Fire destroys historic Woodbury Resort building

by Jan McMurray

A fire at Woodbury Resort on October 29 destroyed the main lodge, one cabin and a trailer, and damaged a three-unit motel building that is still under construction. There was also smoke damage to several trailers. Fortunately, no one was hurt. Two staff members and some guests were in the building, but got out safely when the smoke alarm went off at about 7 am.

“It was a horrible shock, but we’re back to business as usual today,” reported resort owner Terry Jones the day after the fire. The resort office has moved up to an office space in the JB’s Restaurant and Pub building.

Jones says he plans to build a smaller office building with some staff accommodation to replace the main lodge, and will carry on with finishing up the three-unit motel building. He hopes to have it all done by spring.

Woodbury has no fire protection, but neighbouring emergency services came to assist. Kaslo’s building. He hopes to have it all done by spring.

The water problems that began at a Crescent Valley residence on October 14, caused by the construction of a logging road on Mount Sentinel, continued for at least another month. BC Timber Sales stepped up to help resolve the problems, but residents Pam and Mike Malekow still have concerns.

“My water has still not totally cleared up,” reported Pam on October 30. “I am still concerned about any long-term damage that may have occurred.”

commented Mike in a letter to Area H Director Popoff.

The Malekows have a surface, gravity-fed water system and a well. The surface water is piped down to their property for their horses, and the well supplies the water for the household. In mid-October, while road construction was occurring in their watershed, the surface water turned brown and the well water became discoloured. Mike was away working at the time.

On October 16, Al Skakun of BC Timber Sales did a field inspection and informed Pam that some extremely fine clay had been exposed during the work, had gotten through the sediment traps they had built, and into her water system. He told her that more sediment could enter her system during the work, and offered to pay for a filter system.

By October 20, the Malekows’ water had stopped flowing altogether – but the basement floor was covered in water. Pam presumed that her hot water tank had been damaged and the water had drained out of the tank. At this point, BCTS agreed to pay a plumber to replace the hot water tank.

Malekow reports that the plumber was at the house for two days, and he took three days off work without compensation. She says the plumber repaired the pressure tank, replaced the hot water tank, did minor repairs to the sinks and toilets, and installed a filter system – with BCTS picking up the bill.

Malekow says she has to clean the filter every day. “There was a lot of sand at first, but it’s getting better now,” she said.

BCTS also arranged to have a water tank truck brought to the property to provide clean water for Malekow’s horses. Although Malekow appreciates the effort, she says the water in the tank was full of rust. “It was dirtier than the mountain water, so I didn’t use it,” she said. Instead, she took buckets of well water out to the horses.

Mike came home on the weekend of October 24 and 25. On the 24th, he and Pam hiked up the mountain and did a temporary fix to their surface water line, so the water for the horses is now flowing again. She says the water is “not bad now,” but does not feel entirely comfortable with her horses drinking it.

Mike also met with Skakun while he was home on the weekend, and was assured that BCTS will pay for the permanent fix to the water line in the spring.

“I met with Al Skakun (Area Forester) on October 24, 2009 at the road building site at Mount Sentinel. He showed and explained to me all of the preventive measures that were installed after the damage they had caused was done, in hopes of protection from any further damage. Everything seemed to be in compliance with the proper road building codes, except for a drilling rig that was leaking substantial oil. If this rig remains on the job and starts working, the water will heat up and there will be substantial leaks into the water. This is unacceptable and it must be removed or fixed,” stated Mike in his email to Director Popoff.

The ministry told us that the preventive measures – rock armouring with underfined geotextile fabric – were part of the construction prescription from the start, not an add-on after the sedimentation problem. “The sedimentation occurred during the excavation and placement of these materials. The plan also recommended installation of silt traps. Seventeen of these were established in a sequence, which at the time was considered more than adequate. Despite this, extremely fine clay-type particles in the soil seeped through the filter traps,” reported the ministry.

As for the leaky drilling rig, the ministry stated that the problem with the machine is mostly a case of rain water running over oily hoses. “BCTS has instructed the operator to address the problem and will be following up today [Monday, November 2]. In the meantime, the operator has parked the machine well away from any areas with water and has temporarily placed a tarp under the machine to catch any drops.”
Back Road wildfire interface project: public consultation begins

by Jan McMurray

With the Pineridge wildfire interface project well underway, Progressive Forestry is turning its attention to the Back Road. A public meeting was held October 21 at the Kaslo seniors’ hall.

Charlene Strelaeff, forester for the project, described the consultation process she followed for Pineridge and said she expects to follow the same process for the Back Road.

First, she takes a preliminary look at the area, and sends out referral letters to water licencees and residents in the immediate area of the project. The referral letter serves to notify residents of the project, and asks for their comments. Then, she writes a draft prescription, taking the residents’ comments into consideration. She starts ground development, and invites residents on a field tour. Based on input from the field tour, she revises the prescription.

Jeff Mattes of Progressive Forestry assured that the consultation process was “dynamic” and people were welcome to contact him with their comments throughout the project’s duration.

Strelaeff showed a map of the Back Road area, which she had broken down into three potential treatment areas. The first treatment area is the one closest to residences. Strelaeff said there would be hand treatment only in this area, but that a small excavator would be used to create ATV access. She estimated that 10-20 hectares would be hand treated in this first area. The second area would essentially be left untreated, because there is no large or ground fuel in this hardwood/hard cider forest. The third area would possibly see some machine work in small pockets, but would be mostly hand treated. She said that about 70 hectares would be treated overall.

Concerns were voiced about creating access into the interface areas, as so many fires are caused by humans. John Cathro, RPF hired as a consultant by the Village and Area D on this project, said that access roads enable people to get in there to fight fires, but also to recreate. He said there was a need to “strike a balance” between the two.

Strelaeff said the Back Road project would involve building an ATV trail with a mini excavator, with the crew getting in and out on an ATV. She said they would rehabilitate the trail afterwards by re-contouring and planting stumps. If a fire started in that area, she explained that the ministry would likely put in a road in the same place as the trail in order to fight the fire.

Several people had concerns about water. Strelaeff said that points of diversion (PODs) and riparian areas were excluded from treatment in Pineridge. She asked residents to please let her know where their wells are, and said she would ribbon off particular areas as “no-work” zones.

If our best efforts fail, we will make our best efforts to fix your water. We need to have intimate knowledge about your water,” stated Mattes.

“Other concerns included danger trees, wildlife trees and leaving coarse woody debris for future soil nutrients. Strelaeff said there would be a wildlife tree assessor and a danger tree assessor on site to identify those trees, and that she has to leave a certain amount of coarse woody debris.

Mattes said that the firewood generated by the project would go to local people first. Tony Frary said he had read the Community Wildfire Protection Plan by Blackwell, who recommended prioritizing areas for treatment around the community. Because most wildfires start at high elevations, Frary wondered why the first projects in Kaslo were at low elevations.

Strelaeff said she had identified two trees in the Back Road area that were struck by lightning, and a Ministry of Forests rep pointed out that the Argenta fire in 2007 was a prime example of a low valley strike.

Frary also said that the Blackwell Report emphasized the importance of firesmarting your own home. “That’s an absolute necessity for everyone,” agreed Fire Chief Larry Badry.

Nakusp holds info session on new fire hall

by Jan McMurray

The location for Nakusp’s new fire hall is a sore point for some, and was the main topic of discussion at a public information session held October 26 at the arena auditorium.

