Musical politics and political music heard at the Silverton Gallery March 10

By Jan McMurray

About 50 people came out to an event that dared to mix politics with music at the Silverton Gallery on March 10. This was another of MP Alex Atamanenko’s forums, but it was different from all the others in two respects. First, it had a theme – the environment. Second, it was followed by a jam featuring two “closet politician musicians” and the “former rock star” Randy Speers and his friends.

During the first part of the evening, moderated by Bill Roberts, local politicians each made introductory remarks and their took questions from the floor.

MLA Corky Evans opened by saying the political climate was ideal for the land use planning underway in the valley. He said with plowing, we could “design the kind of community that could stop Victoria and Ottawa from dismantling it.”

RDCK Chair and New Denver Mayor Gary Wright spoke about two RDCK issues: waste management and drinking water. He said mixed plastics recycling was being negotiated now but, to keep in mind that recycling was “still just a way to manage waste. Reducing waste is harder.” On water, he had just attended a meeting and saw he was concerned about the “economic fall-out” caused by the wood chips were put onto the highways, he said much of the cost was shifted to the taxpayer. “I want you to know that even if a barge were provided for, it would not be use as it can’t compete with the highway and free way.” Atamanenko gave a perspective on the future. “Probably in our lifetime we will not have as much oil, so transportation is going to have to be looked at.” The public sector will have to invest in more railroads. We need to get big trucks off the road and invest in more infrastructure.”

He ended up the government to do this. Munro said a meeting had been set up with Ministry of Transportation and RDCK on March 19 and he would raise this issue. Another resident asked that Munro take the question for a meeting to RDCK to the meeting as well, to encourage cycling and walking.

On private land logging, Evans reminded that MLA’s from this area advocate for controls, but they are opposed by MLAs everywhere else. He said this was because of the lay of the land – it is steep and flat elsewhere. “We need a regulatory regime, but how do we spread that interest to other areas of BC?”

He said most western democracies have a punitive or reward system for private land logging, so BC is the odd man out on this, with its “cowboy attitude” about “doing whatever I want on my own land.” Munro said that he, Evans and Wright met with the Premier after the Enterprise Creek private logging and “the Premier was not ready to jump on it.”

How much control do we have locally over the lake? The need for controls over seadoos in particular was mentioned. Munro reported that the answer to this question will be sought at a meeting on March 23 with the OCP Advisory Planning Committee, Lake Slocan fore-shore planning committee and several provincial and federal agencies. He said other areas of the province have involved lakes in their planning, Wright added that the New Denver OCP would address working with Area H, Slocan and Siskon on a management plan for Slocan Lake.

Would the NDP support a referendum for electoral reform? Atamanenko reported that a private member’s bill for proportional representation will be introduced in the fall, and the NDP will apply pressure if there is enough support for it. Evans reminded us that the last provincial referendum gained 57% support, just 3% away from going through, and that there will be another referendum. However, he feels it will not get enough support this time either. He figures 5-10% voted last time because they were very angry with the government. This time, he thinks there is more balance, and the 5-10% will not vote. “Rather than pull all our eggs in one basket, I think we should think up another way.”

Another local resident raised the issue of sustainable agriculture. “The traditional village had common land that sustains the village, but this died during the industrial revolution when land became privatized. Agriculture today uses one hundred times more greenhouse gases than traditional agriculture.” Atamanenko spoke about the Cuba experience: “They had no choice but to go organic because they had no more energy, so now they are almost self-sufficient in food.” He said, suggesting that a similar day may come for us. Evans encouraged everyone to support their governments to hold the Agricultural Land Reserve in place, “so the land is still here when we need it.”

He also encouraged New Denver and Silverton “to come together and take the mountain behind them for a collective way to create community wellbeing.” The last question was about microhydro projects on our small creeks. Evans confirmed that we will be seeing more of these. “Public ownership is no longer ‘cool’, and they are asking for private development of hydroelectric activity,” he said. “We need to throw out a few governments before they stop selling our assets.”

Atamanenko gave the example of Christina Lake, where a microhydro project is going in despite overwhelming local opposition.

Entertainment following the community forum in Silverton on March 10 featured “closet politician musicians” Alex Atamanenko and Gary Wright. Wright opened the show with a song he wrote entitled “Cooing,” and Atamanenko followed with a Couple More Years by Willie Nelson and Abalene by George Hamilton IV. After that, Lilliana Wright stole the show with her gorgeous singing voice and songs with strong political messages, backed up by “former rock star” Randy Speers and his friends Tom Pedfield and Jeremy Dew. Ava Wright, DJ Wright and Jake Bult also made special appearances.

Put down your thermostat at night or when you are away from home. For every 1° Celcius you lower your thermostat, you can save two to four per cent on your heating costs. A reduction of 5 degrees Celcius at night or when you are away during the day provides optimal savings. Keep it set at 17 degrees Celcius when you are sleeping or when there s no one at home, and 20 degrees Celcius the rest of the time. A regular conservation feature brought to you by clean, green MorningStar.

by Jan McMurray

Final results of New Denver’s land use planning survey are in. Complete results will be presented at the March 13 council meeting. These results will be considered during the writing of the first draft of the amended Official Community Plan (OCP).

There were 129 responses: 70% from New Denver, 6% from surrounding areas and 25% from distant places. 96.4% were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of life in the Village, 51 ranked “returning the small town character of New Denver” as the most important issue facing the Village over the next five to ten years, with “encouraging economic development” and “providing and improving services such as roads, sidewalks and sanitary services” in second and third place for the most important issue.

32% were in favour of increasing the level of services and increasing the level of taxes; 65% were in favour of maintaining the current level of services and current level of taxes.

The top reason most why chose to move here or continue to live here was “small town character,” followed closely by “outdoor activities” and “enjoy the people who live here.”

