Smart meter issue heats up as installation time draws nearer

by Jan McMurray

With BC Hydro scheduled to install smart meters in our area in May and June, local opposition is mounting.

The residents of Red Mountain Road (just south of Silverton) and Argenta/Johnson’s Landing have been polled and the overwhelming majority are against the meters. The Villages of New Denver and Silverton have both written letters asking for a moratorium on the mandatory installation of the meters. The RDCK passed a resolution at its April 12 meeting supporting the right of property owners to choose whether or not they want smart meters on their properties. Several people in the area have locked up their existing analogue meters with a collar lock to prevent the change-out of their meters.

Three meetings were held in the area recently on the topic. On April 4, a meeting was held in Argenta to provide information to the citizens of Argenta and Johnson’s Landing about the meters. Werner Hoffelinck of the Vernon chapter of Citizens for Safe Technology came to the area and gave presentations in New Denver on April 4 and Kaslo on April 5. He is returning to present in Nakusp April 20, Winlaw April 21 and Trail April 23.

Several negative aspects of smart meters were examined at all these meetings, including the lack of democratic process in bringing them in, their interference with other electrical and wireless devices, higher hydro bills, the high cost of the program, their vulnerability to security breaches or hacking, and adverse health effects.

There was information on locking up existing analogue meters and an update on the two legal battles being fought by the Citizens for Safe Technology Society.

MLA Michelle Mungall spoke at the Argenta meeting. She acknowledged that she was being partisan, but said the smart meter issue exemplifies two themes that have been recurring throughout the Liberal reign: lack of accountability and a disregard for the public.

“We’re spending $1 billion on gadgets—not on health care or home care or residential care or long-term care or education or post secondary education or ensuring future jobs. We’re spending $1 billion on machinery to replace machinery that already works,” she said. Mungall wants to see accountability for this decision, but the Liberals have exempted the BC Hydro smart meter program from the BC Utilities Commission process, which would provide some independent oversight.

Bob Yetter of Johnson’s Landing, who organized the Argenta meeting, reported that BC Hydro had declined his invitation to the meeting even though they said they take every opportunity to inform people about the program.

Mungall pointed out that the NDP energy critic presented a petition against smart meters to the legislature with more than 15,000 signatures, and RDCK Area D Director Andy Shadrack, who attended both the Argenta and Kaslo meetings, reported that the majority of BC local governments voted against the mandatory installation of smart meters at the Union of BC Municipalities conference last September.

Shadrack also reported that in Likely, BC’s smart meters were installed in mid-September and nine people lost their wireless internet service for five weeks. The Likely internet service provider, CP Electronics, finally discovered that the smart meters were interfering with the wireless internet signal, and had to spend $12,000-$15,000 to replace equipment so there would be no more interference.

Citizens for Safe Technology representative Werner Hoffelinck said there have been reports of electronic equipment such as fridges and computers blowing out, and of interference with pacemakers and other medical implants after smart meters have been installed. Amateur radio operators are also being affected.

Everywhere smart meters have been installed, hydro bills have gone up, said MLA Mungall. “Interesting ‘family first agenda,’” she commented. She urged people to let her know if their bills were increasing.

Susie Madden will be honoured as Nakusp’s Citizen of the Year at a ceremony and banquet, April 28.

Bob Yetter of Johnson’s Landing, said an article in the Province newspaper talked about a man whose bill jumped from $170 to $2,000. He had automatic payment set up, and he is fighting to get his money back. People were advised to cancel automatic payment plans.

The $1 billion cost of the smart meter program was also called into question. A Citizens for Safe Technology analysis of the costs in other jurisdictions shows that BC is paying much more than anywhere else, at $555 per meter. Ontario paid $233 per meter. The average cost per meter in US jurisdictions is $221.25.

In Idaho, where wired meters were installed, the cost was only $142 per meter. BC Hydro has stated that they decided against wired meters because it is more costly. Hoffelinck also pointed out that the lifespan for a smart meter is 20 years, compared to 50 years for an analogue meter. So 20 years from now, they will all have to be changed out again, and in 10 years, he said their batteries will have to be changed.

Security concerns are also valid, said Hoffelinck, as wireless systems are very vulnerable to hacking. “Banks are wired because of security—these are not secure,” he said. “People have hacked into the CIA and the Pentagon, so it is not going to be a big problem to hack into this system. Someone could shut down the whole grid.”

continued on page 3

Would saving $700 affect your decision to buy a new catalytic wood stove?

The RDCK has a $350.00 cash incentive to changeout old non EPA certified wood stoves with new ones.

As a Special Blaze King Dealer we are able to offer an additional $350.00 off of the list price of our qualifying stoves. We even have an EPA certified wood Add-on Furnace that qualifies.

For more information, call (250) 355-0088

website: www.kootenayfurnace.com • email: kfurnace@netidea.com

The Valley Voice is a locally-owned independent newspaper
Support for local businesses offered by Rural Development Institute of Selkirk College

by Jan McMurray

Surveying local businesses to find out what they need and then acting on the findings is what a Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E) program is all about.

The Rural Development Institute (RDI) at Selkirk College is providing support to regional communities in the Columbia Basin-Boundary to carry out BR+E programs. Terri MacDonald, lead researcher at the RDI, gave a presentation about the institute and the BR+E program in New Denver on April 5, and will be presenting in Nakusp on April 25.

“The BR+E program is focused on the support, retention and expansion of businesses already in your community,” explained MacDonald. “This is a highly effective economic development approach, especially in rural areas. Growing from within is key.”

MacDonald said that 70 percent of a community’s job growth comes from its existing businesses. “Bringing people in to start new businesses is much more difficult,” she added. The RDI can help regional communities set up a BR+E program through providing orientation and training, customizing the business survey to fit the community, and analyzing the data. The community must come up with a project committee to do the planning, obtain funding, hire a researcher/coordinator, handle public relations and ensure both immediate and long-term action. A paid researcher/coordinator surveys the businesses and inputs the data.

MacDonald said Columbia Basin Trust has committed to providing up to $10,000 for the researcher/coordinator, and has purchased a licence to use the provincial ‘Business Counts’ program. ‘Business Counts’ comes with a ready-made survey and online database designed for BR+E projects. The RDI will help to customize the ‘Business Counts’ survey for the community involved.

MacDonald emphasized that the success of the project depends on a committed project committee and support from the local government, Chamber of Commerce, and economic development organization. “You have to follow through and you have to repeat the program every three years,” she said.

Expected outcomes of BR+E projects include an improved understanding of the needs and collective challenges of a business community, research to inform a response to business needs and economic development planning, and improved cooperation between key stakeholders. BR+E programs are already underway in Nelson, Revelstoke, Greater Trail, the Boundary region, Cranbrook, Kimberley, Golden, and the Elk Valley.

THE VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

NOTICE – ARBOR DAY

The Village of New Denver is holding an Arbor Day on Monday, April 30, 2012. We will pick up all yard and pruning waste that is placed at the curb by 8 a.m. Please ensure that all branches are bundled and tied and all garden refuse (leaves, etc.) is bagged. Absolutely no household garbage or construction material will be picked up. Thank you for your cooperation.

RELEASE A JUVENILE WHITE STURGEON

Date: Monday, April 23, 2012
Time: 12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
Place: Hugh Keenleyside Dam, near Castlegar (Celtar side of the river)

This is your chance to help an endangered species!

Join the Upper Columbia White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative (UCWSR) on April 23rd for the annual juvenile sturgeon release event. Come and release your very own sturgeon, learn more about these amazing fish and touch these ‘ancients of the deep’ that have remained largely unchanged for 175 million years.

For more information call BC Hydro Castlegar office at 250 365 4550. Free shuttle rides available from Pioneer Arena starting at 11:30 a.m. Service provided by Mountain Transport Institute.

The Release Event is hosted by the UCWSR with funding support from BC Hydro, FortisBC, Tack and the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of B.C. and Fisheries and Oceans Canada).

Come and meet Rick Hansen and his 25th Anniversary Relay team from 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. Proud supporters of the Sturgeon Release program.

You’re Invited…

Our strategic plan wants your input! Communities are key stakeholders in our college: the foundation upon which we’ve grown and the people we serve. Help us remain relevant, responsive, and reflective of our communities’ needs.

CHOOSE YOUR COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE 4 PM – 6 PM

April 23  Grand Forks Learning Centre
May 2    Nelson Tender Street Campus, Scholar’s Dining Room
May 7    Kaslo Learning Centre
May 10   Castlegar Campus, Staff Lounge
May 15   Trail Campus, Muriel Griffiths Recital Room
May 16   Nakusp Learning Centre

For details call 1.888.653.1133 or visit selkirk.ca.

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEER WEEK

The Board and staff of Columbia Basin Trust would like to thank the many dedicated volunteers in the Basin who devote their time and energy to strengthening our communities and helping create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being - thank you!

www.cbt.org  1.800.505.8998  info@cbt.org
Feature film shoot in Silvertown and Kaslo calls for extras submitted

Rising Dawn Productions will be filming concert pianist/filmmaker Dharel Verville, starring in the major motion picture production “On the Shore of Dreams,” on Sunday, April 29, at Heritage Hall in Silvertown and on Sunday, May 13 beginning at 3 pm at St Andrew’s Heritage Hall in Kaslo.

Dharel Verville is looking for local citizens to come and fill the halls, as the shoot is looking to include audience in the finished film. “We’re looking for a variety of people to fill the halls, particularly in response to Dharel Verville’s virtuosic piano playing,” says Rambottom.

“On the Shore of Dreams,” the title of the film, is the tragi-comic, thought-engaging, heart-stirring and enigmatic story of a brilliant concert pianist who becomes severely afflicted with a multiple personality disorder.

The story begins when the ‘shattered pianist’ meets Julia (the psychotherapist) and tells her of his heart wrenching experiences connected to the current ‘war on terror,’ images of wounded and maimed children, which have led to his emotional and mental breakdown.

These experiences have become so frequent and severe that he is no longer able to perform concerts and suffers the delusion that his own child has been killed in the war.

The story quickly develops in comically tragic complexity as Julia identifies five distinct ‘personalities’ that are unaware of each other, and she begins to introduce each of these distinct personalities to each other. Each personality experiences the war and its effects very differently and each one interprets and responds to moderately to severely affected by electromagnetic frequencies by 2017. Currently, three to eight percent are severely electrosensitive.

Microwave radiation has been found to cause stress to break down, according to Hoffelink and there have been incidents of fires caused by the meters.

