Cody Caves park operator may be forced to shut down

by Art Joyce

An iconic West Kootenay park may be seeing its twilight years due to government policy changes. Cody Caves Provincial Park operator Kevin Stanway says changes to the fee structure for contractors from a flat rate of $250 per season to $1 per visitor or $250, whichever is greater, will probably put him out of business. Damage to the access road from logging operations has also made visitor access difficult.

Stanway has worked at the caves for 12 years, seven of those as the permit holder and operator. He says the fee structure for the permit was changed midway through his five-year term without notice or consultation, which contravenes the permit act. Last year there were about 4,500 visitors to the caves but his revenues have left him about $2,000 short.

Stanway is particularly concerned about the conservation implications for Cody Caves. Cave parks, unlike other parks, rely entirely on the permit operator to uphold the park mandate of resource protection, he says. In the ‘60s and ‘70s, prior to the caves’ protection as a provincial park, much damage was done by partners. Stalactite formations in caves are extremely fragile and take thousands of years to form, so once they’re damaged they are virtually irreplaceable. Cody Caves was first gated and guided in 1982.

“You can’t really visit a cave park on your own without doing significant damage. Just a little bit of ignorance or neglect can do lasting environmental damage. To do equal damage in Kokanee Park, for instance, you’d have to actually strip mine the mountain.”

Stanway has spoken with regional parks staff by conference call and at press time the issue was being discussed in Victoria. Canadian Cave Conservancy, a registered charity dedicated to cave conservation, is involved in the discussions. BC Scelesological Federation, another non-profit that acts as an umbrella group for all cave-conservation groups, is also providing input. According to Ministry of Environment public affairs officer David Currie, “No decision has been reached at this time around any changes to the park fee structure. The fee is a legislated fee for any commercial operator, which cannot be changed to accommodate individual operators.” However, Currie said operators can increase their visitor fees. But Stanway says simply increasing fees won’t be enough to recoup his losses.

Because the fees don’t go into parks budgets, but into general revenue, he likens it to a hidden tax or fine for tourists. Meanwhile, parks budgets have been continually cut back in recent years. No government money was spent in the park for about 30 years, until recently, when extensive trail remediation was completed.

Further impacting Stanway’s tourism business has been winter logging and spring flooding operations on Cody Caves Road. He estimates loss of business due to road damage of approximately $30,000 over the past three years. He says it has also lost him employees, whose vehicles were not up to negotiating the road.

According to Ministry of Forests spokesperson Chekwlan Ho, as of press time the road had been repaired, “making it passable for two-wheel drive high clearance vehicles and thereby re-establishing access for recreational and commercial use.” She said the road is designated for industrial use and cites the rainy spring weather as the cause of damage. Ho added that although industrial users are required by legislation to maintain logging roads, they are not required to maintain it for non-industrial users. Compliance and enforcement staff monitor the road.

“There has been a gentleman’s agreement to make the road more accessible for tourists,” says Stanway. “But the Ministry of Forests used public money to hire a grader to run over it.”

Normally during the tourism season Cody Caves is a seven day per week operation, but Stanway has had to let go of seasonal employees so they can find alternate summer work. He is in debt for unpaid fees and will also be looking for work. Two high school jobs, five part-time summer service industry positions, and one career management position in tourism and environmental protection have been lost. Stanway has contacted MLA Michelle Mungall, who has opened a file on the case. He says his best hope at this point would be for the Minister of Environment to intervene and make an individual exception, something that is within the minister’s power to do. Failing that, Stanway would at least like to see some parks staff presence at the caves this year to protect the resource.

“The death knell of a eco-tour operator in the West Kootenay has sounded, alongside is the possible loss of a jewel in the West Kootenay park system.”
BC Hydro operations update for Duncan and Arrow reservoirs

by Jan McMurray

BC Hydro representatives stopped in Meadow Creek and Nakusp on June 16 and 17 on their annual tour to provide the public with an update on their operations.

This year, snowpack is below normal in most of the province, but normal on the coast. The entire BC Hydro system inflow is forecast at 14% below normal, as is the Mica reservoir inflow. The US side of the Columbia Basin is even drier, making this year probably the third driest year since 1961 for the Columbia Basin as a whole. The Arrow reservoir is forecast at 80% of normal; the Duncan at 85% of normal and Kootenay Lake at 67% of normal.

Interior Health undergoes restructuring

by Jan McMurray

Interior Health has reorganized its leadership structure. The new structure was created by IH CEO, Dr. Rob Halpenny, to reflect his vision of ‘one IH’ and to increase standardization, explained Ingrid Hampf, Kootenay Boundary Acute Area Director.

Whereas the previous senior executive team had positions that were geographically based in four health service areas, the new team is made up of nine vice presidents whose roles have an IH-wide focus. “This will help us to achieve seamless, integrated care across the continuum,” she said.

There are fewer leadership positions in the new structure. “This is in line with our commitment to find efficiencies in administration across Interior Health,” said Hampf. Although Diane Gagnon’s position has changed, her new role will still include administration of the New Denver, Kaslo and Nakusp facilities.

Gagnon’s new position, Community Integration Health Service Administrator for the West Kootenay-Boundary region, focuses on the non-acute services that IH provides in the communities themselves, such as mental health and addictions, primary care, rehabilitation, home care, and Aboriginal services. Her new position also focuses on the facilities that do not have in-patient units, such as New Denver, Kaslo and Nakusp.

Strategic, budget, and planning for the in-patient unit and the emergency room at Arrow Lakes Hospital will fall under the administrative support of Ingrid Hampf.

Gagnon will no longer be administrator of Nelson’s Kootenay Lake Hospital. Under the new structure, a new person will be the administrator of both the Nelson and Trail hospitals.
Local representatives discuss forestry cuts with RDCK board

Columbia River Treaty review in the works as 2014 nears

The Columbia River Treaty was discussed at recent BC Hydro Operations Update meetings in Meadow Creek and Nakusp.

This treaty between Canada and the US has a minimum term of 60 years, so the treaty will be in effect until at least 2024. If either country intends to terminate the treaty in 2024, notice must be given by September 16, 2014. With 2014 approaching, the BC government has struck a steering committee to look carefully at the treaty, and has indicated a desire to consult with the public on this issue.

"I think we have to be as educated as we can about the costs and benefits of the treaty," said Kelvin Ketchum of BC Hydro at the Meadow Creek meeting.

The purpose of the treaty is to deal with flood control in both the US and Canada, as well as to increase power generation in both countries. Ketchum said that although most of the need for hydro power and flood control is in the US, the treaty also provides power and flood control benefits in Canada – for example, Kootenay Lake is much less prone to flooding now that it is 8-10 feet lower than it would be without the Duncan Dam.

The treaty resulted in the construction of three dams in BC – Duncan, Keenleyside and Mica. It also allowed the US to build the Libby Dam, flooding Canadian land. Under the treaty, half of the power generated in the US as a result of the Canadian project operation is given to BC in the form of cash.

Ketchum explained that even if the treaty is terminated, Canada is obligated to provide ‘on call’ flood protection for the US. ‘On call’ flood protection means that the US would have to fill their reservoirs to maximum capacity before calling on Canada to help. ‘I’m not sure if this is workable for the US,’ commented Ketchum at the Nakusp meeting.

In the event the treaty is terminated, Ketchum said the Duncan and Mica Dams would probably be operated the same way they are now. “The way we operate Duncan is good for flood control on Kootenay Lake,” said Ketchum. He said the Arrow reservoir could see some changes.

Josh Smienk, who is very knowledgeable about the treaty because of his long association with the Columbia Basin Trust, was in attendance at the Meadow Creek meeting. “They would probably run the dams the same if we terminate the treaty,” he said. “If we terminate, the Arrow Lakes might be higher in the recreation season. The water has to run over the dams regardless – it’s just a matter of when.”

Smienk added that it would be useful to discuss other issues that have never been resolved, such as the fact that Libby is ‘not lost,’ with no water licence and no one taking responsibility for it.

Ketchum said the decision to terminate or not to terminate the treaty was “not an easy slam dunk decision in my mind,” pointing out that Canada would lose the ‘downstream benefits’ money from the US.

BC Hydro and CBT, both represented on the steering committee, are doing a joint report, which is expected to be out this summer. For the report, BC Hydro is doing studies on what would happen to power generation and flood control if the treaty were terminated. “The studies are limited to power and flood control only, but I hope they will be of some value,” he said.

Confusion about KDCF spending?

There seems to be some confusion about the amount of money spent on the long term planning initiative undertaken by the Kaslo and District Community Forest Society. Here are the figures, supplied by the KDCFS office, as of June 15:

- Total funds available, $52,500; $5,000 from the society in 2009; another $5,000 in 2010; payments of $30,800 from Columbia Basin Trust, with a final CBT payment of $11,700 pending.

Expenses from January, 2009 through May, 2010 totalled $48,034, which breaks down as $28,675.70 already paid out; pending payment of $1,560 for Glorioso/Moss; and pending payment of $2,765 to Rainer Muenter, KDCF manager.

In addition to the unclaimed cheque and the pending payment, Glorioso/Moss received $18,750 from January, 2009 through May, 2010, bringing total payments to them of $31,784.

In addition to the pending payment, Muenter received payments of $4,439.75 from January, 2009 through May, 2010, bringing total payments to him for work on this project of $7,204.75. This is in addition to his pay as KDCF manager.

The other KDCF manager, Richard Marchand, has received $945.75 for his work on this project.

Saddened by destruction of wild herbs

When I saw last issue’s photo of the girl guides who had spent the day pulling knapweed, mullein, daisies, St. Johnswort and burdock from the rail trail, I felt sad. These young women had an opportunity to learn about medicinal plants that can support them and their community. Instead, they learned to destroy the wild herbs.

Ironically, these very plants can support young women through the hormonal changes of puberty. St. Johnswort famously helps with depression. The prescription of psychostimulant drugs to teenagers is on the rise – throwing this beautiful plant away is such a shame. Burdock root, besides being a delicious addition to stir-fry, is an effective long-term treatment for acne, eczema, dandruff and other conditions resulting from liver imbalance – all issues that affect the self-esteem and health of teenagers.

If our young women can learn to support themselves, the girl guides could also learn to help their greater community. For example, mullein leaf is used to treat upper respiratory infections. The flowers make an effective oil against ear infections. Our young women could be following in the footsteps of their ancestors who gathered medicines from the forests and meadows for centuries. Indeed, according to herbalist Rosemary Gladstar, 80% of the world today uses plant medicines.

I understand that there is concern about these plants dominating less beautiful plant away is such a

The Valley Voice

More on the Carpenter Creek Trail

I think it is important to acknowledge many more ‘unsung heroes’ who have contributed over the decades to the clearing out and maintenance of this local biking walking trail. In the 1980s, Frank Barnes and Hugh Wilson worked on it. In the ‘90s, people from the mountain biking community did the same - Rob Furrell, Jamie Grierson, Jeff Bastard, Mike Sorci, Deloit. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material.

I thank them for the many peaceful walks I have taken on that trail over the past seven years.

Susie O’Donnell
New Denver

Kaslo council approves massive slash burn downtown

At a Development Services Committee meeting on June 10, 2010, Kaslo council members not only condoned the burning of huge slash piles located on the Kaslo Bay construction site, but eagerly accepted Bernie Penner’s offer to add to them whatever slash that may have been in the bioregion longer than they. We find mullein, burdock, St. Johnswort, knapweed, daisies, and dandelions. These plants grow fast and strong on decimated land. They bring minerals, shade and beauty to a place after a clearcut, burn, mow or trample (farmers know this; they plant clover to replenish their fields). These plants grow when nothing else can. In time – slow, long, earth time – they heal an ecosystem so that other plants can grow.

The girls guides and others who wish to contribute to the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee could consider learning to use the plants they remove for medicine, or donating them to local herbalists who work long, hot hours to provide for their community (you can find them through the natural food stores). To burn or throw away these plants is poor treatment of some of our greatest allies.

Kate Guthrie
Winlaw
Problems with Slocan council
The June 14 Slocan council meeting really highlighted some problems with this council. I don’t know what they are doing other than attending numerous meetings for everything imaginable. As far as I can see, they are not enforcing any of their bylaws except when it comes to Slocan Holdings and then they are trying to enforce a bylaw that doesn’t even exist. The one good thing that is happening in the Village is the construction on the old hotel site, yet council is bound and determined to screw that effort at every opportunity.

Council should be putting their time and effort into getting some of the townships to come up in front of their properties and the laneways, or enforcing their dog bylaw. The beach has so much dog crap on it! Some properties are starting to remove their signs from sidewalks. When you live in this little community, it seems you can do anything you want because they can’t or won’t enforce any laws. I have heard, and so have others, that the bylaws are there but no one follows them. When members of the council don’t follow the rules how can you expect the taxpayers to?

Once again Slocan has lost out because council wouldn’t bend the rules at the meeting and let anyone talk about the policies during the public participation part of the agenda. There are other issues people want to talk about other than Slocan Holdings. An offer was going to be made to the Village to touch up the murals at the Logger Sports free of charge, but this person wasn’t given the opportunity to speak so the offer has been taken off the table.

When someone is going to run for council or for mayor, they should ask themselves if they can put their personal feelings to the side and just deal with things in the best interest of the Village as a whole. If they can’t then they shouldn’t run for office. In business we often have to do that or we wouldn’t be in business long.

Girls, you need to clean up your act and do something for your taxpayers!

Embarassed and living too close,
Glenda Zwer

Slocan

Response to letter re: Gaza flotilla
We would like to reply to Marc Heroux’s letter about humanitarian aid to Gaza and the flotilla incident. We believe it is very clear why there is the reason for a Gaza blockade is because ships were loaded with rockets and ammunition to be used against Israel coming into the port there. Ships are now asked to land at Ashdod, where they can be inspected. If that flotilla was really intent on bringing humanitarian aid into Gaza they had the legal option of landing at Ashdod. Egypt had offered a port as well.

Instead, they chose the illegal route of trying to break the blockade that Israel has every right to have put into effect due to Gaza having been taken over by a terrorist regime which regularly loads rockets into Israel. The actions of Hamas on the ground and the action of the humanitarianists on the ship where the violence took place are effectively perpetuating the same type of wholeness without obtrusive monuments indicating that I have been here. Rock cairns are in no way necessary to mark the trail route as the trail itself is so plainly defined that if you require additional marking you are probably unsafe to be there. I am not confused as to why you point out these rock cairns and cutting some of the worst areas of high stumps down to ground level, as well as picking up the heavy areas of slash and piling it off the trail. But this year I see that sections of the trail have been unnecessarily slashed to full road width and the trail used by ATV’s. I can understand the desire to try and convert this trail from a serene walking trail into an ATV route.

