by Moe Lyons

On the evening of October 20, all was quiet on the Varney ranch, about a kilometre from the Vallican Whole Community Centre. Suddenly there was a ruckus in the yard, and Ed Varney and his son-in-law Christopher Yates went out to see what was up.

"There were two big cubs coming out of our cement hen house window and the sow was killing chickens in the run," says Yates. "They ran at the sound of the truck and honking. We came back and assessed the damage. The sow had run though a 10-foot-high fence turning it into matchsticks and bending down 12-foot posts driven three to four feet into the old riverbed. There were seven laying hens dead outside. Chomped in half."

Thus began the saga of the Upper Passmore grizzlies. It ended on November 5, when someone shot the sow and called the Conservation Officer (CO), who then came and destroyed the cubs.

But the story didn’t really begin there. No one is sure why these bears were displaced from their home range, but CO Blair Thin says he first heard of them when they were at Merry Creek and the Paulson summit. Then they started moving up the Columbia River towards Celgar.

Over the next two weeks, a handful of reports starting coming in from Pass Creek about the bears going after people’s chickens. “These were basically free-range chickens,” says Thin. “There were few efforts at containment, almost no electric fences, and those that existed were set up improperly. It was disappointing.”

"We didn’t feel they were a threat to public safety," he said. "They were chicken killers."

While Thin works for the Ministry of the Environment, his orders for bear management come from the Fish and Wildlife Branch of the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations, specifically from Patrick Stent, a wildlife biologist stationed in Cranbrook. Stent told Thin they would support relocation if the bears were caught. One reason for this decision is that all three bears were female, so the area’s breeding stock would take a significant hit if all three were killed.

Thin set up live traps, and caught the sow and one cub. He tranquilized the second cub. The bears were then collared and tagged, and DNA samples taken. He was told to do a truck translocation to 28 kilometres up the Grizzly Creek drainage, up towards Mount Stanley.

Once the three bears got to Grizzly Creek they hung out for a few days, headed towards Deer Creek, then wound up in Upper Passmore a couple of days later.

This is when, according to many Upper Passmore residents, they “went on a rampage.” Very few of the homesteads had sufficient protection to repel grizzlies, although the neighbourhood has coexisted with black bears for decades.

When asked if she felt she should have been prepared for these attacks, Susan Milton, who lost all the birds on her hobby farm, said, “No! I will take responsibility from now on, but the only two times we have ever had a problem with grizzlies, they were relocated bears.”

Yates also said there had never been a grizzly on the Varney Ranch before this.

Milton is a founder of the Slocan Valley Wildlife Association, and is married to a hunter who is well versed in animal behaviours. She is angry about what happened, and resentful that all the blame is being loaded on to the farmers for not being adequately prepared.

continued on page 2
continued from page 1

prepared. She feels people who lost their animals should be compensated.

“They knew for days these animals were coming,” she says. “But no one said a word to any of us. We weren’t even given a chance to prepare. And in fact if it weren’t for social media, I wouldn’t have known a thing, and I wouldn’t know now that the bears were gone. What kind of responsibility towards the community is that?”

Numerous people were angry that Thin was quoted in the media saying, “We’re killing grizzly bears for the sake of an $8 chicken.” As one of the farmers said, “Most of my birds cost me easily $25 each and some heritage breeds even more. These bears killed an estimate of over 1,000 chickens in a month.”

Many people have also been very critical of the decision to translocate the bears to the Grizzly Creek drainage. Some think the bears should have been shot in Pass Creek as soon as they began to predate on livestock. Others felt the decision to do a truck relocation rather than to helicopter the bears out to the far extent of their range was a fatal error. “I could walk to Passmore from up there,” said one resident. “Why wouldn’t they think an habituated bear would?”

Thin says he had no control over how the situation was handled. It was Fish and Wildlife’s decision where and how to translocate the bears. He also points out he is the only CO for the entire area from Trout Lake to north of Nakusp, down to the border at Nelway, and along the Hydro lines to Christina Lake. His area covers six different RCMP detachments. He says more COs are needed.

“We try our darnedest to give wildlife a second chance. We are passionate about what we do,” he said. If you have a bear problem, he says, call the CO. “We’re not going to just show up and kill the bear.” While farmers do ultimately have the right to destroy a problem animal it must be “a direct menace to your safety, or your neighbours, in some cases your livestock.” It is against the law to kill a bear without reporting it to the CO.

Over and over again, the CO and grizzly experts repeat the same mantra: “Manage your attractants!” If you don’t, says Thin, another bear will be coming right along behind. And COs can issue tickets for attracting wildlife.

Now that this has happened and people are coming to terms with what they have to do, fortunately there is help. Gillian Sanders of Grizzly Bear Solutions (grizzlybearsolutions@gmail.com) is ready to work with people to figure out how to keep themselves and their animals safe, and can arrange to subsidize 50% of the cost of electrical fencing. See page 15.

Three grizzly bears destroyed after causing havoc on local farms

One of the goals of the Mt. Abriel Legacy project is to bridge diversity, opening up new options for everyone who wants to ride but who may not be able to do so in the traditional way. The Nakusp & Area Bike Society wood crew, led by Caesar Dolhaine, has been hard at work all year to create this amazing boardwalk bridge which has been designed for all, with adaptive riders especially in mind. All are invited to a ribbon cutting, 2-3 pm on Sunday, December 2. Access to the Mt. Abriel Recreation Site is located just minutes north of the Esso on Hwy 23.
Watershed water users call out Ministry of Forests

by Moe Lyons

On Friday November 2, 80-100 people gathered outside of the Forestry offices at Four Mile for a ‘Water is Life’ demonstration to express their increasing concern about unsustainable logging practices, particularly in domestic watersheds. More than a dozen impassioned speakers of all ages climbed up on a soapbox to talk about their experiences and call for change in how our forests are managed.

“We’re not saying loggers shouldn’t log,” said Jackie Nedelec, a Laird Creek water user. “We are saying it must be done with all other aspects considered.” Balfour area residents are alarmed because there are new plans to create five more clearcuts up Laird Creek, including in an area where roads were decommissioned because of a large landslide in 2011.

Marilyn James, Smum iem Sinixt elder, opened the presentation part of the event. This was followed with acknowledgement and honouring of the elders in the movement to protect the water: Suzy Hamilton (deceased), Marilyn Burgoon (present), Eloise Charet (present) and Colleen McCrory (deceased). The demonstration featured a large banner which Suzy Hamilton passed on before she died, listing the names of nearly 50 local domestic watersheds.

Participants came from over 20 watersheds, from Johnson’s Landing to Laird Creek, to the East Shore, to Glade, to New Denver. They were invited to bring water samples from their springs and creeks. Another table provided space for petitions about various watersheds and the bigger issues. Passing cars were invited to honk in solidarity and many responded throughout the two-hour demonstration.

Tara DeCourcy and George Edney of the Ministry of Forests came out to observe the demonstration but declined to comment. Heather McSwan from Glade said they had been battling with Forestry and Kalesnikoff for about two years. “We have done just about everything we could think of,” she said, including filing a complaint with the Forest Practices Board.

She said the professional report upon which the logging was based was outdated, because it was written before a landslide occurred in the watershed. However, they were told the report was a “binding document.”

“How can you follow a report that is already out of date?” she asked. She told the crowd a spokesperson for the Compliance and Enforcement branch of Forestry told them all they could do was provide “oversight,” that there is “no offence happening here.” They were told Forestry could act only after something had happened to their water.

Amber Peters of the Valhalla Wilderness Society had this to say, “We’re in a crisis situation here with the absolute loss of old growth that is occurring. We’re drying out our landscape and losing this precipitous ecosystem as well as fragmenting it. Instead of acting as a safe haven for all life, we’re putting ourselves at the end of the gangplank.”

Sarah James, a forestry technician, said she used to be a Forestry worker, but she became overwhelmed. “If you’re going to be truthful, you will be fired. I quit.”

Marilyn Burgoon from the Perry Ridge Water Users Association spoke about their current initiative to have Perry Ridge taken out of the working forest and made into a conservancy, not just for water, but for the conservation of nature. Their petition will be posted on the PRWUA website and will be available at a celebration of non-profit organizations on December 2 at Sicamous Park Hall. Burgoon also spoke about the provincial government’s attempt to take away class action status for the complainants in the ongoing Lemon Creek spill battle, the first environmental class action in BC. People filing class actions don’t have to pay if they lose, whereas if they file as individuals they will be responsible for all costs.

Keith Wiley from Nelson said that people had been feeling hopeful about the new Professional Reliance legislation, but now that it is out, “It’s just like the old one except slightly beefed up. We still have this flawed system.” In an interview Wiley did on Kootenay Co-op Radio with Minister of the Environment George Heyman, the minister said, “Going back to the 1970s is not necessarily the best way forward. People who work for the industry will be held to high standards by their own professional association.”

Organizer Jessica Ogden stressed it is important for people to call RAPP 1-877-952-7277 with any concerns or incidents of loss of water quality as a result of industrial activity in watersheds or above properties.

Inspiring water users and the public to take action to protect water was a key component of many speeches. Matt Loewen, a young man from Johnson’s Landing, remarked, “Responsibility is the ability to respond and we can all learn how to respond to protect our water.”

Eloise Charet from New Denver summed up the situation in her irrepressible style: “Managing nature is like managing a woman. Have any of you succeeded recently?”

People can email waterforlife333@gmail.com for copies of the watershed petition and letters to sign.
Greetings from Whitehorse!
The most decent man I ever met, Kaslo’s late Paul Winegar, once asked if I’d like to be mayor of Kaslo. Goodwill and sanity prevailing, I declined. Butterflies and bees might have vanished if they discovered I was from Trail. Kaslo denied its beautiful air force? No way. Wouldn’t risk it.

Christian Torbik
Whitehorse

Response to KL Kivi re trail maintenance

It would be nice if BC Parks could maintain all the trails in the Kootenays, but they seem to only service the high use trails and ones that lead to a cabin. All the lesser used trails, or trails with challenging access see little love – probably due to available funding. I have been clearing trails for a few years, and over the last few weekends have almost finished the Blue Grouse trail off Enterprise Creek.

If you or anyone else is interested in opening up these trails again, maybe we should start a Kootenay Trail Clearing Group and possibly ask the Columbia Basin Trust for a little funding to cover our costs.

Thoughts?

Ron Groom
Vallican

In defense of Vern Gustafson

Two letters in the Valley Voice have suggested, without naming him, that my father would like to displace vulnerable women from their homes in the name of the greater good. If you did not meet me in my lifetime of visits to New Denver, I’m Vern Gustafson’s daughter. Me and my two dogs live in a three-bedroom home that I maintain myself. I became a lawyer, human rights adjudicator, foster parent, Special Olympics coach, animal rescuer and volunteer by having a father that’s always been by my (and my brother’s and mom’s) side.

Could he have used more inclusive examples to explain the home sharing or swapping concept (which, by the way is neither new nor particular revolutionary)? Sure, he probably could have.

But if you think my dad has some nefarious plan because he thinks women are easy to coerce or otherwise mistreat... you really ought to meet the one he raised.

Carmen Gustafson
Whitehorse

Firewood

Carla and Laurie went out for some wood. Just because they knew that they could find it, and it was free.

The store is hungry, and needs to be fed so to buy a full load and cut from the deck Old Laurie said no, and oh what the heck. We'll head up the mountains and find a big tree.