A new location was suggested – the corner of 8th Avenue NW and 4th Street NW. Staff will provide a report on the pros and cons of both sites for council’s consideration, and a decision will be made at council’s November 10 meeting.

The main complaint about the original Village-owned piece of property earmarked for the new building, tucked in between the seniors’ centre and the ball park, is that it is too close to the Rotary Villa seniors’ housing complex and other seniors’ facilities. People are not happy about losing this piece of parkland, either.

Councillor Hughes explained that they looked long and hard at all the possible properties for the facility, and that particular piece was “the last on the list.” However, it turned out to be the only option because of the size of the property required.

The new facility will house the fire department, Search and Rescue and the ambulance. Councillor Mueller explained that the rental from the ambulance service will help pay for the new facility.

The chosen location allows the use of the excess heat generated from the ice plant to heat the new building. Parking at the chosen location is at the back of the new building, and will not affect parking at the seniors’ centre.

Mayor Hamling outlined the drawbacks of other properties suggested – the Shell bulk plant property is too far out of town (a fire hall must be within eight kilometres of the boundaries of the fire service area); the property beside the Village hall is too small; the area near the recycling bin is already occupied.

Mayor Hamling also explained that the Village has to move quickly on this project, as the funding agreement stipulates that the project is to be finished by March 2011. They were supposed to have been notified about the grant in April, but did not receive word until the end of September. The Request for Proposals for an architect was to go out the next day.

Some people at the meeting spoke in favour of the decision to build the facility beside the seniors’ centre. They pointed out that the town needs this facility, and commended council for obtaining the funding for it. “Council has done their homework and this is the property that is available,” said one woman. Another made the point that building now while the economy is down will result in savings. Some doubt was expressed about the availability of grants in the future because of the huge deficits our federal and provincial governments are running. It was also pointed out that fire departments in other communities are often beside the recreation centre.

Mayor Hamling told the crowd that 65% of ambulance calls are to Rotary Villa. She assured that sirens would not sound until the vehicle was on the main road, and that emergency vehicles must follow speed limits on residential streets.

A TEAM Effort ...

WE AT THE Rosebery Parklands and Trails Commission want to thank the following partners for the successful completion of the new Three Forks Bridge:

Pencco Engineering (Nelson)
Design and site inspection

Dennis Butler (New Denver)
Construction Supervisor

Columbia Basin Trust
Major Funding

Union of BC Municipalities
Major Funding

Regional District Central Kootenay
Funding and Administration

Local Residents of RDCK Area H
Donations and moral support

Yellowhead Road and Bridge (New Denver)
Donation of materials

WATCH FOR the Grand Opening of our new bridge and the new Rosebery Parklands in the Spring with events for the whole family.

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**Transit open houses identify service needs**

by Katrine Campbell

A series of open houses held in the region by BC Transit has pin down why people travel and what it can do to improve service and plan for the future.

“The with the data collected, BC Transit will develop a regional service plan this spring, which will include recommendations for improving the local transit system,” says media relations officer Joanna Morton.

“It’s also about identifying ways to increase mode share [share of travellers using transit] and how to best use our resources with funding available during the economic slowdown.

“We’re looking to solve today’s issues and to also create a 20-year masterplan that will map out the future of transit in the region.”

Major input came from directors of the RDCK, who agreed to give the message to BC Transit that they would like them to explore opportunities to achieve efficiency and improve service by co-ordinating with the RDCK, Kootenay Boundary Regional District, Selkirk College and school districts 8, 10 and 20.

The service plan will be complete early next year. If you missed the open houses, but still want to give your input, you can access the survey and view the presentation online at www.bctransit.com/kootenays/ until November 30.

The results from surveys and meetings are currently underway. When it’s recommended for people to get their H1N1 shot, they will now be able to get a seasonal flu shot at the same time, if they are eligible.

In mid-November, after the priority groups have had the opportunity to get immunized, the H1N1 clinics will be open to anyone who needs or wants an H1N1 vaccine, free of charge.

The H1N1 clinics will be held jointly with the seasonal flu clinics currently underway. When it’s recommended for people to get their H1N1 shot, they will now be able to get a seasonal flu shot at the same time, if they are eligible.

In addition, to the new H1N1 clinics, the seasonal flu clinics are also expanding to offer the free vaccine to anyone who has been eligible in past years, not just those over 65 years. This list includes:

- People 65 years and older and their caregivers/household contacts
- Children and adults with chronic health conditions and their households
- Children and adolescents (six months to 18 years) with conditions treated for long periods of time with acetylsalicylic acid and their household contacts
- Healthy children age 6-23 months
- Pregnant women and care providers of infants under six months old
- Persons under age 65 with chronic conditions
- Persons residing in rural and remote communities, including First Nations.

The following groups will then be eligible to also get their shot:

- Children six months to less than five years (59 months)
- Healthcare workers, who are involved with the pandemic response of delivery of essential health services.
- Household contacts and care providers of infants under six months old
- Pregnant women who will be in their third trimester during influenza season and their household contacts
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities
- Individuals and other care providers in facilities and community settings who are capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk of influenza complications

Details about times, dates and locations of the clinic nearest you, when available, will be posted on the website, www.interiorhealth.ca or you can call Healthlink BC, dial 811 open 24/7.

For more information on H1N1 and seasonal flu: www.interiorhealth.ca

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**The Cup and Saucer Café**

**Silverton**

5:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Saturday 14th November.

Bruschetta or Crusty Bread with Olive Oil and Balsamic Vinegar Dip

Chicken or Zucchini Parmesan with Angel Hair Pasta or a Fresh Marinara Sauce and a choice of sautéed mushrooms or sweet peppers on the side.

Garden or Caesar Salad with Homemade dressing.

Raspberry Gelato.

Coffee and Biscotti.

Alcohol will be available with a suggested donation of $4.50 a drink.

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**H1N1 clinics kick off, seasonal flu clinics expand eligibility**

by Kate Guthrie

Watershed Connections: A Web of Diversity is a new program, funded by the Columbia Basin Trust, which is running in elementary schools throughout the West Kootenays.

“I developed this program to help kids know how much and how diverse the wealth of life is that contributes to our healthy watershed,” said Shanoon Bennett, director of the project.

Through Watershed Connections, children hike to and observe a local body of water. They keep a journal in which they draw and interpret their surrounding community, and the water that sustains us all.

“Kids connect to each other, and to us, through the program,” Bennett said. “It’s also about identifying ways to protect and preserve the wilderness, and in the Kootenays since 1990, we have involved with the local kids, they are participating in Shanoon Bennett’s Watershed Connections program.

“With the announcement that H1N1 vaccine had been approved, plans for adding clinics throughout Interior Health kicked into high gear.

A combined H1N1/seasonal flu vaccination clinic will be held at the hospital in New Denver November 5 from 9:30 to 4, and in Nakusp at the health centre on November 10. There will also be one in Nelson November 6 at the Prestige Lakeside spa.

**Kids make watershed connections**

by Kate Guthrie

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BCTS provides update and context to Mt Sentinel sediment story

I am writing in regard to your article about a stream sedimentation event on a BC Timber Sales (BCTS) road cell near the town of New Denver. As a citizen, I am concerned to provide information on why the sedimentation occurred, and to provide an update on the situation and some context.