There are over 10,000 kms of trail in the entire area that ATVS have access to in the Arrow Boundary Forest District and less than 600 km of foot trails. Surely ATVs, which cannot go off road, and are mainly used by locals and especially children with health problems.

I think this is true humanitarian aid.

Danny and Joan Law

New Denver

Carpenter Creek Trail changing for the worse
For many years after the power plant ceased operation, the Carpenter Creek Trail has been a gently graded, quietly used route that crossed sections of private and Crown land that was easily accessible to folks in New Denver. I first walked this trail in the early 1970s and started biking it in the 1980s. Sometime in the early 1980s it was reopened for logging and several volunteers placed rock cairns on private land in the vicinity of the power plant site.

Over the ensuing years many different volunteers and groups, as well as myself, have maintained this trail, which had since grown in and become a narrow, pleasant and safe walking trail.

Volunteers built the connecting grade up to the Galena Trail, as well as connectors to the Village dyke. It has always been kept low key but adequate for safety and sight lines.

Two years ago something changed. Someone started slashing 20- and 30-year-old trees, many of them Douglas Fir at waist to chest height, leaving the slash where it fell along the side of the trail. What was a serene route along the creek became a gory trail. Many of the trees cut were three to four feet off the trail and didn’t need to be cut at all. To compound this travesty, this trail now has step cairns and building rock cairns. It was so unnatural that it drew your attention away from the surroundings and ruined the entire enjoyable experience of a pleasant and serene trail.

I objected to these, which were as many as 20 to 30 in a 100-metre stretch and felt that others, as well as myself, have maintained this trail route for the sake of wholeness without obtrusive monuments indicating that I have been here. Rock cairns are in no way necessary to mark the trail route as the trail itself is so plainly defined that if you require additional marking you are probably unsafe to be there. I am not confused as to why you point out these rock cairns and cutting some of the worst areas of high stumps down to ground level, as well as picking up the heavy areas of slash and piling it off the trail. But this year I see that sections of the trail have been unnecessarily slashed to full road width and the trail used by ATV’s.

The powerhouse site is now grazed with ugly stumps that were recently 10- to 15-metre-high trees for no reason other than to expose decaying cement. Judging by the excessive width of slashing and the signs of ATV activity, I can only assume that someone is trying to convert this trail from a serene walking trail into an ATV route. There are over 10,000 kms of trail in the entire area that ATVS have access to in the Arrow Boundary Forest District and less than 600 km of foot trails. Surely ATVS, which cannot go off road, and are mainly used by locals and especially children with health problems.

I think this is true humanitarian aid.

Dan Pettit
New Denver

To BC Hydro with love
As we approached Meadow Creek Trail over the weekend I noticed a truck unloading several thick electrical wires to upgrade an area that often experiences blackouts.

How unusual that we were working tirelessly into the evening on the date of the meeting. Where was Hydro when you needed them, and here they are when you need them?

Your thrilling news release, hot off the press from the premier’s office, informs me that Bill 17 (another money wad), powered by unprecedented investments, powers BC forward with clean energy and jobs. You quote the premier’s holy words: “…an exciting new age…

And yet, you say we, the people, own BC Hydro for 10 years. How convenient, twice as many as 20 to 30 in a 100-metre stretch and felt that others, as well as myself, have maintained this trail route for the sake of wholeness without obtrusive monuments indicating that I have been here. Rock cairns are in no way necessary to mark the trail route as the trail itself is so plainly defined that if you require additional marking you are probably unsafe to be there. I am not confused as to why you point out these rock cairns and cutting some of the worst areas of high stumps down to ground level, as well as picking up the heavy areas of slash and piling it off the trail. But this year I see that sections of the trail have been unnecessarily slashed to full road width and the trail used by ATV’s...

And now you want our creeks and have been waiting for the law to change and give you full power. BC Hydro will raise the rates for us peasants to pay for it.

Two years ago, we were presented an injunction for protesting the Axor Group from damming Glaciers Creek and building a micro hydro on it. They were forced to show us their Independent Power contract; out of 59 (7) pages, 19 were forwarded, of which six had printed matter and the rest was black-out. Madame Justice Loo, who presided over the case, worked for BC Hydro for 10 years. How convenient that nobody was allowed to see the real deal and those that render judgment are on your side.

I take exception to your metaphor ‘FOR GENERATIONS’ when, in fact you are leading the next generation down the drain in a world running out of fresh water. It should be FOR GENERATIONS to come and BIG IS BEST.

What a footprint – hydro lines criss-crossing the nation and devastation to islands of intact old growth, fish, animals, sanctuaries of what’s left of biodiversity on the planet.

Dams put pressure on fault lines and waterways are fault lines. Large bodies of water heat up our valleys and make us prone to molds.

Last but not in your two-page letter release, you quote the premier’s holy words: “…a 22 times and “energy” 20 times, almost in every sentence. The definition of propaganda is when you try to convince others of your agent by using selected words and repeating them over and over again to lodge it into people’s sub-conscious. There is a lot of propaganda about this type of behavior; there is nothing clean about this type of energy.

Your greatest concern is the low snowpack that will affect your operations and the rising of the climate. Dams are affecting the climate of the earth.

Someone once pointed out your symbol for BC Hydro, I responded it’s an H and he said no it’s a double cross.

Eloise Charet
Bear Clan

Letters

VOTES FROM THE VALLEYS

Cheryl: 250 366 4499
Karen: 250 353 0808

www.gottalovehealthychocolate.com

Expectation

Pedestrians

The Valley Voice June 30, 2010
Slocan council, June 14: ‘Kick Ass Citizens of Slocan’ proposal presented

by Laura J. Craig

• Pat Ashton, on behalf of ‘Kick Ass Citizens for Slocan,’ gave a presentation on the group’s proposal to create a welcoming town centre at the Health and Wellness Centre property.

The group has broken the project down into three phases, and would like to start on phase one very soon. Ashton said the cost of the first phase was estimated at $4,890 and would include stucco repair, painting, and landscaping.

The group has commitments of donations from the Women’s Institute ($300) and the Legion ($500). Ashton said the group would provide volunteer labour and would continue soliciting donations. He asked the Village to make a commitment to seeing this first phase of the project through to completion, including covering the balance of the costs. Phase two includes installing interpretive signs along the stone seating with historical pictures and stories, moving the cenotaph to the northwest corner of the property, creating some seating space beneath the oak tree, centering the boulder in front of the oak tree, adding complementary stones on either side, cleaning the weeds from the pebble area under the boulder, installing a large sign in the front of the property, and installing landscaping lighting in the oak tree and the surrounding shrubbery. Phase three involves capital improvements and “as volunteers, we are not willing to take that on. It will require significant grant money but will be held as a vision.”

Council seemed very supportive and decided to have a special meeting regarding the proposal.

• The Village will establish an informal working group mandated to develop and execute a physician recruitment process and marketing strategy. Staff was directed to notify the HIA, Health Match BC and any other potential advertising source of the Village’s current vacancy. Staff was also directed to inquire as to the cost of a consultant for a physician recruitment program and report back to council.

• C&O Shana Paivarinta announced that Fortis has a kit available at no charge to low income residents. The kit includes items that will help save money on Fortis bills, such as a low volume showerhead, hot water tank insulation and electrical outlet insulation. For more information, stop in at the Village office.

• Staff will prepare an application to amend the Village waterfront crown tenure license to consolidate the waterfront lots and include two small parcels of Crown tenure into the current license.

• Staff was directed to prepare an application to secure crown tenure for the water plant site and those crown portions of the access road.

• The Village will grant $285 to the Slocan Loggers Sports Committee for insurance coverage for the July 3 show, as long as the committee agrees to pay the deductible in the event of an insurable incident.

• The Public Works supervisor reported that he has discussed the repair of Arlington Road with YRB and will prepare a report. Eight loads of road crush have been brought in to the RV Park and roadways have been graded. Doors and frames that were vandalized were replaced with the addition of steel reinforcement. New photo sensors have been installed at all sites, and regular outlets replaced with GFI protected outlets. Repairs were done at the beach washrooms and at the bulkhead concession water system.

• A letter was received from the Outdoor Market Committee with a request for funding for the 2010 market and that the market will be a success for everyone.” After discussion, council decided to grant the committee one-time funding of $250.

• The age friendly report was referred to the OCP committee.

• Staff will purchase a new photocopyer for the Village office.

Slocan condo project proponents frustrated with process

by Jan McMurray and Laura J. Craig

It looks like the Slocan condominium project may be out from under all the paperwork required by Slocan council.

At the June 14 council meeting, a public hearing was scheduled for the rezoning of the old Hot Hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

This is the second public hearing for the rezoning. At the first one, held March 3, council heard from many of the members of the public who attended expressed concern about the lack of information about the project. The developer, Ray Caouette, was not able to attend the first public hearing and had two of his employees attend on his behalf.

Following the first public hearing, council decided to table the bylaw that would allow the rezoning at second reading, and schedule another public hearing when the developer submitted the information requested in the form of a development permit application.

After receiving a report from CAO Shana Paivarinta at the June 14 council meeting confirming that the missing information had been submitted, council agreed to schedule the second public hearing.

Evidently, however, representatives from the development company, Slocan Holdings, are quite frustrated with the process. During a very heated public time at the beginning of the June 14 council meeting, Ray Caouette and three of his employees addressed council with their concerns.

Employee Floyd Verigin said he felt and his colleague, Bob Caouette, had answered all the questions at the first public hearing in March. Bob Caouette added that he felt many of the questions asked at the March hearing were irrelevant to the issue at hand, which was the rezoning, not the development permit itself.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Erica Anderson, one of Slocan council’s advisors and a Slocan Holdings representative to the public hearing.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.

Eunice Ludlow, another Slocan Holdings employee, stated that there should only be one public hearing. She also said that the rezoning of the old hotel property to multi-family residential to facilitate the condominium project.
Nakusp council, June 22: Permissive tax exemptions discussed

by Art Joyce

• The Village’s policy on permissive tax exemptions, which is up for review, drew commentary from the audience in council chambers June 22. Council voted to set up a meeting with interested parties for July 6 at 4 pm. In response to a question from Laurie Page, Mayor Hamling said the Village actually gives away more than what the current bylaw allows. Some applicants may need to reassess whether they still need the exemptions. The mayor said council wants to see their budgets in order to determine their tax exemption needs. Recipients to date include the Legion Hall, Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Halcyon Home, Nakusp Launch Club, and Arrow Lakes Historical Society. These exemptions total about $28,000 annually, which comes directly out of Village revenues. As more and more of the tax burden is shifted from federal and provincial levels to municipal, some communities are phasing out permissive tax exemptions. Nakusp’s policy states that permissive tax exemptions are not intended to be perpetual, explained Hamling.

Nakusp Veterinary Clinic celebrates 20 years

by Jan McMurray

The Nakusp Veterinary Clinic celebrated 20 years in business on June 16 with an open house. Owners Laurie Page and Bill Sones are very happy with their decision to move to Nakusp and set up shop. “We have never looked back,” said Page. “The last 20 years have been everything we could have wished for.”

Page says that business is surprisingly good for such a small place.

“We draw our clients from Edgewood to Slocan, and this provides us with enough business to be able to keep up with a rapidly changing profession, retain wonderful support staff and feel good about being able to offer modern equipment and a high standard of care.”

She says they appreciate that Nakusp is a small town where they can provide personal care to clients and patients.

“Also, we feel fortunate to have been able to raise our children in a safe, caring community. We enjoy the recreational and volunteer opportunities in Nakusp, and we love that something new is happening all the time.”

The couple met at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, married after they graduated, and then worked in mixed practices in rural Manitoba, Vanderhoof and Williams Lake before moving to Nakusp. Being outdoors people, they have never looked back. Laurie Page, who graduated from college in 1991, was permanently hooked, says Page.

“I send a message to any veterinarian who is thinking of going to a small practice, Nakusp is a great place. We get a lot of support even though we have a small population. We are surrounded by lakes and forests and the community is very community oriented.”

Nakusp council, June 22: Permissive tax exemptions discussed

by Art Joyce

• The Village’s policy on permissive tax exemptions, which is up for review, drew commentary from the audience in council chambers June 22. Council voted to set up a meeting with interested parties for July 6 at 4 pm. In response to a question from Laurie Page, Mayor Hamling said the Village actually gives away more than what the current bylaw allows. Some applicants may need to reassess whether they still need the exemptions. The mayor said council wants to see their budgets in order to determine their tax exemption needs. Recipients to date include the Legion Hall, Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Halcyon Home, Nakusp Launch Club, and Arrow Lakes Historical Society. These exemptions total about $28,000 annually, which comes directly out of Village revenues. As more and more of the tax burden is shifted from federal and provincial levels to municipal, some communities are phasing out permissive tax exemptions. Nakusp’s policy states that permissive tax exemptions are not intended to be perpetual, explained Hamling.

Nakusp Veterinary Clinic celebrates 20 years

by Jan McMurray

The Nakusp Veterinary Clinic celebrated 20 years in business on June 16 with an open house. Owners Laurie Page and Bill Sones are very happy with their decision to move to Nakusp and set up shop. “We have never looked back,” said Page. “The last 20 years have been everything we could have wished for.”

Page says that business is surprisingly good for such a small place.

“We draw our clients from Edgewood to Slocan, and this provides us with enough business to be able to keep up with a rapidly changing profession, retain wonderful support staff and feel good about being able to offer modern equipment and a high standard of care.”

She says they appreciate that Nakusp is a small town where they can provide personal care to clients and patients.

“Also, we feel fortunate to have been able to raise our children in a safe, caring community. We enjoy the recreational and volunteer opportunities in Nakusp, and we love that something new is happening all the time.”

The couple met at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, married after they graduated, and then worked in mixed practices in rural Manitoba, Vanderhoof and Williams Lake before moving to Nakusp. Being outdoors people, they have never looked back. Laurie Page, who graduated from college in 1991, was permanently hooked, says Page.

“I send a message to any veterinarian who is thinking of going to a small practice, Nakusp is a great place. We get a lot of support even though we have a small population. We are surrounded by lakes and forests and the community is very community oriented.”