Yurchuk explained that we are electrical beings, and every cell in our body is like an antenna. Electromagnetic frequencies don’t just come “down from above,” they can “filter down” until the EMFs go away. If we are exposed 24/7, our bodies never have the time to recuperate, resulting in premature cell death, which causes chronic fatigue, infertility, a weakened immune system and permanent damage to genes.

Yurchuk reiterated, “Our bodies are electromagnetic. We are very low electromagnetic beings – in the 8-10 hertz frequency – and the earth is the same. You move to the rhythm that’s present. Smart meters are pulling us into a higher frequency – a stressful situation. To think of these meters with new eyes is absurd and incorrect.” Yurchuk said people stretch that the war on terror. You, the audience could be in the film as the producer is looking for audience response.

In the film, Dharel Verville is performing late Beethoven masterpieces with the very special performance of the 1st movement of Beethoven’s 5th symphony transcribed for piano by the great composer Franz Liszt. The story is about a concert pianist who has developed a multiple personality disorder related to the war on terror. You, the audience could be in the film as the producer is looking for audience response.

On the Shore of Dreams, a major BC motion picture is in production and will be shooting at the Silvertown Hall in Silvertown April 29th and at 1101 PM. This will be Dharel Verville, the concert pianist in the film, performing late Beethoven masterpieces with the very special performance of the 1st movement of Beethoven’s 5th symphony transcribed for piano by the great composer Franz Liszt. The story is about a concert pianist who has developed a multiple personality disorder related to the war on terror. You, the audience could be in the film as the producer is looking for audience response.

Public Notice of Intent

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure gives notice pursuant to Section 2(1) and 2(2) of the Transportation Act, that an application has been made to change the name of that portion of McKillop Road, in the Edgewood area and lying 2.4 kilometers from Robinson Road to its terminus adjacent to Lots A and 1 of TP 69, 1057, Kootenay Desert.

A plan showing the location of the proposed road name change may be viewed at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure’s office at 310 Ward Street, Nelson, BC. The application is open to inspection at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure’s office at 310 Ward Street, Nelson, BC.

Any comments regarding this proposed road name change should be submitted in writing to the Ministry contact noted below no later than May 23, 2012. The identity of any respondents and the contents of anything submitted in relation to this application will be part of the public record.

Operations Technician
Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure
West Kootenay District
4th Floor – 310 Ward Street, Nelson, BC
V1L 5S4

(358-6884 to inquire about lack of calls.)

ULRIKE ZOBEL, LAWYER
PRACTICE RESTRICTED TO:
CRIMINAL & FAMILY LAW
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
206 Broadway St, Nakusp, BC
250-265-4372 • 1-877-265-4372
www.ulrikezobel.com
Serving the Arrow and Slocan Lakes
Time to fund heritage

Over the course of the last several decades, all levels of government have reduced the amount of funding going to heritage projects in this country. When faced with budgetary crises of their own making, successive provincial and federal governments have chosen to cut funding for heritage conservation, rather than raise taxes or cut spending on other areas of the budget.

While there’s still a few capital grants out there for heritage projects, government has gotten away from funding the operations of heritage sites. Small museums run by non-profit societies have been particularly hard hit by successive rounds of belt-tightening. Volunteers are burning out, and getting older. Most museums have restricted their hours of operation. Professional staff are being laid off, or woefully underpaid.

Heritage buildings are not being maintained, and volunteers spend more time fund-raising than conserving. The problem isn’t money, it’s political will. Until we can convince our politicians that heritage is sexier than new fighter planes or prisons, a bigger tourist attraction than a year-round ski resort on a receding glacier, and a better vote-getter than new washrooms in every community hall in the Slocan Valley, heritage will continue to get short shrift.

That’s a shame. When we don’t take care of our history, we lose track of who we are. We no longer know where we came from, and it becomes impossible to chart a path forward.

Our heritage, as a nation, a province and as communities is the most important legacy of our ancestors, and our most important gift to our children and grandchildren. It’s time to stop the neglect.

Urban myths of B.C.

Urban myths are stories that are repeated so often and are so believable that they are accepted as truth. They are not based on evidence, but on tradition and hearsay. They are often used to manipulate public opinion, and to support political agendas.

Silverton council song and dance

Mayor Provan and the Village of Silverton councilors told me at the Silverton Facilities & Recreation meeting (April 3) that they and the Village staff had put a lot of time and thought into the problems we have with the campground.

I am amazed!

If that much time and effort has gone in, why don’t they have direct answers to direct questions?

When I asked how many trees would remove to accommodate traffic when they build the fence, they said they didn’t know. I asked if they had plans to cut down any trees in the campground. Chairperson Love said he may have heard a whisper. Hey, I asked an intelligent question, I would like an intelligent answer. Another councillor told me two trees were being removed, one of which is the tree that leans toward our house. Our thanks to council for that – it is a step in the right direction.

When I asked directly if I would have access to Water Street if I were to build a garage at the back of our property, one councillor member said that they hadn’t seen a building application from us. Then I was reminded my street address is 5th Street and the Village has no obligation to grant us access from anywhere else. Again, song and dance. No real answer.

We are not asking for more access – we just want Water Street to remain an access, as it has been since it has been a street.

So I asked why council refused to do what we had originally asked them to do with the campground. I was told that they weren’t willing to give up 30 to 40 feet of the campground. They also said they didn’t want to lose the revenue from the loss of campsites. With all the time and effort they claim to have put into this, they forgot to do something – Listen To Us! We asked for 25 to 30 feet. As to the loss of campsites, there won’t be any. Just move the access for some and make two or three tenting sites that would be accessed from the middle of the campground.

After all the song and dance and no real answers, I was told I wasn’t allowed to bring up these issues anymore because they had answered my questions enough times. Go figure, eh.

I’ll leave you with this. All council members who live in town use as their main access a street or lane that is not their street address.

Don & Barb Broughton

Silverton Government must be fiscally responsible

When the Slocums left office in 1991 the total provincial debt was $19 billion. A decade later under the NDP it had doubled to $38 billion and this year Liberal Finance Minister Kevin Falcon is projecting that it will reach $62.7 billion by 2013-14. It has not mattered whether it was an NDP or Liberal government in power since 1991 – the increase in public debt has averaged $1.9 billion a year.

In effect the public debt has grown at a rate of 15 percent per year far above any expansion of the economy or the rate of inflation.

What’s the point of cutting personal and corporate income taxes, as both the NDP and Liberals have done, if we have had to borrow an average of $1.9 billion per year to pay for those tax cuts? Further, sooner rather than later, the cost of borrowing that $62.7 billion is going to cost us, the taxpayers, a lot more than the $19 billion debt left by the Slocums.

In politics, if you think something is too good to be true, then it usually is. Just like you cannot let the social fabric of a society or the environment that surrounds us unravel, so too can you not be fiscally irresponsible in government.

Andy Shadrack
Kaslo
Katimavik decision disappoints youth

In praise of bridges and tunnels

April 18, 2012
The Valley Voice

Disappoints youth

I am writing in response to a letter in the April 4 issue of Valley Voice from Vladimir Stuchlik. If Katimavik has problems at the Gula Bay ferry, I am in complete agreement and sympathy with this man. I use both this ferry and the one at Needles frequently, and have experienced numerous delayed lengths. Acknowledging that the ferries do, and will break down on occasion, I have often wondered what would happen in the event of a serious medical emergency at one of the terminals?

Much longer and larger bridges and tunnels than would be needed here have been built in many parts of the world, and have by now seen years of service with no significant problems. In many cases, these structures are in areas with far greater external physical risks than a bridge or tunnel at either Arrow Lakes crossing would have to endure. In other words, we have the technology.

If you read your history carefully, you will discover that a bridge was promised at Needles in 1965. After this length of time, that bridge would be long paid for. If the political will exists, money for a fixed link can be found, and I would also pay a toll to use it. When are the Kootenays going to be part of the outside world?

Cam Clayton
Kasdö

Open letter to BC Hydro

In regards to your aptly named smart meters, my dictionary defines “smart” as a reference to misery, a source of harm, or, specifically, “to suffer acutely.” The word stems from the Germanic word smerd, “pain.” The word does not imply “intelligence.” The closest it comes to is “witty.”

The professional physician’s organization, American Academy of Environmental Medicine (est. 1965), has joined the ranks of “intelligent” people and organizations calling for a moratorium on these harmful smart meters.

Maybe we should listen to the doctors... The AAME’s position is: “Chronic exposure to wireless radiofrequency radiation is a preventable environmental hazard that is sufficiently well documented to warrant immediate preventative public health action.” Further: “...medical evidence suggests health risks which can potentially affect large populations.”

Information to the contrary can always be bought with sufficient research funds, but the mounting scientific evidence of health impacts from wireless devices has become irrefutable. In the face of such significant documentation, even the World Health Organization and the Health Canada board, declaring EMFs a class 2b possible carcinogen, have been forced to the ramparts of necessity and that gets very expensive. It requires multi-lane waiting areas with large and small vehicles separated. But twinning the ramp will also require twinning the highway for at least one kilometre on each side. Otherwise the traffic will jam the ramp, and delay the ferry even more. It seems source... will anyone be accountable for this? It’s the taxpayers’ money at work.

Based on the information so far, the advantages of the fixed link over the larger single ferry come out at least 2:1. This is when taking into consideration the cost, environmental impact, reduction of traffic through inhabited areas, and perhaps even cancellation of the night on-call hours at Needle ferry. The wildlife traffic accidents will be reduced, and I wonder how many people have been deterred from entering due to difficult road conditions, who would have taken the Revelstoke route if the fixed link was there. So the advantages of the fixed link are almost too many to count. The fixed link is a win-win situation everywhere you look.

One caller said the ferries are a tourist attraction. If so, why not turn Galma ferry into a real tourist attraction? For a paid ticket, it can run all the way to Nakusp and even further south during the tourist season. Perhaps some free enterprise business would give it a try.

Vladimir Stuchlik
Kasdö

Testing the IQ of ‘smart’ meters

I just returned from my first speaking tour in the Kootenays. First I would like to thank the numerous people who helped to organize my presentations in New Denver and Kasdo. Some helped to source a venue, others took on the role of wonderful hosts and the people in attendance. Without the good folk of the Kootenays, the coverage of my vehicle expenses. Many expressed their gratitude for the indepth information provided.

My presentation covers the multitude of issues, flaws and the dark side of the smart meter program. Utilities tout the smart grid program as having multiple benefits to the customer. Close scrutiny reveals that there are absolutely no advantages for us and there are many issues surrounding the program. There is a short description of some of them.