Since the event, BCTS has worked to provide assistance to the affected resident to establish clean-filtered water for home use, as well as to provide temporary alternate water supplies for watering horses. The culvert installation work which caused the problem has been promptly completed by the contractor following a geotechnical prescription, including rock armouring of slopes and ditch lines. Water flowing through this location quickly cleared following this work and has remained clear. A field review was conducted with the water licensee, who was satisfied with the measures taken and with the quality of the road construction at this location.

Contrary to some unqualified opinions expressed, the Mount Sentinel sedimentation has been completed to a high standard by an experienced, competent contractor, following detailed construction measures provided by geotechnical professionals, and monitored by a qualified, experienced road foreman.

It is unfortunate that the involvement of Slocan Park CARE members in this issue contributed little, either to communication or solutions. Ill-informed and inflammatory statements about “environmental degradation,” or solutions. Ill-informed and qualified, experienced road foreman. Following detailed construction experienced, competent contractor, Sentinel road construction is being at this location.

The quality of the road construction with the measures taken and with field review was conducted with the geotechnical prescription, including the problem has been promptly completed. As a temporary alternate water supply as a temporary alternate water supply to Mt Sentinel

The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Playmor Junction to Edgewood and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake. Circulation is 7,200 papers, providing the most complete news and advertising coverage of any single newspaper serving this area.

Editorial / Letters Policy

The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor and community news articles from our readers.

Letters and articles should not be longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material. Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and phone number for verification purposes.

We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libelous. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances.

Letters and articles are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Valley Voice.

The old ‘90s, the community of Hills regularly gathered together for what they called the ‘54 Club’ - a group of some 500 people who annually stood for “Second Sunday Supper and Sports.” In August of 1991, Colleen Bowman of Hills, a local commercial artist, found herself picking up the media for the next gathering being guided. On September 15, 1991, a garlic-themed community supper was held, the garlies’ precursor to the huge Garlic Festival event we now have.

In 1993, Andy Rhodes, beloved local wag and man-about-town, organized a garlic-themed potluck and called it the Hills Garlic Festival. He looked around at the 25 or so people who attended (imagine – this year we had more than 7,000 people) and thought, “hmmm, this event could become something really wonderful.”

And there Andy decided to do his utmost to make this community potluck into something great.

The next year, 1994, infected with the Hills garlic bug, Andy started early in the spring, promoting the festival take-out on “4S Club.” He worked to provide a large amount of time and energy (and his own money) into putting the Hills Garlic Festival onto the map. The Hills Garlic Festival has now outgrown the old 4S Club burger and with press releases, he twice got himself on Vicki Gabereau’s national CBC radio program, he invited more vendors to his pop-up local produce and crafts. A buzz was generated about this ‘Hills Garlic Festival’ event. The result was more vendors and more people. Andy hosted the festival with press releases, he twice got himself on Vicki Gabereau’s national CBC radio program, he invited more vendors to his pop-up local produce and crafts. A buzz was generated about this ‘Hills Garlic Festival’ event. The result was more vendors and more people.

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Andy advertised, he peppered the media with press releases, he twice got himself on Vicki Gabereau’s national CBC radio program, he invited more vendors to his pop-up local produce and crafts. A buzz was generated about this ‘Hills Garlic Festival’ event. The result was more vendors and more people.

And, even though it is now a huge event, it has stayed true to its original intention: a venue for products that are handmade, locally grown, and preferably organic. In this day and age of food security concerns and the advent of the 100-mile diet, opportunities to ‘buy local’ and support local food growers such as the Hills Garlic Festival, become even more vital.

From a humble (garlic) bulb a mighty event has sprung.

Lorna Visscher

Open letter to Morris Bodnar,

Industry Canada

It has been brought to my attention that you have completed a detailed Safety Code 6 study of the mobile phone antennae that had been proposed for the Village of New Denver, British Columbia, and that the installation of these antennae was now being considered. Could you explain to me the role of this study? Two years ago Telus had already provided us with details of their installation proposal, such as power output and anticipated signal range. Has this been altered?

Safety Code 6, to my knowledge, is the world’s second most stringent in allowing human exposure to microwaves used in wireless communication. Some countries that have already had very stringent standards have already gone further in reducing the allowable radiation exposure to humans and they have developed further laws to that end. It is a real concern for the exposure to children. Have you studied this increased global concern over the health hazards caused by wireless communication and uncertainties surrounding wireless communication. It has expressed serious concern over the proliferation of wireless communication in our environment. From her I learned that over the last decade the incidence of brain tumors in children has, at least, quadrupled.

Do you have any knowledge whether Health Canada is investigating this most worrisome illness increase in our young population? It seems irresponsible to me to proceed in the proliferation of wireless communication devices with a growing uncertainty respecting the possible health effects it may have.

Personally, I would prefer to keep New Denver and area cell phone users from having to go through the procedures and uncertainties that are associated with this discussion. It seems to me that the majority voice in the local population should determine this. I have cause to believe that there is an ever-growing majority in this valley that opposes cell phones, especially among the parents of children. It is unfair to impose a service that we are collectively opposed to be imposed upon us.

North Duerdoen

New Denver
Jobs created to control invasive plants in Kaslo and Area D

submitted

Laid-off forestry workers in the Kaslo area have been working on a new project — controlling invasive plant species. With funding provided by the government’s Job Opportunities Program, Progressive Forest Management Ltd. has hired and trained crews to help unemployed natural resource workers to tackle the growing invasive plant problem.

Invasive plants are getting their rocks knocked off by a new crew of five, a group that has already seen some success in their efforts. The crews have been trained to identify and control invasive species and are already making a difference in the area.

“With the support of the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee and the Ministry of Forests and Range, the Kaslo-based crews have gained skills in plant identification and inventory methodologies and control techniques that will prove valuable for future employment or contracting opportunities,” said a spokesperson for the program.

The crews have inventoried more than 500 km of roads and manually treated approximately 200 sites. Treatments have been enormously successful, and the crews have developed a new appreciation of invasive plants and their management. When asked how they feel about their new work, the crew members were unanimous in their positive responses.

“Everyone in the forestry industry in Kaslo has been great to have a job that looks at a totally different side of ecosystem health than what I’m used to,” said one crew supervisor. “I love new rewards environmentally responsible retailers and growers.”

West Kootenay Plants (WKP) has been supplying the Kaslo crews with plants and materials for the project. Owners Eva Johannson and Kel Jensen produce native species for sale to companies that rehabilitate riparian habitat and roadside vegetation.

WKP grows “the basic West Kootenay riparian mix: red osier dogwood, cottonwoods, willows, roses, Saskatoon berry, hawthorn, alder,” says Johannson. “They don’t retail plants, which is why you won’t find them in the phone book.”

At their 50 acre operation in Winlaw Johannson and Jensen use four greenhouses to grow the plants, which come from local seed collected in accordance with ethical harvesting and use guidelines. Most of the time, the business employs only the two of them but in season they hire one or two temporary workers.

Some of their customers include the Slocan River Streamkeepers who have used the plants in two riparian rehab programs near Winlaw, BC. Hydro Generation, a specialty retailer in Cranbrook, and the company doing the major rehabilitation of the Yankee Girl mine near Ymir.

By Jan McMurray

There’s no place like home, and Mickey had one. But when he died, Brensdale, a small town in the West Kootenay, lost a match.

“It took about six months of testing to find out she was a match,” said Mickey. “We had to come to Vancouver frequently before the operation.”

In a live liver transplant, which many surgeons say is the most difficult surgery they do, the donor gives part of her liver to the person who needs it.