Nakusp council, June 22: Permissive tax exemptions discussed

by Art Joyce

• The Village’s policy on permissive tax exemptions, which is up for review, drew commentary from the audience in council chambers June 22. Council voted to set up a meeting with interested parties for July 6 at 4 pm. In response to a question from Laurie Page, Mayor Hamling said the Village actually gives away more than what the current bylaw allows. Some applicants may need to reassess whether they still need the exemptions. The mayor said council wants to see their budgets in order to determine their tax exemption needs. Recipients to date include the Legion Hall, Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Halcyon Home, Nakusp Launch Club, and Arrow Lakes Historical Society. These exemptions total about $28,000 annually, which comes directly out of Village revenues. As more and more of the tax burden is shifted from federal and provincial levels to municipal, some communities are phasing out permissive tax exemptions. Nakusp’s policy states that permissive tax exemptions are not intended to be perpetual, explained Hamling.
Greenhouse feasibility study seeks to make community vision a reality
by Art Joyce

An enterprising group of New Denver area citizens is working to make the dream of a community greenhouse a reality. The North Slocan Greenhouse Project arose out of the ‘Building a Sustainable Economy’ workshops sponsored by the Healthy Housing Society. A community greenhouse topped the list for projects suggested by participants.

A grant for $9,995 was obtained from the CBCT Community Development Program for a feasibility study which includes the surveys recently placed in area stores. The study will determine the level of support from residents and businesses, a site for the greenhouse, consider various co-op models for running it, and how to make it economically viable. According to project coordinator Marcy Mahr, other community greenhouse projects have been providing valuable guidance, including Invermere, Creston, Moscow, Creek and Whistler. The scope of the project covers Hills to Slocan City.

So far the study committee has met with commercial greenhouse operators, food vendors, market gardeners, and restaurants, and created a community input survey. Lucerne school’s June newsletter also carried the surveys. Already about 60 surveys have been returned, indicating a high level of interest. Although surveys have been picked up from commercial locations, those still interested can pick up and drop off surveys at the Valley Voice until July 9.

The survey includes questions about where residents purchase the majority of fresh produce during the summer; if people garden, whether they currently use greenhouses or cold frames to extend the growing season; whether they typically buy vegetable starts; whether they would buy more locally grown food if a greenhouse could provide fresh produce earlier in the spring and later in to the fall; and whether people would like to see local restaurants serving more locally grown food, among other questions.

Configurations and designs of the proposed greenhouse are being studied, as well as what types of food to be grown. Project coordinator Mahr attended a CBT sponsored workshop on the project. This will help determine how local food security can be made sustainable both economically and environmentally. Outreach connections in the community will also be explored. Mahr sees the project as complimentary to the one being planned by Lucerne school, which would likely be inclusive of community co-ops and focus mostly on horticultural education.

“The school’s greenhouse project would relieve the burden of training and education so we can mostly focus on production for local food security.”

“We’re not in competition with any of the stores or restaurants in town,” adds committee member and market gardener Mick Wilson. “What we want to do is provide fresh local food for them. So far the stores have indicated that they’d welcome more local supply.”

Capacity building for locals seeking more efficient ways of using their own greenhouses is another aspect of the project. The greenhouse could provide both bedding plants for local use as well as production areas for large volume buyers. A key priority is determining a suitable location for the community greenhouse; about a dozen sites have been considered so far.

“We have yet to find a site that meets all of our needs as well as those of the site owners,” says Mahr. “I think we can do a good job on this study and show that it is possible here, so we can move to the next step which is actually to start building it. We can find the site we can start with.”

Mahr says she gets a strong sense that local businesses are in favour of the greenhouse, both to extend the season and to provide fresh produce and avoid trucking so much produce in from California. The costs of such an operation will also be studied but at this point community support for the project is the key ingredient needed to proceed. Further benefit would be reducing our environmental footprint and reducing energy consumption. According to CBT Coordinator Linda Lefleur, community greenhouses have surpassed affordable housing as the most popular project choice in Basin communities.

“At this point we just need to find out what people’s needs are and what shape the project should take,” concludes Wilson.

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER
FOR TENDER
One 1990 John Deere 650 Tractor, 4 wheel drive, Roll Guard, with Model 60 – 16 inch mid mount mower, 1830 hours. Sold with Model 160 – 60 inch mid mount mower, 1830 hours. Sold to accept the proposal deemed most favourable in the interest of the Society

Highest or any bid not necessarily accepted.

Please submit sealed bids to:
Mayor and Council, Village of New Denver PO Box 40
New Denver, BC
V0G 1S0

Bids must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, 17 June, 2010. Highest or any bid not necessarily accepted.

SLOCAN LAKE STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY
The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society (SLSS) requests bids from interested Biologists to manage a Water Quality Monitoring Program for Slocan Lake in RDCK Area H-North. The project consists of near-shore and deep-water sampling, beginning 01 August and ending 15 October, 2010, with a final report and public presentation in November/December 2010.

QUALIFICATIONS
• Registered Professional Biologist of British Columbia (R.P.Bio)
• Field experience in aquatic or fresh water studies
• Experience in project and personnel management
• Required insurance and WCB coverage

MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
• With SLSS, recruit and train volunteers in sample collection techniques
• Ensure quality control of sampling techniques/methodology
• Assist timely delivery of samples to registered laboratories
• Oversee technician for sampling/data compilation
• Analyze data and prepare report, with peer review and agency feedback
• Present final report to SLSS; prepare media & public presentations

For further information contact Lane Haywood at <laneeliz@netidea.com> before 10 July 2010.

Mark correspondence: Water Quality Monitoring Program inquiry.

Written bids will be accepted until 4:30 pm, 17 July 2010. Send to: Slocan Lake Stewardship Society, Box 322 New Denver, BC V0G 1S0. Mark bid: Water Quality Monitoring Program

Only applicants to be interviewed will be contacted; all proposals not necessarily accepted. The SLSS reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to accept the proposal deemed most favourable in the interest of the Society and its mandate.

Celebrating Our Seniors project exhibits at Silvery Slocan Museum
by Art Joyce

In a measure that often seems youth obsessed, it’s all too easy to overlook the value of our older citizens. A recent photo-shooting of the photo-biography project Celebrating Our Seniors at the Silvery Slocan Museum in New Denver, which held its grand opening on July 10 from 2-4 pm, has made Harrop aware of the need to record peoples’ histories before they’re lost.

Although Harrop has profiled people of widely varying backgrounds, a common denominator that drew many here was mining. When some of the mines closed down, building became their occupation. But it was the beauty of the place that kept people here through thick and thin.

“For someone new to the area, there’s nothing like seeing the history of the village become apparent to Harrop as he documented locals who migrated here from Ireland, Italy, Germany, France, Spain and other countries, as well as those born locally.

The UN’s YIOP provided a list of objectives to help incorporate seniors into community life. Harrop felt his project fit the objectives of the theme, which include promoting understanding, harmony and support across generations; helping people understand that decisions made today affect their future; encouraging people to respond to an aging population in a rapidly changing world; recognizing contributions seniors have made to their families, community and their country; and furthering the development of products, technology and services for the elderly.

Harrop says he hopes younger people will carry on the project, since “I won’t last forever, obviously.”

The potential for the success of the village’s museum has come back. There’s a mystique about this place that draws people.

The potential for the success of the valley’s museum has come back. There’s a mystique about this place that draws people.

The potential for the success of the valley’s museum has come back. There’s a mystique about this place that draws people.

The potential for the success of the valley’s museum has come back. There’s a mystique about this place that draws people.

The potential for the success of the valley’s museum has come back. There’s a mystique about this place that draws people.
**Nakusp’s National Aboriginal Day celebration marks signing of historic agreement**

**by Jan McMurray**

The highlight of Nakusp’s Aboriginal Day celebration on June 20 was the historic signing of the Arrow Lakes Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement.

George Harding, School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) staff member who led the three-year process of developing the agreement, described it as “an agreement in principle saying we acknowledge the aboriginal students in School District 10 and we have a plan that will give the best possible education to these people and share their culture.”

Harding said that the parents and grandparents of the district’s aboriginal students made it very clear that they want this agreement to include all people – they want to see all students learning about aboriginal culture. “Our agreement might be different from others, because all students will benefit. The aboriginal curriculum and special presentations will be shared by all students,” he said.

The Arrow Lakes agreement has two goals: to enhance the aboriginal student’s sense of belonging and improve self-esteem; and to improve aboriginal student achievement. It was developed over three years by a committee consisting of interested parents of aboriginal students, Circle of Aboriginal Women and Friends, Nakusp and District Museum, community members and School District #10 staff.

About 50 students (about ten percent of all students) in the Arrow Lakes School District have aboriginal ancestry.

The preamble in the agreement states: “The school district falls within the traditional territory of the Sinixt Nation. The committee acknowledges this relationship with the Sinixt heritage as well as a commitment to embrace other aboriginal peoples since we have a diverse population of students with aboriginal ancestry.”

Marilyn James, spokesperson for the Sinixt Nation, spoke at the celebration. “For us Indian people, education has been a heartbreaking, abusive, horrid trauma. It has wounded our people at a very base level...to me, education has the biggest responsibility in fixing that,” she said. “This agreement is so important because it’s education that taught white people a bit of a skewed history. Now it’s education that must teach everyone the truth about being in this place together.”

The practical application of the agreement in the schools was most evident this year in MedWolf’s classroom at Nakusp Elementary School. Harding reported in an interview that programming next year will include aboriginal literature circles, aboriginal writers as part of the writers festival, a Stacon Lake pictograph project, field trips to Vallican, a First Nations 12 course, teacher lesson planning sessions and more.

People who signed the agreement at the celebration were Mayor Hamling, Mark Brunton (on behalf of the Food Bank), Giamikka Silverfox-Dunn (on behalf of the elders of the community), Superintendent Walter Posnikoff, Marilyn James, Board of Education Chair Pattie Adam, and George Harding. Minister of Education Margaret McDermid had already signed the document in Victoria.

**Burton Beach Daze a success**

**submitted by Jan McMurray**

Burton Beach Daze, an experimental adventure in community collaboration and volunteerism, was a great success. The weekend’s events began with the first annual Burton community relay race. The first leg was a 6.5-km bike race, followed by a 2.5-km foot race, followed by a 1.5-km canoe race. The winning team was dubbed the “Out-Of-Towners” since, although they work in Nakusp, all are from Nelson. The team’s official name is “Nakusp Initial Attack,” as all four are part of the Forestry Service’s firefighting detail. The team was presented with a small cash prize and a trophy. In a spontaneous gesture of generosity and community spirit, the winning team donated the cash purse back to the community.

Local band “Colin’s Oscopy” entertained with their own unique and enjoyable music. Other activities included bocce, horseshoes, volleyball and, of course the dunk tank. Some of the most popular dunk tank targets were Linda Golds, retiring Manager of Arrow Lakes Hospital, Lori Eger of McCormack Farm, and Paul Peterson, local RDCK representative.

A wonderful catered evening meal was provided by John, Carol and Jolene Moroz, along with their crew of assistants. Sunday’s activities were taken up mainly by the free fishing derby and volleyball tournament. The fishing derby was won by Paul Peterson and the volleyball champions were the team of Jerome Goodman, Isabel Bergeron, their daughter Adrielle, and Colin Cowl. Although the weather threatened on Sunday afternoon, the activities were not abandoned and the evening ended with a heartily enjoyed community potluck supper.

**Journeyman Tradesman - Carpenter**

The following description is meant to be informative as to the general duties and responsibilities expected of a journeyman tradesman.

**SUMMARY:**

Under the direction of the Maintenance/Custodial Working Foreman, is responsible for the construction, repairs and decorative work in schools and school district buildings, and for the construction and repair of furniture and structural equipment.

**DUTIES:**

- Constructs, renovates and repairs district equipment, furnishings, fixtures and removing or building walls, ceilings and doorways.
- Repairs and/or replaces windows, doors, mirrors, furniture, chairs, tables and desks.
- Builds and/or installs mounting boards, cupboards, book shelves, blackboards, door closures, locks and hardware, notice boards, tables and various holders.
- Applies paint and other liquid coatings to interior and exterior of district buildings, equipment, furnishings and fixtures.
- Sands and varnishes woodwork.
- Estimates cost of materials and timelines for completion of district projects.
- Maintain and use equipment such as table saw, hand saw, radial arm saw, planer, shaper, router, drill, ladder, scaffolding, etc.
- Operates district vehicles and equipment used in construction and painting.
- Performs other duties which can be considered reasonable and as assigned by the Maintenance/Custodial Working Foreman.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- BC or Interprovincial Carpenter trade certificate as recognized by ITA (Industry Training Authority).
- Valid BC Class 5 driver’s license.
- Completion of grade 12 or equivalent.
- Knowledge of building codes, restrictions, safety regulations.
- Ability to estimate costs of a project and materials.
- Experience in trade and/or other trades.

**RELATIONSHIP:**

- Responsible to the Maintenance/Custodial Working Foreman;
- Courteous and co-operative manner with students, other employees, and the general public.

This is a 40 hours per week position commencing as soon as possible. Actual hours of work will be in consultation with the Maintenance/Custodial Foreman. The salary for this position will be as per the Collective Agreement between the Board of School Trustees of School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 2450. All interested employees must apply in writing to the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer, School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes), Box 340, Nakusp, B.C., V0G 1R0 by 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 9, 2010.
Lammarato and Treschow exhibit at Silverton Gallery

by Art Joyce

For some artists, the best materials come in the most raw, natural forms. Nowhere is that more evident than in the current fascinating exhibition at the Silverton Gallery, Mad, Metal and More, featuring artists Giosi Lammarato and Willo Treschow. The show, which runs until July 9, includes paintings and jewellery by Lammarato and hand-built clay vessels and reliefs by Treschow. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday 10:30 am to 6 pm, with artists present each day.

Lammarato makes extensive use of natural materials, especially birch bark, woven into the paintings and frames seamlessly with the artwork. Her birch bark screen is reminiscent of native weaving techniques. Lammarato’s jewellery uses a fold forming technique using brass, copper and some gold leaf to create beautiful petal-adorned headdresses and other jewellery pieces. She says this technique allows the creation of forms that are themselves expressions of nature, “and once again a reminder that metal is liquid.”

Treschow utilizes a pottery technique that dates back some 5,000 years, forming her vessels with clay coils, gradually shaped into their final form by hand. Instead of glazes, she burnishes the surfaces with a smooth stone or piece of metal, sometimes using beeswax while still warm to seal the shine. The vessel is then finished with smoke firing and get to work. She sees her reliefs as a form of painting in clay, drawing on ancient themes. “In all of the mythologies that have come from as far back as we know,” says Treschow, “there are those threads of truth with a capital T that feeds our spirituality. It’s like a thread throughout the history of mankind.”

Other events to watch for at the gallery in coming weeks include the Great Canadian Dog Show, fast becoming a local Canada Day tradition; Crystal Bowls and Planet Gong performance by David Hickey on July 7; a Rails to Trails watercolours workshop with Donna Hicks from July 5-9, opening July 19 at 7 pm; and the Valhalla Fine Arts Society kids’ Theatre Camp from July 11-16. The gallery is available for events bookings as well.