Financial: while utilities say the technology will keep rates low, we only see increases. Some customers are reporting doubled and tripled bills in every plan, the smart meters have been installed.

Security: all wireless data transmission technology can be hacked into. Even the Pentagon wasn’t safe to hacking and the Stuxnet virus attacked a nuclear plant in Iran.

Bees are not returning to their hives, in the presence of the meter, pollinators are losing their appetite for the pollen. Without pollinators we lose most of our food supply.

Privacy: there is no way any company can guarantee the safety of the privacy of the data they collect from us. With ‘smart’ appliances communicating with the smart meters, we will have no privacy left at all. Most of our activities will be monitored and could also become available to anyone acquiring access to this information.

Environment: analogue meters have a 50 years + excellent track record and as a robust, reliable technology, don’t need to be replaced. By adapting the smart meter digital technology, the step will be made towards metering expenditures, as constant updates and replacements akin to our home computers will be necessary. The data collection will be extensive; the privacy will require large amounts of extra money, more because of the fact that wireless technology is very energy hungry. The wireless communications industry has already become the number one power consumer.

Health: independent studies reveal the many risks accompanying the wireless technology. By attaching a radiofrequency-emitting device to our homes, we will be used as guinea pigs in the largest worldwide experiment ever. Even the Fastest of institutions to take measures to protect health, has now labelled microwave radiation as a possible class 2a carcinogen (IARC), which attaches a radiofrequency-emitting device to our homes, we will be used as guinea pigs in the largest worldwide experiment ever. Even the Fastest of institutions to take measures to protect health, has now labelled microwave radiation as a possible class 2a carcinogen (IARC), which
Kaslo council, April 4: Canada Day folk festival hopes to set up on Water Street

by Jan McMurray

• Mayor Lay opened the meeting with a moment of silence for Isabel Butler, who passed away on March 29. She was mayor of Kaslo 1976-79 and councillor 1975-77 and 1985-87. She also played a key part in the Moyie restoration project.
• The Kaslo Canada Day Festival Society is planning a two-day folk festival on June 30 and July 1, with fireworks on Canada Day. A letter from John Eckland of the society states: “It is our ultimate goal to build the folk fest so that it can rival Jazz Fest in size and beneficial economic impact for the Village in the years ahead.” The plan this year is to set up the stage behind the hotel, backing up to the lake, with seating on Water Street, the Village Green and the hotel property. Eckland’s letter requests closure of Water Street behind the hotel and Village Green from 10 am to 10 pm on the two days. The request was referred to the Development Services Committee for recommendation to council.

As per the policy for street closures, all hotel and Village Green business owners will be notified of this request and asked for their input.

The street closure policy will be reviewed by the Municipal Services Committee, as it was pointed out that the policy puts the onus on the property owner to contact the affected property owners, but Village staff carried this out for the Sustainable Fire Committee request as well.

• A repair project description for the SS Moyie Interpretive Centre from the Kootenay Lake Historical Society was approved. The 20-year-old centre will get a new roof covering, new eaves troughs and downspouts, new treads on the exterior stairway, repairs to the north deck, and new double doors facing the lake.

• It appears that development plans for the slandroad building are on hold. A letter from lawyer Tom Humphries informs council the paperwork that would allow posts to be placed on the sidewalk in front of the building is complete, but the owners of the property have instructed Humphries not to register the document. Humphries assures council that he will not register the document without first notifying council.

• WREN Consulting will be asked to contact the Village for a field tour of fuel management locations when weather permits, and before the end of May 2012.

• An email from Diana Brooks, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, follows up on her presentation to council on March 13 about the BC Jobs Plan. She says the Village is automatically included in the BC EFBC (Experience Based Employment Lands Inventory) and she will be in touch to identify and profile investment and business opportunities in the community. This was referred to the Sustainable Economic Development Select Committee for information.

• Correspondence from the Ministry of Transportation confirms that the street closure policy will be in place when the City Hall building to Mohawk will be finished this summer.

• At a budget committee meeting April 4, it was agreed to apply for $24,500 in RDCK Community Development Funds, for economic development ($1,000), fuel management ($5,000). The proposal was presented at a public meeting on April 11 at the Legion Hall by Terry Swan, Regional Fire Chief at the North Okanagan Regional District.

“There is a reasonable expectation that you are going to pay less, but we have to go worst case scenario,” said Swan. “If I’m not going to stand in front of you in a year’s time and say we made a mistake and let’s do it again.”

Residential taxation on the fire service, including the capital cost of renewing the existing equipment, the department, would be 97.5 cents per $1,000 of assessed property value. “This would apply to residents of the Village of Kaslo, the portion of Area D from just south of Fletcher Creek to Shufty Bench. Currently, the defined Area D residents are paying 96 cents per $1,000 and Kaslo area residents are paying 45 cents per $1,000.”

“The new proposal will go to referendum on August 31.”

Over the course of the meeting, it became clear that the current fire service in Kaslo is not sustainable. The hall is not big enough to house all five major pieces of equipment owned by the department, and some of them are stored elsewhere. The building would not pass WorkSafe BC inspection and would be extremely costly to bring up to standard.

The department owes $314,116 on two trucks, and will have to replace two trucks at a cost of $451,000 in seven years. “If we don’t do something now, we won’t have the service to its own, it’s headed downhill and it will crash,” warned Swan.

The proposal is for the fire department to buy a new truck, in a cost of $314,116. If the hall is in a poor state, the assets would become the property of the RDCK, but would remain in Kaslo. People were assured that the “name, heritage and community identity of the Kaslo Volunteer Fire Department would remain unchanged as an RDCK service.”

Mayor Lay pointed out that the RDCK would be taking over the department’s debt, thereby reducing Kaslo’s debt load. The budget would include a reserve fund to pay for $451,000 in seven years for the two new trucks. Also, the RDCK would be borrowing the money to construct the new fire hall, so Kaslo’s borrowing power would not be affected.

“Neither of us can afford to do this on our own. This is not about the RDCK trying to take over – it’s about partnering to give our citizens long-term, sustainable fire protection,” said Swan.

“We’re recovering a service, making it a better service that will be here 60 years from now and will cost you less in the long run.”

The cost was the biggest concern of the public. “This is a hard sell – that’s the coffee shop talk,” said Pat Muckle. “If it had happened five years ago, it wouldn’t be so hard, but now, when the economy is so bad, it’s a hard sell.”

Swan understood, but he hoped people realized they had the possibilities they could lose the service.

“Is this a Cadillac or a Chevy?” someone asked, to which Swan replied, “A Chevyette.” The proposed new station is 7,000 square feet, with two drive-through bays, each 100 feet long. It can house six apparatus and is essentially identical to the same hall that was built recently in Sorrento. BC. It is proposed as a wood frame building, as Kaslo has a Wood frame First Policy. It was also pointed out that a wood frame building would be more likely to attract local bids than a steel frame building.

Swan said he looked at a steel frame building, and the savings would be $200,000 at most, which would be a matter of pennies off each tax bill, “so let’s support Kaslo’s Wood First policy and local labour.”

Swan listed all the ways the costs, and therefore people’s taxes, could come down. First, the Village of Kaslo is providing the land beside the arena for the new fire hall and the water connection, and Area D Director Andy Shadrick has agreed to pay the Village $100,000 in exchange for the land ($55,000 for the land and $45,000 for the water). Shadrick has also received立项 of the RDCK Community Works (gas tax) funding, but he must get approval from the RDCK board before he can make the contribution. That $100,000 is in the budget now, but is pretty much guaranteed to come out.

Second, the budget numbers are based on 2017 numbers, not 2013 numbers. Construction of the hall is proposed to start spring 2013.

Third, Ainsworth and Woodbury will be going to referendum to determine if they want to continue receiving fire response (not fire protection) from the new regional department. Currently, those two communities receive fire response service from the Kaslo Fire department at a cost of $12,000 per year. If the referendum on fire response for Ainsworth and Woodbury is successful, the budget will be $12,000 to the good.

Fourth, when the same fire hall was built in Sorrento, the cost was much less because of community support. If Kaslo and area can pitch in, there will be savings.

Fifth, the interest rate for borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority today is 4.1%, but Swan factored in 5.1% to this budget.

Sixth, the capital costs will go away in time. The money owed on the existing equipment will be paid off in 10 years, so about $345,000 will be taken out of the budget in 10 years’ time. The term of the loan is 20 years.

The proposal includes $1,430,000 total capital costs: $1,250,000 for the construction of the new hall, $25,000 for septic and hydro, $25,000 to furnish the hall, and $13,000 for contingencies. The annual cost of borrowing the debt is 4.1%, so the annual cost (capital plus operating) is $123,106. Annual operating costs of the department are $191,010. So, the total annual cost (capital plus operating) is $314,116.
Slocan council, April 10: Interface fire protection remains a priority

by Veronika Pellowski

• Stephan Martineau of SIFCo made a presentation to council, encouraging a continued interface fire protection program. Martineau complimented council on the extensive fuel management work already carried out by council.

He outlined two UBCM funding programs with application deadlines of April 27 and October 5. The Fuel Management Protection Program provides 75 percent funding towards the development of prescriptions, which are planning documents for the fuel treatment work to be done in identified areas. The Community Operational Fuel Treatment Program then provides 90 percent funding up to $100,000 and 75 percent funding thereafter for the work described in the prescriptions to be implemented.

Martineau estimated that a prescription program for Slocan would cost $10,000-$12,000 (UBCM $9,000, Village $3,000).

New Denver council, April 10: Council Cafes successful

by Michael Dorsay

• Councillor Fox reported on the Council Cafe conversations, and suggested creating a “living document” to be posted on the Village website, where people can continue to provide feedback. Mayor Bunka stated the café sessions were “a great idea,” and that she had received positive comments on them. Council decided to schedule the next café for the following Monday.

• Councillor von Krogh reported meeting with the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society. He informed council that a similar organization exists for Kootenay Lake and is supported by RDCK. von Krogh hopes the SLS will be RDCK supported next year, and noted that the BC Lake Stewardship Society would be holding its annual conference in Silverton June 8-10.

• CAO Gordon reported back to council on the response from Ministry of Highways concerning the possible closure of 8th Street to Highway 31A. She informed council the ministry could not provide “children playing” signs because the road would have to be signed if the school is located on a highway. They provided the name of one company that makes rumble strips, and Gordon will research others and bring back costs to council.

• Mayor Bunka reported that the Youth Centre is on track to open May 1 in the former Panini building.