Where have all the redfish gone?

Lake has raised the concern of many local people this fall. Some locals who have made a yearly habit of watching the redfish claim to have never seen this apparent lack of fish. This has come to the attention of the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society, which hopes to develop an infrastructure for more in-depth studies among other lake related projects.

The society is gathering anecdotal stories about the kokanee spawning over the years as a possible focus for continuing data collection. If you have stories of any kind, i.e. dates of spawning, creek conditions, amounts of fish, or any other information that may be relevant, please email Richard Johnson, info@opuspetroleum.com or phone 250-358-2900. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

submitted

A dramatic reduction of spawning kokanee in the creeks around Slocan

Poker tournament for van fundraiser

The recent fundraisers to help Jonathan White buy a wheelchair-accessible van were a success, but didn’t raise the full amount needed.

Now there’s one more event — a poker tournament. It will be held November 4th at 6:30 pm, at Odin’s Pub in New Denver. Registration costs $30. First prize is $100, second is $200, and third place takes $100.

Call Paul at 250-358-6806 before November 6 to confirm your spot. The first ten spots are already gone, so don’t delay. The White family greatly appreciates everyone’s participation.
Kaslo council, October 27: Kaslo Housing Society proposes partnership
by Jan McMurray

• Peter Crawford from the Kaslo Housing Society went to the Village to partner with the society on a seniors’ housing project. He proposed that the Village sell some of its vacant lands and donate the proceeds to the project. The society has some funds, and is in contact with the Legion and CMHC about further funding. He also said that the Village could contribute as a way to raise money for the project, and said the society is seeking tax free donations as well. He explained that the society does not want to own and operate the facility, but is willing to do the groundwork.

Councillor Frary said he would like to see a more detailed plan of the project, and that he felt funds for the project could be raised through strata title units rather than selling Village land.

Council referred the matter to the Municipal Services Committee.

• David Stewart and Rick Hewat of the Community Fund of North Kootenay Lake made a presentation for nearly $200 donation to go towards the purchase of a banana for the fund, to be hung on Philanthropy Day every year (November 15). They also informed council that they have established a fund, from which they are now $331,000.00, which allowed them to distribute $12,000-$13,000 most years to community groups. They invited all council members to purchase a membership or make a donation.

Council agreed to contribute $200 to 2010 municipal grant funds.

• Rick Hume of 104.1 Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society requested a letter of support from the Village to include with their application for funding to Community Development Funds on Vimy Park washrooms. Community Development funds are available annually through the RDCK, and can be used as a mooring float, swimming area, or for other events when not in use by the society. Hume also requested written confirmation that the stage can be secured in a protected location along the Kaslo Bay Park shoreline.

Councillor Leatherwood brought up the idea of a communication strategy, as she feels that communication between the Village and the public is lacking. Council agreed to refer this to the Development Services Committee.

• Parks Canada sent notification that the grant application for the City Hall restoration project was not successful, as the program was oversubscribed.

Kaslo’s soccer league finishes its second season

Aaron Cadwaladr, Wade Through the Dark in Kaslo

Kaslo council, October 27: Kaslo Housing Society proposes partnership
by Jan McMurray

However, applications for a new round of funding are being accepted with a deadline of November 13. The Village will re-apply.

• Four proposals were received for the design of the upper floor of the City Hall building. They were reviewed by the City Hall Conservation Committee for recommendation to council.

• Council agreed to spend $30,000 of Community Development funds on Vimy Park washrooms. Community Development funds are available annually through the RDCK, and can be used as a mooring float, swimming area, or for other events when not in use by the society.

• Aea D Director Andy Shadrack accepted the invitation to meet with council. He suggests that they develop a strategic financial plan for all the services shared by Kaslo and Area D, such as the transfer station, the arena, the fire service, the fire interface project, regional parks and the library service. Council will suggest that they discuss the transfer station, fire service and the arena at a meeting on November 19. RDCK staff will hold an information session in Kaslo.

• Bernie Penner of Kaslo Bay Estates sent in a revised plan of his development, and asked for a preliminary development approval letter from the Village. He also submitted a Development Services Committee for recommendation to council. Changes to the site plan include the relocation of the clubhouse, an indoor pool at the Village of a proposed change in plans for logging CP 15 Block 2 within the Kemp Creek community watershed. The original plan was to log this block with a helicopter system. Because of the weak market, the society is proposing a yarding system instead, using an old skid trail and building some new trails as well. Council passed a motion to ask KDCFS to build a permanent road, rather than a temporary one, to allow for future fire protection and harvesting.

• Councillor Frary reported on the two day meeting he attended on CFTs Communities Adapting to Climate Change program, which Kaslo is participating in this year. He said they wanted to see a coordinator hired for the project, and a work plan for the $30,000 budget.

• Ian Fraser was appointed as the Chamber of Commerce representative to the Regional Steering Committee for Climate Change.

• Councillor Frary reported on the October 20 conference on affordable housing in Kaslo. He said there was a need to get local stakeholders together and find a way to consult to come up with an action plan.

• The council approved funds for recreation grants were approved - Kaslo Kootenay Lake Community Services Society $500; Kaslo & District Public Library $150; Kaslo & District Chamber of Commerce $500; Kaslo Golf Club $400; KLSS (Pentwinkle) $350 (hold until chillmark program opens).

• 2010 budget deliberations were scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays in each month, beginning in November.

• A request for Larch Drive paving was referred and received to the Development Services Committee and 2010 budget deliberations.

• Staff will ask BC Transit to partner with School District No. 8 to utilize school buses for public transportation.

• Council agreed to extend the Regional District of Central Kootenay fire service agreement for one more year until December 31, 2010, with the exception of the funding mechanism, which would be based upon an equitable formula.

• The lease for the community garden with North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society will be transferred to the Community Garden Society.

• An invitation to meet with MLA Michelle Mungall was received. Council will consider making a trip to Kaslo on November 12.

• Accounts payable of $120,240.38 were approved for payment.

Kaslo’s soccer league finishes its second season

submitted

Kaslo’s soccer league has just finished its second successful season. The league consists of five kids’ teams, according to ages: four-year-olds, Kindy, 7, U10 and U13. There is also a newly formed women’s team, especially for novice players, and a more established men’s team.

Kaslo Men’s Soccer kicked in some seed money, and lent the use of their two net posts. JV Humphries School also allowed the use of their net posts and the school field.

The newly formed Kaslo Soccer Club was now able to purchase soccer balls, pins, and nets. With the field booked, the coaches in place, and the new equipment purchased, Kaslo Youth Soccer was on its way.

After two successful seasons, on October 8, 2008, players and coaches received T-shirts with the Kaslo Soccer Club logo, designed by Gary Schneider and sponsored by local businesses Emnakk Ventures and Kaslo Cable.

Mark your calendars for February 2010, when there will be a call out to any and all interested in being a part of the Kaslo Soccer Club.

Aaron Cadwaladr, Wade Through the Dark in Kaslo

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Thank you Valley Voice

The Valley Voice is the newspaper that tells us what is going on in the Kaslo area. The only newspaper that gives us a chance to say what we think about it, free of charge, in Voices from the Valleys.

Paid advertisement by Jane Lynch in support of the Valley Voice

Kaslo, thanks to the passion, drive and organizational skill of the group of parents, Kaslo Youth Soccer was formed.

