MLA Mungall hosts meeting to hear concerns about Kaslo Primary Health

by Leah Main

The Kaslo Health Forum hosted by MLA Michelle Mungall on May 11 was attended by over 60 Kaslo residents concerned that they are losing their Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC) services due to provincial cutbacks.

Kate O’Keefe of the Kaslo Area Health Advisory Committee was the guest speaker. She explained that all the PHCC nursing services, on-site administration, and ongoing education for staff have been reduced over the last few years. The community is now concerned that the facility is unable to deliver the quality of health care originally promised. The demand for these services has not decreased.

Kaslo’s Primary Health Care Centre opened in 2002. It was developed in response to the needs of rural communities to have access to the best care in the most efficient manner possible, offering numerous services, including Home Nursing Care, Public Health Nursing, Primary Care Nursing, physician services, a physiotherapist, lab, dietitian, chiropodist, visiting optometrists, and mental health practitioners. Over the years, nursing and administrative positions have been reduced.

Locum Dr. Devon Christie, a recent graduate with family medicine training, informed the group that medical schools are currently teaching exactly this integrative model of health care delivery. She perceives the IHA cuts as “regressive and less efficient,” and stressed that “integrative models are the way of the future.”

Interim Health Chief Executive Officer Dr. Robert Halpenny states, “Interior Health is waging a war of attrition against Kaslo Primary Health Care. Senior management is dictating how our centre functions, without collaboration with us. The very existence of our centre is at stake … Our community advocacy group recently met with senior managers from East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary. Management’s position is that we are overstaffed and overfunded. This is simply not the case. Local Senior Management appears tired of hearing the community’s concerns, so we are pleading with you to intervene.” Dr. Halpenny declined to respond to the letter, but the PHCC Team expects to participate in a conference call with other IHA personnel in the very near future.

A May 11 letter of support from Kaslo Mayor Greg Lay, which was read to the assembly, included the statements, “Our hospital and local staff who in past years served the community effectively, now find themselves isolated from the decision making process. This has resulted in dysfunctional, unstaffed local areas of the health care system which WE pay taxes for … In my opinion the IHA at this time is … unwilling to consider the advice of local health care professionals who have the experience and knowledge to deliver effective health care in our community.”

After O’Keefe’s presentation and resulting questions, the attendees broke into eight small groups to answer two questions posed by MLA Mungall:

• What are the key health care issues for North Kootenay Lake? What do you want the provincial government to do?
• Are you satisfied with the reduction of staff at Kaslo’s Primary Health Care Centre? How have the reductions affected the services you receive?

The small group discussions produced a list of key concerns about health care in North Kootenay Lake:

• Locum services need to be available on her website: www.michellemungall.com.
New BC Clean Energy Act sets off controversy

by Art Joyce

As if the BC Liberals weren’t in enough political hot water with the HST, their new Clean Energy Act is sure to turn up the temperature. Although touted by the government as a means to “strengthen the goal of electricity self-sufficiency” within the province, critics say it’s deregulation in disguise designed to benefit private capital.

What is considered most controversial by the NDP, the Green Party, the Council of Canadians and some unions is the removal of the BC Utilities Commission’s role in assessing energy projects. Historically the BCUC has been responsible for assessing whether new power generation projects meet a genuine need that serves the public interest. Historically, the BCUC has rejected BC Hydro’s call for a transmission line from Site C to the Horn River shale gas basin is proposed. And, guess who needs gas? The Alberta Tar Sands,” says Bloomfield. He adds that the evisceration of BCUC’s regulatory role was expected, if deplorable. “After all, the Premier hinted that he would do so after the BCUC rejected BC Hydro’s call for clean power as not in the best interest of British Columbians in the fall of 2009.” While the Greens are entirely in favour of renewable energy, they and many other critics argue that the government’s approach to Independent Power Projects (IPPs) has been disastrous, granting 40-year contracts at fixed rates as much as twice the current cost of power.

The Act will also join BC Hydro and the BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC) into a single administrative body. “Some currently they “get lost” in tax dollar amounts.” He explained that creating separate services would reduce the cost of General Administration; the tax dollars would be transferred over into the new services,” explained RDCK Chair Gary Wright in an interview. “It’s not a huge change in tax dollar amounts.”

RDCK proposes three new services for 2011

by Jan McMurray

The RDCK is considering establishing three new region-wide services in 2011 – but they are not really new. The RDCK has been providing these three services with separate services for more programs.”

The Renewable Energy Service, which would front a RDCK’s new Renewable Energy Service, which would front a process for more programs.”

To be fair, there are some details,” and “follow the money.” There is enough interest in the creation of these services from the municipalities in the RDCK, elected official will be sought through the Alternate Approval Process (AAP). This process is done through advertisements in local newspapers. Voters who want to see the creation of these services can register their opposition, as outlined in the advertisements. If more than 10% of the electorate register their dissent, the RDCK cannot proceed with creating the services without going to referendum.
Heritage buildings burn down in Meadow Creek
by Jan McMurray

In the early hours of Thursday morning, May 13, the community of Meadow Creek lost its two oldest heritage buildings in a suspicious fire on the old Marblehead Quarry property.

Constable Ryan Archer of the Kaslo RCMP detachment reported that arson is suspected and the incident is under investigation. No fire department responded, as the area has no fire protection.

Local homes, a timber frame business and neighbouring sawmills were threatened as embers and debris rained down upon them throughout the early morning.

The Marblehead building was the oldest building in the Lardeau Valley and was exceptionally well built, using traditional timber framing methods.

The two buildings were constructed in 1895 for the Marblehead Quarry, which operated until about 1940. The property then became a logging camp, followed by a site for sawmills. The property has sat abandoned since 1989, and has been used as a dumping ground for old cars and garbage.

Recently, a group of local citizens formed to purchase the property. The group’s plans were to restore the main heritage building, which was still in remarkable shape, and open it as an entrepreneurial centre for residents of the Lardeau Valley. Ideas for the building included rentable office space, an artisans’ centre with shop and gallery for local artists, and possibly an animal feed and farm supply store. The adjoining land was earmarked for greenhouses and a market garden. The concept behind the project was to promote food sustainability in the valley, and provide a support system for local growers through initiatives such as cooperative marketing and transportation.

The group had begun discussing other possibilities for the property as well, including vacation cabins along the river, some sort of inventive use for the Beehive Burner on the site (one of the few left in BC), and a space for local entrepreneurs to set up artisan workshops (woodworking, metal working, etc.). They were also considering a proposal for a pelleting/briquette mill on the site, which would make use of the waste wood from the two neighbouring sawmills, and possibly a facility for recycling the region’s green waste to make usable and sellable compost.

At a community meeting held on April 22 to present the idea, there was overwhelming support and offers of volunteer help to clean up the property and make this project happen.

The group’s offer to buy the land was with the lawyer when the tragedy struck.

To further frustrate the community’s efforts, the landmark beehive burner may be lost as it is taken down for scrap metal before the property is purchased.

Anyone with any information regarding the fire is asked to contact the Kaslo RCMP detachment at 353-2225 or CrimeStoppers (1-800-222-TIPS).

Kootenay-wide wildfire protection program could include projects for New Denver, Silverton and Slocan
by Jan McMurray

A Community Wildlife Protection Program for communities in the Kootenay is in the works. The Regional Districts of Central Kootenay, East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary got together to apply for funding for the program, and received $5 million under the federal/provincial Job Opportunities Program. An application for prescription funding, to make an operational plan for each project, is pending a decision by the Union of BC Municipalities.

BA Blackwell and Associates has won the contract to manage the project. Blackwell’s team includes John Cathro, Registered Professional Forester from Kaslo, and Don Mottmer, a recognized fire specialist from the Kootenay Boundary. Blackwell says more team members will be coming on board as they get further into the project.

“My job is to identify priority areas for treatment, get them into prescriptions and implement the projects – all in consultation with each of the Regional Districts and communities that are involved,” explained Blackwell in an interview. “Once the draft prescriptions are done, we will consult with the government on First Nations issues and with the local community to make sure they are on side.” He said the goal was to hire local forestry workers to carry out the fuel treatment work.

Some of the RDCK communities under consideration are New Denver, Silverton, Slocan, Ymir, Cranbrook, Elkford, the east shore of Kootenay Lake, Ootsa and Castlegar – but these areas have not yet been finalized. “The hope is that the program will be able to continue for the next few years to cover a lot more areas,” he said. “The funding we got for this project helps to further leverage more funds to do more projects in future years.”

This initial project must be completed by March 31, 2011. To choose the priority areas, Blackwell is looking at communities that do not already have programs in place, so that’s why Nakusp and Kaslo will probably not be part of this initial project. He is also looking only at communities that have a Community Wildlife Protection Plan (CWPP).

There is a CWPP for the whole of the RDCK, which Blackwell was engaged to develop a few years ago. The other Regional Districts have CWPPs for three communities each: Rossland, Christina Lake and Big White in the Kootenay Boundary and Fernie, Sparwood and Elkford in the East Kootenay.

Blackwell said that projects in Kimberley and Cranbrook are underway as part of this funding application, but are being managed by RW Gray Consulting.

Blackwell explained that the main goal of the program will be to lower the wildfire risk. “Risk is a function of the probability of fire and the consequence of fire. We’ll be working on forest stands close to homes and communities that pose a high probability and a high consequence of fire.”

He said that because the Kootenays have a long history of fire suppression, the forests have a very dense understory and a lot of fire-prone trees, such as cedars. “These forest types are prone to crown fires [in the treescots], which are difficult to control. We want to create conditions that would keep the fire on the ground, where it is easy to put out.”

Kootenays’ have a long history of fire suppression, the forests have a very dense understory and a lot of fire-prone trees, such as cedars. “These forest types are prone to crown fires [in the treescots], which are difficult to control. We want to create conditions that would keep the fire on the ground, where it is easy to put out.”

Blackwell said that at the prescription/planning stage, there are a lot of factors that have to be considered to get the right prescription for the site.

“The more you open up the forest, the more you increase air flow and drying, so you have to find that balance between opening it up too much and not enough. You want to encourage more fire-resistant vegetation,” he said.

Environment Minister Barry Penner says below average snowpacks across British Columbia indicate significant potential for low stream flows and water-supply shortages to develop this summer. As a result, Penner says the BC government is developing a 2010 Drought Response Plan, although there will be no wet weather materialize in May and June, it could reduce the risk.

The peak of the winter’s snowpack has accumulated and the snow has melted. Snowpacks have declined in most areas during April as a result of drier than normal weather. With the exception of high-elevation areas on Vancouver Island and the South Coast, snowpacks across BC are all below normal. Snowpacks in the South Interior (Nicola, Okanagan, Similkameen, West Kootenay, East Kootenay, Lower Columbia) and in the Northwestern Interior (Skeena, Nass) are substantially below normal. In most basins, low- and mid-elevation snow is already absent or well below normal, following the unusually warm weather and melt from January to mid-March.

Much of the South Interior (including the West Kootenay and Lower Columbia) are currently classified at Drought Level 3 (very dry conditions), where low stream flows and water supply shortages are highly probable unless significant rainfall occurs during May and June. In these areas, water conservation is urged. Water restrictions at the local level should be considered and drought management plans should be reviewed.

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Pet problems
A very interesting story was submitted to Arrow Lakes News April 28 regarding Pet Week 2010. As a senior who no longer wishes to be responsible for the care of a pet, I also do not wish to try to keep neighbourhood cats from digging in my freshly seeded vegetable garden or weeding among the cat feces in the flower beds. The garden area is completely fenced but does not deter the cats.
These animals should be spayed, neutered, licensed, controlled and restrained to their own properties. It can be done. Our son and daughter-in-law restrain to their own properties. It can be completely fenced but does not deter them. The garden area is garden or weeding among the cat feces who no longer wishes to be responsible for the care of a pet.