It will be fun, and it will be free
So into the pickup, and up the hill go
To get some wood, before the first snow
'Vroom' went the saw, and down came the tree

Right over a stump, as sweet as can be

Over a stump, and You're out of your mind
Laurie was laughing, Oh what a sight!
Her boots were flying, and off came her clothes

What happened to them, God only knows
The lesson they learned, must be understood
Be careful what you do, when you're out in the woods.

Al Mills
Slocan

Huge provincial subsidies threaten health, prosperity

BC taxpayers miss out on almost $1 billion every year due to our government’s dangerous and misguided fossil fuels subsidies – dangerous because fossil fuel expansion threatens to further degrade the health of BC’s citizens and environment, and misguided because it unfairly skews the market away from the clean energy economy we so urgently need.

A press release from Citizens’ Climate Lobby (CCL) and the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) details this alarming give-away. CAPE has investigated the negative health implications of BC’s expanding LNG industry, warning: “This unprecedented and ill-advised investment in fossil fuel infrastructure is a dangerous step in the wrong direction.” (cape.ca)

Oil & gas make up just 3% of BC’s GDP in BC while accounting for 1% of BC jobs, making this ill-advised investment in fossil fuel subsidies “dangerous because fossil fuel expansion threatens to further degrade the health of BC’s citizens and environment, and misguided because it unfairly skews the market away from the clean energy economy we so urgently need.”

Vote in the BC Referendum on Electoral Reform

I am truly appreciative of all the voters who have contacted me because they are trying to figure out for themselves how they might vote in this important referendum. I voted for proportional representation. Why? Because I am a Green Party supporter? No. I grew up in the UK under both Conservative and Labour governments who were so ideologically divided that political ideas were rejected not on their merits, but because either the Labour Party or the Conservatives were introducing them. When I look at our neighbours to the south I see that the political divide is now so great, there is a real danger they could end up in a second civil war. And I felt the same way about the debate between Premier Horgan and Opposition Leader Wilkinson the other night.

Neither side was prepared to concede any points to the other or properly explain the merits of what they believed in.

Under a proportional voting system, I believe, each voter will have the opportunity to vote for the person they wish to represent them at a constituency level, and then for the party whose ideas they wish to be represented by in the BC legislature. Sometimes a voter may end up supporting someone from a different party at a constituency level than from the party they usually support, while using their second, or list vote, to support the party or independent of their first choice.

Above all, I look forward to new ideas and reforms being introduced based on their merits, rather than based on who is introducing them or opposing them. Having taught political science at Selkirk College and Okanagan University College from 1989 to 2005, I am very familiar with all the voting systems used around the world, and believe that two of the three options in the second question in this referendum are worth our consideration: Rural-Urban and MMP.

Please take the time to make an informed decision, and if you have not ready a ballot, please phone Elections BC (1-800-661-8683) to obtain one, or simply go to the nearest Government Agent Office to obtain the package. Above all, please vote as this is your opportunity to make the voting system fairer and more proportional in allocation of seats in the BC Legislature to the number of votes a party receives in an election.

Andy Shadrack
Kaslo
Remembrance Day is not about war

Remembrance Day is not about war. It’s about all the names on all the monuments across our country in small towns, villages and across the world remembering Canadian human souls that never came home.

All of them went in defense of Canada and our international neighbours, in support of precious human freedom that does not come for free.

Remembrance Day is for remembering the voluntary and democratic process that led to this ultimate sacrifice for all of us during war.

To understand Remembrance Day, we must understand war. Sun Tzu’s The Art of War and history book that we will surely read in 100 battles is not the acme of skill. To subdue without fighting is the acme of skill,” Mohter Ushiba, founder of the Aikido Japanese art of sword fighting, said that true victory is not defeating an enemy. “True victory gives love and changes the enemy’s heart.”

The war against Nazi Germany is an extreme case. Most wars are described in ultimate terms while they are being fought. Soldiers, airmen, navy personnel believe that freedom, justice and civilization itself is being threatened. They fight and die for those beliefs.

To understand life, freedom and liberty, freedom of speech, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, we must understand war. On Remembrance Day, we must try and understand and remember all past and present veterans, and those that never came back, why they fought and why they died. We must honour them. May they always rest in peace for us, the free world and God-given freedom.

Sandy McLeod

Kasko

Why vote pro rep?

When I first heard about proportional representation, it was like a breath of fresh air after a lifetime of frustrating election results that didn’t reflect my vote.

Every election, like many of you, the only way I could make FPTP’s winner-take-all voting system work was to plug my nose and vote strategically. Sound voting systems work was to plug our nose and vote strategically. Sound voting systems were designed to plug our nose and vote strategically. Sound voting systems were designed to plug our nose and vote strategically. Sound voting systems were designed to plug our nose and vote strategically. Sound voting systems were designed to plug our nose and vote strategically. Sound voting systems were designed to plug our nose and vote strategically. Sound voting systems were designed to plug our nose and vote strategically.

When I was first elected in 2006, the Conservative government was in minority. When they proposed legislation or developed policy, cooperation with other parties was essential. I represented my party on the Agriculture Committee where members of all parties worked together to develop policy. At times our decisions reflected the government’s position, at times they did not.

When the Conservatives obtained a majority in 2011, I noticed a radical change. Collaboration was no longer necessary. I remember, for example, our discussions on the proposed Food Safety Act. All members on the Ag Committee wanted to plug our nose and vote strategically.

It matters that half the votes we cast don’t reflect our views. It matters that single party ideologies make unilateral decisions with no opposition. It matters that we can’t vote for the party we want. It matters that parties resort to hyper partisan shouting matches. And it matters that government is thrown away in expensive ‘polls of the people’.

For the past year, I have done everything I could to promote pro rep. My fellow campaigners and I are not party insiders, nor are we backroom operators, we are not politicians, nor are we lobbyists. We are your friends and we are your neighbours. When we’re not campaigning, we’re skiing, or hiking, reading a book or enjoying a cold one on a sunny terrace. We are raising our children, we are you.

After this very long campaign, it’s over to you. Hope you will take the time to vote knowledgeably this fall, here’s a great tool: www.refereendumguide.ca. And don’t listen to the fear mongering from those who are desperate to cling onto a system which gives them all the power. Of course they don’t want change.

Opportunities like this referendum are rare. Whether we like it or not, the world is changing and FPP is failing to protect us. Frankly, that scares me. We need a resilient and stable voting system. We need a system which is fair and inclusive and works for the greater good of all BC residents. I hope you will join me in voting for proportional representation.

Let’s pro rep a chance

A number of people have approached me to get my opinion on proportional representation (PR). As one who has experienced the current first-past-the-post system first hand in Parliament, I strongly encourage you not to do it. When I was first elected in 2006, the Conservative government was in minority. When they proposed legislation or developed policy, cooperation with other parties was essential. I represented my party on the Agriculture Committee where members of all parties worked together to develop policy. At times our decisions reflected the government’s position, at times they did not.

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Ann Renaut

Nelson

Climate change牽涉法院的案件：在什麼條件下，人會因為環境破壞而需承擔刑事責任？

Select House of Commons committee report

2014 September 25

Climate change and the courts: When does doing bad become criminal negligence?

Canadian legislation should take note of the recent decision of the Dutch Court of Appeal which found that the government had unlawfully breached its duty of care to protect its citizens from the adverse effects and threats of dangerous human-caused climate change.

In the case Urgenda v. The Netherlands the Court has upheld the 2015 decision that the State knew, and did not act with the level of care expected of a world leader to lives and property that would result from irreversible climate change. The State knew it had the capacity to carry out the minimum required greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction policies and programs to fulfill the Netherlands’ contribution to the global effort. The Court found that the State simply had not done enough and was found at fault. It was unlawful. The Court confirmed the District Court order to reduce national emissions by 25% below 1990 levels. The Dutch government had already made significant progress on reducing emissions, so obeying the order won’t be difficult. If Canada was the defendant in Urgenda and was faced with such an Order, its task would be horrendously more difficult, very likely impossible. In 1990 Canada’s GHG emissions were 613 million tonnes (Mt); in 2016 they were 704 Mt or 17% more than 1990. Successful Liberal and Conservative Governments have failed to reduce our emissions.

Canada signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992 and pledged to do its part to avoid dangerous anthropogenic climate change, but compared to many of the developed countries, including Holland, it has done little. As pointed out in the recent Hague Court decision, the timeline for avoiding catastrophic climate change is significantly less than imagined as recently as Urgenda’s 2015 trial decision.

Two studies released earlier this year underline the need for urgent public and private action to forestall climate change. The first study, published by the U.S. National Academies of Science with the innocuous title, Trajectories of the Earth System in the Anthropocene. The authors of the ‘HotHouse Paper’ concluded that unless a broad suite of climate mitigation programs are in place and operating by 2030, the Earth will likely exceed a 2°C global warming and be on an irreversible path to ‘HotHouse Earth,’ a state where whole ecosystems

Allan Early

South Slocan
Slocan inaugural council meeting held November 6

by Barbara Curry McCukey

At Slocan’s inaugural council meeting, Mayor Jesscia Lunn welcomed and congratulated the councillors. “It is a pleasure and honour to serve with you again,” she said.

Mayor Lunn and Councillors, Joel Pelletier, Madeleine Perriere, and Burlu Van Byen, took the oath of office. Ezra Buller was absent because he was recovering from a medical procedure. He will be sworn in at the regular meeting on November 13.

Council voted to continue on the same path. Council meetings will still be held on the second Monday of the month except when that day is a statutory holiday. In that case, the meeting will be held the next day.

Mayor Lunn will continue to be Slocan’s director on both the RDCK board and the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District Board. Councillor Fyke was appointed as the alternate director for both boards. L to R: Councillor John Fyke, Councillor Colin Moss, Mayor Leonard Casley, Councillor Vern Gustafson, Councillor Gerald Wagner.

Regional Hospital District Board. Councillor Perriere will continue to be alternate director for both boards though she offered to step aside from the hospital board if Councillor Buller should be interested in taking over this position.

If the mayor is absent, councillors will serve as acting mayor on the following schedule: Pelletier - November to January; Perriere - February to April; Van Byen - May to July; and Buller - August to October. Mayor Lunn reminded council “of their duty to respect confidentiality during and after their term of office.”

It is also legally required that former councillors “return all in camera and/or confidential documents pertaining to the municipality and... delete all confidential correspondence from their email accounts.”

Mayor Lunn thanked citizens for “coming out to vote” and all candidates for running. She thanked staff for running a “seamless election.”

Michelle Gordon reported that only 117 voters were eligible. Gordon said she wasn’t sure why there was such a poor turnout.

Councillor Pelletier reported that Mayor Lunn has received a response to her letter was published in the October 18 issue of the Valley Voice.

THANK YOU!
To all the people who supported me at the polls on October 20.
I promise to work hard for you and do the best job I can.

COLIN MOSS
Councillor, Village of New Denver

BC Parks responds to concerns about Valhalla Park trails

by Art Joyce

New Denver resident K. Linda Kivi has received a response to her open letter to Rob MacDonald, BC Parks, about the poor shape of the trails in Valhalla Provincial Park. Her letter was published in the October 18 Valley Voice.