On the first registration day, 65 kids showed up. The original registration fee was $30, to help offset the start-up costs of purchasing new equipment. Kaslo Men’s Soccer kicked in some seed money, and lent the use of their two net posts. JV Humphries School also allowed the use of their net posts and the school field.

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Serious Fun with Foothills Brass

submitted

The Kaslo Concert Society presents Foothills Brass at St. Andrew’s United Church Friday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m. The band will be in Calgary in 1981, this quintet of versatile musicians is dedicated to exceptional artistic presentations and innovative leadership in the artistic community. Their Kaslo program is called “BrassScapes! You’ll see what you hear as they take us through a series of scenes beginning with the splendid baroque era of Handel and Frescobaldi. Then it’s off to the Gypsy life with a lively Ukrainian wedding. The gospel side explores the music of faith with Simple Gifts’ Atlantic, living in Wales and Berlin, and busking the streets of Europe helped shape his musical style.

Foothills Brass in Kaslo

A legendary western-style trumpet battle opens the second half with Copland’s How-Down, The Ballighter’s Song and The Devil Went Down to Georgia.

The final segment, in a quiet after-hours café, delves into music by Gershwin and Bernstein and sets the stage for a final rousing scene in New Orleans. Serious Fun!

Tickets are available at Figments and Kaslo and at the door on November 20. Single tickets $22, seniors $20, students $5. School age children admitted free when accompanied by an adult patron. For information call Karen 535-7539 or David 354-5368.
Silverton council, October 20: Campground project discussed

by Jan McMurray

The plans for the new washroom building for the campground were approved in principle. Mayor Everett reported on the project, which is to be completed by the end of March as per the terms of the funding agreement. The building permit was expected to be issued on October 29. He said they were fortunate to be working with the Southern Interior Construction Association (SICA) on this project, as SICA can access some funding for wages, training and some equipment for workers. The association is providing classroom education during the project, probably at the fire hall.

There will be an interior floor heating, which will keep the floors dry and free of bacteria, and on-demand hot water. The old washroom building will become the storage room and laundry room. The roof of the new building will extend over the old one and create a covered area with sinks for washing up. There will be a handicap accessible washroom and two showers in each of the men’s and ladies’ facilities. Mayor Everett suggested that council consider not having coin-operated showers because they tend to bring on vandalism and theft, and instead raise the camping rates by $1 or $2.

- Campground income this year was $20,103 and expenses were $14,800. Mayor Everett said the income was growing steadily by a small amount every year. In response to Councillor Bell’s question about the small amount every year. In response to Councillor Bell’s question about the small amount every year. In response to Councillor Bell’s question about the small amount every year. In response to Councillor Bell’s question about the small amount every year.

- The Animal and Poultry bylaw was given two readings. The public will be invited to comment on the bylaw at the next council meeting on November 17, before council decides whether or not to adopt it. The bylaw allows a maximum of 12 chickens per property and sets the permit fee at $10.

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Bosun benefit celebrates Christmas

submitted

Take some monks and a donkey, throw them in a pot with some shepherds and kings, add a few cats and small boys, a song or two and perhaps a poem and what have you got? Bosun Hall Benefit number three, featuring seasonal readings and songs.

The program, on Friday, November 27, includes Brother Heinrich’s Christmas by John Rutter, a fable narrated by a reader, with music from a small orchestra and choir; Jesus’ Christmas Party, based on a children’s story by Nicholas Allen; and last but not least, the well-known classic: A Child’s Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas.

Matthew Fry, Hank Hastings, Kevin Heshedahl, Richard Johnson, Susan O’Donoghue, Lucie Pauzen, Shelley Thring and Donna Jean Wright comprise the cast of performers.

Proceeds from the benefit will go towards the purchase of new chairs. The Bosun’s doors open at 7 pm, and the performance starts at 7:30. Minimum donation is $10 for adults, $5 for children and of course larger donations will be gratefully accepted. Refreshments will be served at intermission.
Kaslo housing forum emphasizes need for action

by Linda Kelly

Kaslo housing forum emphasizes need for action! This was the general consensus at a housing forum held in Kaslo on October 20. By the end of the day, a committee had formed, dedicated to getting a housing project off the ground in Kaslo.

There were many presentations throughout the day by people from both near and far. Mayor Lay said affordable housing is on top of council’s agenda, and that the Village owns land that can be used as leverage for an affordable housing project.

George Penfold, Selkirk College Regional Innovation Chair for Economic Development, said that housing needs and solutions are different for each demographic. He said most lower income people rent and will never own a home, so these people should be the focus group for housing projects. The market does not respond well to this type of housing.

The survey showed a need for affordable and social housing among all age groups. She also said that homeowners pay more than 30%. The survey showed 83% of respondents as homeowners and 17% as renters. The average household size is 2.3 people, with 22.97% of households occupied by single people, 5.65% occupied by single parents, 18.73% occupied by couples with children, and 45.93% occupied by couples without children. The household income range of respondents is $50,000-$60,000. 83.7% of respondents live in single-family detached housing; 28% live in an apartment, townhouse or condominium; 1.1% live in a duplex, triplex or four-plex; 6% live in a mobile or manufactured home on its own lot; 2.1% live in a mobile or manufactured home in a mobile home park; 57% of renters spend more than 30% of their income on housing, while 27% of homeowners pay more than 30%. The survey showed a need for affordable housing among all age groups. She also gave an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses in Kaslo’s existing (old) OCP and draft (new) OCP when it comes to affordable housing.

Tim Wake, who worked on affordable housing plans for Whistler and Bowen Island, stressed the importance of getting on with it. “Begin immediately!” he urged. He explained the difference between government subsidized housing, non-market housing, and market housing. Non-market housing, a fairly new phenomenon, is for those who do not fit into the government subsidy bracket and cannot afford market prices. He said there were eight tools to encourage non-market housing: inclusionary zoning, secondary suites, density bonuses, price restrictions, a housing fund, land banking, housing organizations, and partnerships for affordable housing.

Peter Crawford of the Kaslo Housing Society spoke about the society’s intention to create seniors’ housing in partnership with the Legion, the Village and North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society.

Other speakers included Steven Hall from CMHC (Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation), Celeste LeDuigou from the Habondia Women in Sustainable Housing project, Lloyd Coates from CinderCedar Woodworks, and Laurie Cordell from the Fraser Basin Council.

Go to the next page to read more.
New Denver council, October 27: Garlic Festival issues discussed

by Michael Dorsey

• Correspondence was received from Hills Recreation-Society Secretary Ellen Kinsel regarding the Garfield Festival. She thanks the Village crew for their efforts to get the site ready after the windsstorm, and recognizes the campground hosts for their assistance “which was above and beyond anything we could have expected.”

A donation of $500 was enclosed with the letter, to be put toward the installation of a water tap on the washroom building. Council agreed to use the money for this purpose. The Public Affairs Committee will meet with the Festival Committee to discuss this and other matters.

Councillor Murphy noted that it was hard for people to sit and relax in the gazebo during the Garlic Festival, as much of the space was being used to store food vendors’ supplies. Councillor Campbell commented that the festival may have reached its maximum possible size, and suggested that generators be used to provide the additional power needed mostly by the food vendors. Council noted that parking in the Orchard and along Highway 6, and Orchard residents being unable to gain access to their properties have become problems. The potential for fire and health problems due to the location was also noted.

The festival also asked for a Centennial Park electrical schematic. Mayor Wright commented that the electrical system would remain “as is” for now, and suggested that another option might be for the festival to rent a temporary 400 amp service from BC Hydro.

