Ty Larstone, a 32-year-old Winlaw man who loved the outdoors, recently died while camping on his own in the mountains near Appledale.

Three of Ty’s good friends and local expert tracker Ben Hird found his body on Friday, February 1, the third day of the search. Slocan Lake RCMP, Castlegar and Nelson Search and Rescue, and Kootenay Valley Helicopters were all also involved in the search effort.

“His friends were experts in the woods just like he was,” said Ty’s stepfather Paddy Roberts. “Had they not gone out, we probably never would have found him because the snow started falling Friday afternoon.”

Roberts said there was nothing unusual about Ty heading off into the woods alone. “He loved going out in the outdoors and being by himself. He was part native and very interested in native culture, and I think with some of the things he did, he was living that culture.”

Roberts says he and Kathy Dunn, who live in Salmon Arm, got a call from their friend and Ty’s landlord, Martin Braun, when Ty didn’t come home. They travelled to Winlaw on Tuesday, and the search began on Wednesday.

Jerome Liboiron of Castlegar Search and Rescue (CSAR) found Ty’s footprints in the snow near Bailey Road, and the CSAR team tracked him until dark on Wednesday. On Thursday, a chopper tried to take them to where they had left off the day before, but there was nowhere for the chopper to land, so they walked up again and got even farther the second day before darkness fell.

On Friday, the weather rolled in and it was deemed unsafe for the team to resume their efforts.

Ty’s friends decided to take up the search on Friday and to enlist the help of local expert tracker Ben Hird. They found Ty at his campfire pit with his clothing hanging up to dry. Roberts says Ty would have gotten his clothes wet while wading across Slocan River, which he would have had to do to get to the site where he made camp.

Kootenay Valley Helicopters out of Nelson was called in to bring Ty’s body “out from a difficult spot” on a long line.

“Tremendous flying skill involved in that,” Roberts said. “You have guys who go in, hanging onto a 250-foot long line, with the helicopter 1,000 feet in the air.” He said that RCMP Officer Terry Smith from the Slocan Lake detachment in New Denver was one of the men who came out on the long line.

“The police from the New Denver detachment were simply fantastic,” said Roberts. “As soon as the RCMP were aware there was a tragedy, they were with us always. There was always someone there telling us what they were doing.”

Ty’s mom, Kathy Dunn, said, “I was very touched by seeing all of the effort put in by Castlegar and Nelson Search and Rescue, and knowing that these were all people who were volunteering to help us find Ty and to bring him back to us. Paddy and I and my daughter Harmony and Ty’s cousin Chelsea were all there when the recovery by helicopter was being carried out. I am so moved by the courage that it must take to go in and out from the site hanging from that helicopter. All to help other human beings they don’t even know. We know that dozens if not hundreds of people from the Valley were working to help us once word of the search got out. The RCMP told us that they were constantly being approached and asked how the search was going.”

An RCMP media release says the cause of death is not considered suspicious at this time, and that the BC Coroners Service is involved in the investigation.

A celebration of Ty’s life will be held February 23 at the Winlaw Hall, 1-4 pm.
Nakusp Citizens of the Year chosen for 2018

Mikala Lewis-Morrison will receive the Youth Award at the Nakusp Citizen of the Year banquet. The Nakusp Rotary Club thanks everyone for their nominations, and encourages those whose nominees weren’t chosen this year to re-submit them for next year. See the ad on page 15 for banquet details.

Barb Abbey has been chosen to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Nakusp Citizen of the Year banquet on April 23, in recognition of her years of dedication to the Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary.

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CONCESSION THANKS TO
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New SD8 facilities plan process re-opens discussion on school closures

by Katrine Campbell

Public safety and environmental considerations are among the reasons that the province will benefit from community gaming grants. The Province is providing more than $6.5 million to nearly 200 B.C. communities for closures, along with Salmo Elementary and Trafalgar (Nelson).

In June 2016, the provincial government announced the Rural Education Enhancement Fund (REEF) to keep rural schools open. The REEF will still be available for the 2019-20 school year, so Jewett and Winlaw will remain open for another year for sure, McLellan said. However, a new funding model for the BC education system is coming into effect in March 2020, and McLellan warned that REEF may not be a part of it.

“Public safety is deteriorating,” and we can’t keep them up without the funding currently available from the ministry,” he said.

The school district has achieved some of the goals in the current facilities plan – the disposal of the Crawford Bay Hall property, the DESK transition to LV Rogers, and the disposal of the Creoston properties. The board of office will move to Central School in July 2019, and is up for sale along with properties in Ymir, Yahk and Retalack. Income from property sales will help with school district building upgrades, McLellan said.

The district has a bar, and Baragar Systems, to do an analysis including projected enrolments, by May or June 2019.

“What’s going to lead to the best education for all students in the district? That’s the question we were answered by Baragar,” McLellan explained.

“We want to make a data-based decision. Hopefully we’ll come to a less controversial decision than last time.”

The Kaslo family of school meeting took place at Jewett School on February 4.

“With five students this year, Jewett’s capacity utilization at 6% is the lowest in the district. The school was built for 88 students. The school measures 0.57 on the facility condition index – it needs $1.4 million worth of upgrades,” but “it’s still in good condition – it doesn’t need to be done tomorrow,” McLellan said.

Jewett School receives $46,947 per year in REEF funding. “It costs the district more than the REEF grant to keep this school open. Our kids throughout the district are disadvantaged by having this school open,” McLellan said, adding that studying costs are three times the REEF grant.

People at the meeting pointed out that a 45-minute bus ride on a difficult road is less than ideal for young children. Eliza Shine, the early years coordinator, said there are 13 families regularly attending the early years programs at the school. The importance of the school as a community hub was noted.

Superintendent Christine Perkins suggested that the solution may be in technology. “There are ways to bring technology in; how we are learning is evolving and changing. We could be in Larder Lake Valley or Argenta Hall. How many large buildings can we sustain?”

The Slocan Valley family of schools meeting took place at WE Graham on February 6.

Altogether, the four schools in the Slocan Valley have a 71% capacity utilization. Brent Kennedy and Winlaw have high capacity utilization, and WE Graham and Mt Sentinel have low capacity utilization.

Dreams and ideas for WE Graham School expressed by people at the meeting included putting more resources into the existing Valhalla Wilderness Program and Outdoor Education Leadership Program, more collaboration with community groups or larger organizations such as Selkirk College for revenue and cost sharing, a French immersion program, and a robotics academy. Principal Mike Hurley pointed out that the school has a music room, art room, science room, and a shop, so is suitable for grades 11 and 12, particularly with the new project-based graduation program.

SHELLEY BORTNICK, MSW, RSW Individual, couple and family therapist 25+ years experience Offers counselling services involving mental health (depression, anxiety, etc.), addictions, grief and loss, trauma and life transition issues. For appointment, please call 250-265-3397.

New SD8 facilities plan process re-opens discussion on school closures

School District 8 Kootenay Lake (SD8) is working on its 2019-29 facilities plan process re-opens discussion on school closures. The board office will move to Central School in July 2019, and is up for sale along with properties in Ymir, Yahk and Retalack. Income from property sales will help with school district building upgrades, McLellan said.

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School District 8 Kootenay Lake (SD8) is working on its facilities plan. Another round of public meetings will take place in June, and the plan is expected to be adopted in September.

“The new Ram Power Wagon, Rescue 502, gives us two street vehicles, principally for the mountain rescue team and as a back-up for our personal vehicles. It’s very much needed it.”

“I’m proud that our government is supporting the province will benefit from community gaming grants. The Province is providing more than $6.5 million to nearly 200 B.C. communities for closures, along with Salmo Elementary and Trafalgar (Nelson).

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Venezuela

Hard to believe some still believe Venezuela’s problems are due to socialism. I guess they, along with our Liberal government, haven’t been paying attention to US foreign policies in the region for the past 70+ years: Nicaragua Contras, Chile’s Pinochet, the death squads in Honduras, Guatemala, Argentina and elsewhere in the region, suppression of workers under the United Fruit Company by US marines and on and on and on. And now we Canadians are party to a coup attempt in Venezuela once again orchestrated by the mighty US government.

When will we get a clue? Interesting how Trudeau 1.0 saw through US hegemony and was lifelong friends with Fidel and our Little Lord Fauntleroy, Trudeau 2.0, seems to have no clue.

Leon Pendleton

Dear BC and Canadian Ministers of Environment

I and thousands of other people in the Columbia Mountains in BC and beyond are grieving. We are mourning the loss of the Selkirk and South Selkirk mountain caribou herds and increasingly concerned about the Central Selkirk herd. We ask the federal government for IMMEDIATE intervention by placing a moratorium on logging in mountain caribou habitat.

All of the caribou recovery plans and strategies to date have clearly done nothing to halt the extirpation of mountain caribou. Under the Species at Risk Act, you are legally required to issue emergency orders to protect the remaining animals and their habitat. Why is this not being done? As we speak, logging is happening in areas that caribou are using. When locals intervened to protect that habitat, they were subjected to violence and the threat of criminalization.

And it is not only the caribou who are at risk, but the whole rare and globally unique ecosystem Inland Temperate Rainforest habitat. According to BC’s Conservation Data Centre there are 40 species at risk in the forests where the mountain caribou live. We also know that the world’s forests currently are the only proven means of removing and storing atmospheric CO2 and slowing the process of climate change which is already devastating our communities through wildfire.

The Selkirk Mountain Caribou Park proposal by the Valhalla Wilderness Society has been on the table for some time. It would preserve key remaining stands of old-growth forest. And I many others in my community strongly support this proposal. Please make it happen.

In the meanwhile, while consultations about further action are ongoing, please HALT all logging in caribou habitat. We have no time to lose.

K.L. Kiwi
New Denver

Another side of the story

With the disappointing defeat of proportional representation in the BC referendum, with 61.3% for first-past-the-post and 38.7% for PR, one wonders if we are ever going to get a fair and equal voting system in this country. As columnist Andrew Coyne puts it: “FPTP no longer works with more than a two party system. It used to, but no longer does.”