In his response, MacDonald, BC Parks Kootenay Section Head, noted that the ministry’s resources are limited. However, he said BC Parks is proposing a capital project for Valhalla Park that will include the re-routing and re-establishment of the trail to New Denver Glacier via Sharp Creek. Provided the project meets “impact assessment criteria” and receives the necessary funding, it will include upgrades to the Evans Beach to Emerald Lake trail; enhancements to the Nemo Creek Falls loop trail to make it accessible to mobility restricted visitors; and possibly the refurbishing of the nine lakeshore campsites “with additional camping opportunities at five of them.” The project would also replace vandalized park furniture at Emerald Lake.

He pointed out that toilet and campsite upgrades in the Gwillim-Drinnon-Gimli area at the south end of the park have been underway for the past two seasons.

MacDonald says BC Parks has developed a section-wide inventory and maintenance plan that covers both East and West Kootenay parks, identifying priorities on an annual basis. However, the plan is what he calls “a moving target,” impacted by wildfire seasons, funding, capacity and other factors.

“We need to be strategic when allocating resources to trail maintenance, which is only one piece of our business. Considerations included the number of users, public safety concerns, our ability to keep a particular trail viable, as well as the implications of not maintaining a particular trail.”

He said there are 50 kilometres of trail in Valhalla Park alone, in addition to other parks in the Kootenay Section.

“For the time being, the priority goes to the Gwillim-Drinnon-Gimli area where we will complete additional upgrades to the toilets and campsite amenities.”

Appointments made at Silverton inaugural meeting

At Silverton council’s inaugural meeting on November 7, appointments were made as follows.

RDCK Director: Councillor Main/Alternate: Mayor Clarke

Slocan District Chamber of Commerce Liaison: Councillor Kerry Gordon/Alternate: Councillor Arlene Yofonoff

Municipal Emergency Management: K. Gordon/Alternate: Councillor Tanya Gordon

Regional Hospital Board: Main/Alternate: Clarke

Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission: Main/Resident representative: Barb Fuhre

Rosebery Parklands and Trails Commission: Main/Resident representative: Hank Hastings

Window Regional and Nature Park Commission: Main

Slocan District Chamber of Commerce Health Committee: Main

Kumura Kinbasket Treaty Advisory Committee: T. Gordon/Alternate: Main

Slocan Lake Arts Council Liaison: Clarke/Alternate: Yofonoff

The Affordable Housing Commission and treasurer positions are still vacant. Many previous members are away or confidential documents pertaining to their positions. CAO Gordon agreed to pass on his request to Public Works. Mayor Lunn said it would be good to put up a sign at the beach explaining what would happen in the different phases of the waterfront development project. She reminded the others of the open house on the preliminary design plan for the waterfront on November 20.

Councillor Van Byen said two people had expressed interest in taking over the outdoor rink duties. CAO Gordon said she was looking for grants and other funding improvements and that Public Works Supervisor Tim Hill had priced out lights for the rink.
The MV Anscomb was launched October 17, 1946, featuring a white pine upper deck that was later removed. The steamship Movie was still being used but couldn’t carry all the car traffic so another ferry was commissioned in 1954, the MV Balfour. Its structure was based on WWII landing craft technology, which created major problems with steering, and some crewmembers threatened to quit rather than serve on it. The Balfour would often get thrown off course and for this reason was dubbed the Kon-Tiki. This writer’s grandfather John Herbert “Hef” Brown helped build the original Balfour ferry terminal and served as engineer on both ferries until his retirement in 1977.

The Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society (POLKES) held its sixth annual Kootenay Lake Summit in Kaslo on November 3 at JV Humphries School, providing updates on its programs and special presentations by guest speakers. The Lighthouse auditorium was packed and guests enjoyed a full dinner and dessert while being entertained by harpist and singer Dieni.

Lardeau Valley now has its own Rideshare web page

by Jan McMurray

A Lardeau Valley Rideshare web page is now up and running at lardeauvalleyride-share.org. “I am hoping it will help people travel more to and from the area,” said Nicki Ward, administrator of the Lardeau Valley Opportunities Link Society (LINKS).

LINKS received approximately $700 in Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives and Affected Area funding and partnered with Kootenay Rideshare, a project of the West Kootenay Ecotourism Society, to set up the Lardeau Valley page. Ward said the main intent behind the Lardeau Valley Rideshare page is to help people – those who don’t have vehicles or don’t want to drive in winter, people who need to get to appointments, or people who are ill.

“The Rideshare page is there to support individuals so they can remain living in this lovely community,” said Ward. “Rideshare will help with networking and sharing resources with our neighbours. I think it will bring the community closer together by just linking people.”

A seniors needs assessment conducted from 2014 to 2016 identified transportation as one of three top priorities, Ward says, and the Rideshare page will help address this.

She said the once a week bus service on the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) board and the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District (KWBKBDH) board, and to the Ktnuusn Kimbusket Treaty Advisory Committee.

Counsellor Rob Lang was appointed alternate representative to the RDCK and KWBKBDH boards, and as aerodrome liaison.

Counsellor Molly Leathwood was appointed to the arena association and as RCMP liaison.

Counsellor Henry Van Mill was appointed to the Kootenay Lake Partnership, and resident Steve Anderson as the Village representative on the Kaslo & District Community Forest Society board.

Prior to the construction of the Libby Dam, runoff from the fertilizer plant at the Sullivan Mine in Kimberly created algae blooms in the lake. The Columbia River dam system was another major impact on the lake’s ecology, still playing out today in the toxic threat of the Kokanee population, which is hovering near extirpation levels.

Historian Michael Cone’s presentation on the history of Kootenay Lake ferries from 1921 to the present was beautifully illustrated with many slides of period photos. The history of ferries the Kootenays is intimately bound up with the introduction of the automobile early in the last century. Once Henry Ford made cars affordable to the working class, amusement-touring clubs sprang up across North America. But the road system lagged far behind, especially in the BC interior. The steamboats that had served Kootenay Lake residents had to be adapted to serve as ferries. Historical photos showed buses precariously loaded across the bow of the SS Kuskawoo or Nasookin, the CPR baggagewagon of the era. “In 1920s you had four or five cars, that was big news. The Nasookin could handle up to 13 cars although it wasn’t actually designed for cars.”

With the nature of travel changing, the ship’s luxurious accommodations were removed and other alterations made to better service car traffic. By the 1940s, the Nasookin was down to only two decks and the wheelhouse, as you see it today on Nelson’s north shore. By 1945 however, the Nasookin was too antiquated for its task as a car ferry. The new highways minister, Hubert Anscomb, announced that a new ferry would be built. Anscomb set about the task of finding the shortest route across Kootenay Lake, which meant moving the east shore terminal from Gray Creek to Kootenay Landing. Fraser’s Landing (near Balfour) had been the terminal on the West Arm but Anscomb proposed Queens Bay as a more logical place. In a historical echo of recent events, that choice proved controversial, as most of the ferry crews lived in Proctor. The current site at Balfour became the default choice.

Kaslo’s new council: Councillor Katie Knell, Mayor Suzan Hewat, Councillor Molly Leathwood, Councillor Henry Van Mill. Councillor Rob Lang attended the inaugural meeting electronically, as is his missing him for the photo.

The Village of Kaslo and Electoral Area D are looking for individuals that are enthusiastic to volunteer and represent their communities.

The following commission is looking for volunteers for a two year term:

- Glacier Creek Regional Park Commission

You must be a resident of the Village of Kaslo or Area D and a letter of interest has to be submitted to Aimee Watson (Area D) or Suzan Hewat (Kaslo) by November 26, 2018.

Contact Information:
Aimee Watson
Director Area D
awatson@kolk.bc.ca
(250) 304-5842

Suzan Hewat
Director Village of Kaslo
mahewat@telus.net
(250) 353-2311

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Former Red Mountain Internet customers now online with Columbia Wireless

by Jan McMurray

As of November 5, all former Red Mountain Internet Society (RMIS) customers are now online with Columbia Wireless. “We finally got everyone online after a long outage,” said CEO Ben Leslie. “Basically everyone on the RMIS network was out for a good five days, but we emailed everyone to let them know it would be up by November 7, and we beat that by two days.” Leslie explained that the outage was caused at the Hills tower because it was powered with solar energy only. The backup generator that had been there wasn’t included in the sale of RMIS to Columbia Wireless – it was used to pay the debt to RMIS founder Larry Lavan. “We completely rebuilt the Hills tower on November 4, so now it’s a brand new tower,” Leslie said. “There’s one online, and it’s to the Hills tower, so if the Hills tower goes down, it affects everyone. So now we can rely on that tower 100%.”

The next task is to transition all former RMIS clients to the Columbia Wireless billing system. “We will start phoning people and we’ll get everyone on the appropriate package,” Leslie said. “We’ll start billing people from the time of the phone call. We won’t be billing for the transition time and outage.” Leslie says taking over the RMIS system improves Columbia Wireless’ coverage and ability to provide bandwidth. When both systems were operating in the same arena, there were frequent outages because of interference. “We figured out how to work around each other, but it affected our bandwidth. Now, I can use bigger channels and provide faster bandwidth to the same-clerest base. I’ve already had some feedback from customers who are noticing a huge improvement to their speeds and ability to stream TV.”

Leslie says he is looking at erecting a tower on the west side of Slocan Lake. He hopes to apply for a Crown land lease in spring 2019. “The Idaho Peak tower and a tower across the lake from Silverton, nice and high like the Idaho Peak one, would cover everyone,” he said. “This would allow for the elimination of the Red Mountain and the Rosebery towers, which are both on the west side of Slocan Lake.”

Boundary’s School Superintendent Environmental Education Initiative (KBEED) was recognized for their work in supporting place-based learning in schools around the region. The initiative supports a coordinated focus on K-12 environmental education across six school districts and is considered unique in BC if not all of Canada. School districts 8 (Kootenay Lake) and 10 (Arrow Lakes) are part of the project coalition.

CBEEN’s Executive Director, Duncan Whittick, received the national award for outstanding individual supporting an organization in Canada. “Duncan is a big picture thinker who is able to pay attention to the details,” notes notes. “KBEED is an example of what can be done with partnerships, community involvement and cooperation.”

The tower on Lavan’s property on Red Mountain Road will run until July 30 of next year. “We’ll help them demolish it, and by then we’ll have another tower built to pick up the slack,” he said.

The Crown land lease for the Hills tower is being transferred to Columbia Wireless in December or January.
VR film producers explain Japanese-Canadian internment film project at open house

by Art Joyce

Graham Cairns and Jim Dow, partners in a new virtual reality (VR) production being filmed in New Denver, held an open house at Knox Hall the evening of November 5 to explain the project.

The film will be a short documentary of Japanese-Canadian internment, with the unique ‘immersive’ quality of VR giving viewers a ‘day in the life’ of an internee in 1943.

Dow and Cairns operate VR360 Media in Kelowna, the name alluding to the new technology that allows a special camera to film a full 360-degree view. Although special VR headsets are generally used to watch these films, Cairns said they can also be viewed on computers and smart phones.

“Nobody’s yet made a feature length film in VR because not enough technology exists,” said Cairns. “Jim and I are each wearing a VR headset to the NIMC loaded with the final edit of the film. Although we are both present, we can’t see each other and are completely disconnected from the world.

For this reason he expects the final edited film to clock in at around 20 minutes.

The partners were seeking extras – or ‘background performers’ as they’re now known in the film industry – to appear on camera during shooting scheduled for November 7 on New Denver’s main street. They were also looking for 1940s era vehicles for the street scene. Costumes are to be supplied by the Capitol Theatre costume department in Nelson, some they brought with them, with possibly some coming from the private collection of Steve and Linny LaMarch. The team has been in contact with Amanda Murphy, who manages the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre (NIMC), for about a year in preparation for filming.

