with so many talented artists. I am thankful to our clients, friends and my ingenious and supportive husband.”

Anne is particularly proud to have worked with so many talented artists. I am thankful to our clients, friends and my ingenious and supportive husband.–

In August, Nakusp artist Audrey Jansen will exhibit her mixed-media work just in time for the Columbia Basin Culture Tour. Then, John Boivin, the man of many talents, will show his realistic landscapes. Returning to the gallery is Holly Woods, who is bringing more of her whimsical watercoloured and ink works.

Studio Connexion Gallery will be again an official venue for the ALFA Art Walk featuring paintings by Nelson artist Brigitte Desbois. The gallery is participating as well in the Columbia Basin Culture Tour. Visitors can always find fine art pieces by Sharon Bamber, Louise Drescher, Robyn Gold and more at Studio Connexion.

Located at 203 Fifth Avenue NW in the heart of Nakusp, just 2½ short blocks from Broadway St., gallery hours are 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Private appointments can be arranged year around. Contact Anne at 250-265-3586 or 8888. The gallerist writes a post daily, so make sure to follow the gallery on social media: www.facebook.com/StudioConnexion

“Take care of your cultural health and check out Studio Connexion this season,” Anne says.

Be More than a Bystander comes to Nakusp Secondary
by Jan McMurray

Two members of the BC Lions football team came to Nakusp Secondary on April 18 to speak to the grades 7-12 students about men’s violence against women.

Matt Bucknor, defensive back, and Jeremiah Johnson, running back, used videos, a slide presentation, and personal stories to get the students thinking about ways to be more than a bystander.

Carlie Hughes, the Stopping Violence outreach worker at Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services, was instrumental in getting the ‘Be More than a Bystander’ program to the school. Launched in 2011 by the End Violence Association of BC, Hughes said the program “definitely made a positive impact on the students.”

The football players asked the students who among them had three women in their lives that they love, and followed that up with the statistic that one in three women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. “They talked about young men having a duty to create positive change,” Hughes said. “Jeremiah shared that his wife had been sexually assaulted. At first he was nervous and didn’t know if he wanted to take part, but realized he had an obligation because he could work toward ending violence.”

Hughes said they showed a slide with a pyramid. On the bottom was sexist jokes and rude remarks. The next level was sexual harassment, then sexual assault, then rape, then murder at the top. “They addressed fact that every six days, a woman is killed by her intimate partner in Canada, and it all starts at the bottom with those rude remarks – the locker room talk,” said Hughes.

They made a 45-minute presentation, led breakout groups and focus groups, and used role play to get the point across.

“They didn’t beat around the bush. They called it right out as men’s violence against women. Women have built up all the services we have for violence against women and it’s time for men to step up and be a part of that,” Hughes said.

Employment Opportunity
Village of Silverton
Administrative Assistant

Under the supervision of the CAO, the Administrative Assistant will perform a variety of duties. This position is responsible for general front desk reception duties, accounts receivable/payable, payroll, data entry, answering general customer inquiries, and general duties for the Corporation as assigned by the CAO.

The pay rate for this position is $18.50 to $21.00 per hour, dependent on qualifications and experience. A six-month probation period will apply. This position is a minimum of 24 hours per week from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Tuesday to Thursday, and offers all benefits.

The successful candidate should have:

- High School matriculation graduation
- Minimum 2 years’ experience in a municipal administrative position
- Training and understanding of accounting principles
- Strong leadership, interpersonal skills, and an excellent team player
- Working knowledge of the Local Government Act, Community Charter
- Ability to work independently under pressure, multitask, set priorities, and meet deadlines
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written
- Experience working professionally with the public
- Valid BC Class 5 Driver’s License

Applications should demonstrate knowledge, skills, and abilities relevant to the position with proof of education and qualifications and will be accepted until:

Thursday 4:00 pm, May 10, 2018. Start Date: Tuesday May 22, 2018

All applicants must provide contact information for at least two previous employer references. For more information or full job posting please contact Darrell Garceau. Please submit your resume and cover letter to Darrell Garceau at P.O. Box 14, Silverton BC, V0G 2B0 or email to dgarceau@silverton.ca.