How can 85% of PR-run democracies and nine of top ten economies in the OECD be wrong? Why is it taking so long for Canada to adopt modern, fair electoral representation in our governments, where the number of seats reflects the percentage of votes received? 40% of the vote shouldn’t give a party 100% of the power!

Yes votes for PR were over 50% in 16 ridings, as follows: Nelson-Creston 57.05%; Kootenay West 51.26%; Vancouver-Mount Pleasant 74.26%; Victoria-Beacon Hill 66.35%; Victoria-Swan Lake 65.34%; Vancouver-Hastings 61.63%; Vancouver-West End 61.45%; Vancouver-Fairview 57.62%; Powell River-Sunshine Coast 53.88%; Oak Bay-Gordon Head 53.47%; Vancouver-Point Grey 52.89%; Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca 52.7%; Saanich North and the Islands 51.38%; Vancouver-Fairview 51.33%; New Westminster 50.96%; Langford Juan de Fuca 50.86%.

So the electoral reform is not dying or about to go away. PEI will be holding a referendum in 2019 and this will be a major issue in the upcoming federal election.

Research Co.’s exit poll on the referendum showed: “Voters didn’t vote so much for first-past-the-post, or against PR (as they agree with principles of it) as they voted overwhelmingly against a process they didn’t trust.”

And it must be recognized that unfortunately the NO side resorted to shameful fear-mongering tactics, distortions and misinformation with blatant lies, which undoubtedly affected the vote. There are no advertising standards in politics! This must not be allowed to happen again.

Mary Donald

Wrecked weed

WOES

Well, the government has wrecked the legalization of weed, even though they had two years to implement the pot laws. Poor planning is the main culprit. Placing Bill Blair, a policeman, in charge was a mistake. Trudeau did this gaffe to please his more conservative voters, the people who drink alcohol and smoke cigarettes.

For over 70 years, the Canadian people have been lied to about marijuana. They were told it was evil, wicked, mean and nasty, right up there with cocaine and heroin! So that’s where they allocated the humble weed, in Schedule 1 with heroin and cocaine. Then they mounted numerous campaigns saying weed was bad and had no redeemable qualities. It’s 2019 and now people are wiser to the lies. Some governments in Canada still believe the lies and are placing more restrictions on the cannabis. I blame the USA for all this misinformation and outright lies. Richard Nixon was the US president who created the DEA, and placed marijuana as a Schedule I drug.

Drug Enforcement Agency, and placed marijuana as a Schedule I drug. Schedule I (USA) drugs, substances, or chemicals are defined as drugs with no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse. Some examples of Schedule I drugs are: heroin, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), marijuana (cannabis), 3, 4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (ecstasy), methaqualone, and peyote.

Even though his scientific advisers told Nixon that cannabis was a benign drug, he scoffed and threw the report in the garbage. By making marijuana illegal, Tricky Dick Nixon was able to go after his enemies very effectively: hippies and blacks. With his new war on the hunt, many people were placed in jail for growing, smoking or even passing a joint.

It’s 1979 and the USA still has cannabis as a Schedule I drug! Federally, the USA still maintains that cannabis is illegal. If they wanted to, the federal USA government could shut down the entire USA cannabis culture tomorrow and lock them all up. Every grow operation, head shop and user could be incarcerated. There are state laws that have weed legalized but the federal government of USA can trump state law. Ask Tommy Chong about federal marijuana law, when he mailed a bong across state lines.

On September 11, 2003, comedian Tommy Chong was sentenced to nine months in prison, a fine of $50,000, and the forfeiture of about $1,000,000 in assets for mailing a bong to US federal agents in Pittsburgh.

Complicating Canada’s legalization of cannabis is the border laws. Even though Washington State has legal recreational pot and British Columbia does, crossing into USA is precarious for weed users. Admit to a USA border guard that you smoked weed in the past and you can be banned from the USA
Open letter to BC premier: re: proposed logging operations in critical caribou habitat

Friends of Lardeau River (FLR) would like to formally express concern over the cumulative effects of logging operations planned in caribou habitat within the Lardeau River Basin. Just this week, we have learned of even more proposed BC Timber Sales cutblocks in critical caribou habitat near Trout Lake, in modern times, lost 31 mountain caribou in the Central Selkirk herd. It would be outrageously unjustifiable to permit such ongoing, blatant habitat destruction as we community members are mourning the recent extirpation of two southern herds, and as government officials pay lip service to wanting to carry through with genuine long-term protection of wildlife diversity. The Trout Lake area has already been too heavily logged. Extensive and large scale clearcutting has been thoughtlessly permitted throughout the Lardeau Basin during recent years. We feel habitat loss is occurring at an alarming rate, while “talks” about a credible habitat protection plan continue and serve only to delay the immediate moratorium that is required. This cumulative loss and displacement of caribou is happening now and could jeopardize any recovery unless there is a moratorium on logging until a protection plan is put in place. The proposed cutblocks for this year lie in a key connectivity corridor for a range of mammalian species including mountain caribou, wolverine, lynx, grizzly bear, fishers and others that need protected habitat, along with more than 200 bird species, some of them listed. Southern mountain caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou) were documented near Gerrard in 2018. The proposed BC Timber Sales cutblocks lie within the Central Selkirk mountain caribou habitat, and we feel that the planned 2019 logging in the Lardeau Basin is grossly inconsistent with the Species at Risk Act. We ask you to please intervene now to prevent this planning from going ahead, and to oppose the planned clearcutting operations in critical caribou habitat and displacement of caribou. Nick Chatten

Crescent Valley

February 14, 2019

The Valley Voice

LETTERS

letters continued from page 4

for life! Even owning weed stocks can earn you a permanent ban, even if you never touched weed in your life. The application of BCAGA agencies like NSA, FFB, DEA, etc. make it difficult to lie to any authority.

This poor roll out of cannabis legalization in Canada is a sad realization of the poor leadership we have, at every level of government.

Jim Lawrence, President Friends of Lardeau River

Open letter to re: Pest Management Plan for provincial Crown land in southern BC

This is a preliminary response to the Application No. FLNRND PMP Southern Interior 2019 – 24. We are in the process of hiring an expert to assess the draft document of the proposed PMP and maps of the proposed treatment areas that appear online at www.for.gov.bc.ca/br/Plans/pmp.htm. The attached Fact Sheet outlines why our position is no use of chemicals to remove invasive plant species. The forest roads and Crown land throughout the Southern Interior are well used by the public and these areas should use a mechanical means for removal. The Smart Nut Nation hunt and gather from these areas and the exposure to these chemicals is unacceptable. It is also important to consider the wildlife, including butterflies and bees that now use these plants.

As a long-standing watershed protection group, in the process of petitioning the Honourable House to remove the remaining intact forests on Perry Ridge from the working forest and declare it a conservatory, we oppose the use of chemicals in the watershed in the Slocan Valley and throughout the area, which includes all the areas that drain into the Columbia River.

During the 80″s there was huge opposition to the use of chemicals on the railroads. As a result, the railroads in the Slocan Valley and Crown land were exempt from the use of chemicals, due to their proximity to water.

The entire area proposed for this pest management plan has many creeks and sub-surface water. Many of these creeks are the domestic use watersheds for communities throughout the area and as such should not have chemicals draining into them. We strongly object to the use of chemicals throughout the southern interior as proposed in this Pest Management Plan and we will be sending you a more detailed assessment by an expert in response to the use of chemicals on Crown land.

Marilyn Burgoo, President

Perry Ridge Water Users Association

Mountain caribou defenders speak

Recent front page photos of the last Southern Selkirk mountain caribou relocation hit home pretty hard. For three decades a small group of courageous folk have peacefully protested in the Duncan and Incomappleaux River drainages to try and protect very important intact ancient and old-growth forest clearcut hemlock ecological zones vital for mid/north Selkirk mountain caribou, grizzly, wolverine and a host of other endangered flora and fauna.

Our remote peaceful assembly (2003/04) in the Westfall River was violently attack several times by back country running ramping out blockades. We were extremely lucky no one was killed.

However, the violence and intimidation we have made local newspapers and BCTV, forcing Ministry of Forestry/ Environment and reluctant local political pandit to their bland effaced extricate mountain caribou in all of Selkirk.

A large area of old growth on lower south side of Westfall River was spared and several important drainages north of Westfall were spared the timberjack axe. For now.

In later summer of 2005, we fell into the hands of ramping up & Talbot clearcuts in Boyd Creek, a large valley that empties into Incomappleaux River, which is old growth corridor from Duncan/ Kootenay to Arrow/Columbia Valleys.

Our Boyd Creek blockade was taken down by court order. But a miracle happened September 5, 2005. A huge rockslide slammed into the bridge pinned to the canyon wall. The only access to the vast wilderness valley of the Incomappleaux River, P & T’s court order could not convince extremely powerful forces of nature to allow them to destroy 1500-year-old red cedar/ hemlock intact forest ecosystem. Our six weeks of praying and peacefully protesting was rewarded beyond our wildfire dreams.

We now hope to stop BCTS and Interior Logging Association from clearcutting important ancient/ old growth ecosystem on west side of Duncan Lake. Wish us luck.

Tom Prior

Nelson

CBC coverage of Venezuela

I wish the CBC coverage was more balanced.

Maduro was elected with 7,759,578 votes in 2013 and re-elected with 6,245,862 votes in 2018. Juan Guaido came second in Vargas in 2015 with 97,942 votes, 26.01% of all ballots cast.

Don’t take my word for it; check it out for yourself: http://www.cnn. gov/es/results_asambla2015/t/t/ reg_2400000.html

I do not speak Spanish so here is the site I obtained Guaido’s election results from:

http://www.cnn. gov/en/ reg_0000000 h t m 1

I am not saying I support Maduro, but he does appear to have more supporters in an election than Guaido has ever had.