• Councillor von Krogh reported meeting with builder Gordie Burns of Nelco Marine and the Village crew regarding the wharf. The discussion included examining the condition of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the waterfront, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff. Materials will be stored at one campsite near the Kohan Garden, and CAO Gordon noted the permits were refiled. Hodsoll remarked that the project was on target and on time to start May 1.

• Councillor von Krogh reported that Recreation Commission #6 would be meeting April 25 to adjudicate this year’s Spring Grant-In-Aid applications.

• Council approved Kasiol Sufferlet Society’s use of Centennial Park September 29, and agreed to waive the $100 fee this year only.

• Council authorized attendance at the BC Hydro rate increase meeting.

• Councillor Hodsall met with the Secure the Shore Project group and SLUGS, noting all parties are on board for the restoration project on the waterfront near the Kohan Garden. The group will hire a project manager, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff.

• Councillor von Krogh reported meeting with builder Gordie Burns of Nelco Marine and the Village crew regarding the wharf. The discussion included examining the condition of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the bottom, swimmer’s ladder, deck surfacing, snow removal, and length and height of proposed additions. Mr. Burns will be submitting estimates soon, as work would have to be done at low water times.

The Corporation of the Village of Slocan

P.O. Box 50, Slocan B.C V0G 2C0
250-355-2277
info@villageofslocan.ca

NOTICE:

FOR SALE BY BID

The Village of Slocan has the following vehicles available for bid:

1989 GMC 7000 Top Kick, Single Axle Dump Truck / Belly Plow
110,000 km, 3208 Cat turbo diesel, 10-speed Eaton Trans, air brakes, near new winter tires, comes with hydraulic belly plow. CVI expired September 30, 2011.

MINIMUM BID: $7,000

1994 Trail Tech 10-Ton Equipment Trailer
22' flat deck with beaver tail and ramps, tandem duals, electric brakes, and pintle hitch.

MINIMUM BID: $7,500

Contact Tim Hill at the Village of Slocan for more information or to submit a bid. Please forward bids under confidential cover to:

Tim Hill, Public Works Supervisor
PO Box 50, 503 Slocan Street
Slocan, BC V0G 2C0
Email: thill@villageofslocan.ca
Fax: (250) 355-2666

BIDDING CLOSURES JUNE 15, 2012 at 4:00 pm

April 18, 2012 The Valley Voice

surfacing, snow removal, and length of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the waterfront, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff. Materials will be stored at one campsite near the Kohan Garden, and CAO Gordon noted the permits were refiled. Hodsoll remarked that the project was on target and on time to start May 1.

• Councillor Hodsoll reported that Recreation Commission #6 would be meeting April 25 to adjudicate this year’s Spring Grant-In-Aid applications.

• Council approved Kasiol Sufferlet Society’s use of Centennial Park September 29, and agreed to waive the $100 fee this year only.

• Council authorized attendance at the BC Hydro rate increase meeting.

• Councillor Hodsall met with the Secure the Shore Project group and SLUGS, noting all parties are on board for the restoration project on the waterfront near the Kohan Garden. The group will hire a project manager, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff.

• Councillor von Krogh reported meeting with builder Gordie Burns of Nelco Marine and the Village crew regarding the wharf. The discussion included examining the condition of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the bottom, swimmer’s ladder, deck surfacing, snow removal, and length and height of proposed additions. Mr. Burns will be submitting estimates soon, as work would have to be done at low water times.

The Corporation of the Village of Slocan

P.O. Box 50, Slocan B.C V0G 2C0
250-355-2277
info@villageofslocan.ca

NOTICE:

FOR SALE BY BID

The Village of Slocan has the following vehicles available for bid:

1989 GMC 7000 Top Kick, Single Axle Dump Truck / Belly Plow
110,000 km, 3208 Cat turbo diesel, 10-speed Eaton Trans, air brakes, near new winter tires, comes with hydraulic belly plow. CVI expired September 30, 2011.

MINIMUM BID: $7,000

1994 Trail Tech 10-Ton Equipment Trailer
22' flat deck with beaver tail and ramps, tandem duals, electric brakes, and pintle hitch.

MINIMUM BID: $7,500

Contact Tim Hill at the Village of Slocan for more information or to submit a bid. Please forward bids under confidential cover to:

Tim Hill, Public Works Supervisor
PO Box 50, 503 Slocan Street
Slocan, BC V0G 2C0
Email: thill@villageofslocan.ca
Fax: (250) 355-2666

BIDDING CLOSURES JUNE 15, 2012 at 4:00 pm

April 18, 2012 The Valley Voice

surfacing, snow removal, and length of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the waterfront, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff. Materials will be stored at one campsite near the Kohan Garden, and CAO Gordon noted the permits were refiled. Hodsoll remarked that the project was on target and on time to start May 1.

• Councillor Hodsoll reported that Recreation Commission #6 would be meeting April 25 to adjudicate this year’s Spring Grant-In-Aid applications.

• Council approved Kasiol Sufferlet Society’s use of Centennial Park September 29, and agreed to waive the $100 fee this year only.

• Council authorized attendance at the BC Hydro rate increase meeting.

• Councillor Hodsall met with the Secure the Shore Project group and SLUGS, noting all parties are on board for the restoration project on the waterfront near the Kohan Garden. The group will hire a project manager, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff.

• Councillor von Krogh reported meeting with builder Gordie Burns of Nelco Marine and the Village crew regarding the wharf. The discussion included examining the condition of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the bottom, swimmer’s ladder, deck surfacing, snow removal, and length and height of proposed additions. Mr. Burns will be submitting estimates soon, as work would have to be done at low water times.

The Corporation of the Village of Slocan

P.O. Box 50, Slocan B.C V0G 2C0
250-355-2277
info@villageofslocan.ca

NOTICE:

FOR SALE BY BID

The Village of Slocan has the following vehicles available for bid:

1989 GMC 7000 Top Kick, Single Axle Dump Truck / Belly Plow
110,000 km, 3208 Cat turbo diesel, 10-speed Eaton Trans, air brakes, near new winter tires, comes with hydraulic belly plow. CVI expired September 30, 2011.

MINIMUM BID: $7,000

1994 Trail Tech 10-Ton Equipment Trailer
22' flat deck with beaver tail and ramps, tandem duals, electric brakes, and pintle hitch.

MINIMUM BID: $7,500

Contact Tim Hill at the Village of Slocan for more information or to submit a bid. Please forward bids under confidential cover to:

Tim Hill, Public Works Supervisor
PO Box 50, 503 Slocan Street
Slocan, BC V0G 2C0
Email: thill@villageofslocan.ca
Fax: (250) 355-2666

BIDDING CLOSURES JUNE 15, 2012 at 4:00 pm

April 18, 2012 The Valley Voice

surfacing, snow removal, and length of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the waterfront, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff. Materials will be stored at one campsite near the Kohan Garden, and CAO Gordon noted the permits were refiled. Hodsoll remarked that the project was on target and on time to start May 1.

• Councillor Hodsoll reported that Recreation Commission #6 would be meeting April 25 to adjudicate this year’s Spring Grant-In-Aid applications.

• Council approved Kasiol Sufferlet Society’s use of Centennial Park September 29, and agreed to waive the $100 fee this year only.

• Council authorized attendance at the BC Hydro rate increase meeting.

• Councillor Hodsall met with the Secure the Shore Project group and SLUGS, noting all parties are on board for the restoration project on the waterfront near the Kohan Garden. The group will hire a project manager, and will discuss the project with Public Works crews and Village staff.

• Councillor von Krogh reported meeting with builder Gordie Burns of Nelco Marine and the Village crew regarding the wharf. The discussion included examining the condition of the wharf, pilings, rock protection for the bottom, swimmer’s ladder, deck surfacing, snow removal, and length and height of proposed additions. Mr. Burns will be submitting estimates soon, as work would have to be done at low water times.
Burton Elementary may close and evolve into learning centre

by Jan McMurray

The school closure process for Burton Elementary School began April 5, when the board of education for Arrow Lakes School District No. 10 learned that next year’s enrolment would be six students at most. A public meeting was scheduled for April 17 at the school.

“Over the spring break, we found out that some families are moving, taking six children out of the school,” reported Board Chair Pattie Adam. “So at our board meeting, we decided to start the closure process right away.”

Currently, 10 children attend this K-4 school. Projected enrollment for the fall was 12 before the news came through of six students moving away. “On the bright side, there is a group in Burton that would like a Neighbourhood Learning Centre in the school,” said Board Chair Adam.

Sally McLean, Burton resident and vice-principal of Burton, Edgewood and Nakusp Elementary Schools, is part of the community group that is taking the lead on the Neighbourhood Learning Centre (NLC) idea.

“We can go ahead with a Neighbourhood Learning Centre regardless of whether or not there is a school program in our building, and keep the school as a centre for education in our community,” said McLean. “I think it’s very important for our community that it still will be a school. Some day, I think there will be enough children in Burton, so it’s good to keep it alive and ready for that time.”

NLCs are an initiative of the Ministry of Education to promote community use of schools, and can include many programs and services for all ages, such as child care programs, sports programs, and seniors’ centres.

McLean said there are already programs at the school that fit into the model, “so this is about formalizing it.” Currently, the Burton Reading Centre shares the school library, and there are regular volleyball and basketball nights in the gym. A StrongStart program has been up and running for two years, and community groups hold meetings at the school. Other ideas the group has come up with for the NLC are seniors’ programs, programs and post secondary education.

McLean explained that the idea took seed in fall 2010, when the school was up for closure the last time and a group of community members met to brainstorm ways to bring more funding to the school. She went away from that meeting and found out about the NLC initiative. The group met again in January this year and was very supportive of the NLC idea. At the group’s March meeting, they found out that some families would be moving “so that was very much on our minds during the meeting,” said McLean.

She explained that educational programs are jeopardized once there are fewer than eight or nine students. “There are fewer ideas, less opportunities to learn to get along with a diverse crowd, and you can’t play team sports, so relationship dynamics and learning dynamics become depleted,” she said.

Seniors’ Resource Fair makes debut in Nakusp May 4

Around 30 staffed booths with a health and wellness theme are anticipated. At the Interior Health booth, qualified staff will be on hand to check your basic health status, such as blood pressure and other vitals.

A fair highlight will be talks by special guest speakers, including Karen Miller representing Trail Mental Health Services (Positive Well Being); RCMP Cpl. Ryan Fehler (Seniors’ Safety at Home); local pharmacists Rob Smallwood and Troy Clark representing People’s Pharmacy, who will speak on the topic of safe medication use, and Ann Weir and Suzanne McCorb of Interior Health (Advance Care Planning).

