The seventh annual Nakusp Music Festival – the highlight of the summer for many people from the local area and beyond – is happening this weekend, July 16-18.

Tickets will be available at the front gate as of noon on Friday, with the festival gates opening at 5 pm. On Saturday and Sunday, the box office and gates open at 11 am. For ticket prices, see the advertisement on page 11.

“We’ve got a really strong line-up again this year – I think people will really enjoy the whole show,” said Doug Switzer of Octopus Productions. “There’s lots of stuff for kids, another great Vendor Village... I think the whole package is going to blow people away again. And of course we always get the best weather.”

Headlining acts are 54/40 on Friday, Bachman & Turner on Saturday and Eric Burdon & the Animals on Sunday.

“We are especially proud about booking Bachman & Turner. After two decades apart, Bachman & Turner are back together and ready to rock Nakusp for the first and only Canadian show so far scheduled on their reunion world tour,” says producer Willi Jahnke in his welcome message in the festival program.

In the mid ’70s, Bachman Turner Overdrive was huge, with more than 30 million records sold and several number one hits, such as You Ain’t Seen Nothin’ Yet, Takin’ Care of Business, Let it Ride and Hey You. The band split up in the mid ’80s. When Randy Bachman began recording a solo album last year and invited Fred Turner to sing on the title track, the album morphed into a Bachman & Turner album and precipitated the reunion.

The Nakusp Music Fest presents a total of 19 bands this year, among them such favourites as the Powder Blues Band, Delhi 2 Dublin, Corb Lund & the Hurtin’ Albertans, Doc Walker, and the Headpins. Local band Shades of Loud, out of New Denver, play Saturday afternoon from 12:20 to 1:20.

The big screens will be onsite as usual, so a good view of the bands can be had by all.

This year’s Kid Zone features the Harry Potter Bouncy Castle, the climbing wall, the Dance Dance Revolution, the Hoop Fairy and three other characters named Elmo Prestley, Solid Gold and Chuck ’n Chicken. Entertainers roaming the grounds will include two magicians (James Hanson and David Moon), the Moving Mosaic Samba Band and MythMaker, masters of theatre and circus arts.

Vendor Village will be full of fun shopping and delicious food choices, and don’t forget to stop by the Nakusp Music Fest store.

Helicopter rides will be offered this year, and keep your eyes open for the kayak raffle by Endless Adventure of Crescent Valley.

To warm up for the fest, check out Thursday night’s free entertainment at the Leland Hotel and the Nakusp Golf Club. Both venues feature the same three shows – singer Alan Kirk from Nelson, comedians Rob Balsdon and Jamie Charest, and mentalist Colin Cunningham.

If you can swing the cost of upgrading your ticket to VIP, it is well worth it this year. The VIP area will include a dance floor this year, with DJ Matt Hawkins and dance contests on Friday and Saturday nights. There will also be a massage tent, and an air-conditioned double-deck smoking area, where drinks will be served. Everyone with a VIP ticket will be entered in a draw for a grand prize of a three-day stay in a penthouse suite in Kelowna with a dinner cruise, second prize of a dinner cruise, and third prize of two VIP lounge packages for the 2011 festival. Only 350 VIP tickets are sold, so the odds are good.

“The highest calibre of programming, seen nowhere else in BC, is what we always guarantee to all our guests,” says Jahnke.
Mountain bike tourism tenure application raises concerns

by Art Joyce

An application for a mountain bike tourism business has been raising concerns with locals and Regional District directors. The proposed business, Rilow Wilderness (RW) owned by Riley McIntosh, seeks a licence to operate commercially on Crown and Regional District lands near Kaslo, Argenta, Nelson, New Denver and Silverton. Although the public comment period with the Integrated Land Management Branch (ILMB) closed July 9, regional directors feel more time is needed for consultation.

At the RDCK Rural Affairs committee meeting of July 8, directors voted unanimously to recommend that ILMB open up the application to a series of public hearings.

Concerns expressed by residents making submissions to ILMB include the granting of commercial rights on public trails, the potential for injury to non-bikers using the trails, excessive noise from helicopters bringing in clients to the proposed base of operations at Kokanee Falls development in Enterprise Creek, and the potential environmental impact from heavy use on trails. Others are concerned that McIntosh has already begun building the ‘Tunnel Vision’ trail leading to Kokanee Falls prior to receiving authorization.

The main trails planned for use in the New Denver/Silverton area are Wakefield, Alamo, Galena, and Choices, accessed from Idaho Peak. Proponent Riley McIntosh plans to have five to eight trips during the 2010 season with a goal of 20 trips per season or up to 40 trips per season for a maximum of 400 riders per year. The business’ clients are said to be in the 30-35 age range, of medium to high income, and are at an intermediate skill level in mountain biking.

Some of the six proposed trails will utilize former mining roads and trails, and forestry service roads such as the Salisbury Creek road between Argenta and Johnson’s Landing. Some trails, such as descending from Morning Mountain near Nelson, already have mountain bike bridges and landscaping. New sections of trail would be built to link up existing trails in some cases, with berms and jumps created to make the course more challenging for bikers. Bridges would be built for stream crossings and to avoid damaging wet areas.

“My intention is to build trails that don’t create a serious hazard to mountain bikers and are hiker friendly,” said McIntosh in an email to the Valley Voice. “My taste is for fun trails that don’t require you to be willing to plunge off huge drops or cliffs or anything like that.”

In his application McIntosh acknowledges that “Idaho Peak and its forestry road are heavily used by tourists and locals alike in the summer months. Therefore, RW hopes to slowly build an itinerary based around Idaho Peak with proposed trails so that as time goes by pressure can be let off Idaho Peak.” McIntosh says he will be following trail maintenance standards set by the International Mountain Bike Association. He has consulted with biologist Emily Wilson of The Land Conservation in Nelson regarding sensitive ecosystems and endangered plants along the trails. McIntosh doesn’t foresee using the Galena Trail more than once per trip, or 10-15 times per season. He says precautions would include having a pilot rider at the head of bike groups to slow down speed, avoiding it on days that would have heavy use days, and moving aside for other trail users.

Area H director Walter Popoff points out that the Galena Trail tenure is already held by the Regional District, so he believes ILMB is unlikely to grant commercial tenure on that trail. “I would have zero ability to block anyone else, or private trails in any way, nor do I seek that,” says McIntosh. “I view trails as an essential recreation resource for communities. If I am successful, the new trails that I hope to build would be open to the public for use as recreation facilities.”

Under ‘private land and mineral claims conflicts’ in the application, McIntosh writes that he is unaware of any of the proposed trails crossing private land except for land owned by the Buchanan Family, which is at the bottom of the Salisbury Creek forest service road near Argenta. However, the main trail leading to the proposed business’s base of operations at the Kokanee Falls Regional Park, which would be open to the public for use as recreation facilities.

The Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee is a group of concerned local citizens, land managers, and government and non-government agencies who share a common concern about the increase of non-native invasive plants in the Central Kootenays and BC. Invasive plant species are brought to Canada either accidentally or intentionally, and include species like purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria), spotted knapweed (Centaurea montana), and common tansy (Tanacetum vulgare), to name just a few. Arriving in Canada without their natural predators to keep their populations in check, invasive species can spread rapidly, forming dense patches over huge areas. Invasive species can choke out native plants, affecting local plant populations and altering ecosystem functions. Since animals rarely eat these species, infestations can impact wildlife habitat and degrade rangeland values. Agriculturally, invasive plants can have huge economic impacts by competing with desirable crops.

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Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at Integrated Land Management Bureau regional office.

Embracing non-invasive plants for medicine

The Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee is a group of concerned local citizens, land managers, and government and non-government agencies who share a common concern about the increase of non-native invasive plants in the Central Kootenays and BC. Invasive plant species are brought to Canada either accidentally or intentionally, and include species like fireweed (chamissoa, and dandelion and other skin conditions); common juniper (for colds, respiratory infections, and cardiovascular ailments); brown-eyed Susan (for dandelion and other skin conditions); goldenseal (for skin diseases and gastrointestinal conditions); devil’s club (for arthritis, diabetes, fertility, and tuberculosis). For more information on the benefits of selecting non-invasive medicinal species visit http://www. npbs.org. To learn about the economic impacts of invasive plants, visit www.kootenayweeds.com, call 250-352-1160 or email coordinator@kootenayweeds.com.

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Citizens make a difference in Slocan Park logging

by Jan McMurray

The members of the Slocan Park CARE Society have been diligently monitoring logging operations on Radcliffe Ridge above the community of Slocan Park, and feel they have made a difference in the quality of the job.