The most important housing issues in the Village were shortages of housing for the elderly, price of housing, and shortfalls and contamination, as well as shortages and contamination, as well as other regulatory measures,” it says. 73% said the Village should consider adopting policies to encourage full-time residency, 20% said it should not have no opinion.

Types of economic development the Village should encourage are commercial development with 76% for home based businesses, 65% for professional services; 57% for non-residential commercial, 49% for tourism oriented activities; 49% for commercial activities; 40% for tourist accommodation; 33% for more residential building activity; 28% for industrial activity, 14% for commercial use of the lake.

Se veral features of the village were ranked very good, good, fair, poor, or very poor. Here are the results for some of those features. Education: 9% very good, 44% good, 17% fair, 6% poor, 0 very poor. The national decline is still a problem. Health care: 14% very good, 50% good, 26% fair, 6% poor, 1% very poor. Tourist accommodation: 9% very good, 37% good, 33% fair, 7% poor, 1% very poor. Health services: 14% very good, 50% good, 26% fair, 6% poor, 1% very poor. Police protection: 40% very good, 50% good, 0 very poor, 0 police problem.

very poor. Fire protection: 40% very good, 50% good, 0 fair, 0 poor, 0 very poor. Water services: 54% very good, 36% good, 5% fair, 0 very poor. Sewage disposal: 5% very good, 26% good, 9% fair, 18% poor, 2% very poor. Gagubage disposal: 29% very good, 52% good, 9% fair, 2% poor, 1% very poor.

47% said they felt the appearance of the Village needs to be improved, while 42% said it did not. 18% had no opinion.

Four Face Rosemary makes history in world championships

Rosemary McKeever was recently named the first Canadian Paralympian to win a gold medal, as she made history at the 2006 Winter Paralympics in Turin, Italy. McKeever’s victory in the 3000m cross-country skiing earned her the gold medal and made her the first Canadian woman to win a Paralympic gold medal in a winter sport.

Today, McKeever is a world-class athlete and has broken records in cross-country skiing. Her achievements have not only brought荣誉 to herself but also inspired many others. Her story serves as an inspiration to those with disabilities, as she proved that anything is possible with hard work, dedication, and support.

Familiar face on CBC TV’s Canada’s Next Great Prime Minister by Jan McMurray

Alison Garmulewicz and her partner, Brian McKeever, were named as the first couple to compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in 2010. If successful, the couple will become the second Paralympian to compete at an Olympics, and the first winter Paralympian to accomplish the feat.

Rob Zandee chose as Conservative candidate for Southern Interior submitted

Southern Interior Conservatives have chosen Rob Zandee of Oliver BC as their candidate for the federal election. After a gruelling nine meeting schedule starting February 24 in Princeton, Zandee will be running in the Okanagan-Similkameen riding with the final meeting March 4 in Castlegar. Zandee won with 352-151 votes over Minsha Popoff of Kootenay East. Zandee finished third in the school district election and will be competing in the Paralympic Winter Games in 2010.

Zandee is a former Paralympian who was injured in a car accident while competing in the Games in 2002. He has since returned to racing and is now focused on promoting a co-ordinated lakeshore development policy for Slocan Lake which he believes will improve the quality of life for the residents of the area.

“Canada’s Next Great Prime Minister” is a reality show created by John Iveson and produced by The Valley Voice. The show aims to bring attention to the issue of climate change and encourage young people to become involved in political activism.

Keremeos “I intend to continue to meet with other local governments. However, I am concerned about the state of New Denver’s land use planning survey as it is in process. The problem is described thus in the declaration: “We are concerned about the state of our world. Our generation is inheriting a sick planet. We have been taught a crisis such as poverty, starvation, war, child exploitation, nuclear threat, and global pandemics. The world today experiences water shortages and contamination, as well as pollution, animal rights, and climate change. These are issues that impact us all.”

YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

The Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is offering $2,000 for up to 20 grade 12 graduates as a reward for their involvement in community service. This award is based on community volunteer service, not on academic achievement. The award is designed to help those who are going on to post-secondary education or training.

Applications can be picked up at your local high school or downloaded from the CBT website at www.cbt.bc.ca. If you have questions about selection, eligibility and how to find detailed information about the CBT program, call (250) 345-5678.

Completed applications must be dropped off or mailed to your local secondary school. Applications must be postmarked on or before April 13, 2007 to be considered.

The Valley Voice March 14, 2007
School District No. 10 Arrow Lakes talks to public about declining enrollment

By Jan McMurray

Declining enrollment in our school is not new, but schools board holding public meeting to talk about it is.

Last week, the school board for School District #10 Arrow Lakes conducted a series of public consultation meetings in each of the four communities where it has schools. The idea for the meetings came from the message board received when it was considered closing Burton Elementary last year. That message was that this district, in consultation with its constituents, should develop a vision and long-term plan.

The power point presentation shown in Burton, Edgewood, Nakusp and New Denver gave a list of information about enrollment, strengths of the district, funding and budget, potential changes in the district, and potential future changes in the district in response to continuing declining enrollment and in corresponding declining revenues.

The bottom line is that School District #10 will have to cut either $66,625 or $250,000 from its budget next year.

The difference is in the government’s ‘funding protection,’ which was picking up here as further hope that families would come. If the 40 out of 60 districts in the province are realizing by reducing bussing and other community initiatives that strengthen and diversify the economy of the Southern Interior of BC.

To obtain an electronic copy of the Strategic Plan, please email coordinator@sd10.bc.ca or request a hard copy, write to: SDIT, 103-2930 35th Avenue, Vernon, BC, V1T 2S7.
LETTERS POLICY

The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number.

Letters is limited to 500 words. We may abridge letters.

Please email your letter if possible.

To submit a letter electronically, email: info@valleyvoice.ca

We will not knowingly publish any letter which is defamatory or libellous. We will not publish anonymous letters, nor may you use a pseudonym, except in extraordinary circumstances.