For more information contact Michael Dorey at 250-358-7704. To book an event contact Sue Mistretta at 250-358-2167.

Interested in what anglers are catching?

The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society needs YOU! Volunteer for 2 hours/week (when you can) to help conduct the Slocan Lake Creel Survey.

Call Clarence for details - 358-7151

The space donated by PrimeTime Day Spa

Not every great photo gets published...

See our expanded photo Galleries on FaceBook

Sign up as a fan of the Valley Voice, today

CLICK
CHICK

The osprey chicks have hatched! Follow their progress at www.fwcp.ca

Osprey cam project in partnership with the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area

MADDEN TIMBERFRAMES

www.maddentimber.com

250 265 3316

On June 16, the Minister of State for Mining and the president and CEO of the Mining Association of BC came to Trout Lake to celebrate with employees of the MAX Molybdenum Mine. The mine in Trout Lake was honoured with a 2009 Mining and Sustainability Award, announced in Vancouver on April 1. Back row, L to R: Pierre Gratton (president and CEO of the Mining Association of BC), Lloyd Aitken, Bob Chambers (VP, Environment and Sustainability, ROCA), Robert Jomphe, Mark Sinclair; Randy Hawes (Minister of State for Mining), Al Linden (MAX Mine Manager), John Mirko, Crosby Coates; Ray Haszard (Galenia Construction), John Baker, Brian Mills, Paul Alberta.

Front row, L to R: Bob Bourdon, Scott Broughton (president and CEO of ROCA Mines Inc).

School District #10 staff appreciation day was held June 21. Front row, L to R: Deb Jones (30 years), Alice McKee (25 years), Susan Bampton (25 years), Jan Dion (10 years), Cheryl Jackins (20 years), Gertrud Klopp (20 years), Valerie Pierry-Wilson (retiree, 30+ years). Back row: Gerd Hogaboam (20 years), Henning von Krogh (retiree), Gary Groul (retiree).
Valhalla Film School screening honours Japanese community

by Art Joyce

“Memory is the mother of community,” wrote Vancouver poet Sandy Cameron, and it was a fitting slogan for the short films created in the Valhalla Film School June 5 and 6. About 80 people showed up for the screening of both student and adult works at Bosun Hall the evening of June 6. The New Denver Japanese community was honoured in the films.

West Wilson Creek Forest Service Road closed due to washout

by Jan McMurray

Another resource road in the area is closed due to a washout, blocking access to a private property, a small-scale salvage operation, and Spring Creek tenure.

West Wilson Creek Forest Service Road in Rosebery has been closed since late April when an old wooden culvert collapsed, causing about 3,000 cubic metres of sandy fill to wash downslope to Wilson Creek.

Staff from the Kootenay Lake Forest District office inspected the site on May 21 to assess the extent of the damage to the road, as well as the condition of the remainder of the road. A Ministry of Forests spokesperson explained that, typically, the users of resource roads are responsible for the maintenance and repair of those roads. The ministry spokesperson reported that staff has determined that the cost to fix the road is comparable to deactivating it, at approximately $10,000 to $20,000. The spokesperson said that no decision has been made; the ministry is working with road users on options for the road.

However, if the users of the road are not using it, they are required to maintain it to a lower standard, which does not guarantee access. Ralph Tomlin of Springer Creek Forest Products reported that the company has no plans in the near future to conduct operations in its Wilson Creek tenure. This leaves the immediate problem of fixing the road up to the private landowner and the salvage operator.

“The private landowner and the salvage operator have the option of being issued a road use permit to fix the road,” she said. “Or, the private landholder could obtain a licence of occupation from the Integrated Land Management Bureau and take over responsibility for maintaining the road and proceed with repairing the washout.”

When asked about a general province-wide plan for resource roads that are in need of maintenance, the spokesperson reiterated that the responsibility lies with the users of the roads. However, she said that the Ministry of Forests and Range spends approximately $20 million annually to maintain non-industrial forest service roads in BC to a wilderness standard. Two years ago, the ministry committed an additional $10 million over two years to upgrade several forest service roads in BC to a wilderness standard.

The daily ninety-minute workshops begin at 9 am and dancers can choose from only one workshop or several offered in two venues throughout the four days. The evening dances are open to the public and will be a chance to practice all other dance styles.

Friday evening is the polka-dot dress-up party and Saturday is a featured sit-down dinner.

The VFS boasted first-rate instructors, with Moira Simpson and Emily Carr College of Art and Design instructor Kayla Krause. The instructors screened examples of their own work after the student films. Lucifer school teacher Terry Taylor said the rationale for starting the film school is to bring high-quality artists to the valley to work both with students and adults, partly inspired by her work with the ViSTA theatre school program.

“Film is a perfect medium for students,” says Taylor. “It’s 21st century learning at its best — a powerful way to communicate ideas, to express creativity, to engender teamwork and collaboration.”

Longmuir currently runs the Our World project, an outreach film school for remote native communities in BC and the Yukon. Students create short digital films using themes and language from their own culture. She is also involved with the NFB initiative CitizenShift.org, a website for social justice films. Rose showed an instructional film called Animate Everything, showing kids how simple animation can be created. Simpson screened an excerpt of her film on the Kosovo UN mission to bring democratic elections into that country.

Register today for Slocan Lake Dance Camp

submitted

It may be a West Kootenay first — Slocan Lake Dance Camp. What is a Milonga? Two things: the name of a six-count dance step done to Argentine tango music, and the name of an actual tango dance event. This year the camp offers ten hours of Argentine Tango/Milonga instruction winding up with the Sunday Milonga of 90% Tango music.

Ricardo Pacheco will return to instruct the Argentine workshops after honing his own skills on a recent visit to Argentina which several locals also attended.

Long-time favourite instructor, Michael Weibe from the University of Calgary Dance Club, returns to the camp, along with Randy Tapp from Cranbrook, Sharon Sebo of Kelowna and local Fran Wallis. These instructors, armed with some exciting new material, will teach the other dance styles offered during nine daily workshops. The annual event starts Thursday, July 22 and runs through to July 25.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.

One of the results was a determination among students that such an event should never happen again. The words of Mrs. Paul Inose drove the point home: “It would be good if we could let children know how quickly freedom can be taken away.”

What really stands out for us is the hardships the Japanese community went through,” wrote Vancouver poet Art Joyce in the films.

Japanese community was honoured for the screening of both student and instructor workshops. The annual event starts in early August and runs through July 25 at the Slocan Lake Dance Camp.
Lucerne’s Class of 2010 graduation ceremonies
by Jan McMurray

Lucerne School’s graduation ceremonies took place on June 26 in the gym, which the Class of 2010 had transformed into a fairy tale setting. The theme, ‘Once upon a time,’ was evident in the elaborately painted backdrop of the stage.

Katrina Sumrall, this year’s grad advisor, welcomed everyone to the ceremonies. She then read a statement from Marilyn James, appointed spokesperson for the Sinixt Nation. This was the first time, ‘was evident in the elaborately painted backdrop of the stage.

Superintendent Walter Posnikoff brought greetings and congratulations from School District 10 Arrow Lakes. Board of Education Chair Pattie Adam asked the grads to look around the room and see the people who had helped shape who they are. “As this village has had the privilege and honour to raise the children of your village,” she said, “The way you influence your village will ultimately shape the world of tomorrow.”

A video presentation, put together by graduate Stephanie Reder, gave a personal glimpse into the lives of each grad. Trish Hawkins, former principal, was very sorry to have to miss the ceremony. Her introduction to the class history was read by Katrina Sumrall and included many of the fond memories she had of this class. Graduates Wade Nelson and Brandon Gustafson went through the history of the class, from kindergarten through to graduation.

Tisha Becker and Yuki Miwa, top academic students in the class, gave the Valedictory address. According to the class prophecy delivered by Emma Dahl and Dahv Reinhart, these students will certainly make a mark on the world. Tisha will become one of the greatest humanitarian workers ever; Kyle will be a famous inventor; Max will design one board for all seasons and thus invent ‘snadurfing’; Matthea will win the Nobel Prize for finding the cure to breast cancer; Jeremy will end up fleeing to the rainforest of Cambodia to become one with the animals; Brandon will create a prototype for cattle housing; Rylan will be the world’s best mountain biker; Yuki will play professional soccer and do Nike commercials; Chelsey will make millions as an esthetician using renewable resources such as bamboo and hemp; Stephanie will swim across the ocean with her dolphin to raise money to clean up the Louisiana oil spill; Wade earns the name ‘Magic Nelson’ when he breaks six NBA records; Rachael creates opportunities for youth as part of her career as an artist; Ryan makes gold chains and sells them to famous people such as 50 Cent; Emma becomes chief advisor to President Barak Obama; and Dahv finds an all natural cure to AIDS.

Marianne Vanish, who taught the class in grade 2, was the guest speaker. She said her favourite animal is the turtle because in order for the turtle to move, it has to stick its neck out. “You have met many challenges to get to where you are today, but darlings, they don’t stop, so instead of hiding in your shell, you have to stick your neck out and meet them,” she said. However, the part of her speech that she really wanted the graduates to remember was this: “Floss, brush, rinse – keep your teeth!”

Tisha Becker and Yuki Miwa gave acknowledgments and thanks to parents, staff, community members, Briana Ward, Scott Kipkie, Walter Posnikoff, Alex Atamanenko, Pattie Adam, Natasha Miles, Chiyouko Reitmeier, Marianne Vanish, Terry Taylor and Katrina Sumrall. They presented Sumrall with a mountain bike in thanks for her amazing job as grad advisor.

Diplomas were presented by Walter Posnikoff and Natasha Miles. In her final words, Natasha Miles told the graduates to remember what it was like to be a child, and to find time to laugh and giggle and enjoy the simple things in life. “I am reassured that you will, because you chose the ‘once upon a time’ theme,” she said. “Congratulations for your accomplishments and know that they lived happily ever after is all we want to say about you.”

Awards and scholarships were presented, as follows.

- **J. Greer Millennium Scholarship**: Ryan Pownall.
- **CUPE Local 2450 Joe Lee Scholarship**: Dahv Reinhart.
- **Eugene Hush Memorial Scholarship**: Rylan Bokstrom.
- **Valley Voice Scholarship**: Brandon Gustafson.

Awards: Citizenship Recognition Award, Brandon Gustafson; Edith J. Green Millennium Scholarship, Dahv Reinhart; Sandi Harris Scholarship, Tisha Becker; Chi Kamegya Memorial Scholarship, Chelsey Mellen; Kootenay Savings Credit Union Scholarship, Rylan Bokstrom; Alex Atamanenko Scholarship, Yuki Miwa; Andrea Mengler Memorial Scholarship, Chelsey Mellen; Lucerne Scholarship Society Special Awards, Kyle Bernhof, Max Bonazzo, Matthea Eales, Wade Nelson, Ryan Pownall; Lucerne School’s Achievement Award, Brandon Gustafson; Lucerne Scholarship Society Special Awards, Kyle Bernhof, Max Bonazzo, Matthea Eales, Wade Nelson, Ryan Pownall; Lucerne School’s Achievement Award, Brandon Gustafson; Lucerne School’s Achievement Award, Brandon Gustafson.

**Arrow Lakes Teachers Association Scholarship**, Yuki Miwa.

**Cinta Batik Arts Scholarship**, Rachael Hodsall.

**Columbia Basin Trust Youth Community Service Award**, Brandon Gustafson.

**Columbia Power Corporation Bursary**, Rylan Bokstrom, Brandon Gustafson, Yuki Miwa.

**Goat Mountain School Scholarship**, Yuki Miwa.

**Grad Bursary**, Tisha Becker.

**J. Stan Rowe Award**, Matthea Eales.

**Katrine Conroy ML.A Bursary**, Chelsey Mellen.

**Kootenay Savings Credit Union Scholarship**, Rylan Bokstrom.

**Lucerne Scholarship Society Awards**: Citizenship Recognition Award, Brandon Gustafson; Edith J. Green Millennium Scholarship, Dahv Reinhart; Sandi Harris Scholarship, Tisha Becker; Chi Kamegya Memorial Scholarship, Chelsey Mellen; Kootenay Savings Credit Union Scholarship, Rylan Bokstrom, Rachael Hodsall; Lucerne High School Students 1959-65 Reunion Bursary, Emma Dahl, Matthea Eales, Stephanie Reder; Lucerne Scholarship Society Special Awards, Kyle Bernhof, Max Bonazzo, Matthea Eales, Wade Nelson, Ryan Pownall.

**Lac Bouchier Teachers and Principals Attitude and Achievement Award**, Brandon Gustafson.

**New Denver Women’s Institute Scholarship**, Stephanie Reder.


**School District #10 Dogwood District Authority Award**, Brandon Gustafson.

**Soup du Jar Award for Individuality and Entrepreneurial Spirit**, Ryan Pownall.

**Stocan Lake Early Learning Bursary**, Rachael Hodsall, Chelsey Mellen.

**UBC Okanagan President’s Entrance Award**, Tisha Becker.

**Yellowhead Road and Bridge Scholarship**, Tisha Becker.
Lucerne Secondary Valedictory Address

By Tisha Becker and Yuki Miwa

We know life is not a fairy tale and ‘happily ever after’ is not something easily achieved. But every single person in this class has the ability to be great and do great things. We know that no matter what goals you envision or what aspirations you dream of, if you set your minds to it, you will accomplish anything. Nothing is impossible.

Today is a turning point in all of our lives. The past years we have learned, laughed, and grown up together. We have made unforgettable memories and life lasting friendships. Although our school may be small, there are so many qualities that make it special.

Our small class sizes may seem like a disadvantage at first, but in truth it is quite the contrary. We have learned to work together and accept everyone for who they are. Everyone in this class has distinctive ideas and values but we discovered that we were able to put our differences aside and put together this amazing graduation ceremony. Everyone sitting here on stage helped make this possible, by contributing in their own way.

Another great aspect of this school is the many unique activities offered. Spring and Fall into Learning is a program that only exists at Lucerne. Students get to participate in a weeklong learning experience from a wide variety of choices. The activities include rock climbing, canoeing, website design, and trips to Vancouver. It creates a unique environment for learning outside the classroom.

Since the school consists of students who range from Kindergarten to Grade 12, much more responsibility and maturity is required. This is exemplified in school-wide fitness where four teams from all ages must work together to compete a multitude of exciting sports. Everyone is required to work together with one another regardless of age.

The important lessons we have learned during our time at Lucerne will serve us well as we go our separate ways. But today is not only about the past; it is about looking forward into the future as well. We face now thousands of doors of opportunity. We will meet new people, make new friends, and learn new things. We will become more experienced, responsible, and independent. And although the future may seem frightening now, looming over us like a dark thundercloud, we must remember that it is just a light spring rain that brings the tidings of a rainbow. So let us face all of life’s challenges head on without fear, self doubt, or prejudice. Don’t look back, and regret, look forward, and smile for our future has just begun.