“We’ve been the squeaky wheel,” says Sandi Kabel. “We’ve had our voices heard and every time our voices have been heard, there’s been a repercussion or a concession.”

Al Skakun of BCTS and Sandi Kabel and others have accompanied officials on regular field inspections and have taken trips up to the blocks on their own so they could see the logging operations are shut down. Three issues have come up during these walks that have caused considerable concern to the residents, and that the foresters have addressed.

Al Skakun of BCTS calls the three issues “minor” and says that none of them have resulted in any impact to any resource or environmental value in the area.

“The licencee has been cooperative and responded promptly to correct non-conformance,” he said.

On June 28, during a BCTS inspection, it was discovered that machines had run over a spring on one of the blocks during a logging operation, and that any measures taken to protect the spring.

“We had specifically asked that all equipment be parked on targs overnight and on weekends to catch any potential fluid drips,” said Skakun. “This did not take place on one weekend and the licensee has taken steps to ensure there are no further instances of non-conformance.”

Also on the July 4 walk, the Kabels saw that the contractor had finished the construction of a road, but had not installed three culverts, which were laying alongside the road. BCTS has since made an agreement with the contractor that the three culverts will be installed by July 12 at 4 pm.

These incidents are documented in a complaint submitted by the Slocan Park CARE Society to Kalesnikoff Lumber, in connection with the company’s attempt to get forest management certification under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) BC Standard. The complaint is based on the society’s objection to Kalesnikoff’s agreement with Porcupine, the licencee, to acquire some of the wood that comes from the Slocan Park cutblocks.

Sandi indicated that the diligent monitoring of this logging operation requires a lot of volunteer time and dedication. “We haven’t been just talking to BCTS, Porcupine [the licencee] and Barabaramoff [of CPS Investments, the contractor]. We’ve also gone to Kalesnikoff and the Forest Stewardship Council,” said Sandi.

Logging has been completed on the first cutblock (block 2). Blocks 3 and 4 are expected to be completed by the end of August.

The society has hired Herb Forester from Winlaw, to do a pre-logging study on block 1, which has the most sensitive terrain and is the last cutblock in this timber sale. Information from Hammond following the pre-logging study on the cutblock was very recently delivered to the society.

“The information from Hammond is significant and he strongly advises further study,” states a press release issued by the society. “Hammond’s report recommends that if logging is to occur at all in this environment, sensitive consumptive watershed, it should occur in winter with a strong stable snowpack.”

The society has requested a meeting to review the information from Hammond with BCTS, Porcupine, CPS Investments and Kalesnikoff.
Eat the weeds

A crown of daisies and a bouquet of burdock to Kate Guthrie for her letter of June 30 regarding the pursuit of dead weeds.

Most of my childhood was spent upon the banks of the Slocan River, weasling daisies and butternuts for my friends and Irish Setter. I often returned home to a dinner of piegweed and venison. We backpacked on a family trip was often just gathering them—the stuff that was at our doorstep.

I have shared most of my adult life with a man who survived the Second World War and its aftermath because his mother and grandmother knew what to eat from the roadside. So do I do all you people with good intentions and perhaps, perfect lawns. I toast you with a mug of nettle soup. And if anyone can find a use for knapweed, please let me know.

Ann Swanson Gross
Winlaw

Commending Slocan council

With regards to the meeting held in Slocan this evening I want to commend our Major and Village council for moving ahead with the new zoning and land use bylaws passed this evening and for going ahead with the development plan of Slocan Holdings with regard to the building of 16 condominiums in Slocan. This should not be the end however; it should just be the beginning of growing our community for everyone in town.

Doug Burton
Slocan

Food sustainability

Are all those interested in food sustainability and the economy, and especially to those who don’t pay attention when they’re shopping, I suggest investing a mere three minutes of your time visiting the following site: http://hotpepper.posters.com/

And thank you to those who grow, raise, produce and sell local food, despite the small monetary return, and to those who support them by buying at the farm gate, at New Denver’s Frasier Market, and at Am’s Natural Foods.

Katherine Campbell
New Denver

Open letter to hikers

Imagine that crossing your property is a much loved and well used historic trail, and imagine that hikers unload their boots on your lawn before or after their walk. Imagine, too, that there is a toilet facility within walking distance. How do you feel?

I live at the start of the historic Fry Creek Trail. For about a century, hikers have crossed the private property which begins this trail. There is usually some debris left by trail users, but increasingly there are more piles of you-know-what deposited on my trails and my land. Whether you call it poop, excrement, feaces, shit—it smells, it’s usually partially covered with masses of TP, it’s unhealthily and unsanitary, it attracts my dog who would love to roll in it, and I don’t want to see any more of it.

You are able to carry toilet paper, so carry it with you and pick up your deposit. Use your foot to cover a hole and bury the stuff. You have our community’s permission to use the facilities at the community hall, 1/2 km down the road. GO THERE if you can’t poop in the woods sanitarily.

Interestingly no one poops right on the Fry Creek Trail; they head off behind a tree. We’re the most fragrant users of this tree happens to be about 3 metres from my path, so I got to see it even if the depositor no longer does. And I see it for a long long time. When someone clever uses a different tree behind his hole, and my dog finds it.

You have our permission to hike the trail AND WE WANT YOU TO RESPECT THE RIGHT TO CROSS OUR PROPERTIES. The land you are on is like my front yard, and the trail is my sidewalk. Think of your neighbours using your front yard furniture or walkway for their bathroom. Not just once, but every time someone walks by.

I expect behaviour to stop, and if it doesn’t my next step is to ask Parks to move the trailhead. Over the last two decades I’ve picked up your cans, bottles, wrappers, cigarette butts (yep—you used to empty your ashtrays right beside your car), clothing, gear, orange peels. I’m not picking up your shit, and I am not putting it up with if any more. Kate O’Keeffe
Johnson’s Landing

Letter dampens mood

What a difference a day can make. The day before the last issue of the Valley Voice, I got a very nice letter in the mail from the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee thanking me for my work. I sold Valhalla Girl Guides and friends for our participation in their “Communities Pulling Together” program along with our $2500 cheque. In part, the letter praised our girls saying our group was “very knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and diligent” and that “by teaching youth about invasive plants our group has made a definite impact in our community.”

It was the end of another year of Guiding and I felt pretty good about what we had accomplished—we participated in the Remembrance Day parade, had taken four of our girls to Vancouver to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Guiding in Canada with a sleepover at the Pacific Coliseum with 7,000 other girls and women, we’d sung our way through the May Day parade and a huge parade of badges: Astronomy (thank Carol Bell!), Wildflower, Streetwise, and Peace.

The next day, the letter from Kate Guthrie, Rory and I to people in Creston and I on my own good mood. She had many suggestions for things the girls could have learned that day. As she wasn’t there, she doesn’t know that the program starts with an information session talking about the difference between native and invasive plants and during that we did discuss the medicinal purposes of some of the invasive plants we were about to pull. We’d also talked with the girls about this when we completed our Wildflower badge. Ironically, all of her examples on how to use these herbs, we’d talked about all but one of them. We only briefly touched on this topic as it was not our intended goal for the day. Perhaps another topic for the day should have been that no matter what you do in this world, even when you think you are doing something good and helpful, there will always be someone there to kick your feet out from under you and put down what you have done. And if that gets you down, well then you can always take some St. John’s Wort! I can tell that Kate Guthrie is very passionate about the topic of medicinal plants and I can appreciate that. And as that is the case, I would suggest that if she feels the girls should learn about this in greater depth, then she is more than welcome to volunteer to come and teach them about it! We will be having a three-night camp at our Slocan Lake Guide Camp at the beginning of August and she is welcome to contact me about coming out and teaching the girls. I can assure that there are still plenty of these medicinal plants out there as we barely put a dent in them as they are invasive (read: taking over). I’d like to give a big thank you to everyone in the New Denver area who has helped Rory and me in a multitude of ways over the last six years of Guiding from the community buying our cookies twice a year, to everyone involved in keeping the Boum Hall (our meeting place) up and running, to the parents who’ve volunteered time driving for cookies and camps, to those who’ve helped us deliver our program to the girls.

We look forward to our summer camp and then another year of Guiding in the Fall.