Speaking against the burnout
The Kaslo May Days Burnout contest should be recoined. First, it is against the law to spin tires until they smoke. Yes, it is fan but that does not make it less ridiculous, considering the carcinogenic fall-out from this haze of tiny smoke that is particularly effective at neutralizing the well-being of our children.
Four or five years ago, I went to a Nelson city council meeting to try and encourage them to stop the burnout at a local car show event. Great event minus the burnout. Before I went to council, I rang a number of community leaders in Kaslo to speak with the air quality enforcement officer about Nelson council’s plans to spin tires off of tracks and cars. The guy I spoke with was so excited by the phone. He told me that Nelson city council’s decision to allow this burnout had started a trend of tire fires across the province. He was upset and disappointed with council’s decision and police and fire departments’ necessary support of this pollution event.
My efforts to stop Nelson’s burnout were henchmen of theirths of the bigwigs. I told the phone. He told me that Nelson city council’s decision to allow this burnout had started a trend of tire fires across the province. He was upset and disappointed with council’s decision and police and fire departments’ necessary support of this pollution event. I rang years ago to the phone, he told me that Nelson city council’s decision to allow this burnout had started a trend of tire fires across the province. He was upset and disappointed with council’s decision and police and fire departments’ necessary support of this pollution event.
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Repair West Wilson Creek Road washout
An old culvert on West Wilson Creek Road in Rosebery in the Slocan Lake Valley has failed and washed out. Wellington Forestry of the Arrow Boundary Forest Service has suggested a road realignment take place.
An active small-scale salage operation is in progress on the other side of the washout. Deactivation of the road, which has been active for over 65 years, will be very expensive, and will result in the loss of thousands of dollars in revenue from sawdust sales. Salvaging is removing trees that are a fire hazard and that have been infested. Small-scale salvage very effectively removes dead standing timber, thereby reducing the threat of wildfires. West Wilson Creek Road has provided firewood for local people for many years; the removal of forewood from the roadside also helps reduce fire hazard. Meanwhile, millions of dollars are being spent to protect our communities from forest fires. But the Forest Service indicates that there is no funding available to repair the road.
On another note, selective harvesting must be recognized in our forest policy in order to get the most from our timber supply and reduce the threat of forest fires.

Thank you New Denver counciler
Mayor Wright and councillors, I salute you.
Thank you for all your dedication

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY
The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor and community news articles from our readers.
Letters and articles should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material. Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes.
We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libelous. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances.
Opinions expressed in published letters are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Valley Voice.

Killing top predators will not save the mountain caribou. Even if we could kill all the predators, herds could still be wiped out by incidents such as automobile accidents, avalanches, stress from snowmobiling and fluctuating winter conditions unfavourable to their survival. Top predators play critical roles in maintaining healthy ecosystems.
Predator control practices include the killing of the majority of wolves over large areas for many years or decades. The undersigned have grave concerns about the long-term survival of wolves due to the cumulative effects of these practices which are periodically undertaken in BC.
Sporadic predator control programs in BC have been driven by politics, not science. Increasingly they incorporate science to legitimize political objectives.
Large carnivores are intelligent animals with amazing family relationships. They have an intrinsic value in and of themselves, and a right to life. Lastly, the undersigned declare that the following methods of predator control are cruel and unthinking to the dignity and principles of the human race.
• Chasing wolves to exhaustion with helicopters and shooting them from the air, which is now being considered in BC;
• Leghold traps and snaring, followed by killing, which is currently happening in BC;
• The use of poison, which occurred in BC in the past and is currently occurring in Alberta.
In an attempt to protect mountain caribou without doing further ecosystem damage: Stop clearcutting and road building in all mountain caribou habitat; the continuation of these practices only increases habitat for moose and wolves. Stop snowmobiling and heli-skiing in historical mountain caribou wintering areas. The current snowmobile closures are too few and too small, and they are not being enforced.
Habitat restoration in cleared areas is crucial, including the decommissioning of old roads. Reduce the speed limit on the Slocan-Creston Highway, where a number of animals in a critically imperiled herd have been killed by passing vehicles.

The Valley Voice May 19, 2010

The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lakes valleys from South Slocan/Plamaro 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $54.60, USA $84.00, OVERSEAS $126.00, E-Mail Subscription $21.00 (Prices include GST)

The Valley Voice
OPINION
by Michael Dorsey
• Council set June 7 as the date for a public hearing regarding the rezoning for the seniors'/disabled housing project. The Village will also host a public meeting on the issue on June 1.
Wanda Palmer attended as a delegation and presented a petition with 182 signatures (130 from New Denver residents) in support of cell phones. Palmer asked council to pass the petition on to Chief and Council. Council was never against cell phones – just the placement of the cell tower – and Mayor Wright commented that Telus has not yet set a date for installation. Council moved to send a copy of the petition to Telus.

• Councillor Bunka reported on a “constructive meeting” regarding potential areas for wildlife protection projects in New Denver as part of the new Kootenay-wide program. Areas under consideration are around the water tank and across Carpenter Creek, opposite the tank. Councillor Murphy commented that the highest priorities for protection are the tank and power lines. John Cathro, member of the program’s management team, was going to check the Biglow Bay area and report back to council.

Valhalla Film School offers animation workshop on Japanese Canadian internment submitted
Aspiring filmmakers from across the region are offered a rare and wonderful opportunity to participate in an animation workshop that explores the experiences of Japanese Canadians interned in the region during World War II.

• Mayor Wright reported meeting with School District #10 board chair Pattie Adam to discuss applying for a $35,000 grant, available to school districts under the Community Connections program, for a community garden project at Lucerne School. Councillor Murphy will act as liaison, and will request priorities for an application. He suggested a pilot greenhouse demo on the bottom field. Councillor Bunka suggested a “food for thought” project tie-in, and Murphy noted the school principal wants a horticultural project. Council moved to support the project.

• Mayor Wright reported on a meeting with campground host, Gail Swanson, who suggested raising the overflow camping fees. Wright also reported on the RCMP annual review, where community priorities were set as: 1. Traffic control and drunk driving; 2. crime and property damage; and 3. improving external communications.

• Council will meet with staff on May 27 to review the OCP and rezoning bylaws. An update will be presented at the next meeting, as well. There will also be a public meeting on these amendments.

• A request was received from Terri Freeman of the Hidden Garden Gallery to use Greer Park, to close the sidewalks and Main Street for a parade, and to use electricity from the Greer Park pumphouse for the July 18 Toru Fujihyasa sculpture unveiling. Acting on a staff recommendation, council will allow use of Greer Park and the streets, but denied access to the pumphouse electricity. Because there are no outlets on the building exterior, this request would require a four-hour callout for Public Works at time-and-a-half wages.

• Council approved the purchase of a stocked fleck to replace the fire department’s fridge, which is “in dire straits”, as a gesture of appreciation for use of the hall during Village office renovations.

• A letter was received from Adhiera Angelucci, West Coast Escapes, regarding a possible feature on New Denver. The article has voted to express interest and request more information.

• Council moved to pay their fair share to the May Days Committee for the cost of Citizen of the Year Awards. Traditionally, New Denver and Silverton split the $100 cost.

• Council voted to support participation in two new RDCK services: Geospatial Information Services and Community Sustainable Living Services.

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER
NOTICE TO RESIDENTS
Renovations to the Village Office and Council Chambers at 115 Slocan Avenue, New Denver, are now complete. Council and staff would like to extend their thanks to the New Denver and Area Fire Department for the use of the Fire Department Meeting Hall during the renovation period.

Residents are advised that municipal business is now being conducted from the newly renovated Village Office, which is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., except statutory holidays.

Beginning on May 11th, Council Meetings will be held in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS
New Denver council, May 11: Public hearing set for proposed seniors’ housing project
Mayor Wright noted that as taxes were not raised last year, the 7% overall increase is equivalent to 3.5% per year. He stated that several factors contributed to the increase, among them new bleachers, increased staff, planned HST, tree programs, and clipping. He commented that the tax rate is down from last year, though assessments are up.

SLOCAN VALLEY

Village of New Denver

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Land Act:
Notice of intention to apply for a Disposition of Crown Land
Front Counter BC had accepted an application made by Red Mtn. Internet Society of Silverton BC, on behalf of the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) Kootenay Region, for a License of Occupation for the purpose of communication site situated on Provincial Crown Land near Rosebery, B.C. and containing 1.0 hectares more or less.

The ILMB file Number that has been established for this application is 4405042. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Natural Resource Officer at Front Counter BC, 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook, BC V1C7G1 or email to AuthorizingAgency.Cranbrook@gov.bc.ca.

Comments will be received by Front Counter BC until June 13, 2010. The application will not be able to proceed until comments have been received after this date. Please refer to http://www.arlgs.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp?Search=Search by File Number: insert Lands File Number for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information contact the FOI Advisor at Integrated Land Management Bureau regional office.
Men of the Deeps perform powerful show in Nakusp

by Cedra Eichtenauer

The Men of the Deeps filled the auditorium in Nakusp on the evening of May 6. The first 150 people through the door were given lightbulbs by BC Hydro, who wanted to join the miners in their efforts to bring light into our lives. The high school jazz band kept the growing crowd entertained until it was time for the miners to take the stage. As the lights went down, only four musicians were on stage (on keyboard, guitar, drums and bass guitar). The choir came in through the audience, their miner’s lamps the only lights, singing their way onto the stage. A powerful beginning to a powerful show.

In order to be a member of this choir, a singer must have spent a minimum of two years down in the coal mines. There were only three people on stage who were not wearing the official miners’ coveralls: the conductor, who has been with this group since their formation in 1966, and the men playing keyboard and drums (although their fathers are miners). It was clear that every song spoke of events and situations these men understood in their hearts and bones. Each song was intensely real because of the emotional truth it evoked in the singers, making it a personal experience for them, and thus for the audience as well.

Many of the songs performed had been written by friends of the miners, or the miners themselves. Several men took turns singing short solos, or longer ones, often playing a guitar. One piece was sung as a trio, voices only, in haunting harmony. The Men of the Deeps (from Cape Breton) are the only miners’ choir in North America, but they have toured in Europe, and met several other miners’ choirs there. They performed a song they had learned from such a group in Belgium. This song, like several others, spoke of the closing of a mine, and the loss of work and security that always accompanies such events.

Some songs told of mining disasters, such as Hillcrest Mine in the Crow’s Nest pass, and the Westray disaster in Nova Scotia that buried so many unanswered questions with the 26 miners who died there. The final lines in the chorus to the latter were “from the darkness of the mines, their lights will shine,” and as the song came to its end, the stage lights went out, and the singers turned their lights on to shine from the darkness.

Not all the offerings were sombre. At one point, the choir rebelled against the conductor, and insisted on singing a Country and Western song (I’m Just a Lamp of Coal, but I’ll be a Diamond Some Day). A founding member of the choir told us some stories about events in the mine he managed, and the lives of the miners who worked there. Some of those stories bordered on stand-up comedy.

Near the end of the evening, Nakusp’s own Seniors’ Senenaders accompanied the Men of the Deeps on two songs, the Song of the Myra, and Rise Again. After the show, the members of the choir mingled with the audience, swapping tales and answering questions. These miners shared their stories with us, showing that lives lived very differently can still create similar realities.

Slocan mill to start up again with single shift in early June

by Art Joyce

The Springer Creek mill in Slocan was making a recovery, recalling 75 workers for a single shift, re-starting the sawmill about the first week of June, with plans to be fully operational by the end of the month. The planer mill will start up two to three weeks after the sawmill.