We would like to leave you with this poem by Marianne Williamson:

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.
We ask ourselves, who am I to be—brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?
Actually who are we not to be?
Your playing small doesn’t serve the world.
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won’t feel insecure around you.
We are all meant to shine as children do.
It’s not just in some of us; it’s in everyone.
And when we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.

As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

Congratulations to the Lucerne Graduates of 2010

Ann’s Natural Foods
Kildare St. • New Denver

Congratulations 2010 Graduates!

On behalf of the Board and staff at Columbia Basin Trust,
we wish the graduates of 2010 every success in your future endeavours.
CBBT would also like to congratulate the recipients of CBBT’s Youth Community Service Award. Recipients will receive $2,000 toward their first year of post-secondary education or training for exemplary volunteer service in their community.

Learn more about CBBT, visit www.cbbt.org.

www.cbbt.org • 1.800.505.8998

Yuki Miwa and Tisha Becker were the 2010 Lucerne Valedictorians.
Congratulations to all Kootenay grads from Edgewood to Creston

To the Lucerne Graduates
I congratulate you and I Thank You!
I thank you for being such an amazing group of students.
It was an honor and a pleasure to be your grad advisor.
I truly enjoyed working with each one of you.
Your gift continues to have me overwhelmed.
I love you all.
– Katrina
Kaslo grads clean up with scholarships and bursaries

by Art Joyce

At the JV Humphries graduation ceremonies June 25, School District #8 trustee Dawn Lang summed it up for the students when she said, “Always know that the answers are out there and are available. Don’t be afraid to ask questions and find answers.” Judging by the number of scholarships and bursaries awarded, this graduating class has already acquired this healthy attitude. Lang urged the grads to leave high school with a sense of responsibility to their communities, be adaptable, and become strong community contributors with a sense of responsibility to their communities.

The range of occupations the grads plan to pursue include physiotherapy, kinesiology, geology, sciences, aeronautics, early childhood education, business, community service, music and the arts. And with the high costs of post-secondary tuition these days, furthering that education is not cheap. Fortunately the community has stepped in with generous support for its budding scholars, with over $20,000 in scholarships.

Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society, $250 each, Rebecca Haegedorn, Joe Lee.
Kaslo and District Community Forest Society, $500, Sam Thibault.
Skeagheath Leathwood/Kathy Wynnychuck scholarship, $400, Joe Lee.
Nelson Rotary Club, $500, Morgan Humphries.
Kaslo Afterburners Hockey Club, $500 each, Liam Mitchell, Carli Settle.
JVH Parent Advisory Committee, $300, Sam Thibault.
St. Marks Anglican Church, $100, Laura Conrad.
Trades Scholarship, Kaslo Community Forest, $500, Dustan Tyers.
Village of Kaslo, $400, Harmony Ellert-Maeser.
Alan Hoshizaki Memorial, $250 each, Andrea Lake, Forest McKeating.
Aya Higashi/John McNabb scholarship, $250 each, Chelsea McDonald, Shara Orr.
Barry Butler Memorial, $1000, Morgan Humphries.
Columbia Power Corporation, $500, Ernie Gare scholarship.
Dallas Benwell Memorial, $100, Mackenzie Humphries.
Dinosaur Hockey Club, $300, Spencer Davie.
Dogwood District/Authority, $1000 each, Shane Abbey, Rebecca Haegedorn.
Farmer’s Institute, $500, Kristal Tyers.
Geoffrey and Stuart Sinclair Memorial Scholarship, $500 each, Devon Leathwood, Andrea Lake.

Edie Allen scholarship, $200, Andrea Lake.
Howard Green Memorial Scholarship, $1000 each, Shane Abbey, Spencer Davie, Rebecca Haegedorn, Danica Semenoff.
Hewat Baker Mattes scholarship, $600, Cam Settle.
Inter-church council, $200, Liam Mitchell.
Jack McDowell Memorial, $400, Laura Conrad.
JV Humphries, $1000, Ernie Gare scholarship.
Kootenay Lake Teacher’s Association, $500 each, Mackenzie Humphries, Forest McKeating.
Kootenay Lake Principals and Vice Principals Association, $250 each, Morgan Humphries, Devon Leathwood.

Kootenay Savings and Credit Union, $750, Robin Klassen.
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #74 Ladies Auxiliary, $200, Sydney Smith-Brinkman.
Kootenay Association for Science and Technology, $250, TJ Thom.
Fortis BC, $500, TJ Thom.
Kaslo Golf Club, $250 each, Shane Abbey, Shara Orr.
Selkirk College Entrance scholarship, $1,500, Cam Settle.
Columbia Basin Trust Community Service, $2000 each, Rebecca Haegedorn, Mackenzie Humphries.
Aboriginal Education, $500, Hayley Walker.
Ernie Gare scholarship, $750, Spencer Davie; $500, Mackenzie Humphries; $500, Morgan Humphries.
Mckinnon Family Fund, $1037.75, Shane Abbey.
JV Humphries Grad 2010 Valedictory address

Forest McKeating and Rebecca Haegedorn

For weeks now, this has been the mood of the day before graduation. It’s a time of excitement, pride, and reflection. As we look back on our four years of high school, we realize how much we have learned and grown.

Becca: In this conversation we had some years ago, I asked you about a conversation we had some years ago. We were young, small, and innocent. We were all looking forward to the future, to the adventures that were waiting for us. We had dreams and aspirations, and we were eager to make them a reality.

For many of the grads, the J.V. Humphries graduating class of 2010 was a stepping stone to the next phase of their lives. They were leaving behind the familiar and stepping into the unknown. They were ready to take on new challenges and embrace new opportunities.

Miles has kindly asked me to point out the emergency exits which are to the left and right of the building. We also have a small community that I can look around this room and see so many familiar faces. The faces of people that over the past 18 years we have become very close to, so close that we have in theory written we will tell you about a conversation we had some years ago.

Forest: On that day many years ago as Becca and I discussed graduation, the first major milestone in the path to our inevitable success, we thought we may need to cry. But for some reason I have no urge to shed a tear, happy or sad. Partially because I know if I do, Spencer would never let me live it down. But a more legitimate reason for my lack of tears would be this, and I can’t express it better than Dr. Suess, who said before me, “Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.” And when I read this quote while preparing for this speech I felt kind of selfish to think that I would cry tonight while we stand in front of you all. When I look back on all the memories we as a class have made over the years, I should be smiling for the rest of the summer, maybe longer if I wasn’t going to university in the fall. These memories are more important to me than anything I’ve had over the past twelve years, more important than this cap and gown and this—whatever this is. But no matter how great these memories are for all of us in the years of our lives. That is a struggle, and it doesn’t mean that we are not capable of standing tall and proud. I would like to thank my fellow graduates for giving me the opportunity to speak tonight and wish you all good luck, for all we may complain about our education here, it is our strong roots in the Kootenays that will keep us standing tall and proud. I would like to thank my fellow graduates for giving me the opportunity to speak tonight and wish you all good luck.

J.V. Humphries Grad 2010 Valedictory address
Moving forward on rural library service

submitted

Two key decisions were recently made that will help determine the future of library services for rural communities surrounding Nelson.

At its June 24 meeting, the RDCK board of directors approved draft bylaws that move residents of Electoral Areas E, F and South H one step closer to voting in referenda on library services. Three separate referenda are proposed with each Electoral Area making its own decision. If the bylaws are approved by the provincial government, then in October 2010 residents will vote on whether to contribute $10.30 per $100,000 of property assessment for library services. For example, someone who owns a home valued at $300,000 would pay $30.90.

If the referenda pass, the Nelson library will receive stable funding that will enable it to address the needs of rural communities, which were identified during the recent community consultation process and are as follows.

- Residents will no longer have to purchase a membership to the library.
- All residents will have equal access to library services.
- Satellite service will be offered in the Slocan Valley and up Kootenay Lake. There will be improved hours and service at the Nelson Library location and an improved and expanded collection of materials to use and borrow.
- There will be shut-in service for rural people who can not leave their homes. If all three Electoral Areas pass their referendum, their membership fees will also have to increase to more closely reflect the true cost of delivering the existing services.

During the community consultation process, the library sought input from residents on a proposal to increase fees to $90 per person with no discounts for seniors or families. Residents expressed concern that a family of four would face a $360 bill for library membership. It would also be difficult to ensure that a family would not simply purchase one membership and use it for everyone. As a result, the library board decided that any rural area that does not contribute to the library through local taxation, then as of January 2011 the cost of a library membership will increase to $120 for one or more members of a family residing in single household.

“We want to ensure residents have all the information they need to make an informed decision, including the difficult decisions we must implement should any of the referenda fail,” explained Dianne Harke, chair of the library board.

One Book One Kootenay gears up for second year

submitted

Imagine a program that promotes the joy of reading, celebrates the writers living in the Kootenay Boundary, and provides a chance to discuss a great book and its themes.

There is such a program, in its second year of connecting people through the literary arts, and it is pure Water.

The Kootenay Library Federation, representing 19 libraries in the East and West Kootenays and Boundary area, selected Angie Abdou’s The Bone Cage for its inaugural year. The One Book One Kootenay 2010 shortlist includes Blue Valley by Joanne Richards, KLF Director. “The Federation represents libraries and their readers from Sparwood to Midway, from Nakusp to Creston, and everything in between. When we select a book, one of our wonderful local writers, we create a region-wide book club.”

On September 8, Book One Kootenay announces its selected author and book. In October, Canadian Library Month, the writer visits host communities giving readings and talks. The short-listed books are available at all participating libraries, and readers can check them out, feature them in their own book clubs, join online discussions, meet the author, or simply enjoy the quiet pleasure of reading a locally written book.

Pure Water relief worker Marie-Paule Brisson had a severe head injury from falling debris and lost half her ear. Brisson’s medical supplies ran out and potable water filters were set up on day four after the quake. As treatment at a Belgian field hospital was critical, and with financial assistance from the increasing shortage of water from any source.

As the water shortage became more critical, and with financial assistance from Save the Children, Pure Water organized trucking of water mainly into Cité Soleil, an infamous shanty-town in Port au Prince. Now 400,000 liters per day are being delivered, enough for 80,000 people at the rate of five litres per person. With typhoid fever, cholera and other diseases a growing threat, they also recruited local teachers to promote hygiene and safe water practices for over 20,000 people. During the rainy season in the poorest areas next to the sea, thousands of people live in muddy, contaminated water to their ankles or higher. On the streets you can on any day buy baked patties made of salt, flour, water and mad – pancakes to soothe the hunger pangs of the poor.

Haiti was self-sufficient in food until massive US food dumping into Haiti in the 1990s drove people off the land. Bernard Aristide, elected president by large majorities in 1990 and 2000, was deposed by coups in 1991 and 2004. The 2004 coup was orchestrated by the US and France and was, unfortunately, actively supported by Canada. The Haitian people deserve better.

Pure Water for the World Haiti supports basic development. It is reviving the schools’ hygiene promotion and water filtration programs using bio-sand filters built in Haiti. Here in the Kootenays $50,000 was raised to aid the earthquake relief effort thanks to the generosity of many Kootenay residents and to Rick Valentine who organized donations through the Argenta Society of Friends (Quakers) to Pure Water for the World (Haiti) and for a discretionary fund. The funds donated to Pure Water will be used to restore a water distribution centre in Cité Soleil that was damaged by UN troops in 2005, to repair wells in Cité Soleil, and to launch rainwater collection. Discretionary funds have been used to support rehabilitation for amputees, to buy a sewing machine for a street tailor who lost everything and for the quake and for tuition for school students (most schools are private and charge fees).

To support the work of Pure Water contact Rick Valentine at 250-366-4325 or rikva@diract.ca.

Nakusp Public Library - Requests Donations

- for 11th Annual Silent Auction

Donations gratefully accepted at library

Bidding Opens, Monday, July 26th (During Library Hours)

Bids Close 4 pm, Saturday, August 7th

ALSO

In conjunction with the Silent Auction, August 7th will be the: Bodaciously Big Book and Bake Bazaar

Date: August 7th

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Place: Nakusp Public Library

Sumptuous Food, Great Books

50/50 Tickets Available

Come join us August 7th at the library for this wonderful annual event!

Pure Water volunteers help in aftermath of Haiti earthquake

submitted by Dave Patū

What would you do in a major earthquake? It’s a question most will never have to answer. But for three Nelsonites doing volunteer work in Port au Prince on 4:33 pm January 12, the question proved miserable and horrific.

Nelson residents Marie-Paule Brisson, Sebastien DeMarre and Dave Patū have just returned from work in Haiti with the non-profit organization, Pure Water relief worker Marie-Paule Brisson of Nelson with Rose and Naika (right) in Haiti. Rose had a severe head injury from falling debris and lost half her ear. Brisson probably saved her life by arresting an infection which had just started into her brain.

Pure Water relief worker Marie-Paule Brisson of Nelson with Rose and Naika (right) in Haiti. Rose had a severe head injury from falling debris and lost half her ear. Brisson probably saved her life by arresting an infection which had just started into her brain.

The 2004 coup was orchestrated by the US and France and was, unfortunately, actively supported by Canada. The Haitian people deserve better.

Pure Water for the World Haiti supports basic development. It is reviving the schools’ hygiene promotion and water filtration programs using bio-sand filters built in Haiti. Here in the Kootenays $50,000 was raised to aid the earthquake relief effort thanks to the generosity of many Kootenay residents and to Rick Valentine who organized donations through the Argenta Society of Friends (Quakers) to Pure Water for the World (Haiti) and for a discretionary fund. The funds donated to Pure Water will be used to restore a water distribution centre in Cité Soleil that was damaged by UN troops in 2005, to repair wells in Cité Soleil, and to launch rainwater collection. Discretionary funds have been used to support rehabilitation for amputees, to buy a sewing machine for a street tailor who lost everything and for the quake and for tuition for school students (most schools are private and charge fees).

To support the work of Pure Water contact Rick Valentine at 250-366-4325 or rikva@diract.ca.

Nakusp Public Library - Requests Donations

for 11th Annual Silent Auction

Donations gratefully accepted at library

Bidding Opens, Monday, July 26th (During Library Hours)

Bids Close 4 pm, Saturday, August 7th

ALSO

In conjunction with the Silent Auction, August 7th will be the: Bodaciously Big Book and Bake Bazaar

Date: August 7th

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Place: Nakusp Public Library

Sumptuous Food, Great Books

50/50 Tickets Available

Come join us August 7th at the library for this wonderful annual event!
Happy to have received an invitation to come back again next year.