Tamaara Claxton
New Denver

Open letter to FrontCounter BC

I am a hiker on trails in the Slocan Valley. I write to protest the application of Rilor's Enduro/Endurance Mountain Biking in its quest for tenure in the Slocan Valley. This outfit, with its owner, Riley McIntosh, parrots to have been maintaining trails (Idaho Peak, Galena Trail, etc.) for eight years, but his work is unknown to the many who have been maintaining these trails for years. If he doesn’t respect the trail and he doesn’t respect other users before he gets a tenure, what can we expect after he gets one?

I am particularly against Rilor constructing a trail on Mt. Alwyn using helicopter access. I am totally against having helicopter tourists flood into our valley. Their entertainment would inflict on our communities the injustices of helicopters resounding against steep valley walls, all in the name of bike riders getting thrills on a steep descent down a mountain.

The Forest Service uses helicopters in the summer because they are working to protect our forests from fire. But to bring helicopters to this valley for “high end” mountain bikers, whose loud and obnoxious noise will be at the expense of communities, hikers and nature lovers in Valhalla Wilderness Park, represents a misuse of our resource that is aggravating and objectionable.

The Slocan Valley does not have a lot of helicopter tourism and a very large number of people here do not want it, which has been affirmed in many community meetings and in the master planning for Valhalla Park. Rilor’s base is right across the lake from the Park. The helicopter will be hearable from the park, and it is almost inevitable that his helicopters will one day wind up in the park.

Secondly, there are hundreds of kilometers of running and logging trails around here for mountain bikers to use. Few communities are as rich in them as we are. To let an entrepreneur just go willy-nilly building trails in our mountains, causing new erosion and jeopardizing wildlife, is unacceptable.

I understand that the tenure would be non-exclusive, so other local and noncommercial users could still use the trails. But by giving Rilor trail maintenance responsibilities, don’t they mean he will control the way the trail is built and kept? Currently an informal group of local mountain bikers collaborates on trails near New Denver for free. The local good job. Rilor’s proposal for helicopter access exposes his disconnection to our community life. He is an entrepreneur first and foremost and, in my opinion, should be told his proposal is out of keeping with Valhalla Wilderness Park and the Slocan communities, the very nature of which has many people hereabouts riled up.

Richard Canwell
New Denver

Valley Voice does well

I would like to say how much I appreciate the great job you do in reporting the news of our community.

I recently got my day timer continued on page 5
continued from page 4

A promise was made that the Plan would be uploaded to the KDCFS website. Members were asked to submit any comments they had and a meeting was to be scheduled after the conclusion of the public review period.

On June 30, exactly one week before the advertised meeting, a “Final Draft” of the Plan was uploaded. For the first time, the draft actually had “Action Items,” unlike the two drafts that came before. On the day of the public review meeting, the final draft had garnered 20 hits on the website – so, at best, 20 people had read the action items in advance of their opportunity to review and endorse the new Strategy at a meeting. Those attending the Review meeting were provided with hard copies, and Lawrence Moss, the consultant hired to facilitate the Plan, began to present a review. Actually, he appeared to want to read most of it out loud. When one woman, startled at the suggestion that the Strategy’s Mission Statement had “de facto become the Mission Statement of the Society,” raised her hand, Mr. Moss very carefully informed the audience that he would answer any questions after he finished presenting his review.

It was like high school again. The teacher launches into a review of the subject, and the students listen. A few people had questions, and there was some discussion, but basically we were all expected to accept that input into the Strategy as “experts,” and that our role as the public, was a done deal. (Only one person had written to the team about the content of the draft Strategy, as it turned out.)

When I expressed my concern that adopting the Long-Term Strategy that night was premature since the public had only one week to review it and draft action items, Mr. Moss went from calm talking with me to heated. “The action items” had been published with the first draft (Web only), and that there was a connection between it and the Final Draft that had been available (for those watching out for it on the Internet) for a week. Either Mr. Moss hadn’t checked that some pages were missing from the first draft on the website, or he honestly had forgotten that the Action Items were developed after that. I’m surprised that he made that mistake, and made it with conviction.

I’ve always figured that $1,000 a day Planner/Facilitator gets paid so much because, in addition to their knowledge and experience, they possess better than average people skills. So it was a real surprise to me to hear him assert, quite loudly in response to my concern, that “It is my turn to speak!” and that I mustn’t interrupt, that the public review of the draft (with Action Items) had been more than adequate. Precious much, he shut me down.

The KDCFS membership did, in the end, vote to adopt the Strategy; I just hope that our outreach strategy for the Community Forest gets crafted (one of the Plan’s Action Items) it will be decided that a more interactive public process must be embraced.

If you’re like me, being asked to submit my comments by email seems more like a sop than any real attempt to engage people. If an organization is really interested in having people “buy into” a plan, to feel that they have ownership or some influence over the management of their natural resources, KDCFS’ current methods (request for letters and “Open Houses”) are leaving most of us in Kaslo and Area D cold.

Erika Bird
Kaslo

Forestry practices need to keep pace with climate science
Thanks to the Columbia Basin climate change education program for its research and outreach programs helping local citizens prepare for warming trends. Thanks to the local citizens who have put so much effort into promoting the 10 mile food drive growing program (along with all the other local allotment programs). However, the success of our local area to adapt to global warming and a potential peak oil crisis hinges on our forests and waterways.

Without forests keeping our mountain sides stable and cool, many of our larger creeks will flood causing slides into our streams, and stop flowing during the heat of summer. Life is dependent upon a reliable source of water.

Why haven’t forestry practices changed to keep up with climate science? Why don’t they ensure more generous riparian buffers for our streams and wetlands? How do we prevent machinery from driving wet areas in our watersheds? Why is it still allowed for logging companies to clear in sensitive community bottom lands? Why are the small streams not regulated to protect the downstream users that there will be clean water to drink 10 years later? Something seems terribly backwards here.

Porcupine Woods Product of Ymir intends to log the headwaters of Ahyun Creek in Queens bay end of July. For more than 10 years on and off the community has been talking with the mill reps. asking them to selectively log, to increase the streams and wetland buffers, to be more conservative in harvesting in anticipation of climate change and its affects. Nope. Business as usual. The Ministry of Forests is mandated to cut not protect. And now it has been suggested we ‘quit fighting’ and save our energy to monitor this work and make sure it is done properly. How ignorant and callous can our government agencies be.

The historic pattern is that without a reliable water source, people quickly become impoverished. Often community initiatives starts over the diminishing supply. No local wants this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this. The CORE process gains have evaporated. Victoria seems deaf. Can this.
Goddess Quest project sets out creative treasure hunt

by Art Joyce

As we kids all enjoyed a treasure hunt, the mystery, the sense of discovery was irresistible. Now there’s a ‘treasure hunt’ for adults, whose goal is not so much the treasure as the journey of discovery into goddess energy. The Goddess Quest project co-created by potter/sculptor Elly Scheepens and photographer Virginia Boyd kicks off on July 25 with a route that encompasses the West Kootenay.

On that day, goddess questers can take their treasure map and set out on the circle tour. At each location, which includes parks and hiking trails as well as Nelson’s Gyro and Lakeside parks, there will be 25 or more goddess figures for participants to find. The route encompasses Nelson to Kaslo, back to New Denver and through the Slocan Valley. Each sculpture is numbered and by finding the corresponding number on the website, questers will also find an inspiring message related to that goddess figure. If people want photographs of the goddesses, these can be obtained by emailing photos@goddessquest.com. Scheepens and Boyd would also like participants to respond with their experiences at the website’s blog. Maps can be downloaded from the website and 3,500 will be distributed along the route.

“As we walk through the forest three years ago the presence of all-pervading but hidden feminine energy was revealed to me everywhere. That started the quest,” says project initiator Elly Scheepens.

At the time, Scheepens, who has been working as a sculptor and potter in New Denver since 1992, had been creating personal altars for clients. A native of Holland, she trained in pottery in Gouda and sculpture at Alberta College of Art and Science in Calgary. The inspiration came to Scheepens to have an altar in the forest to honour its energy. Boyd, a professional photographer, had recently moved to New Denver and was eager to lend photographer, had recently moved to New Denver and was eager to lend

“A great cat, Lulu, is affectionate as well as independent. She is a dedicated and accomplished mouser. Three years old, spayed, vaccinated, and healthy, she is ready to find her new home. Lulu is an inside/outside cat. She is on a diet, and doing well. Call KAAP at 250-551-1063 for more information or go to www.homes4animals.com

Littlefest adds second evening of performances this year

Littlefest has a beverage tent and line via PayPal at Littlefest’s website. Attendees are reminded not to bring dogs or alcohol.