• Council received a response from the Ministry of Community and Rural Development, informing that no new Boundary Restructure Study Grants are available at this time. She encouraged council to continue working with Jeff Neilson, program analyst, for other options on how the proposed restructuring can proceed.

• An application for funding under the BC Hydro Tree Canada Program was discussed. The initial application was for a temporary 400 amp service from BC Hydro.

The retirement of these two vehicles will be expensive to maintain and do not assist in the contract. The vehicles are too small for the Village of Silverton, and will deplete the reserve fund for the 1986 Ford pumper truck and the 1974 Ford mini-pumper truck, both owned by the Village of Silverton, removing some of apparatus in the contract. The vehicles are too expensive to maintain and do not assist the department in meeting the Fire Underwriters’ Association requirements.

The retirement of these two vehicles will have no negative effect on fire protection for the two municipalities.

• Council approved a variance for the CBT-sponsored climate change workshop on October 14. She said she would like to see some strategies to adapt to climate change incorporated into the OCP.

• Mayor Wright will attend a CBT ‘interview’ next week, with a focus on direction and planning for the Trust.

• Councillor Campbell reported that she met with Chamber of Commerce President Nikita Boroomand to discuss ways of revitalizing the Chamber.

• Administration reported that 18 cottonwood trees have been removed from Village property, and more are scheduled to come down.

• Council authorized Steve Deakoff to attend two courses on Water System Backflow Prevention at Vancouver 17-18 in Vernon, as part of ongoing training. The cost of the courses comes to $485.25 plus taxes. Council also approved sending both Village Maintenance employees to attend a Hydrant Maintenance Course.

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- providing assistance to needy ex-service members and their dependants
- supporting medical training and research, and the provision of community medical appliances with a special passion in the care of veterans.
- funding the purchase, construction and maintenance of housing and care facilities for elderly and disabled persons
- providing bursaries to children and grandchildren of veterans
- supporting drop-in centres for seniors and funding meals-on-wheels services

Money donated during The Royal Canadian Legion’s annual Poppy-Remembrance Campaign is distributed in the Royal Canadian Legion Fund. Some of the many ways this money is used to improve life for people in your community include:

- providing assistance to needy ex-service members and their dependants
- supporting medical training and research, and the provision of community medical appliances with a special passion in the care of veterans.
- funding the purchase, construction and maintenance of housing and care facilities for elderly and disabled persons
- providing bursaries to children and grandchildren of veterans
- supporting drop-in centres for seniors and funding meals-on-wheels services

This is your chance to hear from your elected officials, ask questions, make your point and discuss your concerns!
How to make sure your last wishes are honoured

Few of us can predict how the last chapter of our life will play out. Because of this we need to think about what we want to happen in the different situations we might find ourselves in leading to our death. This way we can shape things according to our personal wishes.

We have the right, and even the certainty fits into that category. Things in our life, and our death, will play out according to our personal wishes. This way we can shape things in the different situations we might find ourselves in leading to our death. Because of this we need to think about what we want to happen in our final months, weeks and moments. We will share some of her experiences with people at this important time. She knows what a difference it makes to the family and to the dying individual to be able to have their plans actually happen. It isn’t morbid or disturbing to enhance safety in the wildland/urban interface. Their presentation outlined the background of, and lessons learned from, the Kaslo Wildfire Interface Project. Partners in Protection has developed a manual titled FireSmart: Protecting Your Community from Wildfire to give the public the planning tools to mitigate the risk of fire in interface areas. Lay and Addison plan to initiate a pilot project in Kaslo and, with help, throughout Area D.

They believe it is important to get people to implement FireSmart programs within their neighbourhoods prior to obtaining funding for fuels management for interface areas. A FireSmart program would ensure that the public has bought into managing the fuels around their homes as well as protecting their communities from wildfire.

Partners in Protection is now trying to initiate federal and provincial ‘buy-in’ to a national FireSmart program which could be developed to benefit communities throughout Canada.

If you would like to learn more about the program and obtain a manual, please visit the Partners in Protection website at http://www.partnersinprotection.ab.ca/.

Kaslo leads the way with interface project

Submitted

Kay Costley-White has a deep interest in palliative care and has spent years dealing with people in their final months. She knows what a difference it makes to the family and to the dying individual to be able to have their plans actually happen. It isn’t morbid or disturbing to

enlighten in how the wildfire season just past, communities throughout BC need to become more proactive in protecting their homes and communities from the threat. Kaslo Mayor Greg Lay and resource technician John Addison recently attended the Partners in Protection AGM in Jasper, Alberta. The two gave the keynote presentation at this conference dedicated to encouraging proactive, community-based initiatives to reduce risk of fire losses and to

enhance safety in the wildland/urban interface. Their presentation outlined the background of, and lessons learned from, the Kaslo Wildfire Interface Project. Partners in Protection has developed a manual titled FireSmart: Protecting Your Community from Wildfire to give the public the planning tools to mitigate the risk of fire in interface areas. Lay and Addison plan to initiate a pilot project in Kaslo and, with help, throughout Area D.

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Age-friendly survey coming to your mailbox

Submitted

Does New Denver make it easy for seniors to live here? What could be improved? Are there any major obstacles, or are they minor and easily fixed? The Village wants to know. On Monday, November 9, residents of New Denver will find a survey in their mailboxes as part of the Village’s age-friendly community assessment project.

Contractor Brenda Dahle, who is leading the project for the Village, says that the survey is being distributed to all households with mailboxes in New Denver. Additional copies of the survey may be obtained from the Village office if there is more than one person in a household who wishes to respond. She notes that by participating in the survey, residents will help to identify age-friendly assets, needs, and priorities for New Denver. These will be included in a final report to council in December.

Residents will have one week to complete the survey and completed surveys should be dropped off at the Village office by the end of the day on Monday, November 16.
RCMP still looking for vandals and thieves

by Katrine Campbell

Nakusp RCMP are searching for the culprits behind a spree of break-ins and vandalism on September 19 and 20.

At the Kuskanax Lodge, between 1 and 1:30 in the morning of September 19, three separate incidents were spotted causing substantial damage to the wooden railings at the Kuskanax Lodge. They were scared off only after they damaged a window, one of the doors and the railings, and then attempted to break into a vehicle in the parking lot.

One was described as tall, thin and about 16 or 17 years old. The second was heavy-set and wearing a dark jacket with a red ball cap on sideways.

A knife was recovered at the second examined for fingerprints.

The same early morning, the Kuskanax Museum was badly damaged when its awning was set on fire. The soaker hoses were slashed, the flag pole damaged, and the mini lights and hanging baskets destroyed.

There were three more incidents Sunday, September 20. A number of items were stolen from unlocked vehicles, one in the 500 block of 9th Avenue and one in the 300 block of 2nd Avenue. The items taken were a Canon digital camera, camo-coloured Browning binoculars, a black iPod and a blue CD case and CDs.

Also that day a travel trailer in the 800 block of 4th St. was entered and damaged. Inside, police found some of the stolen property from the cars.

Cst. Doug Robinson of the Nakusp detachment says the RCMP suspects the same young men seen at the Kuskanax were involved in all five incidents. Police are frustrated that victims don’t always report the incidents, as when someone is on a spree “if we get enough complaints coming in it’s like a road map” leading to the offenders.

“We know it’s a problem calling Kelowna and getting put on hold, but unless we get information coming in, it makes it hard to solve.”