Cairns said that despite having degrees in archaeology and anthropology, he’d never learned about the Japanese-Canadian internment history in all his schooling. That both shocked him and made him more curious about it as a subject for a documentary. When an IndieGogo fundraising campaign stalled due to an IndieGogo issue, Murphy, who manages the NIMC, was similarly captivated by the project even more so we could educate people.”

Dow said he and his wife first visited New Denver in the mid-1990s while the NIMC was still being built in the Orchard. A Japanese-Canadian friend and colleague was able to get them a sneak peek, although the centre had yet to open to the public. Cairns first visited New Denver in 2005 and was similarly captivated by the centre and the rich tapestry of local history on offer. With Murphy’s help, they contacted the Burnaby Nikkei Centre and the New Denver Kyowakai Society, passing drafts of the script by them to ensure historical accuracy.

Kyowakai member Sakaye Hashimoto is among those of Japanese ancestry who have agreed to appear in the film. Due to the low budget, they are doing so as volunteers. One Japanese-Canadian actor is returning from a visit to Japan in order to participate.

“I think it’s an important story no matter what nationality you are,” said Cairns. “Jim and I are each wearing 12 hats to get this film made.”

Dow said when the production is finished they plan to donate a VR headset to the NIMC loaded with the final edit of the film. Although no distribution deal has been signed, Cairns said there are online streaming platforms such as Vreal that operate similarly to iTunes for downloading. A partner in the film who teaches at Okanagan College is interested in exploring the film’s educational potential.

For more information visit https://vr360media.ca
Remembrance Day: The Great War and Nakusp

submitted

On June 28, 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, was assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia, by a Serbian Black Hand member, Gavrilo Princip. On July 28, Austria-Hungary, under pressure from Germany, declared war on Serbia. On August 1, Germany declared war on Russia and then two days later, on France. Belgium was neutral, decided to resist any invasion by Germany, and was guaranteed protection by Britain, Germany invaded Belgium on August 3.

On August 4, Britain declared war on Germany. Canada, as part of the British Empire, was automatically at war. By September 8, more than 30,000 Canadian officers and men were assembled at a hastily constructed camp at Val Cartier, Quebec.


On April 22, 1915, at the Ypres Salient in Belgium, the Germans were the first armed force ever to use chlorine gas as a weapon. The gas seared lungs and caused agonizing death by suffocation. Though use of poison gas in warfare was against the Hague convention, both German and Allied forces used it as the war continued.

On October 3, 1914, a fleet of ocean liners filled with Canadian recruits were escorted by four British light cruisers to England, where the Canadians lived and trained on Salisbury Plain for four months. The following February the soldiers went to France and were introduced to trench warfare at Armentieres. The fight between German and Allied forces was mostly conducted between opposing trenches with sections of No Man’s Land in between.

In early 1915, the 54th (Kootenay) Battalion was formed; Revelstoke and Nelson became the recruiting centres. Others from town who joined at that time were Joe Crowell, Alf Moul, Horace Waterfield, Jack Kerr, Pete Gibeau, Charlie Gregory, John (Chip) Kerr, Sid Leary, Fred Vipond, Frank Benton, Mervyn Edwards, Jerry Smith, Art Genelle, George Anthony, Charlie Vanderburgh, Joe Parent Jr., WG Battershall and H Rothwell.

As the ‘War to End All Wars’ dragged on into 1918, the Canadians were spared the brunt of the surprisingly forceful German spring offensive. In August, they joined other British forces in the Battle of Amiens, when for the first time they left the trenches behind, and advanced for eight miles (13 kilometres) in one day. This was only one of many battles that followed, with the German army retreating as it fought on. It culminated in the Canadian capture of Mons, Belgium, on November 10, 1918. On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, hostilities ended and the sound of firing ceased. An Armistice between the Allies and Germany took effect at that time.

Around 425,000 Canadians served overseas with the Canadian Expeditionary Force between 1914 and 1918. Approximately 61,000 died there, and are either buried or memorialized there.

The roll call of the Nakusp-area fallen: Frank Benton, Marvin Bowes, William Clease, E Mervin Edwards, Charles Gregory, Walter Hoare, John Jon, Alex James, William Marsland, Chris Marsden, Alfred Moseley, Alfred Moul, Frank Labarge, Samuel Reid, Joseph Robinson, Eric Stokes, Fred Swires, Robert Stobo,

BC Hydro replaces osprey nests on power poles

BC Hydro used helicopters to place osprey nests back on the repaired power pole structures in the Nakusp Transmission Line Project. Osprey may re-use nests for decades, with multiple generations of an osprey family raised in the same nest. They like to place their nests as high as possible, so sometimes use power pole structures.

Osprey nests on transmission power pole structures can safely remain in place. On transmission lines, the wires are very far apart so electrocution through contact with more than one phase of wire at the same time is very unlikely.

On distribution power poles where the wires are much closer together, the osprey and their nests can face risk of electrocution. In these cases, BC Hydro often moves the nest to a nearby nesting platform in order keep the birds and nest safe.

In 1988, BC Hydro submitted the Nakusp Transmission Line Project, nests were moved so that repairs could be done to the power pole structures where the nests were located. Crews waited to start work until nests were not in use and the osprey in the area had moved on for the season.

Due to the remote location of the transmission line and inaccessibility by truck, each nest was removed intact from the power pole structure.

Originally constructed in 1957, just over one third of the 800 plus power pole structures along the 100-kilometre-long Nakusp Transmission Line were damaged or in poor condition prior to the project’s start. Since spring of 2017, BC Hydro has been working to complete restoration and repair work on the line that serves more than 3,000 customers in the Nakusp area.
Former Kaslo residents still trying to bring cheetahs to Crawford Bay

by Jan McMurray

Former Kaslo residents Earl Pfeifer and Carol Plato have a dream to bring their cheetahs, Annie and Robin, to their property in Crawford Bay, and to run an educational program to their property in Crawford Bay, and to run an educational program about cheetahs to the BC government for a permit to bring the cheetahs to BC three times now – to Kaslo, Creston and Crawford Bay – and their applications have all been denied.

Pfeifer appealed the government’s decision to deny the permit for Crawford Bay, and the appeal was heard by the Environmental Appeal Board (EAB) October 1-4 at the Adventure Hotel in Nelson. The EAB is an independent quasi-judicial regulatory agency that hears appeals of certain decisions under the Wildlife Act and other Acts related to the environment.

Pfeifer is now in Crawford Bay waiting for the EAB’s decision, while Plato is in Seagarve, Ontario, with the cheetahs, who are at Northwood Zoo.

"All I want to do is let children see an animal they would otherwise never see in their life and maybe get the next generation to care just a little bit about our future," Pfeifer said in an interview. "We live in the Anthropocene – man controls every aspect of this planet. As every conservationist, scientist and biologist in the world is telling us, we are destroying the place. The cheetah will be extinct in the wild in 2024. In 60 years or less, the same will happen in BC – the apex animals will be gone. My goal is to try and get people to care about this. It appears that the government does not."

Pfeifer said it all started when he lived across the street from the school in Kaslo, and he felt he wanted to do something to give back to the community. "I got the idea [for an educational program with cheetahs] when Annie ran off, but she came back this right away when he banged on her dinner bowl with a fork. ‘Cheetahs form very strong bonds with people,” he said in the interview. “Annie and Robin like you when you speak in the room. They are safe and sound, and always have been.”

During the appeal hearing, counsel for the BC Director of Wildlife argued that the director was following the law (Wildlife Act and Controlled Alien Species Regulation) when she denied the permit application for Annie and Robin. According to the Permit Regulation, the director could have issued a permit only if “special circumstances” existed. The Controlled Alien Species Procedure sets out three situations that can be considered special circumstances – transitory permit, for commercial filming, or related to a rescue centre – and none of these apply to Pfeifer and Plato’s situation.

“Neither the Director, nor the Board on this appeal can make any decision that is contrary to the government law and regulations,” states the document submitted to the Environmental Appeal Board on behalf of the Director of Wildlife, titled ‘Statement of Points of the Respondent.’

Pfeifer’s main argument was that the Director of Wildlife looked at the legislation very narrowly, and failed to account for the primary considerations of the legislation: public safety, and animal welfare and conservation.

Both cheetah experts who testified at the hearing explained that cheetahs in general, and socialized and trained cheetahs especially, pose very little risk to public safety. They confirmed that Annie and Robin in particular pose little risk to public safety – especially Robin, who is blind. Annie and Robin have been trained as ambassadors and have been socialized with humans from a very young age.

Pfeifer argued that any effort to support the conservation of cheetahs and other endangered species is worthwhile, should be considered “special circumstances,” and is consistent with the goals of the Wildlife Act and Controlled Alien Species Regulation.

In the interview, Pfeifer said, “Young people deserve better, both from our government and the world… Children are hope. We have just left them a real mess to clean up. Maybe we can help just a little bit?”
The Village of New Denver

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Members of the Nelson Cadets participated in Nakusp’s Remembrance Day ceremonies.

Kaslo Mohawk

If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.
John McCrae

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November 15, 2018

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The secret of freedom is courage.
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Exchange students from all over Rotary District 5080 came to Nakusp for Remembrance Day ceremonies, this year. This is the third year that the Rotary Club of Nakusp has hosted exchange students from the district for Remembrance Day.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

12

And at the going down of the sun
We shall remember them

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Smoky Creek Salvage

With the tears a Land bath shed
Their graves should ever be green.
— Thomas Bailey Aldrich
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November 15, 2018

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The secret of freedom is courage.
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The living owe it to those who no longer can speak to tell their story for them.
– Ceslaw Milosz
The Isa Valley

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– Benjamin Franklin

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Ninety years after it disappeared, an iconic Slocan Lake steamboat has been located in deep water near Rosebery. On October 26, 2018 the location of the Sandon’s wooden hull was confirmed in 170 feet of water. The 76’ x 17’ steam tug Sandon was launched in 1899 by the CPR to provide passenger and barge towing services on Slocan Lake. It was laid up in 1927 after steaming a total of 120,000 miles, but its final fate remained a mystery to local historians.

The general location of the wreck was determined in 2017 using sophisticated side scan sonar, but pinpointing an exact location was difficult due to the steep slope and the profusion of logs. Some underwater log piles are more than 10 feet high, and they prevented divers from finding the wreck on an earlier dive this spring.

This fall, when divers Brian Nadwidny and Richard Jack found the wreck, they found it had been stripped of its superstructure, engines and boiler before it was scuttled circa 1928. There was no question about its identity – the words ‘Sandon of Vancouver’ are still visible on the stern.

The site is too deep to dive safely using standard, recreational equipment. Nadwidny and Jack each carried over 150 lb of equipment, including rebreathers, safety tanks, and high capacity electric dive scooters to reach the wreck. Nadwidny shot video and still photographs during the 90-minute dive.

Three organizations were involved in the search and dives – the Underwater Archaeology Society of BC (UASBC), the Institute of Nautical Archaeology (INA), and the Silvery Slocan Historical Society. Team members included lead divers Brian Nadwidny from Cranbrook and Richard Jack from Seattle, support divers Bill Meekel from Kamloops and Bruce Morrison from the Slocan Valley, historian Henning von Krogh from New Denver, and side scan operators John Pollack, Kathleen McGuinness, and Bobbie Maras, all from the Slocan Valley.