Tickets are on sale at Eddy Music in Nelson, Slocan Village Market, Gau Tree in Winlaw, Rossland Chamber of Commerce, and Sunnyside Naturals in Kaslo. They can also be purchased online via PayPal at Littlefest’s website. Weekend pass tickets are $70 advance, $80 at the gate. Friday-only tickets are $30 advance, $35 at the gate. Saturday-only tickets are $50 and $60 respectively. Special rates for kids and seniors can be found on the Littlefest website at ticket vendor. Avoid disappointment and buy your tickets in advance.

For more information visit www.littlefest.ca.

Lucerne School receives grant for greenhouse

by Art Joyce

Lucerne School in New Denver has received a grant of $27,000 to build an educational greenhouse facility on school grounds. The school district was co-applicant with the Village of New Denver in the project.

Project proponent and Village councillor Kevin Murphy said the funding comes from a joint project by the BC School Trustees Association and the Union of BC Municipalities called Community Connections, which seeks to fund learning centres that connect existing facilities with the needs of communities. In a community economic sustainability workshop sponsored by the New Denver Healthy Housing Society last fall, residents identified community greenhouses as a top priority interest.

“The school’s greenhouse will function as a neighbourhood learning centre by offering hands-on workshops, consultation with professionals, and continuing education programs. The facility will be available to community groups throughout most of the year.”

“My vision is that it’s a self-sustaining, high-tech demonstration facility for the community that will

Submitted

Slocan Valley’s Littlefest will start a little early this year, Friday night at 7 pm. Gates open at 4 pm, and the music continues throughout the day Saturday and into the evening. So yes, that’s now two nights of frivolity on July 23 and 24.

What makes Littlefest special? Well, for a start, folks appreciate the beautiful setting at Littlefest, the on-site camping, discovering their new favorite band, the musical flow of the day and the intimacy of such a tiny little gathering. People were asking me at Friday Market if they could buy them, but I refused. You have to experience at the website’s blog. Maps can double as maquettes that can be

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Summerfest has a beverage tent and line via PayPal at Littlefest’s website. Attendees are reminded not to bring dogs or alcohol.

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Ray O. Blackwell & Associates Ltd.

Venerable folk-blues songwriter Greg Brown will be playing Friday, July 23 at this year’s expanded Littlefest at the Little Slocan Lodge.
Slocan condominium project gets approval to proceed

by Jan McMurray

The 19-member band continues to perform at Nakusp arena

COMMUNITY

The one cautious comment came from Linda Taylor, who has experience in real estate. “I think it’s fine that we’re changing things, but I hope council will stand their ground and make sure everything is done according to the bylaws and the necessary paperwork done,” she said.

The developer, Ray Cauzette, replied, “We have no problems following the rules – we just need to know what the rules are – in time and in the proper procedure.”

In an interview after the June 29 meeting, Eunice Ludlow of Slocan Holdings said the developer is very pleased that he can get working on the project again. “It’s been a long, slow and frustrating process for the developer and I’m sure it’s been a frustrating process in many ways for the Village,” she said. “The Village has had to work its way through a process that it had no previous experience with, and as a consequence, some mistakes were made. Some requests were made of the developer and were rejected, and different requests made.”

These mistakes have cost the developer hundreds of thousands of dollars, said Ludlow, and a number of people lost jobs that they should not have lost. Because of ‘mistakes,’ the company had to re-build the rock wall around the perimeter of the property, and remove some of the roof covering to meet the height requirement. Last year, there were 22 people working on the site, but that diminished to seven people in January 2010.

“I hope it will be smooth sailing from here,” she added.

Ludlow said that a ‘continuation permit’ will now be issued, allowing the company to complete the exterior of the building while they are putting together the documentation for the final permit. She said they hoped to have 20 or more people working on the site again very soon, and to finish the project this fall.

At the public hearing, the company’s lawyer, Ken Watson, described the project. It is a 16-unit, two-storey, townhouse-style condominium building, with essentially the same footprint as the old hotel. There will be two- and three-bedroom units, ranging from approximately 1,100 to 1,350 square feet. Each owner will own 1/16 of all the land and common areas. Each owner will pay taxes to the Village. Each owner is a member of the strata corporation, but the strata corporation does not pay taxes; individual condo owners do. The property is always subject to Village bylaws. The project will use Village water, and will have its own community septic system. The rock wall defines the exterior boundary; parking and landscaping will be inside the wall.

Glenn Miller Orchestra to perform at Nakusp arena

Submitted

On Sunday, July 25 the Arrow Lakes Arts Council is presenting a summer extravaganza at the Nakusp Arena Complex Auditorium. Starting at 6 p.m. the world famous Glenn Miller Orchestra is performing all of the ‘hits’ of the Glenn Miller sound. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

The legendary Glenn Miller was one of the most successful of all the dance bandleaders back in the swing era of the 1930s and ’40s. A matchless string of hit records, the constant impact of radio broadcasts, and the drawing power of theatre, hotels, and dance pavilions sustained the momentum of popularity.

Miller disbanded his musical organization in 1942, at the height of its popularity, volunteered for the Army and then organized and led the famous Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band. It went to Europe to entertain servicemen. The summer extravaganza at the Nakusp Arena Complex Auditorium. Starting at 6 p.m. the world famous Glenn Miller Orchestra is performing all of the ‘hits’ of the Glenn Miller sound. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

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Miller disbanded his musical organization in 1942, at the height of its popularity, volunteered for the Army and then organized and led the famous Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band. It went to Europe to entertain servicemen. Then, on December 15, 1944, Major Miller took off in a single-engine plane from England to precede his band to France, never to be seen again. The army declared him officially dead a year later.

Because of popular demand, the Glenn Miller Estate authorized the formation of the present Glenn Miller Orchestra in 1956 under the direction of Ray McKinley, who had become the unofficial leader of the Army Air Force Band after Glenn’s disappearance.

The 19-member band continues to play many of the original Miller arrangements that keep fans excited. They are also playing more modern selections in the big-band style, carefully selecting only those newer tunes that lend themselves naturally to the Miller style. The entire repertoire which now exceeds 1,700 compositions keeps the band popular with both young and old.

As this performance is advertised as a dance/concert, there are only 300 tickets being sold, to accommodate the ‘swingers’ who like to dance. There will be a concession and wine available at the bar. Tickets are available at the Broadway Deli in Nakusp for $25.

July 5-6 power outage affects Nakusp, New Denver area

By Art Joyce

Nakusp and New Denver area residents were plunged into darkness the evening of July 5 when a power outage struck, affecting 2,800 people in Nakusp, New Denver, Rosebery, Hills, and Silverton. According to BC Hydro’s Jen Walker-Larsen, at 9:30 p.m. a tree came down on a transmission line in the 800 block of Billings Road, causing a transmission line and a distribution line to break and fall to the ground. BC Hydro line crews repaired the transmission line by 1:30 am on July 6, with service restored to most Nakusp customers. In New Denver and Silverton service was restored to customers by 5 am, with service on Billings Road restored by 11:30 am.

“BC Hydro would like to thank the Nakusp Fire Department and Emergency Coordinator for their quick action to secure the site of the downed lines,” says Walker-Larsen. “BC Hydro would also like to remind customers to stay at least 10 metres (33 feet) away from downed lines at all times and do not attempt to remove debris surrounding the line.”

BC Hydro has a multi-million dollar program to remove trees and vegetation providing potential safety and security threats near our power lines and facilities. This includes trees affected by the Mountain Pine Beetles. Last year the program removed over 450,000 such trees near transmission lines.

To report fallen lines call 1 888 POWERON (1-888-769-3766) or log on to your BC Hydro account online.
COMMUNITY

Mirror Lake residents create anti-speeding petition

by Art Joyce

Fifty-one Mirror Lake residents have signed a petition calling for action to slow down speeding in their community. The petition was sent to Area D Director Andy Shadrack, Kaslo Mayor Gerry Lay, MLA Michele Mungall, the RCMP detachment in Kaslo and Nelson and the Ministry of Transportation.

According to petition organizer Birgit Stradal, seven out of 10 drivers observed by residents exceed the 50 km/h speed limit. Some have been observed speeding as fast as 90 km/h, highly dangerous on the narrow, windy stretch of road that meanders through the small community. Stradal says she has spoken with Corporal Chris Backus of Kaslo RCMP but has been told that the detachment is too small, with only three officers, to cover a territory that extends as far as Trout Lake.