Although they have no suspects, “we figure it was some locals making poor decisions. As soon as word got out, it stopped.”

Robinson reminds everyone to be extra vigilant, to remove valuables from their vehicles and then lock the doors, and to report any suspicious activity to the RCMP.

Nakusp detachment of RCMP welcomes a new boss

by Katrine Campbell

Cpl. Bryson Hill and his family have just moved to Nakusp, where he has taken command of the detachment.

Hill is a second-generation Mountie, following in his dad’s footsteps, which is why he can’t really say what his hometown is – the family moved from town to town. He joined the RCMP in 2000 and his family moved to the Sunshine Coast, where he remained until now.

Why did he choose Nakusp?

“Obviously, career-wise it’s a good opportunity to police in a small town. And, we have a young family. Our boy is almost two, and we have a baby on the way. It’s important to come to a community with strong family stuff. It’s a good place to start a kid’s life off.”

Hill’s wife, Carmen, is also a member of the RCMP, but has taken an extended leave until the baby is in elementary school.

“I want to maintain that,” he says. “I want to keep that bond.”

Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services tackles food security

by Katrine Campbell

Across the world are shrinking, water is becoming more scarce, and sometimes the future food costs will start to rise by double or triple the inflation rate. As well, input costs of food have increased. These realities have prompted Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services to launch a second program to lessen our dependence on imported foods – “and that’s just for starters,” says executive director Mark Brunton.

Brunton noted that the program would not have been possible without help from Columbia Basin Trust and the United Way.

“Body in Mind Pilates
Morning/Afternoon Evening
Mat Classes starting on November 16th
For registration please contact
Anne Rolston @ 250-4290 or Rejean Von Dam @ 250-2160

Arwotarian Rotary Villa Rental Suites (55+) available in our NEW BUILDING
206-7th Ave Nakusp, BC
250-265-3370 (9 am - noon) arwotarian@nakusp.net

You are cordially invited to the Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce Christmas Gala and Business Excellence Awards
To be held at the Nakusp Auditorium on Saturday, December 5, 2009
Cocktail hour 6-7 pm
Dinner and Awards 7:30 pm
Dance to follow
Tickets are available at the Visitor Information Centre
$55 charter members
$60 non-members
Call 250-265-4214 for more information

NOMINATION FORM
The business I nominate is:
The award is:
My reason to nominate this business is:
My name & phone number:

November 4, 2009 The Valley Voice

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council is proud to present Harp Angel: Deborah Nyack, as the first concert in its 2009-2010 Concert Series. Nyack will perform Saturday, November 7 at the Bonnington Arts Centre, starting at 8 pm.

Travelling with her golden harp and her mystical Celtic harp, Nyack has performed for thousands from all corners of the globe who have cherished her music and recordings. She has played royal command performances for King Hussein of Jordan and for Diana, Princess of Wales, for prime ministers and other dignitaries, in harp festivals around the world, and for the Hummingbird asked for help getting food security.

ALAC presents Harp Angel

submitted

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council presents
Harp Angel: Deborah Nyack
This year’s Concert Season.
Doors open at 7:30, and the concert starts at 8. Tickets are available at the Broadway Deli or at the door the evening of the performance.

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council would like to thank the Kuskanax Lodge for hosting Harp Angel as part of the Hospitality Host program for this year’s Concert Season.

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription
Only $10-$30

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council presents
In performance at the BONNINGTON ARTS CENTRE
Harp Angel: Deborah Nyack
On Saturday, November 7
8:00 pm
In an evening of Celtic, Classic Favours & Contemporary Love songs on multi-harps
Doors open at 7:30 pm.
Tickets: Adults: $15; Seniors: $10; Students: $5 Available at Broadway Deli or at the door!

Hospitality Host: Kuskanax Lodge

Nakusp & the Arrow Lakes

She has a Bachelor of Music School, New York, and the Royal from rich renditions of romantic music you know and love, from her enchanting music, charisma, and presence.

ALAC presents
his first posting was to the Sunshine detachment.

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Harp Angel transports audiences with her enchanting music, charisma, and dazzling costumes. She performs the traditional you know and love, from Bach to Zeppelin, Claire de Lune to Celtic, medieval to movie tunes, from rich renditions of romantic songs to unbridled clacking.

Nyack trained with full scholarship at Eastman Music School, New York, and the Royal Academy of Music, London, at the Banff Centre of the Arts. She has a Bachelor of Music cum laude, a Masters of Music and an Award of Outstanding Performance Career.

Surrounded by candelabras and pillars, Harp Angel’s magical music is enchanted by an artistic multimedia visual delight, hearti-
WWI internment operations remembered in Edgewood

by Jan McMurray

The isolated Arrow Lakes community of Edgewood played a part in a very little known chapter of Canada’s history – the internment of Ukrainian Canadians during WWI. An event to commemorate the internment camp in Edgewood was held October 24. Many dignitaries were in attendance, including MP Jim Abbott, MLA Katrine Conroy, MP Inky Mark from Manitoba, and members of the Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund’s endowment council.

Edgewood’s internment camp operated from August 19, 1915 to September 23, 1916 and was located where the Donelsier Memorial Park is today. At the October 24 event, a beautiful plaque to commemorate this unfortunate part of our history was unveiled at the park, followed by a luncheon at the Edgewood Legion hall. This was the 2nd of 24 internment camps in Canada that were to be commemorated. The first plaque was placed in 1994 at Fort Henry, in Kingston, and the last one will be placed in Halifa in 2012. The commemoration of the sites, to remind us to allow such things to happen again, is an initiative of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCLLA).

Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, chairman of the UCLLA, told the forgotten story of Canada’s first national internment operations. In the late 1890s, the Government of Canada was looking for hard working immigrants to come and establish farms on the prairies, and advertised in food for these people until WWI broke out in August 1914. Wartime hysteria and racial prejudice came to the fore, and these immigrants were named ‘enemy aliens.’ This was the first time that the War Measures Act was deployed in Canada. (It was also deployed during the WWII internment of Japanese Canadians, and during the FLQ crisis in the 1970s in Quebec.) About 8,500 people were rounded up and placed in 24 internment camps across the country. About 3,000 - mostly Germans and Austrians – considered “first class” prisoners of war were placed in camps in urban centres. The rest – mostly Ukrainians, but also others from the Austro-Hungarian Empire (Serbs, Croats, etc.) and some Turks – were considered “second class” prisoners and sent to camps in isolated places, where they were forced to do heavy labour for the benefit of the jailing. At the Edgewood camp, deportees built a rock wall and a road.

The internees’ wealth was confiscated. While some of their wealth was returned, allowing prisoners to buy things at the canteens established as some internees carried on running farms purchased by the Government of Canada.

Passage of the Wartime Elections Act of 1917 deprived the internees of their right to vote. Although the war operations continued until 1930 and they did not regain their right to vote until 1922. Luciuk explained that this is not in our history books and is not well known because the Government of Canada destroyed most of the records pertaining to this period.

In 1978, Luciuk was a young graduate student studying the history of the Ukrainian community in his home town of Kingston, Ontario. Following up on accounts of who was in Kingston in the early years of the last century he came across a name, Nakulak. He contacted Luciuk, of Toronto, a Ukrainian man who had been interned in Fort Henry during WWI. This was the first Luciuk had heard of this period of history, and marked the beginning of Luciuk’s long journey to uncover the story. Although most of Canada’s records on the internment had been destroyed (a note in the archives suggested that the government did not want a compensation claim from the Eastern Europeans), researchers were able to find some of the missing documents in British archives – Canadian bureaucrats had sent copies of their reports to the mother country. Luciuk also looked in local newspapers, and even found a few survivors. All of the latter told him that they did not want compensation – they just wanted the story told.