Exhibitions and demonstrations of Tai Chi and Qi-Gong are slated for the lunch hour. All older citizens, newly retired persons, friends and family caregivers of seniors from throughout the area are welcome to attend, and a light lunch and refreshments will be available for purchase. Door prizes will also be awarded. Admission is free.

For more information about the Seniors’ Resource Fair, please contact Liz Gillis at 250-265-3538 or Ann Barrington at 250-265-4757.

Spring Fashion Show at Halcyon House

Wednesday, April 4, members of the Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary presented a Spring Fashion Show for the residents of Halcyon House. Several Auxiliary members turned out in style, dressed in an assortment of apparel. Dawna Dining delivered a colourful commentary as members modeled their outfits, all of which were donated by the community to the Thrift Store. There were lovely dresses with accessories as well as lounging and sleepwear suitable for Halcyon House residents.

After an hour or so of fun and entertainment, the volunteer members of the ALHCA offered residents an opportunity to shop. A rack of selected clothing and other articles were available for purchase, all at reasonable Thrift Store prices. Proceeds of all sales from the Arrow Lakes Thrift Store are donated directly to health care facilities and services in the community.
Feds axe funding to CAP sites – Nakusp site affected
by Jan McMurray

The federal government has eliminated the Community Access Program (CAP), which provides internet access to the public at sites across the country, including Nakusp.

“They sent us a letter April 4 to let us know the program has been terminated, so they won’t be renewing funding as of April 1,” said Liz Gillis, who runs Nakusp’s CAP site as part of her position as adult literacy program coordinator for CBAL (Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy). “There was no apparent lead-up to this decision and as we speak, we are operating in the red.”

Applicants are requested to submit resumes with copies of all certifications to the Village of Nakusp Box 280, V0G 1R0 or drop off in person at 91-1 Street NW Nakusp BC. The Village thanks all who apply however only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. This posting will remain open until the position is filled.

The Valley Voice
Best Roots and Blues band hits the Slocan Valley

The other members of Bessie and the Back Eddies are: Tim Bullen (trumpet), Keith Todd (trombone), Clinton Swanson (saxophones), Marvin Walker (drums), Jesse Lee (acoustic bass), and Colin Spence (piano). This gig is bit of a homecoming for several of these players as well. Clinton grew up in the Slocan Valley, Marvin confides he “has always loved playing at the Vallican Whole.”

First annual Kootenay Music Awards a huge success

The awards were of great benefit to everyone involved, observed Hansen. “Lots of people discovered new music because of it, and the exposure the bands and DJs got is a big benefit to them.” People could listen to the nominees on the online voting page. “It was good for the artists, and good for venues that want to bring in artists. If you were nominated, you won exposure,” he said.

Winners of the awards were: Shred Kelly (Artist of the Year and Best Folk Country), The Automation (Album of the Year and Best New Band), Patricia Henman (Song of the Year: Movin’ On), Bryx (Best DJ/Hip Hop), Yan Zombie (Best Live Producer), Bessie & The Back Eddies (Best Roots and Blues), Savage Blade (Best Rock/Punk/Metal), and Structures Fall Apart (Up and Comer – Best under 18).

Regional East and West Kootenays Environmental Justice Conference

Local to global

The event culminated in a full house, with musicians, promoters, fans… everybody in one room enjoying music and having a laugh. It really was a celebration of music in Nelson, with five of the nominated bands performing. The event was co-sponsored by Quick Shot and Kootenay Co-op Radio. “It was a full house, with musicians, promoters, fans… everybody in one room enjoying music and having a laugh. It really was a celebration of music in the Kootenays,” said Hansen.

First annual Kootenay Music Awards a huge success

The awards were of great benefit to everyone involved, observed Hansen. “Lots of people discovered new music because of it, and the exposure the bands and DJs got is a big benefit to them.” People could listen to the nominees on the online voting page. “It was good for the artists, and good for venues that want to bring in artists. If you were nominated, you won exposure,” he said.

Winners of the awards were: Shred Kelly (Artist of the Year and Best Folk Country), The Automation (Album of the Year and Best New Band), Patricia Henman (Song of the Year: Movin’ On), Bryx (Best DJ/Hip Hop), Yan Zombie (Best Live Producer), Bessie & The Back Eddies (Best Roots and Blues), Savage Blade (Best Rock/Punk/Metal), and Structures Fall Apart (Up and Comer – Best under 18).

First annual Kootenay Music Awards a huge success

The awards were of great benefit to everyone involved, observed Hansen. “Lots of people discovered new music because of it, and the exposure the bands and DJs got is a big benefit to them.” People could listen to the nominees on the online voting page. “It was good for the artists, and good for venues that want to bring in artists. If you were nominated, you won exposure,” he said.

Winners of the awards were: Shred Kelly (Artist of the Year and Best Folk Country), The Automation (Album of the Year and Best New Band), Patricia Henman (Song of the Year: Movin’ On), Bryx (Best DJ/Hip Hop), Yan Zombie (Best Live Producer), Bessie & The Back Eddies (Best Roots and Blues), Savage Blade (Best Rock/Punk/Metal), and Structures Fall Apart (Up and Comer – Best under 18).

First annual Kootenay Music Awards a huge success

The awards were of great benefit to everyone involved, observed Hansen. “Lots of people discovered new music because of it, and the exposure the bands and DJs got is a big benefit to them.” People could listen to the nominees on the online voting page. “It was good for the artists, and good for venues that want to bring in artists. If you were nominated, you won exposure,” he said.

Winners of the awards were: Shred Kelly (Artist of the Year and Best Folk Country), The Automation (Album of the Year and Best New Band), Patricia Henman (Song of the Year: Movin’ On), Bryx (Best DJ/Hip Hop), Yan Zombie (Best Live Producer), Bessie & The Back Eddies (Best Roots and Blues), Savage Blade (Best Rock/Punk/Metal), and Structures Fall Apart (Up and Comer – Best under 18).
by Jan McMurray

A Lucerne School student with ambitions to become a politician had a first-hand experience of Parliament Hill March 25-30, when she attended the Forum for Young Canadians in Ottawa.

Danika Hammond had one of the best experiences of her life at this intensive four-day event. “I learned a lot about Parliament and I got to sit in Alex’s seat in the House of Commons! I met lots of people who like the same things I’m interested in,” she said.

The Forum for Young Canadians happens three times a year and is for youth ages 15-19. Danika says the application form is lengthy, but well worth finding the time to complete. The March forum was the largest ever, with 142 participants from every province and territory.

“I made lots of friends,” said Danika. “I met a few people I will definitely stay in touch with over the long term.”

The forum took place at the Capital Hill Hotel, just one block away from the Parliament buildings. The young people toured the Parliament buildings, library, Peace Tower, senate, House of Commons and the Governor General’s house. They went to question period and a budget committee meeting. They had breakfast with the senators and dinner with the MPs at the Chateau Laurier.

At the hotel, the group carried out a mock election, including establishing party platforms, selecting a leader, campaigning and voting. They also did cabinet simulations and a workshop on policy making.

The young people chose the environment, education and employment as their top three priorities and gave a speech to the MPs on these issues, with suggested policies to implement.

The Forum for Young Canadians website says the event gives youth “first-hand access to the minds, the procedures and the energy of Parliament Hill. It also creates a community among the like-minded leaders of tomorrow.” Danika is already a leader at Lucerne School and in the community, and is well on her way to being a leader of tomorrow.

She did her work experience at MP Alex Atamanenko’s office in Castlegar earlier in March, and attended the NDP leadership convention in Toronto March 23 and 24. She will graduate this year, and plans to pursue political science at Simon Fraser, Carleton or Ottawa University.

Come celebrate Dig Garden Centre’s Grand Opening Saturday, April 28 with a piece of cake at noon

3 variety herb planter $22.99
4” annuals $3.29
Gold or Black 16” Urn $14.99

Mad Dog Farm will be available from 11-1 to answer your organic gardening questions.

Enter a draw to win many prizes including a Corona pruner, Felco folding pruning saw, Sloggers, Smart Pot Giant Raised Garden Bed, Sunblaster Bio Dome kit, free bag to the first 200 customers.

Locate at the Warner Junction Half Way between Nelson and Castlegar Beside the Credit Union

Come see the Garden Centre your neighbours are talking about!
Brunch awaits you at the Kaslo Hotel

Today’s English lesson: let’s conjugate ‘spring.’ OK: Today I spring, yesterday I sprang, I have sprung. That’s present, past, and past perfect I think. There was a Blizzard on the first day of spring, but by now, no matter how you cut it, it’s here. The calendar says so, and at now, no matter how you cut it, it’s on the first day of spring, but by spring, yesterday I sprang, I have sprung.

I’ve been to the Kaslo Hotel many times, and this is the fourth time I’ve been invited for a meal there. Lucky me! Outside, the place looks just like a turn-of-the-century boomtown hotel. It’s three storeys with all kinds of porches and balconies. As large as it is, it is not imposing. It is welcoming. I’ve said this before, and I’ll say it again: the inside of the Kaslo Hotel is a study in understated elegance. The dining room and pub are open, sunny, and inviting. In the pub are regular tables, high tables with stools, and you can also sit at the bar. The dining room is similar. Both have dazzling views of the spectacular Purcell Mountains.

I was in the comfy dining room by smiling servers Lynette and Karen. Lynette I know from previous trips to the hotel. She was born in Kaslo. Two years ago she visited the pub, and Mark, the bar manager, noticed that she seemed to be friends with everyone there. Right on the spot he offered her a regular job in the restaurant and pub. She accepted, and left behind her other two jobs. Good move.

But what about brunch you may ask. To start with there’s a new chef, Reed Smith who, as it happens, worked at the old Kaslo Hotel back in the ’80s. He’s got a solid reputation, and one of his many specialties is breakfast fare. He aims to please, and he does. The brunch is not a buffet. You order what you choose, and it is brought to you. So, traditional breakfast: eggs any style with bacon, smoked ham on toast or sausage, home style potatoes, toast and jam. Then there’s traditional eggs benedict, eggs benedict on toast with smoked salmon omelette with cream cheese, scrambled and asparagus hollandaise. Baked frittatas! Spanish style omelettes: The Western with ham, toms, spuds and cheese, or Veggie with shrooms, spuds, olives, spinach, toms, toasted garlic and feta. Yum! How about Crepes Kaslo with creamed mixed seafood, shrimp, scallops, crab and red snapper all in wine sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce! I had the Meat Lover: eggs (I had mine poached, perfectly), New York AAA certified Angus steak, eggs blackstone with bacon, mushroom sauce!
Rick Hansen to attend juvenile sturgeon release

This year’s annual juvenile white sturgeon release, hosted by the Upper Columbia White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative (UCWSRI), promises to be extra-special. The free public event will be opened by long-time sturgeon advocate, former UN environment commissioner, and Canada’s Man in Motion, Rick Hansen. The event, at High Keenleyside Dam (southwest side) near Castlegar on Monday April 23, starts at noon and runs through until 3 pm. Hansen is scheduled to be on site until 1 pm.