In the cover letter for the petition the residents are asking for the installation of speed bumps and two pedestrian crossings. They are urging the installation of a radar camera along with signs at both ends of Mirror Lake indicating that speed is being monitored. The community would also like more speed limit signs placed in more visible locations.

The Ministry of Transportation’s Bruce Lintott came to Mirror Lake on June 25 with an engineer. As yet the ministry is still considering options such as more signage, but Stradal says drivers are ignoring the signs anyway.

“We’re not alone, the same problem is happening in Ainsworth and Shatby Bench,” says Stradal. “Everybody pays police taxes, but we don’t see them here enough. We think the only real solution is to ticket people because that’s the only way they’ll stop speeding.”

At Ainsworth the speed limit is also 50 km/h but most drivers have been clocked at 80 km/h. She believes a bylaw officer hired to cover these areas and issue tickets could be a cost-effective solution. Although the petition has been told that the detachment has spoken with Corporal Chris Backus of Kaslo RCMP but has been told that the detachment is too small, with only three officers, to cover a territory that extends as far as Trout Lake. The petition residents are asking for the installation of speed bumps and two pedestrian crossings. They are urging the installation of a radar camera along with signs at both ends of Mirror Lake indicating that speed is being monitored. The community would also like more speed limit signs placed in more visible locations.

Reading Rocks for kids at Nakusp Library

The Kaslo Car Show Committee would like to thank the following businesses & individuals for making this past May 23 May Days Car Show another successful event. It was attended by hundreds of appreciative folks who enjoyed a sunny day, topped off by a well-attended and exciting Burn-Out event.

Kaslo


Kaslo


2010 Show ‘n Shine Trophies

Best Antique Car or Truck
Harry Summerville - ‘30 Plymouth 4 dr sedan

Best Motorcycle
Tom Smyth - ‘70 Norton

Best under construction
Irvin Ziegler - ‘32 Ford “B”

Best Paint
Tom Kubos - ‘34 Ford 5-Window Coupe

Best Orphan
Alan With - ‘62 Daimler

Best Import
Alan With - ‘62 Daimler

Best Engine
Wally Drezzof - ‘66 Chevelle

Best Ford
Colin Sherbrin - ‘55 Crown Vic

Best Chevy
Brady Benton - ‘55 Belair Hardtop

Best Mopar
Brenda & Denise Simard - ‘70 Plymouth Cuda

Best Street Rod
Tom Kubos - ‘34 Ford 3-WINDOW Coupe

Wayne’s Pick
Tom Kubos - ‘34 Ford 3-WINDOW Coupe

Chamber of Commerce Choice
John Nesbitt - ‘31 Chevy Coupe

Fire Chief’s Choice
Bill to cover a tower - ‘57 Buick

Mayor’s Choice
Gaye Isenor - ‘37 Hudson Terraplane

Long Distance
Robb Eggerston - ‘64 Caddy Hearse

People’s Choice
John Reichert - ‘46 GMC Rat Rod

Best of the Best
Harry Summerville - ‘30 Plymouth 4 dr sedan

Best Burnout - Oral Amoroso

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Nikkei Internment Centre to receive national historic status

by Art Joyce

New Denver’s Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre will be receiving recognition as a historic site of national significance. The Kyowakai Society will be hosting the unveilng of a plaque at the centre on July 31, in conjunction with Parks Canada and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBMC). The Village of New Denver will also be unveiling of the contributions of the Kyowakai Society to the community.

The Kyowakai Society, founded in New Denver by Dr. M. J. W. Muth in 1921, is the only wartime Japanese-Canadian internment organization still in operation. Its members used funds from reparations paid by the Canadian government to establish the centre.

“Rather than keep the money for themselves they decided it was more important to preserve our future foundation. For, they felt that very sad part of our history,” says New Denver Mayor Gary Wright.

On February 24, 1942, a federal Order in Council under the War Measures Act authorized the internment of “enemy aliens” and Canadians of Japanese descent were moved to camps for the duration of the war. By the summer, the British Columbia Security Commission, the provincial agency charged with implementing the federal government’s internment policy, had constructed a makeshift centre at New Denver. The first internees included a place in the summer heat, eventually housing 1,500 Japanese Canadians.

According to New Denver 2010 Citizen of the Year Nobby Hayashi, the first winter was brutal for the internees, with some of the lowest temperatures in recent memory. There was nothing more than boards and tar paper between internees and the freezing cold. The shack lacked running water, so ice blocks had to be chopped from Slocan Lake and melted on woodstoves. While some centres were demolished after the war’s end, some of the buildings still exist or have been reconstructed at New Denver. The centre is one of the few internment sites to be preserved in such detail, complete with photographs, letters, documents and a wide range of artefacts. With its Centennial Centre and peace gardens, the centre has become a treasured place of remembrance and community identity for today’s Japanese Canadians.

The ceremony will begin at 1 pm with brief speeches so as to conclude by 2 pm. Dr. Harold Kalman of the HSMBMC will deliver the official unveiling of the plaque designating the Nikkei Centre as a national historic site, with the federal government represented by Conservative MP for Kelowna-Boundary Lake Country Ron Cannan. NDP MP for BC Southern Interior Alex Atamanenko and MLA Katrine Conroy have been invited as well.

New Denver Mayor Gary Wright will preside at the official unveiling of the Village plaque. That evening at 7 pm guests will be treated to a performance by dancers and drummers from the Chibi Taiko troupe of Vancouver. Some 200-300 guests from the Japanese Canadian community across the province are expected.

Kids Valhalla Adventure Week set for early August

Submitted by Jan McMurray

Are you between the ages of 9 and 14 and looking for some serious outdoor adventure? Want to climb to the mountain top, shred a trail on your mountain bike or hike and camp in Valhalla Park?

The Valhalla Adventure Week, which runs from August 3-7, is set to make that happen. The camp is being run by Leah Brown of Footstep Eco Adventures in partnership with Slocan Valley Recreation and Endless Adventures. It offers full days of fun for those who sign up.

During the week kids will hike up Idaho Peak and ride the Gala Trail. After getting a canoeing lesson, they will paddle into Valhalla Park for an overnight adventure under the stars. As well there’s a field trip into Bamfoot Point for a day of picknicking and swimming. These may be the activities of the day, but expect a lot more in each of them.

From learning about the ecosystems around us and how we interact with them, to discovering the rich history of the area. Add in orienteering and wilderness survival basics and these days will be full. Each day will see the kids gaining more outdoor confidence and it’s being hosted by an instructor with extensive experience.

For more information contact Leah Brown at 250-355-2937. To register contact Slocan Valley Recreation at 250-226-0008 or email at slocanvalleyrec@rdck.bc.ca.

Increased CBT funding for small communities in the works

by Jan McMurray

Some very good news is coming down the pipe for the smallest communities in the Columbia Basin.

The Columbia Basin Trust board has endorsed new parameters for the Community Initiatives/Affected Areas funding program. One of these new parameters is that no municipality, electoral area or First Nations band will receive less than $30,000 per year under the program.

This makes a huge difference for Silverton, Slocan, New Denver, Salmo, and other communities in the Kootenay Basin.

For the last three years, based on the per capita formula, Silverton has been receiving $2,660; Slocan has been receiving $2,660 per year, these communities will now have a five-year commitment, and the minimum amount of $30,000 per year.

Hoodikoff says the board came up with the new $30,000 parameter based on feedback from the public and a re-evaluation of the goal of the program and CBT’s mandate.

“The goal of the program has always been to give communities an opportunity to shape their futures, and that can’t be done in small communities based on a per capita figure,” she said. “CBT’s mandate is to play a meaningful role in community development. Communities will now be able to shape their futures in a much more meaningful way.”

Hoodikoff added that CBT had received feedback from the smaller communities that the application process was too onerous for such a small amount of funding.

This funding program comes around every February or March, with decisions finalized in April or May.
RCMP officers from the Slocan Lake detachment turned out in their finest red serge to lead the Canada Day parade in Silverton this year.

Silverton’s Canada Day celebrations close with a bang thanks to the fireworks display coordinated by the New Denver/Silverton fire department.


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e-mail: magic@redmtn.ca phone: 250-358-2448

The dog tricks category of the Great Canadian Dog Show at Silverton’s Canada Day celebrations had the crowd laughing. Chloe and her master walked off with a bucketful of awards.
Cedar Creek Café hosts eclectic lineup of music for July

by Art Joyce

New Denver’s own Shades of Loud will be performing at Cedar Creek Café on Thursday July 15 at 7:30 pm on the outdoor stage, weather permitting. The cover charge will be $5.