Lumber markets have improved, says General Manager Ralph Tomlin, but confidence in terms of the company’s Annual Report has been a lot stronger than the US. It’s not so much whether the US recovery has even got underway yet.” He says the mill’s owners remain committed to the operation in Slocan. The timber supply is still sustainable in terms of the company’s Annual Report. The timber type here, affectionately known as the Kootenay mix, and the company is also interested in pursuing value-added producers, and tries to purchase locally whenever possible, he says.

“The strength of the overall economic recovery in Canada has been a lot stronger than the US. It’s arguable whether the US recovery has even got underway yet.”

He says the mill’s owners remain committed to the operation in Slocan. The timber supply is still sustainable in terms of the company’s Annual Report. The timber type here, affectionately known as the Kootenay mix, and the company is also interested in pursuing value-added producers, and tries to purchase locally whenever possible, he says.

Slocan Valley and its three villages consider Search and Rescue taxation

by Jan McMurray

The Villages of New Denver, Silverton and Slocan are being asked if they would be willing to contribute tax dollars to help fund the Search and Rescue (SAR) groups that serve the Slocan Valley.

“New Denver is covered, and the Search and Rescue groups are funded provincially, but they are struggling and they provide a valuable service,” said Area H Director Walter Polo.

This issue began when both the Nelson and Castlegar SARs asked Director Popoff for grants. Popoff said to RDCK staff about this, and they agreed that funding this service through taxation would be preferable to grants, as the SARs are looking for a secure source of funds.

Nelson and Castlegar and area are also considering contributing tax dollars to their own SARs. “Area H is a bit different because we have three SARs that serve us – Nelson, Castlegar and Nakusp,” said Popoff.

Starting in 2011, Popoff would like the RDCK to collect a maximum of $10,000 from the residents of Area H and the Villages of New Denver, Silverton and Slocan, to be distributed fairly among the three SARs. For individual taxpayers, this would mean about one cent per $1,000 of assessed property value.

Popoff says that if this goes through, he would meet with the three SAR groups to determine the fairest way to allocate the funds, and to determine clear boundaries for each of the SARs to ensure that all of Area H is covered.

This taxation would apply to provincially recognized Search and Rescue groups only, which are not the same as the Fire Rescue groups that are organized under the fire departments.

If the Village councils support this, elector assent will be sought through the Alternate Approval Process. This process is done through advertisements in local newspapers. Voters from Area H and the Villages will be asked to vote in June.

New Denver welcomes new RCMP officer

by Jan McMurray

With the recent arrival of Constable Shaun Foley, New Denver’s RCMP detachment is now fully staffed with three officers. The corporal in charge, Bryce Hill, is based in Nakusp and supervises both detachments.

Before coming to New Denver, Foley was based at the Sunshine Coast detachment for more than four years. He applied for the position in New Denver because he and his wife were looking for a quiet place to raise their young boys.

“New Denver appeared to be a family-oriented community, offering several preschool programs such as StrongStart,” said Foley. “Another factor we considered was the local hospital, which provides 24/7 emergency medical service. These are important things to consider when you have a young family, and New Denver is one of possibly only four or five communities across BC that offer these services.”

Shaun and his wife, Shannon, have a two-year-old, Micah, and a 10-month-old, Jonah.

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John Shantz

• 250-306-7941 (cell)

Please contact: Gorman Brothers Lumber Ltd.

250-547-9296

I’m just a Lump of Coal, but I’ll be a Diamond Some Day. A founding member of the choir told us some stories about events in the mine he managed, and the lives of the miners who worked there. Some of those stories bordered on stand-up comedy.

Near the end of the evening, Nakusp’s own Seniors’ Senenaders accompanied the Men of the Deeps on two songs, the Song of the Myra, and Rise Again. After the show, the members of the choir mingled with the audience, swapping tales and answering questions. These miners shared their stories with us, showing that lives lived very differently can still create similar realities.

Not all the offerings were sombre. At one point, the choir rebelled against the conductor, and insisted on singing a Country and Western song (I’m Just a Lamp of Coal, but I’ll be a Diamond Some Day). A founding member of the choir told us some stories about events in the mine he managed, and the lives of the miners who worked there. Some of those stories bordered on stand-up comedy.

Near the end of the evening, Nakusp’s own Seniors’ Senenaders accompanied the Men of the Deeps on two songs, the Song of the Myra, and Rise Again. After the show, the members of the choir mingled with the audience, swapping tales and answering questions. These miners shared their stories with us, showing that lives lived very differently can still create similar realities.
South Slocan Valley residents consider contributing tax dollars to Nelson Library

by Kate Guthrie

The Nelson Municipal Library (NML) and the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) hosted four community meetings at Nelson, Taghum, Redfish Elementary and Slocan Park on April 26 to April 30 to discuss the future of library service for residents of Areas E, F and H south.

Central to the discussions was the community petition initiative, which was launched last year and runs through May 6. The initiative will decide whether each outlying area will have universal access to the library through local taxation.

The proponent of this petition, David Popoff, reminded attendees of the Slocan Park meeting that there was a referendum on this issue in 1988 when the NML was formed. This time around, he said, citizens have the right to be heard. This referendum will allow citizens to make their voices heard and have access to the library through a taxation process.

For 11 weeks, a NML librarian brought a rotating selection of 250 books to Warlaw Elementary School. An average of 30-40 library cards were issued each week and checked out between 30 and 40 books. Twenty-eight new library cards were issued over the course of the program, which “is a lot for a small community,” said June Stockdale, NML’s chief librarian.

In response to that program, her constituent Scott-May, Areas E, F and H hired consultant Cathy-Scott-May to do a library feasibility study. Harke said that 800-700 people use NML each day but that due to budget restrictions, the library is understaffed and the collection is being worn out. The library board feels that the situation is unsustainable and something must change.

The NML budget is based upon the number of people who contributes to contribute through local taxes. According to one of many fact sheets that Scott-May compiled, “While membership fees of Areas E, F and H accounted for 2% of the 2009 budget, residents of these areas accounted for 19% of library members.”

NML is advocating for universal access, meaning that all residents of Areas E, F and H have access to the library through taxation. According to NML documents, the anticipated initial tax was $1.10 per $1,000 of property assessment. The average property assessment is $250,000-$400,000 so the average cost to property owners would be $25.75-$41.30 per year. The rate changes would be recommended to the RDCK by the NML Board through the annual budget process, and there would be a cap on the amount the board could request.

Popoff said that he would like an exit clause with a review process after a certain amount of time. The other option, Harke said, is to increase the membership fee from $65 per year to at least $90 per year, an amount which Scott-May feels will hinder many families and families from joining. A few years ago the library reduced its membership fee and saw an increase of $5,000 in revenue. This user-pay model is preferred by some residents, Harke said.

Outlying residents currently can choose to be members of the library by paying about $65 per year. The board stated clearly to Scott-May that “status quo is not an option.” Province supports more people than provide meaningful financial support to it, she said.

For more information contact cao@silverton.ca

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DISPOSITION OF ASSETS

The Corporation of the Village of Silverton and the Regional District of Silverton proposes to dispose of the following asset:

Property: Lot 13, Block 33, Plan 9941, District Lots 9045, 9046 (E, F and H) Outlying Areas District Lot (PID 016-205-049)

Location: Alpha Lane

Terms: - Bid submitted must include a proposal for the use of the land.
- The highest or any bid is not necessarily accepted
- Deadline for submission: 4:00 pm, May 27, 2010
Slocan’s Age Friendly project finds healthcare is the highest need
by Jan McMurray

Slocan’s Age Friendly report will be in by the end of the month, and Patricia Dehnel, who led the project, came to the May 5 council meeting to present her findings.

“If a community is good for older people, it’s good for all,” she said, and used the example of sidewalks. If the sidewalks work for older people, they will work for people with walkers, electric scooters and skateboards.

Statistics from the latest census show that 38.7% of Slocan residents are in the 45-64 age range, higher than the BC average of 28.4% in this age group. People 65 and older make up 16.1% of Slocan’s population.

Dehnel explained that she gathered information for the report through a survey, focus groups held at senior luncheons sponsored by WE Graham Community Service Society, and through the Sustainable Slocan project process. The Age Friendly project had a steering committee, made up of community members.

In February, 250 surveys were sent out and 36 were returned — a 14.4% return rate. Most respondents (63.9%) were in the 45-64 age group.

“Generally, respondents said that Slocan is a wonderful community, but not when medical services are needed,” said Dehnel.

Dehnel’s findings show that Slocan’s age friendly assets include availability of services, walkability, friendliness, the community’s natural setting, the opportunity for outdoor adventures for all ages, and peace and quiet. “In many ways, seniors are better off here than in larger centres,” said Dehnel.

Slocan’s age friendly needs include:
- Health care
- Affordable housing
- Safe, accessible streets and pathways
- Support, housing, and pathway maintenance
- Information on how to access services
- A centralized location to find information
- Transportation to community activities

Dehnel noted that there is a business or volunteer opportunity for anyone interested in helping seniors around the house and/or providing them with meals. These were two of the needs noted under the broad heading of ‘health’, along with the need for a local doctor or nurse practitioner, and more convenient transit services for healthcare appointments.

Under ‘outdoor spaces and buildings,’ people expressed the need for more level paths, a year-round public washroom, pedestrian street lighting, signage and more benches.

As for ‘transportation,’ people would like to see a service for rides within Slocan, as well as better bus service.

Community Wildfire Protection Project proposed for Slocan

by Jan McMurray

At the May 5 council meeting, council heard about the Community Wildfire Protection Project proposed for Slocan. John Cathro, a member of the management team for the Kootenay Tri-Region Operational Fuel Management Project, made the presentation to council.

The Regional Districts of Central Kootenay, East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary got together to apply for funding for wildfire protection projects, and received $5 million. The RDCK will see $2 million of that spent in the region.

“It seems like a lot of money, but it won’t go that far, so we need to prioritize areas first,” said Cathro. He said that priority areas had been identified in Slocan, New Denver and Silverton.

The area proposed for Slocan is the RV Park and through the Springer Creek corridor, toward the lake. Cathro said he, Stephan Martineau of the SIFCo (Slocan Valley’s community forest) and Public Works Foreman Tim Hill went on a tour through the RV park.

“We’re fairly close to the beginning of the process,” said Cathro. “There is a lot of public consultation to do. We need to get very clear on how the community wants to deal with the issues. This needs to be driven by the community, elected leadership and staff.”

Cathro explained that the crews would be thinning from below and removing surface fuels, and removing dead and dying trees. He said this would reduce the risk, not fireproof the area. “If there was a fire in this forest, we would want it to hit the ground and not be in the meeting, not in our language,” he said. He said that he understood that the park provided a visual and noise barrier along the highway. Cathro made it clear that they can only work on public land – Village-owned and crown land. They cannot work on private land. However, people owning private land adjacent to the project will be consulted on whether they want the treatment to work go right up to their property or whether they want a buffer. “We can do only work on Village and crown land.”

The Valley Voice
Nakusp council sets new taxes for 2010

by Art Joyce

• Mayor Hamling introduced council to student Hannah Holden, winner of the Loran scholarship. She is studying public policy and will be interviewing Village councillors.