“I became involved with sturgeon conservation over 15 years ago, and along with my work promoting hiking to accessibility and advancing spinal cord injury research, the preservation and protection of these majestic creatures and their natural habitat and ecosystems has become another of my lifelong passions,” said Rick Hansen. “Myself and our 25th Anniversary Relay team are extremely honoured to be a part of the sturgeon release event that not only will both educate the public and build the population of the white sturgeon – and I applied the work being done by the Upper Columbia White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative.”

Approximately 4,000 ten-month-old juvenile white sturgeon will be released into various locations of the Columbia River between Castlegar and Trail, with 2,100 being released at the UCWSRI by the afternoon of April 27. It looks as though spring has finally come to the Valley, and the day will be plenty of fun activities, including taste tests, missed holidays and... you will be missed!

WE Graham welcomes spring with a variety of events

It looks as though spring has finally come to Slocan and WE Graham is hosting quite a few events to welcome the season. On April 25 at 1:30 pm, WE Graham will be holding an open house for those interested in HOMELINKS. Representatives from the school district and from Nelson HOMELINKS will be at the school to answer questions and provide information. The school will be holding a Community Flea Market on Saturday, May 26 from 9 am to 3 pm at the school for some time and has been working with the students in the school and Helma Raney in particular, has collected and rolled close to 20,000 pennies, so we believe the program may take a few years. If you wish to support the program, and the 7 and 9/10 classes are beginning preparations for their upcoming spring camping trips. Applications are still being taken for next year’s Valhalla Wilderness Program (Grade 9/10). No application is necessary for the Grade 7/8 Outdoor Environmental Leadership Program.

What does a million look like? WE Graham hopes to find that out using pennies – quickly I might add because they might not be around for much longer. So far the school, and Helma Raney in particular, has collected and rolled close to 20,000 pennies, so we believe the program may take a few years. If you wish to donate your pennies, just drop them off at the school. The latest expansion of the school’s artist in residency program will start next week when Giosi Lammirato starts helping the Grade 7/8 class on their uppercolumbiasturgeon.org.

SPRING CLEAN UP SALE

WHEEL DEALS ON WHEELBARROWS

SPRING BRACED RAKE

PROFESSIONAL PUSH BROOM/SCRAPER 24” HD

HAND CLEANER ORANGE WIPIERS 30/PK

GARDEN TOOLS ON SALE

GARDEN SHOVEL – ROUND POINT, LONG HANDLE

FUNDING support for the release event is from BC Hydro, FortisBC, T and the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (a partnership of BC Hydro, the Province of BC and Fisheries and Oceans Canada). A free shuttle service will be available from Castlegar, courtesy of Mountain Transport Institute. The first shuttle will depart from the Pioneer Annex at 11:30 am. For more information about the sturgeon release event, or the fishbowl meeting, call the BC Hydro office at 250-365-4550.

Improved Kootenay Rideshare site

Road transportation is responsible for 46 percent of the average Canadian’s greenhouse gas emissions. The average yearly cost of operating a vehicle can be as high as $5,000 a year or $23 a day. Traveling together and sharing the movement of goods not only saves money and is more environmentally sound, but can help you and your neighbours and possibly connect you with new friends. The Kootenay Rideshare has become a community institution for informal carpools and one-time trips. The program is administered by the West Kootenay EcoSociety as a means to reduce greenhouse gases and single passenger vehicle trips. With CBT Community Initiatives grants from New Denver and Silverton, the North Shuswap’s Healthy Community Society teamed up with the West Kootenay EcoSociety to enhance the Kootenay Rideshare website. The improvements have made the site more user friendly for everyone, and it has some specific elements to help users who reside outside of Nelson. New features include the transport of goods, maps, and a filter to eliminate inapplicable rides. It is no longer necessary to read through the long list of people going everywhere.

“This improvements will make the site easier to use, and I hope they will help people find rides all over the region and the province,” said EcoSociety’s David Reid. “We are hoping for another round of improvements to improve access on the fly for smart phone users, and to preserve that for the desktop users who are more used to it.” Nelson City Council will consider a Community Initiatives Program grant for the Rideshare site in April. To use the site, visit http://kootenayrideshare.com.
Fine Arts Society jumps into 12th year fresh-faced

submitted

Like many adolescents, the Valhalla Fine Arts Society balances enthusiasm, eagerness and creativity with a few growing pains. From its birth as a summer music school, VFAS now encompasses instructional opportunities in theatre arts, film studies and music for children and adults. While the high calibre of faculty has been a constant, this growth has meant lots of adapting and changes along the way.

The society was initially formed in 2000 to run and support the Valhalla Summer School of Music (VSSM). Under the leadership of Heather Huether, the summer music school grew to include studies in violin, viola, cello, piano, choral, a young children’s music program, as well as a second week of piano, choral, a young children’s music program, and animation studies. As our communities shift and change, has continued to be the board’s focus. As our communities shift and change, the board is keenly aware of providing opportunities that meet the needs of our own residents, while continuing to attract non-resident participants.

With its 12th season approaching, the Valhalla Fine Arts Society is energized and confident for many reasons. Noteworthy among these is the return of the much-loved adult orchestra component of the Summer School of Music. The VSSM has also added clarinet and flute streams to its offerings, and the society continues to explore ways to augment its piano offerings. A first musical experience for young children, the Music Explorers Program, which was successfully re-introduced to attract capacity registrations. Topping it all off is another exciting line-up for the society’s popular Community Concert Series. Lots of reasons to celebrate and many reasons to participate! Join us for our Season Launch on Friday, May 4 at 6:30 pm (Memorial Hall, Silverton).

FLIKS presents ‘Wild Horse, Wild Ride’

submitted

FLIKS brings ‘Wild Horse, Wild Ride’ to the VSSM. An evening on April 30 and the Capitol Theatre Wednesday, April 25. If you care about seeing films on the big screen with your friends, come watch this exciting film festival audience favourite.

Each year thousands of wild Mustangs are rounded up from public lands – they have lived wild for generations and have never been touched by human hands. ‘Wild Horse, Wild Ride’ tells the story of the Extreme Mustang Makeover Challenge, an annual contest where people attempt to tame a totally wild mustang in order to get it adopted into a better life beyond federal corral.

Stunning and poignant, Alex Dawson and Greg Gricius’ debut feature documentary chronicles a handful of unforgettable characters from their first uneasy meeting with their horses and over three months as they attempt to transform from scared strangers to the closest of companions.

It all ends in a competition where trainers must bid against the public if they want to keep their horses.

Hailed by The Hollywood Reporter as a “crowd-pleaser with a big heart,” the film captures a journey that is at times harrowing, humorous, heartwarming and heartbreaking as these wild spirits – both human and horse – embark on the ride of their lives.

Details and trailers are at www.FLIKSc.ca.

WANTED TO BUY:

by Jan McMurray

New Denver area youth will participate in World Vision’s 30-hour famine again this year, April 22-23 at Lucerne School.

“We chose the cause ‘water’ and the funds we raise will go to provide clean drinking water to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,” said Danika Hammond, who has organized the famine at the school for three years in a row.

Danika expects 15-20 participants this year, with a fundraising goal of $2,000. “My personal goal is $600,” she added. “And World Vision is really good – 80 percent of the money raised goes directly to the people in need.”

From 10 am Sunday, April 22 until 4 pm on Monday, April 23, participants will consume only water and 100 percent juice, which was donated by Lucerne’s Parent Advisory Council. “I fill the time with workshops and educational things for the students to do,” said Danika. “I’m going to focus on water issues, not just contaminated water but bottled water, conservation, and all aspects of the global water issue.”

Danika will try to fast for five hours longer this year, and will invite the other students to join her.

Another initiative the students are working on is a demonstration during New Denver’s May Days celebration.

“We want to show people what it’s like to carry a bucket of water or rocks like they have to do in Africa every day,” explained Danika.

Pledges for the 30-hour famine can be made at the school, or directly with a participant. Donations can also be made online; contact Danika Hammond (dankahammond@yahoo.com) to find out how.

COMMUNITY

by Jan McMurray

New Denver area youth will participate in World Vision’s 30-hour famine again this year, April 22-23 at Lucerne School.

“We chose the cause ‘water’ and the funds we raise will go to provide clean drinking water to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,” said Danika Hammond, who has organized the famine at the school for three years in a row.

Danika expects 15-20 participants this year, with a fundraising goal of $2,000. “My personal goal is $600,” she added. “And World Vision is really good – 80 percent of the money raised goes directly to the people in need.”

From 10 am Sunday, April 22 until 4 pm on Monday, April 23, participants will consume only water and 100 percent juice, which was donated by Lucerne’s Parent Advisory Council. “I fill the time with workshops and educational things for the students to do,” said Danika. “I’m going to focus on water issues, not just contaminated water but bottled water, conservation, and all aspects of the global water issue.”

Danika will try to fast for five hours longer this year, and will invite the other students to join her.

Another initiative the students are working on is a demonstration during New Denver’s May Days celebration.

“We want to show people what it’s like to carry a bucket of water or rocks like they have to do in Africa every day,” explained Danika.

Pledges for the 30-hour famine can be made at the school, or directly with a participant. Donations can also be made online; contact Danika Hammond (dankahammond@yahoo.com) to find out how.
Two for one Earth Day Celebration in Nelson – stand up for wilderness

submitted

Community Artists’ Concert to support ALAC Concert Series

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council announces the Community Artists’ Concert on Sunday, April 22 at the Bonnington Arts Centre starting at 2 pm. This concert is a fundraiser to help the Arts Council raise funds to support our community because it provides an important event to address longer-term issues. National Victims of Crime Awareness Week 2012 will be launched in Ottawa on April 23, 2012 by the federal Ministers of Justice and Public Safety, when victims, victim advocates and representatives working in the area of victim issues will gather for the seventh annual Federal Symposium hosted by the Government of Canada. For more information visit: www.victimsweek.gc.ca.

submitted

ALAC Concert Series

Jumbo Wild Coalition joins the Arrow Lakes Arts Council (ALAC) for the fourth annual Earth Day Rally on Nelson City Hall at 3 pm.