The band, which formed in 2007, will also be performing at the Nakusp Music Festival this year. Their press kit describes them as “all-original psychedelic punk” with generous helpings of funk and rock, or a crossover of the White Stripes with the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

The band’s personnel are Jeremy Down on guitar and lead vocals, J Buttle on bass and Chris ‘Fuzzy’ Warren on drums. The rhythm section shares vocal duties. The three describe themselves as having “completely different musical backgrounds” that have that rare gift of a musical combo: chemistry that not only works, it sizzles. Down has rocked out with Lorded and his solo project the Jeremy Down Band. Buttle has performed with bluegrass ensembles as well as alt-rock bands, while Warren provides funky beats for his Fuzzy Logik DJ outfit, and has beaten skins for Chesterfield Dreams.

For more information contact the band at shadesofloud@gmail.com.

Then on July 20 restaurant patrons are in for a treat with a double bill: Miss Quincy and Locomotive Ghost. Miss Quincy comes alive on stage through the stories and characters she picks up along the way. Audiences are captivated by her blend of tales that incorporate Wild West wrangling, saloon brawls or midnight serenading. Miss Quincy draws her musical inspiration from the classic blues ladies of the 1930s, boot stompin’ bluegrass and a healthy dose of vaudeville.

Playing with the energy of a derailing freight train, Locomotive Ghost has stoked the excitement of Nelson’s fiery music scene. Their original rock and roll melds smoky grooves and full-steam dance music, steered by songwriters Mike Buckley (guitar, keyboards, vocals) and Tyler Toews (guitar, vocals), and propelled by rhythm duo Ben Nixon (bass) and Cortney O’neen (drums). Locomotive Ghost tips their conductors’ hats to legends like Bob Dylan, Neil Young, and The Band. The cover is by donation; $5 recommended.

The café serves up delicious Kootenay Fusion diner fare, and the OceanWise certified menu entrées include vegetarian fare, grass-fed beef and bison burgers, and their famous halibut fish and chips. Owner and chef Paul Kelly has a knack for delicious, healthy food served up with panache, easily one of the best restaurants in the Slocan Valley.

For reservations call 250-226-7355. For more information on Miss Quincy go to www.missquincy.net; for Locomotive Ghost see www.reverbnation.com/locomotiveghost.
Nakusp reviews permissive tax exemptions

by Art Joyce

Nakusp council held a special meeting the afternoon of July 6 to hear from community organizations and non-profits regarding their tax exemption needs. Council is conducting a review of its permissive tax exemption policy. Although many were concerned that the Village might be considering eliminating these tax breaks, Mayor Hamling explained that this is not the case. “Council is just doing due diligence because this policy has never been reviewed before. What we thought we’d do is take a look at the needs of everybody to see if they need the full tax rebate or not. We’re not out to beat anybody up here.”

She added that other municipalities are reviewing their permissive tax exemption policies and some are even phasing them out. More and more of the tax burden is being shifted from federal and provincial to municipal and regional levels, so the shortfall must be made up by the local taxpayer base.

As it stands, Nakusp’s policy allows for 1.5 percent of the total tax base to be exempt for community groups and nonprofits. The mayor explained that with current Village exemptions at over $28,000, the total is closer to three percent, in contradiction of the bylaw.

Under the Local Government Act permissive tax exemptions can be given for periods of up to ten years, in order to avoid organizations becoming dependent. Council can decide, based on applicants’ budgets, to grant only partial exemptions if their financial health improves. Currently, Nakusp reviews exemption applications annually, something several community groups would like changed.

Representatives from the Royal Canadian Legion, Canadian and Area Community Services, Nakusp Launch Club, Hakylon Assisted Living Society, Nakusp Historical Society, Nakusp Chikmate Society, and Nakusp Hospital Auxiliary made presentations to council and submitted budgets.

Legion representative Rene Brunton said the local chapter operates on a five-year plan and finds it difficult to plan based on the current annual review. He would like to see the exemptions granted for three to five years, as would most of the other applicants.

CAO LaFeur pointed out that one reason for the Village’s annual review policy is that property tax assessments tend to rise each year. Consequently, the amount of the exemptions granted could rise quite steeply over a five-year period.

Nakusp and Area Community Services director Mark Brunton said he felt the review represented a “crossroads” for council in terms of its general attitude toward supporting nonprofit groups. He said that 95 percent of the money received by the agency is returned to the community through the 22 programs it offers. A recent provincial review of Employment Centres, which the agency also operates, exempted Nakusp’s centre from closure due to its low operating costs and record of success helping locals get jobs.

“How time the work we do used to be done by government; that was hand to non-profits to do,” explained Brunton.

Brunton also spoke on behalf of the Hakylion Assisted Living Society and said that the facility is operating without any reserve funds, so the loss of their tax exemption would make them insolvent. Mayor Hamling sympathized, adding that during past negotiations with BCRA regarding the facility, “we couldn’t get a penny out of them.”

Rosemarie Parent spoke on behalf of the Arrow Lakes Historical Society, noting that after this year the society will lose the funding it has had from BC Gaming for the past 10 years. This will likely mean the archives will have to start charging for information it has traditionally given for free. “This operation is not a business and cannot be treated as one,” said Parent.

Rosemarie Parent spoke on behalf of the Nakusp Childcare Society said the daycare centre they operate is widely considered one of the best in the West Kootenay. With more and more people having to work outside of town, their services are needed more than ever. She said the society will have a balanced budget for the first time but the loss of the exemption would put them in the red. “We think we should reserve or extra money in place for when things go wrong,” she said.

Ken LaFrance of the Nakusp Launch Club said the group is in a unique situation in that its non-profits, because the facility is actually owned by the Village. However, he explained that with the exceptional stresses on the infrastructure from the raising and lowering of lake levels, maintenance costs are high. Part of the club’s philosophy, unlike more typical community groups, is to keep rates low so locals can continue to use the facility. The club has had to raise rates by 25 percent the past two years already and if the tax exemption is lost, rates will have to be raised higher yet, potentially excluding many local seniors who use the facility.

Dale James spoke on behalf of the Nakusp Hospital Auxiliary, explaining that they have no paid staff and are blessed with a very active volunteer force that keeps operating costs down. “I am McCurry read a letter on their behalf, emphasizing the non-financial value of the services such groups provide to the community.” “The $28,000 of tax exemption is a small amount compared to what we’d lose if these organizations had to leave or shut down.”

The show’s opening will be July 8, 7:30 pm Nightly. The Valley Voice
Kaslo community forest adopts long-range strategy

by Art Joyce

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society held a meeting July 7 to call for a vote on its proposed long range strategy. The vote had been postponed from the annual general meeting in order to allow members 30 days to review the document. When the vote was called, adoption of the strategy passed easily.

“We’ve been working for just over a year to create a long term strategy for the community forest. We built a team with a range of perspectives and expertise,” said KDCFS board member Steve Anderson.

The strategy as it stands now is not a draft but a final version. In the areas of economics and climate change, the committee felt their team was weak, and that it would be prudent to have outside experts review the plan. Consultant Bryce Bancroft was hired to review the strategy’s climate change profile and said he thought the team had done an excellent job.

Anderson said another area of concern was sensitive areas within the community forest. Although the KDCFS charter has a section devoted to this, it was felt this needed some strengthening. “Community members have put an immense amount of volunteer time into this project,” said project coordinator Laurie Moss. “They were heroic in getting involved; it was a methodology many weren’t familiar with.”

Moss explained that the methodology adopted for use in formulating the plan had to deal with considerable uncertainty, change and complexity for an organization impacted by external forces. Flexibility and early warning feedback is needed to respond quickly to change. The Similkameen Valley and the City of Castlegar, Alberta have recently adopted a long-range plan based on this approach. He said the board has already received positive feedback from the Ministry of Forests and Range.

“One of the real strengths of this planning process is that you evaluate things as they unfold and adapt accordingly,” said Moss. One concern raised by a member was the issue of a marketing implementation program in place to ensure the strategy’s objectives are actually carried out “on the ground.” Moss said this is a top priority item in the nine-point strategy implementation list. Board member Rob Mitchell said he was concerned about the potential for shifting priorities with future boards and wants to see this link to the website as a “constant reminder for this board and future boards that we have some steps to complete.”

Another member asked what the board’s intention was with regard to producing value-added wood products. Anderson replied that the board is interested in providing material for local certified value-added manufacturers but aren’t interested in becoming primary producers at this time.

Rob Mitchell said he was concerned about the potential for shifting priorities with future boards and wants to see this link to the website as a “constant reminder for this board and future boards that we have some steps to complete.”