• The bug and tax rate bylaws were approved with some changes and subsequently adopted at a special meeting. The Village will collect 5% more in taxes this year than it did in 2009. Mayor Hamling explained that this does not mean a five percent increase on taxes. The residential tax rate for 2010 is $3.33 per $1,000 of assessed property value, down from $3.44 per $1,000 last year. A house assessed at $221,074 in 2010 will pay $736 in taxes. Last year, that same home was probably assessed at $210,250 and taxes were $722. Homes with no change in assessed value will actually see a decrease in taxes. The Village business tax rate per thousand last year was 9.3 percent, which will decline to slightly over 9 percent; but again, the increase in assessed values will result in a slightly higher tax bill this year. A business assessed in 2009 at $113,701 paid $1,066 in tax; at a 2010 assessment of $134,209 that same business will now pay $1,221, an increase of $154.

• Council heard a presentation from Western Pacific Marine Chief Operating Officer Captain Elgin McKillop and District Manager David Holm regarding building plans for the company’s new regional headquarters in Nakusp, which will be moving from Revelstoke.

• Mayor Hamling said the Village has long been in support of such a move. McKillop and Holm presented conceptual architectural drawings for the proposed new building on Fifth Avenue. It will include retail space and six residential units on the upper floor and two fully accessible units for handicapped on the first floor, totalling about 10,000 square feet. The company is seeking feedback on the plans, and the only potential issue is a conflict with Village parking requirements. McKillop said the building’s multi-use design will help fulfill the Village’s goal to increase downtown density and the company has no intention of selling the rental units. Council voted to approve in principle the development permit.

• The mayor reported that the ferry advisory committee has contacted the Ministry of Transportation about the recent removal of the washroom at Galena Bay rest area. Mayor Hamling said the poor condition of this washroom had concerned her for some time and the ministry said it was removed due to pipes freezing. She has asked that the porta-potties installed on the site be properly maintained under a contract with Area Manager Deveta Roberts; these are the responsibility of contractor Western Pacific Marine.

• CAD Lalaur reported on discussions with Greyback Construction to find ways of economizing on the emergency services building. Public Works staff could do some of the concrete work and the fire chief would rather see concrete than paving on the lot anyway. Village staff could also do fencing, landscaping, and parking infrastructure. The budget is now back on track.

• Policy GHS-5, off-season use of the hot springs campground, was discussed. The policy prohibits winter camping at the site unless camping units are fully self-contained and camping areas are “open and clear of snow.” Signs will be posted to warn campers.

New legislation protects logging contractors

by Jon McMurray

From now on, when forestry licensees go bankrupt, the logging contractors they hired will be paid for their work and Bill 13 contracts will be honoured. This protection for logging contractors is ensured in legislation introduced on April 29.

“In 2007, when Pope & Talbot declared bankruptcy, not all logging contractors received payment for their services. The Forestry Service Providers Protection Act is designed to prevent situations like that from happening again,” said Minister of Forests Pat Bell.

Bell explained in a media conference call that the Forestry Service Providers Protection Act has two key pieces to it. First, logging contractors can now put liens on their logs if they are not being paid according to their contract with the licensee. Second, if the licensee goes bankrupt, contractors will be able to be paid out of an insurance type of fund.

“We think that the dual model, that of a lien plus an insurance-type scheme, can work well and make sure that contractors are paid and that they are paid in an appropriate amount of time,” said Bell.

Bell went on to explain that an element in a Miscellaneous Statutes Act also introduced on April 29 ensures that Bill 13 contracts survive the insolvency of a forestry licencee. Bill 13 contracts guarantee contractors a certain amount of work, and can be used to secure financing. When Interior purchased Pope & Talbot’s assets, they did not honour the Bill 13 contracts issued to local contractors by P&T. This was devastating for several small Arrow Lakes logging outfits.

“The Forestry Service Providers Protection Act is enabling legislation, explained Bell, with the details yet to come.

“The development of the [insurance style] fund going forward is going to be critical for us,” said David Lewis of the Truck Loggers Association. He said the intention of the bill would be “purely dependent upon our ability to create a fund that’s largely funded by licensees.”

Bell added, “Until we know the exact costs of the insurance scheme and the implementation of that, it’s hard to know exactly the balance of funding formula that will be used, so we’ll be working together with both the contractors and the licensees over the next few months to work through that detail.”

“It should be noted, though, that this was a very, very challenging file...The real secret, I think, to success here was we were able to get both the licensee groups, which were represented by the CFPA, COFI and the ILMA, and then all of the four logging associations represented in the room, and this piece of legislation was developed collaboratively between those two organizations.”

Lewis concluded the media conference with this comment. “This has been very difficult. It’s a contentious issue. What helps contractors could inevitably hurt licensees, and all of us are struggling right now, so this has been a collaborative effort, and working together when times are tough really is critical for our survival.”

Volunteers Needed

Would you be willing to share your helping hands and heart to benefit someone else? Volunteer companions are needed by Rosie Lukenda, who faces the challenges of living with Parkinson’s, which affects motor skills. With new medication, she’s growing stronger. Support is required afternoons, once a week, once a month, on an on-call basis for fill in or whatever you can manage. Training will be provided. Rosie is very grateful and appreciative for all help she receives and loves visiting, trips to the waterfront, going to the gym, shopping and other activities.

Please call Cedra @ 250-265-0194 or Rosie @ 250-265-3344
Slocan council, May 10: Budget and tax rates set

By Jan McMurray

• Council gave third reading to the budget and tax rate bylaws and scheduled a meeting on May 12 for adoption. The Village will collect the same amount in taxes as it did in 2009 ($243,750), but will collect approximately $6,600 more from residential and $6,600 less from major industrial (Springer Creek). The residential tax rate will be $2.65 per $1,000 of assessed property value; the major industrial tax rate will be $38.88 per $1,000.

In 2010, major industrial taxes will account for 61% of the total taxes collected, and residential will account for 34%. Council’s objective is to reduce the share of property tax paid by major industry, on least at 6% per year. This reduction was requested by major industry to encourage employment in the community. Also, council has recognized that reliance on major industry is not appropriate, due to the risk of the collapse of the industry. Also, the residential class consumes the majority of Village services and should pay a proportionately higher percentage.

Schedule C of the bylaw states: “The Village is currently examining economic development opportunities and alternative revenue sources in order to reduce historical reliance on property taxes to fund municipal services.” It also states that council may adopt policies to provide more permissive tax exemptions to encourage green development that will help the Village meet the Climate Action Charter commitments.

• Public Works Foreman Tim Hill reported that there was more vandalism at the RV Park on May 1. Someone destroyed a toilet with an explosive device. Councillor Elliott pointed out that the streetlight near the park is out, and this may help to encourage vandals. Hill said he had already requested a new light.

The Village is looking for an artist who will do a mural that could touch over the spray paint graffiti on the mural on the roller sports boot.

There are major issues with the sweeper, which would be very expensive to replace “so we’ll have to look at alternatives,” said Hill. He suggested renting equipment from the City of Nelson. As signage has been identified as a major issue, Councillor Lunn said that the subregional strategy group had initiated a branding project for Slocan Lake communities, which is broader than a signage project. She said she hoped the branding project would not turn its focus to signage only.

• Mayor Perriere was named as the Slocan representative on the Slocan Valley Community Advisory Committee, which will make recommendations to the School District #8 board of education regarding an educational vision for Slocan Valley schools for implementation in September 2011. Other committee members will include the principals, one staff member and one PAC member from each of the four Slocan Valley schools, a community member from Winlaw and the south end of the valley, and the superintendent of SD#8.

The first meeting will be held May 18 at 6 pm at Winlaw School.

• CBT Community Initiative funds were allotted at a special meeting held April 26: $2000 to Slocan Valley Legion #1568; Slocan & District First Responders $1,000; Slocan Community Library $200; Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society $1000; WE/Gram Community Service Society $300.

• An update was provided on the two trailers that have fallen into disrepair and are deemed hazardous. Both property owners were contacted, but neither property has been attended to. The Village arranged to have one of them boarded up, as people were entering the premises and the power was on. Council agreed to hire a contractor to board up the second property. Both property owners will be billed for this, and if they don’t pay, the fees will be added to their tax bills.

Council also directed staff to prepare a new entity purchase bylaw for consideration by council. The current bylaw dates back to 1971.

• An update was provided on the water modernization project. The Village is looking for an artist who will do a mural that could touch over the spray paint graffiti on the mural on the roller sports boot.

Carol Pengelly at 358-2717. A nominal fee will be charged.

Elliott suggested offering businesses a listing on the Village website as an incentive to purchasing a business licence.

• Council supported in principle the creation of three services at the park range: GIS, Whistler Bike Park and energy projects, and community sustainable living. These three services are currently provided under General Administration and will be taxed for them. Creating services for them will allow for more transparency, as they will be tracked separately from General Administration.

• Council agreed to the Slocan Valley Outiders Association’s request for a donation of timbers to be used in the reconstruction of their manure compost bin.

Mayor Perriere will attend the Leadership during Challenging Times’ forum June 16-18 in the Lower Mainland. Councillor Elliott will attend two sessions in Cranbrook on May 13 – one on the Water Modernization Act and one on Drought Response Planning.

• Minister of Environment Barry Penner’s response to council’s letter requesting reinstatement of the BCSPCA was released.

“The number of Park Rangers to be deployed this season has not yet been established, but you can be assured that public and staff safety, along with resource stewardship, remain BC Parks’ priorities.” Council will send another letter, voicing concerns about law enforcement and staff safety cannot be achieved without an adequate number of rangers.

• Council received a response from Minister of Health Kevin Falcon regarding ambulance service. Falcon states that because “a one size fits all” approach may not meet the needs of patients in every community, he is announcing that the oversight for the ambulance service has been transferred to the Provincial Health Services Authority. Council will send him another letter expressing concerns about this new model.

• In response to a request from the BC Coalition for Action on Alcohol Reform, council will request that the Ministry of Health increase funding for alcohol and drug treatment centres.

• Council agreed to pass a resolution opposing the proposed Canada-European Economic and Trade Agreement.

The Village Voice May 19, 2010

SLOCAN VALLEY
New Denver May Days carries on long tradition of fun

**by Art Joyce**

This year New Denver May Days theme will be Who’s Your Hero? This theme will set the tone for the parade and locals can look forward to some inventive costuming and floats.

As always the festivities kick off with the Queen’s Pageant at Bosun Hall Thursday, May 20 at 7 pm, to be followed on Friday at the hall by the naming of the Queen, also at 7 pm. The event parties on with the teen dance at 9 pm, with music by Good Times Entertainment. Tickets are $10 and include pop and a buffet. Saturday’s festivities begin at 8 am for early risers with the Fish Derby, followed on 9 am by the beach volleyball tournament. The Slocan Lake Golf Course Tournament will start at 10 am. At 9:30 on main street will be the Bike Rodeo, teaching cycling basics and road etiquette for young cyclists. Those wishing to take their skills further can join in with Mountain Madness Bike Skills at 11 am.

For kids aged 5-12 the highlight of the day will no doubt be the Soap Box Derby, allowing plenty of room for creativity in the many original soapbox cars. Entrants are encouraged to race in costume. Drivers will meet outside the Post Office for registration and line-up at 12 noon. The silent auction will begin here at this time as well, weather permitting.

For those who love to dance, enjoy the hip hop workshop at 1 pm and the performance to follow at 2 pm. The day culminates in the adult dance at the Bosun Hall with live music by the Young ‘Uns. Tickets are $15.

Sunday begins with the pancake breakfast at 7:30 am in Centennial Park. Those in good physical condition can join the 26th annual Summit Lake Bike Race/Ride at 9 am, starting at the Summit Lake day park and finishing in New Denver. Meanwhile back at Centennial Park the time-honoured bocce tournament will be going on at the same time, and the beach volleyball tournament. The Bavarian Gardens open at noon and remain open ‘til 8 pm. If you’re looking for fun check out the Dinghy Cross, a boat race with two-person inflatable dinghys, starting at 1 pm.