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

The proposed Nakusp Community Park

I’ve only been in the North end of Nakusp’s Public Park once, and that was during Music Fest last year. At that time, it was overflow camping and rather dense brush. Normally, it’s just a bit of wild space, inside a small community, surrounded by a lot of wild space. I must confess that I never gave it much thought until the “build the good folks a park in the Roots Music Society came up with their community park proposal.

As Laurie Page put it at the public meeting, “This part of the park has been wanting to grow up.” I couldn’t agree more. A recreational park has stagnated and evolved over the years to become its community. Over the years, the Nakusp Parks has come to encompass the outdoor stage in the ball, half a playground, the skatepark, the gazebo and the arena. Each generation of residents has made a contribution to this important public space.

A nursery park is about more than trees and flowers and monuments. It’s about people and the way that they make their lives together. It’s about communities and how their members interact. Ideally, they are places where people can gather in small groups or great multitudes.

That’s why I’m so excited about the proposed park project. Not only would it give Music Fest a much better venue for their annual Rock Festival, but it would put in place some valuable assets for the community. A lot of thought has gone into these proposals, and the society will be working with the public to enhance the space for everyone. The list of improvements proposed for the park is impressive — a permanent stage with amphitheatre-style seating, 40 serviced campsites, two new washrooms and a village square.

It’s an ambitious undertaking, and one that will benefit the Roots Music Society almost as much as the public at large. A separate performance area for children’s entertainers and an improved area for vendors to work out of will enhance the Music Fest experience for everyone. The Festival needs the space, not in order to attract bigger crowds, but just to deliver the kind of experience that people want for everyone. The festival needs the space, not in order to attract bigger vendors to work out of will enhance the Music Fest experience for everyone.

Rip-off

Today’s headline “high of 90% of Canadian families working longer, making less.” Since the advent of computers and automation, our work force productivity has increased by a factor of 10. What “tricked” you to pay CUTCACKS. The gap between rich and poor increases daily. I am not enjoying watching you people getting ground down. There’s an old saying, and I think that the decisive day, it will you put it in the sty.”

Right, so vote LibCon, eh? They all eat on their hands when the banks gambled $28 billion in tax cuts.

Unpleasant dog deposits left behind

Now that the snow is melting, a distressing trend is a middle aged long the Kaslo River Trail and on our public beach.

Dog droppings are appearing quite regularly, making it quite unpleasant to enjoy a beautiful river walk on a spring day.

Dog owners, please be considerate of others and pick up after your dogs. It’s as simple as carrying a bag and putting it away. This is not a new trend, the doggie bags, courtesy of The Kaslo Trailblazer Society. Dispensers are located near the Kaslo River Trailhead (off Railroad) and the Logger Spots Area and 2nd Street.

Everyone talks it, but only takes a moment to clean up after your pet — so everyone may enjoy a pleasant walk.

Jill Brayle

Kaslo

Big buses, little girls

This letter is for the bus driver of the Greyhound sized charter bus who stepped on my middle aged daughter during New Denver and offered two young girls a ride.

You may have been thinking that this dangerous highway was too far for two girls, and were only trying to get the last of the world. But I hardly think that enough in your life to think that sullen buses would not sound for their parents and the community. I also believe due to liability, your bus company probably has (and should they) set certain rules about picking up any uncommissioned passengers. And you, sir, should have enough brains to figure it out. I wish us all driving a big empty bus should not stop on a winding curvy dangerous highway and offer two underage girls a ride. It’s creepy. It could cost you your job, and the police have been told.

Parents, talk to your kids about creepy strangers. Bus company owners, talk to your drivers about appropriate behaviour. Our kids should be able to go for a walk without being scared.

Rory Powell

New Denver

Rural fire departments

In his letter of 28 February, Ed Nicholas asserts that rural fire departments are of little use because they merely arrive at the scene of a fire already well under control as is the case of rural fire departments. This is your chance to have some smart staff in the office. Most of the community seems enthusiastic about communities and how their members interact. Ideally, they are places where people can gather in small groups or great multitudes. That’s why I’m so excited about the proposed park project. Not only would it give Music Fest a much better venue for their annual Rock Festival, but it would put in place some valuable assets for the community.

The Society has a committed and hard-working board that is trying to find solutions to difficult problems. Every problem has a solution. Finding the solution to difficult problems requires information and in-depth analysis.

People are quite a while ago, as humans, we began to use tools and live in community for protection and advancement of our goals. With the Inuit, we see its usefulness but argue about its shortcomings for limited duration, but the salient question stands — would you rather have it and not need it or need it and not have it?

John Banta, Fire Chief

Fanquisper

Cola anyone?

Every problem has a solution. Finding the solution to difficult problems requires information and in-depth analysis.

It’s an ambitious undertaking, and one that will benefit the Roots Music Society almost as much as the public at large. A separate performance area for children’s entertainers and an improved area for vendors to work out of will enhance the Music Fest experience for everyone. The Festival needs the space, not in order to attract bigger crowds, but just to deliver the kind of experience that people want for everyone. The festival needs the space, not in order to attract bigger vendors to work out of will enhance the Music Fest experience for everyone.

Gary Cockrell

Kaslo

Obituary for Halcyon Intermediate Care Home 1981-2007

Built on the grounds of the old Arrow Lakes Hospital, Halcyon Intermediate Care Home opened October 18, 1986 with 20 beds which expanded to 27 beds with a further building expansion. Pronounced terminally ill by the Liberal Government in the spring of 2003 she finally passed away at midnight February 28, 2007.

Since quite a while ago, as humans, we began to use tools and live in community for protection and advancement of our goals.

During these past five years of her decline and final surgeries, she remained courteous, competent and dignified — care and affection for her residents never dimmed. May her reincarnation as an Assisted Living facility be inspired by her example.

While the community was now 10 beds poorer for her demise, we are grateful to have known her.

We are particularly thankful to the staff for the compassionate care and comfort measures. Some of the staff have served with Lady Halcyon for all of her 26 years. We wish you all well.