If I can do this kind of research so can the CBC.

Andy Shadrack

Kaipo
by Art Joyce

Marya Follinsbee, the administrator recently hired to run the Vallican Whole Community Centre, Marya is a young mother, playwright and activist. This play portrays a series of vignettes of Slocan Valley women’s stories, representing “many generations and many different kinds of people.”

Marya takes on a new challenge of Slocan Valley women’s stories, portraying a series of vignettes for us in such a difficult time. To prevent future service interruptions, the Province will be performing selective dredging in the shallow areas of the channel near the Kootenay Lake Ferry.

SLOCAN VALLEY

Obituary of Tyler Adam Larstone
April 30, 1986 – Feb 1, 2019

It is with deep sadness that his family announce the death of Ty Larstone on February 1, 2019 near Appledale, B.C. He was 32 years old. Ty was born in Fort St. John, BC and moved to Winlaw when he was eight years old. He spent his younger years at Winlaw and Mount Sentinel Schools and remained in the Valley for most of his adult life. He worked for eight years at Kootenay Innovative Wood Products Ltd. and was a grader in his last years. Ty was of First Nations, Scots, Irish, and German heritage, and he maintained a particular love of the outdoors and testing himself against the challenges of these mountains and living in them with minimal equipment and shelter. He was an expert woodworker and snowboarder.

Denver Chico and his step father Phil Larstone.

He will be remembered by his grandmother Heather Larstone, and aunts, uncles, and cousins in the Ross, Dunn, and Larstone families as well as his close circle of friends, most of whom he has known for over 20 years. It was the greatest of those friends who enabled his return to his family.

We wish to extend our thanks for the outstanding work of the Castlegar and Nelson Fire and Rescue volunteers who participated in and contributed substantially to our having Ty back. In particular, we are so grateful to Jerome Liboiron (Yarkie) and his step father Phil Larstone.

With her remarkable life, overflowing with creative self-expression, determination, hard work and joy, our unique daughter, sister, wife, mother, aunt, and friend and teacher, departed in her sleep as her children held her hands. May she rest in peace.

Introducing the Vallican Whole's new administrator

The Valley Voice interviewed her about her new job.

What is it that excites you about being part of the Vallican Whole tradition? The Vallican Whole has become one of my most cherished memories since I moved to the Valley, from friends being married, to theatrical debuts, to powwow shows, to poetry slams... it’s full of overlapping, interwoven valley histories. It’s this beautiful, adaptable, warm, inviting space that has helped me make sense of all kinds of communities and visions, you can feel them in the Whole. I really admire the people who brought the vision into being, and the people who keep coming back to keep it alive. So I’m excited to connect more deeply with those communities, and to invite new happenings into the space! What in your background and experience drew you to this position? I’ve been a community organizer, and arts-maker, in a lot of different capacities over the years, from large-scale protests and theatrical direct action to community building, and skill-building and small-scale creative social transformation. So I have a lot of different kinds of practical experience in event organizing, outreach, community building and facilitation. Since moving to the Valley seven years ago I’ve especially been interested in theatre-making in this community. Those are some of the things I’m passionate about, and that I imagine will support my work as the administrator at the Whole. I do many things happen and bringing visions into being, and supporting people working for a more sustainable, interconnected community is at the heart of my work.

The are those kinds of events that have attracted me to the Whole. I’m also a mother of two young children, and it feels like the Whole is a space like the Whole embedded in our memories of growing up in this place.

How do you see your role as Administrator evolving from its traditional approach? Evolution is famously hard to predict, so we’ll see where things go. Right now I’m just fitting in and making sure things don’t get dropped in the transition. Looking forward, I’d like to see the Whole building sustainable – both financially and through our social capital (like volunteers and organizers) – and to keep building stronger relationships between all of the valley communities. Continuing to offer inspiring and relevant programming as an organization, finding ways to engage younger generations in the space, and building on existing, rich relationships are all things I see myself doing.

With what challenges do you foresee for the Whole moving deeper into the 21st century? How do you think those challenges can be met successfully? The generation that built the Whole came to the Valley with a lot of resourcefulness and is not afraid to do things on the cheap. This is a system that keeps a lot of us in constant stress. That is to say, capitalism is making it harder and harder for the Whole to be sustainable – and with that, we work a lot of local organizations, like Kootenay Food, the Young Agrarians, the Vallican Whole, the Slocan Valley Community Arts Council, and many many more. The ‘Whole Perspectives’ series, spearheaded by Moe Lyons, was a really wonderful event I’d like to make happen into the future – informational evenings featuring locals with wise and relevant perspectives on social, political and environmental issues. We’re excited to be welcoming the Slocan Valley Community Arts Council as a very active organization in our newly renovated basement. And the Vallican Whole are in rehearsals again for the third show that they’ll be performing in our building this May. Look forward to Peter Pan! Ty was born in Fort St. John, BC and moved to Winlaw when he was eight years old. He spent his younger years at Winlaw and Mount Sentinel Schools and remained in the Valley for most of his adult life. He worked for eight years at Kootenay Innovative Wood Products Ltd. and was a grader in his last years. Ty was of First Nations, Scots, Irish, and German heritage, and he maintained a particular love of the outdoors and testing himself against the challenges of these mountains and living in them with minimal equipment and shelter. He was an expert woodsman and snowboarder.

Funding awarded for nine waste wood utilization projects

Funding of $10 million from the Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia will mean more wood waste will be redirected to mills instead of being burned on the ground, creating more jobs for British Columbians and reducing carbon emissions. The individual grants range from $90,500 to $3,430,491 and cover nine projects in BC’s Interior. The successful proposals were selected from among 33 applications that were submitted in response to a call for proposals specific to fibre use, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The recovered wood will be used for a variety of purposes, including chips for pulp, wood pellets, hog fuel for bio-energy and cants (low-grade timber chips for pulp, wood pellets, hog fuel for bio-energy and cants (low-grade timber). The Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia, a Crown agency, was established in 2016 to advance the environmental and resource stewardship of the province’s forests.

Kootenay Lake service changes

To ensure ongoing safe and reliable operation of the Kootenay Lake Ferry during spring low-water levels, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is implementing the following service changes.

Temporary service change at Kootenay Lake submitted

April 13 - April 20: MV Osprey 2000 back in service, with reduced weight load. Potential for increased wait times during busy sailings.

Depending on the number and weight of commercial vehicles boarding the vessel during this time, the number of vehicles may need to be reduced. In some cases, this might result in a sailing wait for heavier vehicles.

To prevent future service interruptions, the Province will be performing selective dredging in the shallow areas of the channel near the Kootenay Lake Ferry at shallow water levels. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is implementing the following service changes.

March 10 - March 23: MV Osprey 2000 in service with a reduced weight load. Potential for increased wait times during busy sailings.

March 24 - April 12: MV Balfour in service. Vehicle capacity reduced to 28 vehicles. Potential for increased wait times during busy sailings.

March 24 - April 12: MV Balfour in service. Vehicle capacity reduced to 28 vehicles. Potential for increased wait times during busy sailings.
Trial runs for New Harrop II cable ferry to happen next week in Kaslo

by Jan McMurray

The Harrop II, the new cable ferry for the crossing of Kootenay Lake from Longbeach to Harrop-Procter, has been launched in Kaslo and is expected to go into service at the end of the first week in March.

The ferry was built on a private property on the Kaslo waterfront by Waterbridge Steel, a Nakusp-based company. John Harding, Waterbridge Steel president and CEO, reports that the ferry’s trial runs will happen in Kaslo “probably about the 21st of February. We have to get the ramps on and operational, and attach it to the cables.”

Harding says when the ferry is to Harrop, it will go into service overnight. “We have to get it into service in four or five hours.

It will be tricky to switch out the old one for the new one, but I think it will work out well. We’ve got it figured out.”

There were 30 people working on the project in Kaslo at the peak, Harding says, including many labourers from Kaslo. Specialized welders were brought from Nakusp to Kaslo for the assembly.

Harding says the construction site in Kaslo is excellent. “There’s lots of room and it’s out of the way. The people walking their dogs down there haven’t interrupted us at all. We really like Kaslo.”

The next project for Waterbridge Steel is the Arrow Park cable ferry, which will be built and launched in Nakusp, and dragged into place. This is the last of the four cable ferries the company won the contract to build, to replace the old ones at Adams Lake, Glade, Harrop-Procter and Arrow Park.

After that, Harding says, “There’s some rumour of a big new Balfour ferry, so we’ll see. It’s working its way through government. We’re not going to be in Kaslo for that at all. We’re probably going to Nakusp.”

Harding says the Balfour ferry would be a two-year project, so he would likely have 60-80 employees in Kaslo if it happens.

The January 12 launch of the Harrop II went well, Harding said, “It stayed there during the windstorm last week and didn’t move anywhere!”

Kaslo’s sewer expansion contract awarded to Brenton Industries

submitted by Village of Kaslo

The Village of Kaslo is pleased to announce that it has awarded the tender for the ‘Sanitary Sewer System Expansion Phase 1’ to Brenton Industries Ltd. of Kaslo.

In 2012, the Village began development of a Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP). One of the recommendations arising from this work is to expand the sanitary sewer service within the lower Kaslo area. Phase One of this proposed sewer system expansion will provide service to approximately 60 parcels in and adjacent to the downtown commercial area.

The Village applied for funding through the Union of BC Municipalities Strategic Priorities fund and was awarded $910,000 for this project, which will fund contract costs, engineering, and project-related costs to the Village.

This is great news for the residents of Kaslo. We anticipate starting construction in March 2019, with an anticipated construction timeline of approximately four months.
Father and son team on Winlaw Fire Department

by Katrine Campbell

Fred Dutoff and his son Matthew have been stalwarts of the Winlaw Fire Department for a long time, says Fire Chief Stephanie Whitney – a combined total of 27 years.