“This community is wonderful – the parents and kids are wonderful,” he said. “These are the most environmentally aware kids I have ever seen.”

MedWolf started his cultural sharing program in the Battlefords, and has taken it far and wide. He has worked with youth in youth centres, schools and a survival camp.

When Gunishka Silverfox-Dunn, a First Nations elder living in Nakusp, learned about MedWolf and his program in 2008, she invited him to Nakusp and introduced him to schools principal George Harding. Both Silverfox-Dunn and Harding are members of the council that developed the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement for the Arrow Lakes School District.

“MedWolf was invited to offer lessons to the schools because his cultural sharing program is closely aligned with the objectives of the Enhancement Agreement. We wanted to share aboriginal culture with all our students, and his program has a successful track record,” said Harding.

MedWolf’s classroom is a fascinating place, with an elaborate ‘Little Peoples’ Village,’ and displays of fur from several animals and medicinal plants he has gathered in the Nakusp area. He has also found some ancient Sinixt tools near Burton and has them on display in his room.

On June 23, I joined a grade 2 class that was visiting his classroom. The kids sat in a circle with Medwolf while he prepared a smudge with the four sacred medicines – sage, sweetgrass, cedar and tobacco. He

Unlike last year, the black bears are everywhere so let’s all continue to work together to proactively minimize conflicts and work out a better coexistence.

Columbia Basin Trust board comes to Nakusp

The Columbia Basin Trust board held a public session in Nakusp on June 4.

Mayor Hamling, Jisper Nielsen of NACFOR (community forest) and Mark Brunton of Arrow and Slocan Lake Community Services made presentations that showed how much the Trust has helped the community in recent years. Nielsen and Brunton also let the board know where help is needed.

Nielsen suggested that reducing the risk of wildfire through fuel management was an area where the Trust could play a role. He indicated that help would be appreciated in getting projects off the ground operationally, and/or in educating the public about firemanaging their properties. He said the single most effective thing property owners could do was to install roof sprinklers.

Brunton’s suggestions for areas where CBT could help included continued capacity building for non profit organizations, leadership training, technology development, food security and affordable housing.

Laurie Page, local resident, asked if the board was considering investing in alternative energy. Board chair Garry Meckel said this was on the agenda for their meeting the next day.

Mayor Hamling thanked the board for contributing $290,000 to the Emergency Services building. “It made a big difference as to whether or not the project would be done – we were passed it around so the kids could experience a smudge ceremony.

He also spoke about animals, saying that animals had taught his people everything they know. He spoke to the students about nature, personal experience learning from a rabbit, and then asked the kids to share their animal stories.

“This cultural sharing program has been received with genuine enthusiasm by the students,” says Harding. They are proud of the tomahawks or rattles they have made as well as learning about survival and how to make fire.”

Although MedWolf’s program is aboriginal based, Harding says it very much honours all cultures. “MedWolf’s program has opened up the door to acknowledging that we all have stories and culture to share and that we are more the same than different. This fits in so well with the goals of our Enhancement Agreement – to celebrate diversity and cultural sharing with all students. We have so much to learn from one another,” said Harding.

The Arrow Lakes School District is able to host MedWolf, thanks to the Ministry of Education’s targeted funding for delivering programming to students of aboriginal ancestry.

For more information, contact: Upper Slocan/Nakusp - Daniel Sherrod or Erica Mallam 250-358-2333; Lower Slocan Valley - Evelyn Kirkaldy 250-359-6611.
VISITOR INFORMATION

**GOLF COURSES**

**Slocan Lake Golf Course**
New Denver Phone: (250) 358-2448
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE: OPEN 7 AM TO Dusk
GREEN FEES: $21.00 + Holes, 133.50+ Holes, Day Pass $47.25, Weekly Rate: $204.75
RENTALS: Clubs and pull carts available.
Power Carts: 312.00/Hour, 331.00/Full Day. All prices include tax.
9TH HOLE RESTAURANT: Tues., Wed., and Fri. to Sun., 10:00 am-8:00 pm
Closed Mondays and Thursdays. Restaurant (250) 358-2443
2010 TOURNAMENTS:
- New Husband & Wife: June 13 Everyone Welcome.
- Nakusp Golf Club Phone/Fax: (250) 265-4531
  9-HOLES IN THE CUBES, RATES IN EFFECT 7 DAYS A WEEK.
- Green Fees: Adults $25.00, seniors $15.00, juniors $6.00, 16 Hole Card $15.00.
- Weekends, 18 hole rates available.
- Annual Memberships for Seniors and Juniors.
- Bistro at the Greens: Fully licensed restaurant. Phone: (250) 265-3585
- Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
- Ladies’ nights: Tuesdays 4:00-6:00 PM. Guests welcome.
- Men’s nights: Thursdays 4:00-6:00 PM. Guests welcome.

**Valley View Golf Course**
Phone/Fax: (250) 226-7241
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE AND RESTAURANT. OPEN 8 AM-8 PM.
GREEN FEES: $20.00/9 holes, $37.50/18 holes, juniors $10.00 holes
RENTALS: power cart, pull cart, rental clubs.
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
- Monday Seniors Night - 25% off non-members with club play.
- Monday Juniors Night - 50% includes golf, free pops, prizes and parents golf free.
- Tuesday – half price for ALL DIV.
- Wednesday Ladies Night – 25% off non-members with club play.
- Fridays – 2 for 1 after 2 pm and wing right.

**HOT SPRINGS**

**Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa**
1-888-689-4699 (250) 265-3554 Fax: (250) 265-3887
www.halcyon-hot springs.com e-mail: info@halcyon-hot springs.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 view from the Kootenay Restaurant and Lounge. Pamper yourself at the Spa at Halcyon’s Outdoor adventure from your doorstep.

**Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort**
www.hotnaturally.com
1-800-668-1171 (250) 229-4212
Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort has a large outdoor hot spring, a spa, restaurant, shop, and open area for picnicking.

**WING CREEK RESORT**
250-354-2475
www.wingcreekeresort.com
Experience this unique waterfront resort offering ownership opportunities, vacation rentals and the Family-Friendly Spa. Relax in your luxury cedar cabin, enjoy your cozy woodburning fireplace, revel in the scenic splendor of Kootenay Lake, surrounded by soaring mountains. Twenty acres of orchard, gardens, trails, streams and beautiful private beach. Adults.

**MUSEUMS**

**Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre**
(250) 356-7920
www.sandomalke.com/sandon
Open 10:00 to 5:00. Located 13 km east of New Denver. Hwy. 3A in historic silver mining ghost town. Collections of stunning photographs and fascinating artifacts including the famous “Two-story mouse trap.” Admission (Cash only): $6.00, seniors (55) and students (18) $5.00.

**Nikkel Internment Memorial Centre**
(250) 358-7288
The only historic site in Canada dedicated to telling the WWI internment story. Located in The Orchard in New Denver. Open 7 days a week 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Siyelvo Slocan Museum**
(250) 358-2201
The old Bank of Montreal building at the foot of New Denver’s main street, restored circa 1900. Special tours welcome. Please call 358-2201 or 358-2656 for further information. Have a nice visit.

**GALLERIES**

**Studio Connection** (250) 265-8888 203 5th Avenue NW, Nakusp
Art exhibits from May to September in this charming gallery in downtown Nakusp. Local youth artists. Open Tuesday from June 18 to August followed by Rooster paint. Summer hours: Tuesday to Friday 10 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Hidden Garden Gallery** (250) 358-2297 www.silverlake.ca hiddenart
Tenth anniversary year celebration shows June through Sun. 10 AM to 6:00 PM.

**GALLERIES**

**Footsteps Eco Adventures** (250) 505-4277 www.footstepssecondadventures.com
Footsteps is dedicated to creating inspiring adventures that get you out exploring the Kootenays while introducing you to the region and diverse culture and ecosystems of the area. Tours include adventure hiking, mountain bike tours, canoeing, camping excursions, customized tours and more. Family trips and all-inclusive adventures are available.

**Cody Caves Provincial Park** (250) 505-2592 www.codycaves.net
Cody Caves Provincial Park is open daily from June 26 – Sept. 6, 11 AM to 4:00 PM. Guided tours in this red-cave, limestone cave are appropriate for ages 3 and up. The cave features a flowing stream and watertoll stalactites, soda straws and other calcite formations unique to the underground. Enjoy a safe, fun, family adventure.

**Kaslo Municipal Campground** (250) 352-2662 www.kaslo.ca
kaslocampground@yahoo.ca
May 1 - Sept. 30. Serviced sites ($18) Water and power hook-ups, fire pits, picnic tables, recycling and hot showers. Downtown location, close to park, beach, playground, 55 Movie in centrefre and great shopping! Pets on leash welcome.

**Centennial Campground**
On the lake in New Denver, 44 sites, 90 with electricity & water hook-up, sawd dust, showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

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

**Silverton Municipal Campground** (250) 356-2472
Situated on Slocan Lake at Lewrie & Turner Streets. Lakeshore and Crested Tern and Beaver Camp Trail. Fire pits and firewood. New hot water washrooms.

**Three Islands Resort Campground** (250) 265-2023 45 sites, full/semi hook-ups, tenting, boat launch, paddle boats & canoes, pets welcome, children’s playground, firewood, fishing, hiking trails, confectionary, rest station, laundry facilities, large BBQs with 88Q pits.

**VALHALLA RIVERSIDES (250) 226-7771 www.hellovalhalla.com**
The clean, green Slocan River is your front yard at these view condos in Pensecore, gateway to Valhalla Provincial Park. Recently built for your pleasure, these lovely condos have well-equipped kitchens, delightful living and sleeping areas, riverside patio, BBQ, wifi, satellite tv, and hot tub by the river. Enjoy the mountains, the wildlife, the river, and the freshest air on earth from your home here at Valhalla, wheelchair/rider access.

**KASLO HOTEL & BREW PUB**
(250) 354-7114 www.kaslohotel.com
Front Street, Kaslo. New Uplift. Enjoy luxury guest rooms and vacation rentals, all with 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, great shops, museums, Kaslo Hotel & Brew Pub...where you want to be.

**KASLO HOTEL & BREW PUB**
(250) 354-7777 www.kaslohotel.com
Front Street, Kaslo. New Uplift. Enjoy luxury guest rooms and vacation rentals, all with 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, great shops, museums, Kaslo Hotel & Brew Pub...where you want to be.

**WING CREEK RESORT**
(250) 354-2475
www.wingcreekeresort.com
Experience this unique waterfront resort offering ownership opportunities, vacation rentals and the Family-Friendly Spa. Relax in your luxury cedar cabin, enjoy your cozy woodburning fireplace, revel in the scenic splendor of Kootenay Lake, surrounded by soaring mountains. Twenty acres of orchard, gardens, trails, streams and beautiful private beach. Adults.
Kaslo council, June 22: ‘Suffer Fest’ races being planned

by Jan McMurray

• Janis Lapimaki, co-owner of the Kootenay Mountain Sports store, attended to speak about a day of sporting events she is organizing for October 3. The day is called ‘Suffer Fest’ and events include a trail run, a mountain bike race and a kids’ race (bike or run).

The trail run will happen on the True Blue Trail and finish on Front Street. The bike race will go up logging roads and down the Monster Trail. The kids’ race will take place on the River Trail. After the races, there will be a luncheon and awards presentation at Front Street Park. She said the day would serve to showcase the trails, to give local people an opportunity to train, and to bring people to Kaslo during the shoulder season.

Lapimaki asked council that

Railroad Avenue and 5th Street and part of Front Street be closed, that a banner across Front Street be permitted, that Front Street park rental fees be waived, that the Village provide cones, fencing and barricades and that the Kaslo River Trail be closed to pedestrians. Her requests were referred to Development Services.

• School District No. 8, in partnership with the Village, has applied for a $10,000 grant to create a Kaslo Preschoolers’ Playpace at the school, adjacent to the Strong Start and Family Centre classroom.

• The RCMP will temporarily move into the Kemball Memorial Centre (KMC) as of August 1, while the RCMP detachment is being torn down and rebuilt. They will occupy KMC Units 101, 102, 105, 105A and the vault, and will pay monthly rental fees of $2,401.99 plus taxes.

• Minutes of the June 8 Liquid Waste Management Select Committee were received. Dennis Jensen was appointed as chair and Mel Bryce as recording secretary. Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of every month at 4:30 pm in council chambers. A recommendation from the committee to amend the sewer specified area to add the RCMP property was defeated. Councillors Ferris and Cormie feel that this issue needs more discussion, and perhaps a “better solution” can be found that works for the whole town.

• The feasibility of adding Kaslo campground to the specified sewer area was referred to the Liquid Waste Management Select Committee.

• Council received a copy of a letter from the Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society to the Nelson Health Unit, advising them of two large events for Kaslo on the same weekend. Council supports the society’s position and will contact the IHA and the RCMP. Also, the Village will ask the RDCK to investigate the requirements for “mass gatherings” on private property within the regional district, and provide the information to all organizers of mass gatherings.

• A letter was received from Peter Bryce and Pamela Griffin regarding the presentation by Bernie Penner of Kaslo Bay Estates at the Development Services Select Committee.

• The RCMP is moving to the Kemball Memorial Centre grounds in celebration of the anniversary of the Kaslo’s incorporation. Permission was granted.

• Andy Pritchard was engaged to repaint the A Avenue firehall (thrill site) for a total cost of $3,500.

• A quote submitted by TRUE Consulting Group for $19,200 reservoir line replacement engineering services was accepted.

• Permission was granted to the Kokanee and Gerrard trout post record runs this year submitted.

The kokanee population in Kootenay Lake for 2009 has set a record, calculated at approximately 48 million fish, not including spawners. The second highest count was 35 million fish and in 1960. The positive impacts did not end there, with solid numbers recorded for all levels of the lake’s food web, including the mighty Gerrard trout.

“For the indicators that we are seeing sufficient food at all levels in the ecosystem,” says Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) crew lead John Kerrs from BC Hydro. “With kokanee numbers and measurements of the zooplankton biomass both high we can expect good survival rates for the kokanee, as well as sufficient food for the larger fish species.”

Larger fish species like the Gerrards have certainly benefited from the well-stocked food cupboard, as shown by the 2010 run to the main spawning area of 725 on April 27 was the highest record runs this year in Kootenay Lake. Helping Hand Trust for its request for support in getting suitable moorage

Kokanee and Gerrard rainbow trout this year in Kootenay Lake. This 14-pound trout was caught and released in May.

KOKANEE & GERRARD TROUT POST

NEW LOCATION!