This is the day to stand up for our wild places whether it is mountains, northland or coastline,” says Jumbo Wild organizer K. Linda Kratky. “We teamed up with ALAC for this gathering because, really, it’s all the same issue: what is our vision for our land and our future? We believe there is an economy of the wild. Democracy matters.”

Kim Kratky, Jumbo Wild spokesperson says, “If all we care about is dollars, then we should realize that there is more money to be made by keeping Jumbo Wild. That’s why people come to BC, for the wilderness. Our main focus is to let Jumbo’s French investors know there is a reason why the proposal was on the books for 20 years. Local people don’t want it.”

Kratky says the taxpayer costs of road building to Jumbo and the infrastructure of a non-elected municipality should concern everyone in BC.

Jumbo Wild has other concerns to be addressed, says Kratky. “Back-Country and local talented artists as they perform to continue bringing in professional artists to the Arrow Lakes and Slocan Lake communities, and are pleased to come and showcase their talents to help raise funds for professional and Kootenay artists to come to the Arrow Lakes. There will be a donation jar at the door for contributions towards future Concert Series. Doors will open at 1:30 pm and it will be open seating. That means you get to pick your seats for this concert!! Come on out, Sunday, April 22 at 2 pm to see and hear your local artistic community showcase their talents for you.

CHOISE ONE:
- Check cardiac arrest patient’s oxygen level
- Assess a six year-old with head trauma
- Give pain med to burn victim
- Hire more nurses

CONCRETE

Creative concrete solutions for your home and business.

Patrick Baird 250-354-8562 www.elementconcrete.ca
Busted in Nelson!! When was the last time you checked yours?

Some of the best breasts and artists of the West Kootenay will combine in a show to raise awareness around breast health issues, opening April 13 in Nelson at Ourglass Gallery + Studio. Drawing on the breasts and artistic talents of 25 people from across the region — mainly Nelson and the Slocan Valley — plaster busts of 13 women aged 17 to 71 years old have been painted and decorated by 13 well known artists. It’s the body form as art and art on the body when the aesthetics of a baker’s dozen of busts lavished with artistic inspiration deliver the message of understanding who your breast friends are.

“You need to know your breasts,” said Safire Jones, the curator of the show and one of the featured artists. “This show is to remind people to take the matters of breast health into their own hands.” The slate of artists includes Arvett Fox, Cassia Barrett, Della Schafer, Marin Patenaude, Christina Smith, Cindy Moser, Babuy, Allannah Cronshaw, Rab’a, Tanya Pixie Johnson, Natasha Smith, Samuel Stevenson and Safire Jones.

The show was inspired by Jones’ mother, Lyn, 63, who died from breast cancer in ChristChurch, New Zealand, last July. She went through chemotherapy, a mastectomy, radiation therapy, and hormone therapy, but succumbed to the disease less than one year and a half after diagnosis.

“I firmly believe that with early detection I may have had my mom around for longer,” Jones said. “By the time she was diagnosed it was already large and aggressive. As a result, I believe it is important that people become familiar with the shape and feel of their breasts — knowing their usual lumps and bumps — so they can be prepared for a change if it happens,” she added.

Some people are scared of what they might find so they don’t look, or are unsure as to what is normal. But there is no such thing as a typical breast since everyone’s breasts are different, said Jones. And breast cancer is not gender specific either, meaning men can develop cancer in the region as well.

The show opens at Ourglass in Nelson on Friday, April 13. Open for one month, it will then move around the West Kootenay throughout the summer, stopping in at the Wex Gallery in Passmore, and Sheep is for Sissies Café in Winlaw. As the summer wears on, Safire hopes to see the busts in a variety of locations, wrapping up with the final Extravaganza and Art Auction of the BUSTS in Nelson at the Spiritbar in late summer.

Each show will contain information from Willow – a support network for people living with a diagnosis of breast cancer – on breast examinations and breast health. Proceeds from the auction of the busts will be split between Willow and something beautiful for the oncology ward (cancer treatment) at Kootenay Lake Hospital.

If there are people who would like to showcase some of the busts at their establishment this summer, contact Safire Jones at lalacreations@yahoo.com.

Check out the online auction at www.safirejones.com at the link ‘BUSTED!!’ Also Facebook Events … http://www.facebook.com/events/272949149447741/

The show was made possible with a grant from the Slocan Valley Arts Council.

*

The show was made possible with a grant from the Slocan Valley Arts Council.

*

The show was made possible with a grant from the Slocan Valley Arts Council.

*

The show was made possible with a grant from the Slocan Valley Arts Council.

*

The show was made possible with a grant from the Slocan Valley Arts Council.
I have seen the tears, caring and love for him that many in this community have shared with me. He, obviously, touched many lives in such a positive way.

Nakusp Minor Hockey... what can I say? There are no words that can express the pride I felt for Ben as he was remembered. Your Dedicated Fan at the opening ceremonies of the Provincial Tier 4 games. You bestowed a great honour upon our family... one that will not be forgotten. I thank all of you.

From the Time of Ben’s Passing...

HEALTH • WELL-BEING • FITNESS • ENVIRONMENT

CARD OF THANKS

April 18, 2012  The Valley Voice

BREWING

April 18, 2012   The Valley Voice

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

UNEMPLOYED and thinking of starting your own business? Community Futures offers the Self Employment Grant, business loans, counselling and training in the Arrow & Slocan Lakes area. For more info leave a message at 250-358-2177 or visit businessclassify@businessclassify.com listing #02616003.

Visit: kootenayrideshare.com

Improved site options for North Slocan.

RIDESHARE cuts greenhouse gas emissions, saves $$$ and reduces traffic.

http://www.kootenayrideshare.com

SLOCAN VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

May 11-13, New Denver: Talk on social justice writing, metaphor, coping with despair. Workshops on the revival of the heritage schoolhouse, halfway between Winlaw and Slocan, on Hwy 6, beside the Rail Trail; 7112 Perry’s Back Road. Info: JC Bradford 355-2475.

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

Our 3rd Annual ‘Coming out of the Closet’ Coffee house on Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 pm. Donation. Mirror Theatre production ‘The Shift’ on Saturday, April 28 at 7 pm. Donation. Performance by Slocan Arrow Community Music Ensemble (conducted by Jill Faulks), and performances by students of Jill and Heather on Sunday, May 6 at 2 pm by award winning touring musician Ian Sherwood on Thursday, May 8 at 7:30 pm (www.iansherwood.com). BC Arts Council funded performance by La Cafamore String Quartet featuring Nina Norvath on Thursday, May 10 at 7:30. Advance tickets $10 at the Cup and Mountainstairs. Door $12 adults $5 for kids.

TEXAS HOLD’EM TOURNAMENT

Saturday May 5th 6:30pm at the Slocan Legion Hall 502 Harold St. Slocan: $30 Buy-in. Tickets at Mountain Valley Station in Slocan or phone 250-355-2672 to reserve. No minum please.

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

17TH ANNUAL WINLAW WATER DAY - Celebrating Slocan Water Valley. Sat. May 5, 11:00 am-11:00 pm. Music all day, kids arts, silent auction, parade to the river and much more. Be part of the magic!

EMERGING CIVILIZATIONS CONVERGENCE WRITERS’ RETREAT

May 11-13, New Denver: Talks/discussions on social justice writing, metaphor, coping with despair. Workshops on the revival of the heritage schoolhouse, halfway between Winlaw and Slocan, on Hwy 6, beside the Rail Trail; 7112 Perry’s Back Road. Info: JC Bradford 355-2475.

RECYCLING

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

Our 3rd Annual ‘Coming out of the Closet’ Coffee house on Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 pm. Donation. Mirror Theatre production ‘The Shift’ on Saturday, April 28 at 7 pm.

Silverton Hollow

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

Our 3rd Annual ‘Coming out of the Closet’ Coffee house on Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 pm. Donation. Mirror Theatre production ‘The Shift’ on Saturday, April 28 at 7 pm.

Silverton Hollow

May 11-13, New Denver: Talk on social justice writing, metaphor, coping with despair. Workshops on the revival of the heritage schoolhouse, halfway between Winlaw and Slocan, on Hwy 6, beside the Rail Trail; 7112 Perry’s Back Road. Info: JC Bradford 355-2475.

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

Our 3rd Annual ‘Coming out of the Closet’ Coffee house on Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 pm. Donation. Mirror Theatre production ‘The Shift’ on Saturday, April 28 at 7 pm.

Silverton Hollow

May 11-13, New Denver: Talk on social justice writing, metaphor, coping with despair. Workshops on the revival of the heritage schoolhouse, halfway between Winlaw and Slocan, on Hwy 6, beside the Rail Trail; 7112 Perry’s Back Road. Info: JC Bradford 355-2475.

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

Our 3rd Annual ‘Coming out of the Closet’ Coffee house on Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 pm. Donation. Mirror Theatre production ‘The Shift’ on Saturday, April 28 at 7 pm.

Silverton Hollow

May 11-13, New Denver: Talk on social justice writing, metaphor, coping with despair. Workshops on the revival of the heritage schoolhouse, halfway between Winlaw and Slocan, on Hwy 6, beside the Rail Trail; 7112 Perry’s Back Road. Info: JC Bradford 355-2475.

SILVERTON GALLERY PRESENTS:

Our 3rd Annual ‘Coming out of the Closet’ Coffee house on Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 pm. Donation. Mirror Theatre production ‘The Shift’ on Saturday, April 28 at 7 pm.

Silverton Hollow

May 11-13, New Denver: Talk on social justice writing, metaphor, coping with despair. Workshops on the revival of the heritage schoolhouse, halfway between Winlaw and Slocan, on Hwy 6, beside the Rail Trail; 7112 Perry’s Back Road. Info: JC Bradford 355-2475.
Bought new for $1800, asking $750 obo. Fender Passport PA system – good with owner’s manual. Used six times. $700


MHP a 1 FOR RENT IN NAKUSP 226-0034.

226-0034.

2 beds, loft. Quiet, sunny, newly Carpeted.


FOR RENT IN NAKUSP MHP a 1 bedroom cabin $400/m., clean & quiet, with area for garden. Also mobile home pads available. Please call 250-969-09.


FOR SALE

YOGA AT THE DOMES – Monday morning 9:30-10:30. Non-competitive yoga with Anastasia at Hand & Soul. 358-2389.