“They own the Home Hardware store downtown” and are just great assets to our community. We’re so lucky to have them as firefighters.”

“Their knowledge of chimneys and building codes have probably saved us a few call-outs.”

Dutoff senior explains that he advocates for stove and chimney safety when he’s working at the store.

“I try to get people to do it the right way,” he says. “There’s a sign that asks, ‘Have you swept your chimney?’ I’ve been to some fires where the chimney [looked like it] hadn’t been swept since 1920.”

Dutoff says chimneys should be cleaned once a year, if not twice, depending on what kind of wood you’re burning and if your chimney is inside or outside. Outside means cold and the chimney produces more creosote. Seasoned wood burns much cleaner than green wood.

“Sometimes I size up the customer and tell them ‘Don’t go up there – you’ll hurt yourself.’” He tells them to hire a certified chimney sweep.

Dutoff, born and bred in the Winlaw area, became involved with the fire department when the chief at the time (2003) asked him to join, saying he was having a hard time getting members. Dutoff showed up to check it out “and after a while it becomes a habit.”

As with most rural volunteer fire departments, Winlaw has trouble keeping up a full complement because older firefighters retire and move closer to better medical care, while younger ones often have to leave the area for work.

“But your buds are there, a really close group... it’s hard to give up. There’s maybe a couple of years left in me.”

“My concern is trying to bring on new people and train them.”

His son Matthew joined up in 2003, when he was 16 and in grade 10. While his decision to join was due to his father’s influence, he says it turned into a lifestyle. He graduated and left for university, but re-joined the department when he returned home.

He too notes that there has been quite a turnover in the last four or five years, for the same reasons his father cited but also because “some didn’t find it a good fit.”

Training has changed a lot, Dutoff says. “When I started it was ‘learn from the older guys’ but then it really moved to more professional training.”

The new training was mandated by the Province but the standard of training for rural firefighting was brought to the level of beginners’ training for full-time, professional firefighters in urban areas, he says. A lot of it doesn’t apply to rural fire halls.

However, the volunteers provide something the community needs, and the department needs dedicated members willing to put on their lives on hold.

“We can’t go out and drink – we need to be present and run off at the drop of a hat.” Although Dutoff says it’s tough to come by a big enough turnout – four or five might respond out of 15 or 16 on the roster – Winlaw gets help from neighbouring halls and “we’re usually able to scrounge up enough folks.”

13th Annual North Valley Mountain Film Festival

The North Valley Mountain Film Festival celebrates its 13th annual event on March 2 at the Silverton Memorial Hall. This year’s festival showcases a wide range of films that highlight our local landscapes, mountain sport and culture. Some also challenge us to take a hard look at how we impact the environment and to think about what we can do to minimize our footprint when we are in the mountains.

- Quietly, patiently, trees endure. They are the oldest living beings we come to know during our time on earth, living bridges into our planet’s expansive past.
- Tree-line is a filming the forests on which our species has always depended – and around which some skiers and snowboarders etch their entire lives. Follow a group of snow-seekers, scientists and healers as they explore the birch forests of Japan, the red cedar of British Columbia and the bristlecone of Nevada, delving deeper into the rich environments they call home.
- Due to climate change, ski seasons will be markedly reduced. New lower elevations will receive significantly less snowfall. The Curve of Time, brought to us by director Jordan Manley and Switchback Entertainment, follows professional skiers Greg Hill and Chris Rubens as they peer into the future and have a conversation with their future selves. They contemplate the sobering forecast and the impact their thirst for adventure has on the very environment that sustains and fulfills them.
- The inspiring legacy of Mary Vaux. We will trace Mary’s footsteps and see the landscape as she saw it.
- Carving Landscapes, a short film by Revelstoke-based Agathe Bernard, tells the story of the inspiring legacy of Mary Vaux. We will trace Mary’s footsteps and see the landscape as she saw it.
- Pavilion of the Pacific Northwest is a film celebrating the pioneers and the important homage to a rebellious female pioneer and the important contributions of her early glacial research.

Enjoy these shows and more, starting at 7 pm on March 2. Doors open at 6:30. Proceeds go to support the North Slocan Trail Society and their work to maintain local trails. A concession with sweets, pizza and beverages will be available.

Tickets are available at Rutabaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies (adults $10 and youth/student $5).

More information on this event please go to www.thelangham.ca or phone 250-353-2661.

For more information about this year’s film festival please visit northvalleyfilmfestival.com or contact us at northvalleyfilmfestival@gmail.com.

Seedy Saturday coming to Silverton March 2

Seedy Saturday is an event that promotes the exchange of knowledge and skills for seed saving, using locally adapted varieties and promoting biodiversity. It is an opportunity for participants to share their seeds, knowledge, and experiences with others, fostering a sense of community and resilience in food systems.

The event is typically held in March, around the time when gardeners start thinking about their planting season. It is usually organized by local community groups or agricultural societies, and it provides a platform for seed savers to come together and exchange seeds, information, and stories.

Participants at the Seedy Saturday event in Silverton are encouraged to bring their seeds to share, whether they are locally adapted varieties or rare, heirloom seeds that are no longer widely available. The seeds can be exchanged directly, and participants often take home seeds from others.

In addition to the seed exchange, Seedy Saturday events often feature workshops and demonstrations on various seed-saving techniques, such as drying, storing, and stratification. These sessions provide valuable information for participants looking to improve their seed-saving skills.

The event is not just about seeds, however. It is an opportunity to connect with others who share a common interest in local food systems, support local agriculture, and build community resilience.

Seedy Saturday events are typically part of a larger movement of people who are advocating for more sustainable and resilient food systems. They aim to promote the value of locally adapted varieties in food systems and encourage biodiversity in agriculture.

In conclusion, Seedy Saturday is a unique event that brings together seed savers, growers, and enthusiasts to share their knowledge, expertise, and seeds, fostering a sense of community and resilience in food systems.
How native bees and plants co-evolved

Friends of the Lardeau River (FLR) invites adults and students to an eye-opening presentation by Gord Hutchings entitled The Coevolution of Flowering Plants and Native Bees. Illustrated with many photographs, his talk will explore the direct interdependent relationship between BC’s flowering plants and the native bee species that pollinate them – an evolutionary process of some 120 million years beginning at the end of the Cretaceous Period. The presentation will be at the Argenta Community Hall, February 20 at 7 pm. Admission is by donation.

Hutchings will show us how the anatomical features of bees and various plant groups have, through time, evolved to complement one another, each species now obliged to reward the other in exchange for survival benefits. His infectious passion for insects knows no bounds. He has spent 20 years as a professional field biologist, and his entire life as an insect collector and researcher. During earlier years he immersed himself in studying dragonflies, and in recent decades has become equally fascinated with native bees. As a result, he has become widely known as a community educator, on native bees, our most important pollinator of crops.

His countless hours spent on insect research in diverse habitats throughout western Canada has advanced the understanding of BC insects generally, and led to the donation of thousands of valuable specimens to the Royal BC Museum. As a consultant, collector, researcher and author, he has worked with BC Ministry of Environment Conservation Data Centre, Royal BC Museum, Yukon Territory Government, Canadian Wildlife Service, Forestry Canada, universities, and non-profit groups. He also operates an active website.

WANTED: Reports of dead bats and of bats flying in winter

BC bats are threatened by disease, and researchers are again asking for the public to help. White Nose Syndrome (WNS), a fungal disease responsible for the death of millions of bats in eastern North America, has moved to the west coast.

Confirmed in Washington State just 150 km south of the border, the presence of the fungus is very worrisome for the health of our bat populations. The disease has near 100% mortality for some species of bats exposed to the fungus, including the familiar Little Brown Bat. Although devastating for bats, WNS does not affect humans.

“White Nose Syndrome is a fungal disease that kills bats during hibernation,” says Leigh Anne Isaac, KCBP coordinating biologist. “Detecting WNS in our province will require many eyes on the ground.”

The typical first sign of this disease is bats flying during the winter, an unusual sighting at a time of year when bats should be hibernating. Another sign of the presence of WNS is the appearance of dead bats outdoors as they succumb to the effects.

“We are encouraging the public to report dead bats or any sightings of winter bat activity to the KCBP toll-free phone number, website, or email [see below]. Bats carcasses will be submitted for testing for White Nose Syndrome and would provide the earliest indication of the presence of the disease in BC,” says Isaac. Reports of winter bat activity will help focus research, monitoring and protection efforts.

If you find a dead bat, report it to KCBP as soon as possible for further information. Never touch a dead bat with your bare hands. Please note that if you or your pet has been in direct contact with the bat you will need further information regarding the risk of rabies to you and your pet.

Currently, there are no treatments for WNS. However, mitigating other threats to bat populations and preserving and restoring bat habitat may provide populations with the resilience to rebound. This is where the KCBP and the general public can help.

Funded by the Columbia Basin Trust, the Regional Districts of the East and Central Kootenays, Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, Forest Enhancement Society of BC, Province of BC, and the Habitat Stewardship Program, the KCBP works with the government and others on public outreach activities, public reports of moosing bats in buildings, and our citizen-science bat monitoring program.

To contact KCBP, see www.bcbats.ca, email kootenay@bcbats.ca or call 1-855-922-2287 ext. 14.

Cellist Josephine van Lier will perform at Kaslo and Silverton

Baroque cellist Josephine van Lier will perform at St. Andrew’s Church in Kaslo on Friday, March 1 at 7 pm, and at the Silverton Gallery on Sunday, March 3 at 2 pm.

She will play a program of rarely heard music recently discovered 17th and 18th century Italian music for solo cello, alongside the well-known and beloved cello music by Bach. She played a baroque cello built in 1725 she will talk about the instrument and the music during the performance.

Music by Bach, Dall’Abaco, Suprano, Galli, Vitali, Rufo, Gabrielli and more.