Memorial services will occur with spontaneous meetings of friends and family. May she rest in peace knowing she served us well when she was alive.

O. Irving, family member

Nakusp Simple ways to save on carbon dioxide

Governments that pander to public pressure on reducing carbon emissions by thirty percent in two or three decades are avoiding facts. The Centre for Climate Change Research Institute states bluntly that a 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) is needed by 2050 and says that we need to be ready to develop a 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) is needed by 2050.

But, the coke-bottle that fell from the sky, in the Contributors, Art Joyce, Don Currie, Jill Brayle

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As Laurie Page put it at the public meeting, “This part of the park has been wanting to grow up.” I couldn’t agree more. A recreational park has stagnated and evolved over the years to become its community. Over the years, the Nakusp Parks has come to encompass the outdoor stage in the ball, half a playground, the skatepark, the gazebo and the arena. Each generation of residents has made a contribution to this important public space.

A nursery park is about more than trees and flowers and monuments. It’s about people and the way that they make their lives together. It’s about communities and how their members interact. Ideally, they are places where people can gather in small groups or great multitudes.

That’s why I’m so excited about the proposed park project. Not only would it give Music Fest a much better venue for their annual Rock Festival, but it would put in place some valuable assets for the community. A lot of thought has gone into these proposals, and the society will be working with the public to enhance the space for everyone. The list of improvements proposed for the park is impressive — a permanent stage with amphitheatre-style seating, 40 serviced campsites, two new washrooms and a village square.

It’s an ambitious undertaking, and one that will benefit the Roots Music Society almost as much as the public at large. A separate performance area for children’s entertainers and an improved area for vendors to work out of will enhance the Music Fest experience for everyone. The Festival needs the space, not in order to attract bigger crowds, but just to deliver the kind of experience that people want for themselves and their families.

At the same time, the village will get 40 fully serviced campsites and outdoor stage. When Music Fest is happening I imagine that it will get much use in January and February, but during the summer months it could be used for theatre, a variety of musical performances, public lectures, poetry readings and dance.

The village area that is proposed as part of the park enhancement project is a grand idea as well. Communities need informal gathering areas where people can meet, play games, exchange ideas and argue about politics. Of course, all of this costs money, and if some people believe the Society cannot raise the funds necessary to fund the outside work, none of the capital costs are to be carried by the ratepayers of Nakusp and none of the work is to affect the existing uses of the park. At all cost, I am sure, but I think that it can be done.

The Society has a committed and hard-working board that is trying to do something really cool for their community. They have energetic, capable and smart staff in the office. Most of the community seems enthusiastic about the project. Village Council has twice endorsed the proposed community park plus plans. There’s a growing consensus that the park would benefit from this kind of limited development.

Village Council is sending out a questionnaire this week to ask questions about the park development. This is your chance to have some input into the park project. May you have some great ideas to bring all the elements of the park together, or you might see some detail that the elements of the park together, or you might see some detail that the
Continued from page 4

The act in hole for solving the problem. In the Slocan Valley, ordinary people – not blithed by illusions of power. Fields appear green, and the snowline is sheets of blades of grass turn green before the results show. If people reduce the consumption, warming will be reduced.

Stop flying until you grow your own food and raise your own pets. You can live this way from London to New York for example. (1) You can produce 3.8 tons of CO2 per person. The world can’t afford it. There is no such thing as a carbon budget. The technology is available.

Average cars produce 7.3 tons of carbon dioxide annually, about 90 lbs of CO2 per person per day. Check your odometer, calculate your yearly mileage if possible, and try to reduce it as much as you can. Car sharing will help.

Hang your wash out to dry in preference to using a dryer. Carbon dioxide savings will be about 656 kilograms per year. Indoor racks can be used in bad weather.

When deciding your heating setting. Carbon dioxide savings will be approximately 286 kg per year for each degree Fahrenheit you raise your thermostat 2 or 16 degrees C (315 pounds on 70 and 60 degrees F).

Replace or adjust the temperature of your refrigerator. Refrigerators made before 2000 produce between 425 – 750 pounds of CO2 per year. Each degree change in the temperature you set your refrigerator has a direct impact on our global warming. Refrigeration is second after transportation as the highest carbon dioxide emitter. Face it, your refrigerator is your second most important carbon dioxide producer. Your freezer is your third.

Also, washing clothes in cold water can cut your energy use in half. Washing clothes at 86 degrees Fahrenheit). Save about 113 pounds of carbon dioxide per load.

Lower hot water heater temperature to 49 degrees C (120 degrees F) if you have an older, high-efficiency heating system that can tolerate it. This change will reduce energy use by 40% and cut your carbon dioxide emissions by 30%.

Making land use planning work to your advantage. Land use planning and OCPs can make a big difference. The next time you are faced with an OCP, think of the potential community benefits. Not a single one!

Many in the middle class argue that good planning and has a big impact on the community. For many years, I have been watching the development of the town of Kaslo.

We, as a group, have been trying to get a community hall for many years. The council has been too busy with other issues to do much about it. It has gone on for years, and the people of Kaslo have been waiting.

We finally decided to take matters into our own hands and decide what we want for our community. We formed a group of people who wanted a community hall and started working on it.

We met with architects and engineers and found out what it would cost. We also found out what funding was available. We applied for grants and received some.

We then formed a group of people who wanted to build the hall and worked on it for several years. We held fundraisers and sold raffle tickets. We even had a street dance to raise money.

Finally, we were able to build the hall. It is now a community asset that is used by many groups.

It has been a hard job, but we are very proud of our achievement. We have learned a lot about community planning and development.

We would like to thank everyone who helped us in any way. We are very grateful for your support.

Good OCP needed in Sloan Valley

Response to Ed Nixon's letter of February 28

Speaking as also a long-time resident of the community, I would like to express my concern about the proposed OCP for Sloan Valley. As you know, the OCP is intended to guide the development of the community over the next 20 years.