To get a taste of local lore and tall tales, head to Bosun Hall at 3 pm for Lake Lies and Fishy Tales. Then at 5 pm head back to Centennial Park for the pig roast barbecue. Tickets are $12.50. Bosun Hall heats up again at 7 pm for bingo. Then after dark enjoy a movie in the park at 10:30 with Percy Jackson and The Olympian: The Lightning Thief.

Monday morning at 9 am sees the long-awaited May Day Parade as floats line up at Lucerne School. The parade makes its way to Centennial Park where the crowning of Miss New Denver takes place at 10:30. Citizens of the Year and May Days 2009 awards will also be given, followed by the Maypole Dance at 11. Music in the park will be provided by the Slocan Valley Community Band at 11:30 am and Funk/Sounds at 12:30, with the Kid’s Pet Show running concurrently. Cypress Hunder-Rookees, Kell Victorin and Danika Hammond will provide music at 1:15. The May Day Market will open from noon to 4 pm, while the Bavarian Gardens open from noon to 6 pm. There’s plenty for kids to enjoy, with races, dunk tank, fish pond, and Treasurers in the Haystack. All ages can enjoy the ping pong tournament and cribbage tournament at 1 pm. Adult races start at 3 pm and the weekend is brought to a finale with the May Day raffle and Duck Race at 4 pm.

Don’t forget to participate in the Silent Auction throughout the weekend, as all proceeds will go to LACE for the Bosun Hall façade restoration.

**NEW DENVER MAY DAYS**

**Friday, May 21, 2010**

**9:00 am-** SLGC Golf Tournament
11:00 am New Denver Lake Golf Course -info: 358-2408

Tee Off Sponsors: Retmeier Logging & Silverton Building Supplies

8:00 am Fish Derby

Register with the Centennial Park Attendant, New Category – Biggest Squaw. For more info, please Mergler @ 358-2252 - $25/person

9:00 am Beach Volleyball Tournament

 Mixed 4 on 4 - $30/team

Info: Sue Yurychuk @ 358-6803

**SUNDAY, May 23, 2010**

**9:00 am-** Pancake Breakfast

10:00 am - Host - Chamber of Commerce

9:00 am 26th Summit Lake Bike Race/Ride

Start at Summit Lake Day Park

Info: Mike & Heather Koonen @ 358-2680

9:30 am Bike Rodeo

Main Street - Biking basics & road etiquette for young bikers. Must have a bike and helmet to participate. Info: Teressa Steerhoff @ 358-2184

Sponsor- Anderson Insurance

11:00 am Mountain Madness Bike Skills


Info: antistudios@telus.net

“The Valley’s Biggest Chess Game”

Main Street – free for anyone to play

12:00 pm Soap Box Derby

Main Street - Registration - $5/adult, $2/child

Silent Auction

Main Street - Post Office

Weather permitting

1:00 pm Hip Hop Workshop

Free for all to learn a dance

2:00 pm Hip Hop Demo

See a performance dance that was learnt at the workshop. Info: Teisha & Kyla

9:00 pm- The Adult Dance

1:00 am Bosun Hall

Music by “The Young ‘Uns”

Tickets are $15/person. Live Music, Buffet & Door Prizes

Dance Tickets will be available at: Mountaunberry, Eldorado Market & Silverton Building Supplies. Bar costs extra.

Transportation Info:

12:00 & 1:00 am - departs from Bosun Hall

Check out the Silent Auction Tent

Limited number of souvenir T-shirts. All proceeds to LACE for Bosun Hall façade restoration

**SATURDAY, May 22, 2010**

10:00 am- SLGC Golf Tournament
11:00 am New Denver Lake Golf Course -info: 358-2408

Tee Off Sponsors: Retmeier Logging & Silverton Building Supplies

8:00 am Fish Derby

Register with the Centennial Park Attendant, New Category – Biggest Squaw. For more info, please Mergler @ 358-2252 - $25/person

9:00 am Beach Volleyball Tournament

Mixed 4 on 4 - $30/team

Info: Sue Yurychuk @ 358-6803
Kaslo May Days 2010
Schedule of Events

Friday - May 21, 2010
In the Evening
8:00 pm  Live Music  BlueBelle Bistro – Dominique Fraissard

Saturday - May 22, 2010
8:00 am start  Slo-Pitch Ball Tournament  Vimi Park Baseball Field
9 am - 6 pm  Craft and Product Vendors  Vimi Park
9 am - 6 pm  Food Vendors  Vimi Park
9 am - 4 pm  Self Guided Tours of the Japanese Canadian Museum  Langham Cultural Centre
9 am - Noon  Bird Watching Walk  Meet in front of Village Hall
10:00 am  5 K Running Race  Start line in front of Moye
10:00 am  Guided Tour of Kaslo River Trail North Side Trail Head
10 am - 2 pm  Flea Market Fundraiser  Kaslo Youth Centre
11 am - 4 pm  Information Booth  Vimi Park concession Booth
11:30 am - 3:30 pm  Helicopter Rides  Front St at Abbey Manor
11:30 am - 12:30 pm  Kid Fun Races ages 4-10  Vimi Park
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm  Magic Show  Vimi Park Gazebo
1:30 pm - 2 pm  Native Story with Stick Spinning  Vimi Park Gazebo
1 pm - 4 pm  Art Exhibit  Langham Cultural Centre
2:00 pm  Jan Van Gold - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo
3:00 pm  Drew Birkett - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo
4:00 pm  Tug-of-War  Vimi Park, near playground
4:00 pm  Brian Rosenberg - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo
5:00 pm  Ty West - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo
6:00 pm  Kevin Watt - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo

In the Evening
7:00 pm  Art Exhibit  Langham Cultural Centre
7:00 pm  Bear Presentation and Slideshow Langham Cultural Centre
8:00 pm  Live Music  BlueBelle Bistro – Jessie Dee & Jacqueline B

Sunday - May 23, 2010
8:00 am start  Slo-Pitch Ball Tournament  Vimi Park Baseball Field
10:00 am  Guided Tour of Kaslo River Trail North Side Trail Head
9 am - 6 pm  Craft and Product Vendors  Vimi Park
9 am - 6 pm  Food Vendors  Vimi Park
9 am - 5 pm  Climbing Wall  Vimi Park
9 am - 4 pm  Self Guided Tours of the Japanese Canadian Museum  Langham Cultural Centre
10:00 am - 4:30 pm  Logger Sports  Logger Sports Ground
10:00 am - 2:30 pm  Annual Show ‘n’ Shine  Front St, 5th Street to the Moye
11:00 am start  Professional Skateboard Demonstration and Local Competition Kaslo Skate Park
11 am - 5 pm  Burger & Bratwurst  Logger Sports Ground
11 am - Noon  Hoola Hoop Class  Vimi Park in front of gazi
12 noon – 5 pm  Bavarian Beer Garden  Logger Sports Ground
12 noon - 1 pm  Tangerine Band  Vimi Park Gazebo
1 pm - 4 pm  Art Exhibit  Langham Cultural Centre
1 pm - 4 pm  Information Booth  Vimi Park Concession Booth
1:00 pm  Kyle Hanna - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo
2:00 pm  S.E.L. Band & Eric Moon  Vimi Park Gazebo
3:00 pm  Ian Hayes - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo
4:00 pm  Shauna Klapo - Musician  Vimi Park Gazebo
5:00 pm  Kaslo Band  Vimi Park Gazebo
5:30 pm (after logger sports ends) Burnout Contest  Logger Sports Ground

In the Evening
8 pm  Live Music  BlueBelle Bistro – Holly & Jon
8 pm  Live Music  Kaslo Hotel – Tom & Jerry

Monday May 24, 2010
8 am start  Slo-Pitch Ball Tournament  Vimi Park Baseball Field
9 am - 4 pm  Craft and Product Vendors  Vimi Park
9 am - 4 pm  Food Vendors  Vimi Park
9 am - 4 pm  Climbing Wall  Vimi Park
9 am - 3 pm  Garden Festival  Front Street Park
12 noon  May Days Parade 2010  Front St - 4th St - B Ave
12:30 pm - 3 pm  May Days Tea  United Church Hall
1 pm - 4 pm  Information Booth  Vimi Park Concession Booth
1 pm - 4 pm  Kids Fish Pond  Vimi Park – Parkside Daycare
1 pm  Community Celebrations and Events  Vimi Park, Gazebo
2010 Kaslo Citizen of the Year award, speeches and much more.
1 pm  Children’s May Pole Dance  Vimi Park Gazebo
2 pm - 4 pm  The Usual Suspects Band  Vimi Park Gazebo
2 pm - 4 pm  Soccer Ball Kicking  Abbey Manor Front Yard
3:30 pm  Model R/C Plane Flying  Lighthouse Beach
3 pm  Rubber Ducky Race  Kaslo River

Welcome to MAY DAYS 2010
Come see us at Kaslo Drugs
403 Front St  353-2224

The Valley Voice  May 19, 2010
Kaslo May Days offers full schedule of events on May long weekend

by Jan McMurray

With the May Days long weekend just around the corner, Kaslo is abuzz!

The weekend kicks off on Friday night at the Blubelle Bistro on Front Street, with Dominique Fraissard scheduled to perform at 8 pm.

On Saturday, the Sto-Frisch tournament starts at Vimy Park and continues all weekend. Vendors of food, crafts, and more will set up at the park, and on Saturday and Sunday, take the opportunity to do a self-guided tour of the Japanese Canadian Museum at the Langham, and to take a guided tour of the Kaslo River Trail, starting at 10 am both days at the north side trailhead. A bird watching walk from 9 am to noon on Saturday starts from the Village Hall.

Head over to the Moyie at 10 am on Saturday for the 5 K Running Race, and don’t miss the Flea Market Fundraiser at the youth centre.

Lots of kids’ activities are scheduled from 11:30 am to 2 pm on Saturday at Vimy Park, starting with races, followed by a magic show and ending with a native story with stick spinning. The climbing wall will be set up all day on Sunday and Monday, as well.

Helicopter rides are available from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm at Abbey Manor, and the riding club will be doing a horse demonstration from 1 pm to 4 pm at the riding grounds on Arena Road.

There is quite a line-up of musicians at the Vimy Park gazebo on Saturday from 2 pm to 7 pm. Then head on down to the Langham, where there will be a bear presentation and slideshow and an art exhibit. Saturday night wraps up with another live performance at the Blubelle with Jesse Dee & Jacque B.

On Sunday, the very popular Logger Sports and Show ‘n Shine events are on. Logger Sports runs from 10 am to 4:30 pm down at the grounds, and are followed by the burnout contest. Burgers and bratwurst will be available at the grounds from 11 am to 5 pm, and the Bavarian Beer Garden is open from noon to 5 pm.

You won’t want to miss the Show ‘n Shine, with its collection of antique cars lined up on Front Street from 10 am to 2:30 pm.

At the skatepark on Sunday, check out the demo and local competition at 11 am.

Down at the Vimy Park gazebo on Sunday, there will be a hoola hoop class at 11 am, and a string of musicians play one-hour sets from noon till 6 pm.

Kaslo Logger Sports grounds upgraded for this year’s event

Submitted

Thanks to Kaslo’s win of the TSN/Kraft Canada Community Challenge last summer, the Logger Sports committee has made several improvements to the logger sports grounds.

The committee is hoping everyone will come out on Sunday this May Days to see the improvements.