A versatile musician and educator, Josephine van Lier is equally at ease on historic instruments – such as baroque cello, a five-string violoncello piccolo, a seven-string bass viola da gamba, a violone and tenor and treble gamba – as on their contemporary counterparts.

She uses instruments and bows whose designs, construction and material span over 400 years in origin, from her 1725 baroque cello, to her 1870 modern cello, from gut strings on her historic instruments, to steel strings on the modern ones. She therefore covers a wide variety of repertoire utilizing the endless possibilities that this range of instruments, string set-ups and bows allow her.

She recently found “the cello of their dreams,” a baroque cello built by John Sexton in 1725, which she will be playing for this concert.

Advance tickets for the Kaslo performance available at Figments ($20) and $22 at the door. Admission is by donation.

FLR president Jim Lawrence expressed his delight with “the high calibre we continue to bring in through our popular Speakers Series, now in its second year running.” Supported by funds from RDCK and Columbia Basin Trust, FLR continues to foster community understanding of and engagement with issues affecting the well-being of sensitive ecosystems in our area.
What does it look like to return from extinction?

On Sunday March 3 authors Marilyn James and Taress Alexis will address the reality of their living culture in the face of bureaucratic genocide and share excerpts from their beautifully illustrated book, Not Extinct: Keeping the Sinixt Way. It is a lively story and discussion describing the Sinxi̱ṯ relationship with the Columbia River watershed and their quest to reclaim their rights and responsibilities in their x̌aʔx̌ʔum xúlaʔxʷ, their sacred homeland.

The event takes place at 1pm at the Slocan Community Library. Marilyn James was the spokesperson for the Sinixt Nation in the Canadian portion of her people’s traditional territory for more than 25 years and continues to be active as an elder. She holds a Masters of Education from Simon Fraser University and has developed aboriginal curriculum currently being used throughout British Columbia. Co-author Taress Alexis is a Sinixt mother of two young children who has worked as an Aboriginal Education support worker and teaching consultant in BC school districts where she delivered culturally appropriate materials to school-aged children using storytelling and crafts.

The Sinixt authors explore many aspects of their living culture including food, games, language, hunting and other cultural practices as well as the impact of the 1956 bureaucratic genocide of their people in Canada. Their perspectives represent the interest of increasing numbers of people in developing respectful and decolonizing relationships between Indigenous and settler peoples.

Many years in the making, this book is part of a multi-pronged project by the Blood of Life Collective from Sinixt Territory in BC. The work of the collective has been funded by the Canada Council for the Arts Aboriginal Storytelling Program, the BC Council for the Arts and the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance of the Columbia Basin Trust.

Please join James and Alexis to hear stories about Snk’lip, the trickster, and the other Animal Beings of Sinixt oral history which are sure to delight the audience. Author reading events are free for the public at the Slocan Community Library, 710 Harold Street across from the Harold Street Café.
Kasin resident Karin Fawcett Fraser can hardly contain her excitement. Born with a disability affecting her right arm and hand, she is now getting a prosthetic hand made for her on a 3D printer in Kaslo.

“This is something I researched a year ago and now it’s happening. Wow,” she says in an interview.

Karin first heard about prosthetics being made with 3D printers when a friend sent her some information about Facebook about it happening in the UK. She emailed the UK contact, but was told they could only help people who live in the UK. The more she researched it, the more she wanted to try it.

“I was talking to my sister about it in her store (Rise Up Boutique) and she texted her friend, Andy, who is new to Kaslo. He came to the store and looked at my hand and said this was something he was looking to do with his 3D printer. The next morning, the GoFundMe page was up. I was in tears.”

Andy Pether built a 3D printer about two years ago as a hobby. He moved to Kaslo from Castlegar last October, and set up the printer at Mel Bryce’s computer repair shop in the Kootenaian building. Andy, Mel and Kris Kohlruss, grade 11 student who is working part-time at the shop, are all working on Karin’s prosthetic hand.

“This is my first major project on the printer,” Andy said. “There are lots of challenges, but many other people have worked on prosthetics and robotic hands so there’s lots of information online. This is a unique problem, though, so there are many issues we’re solving ourselves.”

The team has built the plastic hand and is now researching different methods of motion for it. Andy says it will take some time.

Karin’s right hand is missing the thumb and has very limited motion. “When I put on the hand, I have a thumb! I can’t wait to be able to hold a hamburger with two hands!” she says.

Karin says this will be the third 3D prosthetic made in Canada, and the first in BC. The cost of Karin’s hand will be approximately $7,000 – compared to the cost of a conventional prosthetic at about $95,000.

A GoFundMe page has been set up for donations to this cause. Search for ‘Helping Hand for Karin.’

by Jan McMurray

Karin Fawcett Fraser shows off the prosthetic hand being made for her with a 3D printer in Kaslo.

Celebrate winter on Family Day in Kaslo

Join us on Family Day (Monday, February 18) between 10 am and 3 pm for the Winter in the Forest Festival at the west end of the Kaslo airstrip, with new, improved parking and accessibility!

Enjoy free food and live music while you warm yourself by the bonfire. Participate in a variety of games and activities for all ages or watch as two dogs, bannock on a stick, hot chocolate and baked beans, hot dogs and veggie homemade soups, chili and animal awareness. Paint your masterpiece with new, improved parking and accessibility!

The Kaslo & District Community Forest Society and organized by the Kaslo Housing Society with the participation of many groups and individuals in the community. You can show your support for your local non-profit society groups by purchasing an annual membership. Membership lists are an important way for societies to raise money and secure funding for the services they provide.

A society membership usually costs between $5-$10/year and gives you voting rights at that group’s AGM. There is no obligation associated with getting a membership, it is just a way of showing that you value what the society does. Get more info at Facebook: Kaslo Winter in the Forest.

Live music:

Heavy Folk; The Block Heaters; Mountain Weather; Turkey Soup Band; Steven Lee & Rebekka Harrison.

Free food:

Homemade soups, chili and baked beans, hot dogs and veggie dogs, bannock on a stick, hot chocolate and hot apple cider.

Scheduled events:

10 am and 2 pm: Wildlife Protection guided forest walk;
11 am: Woodsman Skills competition;
Noon: Human Dog Sled race;
1 pm: Survivor Game: Tracking and Animal Awareness.

All-day events:

Avalanche Awareness practice (Kaslo Search & Rescue); ball hockey; capture the flag; winter craft and snow painting (Kaslo Early Childhood Coalition); cross-country skiing (Kaslo Outdoor Recreation & Trails Society); snow painting and photo booth (Kaslo & Area Youth Centre); maple taffy on the snow ($2).

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COMMUNITY

Kaslo man to train dog for Search and Rescue

by Art Joyce

Kaslo resident Andy Scott’s dog Bute will be getting some higher education – training as a Search and Rescue dog.

The one-year-old Labrador retriever, named for Scotland’s Isle of Bute, passed the initial screening stage with the Kaslo Search and Rescue team. Bute will be the team’s first trained search dog.

Scott should know – as a former Royal Marine Commando with the British Army serving in Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan, he’s been firsthand how trained dogs can save lives by sniffing out explosives. “They’re especially good at finding missing persons. A recent example was the woman and her dog who were lost in the Jumbo Pass. SCORP estimates there were four helicopters, about 100 ground searchers and four or five dog teams to cover a huge wilderness area. In a typical BC forest, visibility for searchers can be limited 10-20 metres from each other, increasing the amount of time and personnel needed to cover each search grid. By comparison, a dog could cover an entire kilometre grid quite comfortably in a day.

“Whatever happens, when people get confused and lost, they tend to just keep going, so the search area keeps expanding. It’s a human tendency; they go downhill, or they follow a road or a track and get further away from where you want them, which is just to stand still.”

The advantage dogs have over people is of course their sense of smell, which is estimated to be 40 times more acute than a human’s. They possess about 300 million olfactory sensors compared to our 10 million. That means that even in a situation where a body is located underwater or buried under an avalanche, a dog can still sniff it out. In cases where a skier has gone out without wearing a transceiver, a trained SAR dog is the only option.

Trained SAR dogs don’t come cheap. Scott estimates he’ll spend $10,000 of his own money to train Bute, paying for spring and fall courses. The RCMP aren’t good candidates for search dogs that aren’t good candidates for search and rescue training. Dog teams are certified annually by the RCMP. Aside from the twice-annual courses, dog handlers can expect to train intensely on their own in the early stages – up to twice a week.

“We get a little help from the local SAR team but they’ve obviously got a broad spectrum of things they need to put money towards and the dog is just a very small component.”

The Kaslo SAR team covers an immense territory, from Coffee Creek north to Trout Lake. That territory includes north of New Denver to Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes. Nakusp at present does not have a SAR unit. Kaslo’s team is also sometimes called upon to assist with the lower Slocan Valley south of Winlaw. There are currently only search dogs available in the Rossland and Nelson SAR teams. And just like humans, if a dog is injured, it can knock them out of the game for an extended period while they recuperate.

“There was one person in Nelson that actually sliced through a dog’s tendons with a ski so that dog was out of the game for about six months,” says Scott. “You can imagine with searches going through barbed wire and all sorts of things, anything can happen.”

Scott has lived in Kaslo for three years after emigrating from the UK and is employed as the facilities manager for Ainsworth Hot Springs. He first got involved with search and rescue in Alberta after adopting a dog with behavioural problems and “realizing that the dog just needed a job. Unfortunately the dog did not make it but gave me the enthusiasm to try again.”

For more information about BCSDA and search dogs visit http://www.bcsda.ca.

For more information about Blues Brews and BBQ features visit www.bcsda.ca.
by Karine Campbell

- Three people appeared as delegates to introduce the RDCK’s Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP). Trish Dehnel (Community Energy Association), Carmen Proctor (Nelson EcoSave) and Jen Walker-Larsen (BC Hydro). Their PowerPoint presentation explained the energy audit that the district amounted to $3,764 per person for the year (2016 figures) and the program would help people save money. The BC Energy Step Code, part of the BC Building Code mandates energy efficiency in new construction, including homes, and REEP has an existing home component. Rebates and financing (up to $1,000) to his knowledge, all Nakusp residents REEP will roll out community launches in the region in April.