I would like to make a few points regarding the OCP.

Firstly, the OCP should be based on the needs and desires of the community members. It is not the responsibility of the municipality to dictate what we should or should not do.

Secondly, the OCP should provide for a mix of residential, commercial, and recreational uses. This will ensure that the community is sustainable and viable.

Finally, the OCP should be flexible enough to accommodate change and growth. It should not be set in stone.

I would like to remain a community member of Sloan Valley and I hope that the OCP will reflect the values and aspirations of the community.

Good luck with the OCP.
Southern Interior

Trust funds to be available in August

The Southern Interior Development
Initiative (SIDIT), with a mission to
support investments in economic
development projects that will
have lasting and measurable benefits
for the Southern Interior, has released
its first three-year strategic plan.

SIDIT was established by the
Provincial Government in February last year and was
launched with a one-time $10 million
grant to be managed by an independent
director.

Jim Thomson, SIDIT chairman,
believes that completion of the
strategic plan represents a critical milestone in the
Trust’s evolution into a fully
functioning funding agency.

“We are now turning our
attention to creating the website, applications
forms, guidelines, a selection
mechanism and approval process that will
enable proponents to access the Trust’s
funds,” said Thomson. “We are targeting
August as the start for project funding.

The Trust expects to invest $30
million over the next year, based on anticipated
disbursements of $7.5 million
per year.

New Denver Mayor’s message: Wright’s urgent call for paramedics

The community needs your help! We recently heard about the need for paramedics as part of our local service. Karen Forsyth and Evelyn Kirkaldy will informally launch a callout to help out and to take training on small groups. During the training, you will be encouraged to explore movement to a wide range of dance and dance improvisation with a new kind of item. L to R: Joe Doucet, Thomas Ryu (Bigway owner) and Bev McKee (clerk).

Joe Doucet of Silverton was the winner of Silverton Bigway’s February 26 two-minute shopping spree. Shoppers five to 10 minutes under 2,000.00 at all kinds of items. L to R: Joe Doucet, Thomas Ryu (Bigway owner) and Bev McKee (clerk).

The community needs your help! We recently heard about the need for paramedics as part of our local service. Karen Forsyth and Evelyn Kirkaldy will informally launch a callout to help out and to take training on small groups. During the training, you will be encouraged to explore movement to a wide range of dance and dance improvisation with a new kind of item. L to R: Joe Doucet, Thomas Ryu (Bigway owner) and Bev McKee (clerk).
Small local press garners more award nominations

by Jan McMurtry

The Lumiere Creatutation (DT) teams from Slocan Valley schools did exceptionally well at the Kootenay Zone meeting and four of them plan to attend the provincials April 14 in Vancouver. The zone tournament – the big one – was held March 28 at Rossmeat Elementary in Nelson, with 16 teams participating.

The Lumiere Creatutations took first place and honours with their ‘CSI’ solution, and received a mausoleum award for creativity and performance. ‘CSI’ is a scientific challenge on the properties of light to solve a case, and involves theatre.

The two DT teams from the high schools except the Frutty Toolies are going on to the provincials in Vancouver on April 14 at the same time. The way Donations are gratefully accepted at a downtown school – please make it clear that your donation is for the DT teams.

The Saturday morning session will have a financial donation, cheques should be mailed to Gail 5 100 000 Rossland BC. However, you could bring them in person, and have the highest quality books possible.

Other recent Sono Nis awards that will be won with a financial donation, to come to a meeting on Friday, March 15, 2007 in the Vip 4000 of the West Island and 399.

Get entry form at slocanvalley.com/events.php, at local valley business offices, or call Gail 5 100 000 Rossland BC.

Slocan Valley Arts Council event, thanks to BC Arts Council and the RDCK.

For more information about Sono Nis, contact

Sono Nis Press an official finalist, for the BC Booksellers’ Choice Award. This tender and joyful story of a Valley was nominated for both the Hubert Evans non-fiction prize in 2005 and the Larsson medal for Historical Writing.

Sylvia Olsen is no stranger to the BC Book Prizes either. Her ten fiction book White Girl was a contender for the Sheila A. Egoth Children’s Literature award in 2005. This year, Yena’s Seaner, Olsen first picture book, is in the running for the BC Bookellers’ Choice Award. The tender and joyful story of a Valley is nominated for the Roderick Haig-Brown Prize.

Surveys in British Columbia is a nominee for the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize. This engaging and vivid portrait of surveyors and their influence on British Columbia examines the surveyors’ links with both the past and future settlement of this remarkable province. Gordon’s popular history The Kootenay: Portrait of a Valley was nominated for both the Governor’s BC Book Prizes Gala on March 18 in the Yukon Subdivision, Shuswap and another side of the world as an awardee of the Larsson medal.

The BC Book Prizes will be announced at the Lieutenant Governor’s Gala on Saturday, April 28 at Government House in Victoria. The host for the evening will be William DeMille.

issues which I thought only had one meaning turn out to potentially have several different meanings,” wrote another.

The course is attracting the attention of educational experts. Literature expert Janet Browel regularly checks in on the Moodle site and is referring other school districts to the course. Taylor and Little made a power point presentation to the second annual Interactive Innovations conference held in five BC communities February 28-March 2. The 200 Nelson delegates gained the benefit of expert witness in both Michael Follow and Dr. Richard Allington via teleconferencing from Kelowna, Prince George, Vancouver, or three Alberta communities and Whitehorse.

Taylor says this is not a case of ‘dumbing down’ education to suit current trends. One of the questions she posed asked students to discuss the critical differences between ‘MSN-speak’ and written language. She praised the peer interaction of the kids actually made more sense of the students discussing their critical craft at the event. Their minor claims to fame are to solve a case, and involves theatre.

For me it really helped to read the students’ posts, one wrote. ‘In a lot of cases just made me look at the book in a whole different way.’