400 Front Street, Kaslo
(formerly The Family Place)

250-353-9688

The Fish and Wildlife Compensation program reports a record number of Kokanee and Gerrard rainbow trout this year in Kootenay Lake. This 14-pound trout was caught and released in May.

Why is the lake so productive?

A significant reason is likely the success of the Nutrient Restoration Program (NRP). The liquid blend of nitrogen and phosphorous added to the water’s surface during the four summer months is filtering up through the bottom. The two NRP’s reflect a cross-border, multi-agency partnership, jointly coordinated by the FWCP and the Ministry of Environment. The nutrient additions began in the North Arm, with funding from BC Hydro, in 1992, and in the South Arm, increasing nutrients by about 45 percent in 2004. The South Arm restoration effort is funded by the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho and Bonneville Power Administration through the Northwest Power and Conservation Council’s Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

The FWCP is a joint partnership of BC Hydro, the Ministry of Environment (MOE) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife affected by the construction of BC Hydro dams.
Galén Feld, Tsuneko Kokubo (Koko) and Nadine Stefan present their upcoming exhibit of painting and mixed media works titled Terra: ode to earth, at the Hidden Garden Gallery July 6-18. They will celebrate their opening reception on Friday, July 9 at 7:30 with the music of Osmosis.

The three working artists have been acquainted for many years living in New Denver, have shown together on a number of occasions and decided to team up for the Hidden Garden Gallery’s 10th anniversary celebration. A common thread does run through their work – not surprising considering the singularly rich place that they create their art in. Terra will provide a platform for these artist’s three distinct voices, as they pay homage, utilize nature as medium and metaphor, and bid to connect us with one another and the complex place that supports us all.

Galén Feld shows work from her continuing exploration of empathy, impermanence and our difficult relationship with origins, adaptation and alteration of the landscape. Echoing familiar landforms, her paintings are a complex and often disrupted collage of construction of memory. Tangled branches, leaves, light particles, transformer wings and wire are some of the key elements, magnified, distorted, layered and sculpted to form the substructure of her work. Use of trace images, skewed focus and saturated light refer to the construction of memory, the resonance of absence and the process of release.

Tsuneko Kokubo (Koko) draws her inspiration from nature and describes herself as a seasonal painter — working with seasonal and daily changes of light and weather and painting in the moment. Her subjects emerge from the beauty which surrounds her — the mountain landscapes and the flowers which she grows in her garden. All of her work is imbued with a deep reverence for the earth. When asked to describe her style Koko says: “I dance on my canvas.”

Nadine Stefan’s latest series of watercolor paintings relates to themes regarding equilibrium and the interplay of natural laws. Each individual piece explores the interaction of these forces and the dynamic between the feminine and masculine, the physical and psychological, man versus nature and the conflicted social constructs of our time. Using recycled lumber, paint, tree branches and a variety of other materials, this work is an interpretation of the tension and release at play in the world and the potential for balance within opposing ideals.

Hidden Garden Lake Community Services, $3,785 of that gift was set aside for granting in 2010 with the balance creating an endowment fund in the name of Kootenay Savings Community Foundation.

The presentation of grant cheques took place during the CFNKLS AGM on June 3 at the Langham Theatre.

The 2010 grant recipients were Kaslo Area and Hospice, $1,000 for grief and trauma team training; Kaslo Concert Society, $1000 for 2010-2011 season; JV Humphries School, $2,000 in support of the Ashland OR Drama Field Trip; Langham Cultural Society, $1,500 for exhibition of visual art with a water/sustainability theme; Langham Cultural Society, $1,550 for a live art event during Jazz Fest; Kootenay Lake Independent School Society, $1,500 for food service; food sustainability director; Argenta Library, $785 for maintaining library service; Kootenay Lake Historical Society, $1,000 to catalogue and display the Bill Curran collection of shipwright tools; North Kootenay Lake Community Services, $1,000 towards the Emergency Baby Needs Cupboard; Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society, $675 toward youth master classes during the 2010 Jazz Festival; OPTions for Sexual Health, $900 to upgrade the Sexual Health library; Kaslo Community Response Network, $900 for abuse prevention and education.

CFNKLS has over $425,000 in endowments which should generate about $15,000 in available grants for 2011. Included in these endowments are five ‘field of interest’ funds: The Seniors Fund; the Child, Youth, and Family Fund; Arts, Culture and Heritage Fund; Environment Fund; and the Kootenay Savings Community Fund. The interest from these permanent endowment funds generates the granting pool, and contributions are welcome at any time.

For details about how to contribute to these endowment funds, write to CFNKLS at PO Box 661, Kaslo, BC, V0G 1M0 or check out www.nkcommunityfund.org.
Hidden Garden Gallery art auction a successful fundraiser

by Art Joyce

When it’s for a good cause, people in this community are more than generous. The Hidden Garden Gallery fundraiser for the Big Dig Art Recycling public sculpture project on Saturday, June 19 raised $3,900 toward the cause.

The gallery board put out a call to the community for ‘art recycling,’ asking people to donate art that they may have tired of over the years that could be auctioned off. The auction, 100 pieces of art had been donated. Most of the items were paintings, including works by Les Weisbrich, David Smith, Lorna Obermayr, Jane Champaign, Boali Kajibi, and Patrizia Menton, by Tsuneko Koboko, a traditional Egyptian painting done on papyrus, bats by Dot Finlay, prints of well-known sketches by Henri Matisse, a mask by Rosalie Bird, a bronze figure by Toru Fujihayashi, and photographs by Patrizia Menton and Michael Hartley, who also handcrafted wooden boxes, an antique rocking chair, blue glass vases, and a beautiful hand-woven shawl. The artwork spanned several continents, including Indonesia, Europe, the US and Canada. That the quality was so high, with many suggesting art auctions as a regular fundraising event for the gallery.

“Among the most popular shows at the gallery have been the collector’s choice events,” says Champagne. “You get an interesting glimpse into the community by the kind of art people enjoy.”

The tour also found a wealth of organizations and communities across the country that have or want to develop a plan to deal with all aspects of food security. There is a strong appetite for federal leadership to support these initiatives.

Construction begins on new Arrow zone fire base

submitted

A new $1.9-million Arrow Fire Zone base will improve the Province’s response to wildfires.

The new two-storey, 540-square-metre (5,800-square-foot) fire base will be strategically located near major intersections on Highway 3A.

“Currently, the zone’s fire protection officers are in Castlegar, while wildfire crews and equipment are in the town of Brilliant – about a 10-minute drive away,” said Forests Minister Doug Slater. “The property surrounding the base will also be used as a FireSmart demonstration project to educate area homeowners on how they can protect their own properties from damage due to wildfire.”

Improvments to the Williams Lake and Castlegar airstrip are also underway. These capital investments have been funded from a capital infrastructure program supported by the Province to create up to 88,000 jobs and build vital public infrastructure in every region of BC.

The Arrow Zone is one of six zones in the Southeast Fire Centre and is bounded by Glacier National Park in the north, the Duncan, Slocan and Nelson ranges in the east, the US border in the south and Monashee mountains in the west.

Since April 1, fire crews have responded to more than 249 fires across the province, 235 of which were person-caused. The public is reminded that anyone found in contravention of a burning restriction can be held responsible for suppressing costs if they their negligence results in a wildfire. To report a wildfire or unattended campfire, call *5555 on your cell 1-866-635-5546. For more information on open fire prohibitions or for updates on current wildfire activity, visit www.bcwildfire.ca.

Riverwatch in need of volunteers to help protect Slocan River

submitted

Are you comfortable with the Slocan River being a dump for empty bottles and cans? For the past four years, the ad hoc group Riverwatch has been trying to bring attention to the dangers and damage being done to the Slocan River over the summer months by increased recreational use. Now, the group itself is struggling to survive.

After a series of public meetings in 2006 intended to draw attention to the increased abuses taking place during ‘floating’ season the group stepped into action. With support from the Columbia Power Corporation and the Regional District of Central Kootenay, Riverwatch set up a system of large information warning boards were erected on prime entry sites of the river, seasonal dumpsters were installed at the main entry and exit points and ‘river litter’ bags were sold to give the garbage somewhere to go other than in the river. An education program is still in the infant stages of development.

With the reduced volunteer base to manage Riverwatch and the fund empty, times are dire. Would the community like to see a return to piles of garbage once again littering the beaches and waterways? Is there someone out there willing to step up and continue shining a light on the risks and hazards that come with increased recreational use of the Slocan River?

Help is desperately needed to keep up the work being done by too few at this point. Area H Director Walter Popoff is willing to support these endeavours, but a strengthened group is needed to be in charge of the efforts. The floating season is upon us soon, please make contact by July 8 if you wish to get involved. A meeting will be arranged shortly after that if the support shows up.

Riverwatch is based at the Kokanee Falls development near Enterprise Creek. Riverwatch proposes to build a steep 1.5 km extension of a bike trail down from Mt. Alwyl, using helicopter access. This would cause a huge level of disturbance to mountain goats and grizzly bears. Helicopter tourism of any kind is characterized by explosive growth and expansion of operating area that can gain access to parks and rnis areas. Classic outdoor recreation with high records and low levels of noise and intolerable noise. If any of these issues concern you, please write a letter to:

Natural Resource Officer/FromCounter
BC/1992 Theatre Rd/Cranbrook BC/VC 1C71

For full details of the VWS analysis, see our Home Page at www.vws.org. You can download the management plan and send the government a message about it at: www.arff.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting Vie wpost.jsp?PostID=17049

Commercial Mountain Biking Application for the Slocan Valley

The application of Rilor Wilderness Mountain Biking (RW) for a commercial mountain biking tenure in the Slocan Valley and near Nelson is posted on the government website for public review.

THE DEADLINE FOR LETTERS TO THE PUBLIC IS JULY 9

The Valhalla Wilderness Society (VWS) supports commercial mountain biking on back roads, outside of parks, as the kind of tourism business we need in the Slocan Valley. However, like all recreation, mountain biking can be destructive under certain conditions.

VWS has many concerns about the Rilor proposal. For instance, Rilor says it wants to offer high and mountain bike trails that are not being shared with hundreds of other riders each day.

Among the trails RW proposes to use are the Idaho Pools, Wakefield, Alamo Wagon Road, and Galera Trails. These trails already have hundreds of other users, RW claims “Most of these trails have been used as mountain bike trails for over 10 years and Riley McIntosh has been personally maintaining them as a hobby for 8 years.”

In reality, many local people (including VWS) have worked for years to protect these roads and trails. None that we asked could recall seeing the applicant do.

Rilor wants its tenure to include maintaining and improving the trails. Valley residents should be aware that commercial businesses sometimes use maintaining and improving trails to pressure for priority use and private control of the trails. At this stage, however, these tenures are not exclusive, but the government has been trending towards privatization of recreational resources. Further, businesses often use marketing to bring in more and more people, then use overcrowing to pressure for expansions. This often results in the actual displacement of the resource due to overcrowding and overdevelopment.

VWS is concerned about the Wakefield Trail, which is in the alpine of Mt. Idaho and is currently being used by local mountain bikers and hikers. The trail is very steep and if mountain bike use significantly increases, the risk of collisions with bears and hikers, and erosion of the trail, will greatly increase.

Rilor Wilderness Mountain Biking (RW) is based at the Kokanee Falls development near Enterprise Creek. RW proposes to build a steep 7.5 km extension of a bike trail down from Mt. Alwyl, using helicopter access. This would cause a huge level of disturbance to mountain goats and grizzly bears. Helicopter tourism of any kind is characterized by explosive growth and expansion of operating area that can gain access to parks and rnis areas. Classic outdoor recreation with high records and low levels of noise and intolerable noise. If any of these issues concern you, please write a letter to:

Natural Resource Officer/FromCounter
BC/1992 Theatre Rd/Cranbrook BC/VC 1C71

Kaslo Artwalk starts early at Landmark Bakery

submitted

Local artist Jennifer Halliday is showing her original acrylic paintings at the Landmark Bakery from June 14 through August 31. The Landmark Bakery is located at 416 Front Street, Kaslo. Jennifer Halliday’s paintings consist of portraits, landscapes and still life. If you appreciate the style of art but would like a more personal piece, consider having a painting commissioned. The display will be changing through the summer, so visit often.

The Valley Voice, June 30, 2010
Filling tires with nitrogen vs. air

We have had some fun discussions in the staff room in the last few weeks about the benefits of filling your car’s tires with nitrogen. It all started when one of my colleagues purchased a car from a Penticton dealership and they charged him $300 to fill the tires with the stuff. He really didn’t want what they were selling, but like many dealership dodges, they wouldn’t sell him the car unless he bought it with the nitrogen package.

I’ve also noticed that some of the local garages and many of the dealerships are now advocating the safety and economic advantages of nitrogen-filled tires as opposed to old-fashioned air. The cost is about $5/itre – is it worth it? Doc set out to investigate the matter.

As we all know, air is about 80% nitrogen in the first place and the nitrogen accumulator boosts this up to about 93% before compressing it into your tires. The accumulator device costs in the vicinity of $10,000, so the garage has to recoup this cost by charging you for something that used to be free. They claim the advantage of less loss of pressure due to air diffusion through the tire wall, less fire hazard, less corrosion on the inside of the tire rim and longer tire life due to the oxidative effect on the inner tire lining.

How do these claims stand up to scrutiny? Let’s look at all the claims in detail.

It is true that tires lose air through the wall. It is also true that oxygen diffuses through this wall faster than nitrogen. This procedure that under-inflation of tires leads to poor fuel economy and diminished tire life.

Consumer’s Report recently completed a year-long test on 3 different all-season radials and compared the difference between pressure losses in nitrogen-filled tires compared to air-filled tires. They found the average difference to be a minuscule 1.3 PSI. This is approximately the tire pressure change you would normally observe in a tire that undergoes a 10-degree change in temperature – an everyday occurrence. In addition to this, because oxygen diffuses out of the tire faster than the nitrogen, every time you re-inflate your tires you are actually accumulating the nitrogen because this is what stays in the tire longer. A simple calculation tells us that re-inflating your tires once a month (which is the recommended procedure to accommodate the nitrogen in them to the level of 92.5% in a four-month period – all for free. I don’t think we even need to discuss the claim that nitrogen-filled tires are less of a fire hazard. In all my years as a mechanic, I have never even heard of a tire bursting into flames because of the dangerous air inside.

The same is true of the claim that air leads to diminished longevity of the tire carcass – in other words, the tire breaks down from the inside out. I can guarantee that you will wear out the tread long before this happens.

As to the claim that nitrogen fills are more resistant to road hazards, the evidence is overwhelming. It is true that tires lose air through the wall. It is also true that nitrogen and it is also true that oxygen diffuses through this wall faster than nitrogen. This procedure that under-inflation of tires leads to poor fuel economy and diminished tire life.