- The second delegation, Mike Riediger and Dawn Driscoll, made a presentation on ‘Visit Nakusp. Social Media and Destination Management.’ They said without a social media presence, “people don’t exist at the mind of travellers.” Presence in social media “draws people into your website.” Discoid said they were offering an opportunity to the Nakusp Library to participate in social media and to request an annual 3% cost of living increases to keep up with the cost of living are expected to continue.

- Increases to living are expected to continue.

-.area K residents will collectively pay $8,846, and for the Area K residents who contribute a single focus.”

- The report on 2015 to 2018 Building Permit Totals were received; for 2015 permit value was $1,183,177; for 2016: $2,044,827; 2017: $2,348,743; 2018: $1,611,400.

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submitted

A new report by BC Hydro finds that, when it comes to heating the home, BC couples are at odds – with four in 10 admitting to arguing over the temperature.

The report titled 'Thermostat wars: How the battle over household temperature is turning up the heat on relationships' found that while arguments about the temperature are common across the province, 5% of couples describe their situation as an "all-out thermostat war."

A survey commissioned by BC Hydro found that British Columbian couples describe their situation as an "all-out thermostat war."

Households across the province, 5% of couples admit to arguing about the temperature are common across the province.

Four in 10 admitting to arguing over the thermostat.

While temperature is turning up the heat on relationships, found that while arguments about the temperature are common across the province, 5% of couples describe their situation as an "all-out thermostat war."

A survey commissioned by BC Hydro found that British Columbian couples describe their situation as an "all-out thermostat war."

"There are also the 20% that admit to turning the temperature up or down just to annoy their partner."

- turning on a space heater is not more energy-efficient - it is not more energy-efficient
- it is not more energy-efficient
- it is not more energy-efficient
- it is not more energy-efficient
- it is not more energy-efficient

The survey also revealed what temperature the thermostat is set at is one of the most contentious household arguments – ahead of who is cooking dinner, what time the dreaded morning alarm is set for, and who forgot to turn off the lights when they left the house.

However, many of these arguments are often based around misconceptions, for example:

- cranking up the thermostat does not heat the home up faster than turning it up a degree or two at a time; it is not more energy-efficient
- keeping the thermostat as a constant temperature instead of adjusting it based on the time of day or what activity is going on in the home; turning on a space heater is not always a more energy-efficient way to keep warm.

With Valentine’s Day around the corner, BC Hydro is encouraging couples to call an end to the thermostat war. It recommends setting the thermostat at 21 °C when relaxing or watching TV, 18 °C when cooking or doing housework, and 16 °C when away from home or sleeping.

Other tips to reduce heating costs and stay comfortable this winter include:

- using a programmable or smart thermostat to automatically adjust the temperature of the home based on the time of day;
- installing weatherstripping around doors and windows to seal up gaps and cracks that let cold air into the home and warm air out – and lead to higher heating costs; - using BC Hydro’s electricity tracking tools to see how adjusting the thermostat can impact a household’s electricity use and costs.

COMMUNITY

BC Hydro reports another planned outage this spring

Since the spring of 2017, BC Hydro says, it has been working to complete restoration and repair work on the 100-kilometre transmission line that serves more than 3,000 customers in the Nakusp area. The project is “a significant investment that will improve safety and ensure continued reliability” for customers in Nakusp, New Denver, Brouse, Burton, East Arrow Park, Glenbank, Hills, Malkinson, Rosebery, Silverton and Summit Lake.

“Crews have now completed most of the required work,” says BC Hydro. “One more planned outage in the spring of 2019 is needed to finish the project safely.”

Work completed so far includes installing 228 automatic sleeves on the transmission power line wire and 93 of 196 on the distribution line wires between the Monashee and New Denver substations. Crews replaced poles or cross arms on about 326 transmission line structures, just over 90% of the structures that require work. The new poles are higher than the original poles to help keep lines away from trees and vehicles.

Existing access roads between New Denver and Nakusp and between Burton and Nakusp were restored and upgraded. Remote access work was undertaken in the spring and fall during planned outages. This work required the support of helicopters and additional out-of-area crews to maximize the work completed in each outage.

Work still remaining on 25 structures will be completed in early 2019. To minimize any impacts, BC Hydro says it will work with local government and notify customers in advance of an outage. To make sure you are notified, it says, you can sign up for a MyHydro online account at bchydro.com and ensure that your contact information is correct.

Newsmaker of the week

Wyatt Peterson of Nakusp is attending Pursuit of Excellence Hockey Academy in Kelowna for his second year, and is playing on the Midget Varsity U16 team.

Advertise in the Valley Voice. It pays!!!

Call 358-7218 for details
valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca

Village of New Denver

PUBLIC NOTICES

2019 UTILITY BILLINGS

Invoices for 2019 water and garbage charges have been mailed to property owners. Payments can be made in person at the Village Office (cash, cheque or debit) or through Kootenay Savings Credit Union’s online banking.

Please note that a 5% penalty will be applied to all amounts that have not been paid by January 15th of each year, and an additional 5% penalty will be applied to all amounts that remain unpaid at October 1st of every year.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the Village of New Denver municipal office will now be open weekdays except statutory holidays from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm.

COUNCIL MEETING CANCELLED

A reminder that the Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2019 will be CANCELLED as elected officials will be attending training sessions in Kimberley. The next regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2019 – 7:00 pm at Council Chambers.

CIP/AAP GRANT PROGRAMS

The Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Programs (CIP/AAP) proposals are now being accepted until 4:30 pm on Thursday, February 28, 2019.

Please note that the 2019 submission process has changed and in advance of submitting your 2019 proposal you are encouraged to carefully read through the application guide and application worksheet. This year’s proposals must be submitted through the Trust’s online application system. Please check the Village of New Denver website for more information.

115 Slocan Avenue · P.O. Box 40, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0
(250) 358-2316 · office@newdenver.ca · www.newdenver.ca

Pursuit of Excellence Hockey Academy in Kelowna for his second year, and is playing on the Midget Varsity U16 team.

Players on the Nakusp Women’s Hockey team, Kootenay Thunder, have upped their game with the acquisition of new jerseys, made possible by a donation from the local Freemasons. Pictured are Neil Joy, of the Star of the West Lodge No. 61, with team manager and defender Sheila Seaton and goaltiers Shannon Stuck and Stephanie Stenseth.

Players on the Nakusp Women’s Hockey team, Kootenay Thunder, have upped their game with the acquisition of new jerseys, made possible by a donation from the local Freemasons. Pictured are Neil Joy, of the Star of the West Lodge No. 61, with team manager and defender Sheila Seaton and goaltiers Shannon Stuck and Stephanie Stenseth.

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School District 8 celebrates Black History Month

submitted

Throughout the District this month, Kootenay Lake SD8 students and staff will honour and celebrate black history through a variety of events, activities and initiatives.

Black History Month commemorates the many achievements and contributions of African-Canadians, who throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation it is today.

A unique activity book, Big Dreamers, created by Canadian authors Akilah Newton and Tami Gubay, has been distributed to all SD 8 elementary schools. Big Dreamer provides a timeline, examines black history in each province and territory and highlights the achievements of African-Canadians whose stories are often left untold.

Black History Month is a time to learn more about these Canadian stories and the many other important contributions to the settlement, growth and development of Canada, and about the diversity of black communities across the country and their importance to the history of this nation.

The District is also hosting the Overture with the Arts (OWTA) organization and their tour, B.R.A.W.L. (Black Revolutionary Activist Women Leaders), February 26 to 28 at participating schools. OWTA is a non-profit organization, based in Montreal, that offers education in music, dance, drama and vocal training. Using their trademark entertainment style that combines education, slam poetry, hip hop, live theatre, stand up comedy, and audience participation/interaction, the B.R.A.W.L. tour will give students a vital introduction to outstanding black women throughout history, shining a light on their amazing accomplishments.

While some American women will be mentioned, the emphasis will primarily be on Canadians. For more information: http://owta.org/brawl/.

Contact the school directly for information: http://owta.org/brawl/.

Family Day on the Slocan Valley Rail Trail

submitted

This year the annual Winter Day on the Trail will take place on the Slocan Valley Rail Trail takes place on Family Day, February 18 from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with events from the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society (SVHTS) will partner this year with Slocan Valley Recreation to offer a fun family event.

The event will be set up at the Winlaw Station and Trailhead. Like last year, there will be the very popular ski waxing demo (even the newest skis can benefit). For a $15 donation they will even wax your skis – but come early, to make sure your skis get done.

Slocan Valley Rec will offer skills for kids and snowshoes for adults to use, should you not have them and want to be part of the Trail experience. There will be individual and group lessons offered, both in classic and skate skiing, that might make your skiing experience even better.

Of course, everyone is invited to come out and explore the Rail Trail and see what winter has to offer this year. The swans have been seen all along the Slocan River and you might find a few hugging around. There’ll be a bonfire going and refreshments with hearty bowls of chili and hot dogs available. It’ll be a great time to catch up on what’s been happening on the Rail Trail and what the future holds. Memberships will be available if you wish to support the Rail Trail. All proceeds of the day will go towards maintaining the Slocan Valley Rail Trail.

The Winlaw Trailhead can be reached from Highway 6 in the Slocan Valley – watch for the large directional signs. For more information, contact the SVHTS at 1-888-683-SVRT, or Slocan Valley Rec at 250-226-0008, on Facebook or at www.slocanvalleyrailtrail.ca.

Food for Thought: Life with Women in India

submitted

The Hidden Garden Gallery invites you to “Food for Thought Presentation’’ Sunday, February 24, 7:30 pm, at Knox Hall in New Denver.