New Denver’s Henning von Krogh, who wrote Early Boats on Slocan Lake, met John Pollack of the Underwater Archeology Society of BC at an event in Nelson and offered Pollack his assistance with searches on Slocan Lake. He went out on the searches near Silverton, New Denver, and Rosebery.

Sandon is the latest of a series of underwater discoveries in southeastern BC as a result of the INA/UASBC sonar searches.

“We are still actively looking in Slocan Lake and have a number of possibilities to check out. And we are still looking for Minto, which is proving to be very uncooperative,” Pollack reports.

The searches began in 1990 when the City of Ainsworth was discovered in Kootenay Lake. This was an effort by the UASBC and the Dambusters Scuba Club, using very large equipment provided by CanDive and trucked in from the coast. Then occasional searches (one every year or two) were made in Arrow and Kootenay Lakes with smaller equipment loaned by the Underwater Research Lab at Simon Fraser University. As time passed, side scan units became more precise, smaller, and a lot less expensive.

“In 2015, we acquired a small but very advanced side scan unit that is now located in Nelson,” Pollack says. “We use it about seven months a year and last year alone, searched more than 70 square kilometres in the Columbia River, Kootenay Lake, Arrow Lakes and Slocan Lake. The new unit fits into a large briefcase, and when combined with a waterproof laptop can be used out of a 14’ boat. A two-person team scans an area, and if any good targets look promising, we call in the divers.”
by Moe Lyons

On Tuesday, November 6, nearly 50 people turned up at Argenta Hall to hear world-renowned grizzly bear scientist, Michael Proctor, present “The Grizzly Bear,” an evening meeting with Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions, sponsored by the Friends of the Lartear River.

Proctor is an independent scientist who works with many organizations throughout the world, including Y2Y, the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative.

“Why should we care about grizzly bears?” he asks. “They’re a pain the ass, they’re dangerous, they can hurt you.” Well, he says, “It’s their world, too.”

He says grizzlies have a role in keeping the environment healthy. “They’re rototillers, seed dispersers, and apex predators. They use many habitat types that overlap many species. They are a useful umbrella species — if they are in good shape, probably the rest of the environment is as well. Grizzlies roam far so we need to keep the whole region healthy. They are one of our most sensitive species.”

In the 1920s there were 35 scattered small isolated populations in the “lower 48” of the USA. Fifty years later, all were gone. Here in southern British Columbia and adjoining areas, we are the “line in the sand.” Historically, we have held that line since 1970. Bears in the South Selkirks are currently considered ‘threatened,’ but this will be re-assessed in five years and will likely change to ‘recovered.’

Since 2006, connectivity between the Selkirks and the Purcell has increased significantly, with four family groups now mixing between these ranges. The grizzly bear’s best chance of survival is in mountainous areas where people haven’t infiltrated fully yet. The biggest concerns for grizzly persistence are fragmentation/ connectivity, human-caused mortality, and habitat quality and security.

One of the biggest dangers for these bears is they get “sucked in by human food” and get shot. For connectivity of bears to work, we need to manage people. This entails finding places where bears can slip across human-settled valleys safely, with minimal bear attractants, and avoid getting killed. While we need to manage both people and wildlife, the problem, he says wryly, “We can’t tell grizzly bears what to do.” We need to manage ourselves.

One strategy that works is to buy land that is safe for the bears, as in the Darkwoods conservancy in the Selkirk Mountains. Adjacent to the Creston Wildlife Management Area, the Nature Conservancy Canada has bought 62 acres of new land for connectivity.

Another solution is to identify linkage areas, places where the populations can connect to one another, using GPS telemetry.


Practical coexistence with grizzly bears: workshops coming to Pass Creek and Vallican

Gillian Sanders of Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions will provide free workshops on effective electric fencing for bears and grizzly bear safety in Pass Creek on November 17 and in Passmore/Vallican on November 18.

Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions (GBCS) recognizes there is a social cost to recovering grizzly bear populations in the Kootenays. Grizzly bears pose a potential human safety risk, a real risk to livestock and crops, and bear activity can result in property damage.

These risks are increased in rural areas where people grow and raise food, which are often the same low elevation habitats needed by grizzly bears to move between core habitats in local mountain ranges. GBCS provides solutions to enable safe coexistence by offering education on bear safety and preventing bear conflicts. To enable grizzly bear recovery through valley bottoms where humans and bears share habitat, GBCS recognizes that people need to feel safe to live, recreate, and grow food on their properties. GBCS grizzly bear safety workshops cover grizzly bear behaviour, ecology, what to do if you encounter a grizzly bear, and include hands on practice with inert bear spray.

Correctly installed and maintained electric fencing is effective in protecting livestock and crops from grizzly and black bears and allows farmers to raise livestock and grow crops without bear conflicts. To help with the cost of electric fencing, GBCS provides a 50% cost share to benefit local food growers and keep bears out of trouble. This funding is provided by Transborder Grizzly Bear Project, Columbia Basin Trust, Valhalla Wilderness Bear Smart, and outreach is funded by Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation. With support from these funding partners, GBCS helped to install 240 electric fences throughout the Kootenay Region in 2013-2018 to deter bears from agricultural attractants, such as chicken and poultry coops, honeybee hives, small livestock such as pigs, sheep or goats, fruit trees, calving or lambing areas, carcass composting areas, and kokanee spawning grounds.

The workshops will provide information on permanent and temporary electric fencing designs that can be adapted to your needs, and free on-site fencing consultations are available on request. Cost share funds are still available for 2018; please email Gillian at grizzlybearconsultations@gmail.com. The workshops location and times are as follows: Saturday November 17, Pass Creek Community Hall, 1989 Pass Creek Rd. 2-3 pm: Electric Fencing for Bears. 3:30-5 pm: Grizzly Bear Safety. Sunday November 18, Vallican Whole Community Centre. 3762 Little Slocan S. Rd. 10-11:30 am: Electric Fencing for Bears. 11:30-1 pm: Grizzly Bear Safety.

Workshops are planned for the Pass Creek Community Hall on November 17, and the Vallican Whole Community Centre on November 18.

In conclusion, Proctor says that he cannot stress enough that the main thing humans must do to avoid human/bear conflicts is, “First, control your attractants. Second, control your attractants. Third… control your attractants!”
Argenta contemplates working with Cooper Creek Cedar on wildfire mitigation by Jan McMurray

Wildfire mitigation work in the Argenta area could start moving forward if there is agreement among community members to work with Cooper Creek Cedar, the company that holds the tenure for the Argenta- Johnson’s Landing Face.

The project concept and a possible funding source were presented to community members at Argenta Hall on November 1 by RDCK Area D Director Aimee Watson and John Cathro, who developed the Community Wildlife Protection Plan for the area.

A grant application deadline of November 30 for Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) funding puts the pressure on the community to make a decision quickly. Director Watson needs to know very soon if the community wants the RDCK to apply for the grant for a wildlife protection project in Argenta.

“This is not about stopping logging,” Watson told community members at the meeting. “You have a licencsee who has tenure around your community. There’s nothing I can do about that… This is about integrating logging with wildfire mitigation. There is a wildfire risk here… the licencee is interested in working with the community on this.”

Director Watson explained that if the community agrees to the grant application and it is successful, a wildfire mitigation specialist would be hired and work would together with the community and the forest licencee (Cooper Creek Cedar) to develop a project prescription.

“The consultant would do enhanced consultation,” she said, including field trips with community members.

Watson said Bill Kestell of Cooper Creek Cedar has indicated that he would like to develop a prescription for the entire Argenta- Johnson’s Landing Face. However, she said FESBC recommends a smaller project to start with – a 150-250 hectare unit.

It seemed that most people at the meeting agreed that a plan for the whole hillside was preferable, but some were happy to move to a smaller unit. The smaller project would be a “pilot project” that could inform the future larger plan.

Cathro feels a smaller unit is a better starting point for the development of the working relationship between the community and licencsee. “The relationship is not a mature, trusting relationship, so do you want to jump in with the most controversial piece of the landscape? If we decide we want to work at the valley floor, then we should start in an area that people haven’t been fighting about for decades. It’s going to be hard to learn how to work together.”

Cathro spoke about the location of possible smaller treatment units, based on high hazard areas identified in the Community Wildlife Protection Plan. He first suggested an area at the north end of the community, but a few residents pointed out that there is already a fire break at the north end of the community with the prevailing north winds, it was more important to protect the south end of the community.

Watson asked the people at the meeting to start thinking about how the community would organize itself to work with the licencee. In Queens Bay, where a similar project is underway, the existing FireSmart board in the community was mandated to work with Cooper Creek Cedar on the wildfire mitigation planning. Watson said there is CBT funding available to help with community coordination.

Cathro noted that Cooper Creek Cedar would not be compelled to adhere to any plan the community creates with them, as they are not the regulatory levers we can pull,” he said. “It’s a terrifying step to go into that space and say it comes down to agreeing. But is he going to take the risk to his reputation and say, ‘We’re going to do it our way’? I honestly believe that tension is what keeps both parties moving forward.”

Director Watson summed up by saying the community has two options. First, Cooper Creek Cedar can do the planning for their logging. She said they have already done the community consultation that’s required. The second option is for the community to get involved with the planning through the wildfire mitigation specialist. She asked if that is what they are willing to do with us. Take that chance. The only leverage is social licence – that is true, I have no control over the outcome.

Les Weisbrich Retrospective at Silverton Gallery

The painter relocated to the West Kootenay in 1972 in a conscious move away from the city and commercial art. The artist once said it was his “responsibility to record the details of our natural landscape,” which he did with his paintings.

In addition to being a master painter, Weisbrich was also a generous teacher. Many local painters and artists benefited from his encouragement and gentle critiques as well as instruction in technique. He was well-known for his ability to inspire an appreciation for the beauty that surrounds us, as well as his humour and kindness. Weisbrich immersed himself completely in painting the natural world until his death in 2006.

Provincial government to roll back speed limits on 570 km of highways

The BC government is lowering speed limits on 15 sections of highway in the province to keep people safer and reduce the chance of speed-related collisions – but not in this area.

“We know people want to get where they’re going quickly. Our job is to help make sure they also get there safely,” said Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure.

“Since the former government raised the speed limit on this corridor, speed-related collisions have been on the rise. By rolling back speed limits slightly, our goal is to reduce accidents, keep roads open and protect the lives of British Columbians.”

MOTI reviewed three years’ worth of data on 33 segments and 1,300 kilometres of highways, where speed limits were increased as part of the 2014 Rural Safety and Speed Review. As a result, 15 sections of highway, totaling 570 kilometres, will have speed limits rolled back by 10 km/h.

The remaining routes where speed limits were increased, including Highway 6 in the North Slocan Valley, did not show higher accident rates and the speed limits will remain the same. Limits on other highways in this area were never increased.

In 2014, speed limits were increased on Highway 6 from New Denver to Hills to 90 km/h and from Summit Lake to Nakusp to 100 km/h. These were 10 km/h increases and they will remain in effect.

“Ministry staff considered all contributing factors in serious highway collisions. This includes speed, distracted driving, wildlife, changing weather and people driving too fast for conditions. On all corridors where collisions increased, the RCMP will be boosting its enforcement as directed by the province,” according to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, which is responsible for respecting posted speed limits and driving safely.
Nakusp turns a new page at inaugural council meeting, November 5

by Claire Paradis

Outgoing mayor Karen Hamling had some sage words for the incoming mayor and councillors in her speech as she handed over the reins to new mayor Tom Zeleznik.