Improvements include three gleaming cedar climbing poles, thanks to the generosity of the Kaslo and District Community Forest. These poles were cut from our community forest at Keen Creek by Alpine Logging Ltd., milled by Pacific Inland Pipe and Pole Company and transported to Kaslo by Dave Sicotte Trucking. They were erected this spring with the assistance of Colin Jacobs, Paddy Flannigan of FortisBC and Bryan McMillan of Yellowhead Road and Bridge. Thanks so much to all of these wonderful community partners.

Three new sets of bleachers have been constructed with financial support from Columbia Basin Trust and elbow grease from Jeff and Morgan Mattes. These bleachers are a welcome addition to the Bavarian Garden.

The registration/storage unit has been purchased with some of the winnings and will be artistically painted to reflect Kaslo’s logging heritage.

The committee is still working on amphitheatre style seating along the natural embankment, a new log rolling pond, and power to the grounds.

Come to Kaslo on Sunday, May 23rd for an action packed day of exciting logger sports events!
Winlaw’s May Day Water Festival a Splashing Success

by Kate Guthrie

The seventh annual Winlaw Water Festival was a grand celebration this past May Day. “It was an honour to facilitate a gathering of such cultural significance to our community, where there’s so much joy and gratitude and good energy being shared by so many of us,” Winlaw Watershed Committee President Phil Larstone said. He especially wished to thank the donors of the silent auction.

The Winlaw Watershed Committee raised enough funds to support its water stewardship projects, including the posting of watershed entry signs on the highway and ongoing monitoring of Winlaw Creek.

In a time of rising concerns about Independent Power Projects (IPPs), water contamination as near as South Slocan and global water crises, Winlaw residents and guests demonstrated that our area’s healthy watersheds are something to dance, sing, parade, costume, laugh, feast and party about.

“The place was teeming with kids of all ages in face paint, crowns and shades of blue. The whole crowd paraded down to the river, led by artist Bo Conlan, for singing and cedar offerings in gratitude for our rivers, streams and oceans. “Our bodies are over 70 percent water,” Larstone said. “So when we celebrate our water, we also celebrate ourselves.”

Local musicians, including Brian Rosen and the WhatNow, the Nelson Samba Band and Heavy Schtetl entertained the crowd under a beautiful, brand-new stage roof. Built by Ridgeline Metal Works and volunteer carpenters from salvaged metal and cedar shingles, the permanent roof was erected especially for May Day at the Cedar Creek Café. Slam poets Blair Lehman and Samuel Stevenson MC-ed the day, spinning tails between acts. Silk acrobatic performers stunned everyone with their grace.

The committee hosts the annual celebration with help from sponsors Columbia Basin Trust, Slocan Valley Community Arts Council and the Cedar Creek Café. All in all, the day was a heartfelt, community-centered celebration of the precious liquid that sustains us all.

Nakusp Special Olympics athletes bring home bronze

submitted

Nakusp Special Olympics athletes Monica Shiell and Jo Blackman won two bronze medals each at the Regional Alpine Skiing Competition at Silver Star Ski Hill in Vernon on March 13. A total of 65 Special Olympics athletes from all over the interior and the Okanagan participated. Shiell and Blackman both participated in two events on the GS (giant slo) Super G race course. Athletes battled fresh powder that was a foot and a half deep! Both Nakusp athletes brought home two bronze medals each.

Nakusp Special Olympics athlete Monica Shiell and Jo Blackman won two bronze medals each at the Regional Alpine Skiing Competition at Silver Star Ski Hill in Vernon on March 13.
VISITOR INFORMATION

GOLF COURSES

Slocan Lake Golf Course
New Denver
Phone: (250) 358-2468

9-HOLE GOLF COURSE, OPEN 7 AM TO DARK
GREEN FEES: $20.00/9 holes, $30.50/18 holes; Day Pass: $35.20; Weekly Rate: $204.75
RENTALS: Clubs and Pull carts available.
Power cart: $30.00/9 holes, $50.00/18 holes. All prices include tax
19TH HOLE RESTAURANT - Tunc., Wed and Fri - Sun., 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Open daily from 7:30 to 9:30
2010 TOURNAMENTS:
• May Days: May 22-23, everyone welcome
• Mike Husband & Wife: June 13, everyone welcome

Nakusp Golf Club
Phone/Fax: (250) 265-4531

9-HOLE PUBLIC COURSE, RATES IN EFFECT 7 DAYS A WEEK
GREEN FEES: $20.00/9 holes, $34.20/18 holes, Senior rates - 10% off
Juniors 14-17: $17.00 and 6; 13-12.50/9 holes; 10 game punch card available
General Manager: Jim Duper
Rental carts, clubs, pull carts.
BISTRO AT THE GREENS: Fully licensed restaurant; Phone: (250) 265-3585
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
Ladies’ nights: Tuesdays 6:00-6:00. Guests welcome.
Men’s nights: Thursdays 4:00-6:00. Guests welcome.

Valley View Golf Course
Phone/Fax: (250) 265-2741

9-HOLE GOLF COURSE AND RESTAURANT, OPEN 8AM-9PM
EARLY SEASON HOURS, 7AM-9PM
GREEN FEES: $20.00/9 holes, $37.55/18 holes, Juniors $10/9 holes
10 punch cards available
RENTALS: power carts, pull carts, rental clubs.
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
Monday Seniors Morning - 25% off for members with club play.
Wednesday Juniors Night - 50% includes golf, lunch & pop, prizes and parents golf free
Tuesday - half price golf All Day
Wednesday Ladies Night - 25% off for members with club play.
Friday - buy one golf get one golf free
Annual Spring Scramble & Silent Auction: May 29, 10am

HOT Springs

Halcyon Hot Springs
1-888-689-4699 (250) 265-3554 Fax (250) 265-3887
www.halcyonhotspings.com e-mail: info@halcyonhotspings.com
Halcyon Hot Springs Village and Spa is open year-round. Ancient healing waters soothe mind, body and soul. Relax in cozy cabins or luxurious chalets. RV hook-ups available. Enjoy gourmet food and beautiful views from the new Kinzler Restaurant & Lounge. Pamper yourself at the Spa at Halcyon. Guided adventure from your doorstep.

Aniworth Hot Springs Resort
1-800-668-1171 (250) 229-4212
Visit one of the “coolest” places in the Kootenays. Experience our unique Hot Springs cave and pools. Savor fabulous food in our dining room and then enjoy the comfort of one of our 4 air-conditioned rooms. Wireless internet available.

Nakusp Hot Springs & Camground
www.nakusphotsprings.com
(250) 265-4528 1-866-999-4528 email info@nakusphotSprings.com
Meditations: $10.00 - $10.00 After Thanksgiving, 1764-9PM.
Relax, refresh and return, to the Nakusp Hot Springs & Camground. Enjoy the soothing mineral waters in BC’s cleanest hot springs. Camp in a beautiful mountain setting beside thesakookech. Visit the snack bar for light refreshments and the gift shop for souvenirs.

GALLERIES

Hidden Garden Gallery 250 358-2297 www.slocanlake.com/hiddengarden
Ten year anniversary celebration celebrates Tues. through Sun. 10 to 5 at 803 Kiddle St., New Denver

ADVENTURE

Cody Caves Provincial Park
250-505-2592 www.codycaves.ca caves@netcica.com
Cody Caves Provincial Park is open daily from June 26 - Sept. 6, 10am - 4pm. Guided tours in the natural limestone cave are appropriate for ages 5 and up. The cave features a flowing stream and waterfalls; stalactites, soda straws and other calcite formations unique to the underground. Enjoy a safe, fun, family adventure.

MUSEUMS

Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre (250) 358-7920 www.slocanlake.com/sandon
Open 10:00 to 5:00. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy. 31A in historic silver mining ghost town. Collections of stunning photographs and fascinating artifacts including the famous “Two Story mortuary.” Admission (daily only): 18 & over: $5.40; 12-17 yrs. & Seniors 65 - “Children under 12, members of same family”, 10%.

Nickel Interpretation Centre (250) 358-7248
The only historic site in Canada dedicated to telling the Wishram interpretation story. Located in The Owl’s Nest, New Denver. Open: 7 days a week 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Friday May 21.

S.S. Moyie Ph/Fax: (250) 353-2525 www.kkhs.bc.ca, 124 Front Street, Kaslo, BC
The world’s oldest intact passenger screwwheel, a National Historic Site located just one hour north of Nakusp, and 50 minutes north of the Kaslo Ferry at Crawford Bay. Open daily from 9 to 5, mid-May through Thanksgiving weekend.

Kaslo Municipal Campground
(250) 353-2662 www.kaslo.ca kaslocampground@yahoo.ca
May 1 to Sept. 30. Serviced (22) Unserviced sites ($18) Water and power hook-ups, fire pits, picnic tables, restrooms and hot showers. Downtown location, close to park, beach, playground, 35 store centre and great shopping! Pets on leash welcome.

Centennial Campground
On the lake in New Denver, 44 sites, $8 with electricity & water hook-up, sani-dump, showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

Springer Creek RV Park & Campground
(250) 355-2266 springergatelux.net

Silverton Municipal Campground
(250) 358-2472 Situated on Slocan Lake at Leadville & Turner streets. Lakeside and Creekside Tent and Trailer Sites. Fire pits and firewood. New hot water washrooms.

ACCOMMODATIONS & RESTAURANTS

For more places to eat, see Golf Courses

Valhalla Riverside 250-226-7712 www.hellovalhalla.com
The clean, green Slocan river is your front yard at these view condos in Kaslo, gateway to Valhalla Provincial Park. Recently built for your pleasure, these lovely condos have well-equipped kitchens, delightful living and sleeping areas, riverfront patios, BBQ, WiFi, satellite TV, and hot tub by the river. Enjoy the mountains, the wildlife, the river, and the fresh air on your door step at Valhalla. WheelerWebster's.

Sunset Inn 250-353-3840 www.sunsetinn.com
Located 1.6 km east of Kaslo on Hwy 3A, Sunset Inn is a charming, family-owned hotel. Enjoy our view of the Slocan Lake, lakefront patio, BBQ, and fire pit. This hotel is perfect for families, couples and business travelers.

KASLO HOTEL & PUB
Front Street, Kaslo New Welcome. Enjoy luxury guest rooms and vacation rentals, at all private balconies. Relax in our pub, dining room or patio, all with spectacular lake and mountain views. Free high speed wifi Internet. Walk to the S.S. Moyie, green shops, museums, galleries, Kaslo Hotel & Pub...where you want to be.

O’Brien’s on the Lake (250) 265-4575 www.obriens.kootenays.ca
1710 Hwy 4 - Nakusp - Beautifully hand-crafted log cabin with a million-dollar view. Full kitchen and bath. Satellite TV. Private phone and barbecue on lake-view deck. All units non-smoking. No pets please. World class fishing, golfing, hiking and much, much more. Just minutes away. It’s so much more than a place to sleep.

WING CREEK RESORT 250-353-2475 www.wingcreekresort.com
Experience this tranquil waterfront resort offering ownership opportunities, vacation rentals and the Falling Water Spa. Relax in your luxury cedar cottage, enjoy your cozy woodburning fireplace, rev in the scenic splendor of Kootenay Lake, surrounded by soaring mountains. Twenty acres of orchard, gardens, trails, streams and beautiful private beach. Adults.

Kaslo Bay Resort & Spa 250-353-7777 www.kaslobay.com
Hosted on the beach of Kaslo Bay, enjoy your fresh class, lakeside location and all the amenities associated with a full service resort. Kaslo Bay is your vacation destination.

Kaslo Hotel & Pub
1212 Front Street, Kaslo. Tel: 250-353-7714 www.kaslohotelandpub.com
Enjoy our view of the Slocan Lake, lakefront patio, BBQ, and fire pit. This hotel is perfect for families, couples and business travelers.