In Life with Women in India, by Gitta Ridder, details her work teaching safety and empowerment in their communities, being part of their lives as a consultant, coach, teacher and friend, and making the program culturally relevant.

Ridder was born in Germany in 1955 and immigrated to Montreal in 1974. She became active in the women’s movement, mostly in crisis intervention, violence prevention and personal development/consciousness raising. In 1977 she was certified as a Wen(l)do instructor. In 1979, she initiated the Wenlo movement in West Germany and in East Germany in 1990. From 2001 to 2008, while living in India, she developed the Wenlo India Trainer’s Network. In 2003 she trained with Bridget Belgrave in Nonviolent Communication (NVC) which later became integrated in the extensive Wenlo instructor trainings in India/ Bangladesh.

Ridder now lives in New Denver.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUDGET SPIZZA: A Finely Award winning, hand-stretched artisan pizza. 250-355-2382.

KASLO HOUSING SOCIETY Housing Coordinator, assisting residents of Kaslo and Area D with affordable housing. Office hours Tuesday 1-3 Wednesday & Thursday 9-12 by appointment. #23 The Lantham, Kaslo. 250-353-8363. Funding for artists! If you live between Enterprise Creek and Hills, you can pick up your funds! Call 250-237-6416 for appointment. For more info: http://basculture.ca/funding-programs/. Questions? Email CKCA. March 1st Application Deadline for artists! If you live between Enterprise Creek and Hills, you can pick up your funds! Call 250-237-6416 for appointment. For more info: http://basculture.ca/funding-programs/. Questions? Email CKCA.

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SLOCAN VALLEY COMMUNITY LEGACY Society 2019 grants now available! Visit our website at slocanvalleylegacy.com to download the guidelines and application form. Grants up to $3,000 per group. Deadline March 15, 2019.

COMING WITH US: V_lcannon White Community Choir, directed by Sharon Lang, will be starting on Sunday, February 17. We are a fun, living, inclusive group and welcome new members. You do not need to read music or audition, just bring your enthusiasm and commitment to our Sunday sessions at the Vallican Whole. Audio files and sheet music will be supplied to help you learn the songs. Sessions run from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm and change to 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm when the clocks change on March 10, with some holiday breaks. Cost is $55. Mark your calendar – June 2 is our spring concert! For more information, call Sharon at (250)226-7191 or email her at currirod61@yahoo.ca. Your ad could be here for only $11.00 + GST.

CLASSIFIED ADS

THE VALLEY VOICE is a community newspaper where people are thinking about succession planning! We invite community members interested in the newspaper business (or learning about the newspaper business) to contact us by email: valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca. Serious inquiries only, please.

DO YOU ALWAYS DREAM about starting your own business? If so, come to 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. This workshop is FREE! Space is limited. Call 265-3674 ext. 201 or email Nakusp@futures.bc.ca to reserve. Tickets may not be available at the door. BC Gaming rules will apply. The Legion welcomes members & guests.


BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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RE: THE VALLEY VOICE

CARDBOARD BOXES – We do cardboard boxes for $10.00 per 10. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Bob 250-355-2084.

TOURS & TRIPS

Budding Pizza, Kaslo: $11.00 + GST

TOWING

Slocan Towing Serving the Slocan Valley 24-Hour Towing & Recovery Flatdeck Service: 250-226-7084

ADVERTISE IN THE VALLEY VOICE! Your ad could be here for only $19.50 + GST

JEWELRY

Jo’s JEWELRY CUSTOM WORK AND REPAIR IN SILVER AND GOLD, BY APPOINTMENT 363-2134

WILLIAM HUNTER CABIN CUSTOMERS: We stock oil & filters. We do oil changes. 778.454.0180. Phone: 250-265-3312

RECYCLING

RECYCLING COMPANY

Bikes, Skis, Snowshoes Sales and Maintenance Call Shon 250-265-3332

MARCH 15, 2019, SLOCAN! Mondays, Feb 25-Mar 11, 9-11 am

NOT YOUR CHILDREN? ALPHABET SOUP

ALPHABET SOUP

Kids, bring your parents for a morning of fun and learning. Ages 3-5. Join us each Thursday morning at the Aspen Hall in New Denver for a morning of fun and learning. Info: membership & donations 250-358-2333

Hand & Soul Wellness Centre 202 Lake Avenue, Silverton

CHIROPRAC'TOR: Dr. Larry Zaulek Open 10 am-1 pm Wednesdays & Saturday from 10 am-1 pm

COUNSELLOR: Sue Mistretta, M.A. 5 years experience helping clients struggling with anxiety, depression, life transitions, grief, self esteem, depression, health crisis, life transitions and more. Organic & holistic approach. No matter the issue, you will find a compassionate, safe, non judgmental environment. Offices in Silverton & Winlaw.

Call 220-358-2177 for appointments Visit www.handandsoul.ca

MARCH 15, 2019, SLOCAN! Mondays, Feb 25-Mar 11, 9-11 am, WE GYM Library. School Library. FREE. Kids, bring your parents for a morning of fun, eating, and play!

SILVERLY SLOCAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY presents ‘Sawdust and Slats in the Slocan Valley’. Dave Fredrickson will discuss the history of sawmills in the Slocan. Knox Hall. Saturday February 23 at 2 pm. Admission by donation. See our website for details.

LACE DANCE LAUNCH: free launch, movement, a world music groove, no talking, walking, alcohol or drugs.

READY, SET, LEARN! In New Denver! A FREE pre-kindergarten program. All preschool aged children (3 to 5) are invited to attend with their caregivers. Mondays, Feb 25, Mar 4 and Mar 11, 100 pm to 3:00

SLOCAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE on Tuesday Afternoons; Arrow Lakes Hospital on Wednesday.

LAKEDANCE LAUNCH: free launch, movement, a world music groove, no talking, walking, alcohol or drugs.

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February 23. Doors open 7:30 pm. Tickets:

V ALLICAN WHOLE BLUES BOOGIE
Sue at 250-777-1704.

INTERMEDIATE to ADVANCED SKILL LEVEL. Contact
in Nelson for youth (13+) and adults of

www.mountainsidechambermusic.com

Visit
door. $15.

A very special concert indeed! Tickets at
century music alongside music by Bach.

March 3, 2 pm.

JOSEPHINE VAN LIER,
of Education.

358-7766. Sponsored by SD10 & Ministry

Please pre-register: Julia, 358-2745 or Lila

puppet show and a special guest event.

literacy, numeracy, music, cooking, a

activities, including creative art, science,

YOGA IN SILVERTON – THE
INWARD JOURNEY: Monday and
Thursday mornings 9-10 am. Honour your
body by reducing stress, building strength,
flexibility and balance. Upper story of the
fire hall in Silverton. Only 5 minutes from
New Denver. Open to all levels. Come
and share mindfulness and the exultation
of inner flow.

HELP WANTED
WEST Kootenay Park
MANAGEMENT INC seeks to fill a
job vacancy for a part-time position 28-32
hrs per week as a Park Attendant working
in Rosebery & Summit Lake Provincial
Parks. May 01 to Sept 24. $17.50 per
hour. $500 Health/Dental benefit. Travel
compensation. See this posting www.
westkootenayparks.com or www.workbc.ca
Deadline March 01.

Kootenay Containers Sales & Rentals,
affordable steel shipping containers
20 ft. and 40 ft. sizes.

JONESBOYS
YOUR LOCAL FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED MARINE
LOCATED ON KOOTENAY LAKE
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Enjoy 20% off any service at Kootenay Containers during the month of March!

For more information call 250-358-2253, www.
carpentercreeklastwishesociety.ca

NELSON & AREA ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION Resource Centre:
250-352-6008 NelsonElderAbusePrevention@gmail.com

Drop-in Wednesdays 12-2 pm. 719 Vernon
Street, Nelson. Nelson and District Seniors

Carpenter Creek Last Wishes Society provides
information on preplanning for death
and advice for alternative funeral
carpentercreeklastwishesociety.ca

Personal Classifieds start at $8.00
Call 250-358-7159 for details

Next Valley Voice Deadline:
February 22, 2019

Dorado Hoedown’ and live caller. March
23, 6:30-9 pm at the Bosun Hall in New
Denver. Beginners are welcome. Call 358-
23, 6:30-9 pm at the Bosun Hall in New
Denver. Open to all levels. Come
and share mindfulness and the exultation
of inner flow.

BILL LANDER
REALTOR®
50-551-5652
bill@billlander.ca

DI’S ESTHETICS
9 to 5

90 DAYS TO A BETTER DOG: retired walks, come when called, have fun. Learn more at www.proudforyourdog.ca

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Coordinating Society.

PERSONAL

RAT ROD PAPA – Roller Derby Momma.
App. to: Bonnelid LSR, PO Box 92, Silverton, BC V0G 2B0.

250-358-2178

Personals

DORADO HOLIDAY INN
Serving the Slocan Valley
for 40 years.

Serving the Slocan Valley
for 40 years.

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for 40 years.

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for 40 years.

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PERSONAL

RAT ROD PAPA – Roller Derby Momma.
App. to: Bonnelid LSR, PO Box 92, Silverton, BC V0G 2B0.

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Next Valley Voice Deadline:
February 22, 2019

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Boats contaminated with invasive mussels were Kootenay bound

The Invasive Mussel Defence Program (IMDP) is a shared delivery between staff from the BC Conservation Service (CCS) and the Environmental Sustainability & Strategic Policy Division (ESSPD) within the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV). Ongoing funding is provided by BC Hydro, Fortis BC, Columbia Power Corporation, and Columbia Basin Trust to support the delivery of the program. For more information about the Program please visit www.gov.bc.ca/invasivemussels.