RDCK Area D Director Andy Shadrick said as a member of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy committee he is “extremely worried” about the water situation, and wants to ensure water stewardship remains a priority issue for the community forest. Moss said that water is central to the sustainability of the forest, and has been identified as a major issue in the strategy. Some locals had been confused by this and there seemed to be different versions of the strategy document posted on the website recently. Erika Bird asked how the board could expect to proceed without sufficient ‘buy-in’ from the community. Moss explained that the ‘new’ documents were simply summaries of the strategy, including a five-page summary issued for the AGM and the 27-page summary issued weeks later. One of the three people hired did the business plan for the greenhouses during this period.

Phase one of the project involves purchasing the riverfront property across from the old Marblehead Station, originally the site where marble from the Marblehead Quarry was milled. The heritage buildings on the property were recently burned down – police suspect arson.

The property has more recently been used as a dumping ground, so an environmental assessment needs to be done. The society has applied for a provincial grant for the environmental assessment, and expects to hear in the near future.

Meanwhile, the society has been able to negotiate a very reasonable five-year lease, with the option to renew.

Mungall welcomes UBC intern to work on regional food security

Asadulla Ashram for the past two years.

The Valley Voice July 14, 2010
Langham Community Centre presents the works of Boundary artist Tajai Alexev in the main gallery and local artist Shelley Ross in the community gallery on Friday, July 23. A reception will be held between 7-9 pm with artist talks to begin at 7:30.

With his exhibition, Essence, Alexev explores the states of imperfection and temporality by painting macroscopic tropical leaves in a decaying state. Some of the background treatment includes ‘infinite’ repeat designs reminiscent of Mughal miniatures or temple carvings of southeast Asia. The recipient of an award for the study and research of natural dyes and surface textiles, Alexev uses a paste resist technique to bring emphasis to these states. He says that in his exploration of textile practices, the pieces that held the most relevance were the ones exposed to the elements in one or a number of ways and for days at a time. These works conjure ‘memories’ of the Old World, suggestive of trading cloths, maps forgotten in tombs and parchment.

The Shelley Ross exhibition of watercolour paintings, Lichens of the Kootenay Valley: Lovely, Luscious and Likeable, is the result of a year’s exploration of the lichens that grow in this region. Although her academic background is in biology, in nature, she sees colour, form and patterns before species identification and classification. Ross is a self-proclaimed messenger for an under-appreciated life form. Her watercolours bring light to the unusual, intricate forms and beautiful colours provided by these organisms. Her work invites, indeed urges us as viewers to carry the intrigue of her exhibition to the outdoors – to our great forests, where one can appreciate the myriad of lichens growing there firsthand.

Hanoski pleads not guilty to burning down Silver Ledge

by Greg Nesteroff

The man accused of burning down Innsworth’s historic Silver Ledge Hotel has pled not guilty. Randolph Paul Hanoski, 53, wasn’t present for the hearing in Nelson provincial court last week, but lawyer Tyleen Underwood entered the plea on his behalf and said he wished to be tried by judge alone. The case was adjourned until Sept. 21 to set a trial date.

Crown prosecutor Sunday Patola indicated a significant amount of evidence still needs to be disclosed, including an as-yet incomplete fire marshal’s report. She said the trial would hear from a number of police and civilian witnesses and likely take two days, although Judge Don Sperry suggested three days was more likely.

Hanoski was arrested June 3 and charged with arson after fire levelled the 114-year-old hotel and a trailer next door. He was released on $10,000 bail and has been staying with family in Calgary. Hanoski and his former partner Cathy Brewer owned the hotel, which they purchased in 2007 from longtime owner Lawrie Duff, who ran it in summer as a museum.

Alexev and Ross

The program delivered to secondary students out of Selkirk College in Nakusp will have an alternate education focus, with self-paced learning and some instruction from the Villages of New Denver, Nelson and Nakusp has Search and Rescue (SAR) groups in Silverton and Slocan. We expect to serve nine elementary students in New Denver and 15 secondary students in Nakusp,” said Superintendent Walter Posnikoff.

Posnikoff said that Distributed Learning is very individualized, with some computer-based courses.

The elementary students who are expected to register in New Denver are currently home-schooled, and will continue to study from home. The teacher will have weekly contact with the families. Students will have the use of the school gym and library, and will be included in field trips and other activities at the school. Students must meet BC curriculum requirements. “We are designing the curriculum with the parents,” said Posnikoff.

The program delivered to secondary students out of Selkirk College in Nakusp will have an alternate education focus, with self-paced learning and some instruction from the ministry on July 8,” said Superintendent Walter Posnikoff.

International students may be coming to both Nakusp Secondary and Selkirk Secondary Schools as early as February 2011, but perhaps not until September 2011. The program is in partnership with School District 6 Rocky Mountain, which has the oldest running international student program in BC. SD6 has interest from more international students than it can accommodate, so SD10 is prepared to take some of the extra students.

Representatives from SD10 met with Duncan McLeod of SD6 at the end of June, where McLeod outlined the details of the program. It is expected that a formal agreement will be signed by the two school districts in late August or early September. A homework coordinator will be hired in each community.

International students pay their own tuition and homestay fees, resulting in $6,000 per full-time student for the school district and $600 per month for the homestay family.

The Arrow Lakes Distributed Learning School will hopefully open in September at two sites – Lucee School in New Denver and Selkirk College in Nakusp. “We expect to serve nine elementary students in New Denver and 15 secondary students in Nakusp,” said Superintendent Walter Posnikoff.

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International students may be coming to both Nakusp Secondary and Selkirk Secondary Schools as early as February 2011, but perhaps not until September 2011. The program is in partnership with School District 6 Rocky Mountain, which has the oldest running international student program in BC. SD6 has interest from more international students than it can accommodate, so SD10 is prepared to take some of the extra students.

Representatives from SD10 met with Duncan McLeod of SD6 at the end of June, where McLeod outlined the details of the program. It is expected that a formal agreement will be signed by the two school districts in late August or early September. A homework coordinator will be hired in each community.

International students pay their own tuition and homestay fees, resulting in $6,000 per full-time student for the school district and $600 per month for the homestay family.

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**Why Food Security?**

by Aimée Watson

This column is the first in a series written by the Kasto Food Security Project. Over the next few months, the KSFP will be writing articles about how individuals and communities can address food insecurity. The column is sponsored by St. Mark’s Anglican Church in Kaslo.

Food security is when all people, at all times, have access to food that is available, safe, personally acceptable and culturally appropriate foods, produced in ways that are environmentally sound and socially just. If food were not a basic need, we would have to be able to pay more. If food were not a basic need, we would have to be able to pay more.

Food security initiatives can offer a broad range of programs that address health, justice, economy, and the environment. At the core of these areas are in crisis within our modern food system.

People in need of help, whether in hospitals, care facilities, or at home, are receiving processed food that is highly processed, full of chemicals, and rarely fresh. How can people get better when the basic needs in communities across the world because the most accessible, affordable and physically available food is the least nutritious and most harmful? Food security supports healthy living and the sustainability of the system that we require to live the least accessible and most nutritious way.

Food security initiatives can offer a broad range of programs that address health, justice, economy, and the environment. At the core of these areas are in crisis within our modern food system.

The principles of justice, democracy and equity require that good food is available to everyone, not just those who can afford to pay for it. Nor is it acceptable that BC’s food policy is based on the exploitation of people or the environment in other countries. Slave traders are trafficking boys ranging from the age of 12 to 16 from their home countries and are selling them to cocoa farmers in Cote d’Ivoire, according to research conducted by the University of America in Washington, DC.

Without food production, there is no economy. Full-cost accounting reveals the costs as well as the risks of a food system which is dependent on outside sources, long-distance movement of food, high-input agriculture, and poor population health. Food dependency holds political as well as economic dangers; any jurisdiction which cannot feed its people is at the mercy of whoever does. When these ‘externals’ are included, the cost of a conventional bread basket goes up by 16 percent.

The impact of industrial food production on the environment is huge. Our food depends on a substantial amount of manufactured implements derived from oil. In 1940, our food system used one calorie of fossil fuels to produce 2.3 calories of food. Today, we use 10 calories of fossil fuels to produce one calorie of food. After cars, food is the biggest user of fossil fuels at 19 percent.

For more information, visit www.fooddemocracy.org.