For more places to eat, see Golf Courses
Marina Ridge condo reps ask for lower sewer rates
by Jan McMurray
Marina Ridge condominium owners feel they are paying too much in sewer charges. Two condominium strata corporation representatives, Auke Elzinga (treasurer) and Mark Daines (manager) came to Kaslo’s Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel meeting on May 5 and asked that the strata be billed less than half what they paid last year.

After discussion, the Village panel indicated that condo owners would have to pay full price this year. However, Mayor Lay encouraged them to come to council as a delegation and ask that the bylaw be amended “so that this can get into our system and be debated.” The panel also referred the condominium strata corporation’s written submission to Kaslo’s Liquid Waste Management Committee.

Elzinga and Daines presented the condominium owners’ case, asking for “fair and equitable” sewer charges.

In their written submission, they conclude that they produce 1.95% of the total sewage processed by the Village system and that they are paying 9.85% of the total revenue of the utility. They estimate that the average user is paying $2.53 per cubic meter and the condo building is paying $16.71 per cubic meter.

They suggest paying $5,010 this year in total, where in 2009 they paid $13,437.35.

Part of the reasoning behind the lower rate is that each unit is estimated to be used only about 60 days per year.

Councillors Frary and Hewat both pointed out that the purchase price of the condominiums was not based on occupancy, and that it is the choice of the owners not to be there full-time.

Councillor Hewat further pointed out that there are homeowners in the specified sewer area who winter away and still pay their full fee. She indicated that it would be impossible to base sewer fees on occupancy of each and every building in Kaslo’s system.

Another key factor in the reasoning behind the suggested lower rate for the condomis that the building has been on a water meter since late 2008. So, they knew how the building was being used, and is thus processed by the sewer system.

Councillor Hewat explained that tying the fee to water usage is not in place in Kaslo’s bylaw, but indicated that this may be the case in the future when the whole town is on the sewage system.

During their presentation, the condo reps noted that sewer systems are not supposed to generate profit for the Village, but are to be run on a cost recovery basis, and that the system had a $200,000 surplus.

Hewat explained that the reserve fund of $200,000 is for future repairs and to retire the debt incurred when the system was put in. She said that $50,000 of the reserve is earmarked to purchase a dewatering unit. “So it’s not a slashing fund. There are many factors that we must consider.”

The panel allowed Anne Malik, former sanitary sewer committee member, to comment. She pointed out that no consideration is given to any owners of vacant or seasonal properties. She said property owners of vacant land are assessed on frontage. “They are pumping zero into the system and they are still paying.”

Malik also observed that the condos are being advertised as vacation rentals, and suggested that perhaps they should be paying commercial tax rates, which is 2.7 times higher than residential tax rates. “You can’t have your cake and eat it, too,” she said.

Daines inquired about appealing the decision. CAO Rae Sawyer stated that the next step would be to appeal to the BC Supreme Court.

Kaslo’s historic Kane Manor suffers fire damage
by Art Joyce
In the early evening hours of May 12, the roof of the Kane Manor, one of Kaslo’s premier heritage homes, caught fire. Neighbours and students rallied to the homeowner’s assistance to remove furniture, pictures and other valuables. According to homeowner Earl Pfeifer, the fire was first spotted by two passing loggers, who acted quickly to start dousing the flames.

The roof however continued to smolder, sending out a thick haze of smoke over the property while the fire department worked to extinguish the source. It seemed difficult to pinpoint the source and firefighters were forced to cut a hole in the roof of a chimney. Fire Chief Larry Badry says garden hose were used in an attempt to suppress fire spread prior to the arrival of the fire department. One civilian was hospitalized after being overcome by carbon monoxide.

There was damage to the roof and attic areas, as well as some water damage, although the extent has yet to be determined.

“The Kaslo Fire Department’s priority continues to be the safety of the volunteer firefighters and the citizens of the community,” says Badry. “We wish to remind everyone that structure fires may have many hidden dangers and can pose an extreme risk of suffering a traumatic injury.”

The historic home was built by David Kane, who came to the West Kootenay as a lad of 18 with his brother George in the 1880s. Land was cheap and the brothers acquired thousands of acres of forest for logging and had plans to build a sawmill. Shortly after their arrival, silver was discovered and in the resulting boom Kaslo’s population soared to 3,000. In early 1891, George Kane bought land for the townsite and the Kanes added to their fortunes by selling lots. That fall they brought their married sister and her husband and their widowed mother Melissa, unmarried sister and a younger brother to Kaslo. Construction of the manor house began in 1892 and was ready for occupation by 1893. In recent years the home has undergone extensive restoration.

The Valley Voice May 19, 2010
Historical errors on underwater plaques in Silverton

by Art Joyce

History is an inexact science, where one takes into account hazy memories and unverified sources. It appears the Underwater Archaeological Society of BC (UASBC) has erred in the information it recorded on one of the two plaques its dive team placed at two underwater sites near Silverton last month.

The site in question is just off the boat launch, where several railway boxcars loaded with ore sank nearly 100 years ago. In our April 21 edition we cited the information from the plaque, which stated: “In the winter of 1916 the barge had been loaded at New Denver with rail cars containing some 800 silver ingots and silver ore concentrate. After setting out, a storm erupted on Slocan Lake, causing the barge to break free, making it as far as Silverton. Once there the rail cars broke through the barge’s end posts and sank.”

According to Silverton old-timer Dick Hambly, this report is incorrect. The barge was not loaded in New Denver. Spectrum Synergy offers wide-ranging home support services

by Art Joyce

‘Helping you maintain your lifestyle’ can mean different things to different people, depending on their unique needs. But to Shirley Kosiancic and Barbara Maye of Spectrum Synergy, it’s far more than just a company slogan, it’s about compassion.

“Synergy, it’s far more than just a personal designed food program for clients who may need to move into the latter stage of life ‘downsize’ their lifestyle.”

“Today’s lifestyle may not include having a family,” says Maye. “We just feel with the baby boomer generation heading in that direction, there’s going to be an increasing need.”

“I can’t imagine anyone not wanting to retire here. It would be nice to have younger people moving here too so we can employ them.”

The special care clients receive from Spectrum improves their quality of life while facing terminal illnesses or age-related infirmities helps them as well, sometimes even extending life.

“It’s not a one-way street,” says Kosiancic, “it adds value to the lives of our employees too. We treat our clients like we would our own family members.” For service or inquiries call 250-265-3842 or skosiancic@telus.net.

The account in Old Silverton differs markedly from the version recorded by the Underwater Archaeological Society plaque. “On the afternoon of Monday, January 10, 1916, the crew was having a very difficult time loading the barge. It was fourteen tons below zero (F) and a windstorm was developing from the north. As the breakers grew in size and pounded with increasing fury against the shore and the ramp, the loaders finally finished their work. A fastening gave way on the tossing barge, the load shifted; one by one the boxcars slid off the end and sank into the water over the bottomless drop-off.”

“We want to help those looking to maintain their independence, so that they can employ them.”

“We just feel with the baby boomer generation heading in that direction, there’s going to be an increasing need,” says Kosiancic. “And people do want to retire here.”

Nesteroff finds Norris may have confused the date with a story in the Nelson Daily News, January 13, 1916 which reported on an unusually heavy snowfall followed by one of the worst windstorms on Slocan Lake in years.

“We will be correcting the plaque as soon as we can get the full correct story and have another one made,” says Young.

Do you have home care needs?

Are you having a baby and need a little extra support?

Do you want to downsize your belongings and don’t know where to begin?

Are you or a family member aging but want to remain independent in your home?

Have you been injured and need temporary support?

Has a family member passed on and you need help with the details?

Are you new in the community and need assistance with getting set up?

Do you have home care needs?

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250-265-3842 serving the West Kootenays

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SALE $3  99
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Reg. $18  99
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FUSION BINOCULARS – 8 x 40 COMPACT
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FUSION TRAVEL MUG 12V “keeps beverages hot”
Reg. $14  99
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CHARCOAL BRIQUETTES – 10 LB ROYAL OAK
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72” BEACH UMBRELLA /CASE
Reg. $12  99
SALE $9  99

Nelson Daily News

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“From its position in front of the mill...”

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“From its position in front of the mill...”

Spectrum Synergy is licensed and bonded home support services provider. person who is moving into the latter stage of life ‘downsize’ their lifestyle.”

“One of the things we’re interested in helping mothers with new babies who may need a little extra support,” says Maye.

For clients with degenerative illnesses or chronic conditions who need special care, Spectrum works in conjunction with doctors and nurses to ensure patients receive their medications. If they have pets, Spectrum can assist with that, too. Meals are prepared on site at each client’s home. Spectrum has employed the use of a holistic nutritionist to advise them on diet. This allows for a personally designed food program for clients’ specific health needs.

Spectrum is licensed and bonded to work with WorkSafe BC, Veteran’s Affairs, ICBC, and public trustees’ clients. Although based in the Arrow Lakes area they are looking to expand into the West Kootenay, so the company is looking to recruit both new clients and new employees. Spectrumin the old Silverton, corroborates Hambly’s statement that the Standard Mine had its own loading dock in addition to one that was at the south end of town. “From its position in front of the mill...”

Spectrum Synergy offers wide-ranging home support services

by Art Joyce

‘Helping you maintain your lifestyle’ can mean different things to different people, depending on their unique needs. But to Shirley Kosiancic and Barbara Maye of Spectrum Synergy, it’s far more than just a company slogan, it’s about compassion.

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May 19, 2010 — The Valley Voice
Kaslo council, May 11: Fire service committee report received

by Jane Lynch

• The report of the Long Term Fire Service Committee regarding a fire service model for Kaslo and Area D was received and forwarded to the RDCK’s CAO. The committee will serve a further 60-day term to develop timelines for a public process that would lead to a referendum to develop a five-year financial plan for the operation and building of a new fire hall on the arena site.

• The grant application for the City Hall project to Parks Canada’s National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program was denied, due to the high volume of applications, and a “highly competitive process.” The Village was invited to reapply for the next round, with a deadline of October 1. Council referred this item to the Development Services Committee. Council also agreed to ask Parks Canada for a list of successful applicants. “If the oldest wooden City Hall on mainland BC can’t get the grant, I would think it’s going to be tough to get it,” commented Councillor Frary.

• A revised proposal to install a sprinkler system in the main fire hall for $11,700 by Kootenay Sprinkler Ltd. was tabled at the request of the contractor, CAO Sawyer said this would be up to the Trailblazers.

• All Saturday Market questionnaires will be available for public viewing in the Village office. Mayor Lay and Councillor Leatherwood were opposed. Leatherwood explained that the intention was to gather opinions and share them with the Kaslo North Kootenay Lake Area; Village owned lands; Kaslo - North (Provincial Park - UREP Reserve); Kaslo - Airport (North/South Airport; Village owned lands); Kaslo- Municipal (Various Locations; Village owned lands); Kaslo - South (Rock Cut; Crown lands).

An email from a UBCM representative asks for clarifications on the budget. $42,435.50 for 40.6 hectares equals $1,043.25 per hectare. This is more than two times the provincial average for water rights. The municipalities are concerned about the decision to let the expression of interest the email. Councillors Frary and Frary explained that if the Village is going to buy, the Village has to sprinkle that building after 40 years. A revised proposal to install a fire alarm system at the park. Councillor Leatherwood supported the motion, but no one wants to take responsibility for the process, “I think this problem lies with the CFNKLS,” stated Councillor Freeman.

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What You See Is Not What You Get

You may have heard this before: “What you see is not what you get.” About 80 percent of my work is about helping clients reduce the financial effects of both death and taxes. Most people that are seeking advice to tend to have one thing in common – their income does not equal their cash flow. We deliver!