Highly invasive zebra mussels were found on two Kootenay-bound vessels this year.
A Place In Time is a novel set in Sandon by Kaslo author

submitted

Stanley, his siblings and his dad are heading for a summer in Sandon. The kids, from Vancouver, are absolutely sure they will be bored out of their skulls. Or will they?...

A Place In Time is a self published first novel by Kaslo resident Rod Dunnett.

A Place In Time is available in Kaslo at Figments, The Prospector’s Pick in Sandon, The Raven’s Nest in New Denver, and in Nelson at Coles Bookstore, Touchstones, and Otter Books.

DOMINIC HEILMANN
It is with sadness and surprise we announce the sudden passing of Dominic Heilmann in France in April 2018 at the age of 65.

Dominic lived in Slocan and area for 25 years, and during that time he became friend with all who knew him. He was skilled and a lot of fun on the soccer field. Dominic had a special connection with nature and animals, the material world meant little to him. He struggled with demons from time to time, but what a wonderful human being. He moved back to France a few years ago to be with his Mom and family.

Rest in peace, always in our hearts.

COMMUNITY

Wood Stove Exchange program extended with more funding

submitted

The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is now accepting applications for rebates as part of the Wood Stove Exchange Program. For more information contact BC Lung Association, or RDCK has been collaborating with local municipalities to help residents save money and improve local air quality through this program since 2009.

A place to Really Boogie!

submitted

Starting on February 16, the Slocan Lake Arts Council will launch LakeDance at the Silvertown Gallery. LakeDance is geared to providing a safe space for the people of the area to gather and freely groove/move to the music.

The music set for the launch of LakeDance will be provided by Antoine Bonaparte, a much appreciated Nelson JusDance veteran.

“Antoine is a former world music host for CBC radio and is noted for the distinctive international flavour of his programming,” says event coordinator November Weiss.

For those unfamiliar with these types of events, the music is arranged in an arc starting mellow, building to a good groove and then bringing you back to Earth, all in two hours. The music is contemporary but not raucous. Participants are asked to arrive on time in order to build a supportive container for free flowing, free form personal expression and exploration.

LakeDance is intentionally non-club-like in that it’s alcohol and substance free and fully participatory in a speech-free, spectator-free environment.

“In other words,” says Kivi, “you come, you dance for the pleasure of moving and expressing yourself for two hours. You are free to be in your own space or interact with others through movement. This is about communicating with our bodies, not our words. If you need to talk, you can go outside or wait protocols.”

LakeDance goes from 7:30-9:30 pm and although barefootedness is suggested for those concerned about splinters. Admission is by donation ($5-10 suggested); LakeDance is a fundraiser for the Slocan Lake Arts Council.

To launch LakeDance, organizers encourage dancers to join in to help set the vibe for what they hope will be a monthly event.

“I’m initiating LakeDance because not only is this forum fun, it’s feeds my body, spirit and soul,” Kivi says.

Hot night of blues at the Vallican Whole

submitted

On Saturday, February 23, the Vallican Whole Community Centre will be hosting the lower Slocan Valley’s mid-winter boogie, when the Lazy Poker Blues Band comes to play. Doors open at 7:30 with the tunes starting to ignite at 8 pm.

Fronted by the powerful voice of Aryn Sheriff, featuring the hot licks of local blues legend Bill Lynch and with the mind crunching sax of Clint Swanson thrown into the mix, the stage will be set inspired him to write a ghost/adventure story for his intermediate class at J.V. Humphries School, in Kaslo. Many of his students will remember field trips to Sandon, with a stop at the cemetery, where he would read the first couple of chapters.

If you are familiar with this area, as you read you may reacquaint yourself with local landmarks and silver boom history. If you are unfamiliar with this magical place, you may be encouraged to explore its nooks and crannies, its peaks and mines. The story weaves some of the original historical events of the Slocan Mining Camp into a modern adventure story.

Although aimed primarily at intermediate age kids, some of the old-time residents who read this story were transported back in time to visit childhood memories. Enhancing the narrative throughout are photographs courtesy of the Kaslo Archives.

To answer the question posed in the first paragraph: will Stan and his siblings be bored out of their skulls? Of course not, for who could be bored for home heating. Old stoves must be dismantled and taken to a local landfill or transfer station for disposal.

Air quality conditions can be poor during winter months when wood stove use increases. Wood smoke contains fine particulate matter, which is associated with respiratory problems and heart disease. New emissions-certified wood stoves burn one-third less wood, and reduce smoke and particulates entering the atmosphere by up to 90%.

For more information on the program, or for a copy of the rebate application, visit www.rdck.ca.

A Place In Time is a novel set in Sandon by Kaslo author Rod Dunnett.

For more information visit the Vallican Whole’s Facebook Page.
Celebrating the music of the Kootenays, March 23 at Spirit Bar

submitted

This year’s seventh annual celebration of the Kootenay Music Awards will be held March 23 at the Spirit Bar in Nelson and organizers say it “is sure to provide a marvellous evening for music lovers and industry alike.”

A call for submissions has been issued, with a deadline date of February 22. The awards are an annual celebration of diversity, creativity and community musicians and Kootenay Co-op Radio says it’s proud to present the awards for the third consecutive year.

Attendees can expect live performances from across the Kootenays, an “exciting” awards ceremony and great prizes for the winners.

In order to be more inclusive, the awards categories have been updated to represent the diverse range of community talents.” The categories include Best Roots Song, Best Rock Song, Best Electronic Producer, Best Electronic DJ, Best Jam Band, Best Pop Song, Best Hip-Hop Artist and Best Soul Song. As well, there are People’s Choice awards for Artist of the Year and Video of the Year.

Submissions are open to all works recorded in the Kootenays prior to January 25, 2019. To submit, or for more information, go to kootenaymusicawards.ca.

Come sing with us!

submitted

The Vallican Whole Community Choir, directed by Sharon Lang, will start up for the season on Sunday, February 17. The “fun loving, inclusive group” welcomes new members. You don’t need to read music or audition, just take your enthusiasm and commitment to Sunday sessions at the Vallican Whole. Audio files and sheet music will be supplied to help you learn the songs.

Sessions run from 3 pm to 5 pm, and then from 4 pm to 6 pm when the clocks change on March 10, with some holiday breaks. Cost is $85. Mark your calendar; June 2 is the spring concert!

For more information, call Sharon at (250) 226-7191 or email her at curriere011@yahoo.ca.

Burt and Armstrong launch books

submitted

Join Kootenay writers Luanne Armstrong and Ellen Burt at Oxygen Art Centre February 23 at 7 pm to celebrate the launch of two books, Armstrong’s A Bright and Steady Flame: The Story of an Enduring Friendship, and What Forever Feels Like: A Memoir of Johnson’s Landing by Ellen Burt.

Ellen Burt has lived most of her life in the remote communities of Argenta and Johnson’s Landing, at the north end of Kootenay Lake. She has written one previous book, When the Path is Not a Straight Line (Maa Press 2013). She currently lives in Nelson where she writes memoirs, poems, and performs spoken word. Acclaimed Kootenay poet Fred Wah writes about Burt’s new book: “This back-to-the-land coming of age narrative ... is a captivating account of the idealistic but earthbound aspirations of a smallholder: the farming, the firewood, the frozen pipes and, above all, the community ... a sweet story.”

Armstrong has written 21 books — young adult books, fiction, nonfiction and poetry. She has contributed to many anthologies and edited a Canadian nonfiction anthology called Slice Me, Some Truth. Armstrong lives on her 100-year-old family farm on Kootenay Lake. She mentors many emerging writers all over the world and in the last three years, has edited eight books through to publication. Her new book, A Bright and Steady Flame: The Story of an Enduring Friendship, was published by Caitlin Press in October, 2018. She is deeply interested in researching the history of Kootenay Lake people and places.

Both of these memoirs offer deep insights into the nature of small communities and the history and development of such communities on Kootenay Lake. Burt’s book offers colourful and nostalgic stories about Johnson’s Landing, while Armstrong’s book weaves together many stories set in the Kootenays over the seventies and eighties, while the core of her book is about the strength and endurance of women’s friendships.

Armstrong taught writing classes for many years at Oxygen Art Centre, and over the years, mentored many writers from all over the Kootenays. Burt is a very committed member of Spoken Word in Nelson. Both writers will be in attendance and look forward to seeing you there.

Oxygen Art Centre, #3 320 Vernon Street (alley entrance), February 23 at 7 pm. Suggested donation is $5.

For more info: www.facebook.com/events/61232095874934/ or oxygenartcentre.org/performance/presentation/presentation-series-2/

Dr. D DeSandoli
Saddle Mountain Dental Clinic
86 Broadway
Nakusp, BC
250-265-9993

Dear Patients,

As you may have heard, I am retiring from my dental practice on February 12, 2019. After twenty years of serving Nakusp and area, I am putting the practice into the capable hands of Dr. Tanner Dobson.

Our wonderful staff: marvelous hygienist Ashley Pendree, front desk magicians Kim Sammons and Lauren James, and assistant whiz kid Abbey McMillan will continue on with Dr Dobson to take great care of you.

It is a bittersweet moment for me to hang up my tunic and put down my instruments as I have very much enjoyed working at Saddle Mountain Dental Clinic. Nakusp gave me, my wife Susan, and children Roberto and Christina a warm welcome to the community when we arrived and made Nakusp home for all of us. I trust that Dr Dobson will also enjoy the Nakusp hospitality. He is looking forward to participating in the outdoor recreational opportunities here and becoming part of the community.

Although I am retiring from the office, I am not leaving Nakusp and am looking forward to spending my time as if every day was Saturday.

Sincerely,

Don DeSandoli

The 7th annual Kootenay Music Awards will be hosted by Mike & Mike and produced by Taylor Chancellor.

Like: A Memoir of Johnson’s Landing

Friendship

What Forever Feels

Flame: The Story of an Enduring

Armstrong's book weaves together many stories set in the Kootenays over the seventies and eighties, while the core of her book is about the strength and endurance of women’s friendships.

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