One of the last survivors, Mary Manako Hackett, died just a few years ago. She was interned with members of her family at the Spirit Lake internment camp in Quebec. She contacted Luciuk after reading an article that he and his colleague, Bohdan Kordan, had published in the Globe and Mail. She told him of her internment and how she had been tortured for memory, urging him to work towards the creation of a symbolic fund that would allow for commemoration and education about the internment operations.

This fund, the Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund (www.intermencanada.ca), was created in May 2008, following several years of intense negotiations. “After a quarter century of lobbying and education, we got an endowment fund,” said Luciuk. During negotiations, the present-day value of the labour and confiscated wealth of the internees was determined to be $50 million. The sum settled on for the endowment fund was $10 million. This amount was deposited with the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Tsymenyko, a cultural and educational foundation established by the Parliament of Canada in 1963, named in honour of Ukraine’s greatest bard. The interest generated by the endowment fund will be disbursed to any individuals or organizations in Canada who propose projects having to do with Canada’s first national internment operation.

Luciuk introduced another champion of this cause – Inky Mark, MP for the Manitoba riding of Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette. “His family paid the Chinese head tax, so he understands what injustice is,” said Luciuk. Mark, who has many Ukrainian constituents in his riding, joined the campaign and drafted Private Member’s Bill C 711 to recognize what happened during the First World War to the internees and to provide for public commemoration and compensation. In 2011, Mark pushed the Bill through parliament, resulting, as he told his audience, in this being the only legislation in Canada dedicated to a particular ethnic community. “I don’t think we would have succeeded without the best friend the Ukrainian Canadian community ever had in the House of Commons and that was Inky Mark,” said Luciuk.

Mark said it was an honour to be part of this history and to have had this opportunity to help people who all just could just remember one simple thing – that’s all about helping others the world would be a better place.” He, in turn, applauded Dr. Luciuk for his drive and commitment to the Ukrainian Canadian community. “There is a great need to tell this story so we don’t make the same mistakes.”
Welcome to November

As Charles Dickens said: “Food, Glorious Food.” That’s fine for Charles Dickens, but he never had the glorious experience of eating at FOMI’s.

Many of us lucky ones have had that experience. Many have not and sadly will not. Nick and Wendy Fominoff and their wonderful family have decided to step back from the retail bakery business run out of their home near Winlaw, to focus on their other home near Cranbrook, and to concentrate on the wholesale trade. The sad part of this is that we’ll no longer have the great pleasure of dropping in at their store for some special baked goods, including a bite to eat. Ah well. When Nick gave the reason for this change he replied that it was high time he and his family stopped working 10 or 11 hours a day for weeks and cut back to about 50 hours per week. Sounds reasonable.

The upside of this is: 1) Nick and his family have had a break, and exhausted themselves every day, and 2) Those of us who can’t live without regular hits of FOMI’s baked goods will be able to pick them up at Greenacres, the supermarket.

These are: Mountain Valley Station (Slocan), Winlaw Mini-Mart, the Slocan Valley Co-op, and Evergreen Natural Foods. We’ll miss the very cozy little restaurant just north of Winlaw, but we’ll eat Nick and Wendy’s service, Nikki’s espresso, and extend warm heartfelt thanks to all their customers who have kept and will continue to keep the business hopping. Here’s wishing all the very best to the remaining staff during this transition time. By the way, now Nick will, no doubt, have time to return to one of his old hobbies: building hotdogs?! Go for it Nick!”

Nick Wilson’s organic potatoes? Well, we’ve been eating them twice a day for some time now. Hash browns in the morning, and mashed potatoes with dinner. They’re delicious potatoes, and YOU CAN EAT THE SKINS without swallowing pesticides and other chemicals. As you can see, Nick is a bit of an idea person. Also, when you buy from Nick, you’re supporting your own community idea. Rather than using softer rubber compounds for the traction, the tires rely on the metal studs that are shot into the rubber grooves. These give superior traction without the resultant poor wearing disadvantage.

When using these studded tires, you should be aware that it is the law in BC that all vehicles on public roads must be equipped with winter tires on most interior roads. The only exceptions are certain roads in the lower mainland that are usually snow-free. Fines start at $211 and you’ll have a hard time collecting BC if it is shown you had an accident and your car was not equipped with the proper winter tires. There is a lot of confusion out there as to what constitutes a winter tire, so maybe a brief rundown is in order. First, you should be aware that all-season tires aren’t for all seasons. In fact, they’re mostly intended for summer driving only. Three season tires and do not fit into the winter tire category. If you aren’t sure if you have true winter tires, look on the sidewall for a logo described as “a mountain enclosing a snowflake. This is the symbol the RCM will be looking for when deciding to give you a ticket. Only true winter tires carry this logo and are legal to use on our roads. I don’t know what happens if you have American-purchased snow tires without this logo.

Snow tires are inherently different from other tires in two important respects. The most obvious is that they are constructed with deeper grooves to dispel water and slush. This is very important to keep your vehicle from hydroplaning in snow and slush. All-season tires simply aren’t up to the job on many of our winter roads, and the resultant poor wearing disadvantages when encountering slush or deep snow. The second difference is in the type of rubber compound used. Winter tires make use of different rubber compounds to achieve much better traction. This translates to better traction in snow and ice, and the downside is that good winter tires wear much more quickly than all-seasons.
**ANNOUNCEMENT**


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**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** It’s that time of year again! If you are interested in filling a shoebox for a boy or girl ages 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14, you can pick up a box, bags and brochure now. These boxes go in hurting and needy families around the world and your gift will bring smiles and warmth to a child’s life. If you need more information, phone Joan Law at 250-358-2374. The filled boxes are to be dropped off by November 13 at Danny Law’s home, 141 Union Street, New Denver. Thank you to all those donated boxes last year. There was a very good response.

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**AUTOMOTIVE**

**MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE:** 1982. Clearance priced. 3000 km. $1200. Call 358-7218 or email: bcall@telus.net for details.

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**CLASSIFIED ADS**

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**BUILDING A HEALTHY ECONOMY** in the North Slocan Valley, Public meeting. Nov. 5, Silverton Memorial Hall, 7 pm. A forum for sharing ideas, strategies for sustainable economic development.

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**CULTURAL COMMUNITY OF NAKUSK and Area Society annual general meeting, Saturday, Nov. 14, 10 am at Columbia Basin Trust boardroom, 220 Broadway St., Nakusp. All welcome. For information, call 250-358-2206 or email: ifshen@telus.net.

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**THE CUP AND SAUCER CAFE** SILVERTON will be open for dinner Saturday, Nov. 14, 7-9 pm. Tickets at the Apple Tree or call Howard 250-358-2206.

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**BOSUN HALL BENEFIT #3** Friday, Nov. 27, 7:30 pm, Bosun Hall, Minimum Donation $10; kids $5. Readings, eats and refreshments. Doors open 7:00 pm. For more information or to support the event, call 250-358-2206.

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**TEXAS HOLD 'EM TOURNAMENT** Nov. 27, 6-9 pm, The THE CUP AND SAUCER CAFE

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**MUSIC AT THE MANOR**

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