Hamling offered congratulations and best wishes for the council and its “new page” over the next four years. She reminded them that being council and mayor came with heavy but rewarding responsibilities.

“You represent the community in everything you say, and everything you say concerning the community will be interpreted not just as your own opinion but the opinion of council,” advised Hamling. She also made it clear that the new municipal government needs to make the larger good their aim, not the interests of the few.

Working together is key, reminded Hamling, who stated: “As individuals, you can accomplish very little, but as a council you can accomplish a lot, by resolution of council.” She also emphasized the need to support majority decisions, even when the vote isn’t in your favour.

“It is a gratifying job because you care about your community,” she concluded.

Mayor Tom Zeleznik and Councillor Susan Desandoli, Joseph Hughes, and Aidan McLaren-Caux were sworn in and signed their oaths of office in front of the public gallery. Janis Neufeld was absent but will be sworn in when she returns from vacation. The meeting was unusually crowded, filled mostly with volunteer firefighters in uniform, there to support Zeleznik.

The new mayor gave service awards to the outgoing members of government. Karen Hamling served as mayor from 2005 to 2018, as councillor 1987-1996 and 2004-2005, and was also chair of the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK). She was part of the municipal government for many major infrastructure projects, including upgrades at the Arrow Lakes Hospital and the launching of the Downtown Revitalization Project. Zeleznik also remembered that Hamling had “fought hard” when the local forestry company went into receivership about 12 years ago and was one of the reason that local loggers got most of their revenues back. “We won’t forget that,” said Zeleznik.

Former Councillor Len Heppner was on council from 1999 to 2011 and from 2014 to 2018, and Zeleznik called him “a champion of local people.”

Ulli Mueller, who was absent, was recognized for her 13 years of service, and her time on multiple committees, including the Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation, Nakusp Public Library, Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services.

Bill Tobey served on council for the previous term from 2014 to 2018, served on the NACFOR board as well as other committees, and was a “driving force” behind the Arrowtarian housing project.

In his inaugural address, Mayor Tom Zeleznik said he is looking forward to an exciting and productive new chapter. Zeleznik says he takes seriously the wishes of the electorate, which will figure in the strategic and fiscal direction of the municipality the council will be developing as a team. The new mayor emphasized the need for teamwork several times in his speech.

On a lighter note, Zeleznik said a new policy will be developed: that Tom is allowed to wear shorts. After the laughs subsided, Zeleznik listed the Tangible Capital Assets Management Program, strategic planning and goals, and a new OCP as priorities for the new council and mayor. He also acknowledged the need to improve communications and collaboration with community, and to support volunteers, such as local firemen. The new members of government will be meeting with CAO Laurie Taylor and taking a tour of Nakusp’s infrastructure.

Councillor Hughes and Aidan McLaren-Caux were appointed to committees, as follows:

**Councillor DeSandoli:** Columbia Basin Trust Initiative Program & Affected Areas Program, Nakusp Public Library, Nakusp Seniors Society liaison, signing officer

**Councillor McLaren-Caux:** Columbia Basin Trust Initiative Program & Affected Areas Program, Nakusp and Area Development Board, NACFOR

**Committees:** Emergency Management BC, Grievance Committee, Ktunaxa Kinbasket Local Government Treaty Advisory Committee, Regional District of Central Kootenay for the Village of Nakusp

**Mayor Zeleznik:** Fair Trade, Public Art Committee, Nakusp and Area Development Board (alternate representative), Nakusp Seniors Society liaison (alternate), Ktunaxa Kinbasket Local Government Treaty Advisory Committee (alternate), alternate Regional District of Central Kootenay Director for the Village of Nakusp, Regional District of Central Kootenay’s West Resource Recovery Committee, signing officer

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**Nakusp’s new council. Councillor Aiden McLaren-Caux, Mayor Tom Zeleznik, Councillor Joseph Hughes, Councillor Susan DeSandoli, Janis Neufeld and councillors Alan Swinnerton, Terry Jones, Janie Jacobson and Pauline Klugman.**

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**BADMINTON for Adults & NSS Students**

**October 18, 2018 to April 25, 2019**

**7:00 to 9:00 pm Tuesday & Thursday evenings**

**Nakusp Secondary School Gym**

*(Please use gym door)*

**Nakusp Badminton Club Membership Fee:**

- **$30/year**
- **plus $15/yr insurance**

**Stonewall BC**

**Drop-in $3 adults $2 students**

**Beginners Welcome!**

*(Just bring a racquet & non-marking inside shoes)*

**For more info call 250-265-3326**

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**Contact us at: info@skisummitlake.com**

**2018-2019 EARLY BIRD RATES**

**SEASON PASS EARLY BIRD RATES AVAILABLE UNTIL DECEMBER 1, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reg. price Early Bird</th>
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<td>Students (13-18)</td>
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<td>$422.00</td>
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| New this year: If you are thinking of not buying a season pass this year, but want to support the club, buy a MEMBERSHIP FOR $10.00.**

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**For more info call 250-265-3326**

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**www.aslcs.com**

**End Violence Men’s Counsellor**

Temporary part-time – 17.5 hrs per week for 50 weeks

The Men’s Counsellor will develop and implement individual and group counselling for men who have experienced childhood abuse, have experienced or have used violence/abuse and wish to seek healing.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Initially work with men to identify the circumstances that have led them to seek or be referred to the Services, including mutually identifying the goals of counselling and the available service options;
- Use an individual approach and/or a group approach, based on the needs of individual men;
- When considered appropriate and when there is mutual agreement between men and the STV Men’s Counsellor, the STV Men’s Counsellor may refer men to other related services, including clinical treatment;
- Liaise with and make referrals to other local agencies providing related services, such as alcohol and drug programs and mental health services;
- Maintain records containing at a minimum, men’s basic assessment information notes, relevant session notes and termination summary notes.

**Qualifications, Skills and Abilities**

Masters Social Work, Counselling or a related discipline.

Extensive work-related experience under qualified supervision and experience with direct program delivery in the Social Service Sector.

Have knowledge of counselling supervision practices and be skilled in counselling men who use violence and men who have experienced violence/abuse;

Good verbal and written communication skills; ability to remain calm in stressful situations; good organization, time and general management skills;

Ability to work independently and to work effectively with other program staff, therapeuists, social workers and other service providers in the community.

This temporary position is 17.5 hours per week at a rate of $29.63/hr for 50 weeks, plus 2 weeks (35 hours) of paid vacation.

The start date is as soon as possible. Benefits are not offered with this position.

ASLCS is committed to equality in employment, however, due to the sensitive nature of the work that is done in this program, ASLCS has a bona fide gender requirement and as such applications will be accepted from qualified males.

If interested, please forward resume to: **ASLCS - Human Resources**

**PO Box 100, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1R0**

**Email: hiring@aslcs.com**

**Fax: 250-265-3378**

Position open until filled. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.
Government takes action on Abbott/Chapman wildfire report

The Province has released its action plan in response to the government-commissioned, independent Abbott/Chapman report on the unprecedented 2017 wildfire and flood seasons in BC. The review was led by former BC Liberal MLA George Abbott and Maureen Chapman, Hereditary Chief of Skawakahlook First Nation.

The plan outlines actions taken and underway, and identifies next steps to address the report’s 108 recommendations. It also considers recommendations from other recent reports, such as the auditor general’s report, Managing Climate Change Risks, and the federal House of Commons June 2018 report, From the Ashes: Reimagining Fire Safety and Emergency Management in Indigenous Communities.

A number of key actions are underway:
1) Building on partnerships with industry and local communities to improve emergency preparedness and build local capacity and resources for disaster readiness, response and recovery. This includes expanding FireSmart funding and resources under the new $50-million Community Resiliency Investment Program and supporting community-led emergency planning:
   - Incorporating local and traditional Indigenous knowledge into emergency management practices, including ensuring that wildlife community protection plans and forest fuel management plans consider traditional land uses and knowledge.
   - Improving response and recovery integration, tools and resources across provincial agencies.

Kootenay Studio Arts joins exhibit at Touchstones

Submitted

Lost Thread, the latest exhibit showing at Touchstones Nelson, inspires participating fibre artists from Selkirk College’s Kootenay Studio Arts (KSA) to explore a richness of textiles while reflecting on the history of the school that fuels their creative passion.

Kaslo resident Robin Wilse, an alumna of the Textiles Studio, was immersed in a month-long residency in her studio at the Langham in Kaslo in preparation for Lost Thread, which opened November 9. Along with access to KSA Instructor Angelika Welte, Wilse feels invigorated by reconnecting to the place where she was first enchanted by felted fibres. Wilse is using her time in the studio to personally process the recent loss of her daughter to cancer.

“Lost Thread” tells the story behind Kootenay Studio Arts similarly involves piecing together the school’s history of changes and funding agreements with inspiring leadership and eager students. What exists today officially began in 1958 as the Nelson School of Fine Arts. Under the guidance of the first principal and director Zeljko Kujundzic, by the early 1960s it had evolved into the Kootenay School of Art where the studio method of learning was born, emphasizing the use of local materials and trained multi-disciplined artists as instructors who favoured applied learning.

Lost Thread is in Gallery A of Touchstones Nelson at 502 Vernon Street. The Lost Thread residency is funded by Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance and Columbia Basin Trust.

St. Anthony’s Christmas Market

November 24
10 am - 2 pm • Bosun Hall

Can walk returns!! • Celebrating 45 Years of St. Anthony’s Christmas Markets •

School:

Celebrating the Light!

Fun event for kids and adults

With live music, storytelling and circle dancing

Saturday, December 8th
At the Silverton Gallery
Doors open at 6 pm starts 6:30

Celebrating Hanukkah (the Festival of Lights) and the Winter Solstice

With a special storytelling segment for children

Blitzes for Blitzes

Special guests: The Nelson Hanukkah Ensemble with Catherine McGrath and John Galm; Celteguitar duo Sue Mistretta and Patrick McGovern; and more...

Jewish circle dancing for all, led by Haya Maor Bring your dancing shoes!

Suggested Donation: $10 Adult, $5 child, $25 Family

Treats, light snacks and beverages for sale

Sponsored by the St. Slocan Arts Council silvertongallery.ca • facebook.com/pg/silvertongallery/

Paddle to the Arctic at the Langham

Submitted

Take a wee paddle down the Mackenzie River to the Arctic! The Langham’s popular Adventure Travel Series returns with “Paddling Down to the Arctic” – a summer spent on the Mackenzie (Deh Cho) River. Join intrepid Kaslovians Shelley Ross and Bob Stair for an epic journey down Canada’s longest river.

Both former Langham board presidents, Ross and Stair thought they’d done something a bit less challenging: how about a 44-day, 1,950 km kayaking trip to the Arctic Ocean, on a river which has never been darned and consists of some of the most remote and pristine wilderness in the world. Piece of cake, right?!

Two show dates and times:
Saturday, November 17 at 7 pm, and
Sunday, December 2 at 3 pm.

This is a fundraising event for the Langham, $10 suggested donation at the door. www.thelangham.ca

Come to the Langham to hear about the kayaking trip down the Mackenzie River made by Kaslo residents Bob Stair and Shelley Ross this past summer.