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Take the TRASH ART Challenge!

Create a work of art using RECYCLED MATERIALS only.

Entry deadline: Apr. 18

Enter free form at slocanvalley.com/events.php, at local valley business offices, or call Gail 5 100 000 Rossland BC.

A Slocan Valley Arts Council event, thanks to BC Arts Council and the RDCK.

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Wanted: sightings of active bald eagle nests in the Columbia Basin

Since 2002, the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) has been funding a Great Blue Heron Breeding Inventory and Stewardship Project in the Columbia Basin, as part of its mandate to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife populations impacted by the construction of BC Hydro dams. The project is sponsored by the West Kootenay Naturalists and is being conducted by Pandion Ecological Research Ltd., with help from volunteers across the Basin.

Project objectives include collecting data on the population size and distribution of blue-listed herons, identifying critical breeding and wintering sites for habitat protection, and implementing stewardship plans.

The work so far confirms a 25% decline in the number of heron breeding sites in the Basin from 2002 to 2006. Although the number of active nests appears stable and may have grown slightly, the rate of breeding nest failures has increased substantially. In 2006, 43% of all active nests failed to produce young. Of more concern is that 62% of all active nests in the East Kootenay failed last year. Most of these nest failures occurred during the early nesting and late incubation phase.

Failure rates are high and appear to be related to a combination of human factors (e.g., road building, forest harvesting and wetland drainage) and various forms of development. Habitat loss and disturbance to breeding sites in the population as a whole may have contributed to increased nest failures.

Most active nests are located in BC Hydro reservoirs and are dependent on fish and wildlife populations impacted by the construction of BC Hydro dams. The number of active nests on these sites in the East Kootenay has increased substantially. In 2006, 43% of all active nests failed to produce bald eagles. Failure rates in the Basin are comparable to the highest rates reported for coastal heron populations which have been attributed mainly to disturbance by increasing populations of bald eagles.

In an effort to better understand the relationship between human nest failure rates and the decline in population size and distribution in the Basin, the FWCP is conducting eagle nest surveys in 2007.

Thomas is a certified biologist from the Kootenay School of Rebalancing in Nelson and completed two relaxation courses at Mount Royal College in Calgary. "I am very happy to be going back to doing work. I truly enjoy," she says.

"We are hopeful to draw on the knowledge of local residents to help develop this inventory by asking them to report sightings of active eagle nests," says project leader Marlene Modimer. "Sightings will be added to a database and followed up to confirm and map precise nest locations and determine eagle productivity."

Residents are asked to telephone Madeline at (250) 354-0130.

The Valley Voice
March 14, 2007
Well-attended public meeting discusses Nakusp Community Park Proposals

by Dan Nicholson

Almost 100 people attended a public meeting March 8, to discuss a public park proposal initiated by the Nakusp Music Festival.

The proposed plan would expand the village campground by 40 fully-serviced sites, add two washroom/shower building and co-construct a permanent stage. A community meeting area, or ‘village square’ will be incorporated into the design.

Proponents hope to accomplish this without increasing the tax burden on residents.

During Music Fest weekend, the new campground area would be home to the Vendor Village and the permanent stage would be used as a venue for children’s and family entertainment.

During the rest of the year, the village would rent the new campgrounds to visiting tourists, and the stage would be used by a variety of community groups for different purposes. The village square would be a place for villagers to gather to celebrate.

Speaking on behalf of the Nakusp Roots Music Society, General Manager Willi Jahnke said, “Of course this proposal will benefit the Music Society. We want to add a family-oriented show element and some dramatic visual effects to the mix of entertainment that we offer at Music Fest. By expanding the site, we can create a show here in Nakusp that would have no equal anywhere in Western Canada. But we hope that it will benefit the village as well. We see this as an opportunity to give back to the community for all that they’ve given us over the years.”

The proposed development would occur within the boundaries of the existing Community Park, on its northern side, within the overflow campground and in an area affectionately known to locals as ‘the dust pit.’

Says Michele Williams, Music Fest Production Assistant, “It’s an exciting proposal. The model-making was very interesting. I’d never done anything like that before. The most exciting thing about working on this project, though, is that everyone wants to share their ideas. We’ve had lawn bowling games brought up, a chess court and even a waterpark feature. Of course, we’ll be preserving the ball-fields, and doing what we can to minimize the loss of trees. I expect that we’ll be planting quite a few trees as well. There’s a lot of pine trees that need replacing.”

Add Jahnke, “We’re really at the beginning of this whole process. We’re just starting the long period of seeking input from the community.

Kaslo Freemasons host visiting Grand Master

submitted

The Kaslo fraternal organization of Moons, and District 6, DDGM Charlie Stickel, hosted the official visit of the Lodge’s Grand Master, Isaac Brown-Berkhoven, from New Westminster, at a banquet and meeting on Friday, March 2 in Kaslo. During the program following the banquet, Jim Lamont of Castlegar was presented with his 30 year pin by the Grand Master.

The honours were led by the Royal Canadian Legion, with ladies joining the evening event. While the gentlemen entered to their meeting at the Lodge, a ‘Kasco After Dark’ program was presented to the ladies. This consisted of a hands-on quilting presentation given by Linda Cole of The Last Stitch, a spinning and weaving presentation given by Mrs Mary Johnson, and to complete the program, Mary Ann Johnson displayed her Back Dirt Road line of botanical soaps and lotions. The gentlemen regrouped with the ladies at the Legion for coffee and sweets, while the Grand Master, his wife Deidre, and those who accompanied him from the coast, enjoyed an enjoyable evening, with guests from various distant lodges joining with the Kaslo group, to welcome the Grand Master.

Several distant lodges also gave presentations to join in the proceedings.

The proposed plan would expand the village campground by 40 fully-serviced sites, add two washroom/shower building and co-construct a permanent stage. A community meeting area, or ‘village square’ will be incorporated into the design.