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**LIVING**

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**Food Exchange student says farewell by Kirsten Jensen**

When I left Denmark a year ago, I had no idea what Nakusp was like. When I arrived here, it was nothing but a strange place to me – all I knew was that I was going to spend a year of my life in this small town. What I did not know was that it was going to be a year of great trips, good food and amazing people.

This year was full of new and different experiences, from holidays like Thanksgiving and Hallowe’en, to skiing in the Kootenays and tubing on the lake, to learning how to be a real Canadian redhead.

Once school started, I met more and more people and started establishing a normal life. Everyone was very open and welcoming, which made it easier to become part of the community.

I come from a city of 80,000, so coming to such a small and tight community was quite a change. It was not until halfway through the year that I really started feeling like part of it. It was interesting for me to see how different it can be to live in a place where everyone knows everyone – and to see that as with all other things, it has its good and bad sides.

Now, I can take the best from this small community, where people are always ready to help each other out, and bring it home to inspire people and mix it in with the great things a city has to offer.

The move from Denmark to Nakusp taught me more than just the fact that I could live a life. It proved to me that no matter where in the world I go, I can make a difference because the difference is only superficial; people are and always will be people.

If you have ever thought about being an exchange student – do it! You won’t regret it.
Silverton Gallery hosts clay workshop, musical improvisation coffeehouse

Whether you’re eager to get your hands dirty learning to work with clay or keep them clean while others entertain you, the Silverton Gallery has something for you this month.

Clay artist Willo Treschow will offer a two-part workshop July 22 and August 12 from 11 am to 3 pm. And on Saturday, July 24 at 7 pm, Brian Stolle will host a musical improvisation coffeehouse at the gallery.

Treschow’s clay workshop starts on day one, July 22, with helping you create your own bowl, tile or box as you learn primitive hand building techniques. The workshop will be inside on the main floor of the gallery.

On day two, August 12, learn how to open pit smoke fire your work to create a beautiful finish to your work of art. The workshop will take place outside at the back of the gallery/museum building.

Bring a light lunch and drinks on both days. Open to all ages; children under 12 must be with an adult. The number of students is limited to 15, though a second group will be created if interest is high enough. The cost is $25 for both days and for materials.

To book for the clay class, call Willo at 250-355-2248.

The musical improvisation coffeehouse on July 24 is hosted by musician Brian Stolle. He has invited local musicians who regularly gather in Rosebery for evening jams, along with other musicians from Nakusp and Winlaw, to bring their talents and creativity out for the public to enjoy for this special event. Admission by donation. No alcohol will be served but there will be refreshments as always.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Valley Voice ads make an impression!

The Valley Voice July 14, 2010
SCRATCH Youth Writing Challenge winners announced

Forty-four young writers took part in the Columbia Basin Trust’s (CBT) creative writing challenge. The challenge asked youth ages 15-29 to submit works of fiction with appealing characters, a dynamic plot and magnetic style, all located in the Columbia Basin.

Amos Tanguay from Nelson took the top prize of $1,000 with his short story, The Gene Knows Where To Go. Julia Caceres Booth from Winlaw was the top prize of $1,000 with his short story, Columbia Basin.

The eight other finalists, who received a $100 gift certificate to a Basin bookstore of their choice, are:

- Trans-Canada, and received $500.
- Aanika Ruutopold (Rossland), Julia Ismael Bernier (Kaslo), Kim Wiest (Nelson), Melinda Pedersen (Nelson), Aanika Ruutopold (Rossland), Julia Mason (Rossland) and Kristopher Eide (Invermere).

But the challenge is not over yet! CBT is asking Basin residents to help decide who should receive the remaining prize. The Reader’s Choice Award will honour one more writer with a $300 gift certificate to their favourite local bookstore.

Pick up a copy of the SCRATCH Summer Reading Edition at locations (www.scratchonline.ca/mag) around the Basin, or read the top ten submissions online! The core program will consist of a series of workshops including ensemble, boardroom history, technique, improvisation and computers in music. The core program costs $300 and will take place at Lucerne School in New Denver.

For more information on Classical Guitar or Campfire Guitar programs, call 1-877-458-7794 or email vssminstrumental@valhallafinearts.org. For more details on Scott Arnold or the program, visit www.valhallafinearts.org/vssm.

Body of missing Nakusp man recovered

The body of Billy Coffman of Nakusp was found by local kayakers on June 29 in Arrow Lake, near the mouth of the Kuskanax River. Coffman had been missing since the early morning hours of June 9, when others from the literary field that will be beneficial to the youth that will continue to participate in SCRATCH Magazine,” said Michelle d’Entremont, CBT Basin Youth Liaison.

Nakusp RCMP report that the body of Billy Coffman of Nakusp was found by local kayakers on June 29 in Arrow Lake, near the mouth of the Kuskanax River. Coffman had been missing since the early morning hours of June 9, when he lost his balance and fell in.

Police, Nakusp Search and Rescue, and a dive team conducted searches with no success.
Credit unions finance water awareness in the Slocan Valley

Although we vote in local elections where the outcome can affect us directly, we can also choose to vote with our dollars. The only way to reshape the economic landscape of a place is to rethink how the money flows. An obvious choice would be between supporting a locally owned store or a non-local chain store, but a more subtle choice is where we choose to do our banking.

Large banks finance big ticket items, like the off-shoring of jobs to third-world countries, as well as the trade of highly-leveraged financial instruments. Community credit unions have tighter capital controls and therefore a healthier pool of reserves to draw on. They also invest more money back into the communities they serve in the form of mortgages, small business loans and donations to local causes.

It has become common knowledge of late that one of the best things we can do as a community is to build local self-sufficiency as a means of decentralizing from a system that does not have our best interests at heart. This can come in many forms, from protecting our forests and waterways, to natural home building, starting farms and farmer’s markets, to reengineering our local economy.

The three donors are in agreement that giving strengthens and binds credit unions to their roots – sustainable, healthy and vibrant communities. By working together and pooling financial resources they wish to make a collective difference for water awareness.

Heritage, Kootenay Savings, and Nelson & District Credit Unions clearly understand and implement fundamental aspects of local economic well-being. Through their collaborative generosity in awarding funding for a watershed art/info installation, they are also demonstrating awareness and concern for our local water sources.

Community

Black Russian Team hosts skatecamp in Slocan

The Black Russians are back! This summer, the skatecamp planned for Tenacity, the Skatepark in Slocan, will be going ahead from July 19 to 23. Members of the crew will be joined by several special friends during the week and they’ll be skating for love – for the love of their great friend and skater – Josh Evin. Josh hosted the first skatecamp last year and was looking forward to returning to offer it again.

The program is being offered through Slocan Valley Recreation and is being hosted by Shandy Campos of BC Action Adventures. The hours are set up so the valley can be used to get to and from the camp.

“Josh was an influence,” says Shandy Campos. “He had a passion and love of skating that infected everyone around him. He may have been known around here, but he always brought it back home.” Evin tragically died in a motorcycle accident last month.

Eugene Voykin & Nato Goer of the Black Russian skate team will be on hand to offer riders of all ages some great tips during the week. There are no strangers to the camp, helping out with last year’s group. Campos is also arranging to have other guest skaters showing up every day of the week.

To share their love of the sport (and Josh) with the kids. During the week there’ll be barbecues, a road trip to another skatepark, a dip in the lake when you get hot and a whole bunch of great prizes and gifts from sponsors for those lucky enough to participate.

So if you’re a rider wanting to get some tips on improving your ride, then call Slocan Valley Recreation at 250-226-0008. Space may be limited so call today for details.

Heading back to Haiti

Three Mt. Sentinel students are heading back to Haiti in August with a group from Nelson.

“We are going down primarily to help with the children, as they are having a hard time after the earthquake,” said Margaux Tappin. “We’re all really excited to go and are organizing fundraising events and accepting donations.” To support the kids, a Nelson hair salon, Waves on the Lake, is hosting a cut-a-thon on July 22 and 23 from 4 pm to 8 pm. Minimum donation is $20 for a cut and $30 for a cut and style. Call 250-352-9283 for an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Donation jars will soon be set up at stores in the community. Anyone wanting to help out by making a donation can drop it off at Mount Sentinel School.

Don’t miss New Denver’s street fair

New Denver’s tenth annual street fair is happening on Sunday, July 25 from 8 am to 3 pm. The main street (Sixth Avenue) is closed to vehicles, and vendors sell everything from antiques and collectibles to new and gently used stuff – retro, vintage, fun and funky.

Come stroll the street and find the treasures you’ve been yearning for. All proceeds from vendor rentals go to local New Denver charities.