Did you get your referendum package?

Submitted

The initial mailout for referendum voting packages is now complete. Eligible voters who did not receive a voting package have until midnight November 23 to request a package at elections.ca or by calling 1-866-661-8683 (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 8 pm; Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm) or in person at a Service BC Centre or Referendum Service Office.

To vote in the referendum, an individual must be: a Canadian citizen, 18 or older as of November 30, and a resident of BC for at least six months. To vote, a voter, and voters may only use the package that is personally addressed to a registered voter, and voters may only use the package that is personally addressed to them. The package includes a ballot and instructions on how to complete the package and return it.

Elections BC must receive completed voting packages by 4:30 pm November 30. Voters are encouraged to return their package early to ensure it is received by the deadline. Completed voting packages can be returned by mail using the postage paid return envelope or to any Service BC Centre or Referendum Service Office.

Elections BC will post the number of returned ballot packages on a daily basis on elections.bc.ca and on Twitter.

Enhancing recreational opportunities on Basin trails

Submitted

Whether hiking to work, peaks or walking pets, Columbia Basin residents prize the trails in our communities and surrounding areas. To improve these paths and support healthy outdoor lifestyles, Columbia Basin Trust is launching its new three-year, $1.5-million Trail Enhancement Grants. Enhancing trails is a priority in the local communities and surrounding areas. To improve these paths and support healthy outdoor lifestyles, Columbia Basin Trust is launching its new three-year, $1.5-million Trail Enhancement Grants.

“Residents rely on trails for recreation, exercise and everyday life, and this program will help make sure these networks are in great shape so present and future generations can enjoy them,” said Johnny Stirling, Columbia Basin Trust President and CEO. “Supporting healthy lifestyles is a priority for us.”

The grants will help fund projects that rehabilitate current trails – perhaps because they were damaged in a storm or have aging infrastructure like bridges – or build new trails. Funding may be provided to make trails more accessible

Come to the Langham to hear about the kayaking trip down the Mackenzie River made by Kaslo residents Bob Stair and Shelley Ross this past summer.
Poetry event at library attracts full house in Nakusp

by Art Joyce

The love of poetry is alive and well in Nakusp, as was evident by the full house that turned out for the semi-annual poetry night at the Nakusp Library on November 2. ‘The Love of Poetry,’ organized by local writer Barbara MacPherson, participants read the audience one of their favorite poems. This year featured 15 readers covering a wide variety of poems, with selections from Robert Frost, Yeats, Shelley, Rudyard Kipling and a few less commonly known poets. Jean Lancaster was master of ceremonies.

The event was dedicated to the memory of the late John Perkins, a regular at past poetry events at the library and a lifelong lover of poetry and literature. His widow Trish Huesken read a moving eulogy to Perkins, noting that, “John’s love of words spanned his life.”

She explained, “He was an eloquent and elegant speaker, with a resonant tenor voice and a charming British accent.” Perkins was thus in demand as master of ceremonies for many books that made a difference and ‘For the Love of Poetry’ events held at the library over the past decade. He also volunteered for the library repairing broken books, so well

President’s report from Barton centre AGM submitted

This year, the Barton Community Learning Centre (BCLC) has seen an increase in the number of visits compared to previous years, despite fewer different activities being held. The fitness room continues to be a very popular destination with the highest attendance, followed by pickleball and the Just-For-The-Health-Of-It exercise program.

The Fitness Workshop by Rhona Parson held in the fall was very popular and helped increase the number of healthy memberships to 29. It is very encouraging to see

the community use the facility on a regular basis. It clearly fills a need.

This year again, the centre

physically, and financially by adult children. Based on a true story, Addicted to Hate prompts readers to consider the question of nature versus nurture, as it educates us about the myriad forms of abuse and their ensuing repercussions.

Parents shocked by adult children suffer silently, shamed to the marrow by words, moods, acts, and blows that pierce through their imagined bubble of safety and kindness any

Mann’s fifth book examines senior abuse

submitted

Lucia Mann’s newest book release gives a voice to the silent emotions that pierce through the fabric of her soft heart to abuse and take advantage of their mother, despite her enduring passion and love and support them regardless of the consequences? Or were they impelled to abuse their mother because of biochemical disorders and volatile eruptions in the neuronal centres? Perhaps Maddie’s children were born out of a fragile fusion of the two.

In this book you will feel

Healthier, more effective choice.

were Maddie’s children tailored from the fabric of her soft heart to abuse and take advantage of their mother, despite her enduring passion and love and support them regardless of the consequences? Or were they impelled to abuse their mother because of biochemical disorders and volatile eruptions in the neuronal centres? Perhaps Maddie’s children were born out of a fragile fusion of the two.

In this book you will feel

Maddie’s turmoil as her three callous children – who do all they can to hold power over her bottomless well of love – develop into brutal adults, and you will applaud her courage when she finally pushes shame aside and reaches her climactic end point.

Author Lucia Mann, humanitarian and activist, was born in British colonial South Africa in the wake of WWII. She now resides in Nakusp. After retiring from freelance journalism in 1998, she wrote a series of four books set in Africa to give voice to those who have suffered and are suffering brutalities and captivity.

Order to Valley Voice, Box 100, Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0

If interested, please forward resume to:

End Violence Men’s Outreach Worker

Temporary part-time – 17.5 hrs per week for 50 weeks

The Men’s Outreach Worker will provide opportunities for men to create safe positive relationships that are conducive to learning from and supporting each other in a healthy manner. The Men’s Outreach Worker will be client-centered and will provide referrals for men who wish to engage in more personal and specific topic areas.

Duties and Responsibilities:

• Plan and organize social activities for men within the community and be an integral part of the activity.

• Set guidelines and parameters that complement the operations of the events planned and provide clear and safe boundaries with regards to acceptable behaviour.

• Assist men to identify and access referrals to professional services such as legal information, advocacy, training and other self-improvement initiatives.

• Make direct referrals for men to obtain counseling services.

• Recognize potential crisis or safety situations facing the men involved in the program and help develop strategies to deal with the situation at hand. (i.e. Appropriate referrals)

Qualifications

High School equivalent; dear Criminal Record Check, experience conducting group activities.

This temporary position is 17.5 hours per week at a rate of $21.25/hr for 50 weeks, plus 2 weeks (35 hours) of paid vacation.

The start date is as soon as possible. Benefits are not offered with this position.

ASLCS is committed to equality in employment, however, due to the sensitive nature of the work that is done in this program, ASLCS has a bona fide gender requirement and all such applications will be accepted from qualified non-binary applicants.

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Email: info@valleynn.com

Fax: 250-265-3378

Position open until filled. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

November 15, 2018 The Valley Voice

of dictionaries, including other languages such as Greek, Italian, German, Russian, Swedish, Latin, Spanish, French as well as at least a half dozen English dictionaries. His insatiable appetite for knowledge of words, moods, acts, and blows that pierce through the fabric of her soft heart to abuse and take advantage of their mother, despite her enduring passion and love and support them regardless of the consequences? Or were they impelled to abuse their mother because of biochemical disorders and volatile eruptions in the neuronal centres? Perhaps Maddie’s children were born out of a fragile fusion of the two.

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ARE YOU AN ASPIRING ENTREPRENEUR? You call Community Futures to learn about the free Business Plan workshop open to anyone! And if you’re eligible, you may also qualify for the Self-Employment program where you will receive ongoing business training and coaching and usually financial support while you start your business. To learn more call 265-3674 ext. 201 or email Nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

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Library. Please come find out about our food programs, community compounding initiative, and affordable housing initiative! Everyone welcome.

SLOCAN MASONIC LODGE meets at Knox Hall in New Denver on the fourth Friday at 7:30 pm. March 23, April 27, May 28, June 22, August 24, September 28, October 26, November 23, November 30, June 25, 2018.

COMING EVENTS

SAINTS, SINNERS & MILLIONAIRE MARKET: November 24, 10 am-2 pm.

ELECTION 2018 is now done. To the people who voted for me, Thank You. Not just for your vote, but for realizing we need a change in Silverton. Some of you voted for me, Friday and Saturday, some of you voted for me, Thursday and Friday, some of you voted for me, Saturday and Sunday. Thank you. Thank you. We tried, but unfortunately we did not win.

SLOCAN MASONIC LODGE
525 Nelson St., New Denver, BC V0G 1L0
(250) 265-3311

ENVIRONMENT

VALHALLA WILDERNESS S.A.C.
Box 550, New Denver BC V0G 1S0
email info@vws.org
website www.vws.org
Since 1974, a non-profit, environmental, educational charity, working to preserve and protect wilderness and wildlife.

Valhalla Wilderness S.A.C.
Arm 11-22, 1950 km east of Grand Forks, BC. Boundary-Insured

Your ad could be here for only $11.00 + GST

ROKOTTNEP Kustoms
COMMUNITY BIKES – ACCESSORIES & SERVICES
WE DO OIL CHANGES – We stock a full & filters for most common vehicles! • NEW TIRES – Installs, Repairs & Changes • GENERAL MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

Your ad could be here for only $11.00 + GST

Hand & Soul
Wellness Centre
202 Lake Avenue, Silverton

CHIROPRACTOR: Dr. Larry Zaleski
20+ years experience of Spinal Health Care
CHIROPRACTOR: Dr. Larry Zaleski
20+ years experience of Spinal Health Care

Your ad could be here for only $11.00 + GST

Dawn Devlin
Advanced Ortho-Biometry Practitioner & Certified Reflexologist
20+ years experience of Spinal Health Care
Your ad could be here for only $11.00 + GST

The Valley Voice
November 15, 2018
CRAFT FAIRES

**CRAFT FAIR** Sunday, November 18th

12 Noon on Friday Nov. 16 in the parking lot of WEGCSS – 1001 Harold St., Slocan.

**one clam bucket for moving & lifting. Great Condition. Has 3 buckets for digging.**

**ONE BEDROOM SUITE**

3’ to 4’ lengths and a drill with a 3/8 bit. We have a lot of WEGCSS – 1001 Harold St., Slocan. Admission by donation.

**CONSTRUCTION • HOME • GARDEN** Safety, Service, Satisfaction

Over 20 yrs Experience

WCB/Licensed/Insured

Licensed Builder & Red Seal Carpenter

Specializing in Timber Framing

- Bathroom Renovations - Carpentry and More....

For all your interior renovation needs:

- Complete Drywall Services
- Crown Molding
- Window and Door Trim
- Kiln Dried Solid 3 ¼ x ¾ OR Engineered. 6 PLY. TOP GRADE, SMOOTH OR BRUSHED. $4.59 SF PLT. AVAILABLE IN 6”-7”-8” (6") WIDE. INSUL-THING MATTING, 25 YEARS GUARANTEE, AND MUCH MORE.

**THE VALICAN WHOLE Community Centre** seeks a new part time Administrator to work with the RARTS Board in support of activities at the Whole. Duties include overseeing incoming communications, booking the hall, managing the website, record and file keeping, and marketing. Please send a cover letter and resume to info@ValicanWhole.com by November 30. Full job description at ValicanWhole.com

**THE VALICAN WHOLE**

**CRAFT FAIRES**

**CHRISTMAS IN THE VALLEY** CRAFT FAIRE Sunday, November 18th

10 am to 3 pm at the Slocan Legion Hall

**CRAVINGS CRAFT FAIRE**

Sunday, November 18th

10 am to 3 pm at the Slocan Legion Hall

**MEETING**

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**FOR SALE**

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**FOR SALE**
VOICES

IN MEMORIAM

Wayne Gerow 1938 - 2013

The world changes from year to year.
Our lives from day to day.
...but the love and memory of you shall never pass away.