Most people that are seeking advice tend to have one thing in common – their income does not equal their cash flow. What most people don’t understand is that the income they pay taxes on, is very different from the income they enjoy. Most people that are seeking advice tend to have one thing in common – their income does not equal their cash flow. We deliver!

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BISINESS DIRECTORY

RESTAURANT/WINE & BEER

**Nick's Place**

**WINTER HOURS**

**8 AM - 8 PM**

**Seven Days a Week!**

**QUALITY PIZZA anytime!**

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Air Conditioned
Non-Smoking
93-5th Ave. 
Nakusp

MEAT CUTTING

**The Legendary Meats**

- Bulk - Beef, Pork, Buffalo and Sausage Sales
- Custom Cutting & Sausage Making
- Curing & Smoking of Bacons & Hams

Winter Hours:
Open Wed., Thurs. & Fri.
9:30 am - 8 pm
Phone: 265-7203
2826 Hwy 6 • Slocan Park

Even little ads get noticed in the Valley Voice.

GROCERY • HEALTH FOOD

**Slocan Village Market**

- Groceries, fresh produce, fresh meat, dairy, eggs, dairy, and milk
- In-store deli, in-store bakery
- Open Thurs. - Sat. 8 am - 8 pm
- Slocan, BC • 350-2511 • fax: 350-2516

Ann's Natural Foods
Ann Burka
- 358-2552
- 805 Kildare St., New Denver

**GROCIES, DRUGS, HEALTH FOOD**

- Re-Awakening
- Health Centre
- Health Products, Healing sessions
- New Age products
- Sensual products
- 320 Broadview St. NAKUS 358-3518

**NEW DENVER**

- 358-2463
- 250-353-8208

- 358-2792

- The Clothes Hanger
- 441 Front St • Kaslo • 250-353-9688

- Valley Voice ads make an impression!
Call 358-7216 for details • email: valleyvoice@netidea.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

**MANDALA ART MAKING**
the Winlaw Hall with a decadent dessert
For registration and information: www.workshops.kaslo.org

KASLO SUMMER CHORAL 
(7-9 pm) May 20, 27 ($12). Hand & Soul,
Students $5. School age children admitted
May 28 at 7:30 pm. $20, Seniors $18,
Gym at JV Humphries School on Friday,
at 358-2355 or goodallin@xplornet.com.

**HEALTH**

YOGA AT THE DOMES - Wear layers for the next month - come to class - Monday & Saturday mornings 8:30-10 am; Thursday afternoon 3:30-5:00 pm - Re-awakening Studio

**YARD SALE**
Yard sale in the New Denver Orchard.
Watch for signs. May 22, 23, 10 am start.
May 24, noon start. 165 Main St.

**SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT**
At the Sandon Museum. Must be returning to school in the fall. Basic duties include
sweeping the area, putting tents up and down, answering basic tourist questions. Some
cleaning and record keeping involved. Send
cover letter and a resume to Sandon Historical
Society, Box 52, New Denver, V0G 1C9.

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**HOUSEWANTED**
- Local, employed couple looking for one-to-two bedroom

**RENTAL SPACES AVAILABLE**
in the New Denver Interpretive Centre and Museum,
developed office space, the ability to
work independently, a knowledge of the
to the Centre, and gardening duties.
Hand & Soul, Students $5. School age children admitted
May 28 at 7:30 pm. $20, Seniors $18,
Gym at JV Humphries School on Friday,

**HOUSING WANTED**
- Family of 4 - pets moving to Nakusp & area in July. Have professional jobs;
- need house to rent ASAP. 403-521-0300 or gvwatson@telusplanet.net.

For information on AA or Al Anon Meetings contact in New Denver: 358-7094 or 358-7158; Nakusp 265-4924; Kaslo 353-2668; Slocan 358-2805; South Slocan 226-7705.

**NOTICES**

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**PERSONAL CLASSIFIEDS**
Start at $8.00
Call 250-358-7216 for details

**SPECTRUM DOMESTIC SERVICES**
A West Kootenays Home Support and Domestic Services provider, is recruiting individuals with experience in Home Support, Resident Care Aide, House Cleaning, Meal Preparation, Downsizing Services, Home and Yard Maintenance. Please forward resume to: Spectrum Domestic Services, Box 667, Nakusp, BC V0G 1A9 Attention: Barbara Orts. • 250-353-3642. No phone calls please.

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GEORGE EVENDON died April 29 at the Slocan Community Health Centre. George was born and raised in Revelstoke. In 1979 he moved to the Slocan area. He had a great love of the outdoors, politics, and all things that moved. George worked as a CNC, drove buses for Brewster, drove heavy equipment, and was a pilot, but his greatest love of all was travelling by horseback. For many years he ran horseback for tourists. For many years he ran horseback for tourists. George was survived by his wife Sue (Davies) and brother Charles (George is survived by his wife Sue (Davies) and lived life to its fullest. He will be remembered for his kindness and generosity. He will be remembered for his kindness and generosity.

BABZ CHULA

Society.

Silverton Memorial Hall 11am, May 23.

The family is very grateful to the staff and friends and lived life to its fullest. He will be remembered for his kindness and generosity. He will be remembered for his kindness and generosity.

Local government interns to learn management skills

Regional Municipality, Village of Slocan and City of Surrey. Twelve-month management internships begin in May or June of this year. Interns will receive broad training opportunities and be exposed to all aspects of local government operations and in turn will contribute to capacity building of their host local governments.

David Mills received his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and geography at McGill University in 2009. David has worked for a not-for-profit organization and health authority researching on health education services for seniors and has volunteered for the Disabled Sailing Association.

Additional information about the management internship program is available at www.lmg.ca or call LGMA at 250-383-7032.
Lucas Myers to reprise Hello Baby show for Whole School

After many disappointed theatre goers couldn’t get into his sold-out show last fall, the Whole School is bringing Lucas Myers back to the Valley on Saturday, May 29 at the Winlaw Hall for an encore performance of one of his most popular comedy shows, Hello Baby: An Instructional Lecture by a First Time, Semi-Competent Father. Doors open at 7 pm, show starts at 8 pm.

Residents of the Slocan Valley will be in for a treat as Hello Baby answers the burning question of what happens when a self-involved man-child becomes a new father. Myers asks the hard questions with his unique comic flair, such as: “Is your life as you know it really over?” And “Can you function on two hours sleep?” And “Is it really possible to become so obsessed with bowel movements and nipples that you actually begin to give them pet names? Like Jerome?” All the things you were afraid to ask in prenatal class will be answered, and more.

As always Myers livens up his show with hilarious original tunes, including Rebel Dad, Nobody Warned Me About the Drool, and Yes Honey I’d Be More Than Happy To Make Dinner And Hand Wash All These Cloth Diapers As Soon As I Finish Giving You A Back Rub And Vacuuming The Floor Again Because You Are Hyper Paranoid.

Doors open at 7 pm, show starts at 8 pm. For those parents who would like to go to the show, the Whole School is offering a babysitting service at the school for a small fee.

Pre-registration is required by May 26. Call either Chris at 226-7902 or Jane at 226-7737.

Team of the week

Slocan Valley Recreation’s soccer season is underway in the Slocan Valley with over 150 children playing on 15 teams. The TEAM OF THE WEEK is the Grade 3/4 Heritage Credit Union Team with coach Kevin Roberts. Team members are: Brandon Eisner, Jerika Perepolkin, Avery Kooznetsoff, William McLeod, Jacob Vollweiler, Jared Roberts and Mike Carey.
Cedar Creek Café hosts eclectic line-up of music in May

submitted

With the closing of the Old Firehall music venue in Rossland, Winlaw has inherited some fantastic shows on short notice this month, in addition to an already great line-up at the Cedar Creek Café.

On Wednesday May 19, join us for music by The F-Holes at 8 pm. Don’t let their tongue-in-cheek name fool you. The F-Holes are a unique blend of country, Dixieland, and Manitoba roots music. Since forming in Winnipeg in 2004, The F-Holes have shared the stage with the likes of Juno nominated artists Elliot Brood, Twilight Hotel, Nathan and The Parousias, as well as The Weber Brothers and Dan Frechette. They have entertained a wide variety of audiences ranging from the Children’s Fringe Festival and the Festival du Voyageur, to the Manitoba Stampede and the Fire and Water Music Festival. Bring the whole family. Cover by donation ($8 recommended) at the door.

On the May long weekend, come out Sunday, May 23 at 7:30 pm for Winlaw has inherited some fantastic the Morlove folk duo, made up of Corwin Fox and Miss Emily Brown. out Sunday, May 23 at 7:30 pm for the morning outdoor kids concert. Corwin Fox and Miss Emily Brown bust out the repertoires they’ve been practicing for the wee ones in their families for decades. Corwin’s kids’ album Tiger is likely #1 on the playlist of our two toddlers. Have a peek on YouTube for Corwin Fox playing The Ballad of Robin Hood. Cover by donation. Concert will only be 30-45 minutes to accommodate whole family. Cover by donation ($8 recommended) at the door.

This year 2010 marks the 30th anniversary of the Wild Rose. These are a few: I know the Wild Rose (located just off Highway 6 in downtown Rossland) is beginning its 30th season. Founded and operated for 20 years by Andrea Wright, it has been under the stewardship of her daughter Lilliana Wright and Lilliana’s partner Randy (Margarita) Speers for the last 10 years. The parking lot was full. In went, excited about the Taco Grande Salad with chicken and buttermilk dressing I was going to order. It’s always been my fave. It’s big, it’s beautiful, it’s succulent, I love it! I pecked into the kitchen and said hi to Lilliana, Andrea and Howard, then I sat at a small table close to Randy’s bar so I could watch him makemargaritas. Then I noticed they’d already reserved that very table for me. The place was packed. Ya gotta love it.

Ohh! Yeaah. Just right. Delightfully hot, but not too hot. Real tangy and delicious. Makes you want to do it again, so I did. Even better the second time.

Then what to my wondering eyes should appear but a big margarita made by Big Randy Speers! Now I was on the fast track to heaven.

Then came the platter with the Chicken Cashew Fajita. This dish is a lot of fun because you get to roll your own tortillas with generous amounts of chicken and cashews and all those other fillings. I had particular fun with the guacamole, sour cream and multi-colored shredded cheese. Just the right combo of creaminess and chewiness. This dish provides a bonanza of downright delectable deliciousness, and is a whole lot of fun!

Somewhere in there my “mini” Taco Salad Grande with chicken and buttermilk dressing arrived, and guess what? I ate it all. I ate everything on the table, and I’ll tell you something, those Chicken Cashew Fajitas are knocking on the door of the Taco Grande Salad in an effort to become my new all-time favourite. I’ll have to call a board meeting to decide.

The margarita was brilliant. Lilliana Wright and her entire staff deserve a standing ovation for what they create in the kitchen and serve in the dining room of the Wild Rose. It’s family friendly and wheelchair friendly.

The Old Firehall was going to order. It’s always been my fave. It’s big, it’s beautiful, it’s succulent, I love it! I pecked into the kitchen and said hi to Lilliana, Andrea and Howard, then I sat at a small table close to Randy’s bar so I could watch him makemargaritas. Then I noticed they’d already reserved that very table for me. The place was packed. Ya gotta love it.

Ohh! Yeaah. Just right. Delightfully hot, but not too hot. Real tangy and delicious. Makes you want to do it again, so I did. Even better the second time.

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The servers on Sunday were Hillary and Mand She who dealt smoothly with a packed house.

If you want a world-class margarita, consider a designated driver.

Go to the Wild Rose for a magnificent dinner. I did. Did I EVER. What are YOU waiting for? Go there!