If you’re looking for the Easter bunny or wanting to find some chocolate eggs, there’s a lot happening in the Nakusp area this weekend.

On Saturday, March 31 the Kids’ Zone Buy and Sell returns to the Nakusp Park. Hall from 10 am to 12 noon. It’s a garage sale featuring nothing but kids’ stuff! games, books, toys, clothes, etc. Kids run the tables and make the sales (parents can assist). All ages are invited to come and shop for great deals. Book table space early as this event always fills up. Now is the time to start cleaning out that closet!

Sunday, April 1, the annual Easter Bunny Hop takes place at the Passmore Lodge from 1-3 pm. The afternoon features Easter crafts, games, snacks, music and culminates with an Easter Egg hunt. What makes our event special is that it is hosted by members of this year’s graduating class from Mt. Sentinel Secondary School. Kids of all ages are welcome to come join in the fun, so bring the parents and grandparents! Admission for the event is $3 per child with proceeds going to Grade 12 grad class. The Passmore Lodge is located on the Old Passmore Road which runs parallel to Hwy 6 about 12 kilometres north of the Hwy 6 junction. For information contact: Nakusp Valley Recreation at 226-0008.
To get an overview to their questions about fisheries in the Arrow Lakes, members of the Nakusp Rod and Gun Club invited fisheries biologist Steve Arndt from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Program for an informal meeting on February 28. The meeting was held at the home of Ray and Carol Walker, during the upcoming Nakusp Rod and Gun Club's 100th anniversary. The meeting's purpose was to provide an overview of the fisheries program, and particularly an update on the Arrow Lakes program, which Arndt had spearheaded at the provincial level for many years. The discussion also included an update on the Arrow Lakes program that Arndt is working on more recently with BC Hydro.

The meeting started with an introduction by Rod and Gun Club director Charlie Keenleyside at Castlegar, "and that's working." He said the FWCP had not yet provided any answers as to what the study would do. He indicated he was quite satisfied that BC Hydro's study would answer them all. Scown also said he has been talking to people since about 12% of the FWCP budget on rainbow trout. "We feel we are working in an area that is of interest to everyone," said Scown. "We feel the impacts of the dams are not clear to wildlife impacts of BC Hydro dams, but Scown feels was not directly answered. He commented Rod and Gun Club director Hank Soren in a telephone interview. He indicated that he was quite satisfied that Arndt addressed most of the club's questions, although he did not directly answer them. Scown also said he has big concerns about the Dam Impact Study, which Arndt gave an update on the Arrow Lakes program, which Arndt had spearheaded at the provincial level for many years. The discussion also included an update on the Arrow Lakes program, which Arndt is working on more recently with BC Hydro.

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Nakusp council, February
by Jan McMurray
The British Columbia Library Federation was formed, and Trustee Beth McLeod received the BCLibrary Trustees’ Association Outstanding Trustee Award. 2007 goals include completing furnishing the new space and making progress with Phase Two of the expansion, which will provide access to the library to people of all ages and physical abilities.

Sarah Cheevers and Tracey Saxby come to Carol’s Garden Cafe in Edgewood on Kootenay tour on February 25. The high Summit Lake Racers make the most of winter’s waning days

Liva Nquistedt of Burton had a fabulous time at Red Mountain on March 4. Solomon Tupper prepares to launch out of the gate in Salmo, February 25.

The Valley Voice
March 14, 2007
11

Nakusp & the Arrow Lakes
27: Library presents successes of 2006

2:45 pm

PHOTO CREDIT: NICOLE HANDFORD


The Library presents successes of 2006

The tour itinerary includes dates in Nelson Thursday, March 15 and at Carol’s Garden Cafe on Friday, March 16.

Nakusp Public Library, Kootenay Library Federation, and the Province of British Columbia through the Writers in Libraries program.

A request for a motion to transfer the $10,000 CBT grant to support training for ambulance staff to the Nakusp and Area Development Board was referred to the next meeting. Mayor Hamling was absent, and the other councilors did not know the background information on this issue.

The Nakusp Secondary and Snowboard team sent council a letter, and several members attended council as a delegation, to request a donation towards the trip to Whistler for the provincials. Council thanked the group for coming, but had to inform the group that Village policy is to contribute to community groups with in-kind rather than financial donations. Councillor Bob Laffey advised the group to come in advance next year and he would look for other sources of funding.

...want to take half the proceeds. A Nakusp Library Recognition presentation will be made during the post-lunch dinner, followed by a torchlight parade. Although this will be the SLR season wind-up, all community members are welcome.

The Summit Lake Ski Hill will be open during regular hours over spring break as long as the snow holds out.

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KASLO & DISTRICT

KASLO community forest meeting sets moderate tone

By art joyce

I preserve the purpose of this meeting to be the start of a process of rebuilding. If we don’t communicate effectively, we won’t properly represent your interests. Those were the opening comments by Mayor Robert Holland, speaking about the Kaslo and District Community Forest, the evening of March 8 at JVH Seymour’s.

RDCK chair Gary Remple moderated the meeting. Before launching into the agenda Mitchell put out a statement that the meeting was greatly special to him and was of vital importance to the people in the area.

The meeting began with a presentation by Secretary Don Scarlett regarding the budget for 2006. A copy of the financial statement, had been resolved which appeared on the November 2006 21st public referendum on the purchase.

The meeting continued with a presentation by Mayor Holland entitled, ‘Regarding the assessment of local governments’. The Village will include as a part of the assessment the implications of local governments.

The Village will ask the AKBLG Government Homeowners Grant. The Mayor Holland’s idea of a Local

Director Andy Shadrack. Others were concerned with “trying to play Santa Claus” and concentrate instead on repairing damaged relations with the province, opting for a local hire of an independent branch of the Osprey Foundation.

The board has drafted new criteria for the position and is planning to post it in the near future.

The board also directed the staff to review its current financial statement, had been resolved which appeared on the November 2006

Mr. Shadrack for information, as there are 2006 bank statements.