The world changes for the better.

Until we meet again...

...of you shall never pass away.

The world changes

A special add is requested for this issue.

Very sincerely,
Theresa & family

Next Valley Voice Deadline:
November 23, 2018

Carpenter Creek Last Wishes Society provides information on planning for death and advice for alternative funeral arrangements. Ph.: 250-358-2255, www.carpentercreeklasforicesociety.com

Gaia Tree Whole Foods

• All Organic Produce
• Community Discount Day:
  Tuesday to Saturday
  Downtown Winlaw • 250-226-7252
For Na; New Denver, 358-7265. For AL-ANON (family) meetings can help. For information on AA: in New Denver, 358-7158; Nakusp, 265-4216; Kaslo, 353-9317; Heart of the Slocan Valley, 551-4104; Playmor Junction, 226-7252; For Na: New Denver, 358-7265. For AL-ANON (family) meetings can help. For information on AA: in New Denver, 358-7158; Nakusp, 265-4216; Kaslo, 353-9317; Heart of the Slocan Valley, 551-4104; Playmor Junction, 226-7252; For Na: New Denver, 358-7265. For AL-ANON

Nelson & Area Elder Abuse Prevention Resource Centre: 250-358-6008 NelsonReducedAbusePrevention@gmail.com www.nelsonelderabuseprevention.ca


IN MEMORIAM

November 23, 2018

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription

Only $10-$30

www.proudofmydog.ca

For NA: New Denver, 358-7265. For AL-ANON meetings can help. For information on AA: in New Denver, 358-7158; Nakusp, 265-4216; Kaslo, 353-9317; Heart of the Slocan Valley, 551-4104; Playmor Junction, 226-7252; For Na: New Denver, 358-7265. For AL-ANON

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Co-op launches Give Card campaign to benefit Red Cross

Submitted

Don Munro: a good man has died

Submitted by Rita Moir

Slocan Valley residents were saddened to hear of the death of former Area H RDCK director Don Munro. Don and Shirley Munro moved to Vallican from Edmonton in the Slocan Valley. Shirley died in January 2017, and Don felt her loss acutely.

Don was a great friend, a hard worker for the community, and a lot of fun to work with. As well as serving three terms as RDCK director, he was president of the Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society, helping to spearhead the construction of Passmore Lodge and the 233-kilometre hike that helped fund it; he served as president of the Kootenay Slocan Lions, the Slocan Valley Co-op, chair of RARTS (the Vallican Whole), was active in the PassmoreSeniors, Winlaw Natural Park, the Ree Commission and in so many other community initiatives.

He provided funding and impetus for the first big volunteer appreciation for firefighters, first responders, and ambulance crews, who were grateful to be acknowledged, and for the first time gather as one big group.

He helped get bus service going, volunteered on the garden tour, hired Craig Lawrence as the Rec Guy, curled with many rinks, and attended a million meetings.

He was a public man, but also a private person, walking his dogs alone along Indian Point Road in Vallican. He loved his family and dotted on his animals, choping organic lettuce each morning to hand feed his miniature goats. In his small shop, he carved birds, lovely big pieces, but small ones, too, like the head of the walking stick owned by Lydia Kania. Don and Shirley’s home was warm and welcoming, their gardens magnificent. Shirley’s exquisite and whimsical taste was obvious throughout their home, yard and store, Little House Collectibles; she and Don knew what people loved, and many Valley residents and events benefited from their generosity.

When Don won his first term as a public representative, he was a quiet action, but he has left a lasting impression on many a story being told about them, around the supper table, amongst the groups he belonged to and helped, on Facebook, and over a cup of coffee.

As one friend said so well: “Don was a great listener, story teller, mediator, and a strong community advocate. His smile softened hearts.”

New Local Impact Investment Fund seeking founding members

Submitted

The West Kootenay Boundary Community Investment Co-op is ready to launch after 10 months of business planning by local economic development stakeholders, a lawyer, and a co-op developer.

Eden Yesh, who has been managing this project, will be leading public launch sessions from November 9 to December 14, in the following communities: Silverton, Nakusp, Castlegar, Nelson, Grand Forks, and Trail. These sessions will highlight key areas of the business plan, governance structure and purpose of the new investment co-op.

“We are seeking individual and corporate investors who wish to diversify a portion of their investment portfolios locally, and who want to make an impact in the communities where they live,” Yesh says.

Membership in the Investment Co-op is open to all: individuals, corporations, governments and first nations. A membership share costs $1,000.

Co-op launches Give Card campaign to benefit Red Cross

Submitted

New holiday-inspired gift cards will help support local emergency relief efforts in communities across Western Canada. The gift cards are available for purchase at the Slocan Valley Co-op throughout the month of November.

Through the Co-op Give Card Campaign, Co-op will donate $1 from the sale of specially-marked gift cards to the Canadian Red Cross, up to a maximum of $20,000. The gift cards depict four seasonal designs and are available until December 28.

“This campaign is unique in the ease for our members and customers to share and give in multiple ways this holiday season. It is truly a gift that gives,” said Federated Co-operatives Limited’s (FCL) CEO Cameron Cameron.

The campaign is part of a new five-year commitment between Federated Co-operatives Limited (FCL), on behalf of more than 180 independent retail co-operatives across Western Canada that form the Co-operative Retailing System, and the Canadian Red Cross.

“We’re renewing our commitment to the Canadian Red Cross because of the important role and impact they have in some of the most dire situations in our home communities,” Andrew said.

As part of this renewed commitment, FCL will donate up to $1.5 million between 2018 and 2022 to be used to provide effective, community-based emergency responses.

“Donations made possible by our renewed partnership with the Red Cross district director, and Shirley threw a great celebration party. But when the community wanted to throw a party to thank them before they left, Don hurt his back and the party was cancelled. Given his dedication to seniors’ housing, he hoped to return for the Hike or Bike for Housing in 2016, but Shirley was sick. And then, during the grand opening of the Slocan City Suites, he wanted very badly to come back, but was too frail.

In his earlier years, Don was an avid sportsman. He played football and basketball for the University of Alberta Golden Bears, and he also played football with the Edmonton Wildcats. Over his 33-year career with Edmonton Public Schools, he continued to share his passion for football and basketball and the development of these sports at the schools in which he worked. During many of these years he served as a trustee for the St Albert Protestant Separate School Board, and also served on the board for the Alberta Basketball Officials Association. After his retirement, Don moved to Vallican where he continued to serve his community as the Director of Area H of the Regional District of Central Kootenay. In 2014, he was inducted into the University of Alberta Sports Hall of Fame for his contributions as both an Athlete and Builder for Basketball and Football.

Don loved gardening, carving and spending time with his family, camping and skiing. He was a man of few words, and quiet action, but he has left a lasting impression on all of those who had the opportunity to spend time with or work with him.

The family is planning a celebration of life for Don, and will share this information once the date has been set.
Support your Slocan Valley community fund for Giving Tuesday

by Jan McMurray

November 27 is Giving Tuesday, the start of the giving season worldwide – and locally, the start of the Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society’s annual fundraising drive for the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund.

“We have been using Giving Tuesday as our one-a-year fundraising push for the past several years. Each consecutive year our citizens have responded with increasing generosity,” says Lorna Visser, society board member.

Visser reports that $10,500 was raised by the Giving Tuesday appeal for the endowment fund last year, with the first $6,000 raised. “We may even exceed our $12,000 goal, which would be wonderful.”

There will be opportunities to learn more about the Legacy Fund and to make your donation at two ‘Coffee & Conversations’ events on Giving Tuesday November 27 at the Apple Tree in New Denver and the Everbean Cafe at the Everbean Natural Foods store in Crescent Valley. Board members will be on hand to answer questions and both events will feature musical entertainment: the Apple Tree event will feature Fiddle Dee Dee at 11 am and Donna Jean and Gary Wright at the Western Flyer at 1 pm. The Everbean event will feature Gypsy Canoe at 11 am.

The Slocan Valley Legacy Fund is a community foundation – an endowment fund, with the interest distributed to community organizations through an annual granting program. The Slocan Valley Legacy Fund is held within the Osprey Community Foundation based in Nelson and an affiliate fund. All donations are tax deductible.

The most recent round of SVLF grants supported projects that helped create a new gallery in New Denver, provided inter-generational cooking classes in Slocan, supported the remodeling of a bereavement centre, safety equipment for the south valley rail trail, a wheelchair access ramp at the Slocan Museum, and an art gallery at the Valkion Whole Community Centre.

And that’s just 2018 – a full list of all SVLF grants is on the website at www.slocanvalleylegacy.com/grants-2. We are a fund held within the Osprey Community Foundation, therefore make your donation at two ‘Coffee & Conversations’ events on Giving Tuesday November 27, 2018. The Everbean will feature Gypsy Canoe at 11 am. And that’s just 2018 – a full list of all SVLF grants is on the website at www.slocanvalleylegacy.com/grants-2.

Just a few of the Slocan Valley community organizations that have benefited from grants from the Legacy Fund are the Hills Recreation Society, Slocan Lake Stewardship Society, Healthy Community Society of the North Slocan Valley, Rural Alternatives Research and Training Society, and the WE Graham Community Service Society.

The grants support projects from the junction to Summit lake that encourage our communities to be resilient and vital; that protect, promote and enhance the natural environment; that promote creativity and innovation; and that show collaboration among organizations.

Celebrate the Light returns to the Silverton Gallery

The Slocan Lake Arts Council is offering an evening of music and dancing on Saturday, December 8. Everyone is welcome, and a special invitation to our community’s children is extended. This is the seventh year that the Silverton Gallery crew is offering the event. Organizers strive to create a fun, joyful time, to present local talent, and welcome everyone from children to elders.

This year, live music will be provided by members of the Nelson Hanukkah Ensemble, with Catherine McGrath on accordion and vocals, and John Gilm on drum, as well as several local performers. There will also be dramatized storytelling especially for kids with ‘Blintzes for Blitzen.” Haya Maor is back by popular demand, and will be leading circle dancing, so bring your dancing shoes!

It all started in 2011, with the original stage show Dreidls, Demons and the Divine, based on Hanukkah, a holiday with a 2,000-year-old tradition of lore and music from around the globe. Writer and director Carla Nemiroff adapted some of these stories, and the show featured 20 singers, dancers and actors from the community. The success of Dreidls demonstrated that many enjoyed the songs, skits and foods from this Jewish Festival of Lights, so it was decided to hold a yearly event featuring different performers, and offering food as well.

For two seasons, the Hanukkah event was fortunate to feature Calgary-based singer and storyteller Allan Merovitz. In 2014 the event was re-named Celebrate the Light! In order to embrace themes related to Solstice celebrations here and around the world, local poets, actors, singers and instrumentalists have created some cherished evenings over the years. Many young musicians have also performed, including the children’s choir from Lacroix School. The wonderful presence of Haya Maor has enriched our evenings with Hanukkah songs, skits and circle dancing.

Doors open at 6 pm, and the program gets underway at 6:30. Light snacks and beverages will be available for sale. Suggested donation: $10 adult, $5 child and family. For more information, call 250-358-7108.

The event is sponsored by the Slocan Lake Arts Council, supported by the BC Arts Council.