For many boomers, this was taken to heart, and many have experienced significant wealth creation over the years. People who were born between 1946 and 1964 fall into the classification of being aBoomer, with the oldest boomers now 66 years of age.

The future of real estate

Many of my past articles have touched on topics relevant to the baby boomers and how this particular generation has shaped our world over the years. People who were born between 1946 and 1964 fall into the classification of being aBoomer, with the oldest boomers now 66 years of age. If we look around our neighborhoods, we see those old empty schoolhouses which were once filled to the brim with all of the children born in the boomer era. Ironically, as the boomers grew up and went on to have families of their own, most chose to limit their offspring to an average of two children, and some opted out completely. The result: fewer children being born, hence the closure of those community schools.

We have also come to recognize that many boomers became more investment savvy than their parents, who were more trusting of the tried and true method of saving with within traditional banking institutions. One thing the seniors may have instilled in their boomer children was to invest in the tangible asset of real estate. The concept of having land and/or buildings seemed to offer long-term security and steady growth.

For many boomers, this was taken to heart, and many have experienced significant wealth creation over the years. Many people not only bought their own home, but they acquired rental, commercial and vacation properties as well.

As we work on financial plans for our boomer clients, we see that a lot of their net worth is now wrapped up in real estate. While this has served them well in the past, it gives rise for concern as we look into the future.

If the oldest of the boomers are now in their mid 60s, it stands to reason that over the next 10 to 20 years there will be significant changes in their lives. For those who have acquired real estate, this will be the period of time when ‘downsizing’ is considered. The big family home might become too much to handle; the rental properties (and all of the headaches that come along with it) may be losing its luster; and the vacation property just doesn’t seem to be getting utilized as much as before. These are the personal financial realities to have cash in hand just to provide for day-to-day income needs.

What we may experience is a glut of real estate that could flood the markets, just as many of your fellow boomers think about off-loading their real estate right around the same time. There will be significantly more people who need to sell off their homes, which means for a fraction of the original price.

This real estate glut could flood the markets, just as many of your fellow boomers think about off-loading their real estate right around the same time. There will be significantly more people who need to sell off their homes, which means for a fraction of the original price.

This real estate glut could flood the markets, just as many of your fellow boomers think about off-loading their real estate right around the same time. There will be significantly more people who need to sell off their homes, which means for a fraction of the original price.

The verdict then – while there may be some minimal benefits to filling your car’s tires with nitrogen, these are far outweighed by the costs and inconvenience. Keep things simple. Check your tire pressure once a month, fill them with free air and worry about something else.
CLASSIFIED ADS

COMING EVENTS

LAKE LOON GALLERY Open stages Thursdays continue to be a great hit. Saturday night with the house band and special guests is a great chance for visitors to meet local musicians. We now have local organic preserves and locally crafted gifts. There is an ongoing call for artists, musicians, poets, and volunteers. Music lessons are being offered by Terry and Cindy Moore for all levels. Thank you for your continued support. New gallery hours are Thursday Sunday through noon to 6 pm. Thursday afternoon 7:30 to 10:30 for open stage and house band and guests. Would you like to rent our space? Thank you for your continued support of the arts in the Valley.

THE FRIDAY MARKET happens in downtown New Denver every Friday, June to September. Peter Demong will host a market of local produce, plants, herbs and a great selection of Kootenay artisan vendors.

2015 TEXAS HOLD’EM TOURNAMENT to be held at the Kootenay Legion Hall 502 Harst Slocan. On July 10 starting at 6:30 pm. $30 buy in. Advance tickets must be purchased at Mountain Village Store in Slocan or phone 250-352-2767 to reserve. Tickets will not be available at the door.

PERSONAL CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds started at $8.00
Call 250-358-7218 for details

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DANNY TEECE & STEPHANIE LARSEN would like to announce the birth of their beautiful baby boy, Silas Yvonne Teece. Born on June 18, 2010 at 4:20 am, in Kootenay Lake Hospital. A very special thank you to Dr. McKenzie and Dr. Guerjand, and all of the wonderful nurses. If you would like to donate to the purchase of a sculpture by Tom Fujibayashi for public display, please mail your contribution to Hidden Garden Gallery, Box 201, New Denver V0G 1S0. Thank you.

HUMMERSNITS, TOWELS & C BATHMATS

HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY: Burgin, Morgan and Rosalie opening reception Friday, July 2 at 7:30. Music by Matthew Fry and Lena.

NEW FOR BUILDING: We have an exciting program for the summer, rich with Slocan Valley talent. We invite you to attend our stimulating art exhibitions, musical performances, creative camps and artistic workshops. Pick up our program flyer at the Cup & Saucer Cafe, Ana’s Natural Foods, Mountain Food or e-mail Silvergarden8@gmail.com to request a program. We look forward to seeing you and hearing your support.

SLOCAN LAKE DANCE CAMP for Youth & Adults, Thursday, July 22 – Saturday, July 25. New Denver. Choose one or attend several. Four days of dance workshops & nightly dances plus a Sunday afternoon Tango Milonga. Early bird deadline July 8. www.dancingboutique.com or trawwally@canada.com or 250-248-248.

KASLO SATURDAY MARKET. Open stage, annual, Sunday, July 25, 8 am-3 pm, Main St. New space for rental contact Joan 250-352-3788.

COMPUTER

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

FOR RENT

TWOSTORY LOG HOME: 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom, off Red Mountain Road. 3 bedrooms. $800 + utilities. Deck and basement under construction. 250-399-2770.

FOR RENT: August 15, 2010. Comfortable well maintained 3 bdrm home with fully finished basement. Downtown location in Nakusp. $850 per month. References required. Call Shirley 250-265-8040 or e-mail skiosanne@telus.net.

50’’ RENTAL TELEVISION: Nakusp BC. New Building Rotary Villa. 4 rental suites. All one bedroom. $250 -400. Welcome. www.arcowarism.com, 250-265-3370 (9:00 am-12:00 pm) arcowarism@nakusp.net.

TONER CARTRIDGES for Laserjet laser printers. 2100/2200 series. $60 each or 3 for $150. 250-356-7216.
Province offers property tax deferral program to families with children under 18

Family offers property tax deferral program to families with children under 18

 submitted
Families with children under the age of 18 can now defer their property taxes at low interest rates through a new provincial program introduced in the 2010 budget.

With residential property tax notices being issued by municipalities, informational brochures for families about how to sign up for the Families with Children Property Tax Deferral Program are now available from the Province at municipal offices, Service BC Centres and local MLA offices. These brochures explain who qualifies for the program, how to apply, and when deferred taxes must be repaid. The brochures are also available on the Province’s website at www.gov.bc.ca/fin.

As with the Property Tax Deferral Program for seniors and the Financial Hardship Property Tax Deferral Program, the Families with Children Property Tax Deferral Program allows eligible homeowners to defer their annual property taxes for the 2010 and following tax years. To qualify, a person must have 15 per cent equity in their home and be a BC resident who financially supports a child under age 18. Eligible homeowners can defer all or part of the unpaid portion of their property taxes until they sell or transfer ownership of their home, or it becomes part of an estate.

Upper Columbia Co-op Council receives award

The Upper Columbia Co-op Council (UCCC), based in Nelson, was celebrated at the Canadian Co-op Association’s annual congress, at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver, June 14-16.

Zoe Creighton, UCCC Coordinator, accepted the Co-op Excellence Award on behalf of the association, at the Congress Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony. The award recognizes the council’s outstanding contribution to the advancement of the BC cooperative sector. Credit union and co-op delegates from across the country congratulated the UCCC for its pioneering efforts in regional cooperation in the Kootenay/ Boundary region, and currently known for its thriving cooperative activity.

“We are honoured to be recognized by this prestigious award,” remarks Creighton. “The council’s success thus far has been to increase communication and collaboration among our local co-ops and credit unions. We look forward to further benefiting our members and the greater community through learning events, public awareness initiatives, and forging connections to the provincial and national co-op sector.”


For more information about the council, its members, mandates, and activities, or for enquiries about joining its expanding membership, please visit www.uccc.coop, or email info@uccc.coop.

311 Broadway and is open Wednesday through Sunday. Starting July 7, open 10 am to 4 pm. Entrance by donation.

The family of Billy Coffman, who fell off the Kuskusion bridge on June 9, arranged for a private Search and Recovery team to come to Nakusp to recover Coffman. The recovery team has asked for no wages, just their travel and accommodation costs. An account has been opened at the CIBC in Nakusp, Account #75-2238, for anyone wishing to help the family with these costs.

Upper Columbia Co-op Council receives award

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.

Local Focus at ALFA Guild Gallery submitted

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.

Local Focus at ALFA Guild Gallery submitted

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.

Local Focus at ALFA Guild Gallery submitted

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.

Local Focus at ALFA Guild Gallery submitted

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.

Local Focus at ALFA Guild Gallery submitted

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.

Local Focus at ALFA Guild Gallery submitted

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.

Local Focus at ALFA Guild Gallery submitted

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild presents its annual Local Focus and Silent Auction June 30 to July 18. The show features work by gallery members, and the silent auction provides an opportunity to bid on work by local area artists. The opening for the show takes place Friday, July 2, 6-8 pm.
Leaf roller infestation attacks trees throughout region

by Art Joyce

Slocan Valley residents are noticing a particularly dense infestation of fruit tree leaf rollers this year and wondering what to do about it. Many are reporting seeing the characteristic silken strings of the little green worms in birch trees as well.

According to the BC Ministry of Agriculture website, several species of leaf rollers attack fruit throughout the Southern Interior and South Coastal regions of BC. The main leaf roller pests include single-generation species, the fruit tree leaf roller and European leaf roller; and two-generation species oblique banded roller pests include single-generation and European leaf rollers.

The distribution and abundance of these leaf rollers varies from region to region and within regions, so it is important to know which species are present in your area.

Early spring pruning will remove many egg masses but at this stage in the season only spraying with Bacillus thuringiensis (BT; also known commercially as BTK) will help. Prune older, low-density trees to open up the canopy and improve spray penetration and coverage, especially into the upper canopy. Thinning fruit to singles where practical will help reduce the risk of fruit damage.

BT is a bacteria that produces a toxin that makes holes in the gut lining of the leaf rollers, allowing other bacteria to enter the blood system and slowly kill them. Infested catterpillars will stop feeding and eventually die over the next two to ten days. Caterpillars receiving a dose of BT that does not kill them will resume feeding in about 10 days, hence the recommended interval of 10 days between applications. The best results are obtained when BT is applied during blossoms or petal-fall.

Where leafroller and green fruitworm numbers are low to moderate, a single application of BT in late bloom has given good control. However, where larval numbers are high, apply a bloom spray followed by a second spray 10 days later.

Sign up for one week or two and get a taste for it all. Programs are available for ages 5-6, 7-9, and 10-14. Courses are Monday through Friday. The 5-6-year-old group is from 8:30-9:30 am ($50), the 7-9s are from 10 am-12 noon ($90), and the 10-14s will be from 12:30-3:30 pm ($130). Fees listed here include materials.

Chipkickers offers mobile casino parties for fun and fundraising

by Art Joyce

Young entrepreneur Paul Merrifield is using his bit to stimulate the local economy with two new businesses – a mobile casino party venture called Chipkickers and bookkeeping services. Merrifield grew up in New Denver but lived in Vancouver where he worked for Wild Bill’s, a large casino party outfit that serviced the entire lower mainland.

“I wanted to move back here and after having been an employee I wanted my own company so I went to Community Futures. I have tons of experience putting on special events in Vancouver, everything that goes together to make a good party.”

For events such as staff, bachelor and grad parties, birthdays, family reunions, Merrifield can supply deal tables, dealers, chips and plenty of fun. Chipkickers can handle most aspects of party events, from selecting a venue, to providing tables, chairs, and technical gear such as sound equipment, if necessary. He can also see to any licensing that is required.

BC gaming regulations are strict, so the gaming provided by Chipkickers is for fun, not profit unless being done to raise money for charity. Merrifield provided a charitable Texas Hold ‘em tournament at Odin’s Pub for the Jonathan White fundraiser, raising some $400 to help with the purchase of a specially fitted van.

Chipkickers earns its income by providing a service, with a portion of profits dedicated to charity. Gaming regulations require a minimum of ten percent but Merrifield says he tries to donate more if possible.

Chipkickers will be organizing the fundraiser for LACE on July 10 at 4 pm at Odin’s Pub to help raise funds for the front of the Bosun Hall. The casino events are also a boom for the business that hosts them, in this case the Valhalla Inn.

“It’s a win-win across the board, especially for the winners,” he says.

Several locals have been trained to be dealers, providing them with part-time work. He has also been running the weekly games night at the Silverton Gallery as a not for profit community event.

Merrifield also worked as a bookkeeper for the third-largest law firm in Vancouver for five years, and is working toward his certification. His mother Sherri Merrifield will be retiring soon so he will be available to take on her clients. He has been training in the GST workshops and will be able to help clients negotiate the complexities of the new tax, assuming it’s not defeated by referendum. Merrifield can also assist with individual income tax returns, but recommends businesses go to an accountant for taxes.

“...I’m trying to add a couple of businesses to the ‘greater metropolitan’ of New Denver,” laughs Merrifield. “My main raison d’être is to give people a good time and at the same time keep their finances in order.”

To contact Merrifield for either business, phone 250-358-6806 or paulmerrifield@gmail.com, or visit www.chipkickers.com.
Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is hosting the 2010 Columbia Basin Symposium “Shaping our Future Together: Take Action” in Revelstoke, and residents are being encouraged to mark the date on their calendars.

The event seeks to engage key leaders and residents active in their communities to collectively look toward the future of the Columbia Basin, while also discussing and addressing some of today’s key issues.

An important role for CBT is bringing residents together at events like the Symposium to celebrate our accomplishments and help the region work towards solutions to shared challenges,” said Garry Merkel, CBT board chair. “It is an opportunity for Basin residents to connect with one another to create momentum in the region and build resilient organizations. These sessions will be supported by expert speakers from both within and outside the Basin, as well as community champions, tools and best practices.

There will also be an opportunity to connect with CBT board and staff, and learn about the work CBT is doing in the region. In addition, an evening of cultural entertainment featuring local and Basin talent will be open to the public on Saturday evening.

A draft program agenda is available online. Symposium registration will open in early September and space is limited. The symposium is free of charge. Interested individuals can sign up now at www.cbt.org/2010symposium to receive a notification when registration opens.

CBT delivers economic, social, and environmental benefits to the residents of the Columbia Basin. To learn more about CBT programs and initiatives, visit www.cbt.org or call 1-800-505-8998.