Community Works funding: reservoir liner replacement; waterworks leak repair; geothermal heating for city hall; Water System development and energy efficient techniques for heating.

The board has had no indication from the First Nations that they will be interested in the development of the new FSP. The Ministry of Forests and Range has replaced the PCFA and is still receiving submissions. First Nations input before issuing any forest management plan is required. The government is prepared to allow some overlap between the old FDP and the new FSP.

they feared this “may be a little optimistic.”

Mindre listed the audience on the issues related to the purchase of the forest. The Village’s building inspector had correspondence relating to the purchase and if the Village was ready to buy the forest. The Village was ready to buy the forest, but what did this mean?

Shadrack will be asked to clearly sign his statement or no further disbursements to zero every year. The genetic legacy fund is sufficiently large, grants could be made from interest earnings in this fund, and there would be no need for further disbursements to zero every year.

The audience was asked for its input, and seemed to like the idea, pointing out that the figures are based on current log rates. However the figures are significantly lower than the figures provided to the community from the Ministry that it intends for the same.

Throughout the meeting members were referred to the next special council meeting to be the start of a process of rebuilding. If we don’t communicate effectively, we won’t properly represent your interests. Those were the opening comments by Mayor Robert Holland, speaking about the Kaslo and District Community Forest, the evening of March 8 at JVH Seymour’s.

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It's time to turn the clock! The Valley Voice
The Valley Voice March 14, 2007

CLASSIFIED ADS
In Ads: for posters and notices to do with events.
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WANTED: A WEEKEND IN RETREAT. Why not reserve a holistic treat for yourself at the Soul Healing Centre, Silverton, 358-2562. Come and experience a WEEKEND IN RETREAT! Costs $70.00. (www.timedance.com) Unique insight into the relationship between traditional medicine, holistic healing, western science and quantum mechanics. April 13 to 15 2007 Winlaw/Ridley. For more information, contact Grant Clubine at 505-9656.

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A dream to share. Contact gretchenperk@yahoo.ca

GARDEN GALLERY, New Denver at 2 pm. Bring a storytelling or two. Open to artists of all levels, all ages. Affordable.

PIE/GIFT BINGO at PASSMORE HALL.瑞安日 7:30 am to 7 pm. Show your Support to Local Charities. Restoran/Wine & Beer. Open Tuesday – Sunday. Please arrive by 7 pm as that is when we start selling tickets. Request you bring a round of tickets and pay at the door.

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10-3 pm. During spring equinox - my self nurturing, creative process & renewal. $70.00. Soul Healing Centre, Silverton. 358-2562. For more information, a flyer, or returns call 356-2177.

SALT SPRINGS RETREATS AT WISKATUNK (Hwy. 6), starting March 7 Create an environment to celebrate your health and wellness. Adrian Dance for adults 53 years old moved by Open Dance Impromptu/in, 12pm with Ingrid. With Selkirk College and Slocan Valley Recreation. Visit: 250-358-2745. Swoosh Canyon Rock, Winlaw.

WEDNESDAY ART AT WINLAW HALL (Hwy. 6). Painting with instructor. Workshop held in March. 30th, 9-12pm. Address to WIKATUNK. Admission $15. Open to artists of all levels, all ages.

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HELP WANTED

HIRING NOW: Experienced planters for May and June, Silverton, BC. For more information, phone 250-722-4222.

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An opportunity to work with a group of dedicated people in a community-based setting. The position is for 5 days per week. Salary is negotiable. For further information, please contact the Administration Office at 250-265-4328.


COOK FT or PT for Def in Nakusp. Contact, braedon low. Pleasant, positive attitude, good customer service skills. Immediate opening. Fax resume 250-32017 or email service@lambtoncollege.ca.

CLASSIFIED COMMUNITY

WEATHER SERVICES - CHAMBER MAID: Part time position available at Silverton School, Box 546, Kaslo, BC, V0G 1M0 or email minervia@columbiacable.net. Phone: 250-722-4222. Positions available. You could advertise here for $10.00 plus delivery. Our Classifieds are open 6 days a week.

REAL ESTATE

SLOCAN VALLEY RECREATION

SLOCAN VALLEY VOLUNTEER LIFEGUARD - 250-359-5922. Please visit the Slocan Valley Recreation website at valleyvoice@netidea.com for details.

COOKS & WAREHOUSE IMMEDIATE OPENING

An opportunity to work with a group of dedicated people in a community-based setting. The position is for 5 days per week. Salary is negotiable. For further information, please contact the Administration Office at 250-265-4328.

REAL ESTATE

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**Slocan Council, March 7: Grant applications in for village office renos, storm sewers and abattoir**

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**COMMITTEE**

**Community**

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**We Want your Opinion!**

We'll be serving coffee and cookies. **Breakfast Special:** 2 eggs, Bacon, Toast, Hash Browns $4.99 + taxes

**Large Single-topping Pizza** Pick-up/Dine-in $10.00 + Taxes 358-7929 • 12 Lake Avenue • Silverton, BC

**Kaslo Housing Society**

Wondering about Seniors Housing Options in Kaslo and Area? We Want your Opinion! The Kaslo Housing Society is interested in the feasibility of providing supportive housing for seniors in Kaslo and would like to hear about your views on their ideas.

**Notes from the RCMP**

The following report(s) are based on press releases and may have been edited.

RCPM have charged 31-year-old Walter Bulizuk at 250-265-3677 or anyone who may know of his whereabouts to please come forward. 

"a better understanding of the true nature of sex and gender, and to help create safety for sexually diverse youth. This objective was also key in helping them understand inequality and how to influence policy," says Keynote Speaker and Activist Christopher Moore.

**Regional forum on youth sexual diversity attracts crowd, forum was sponsored in part by the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the Kaslo and Area Health Unit and 6 Interior Health Authority, and GALE BC.**

**Advisory**

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