WORMY CHERRIES? DON’T SPRAY! Good news! Local farmers are promoting a new approach tocrop protection. Local Farmers Markets. 113 Reibin Rd. in Nakusp.

VON ROOKHUYZEN, Jayne – April 11, 1934 – May 24, 2012. Predeceased by brother Drink, brother Phil, sister Kay. Survived by her mother Ann, sisters Pat and Char, and niece and nephews. Jayne’s family is grateful for the care given by the staff at Arrow Lakes Care Centre and Columbia Valley Hospice. A celebration of life will be held at the Nakusp Community Hall on Saturday, June 2, at 11:00 am.

The new Valley Voice is now on sale at stores and restaurants. For your free estimate, Call Curtis Roe at 250-355-9077.

HILLS COMMUNITY DOUKHOBOR SOCIETY Annual Meeting – Sunday, May 6 at 6:00 pm. Hills Community Hall.

REAL ESTATE

PROPERTY FOR SALE – 52 acre farm, fully serviced, top soil and equipment for construction available. 530 Fifth St., Nakusp.

HANSON DECKING West Kootenay Decker for duradex

www.duradex.com

250-358-7218 for details

GARDENING

ELYSENA FARM – Vegetable and Flower Starts for your garden. Opening May 4. Sales at the farm, May Days and local Farmers’ Markets. 113 Reibin Rd. in Hills, 385-2660.

HEALTH

THAI MASSAGE: fully-clothed acupressure yoga massage. Donation/dilling scale for housecalls. FEDERAL/KRAIS Awareness Through Movement classes in Nakusp & W, Twinbar 250-226-0826 smith dahelyh@yahoo.com

YOGA AT THE DOMES – Monday morning 9:30-10:30. Non-competitive yoga with Anastasia at Hand & Soul. 358-7773, lovingspirit@rockemall.com.

Personal Classifieds start at $8.00 Call 250-355-7218 for details.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HOME SUPPORT WORKER NEEDED with Care Aide Certificate or equivalent for mature disabled male. Four-hour shifts with 8:00 to 12:00 available. Paratransit training and back-up to start. Reply with brief resume to: Home Support Worker, Box 433, New Denver, BC V0G 1R0.

MATURE, DISABLED MAN seeking experienced Home Support Caregivers, or will train. Immediate shifts available private N.P. and Home. Forward resume ATTN HOME SUPPORT TO: arrowvallealliance@telus.net or A.L.C., 339 Alexander St., New Denver, BC V0G 1R0.

NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION ON AA OR ALANON MEETINGS contact in New Denver, 250-754-175, Nakusp 265-4924; Kaslo 353-2686; Slocan 355-2605. South Slocan 226-7705.

JONATHAN WHITE Guest Support Group Society will be having its AGM at 223 Slocan Ave., 4:00 pm, April 30. KASLO AREA HOSPICE: Sensitively, compassionately and confidentially support for the terminally ill, the dying and the bereaved. Call 250-353-2399 to request service.

The Valley Voice is printed on a public road with power & heat at property line. This treed property has a gentle slope with good sun exposure and adjoins Crown Land. Water license is in place. A great building site! Priced to sell at $230,000.00. Larry (usually monthly) and takes direction from board.

LAND FORSALE: 42 acres $255,000. Red Mountain Road.

NEWDER D FOR RENT – One block from lake. Level double lot, 100’ x 118’ serviced with water, power and septic. Single wide trailer with addition and carport. Glacier views. Located in “The Orchad.” $175,000.00. 250-919-7814.


ROGAN ELECTRIC residential, commercial, industrial wiring. Local references available. All work guaranteed. “We get the job done.” 358-6038.

Next Valley Voice Deadline: April 13, 2012

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CONSTRUCTION • HOME • GARDEN
**OBITUARY**

**William Patterson**

1915 – 2012

On Sunday, April 8, 2012, William Patterson (né Osachoff) passed away peacefully, after a short illness, at South Okanagan General Hospital in Oliver, BC at the age of 97.

William was born William Osachoff on January 15, 1915 in Brilliant, BC to William and Molly Osachoff. He was the eldest of five children. He married Frances Patterson in 1940 and changed his name to hers in 1951 to avoid the prejudice of the day against the Doukhobor community.

William wore many hats throughout his life, owning his own sawmill, working as a farmer, miner, truck driver and carpenter before building and operating almost single-handedly Alpine Fishing Resort on Elbow Lake, north of Kamloops, BC. He retired in 1976 and moved with his family to Avalon and later to Ollka, BC. He moved to Keremeos in 2009, where he lived at Mountainview Manor until his recent death.

William is survived by his sisters Mrs. Tessa (John) Kowcan of Appledale, BC, Mrs. Annie (Marten) Springer of Shorterac, BC, his daughter Mrs. Barbara (Rory) Weston of Coquitlam, BC and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his sister Mrs. Polly (Kend) Martin and his brother John Osachoff.

William was an avid fisherman and had a keen interest in the gold mining history of B.C. He was fiercely independent, enjoyed cooking and loved to tell jokes. He had a long and eventful life and will be dearly missed by his family. A memorial service will be held in the Slocan Valley in the summer and his ashes will be interred according to his wishes in the cemetery in Perry Siding with his mother.

Arrangements entrusted to Graham Funeral Home, 5920 Kootenay Street, Oliver, BC. (250) 498-3833. Your message of condolence, sharing your fond memories of William may be sent to: www.grahamfh.com.

---

**Unity Music Festival comes together submitted**

The Slocan Valley Cultural Alliance is announcing that the Unity Music Festival will again grace the Slocan Valley with its two-day celebration August 24 and 25, 2012. To be held at the same location as last year, this family-friendly event will be happening behind Sleep is for Sissies in Winlaw.

The Unity Festival crew is gearing up for another beautiful event, anticipating up to 1,000 festival goers with two stages showcasing great live music and great live art, circus performers, poets and a kids zone.

This year’s lineup will be announced in May. A sneak preview of acts can be seen at www.unitymusicfestival.ca.

Early bird tickets will be available soon for sale online: $45 for weekend and basic camping will be available again.

Volunteers and vendors are needed. More info available at www.unitymusicfestival.ca.
submitted

The BCTF Regional Teachers’ "Environmental Justice Conference: Local to Global," which has been several years in the planning, will now take place at LV Rogers Secondary School the weekend of April 27-29, 2012. Keynote speakers include environmental activist Ali Howard, of the Spirit of the Skeena Swim. Howard swam 610 kilometres, the full length of BC's second longest river from the Skeena's origins to the Pacific Ocean in 28 days. She undertook the swim to raise awareness of the coal bed methane drilling and pipeline development proposed for the sacred Skeena headwaters. The moratorium will be lifted December 2012, Chris Turner, the author of the acclaimed Geography of Hope, travelled with his family to various communities throughout the world that were truly environmentally sustainable to learn what he could from them.

April 27, Friday night at 7pm, the opening gathering registration will take place at Taghum Hall. All are welcome to this community event. The Aboriginal Youth drum group will be singing and drumming, welcoming those attending from the conference from the region. Elise Charet will be acknowledging the value of our water. All are encouraged to bring musical instruments, seeds to swap and enjoy the homemade bannock and borsch by an outdoor fire.

April 28, Saturday night at 7pm at the Legion, the Environmental Documentary Awards will be presented to the top three filmmakers in the teachers and student categories. It is not too late to create your own three-minute environmental documentary on ‘What You Love About the Kootenays.’ Prizes are $300, $150 and $75. Submit your film by midnight April 22.

Comedian Lucas Meyers will be performing in character as ‘Randy from Creston,’ and Flash Back ‘70s programmer Mike Murray will be playing some classic dance tunes, as well Saturday night.

Teachers, secondary students and parents will have the option of attending five workshops in the morning and five workshops in the afternoon over the two days. Such facilitators include Laura Rickard from Oxfam, discussing Gender and Climate Change; Selkirk college instructor, Jenny Barrons, who will speak on the true meaning of environmental justice; LV Rogers Secondary shop teacher, David Afford, will discuss how he and his students built a green house and solar panels with the intent to power two student-built go-carts. Dan Woywilkucz from the Pembina Institute will provide a workshop empowering students to tackle the super wicked problems caused by global warming to revolutionizing our energy systems. JJ Verigin, Jon Steinman, Shannon Bennett, and Peter McAllister are just a few of the facilitators presenting workshops that will weave local and global environmental themes together.

Yoga will be offered at 7:30 in the mornings and organic coffee and lunches will be provided as part of the event.

Sinixt documentary to show at Passmore Hall April 28

submitted

How would you feel if the government proclaimed you did not exist?

In the thought-provoking documentary, ‘We Are Not Extinct,’ a Native tribe living in the Slocan Valley was falsely declared extinct in Canada in 1956. A road and bridge building project was scheduled to run through their ancient village and sacred burial site in the 1980s. The Sinixt and some of their Slocan Valley neighbours blocked the road and occupied the site in what has become in 2012 the longest occupation of government land in Canadian history.

Despite archaeological evidence of the Sinixt living on this landscape extending back to the last glaciations, the Sinixt voice continues to be denied of both the local and global communities.

“We Are Not Extinct” was chosen as an official selection at the prestigious Sedona International Film Festival in Arizona this February.

At the festival, the Frobes met Katja Torneman and fell in love with her film, ‘Anna, Emma and the Condors.’ Torneman has graciously given them permission to pair her work with theirs.

‘Anna, Emma and the Condors’ is a 20-minute short documentary produced/directed by Torneman as a student project. This film has gone on to show at many film festivals and has been awarded best picture. Sisters Anna and Emma Parish together with their father, Chris Parish, director of the Peregrine Fund at Vermilion Cliffs, Arizona work for the survival of the California Condors. The girls’ lives are unique in their growing understanding that we do not take care of the life surrounding us, we will in the end face the possibility of our own extinction. As long as the California Condors soar the sky, there will always be hope for the future.

The films will show at Passmore Hall on Saturday, April 28 at 7:30 pm. Decadent desserts donated by some of the Valley’s finest bakers will be served. This will be a fundraiser for the Sinixt...

Chris Warren WETT CERTIFIED Wood Energy Technician, Sweep, Installer & Inspector FULLY INSURED

Spring and summer is the perfect time to repair, reline, install and service your wood-burning system. What does your system need? Call to book an appointment.

Have your chimney and wood burning appliances serviced by a certified wood energy technician to ensure peace of mind.

- WETT INSPECTIONS
- STOVE & CHIMNEY INSTALLATION
- PROFESSIONAL SWEETING
- SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE
- CHIMNEY RELINING

VantageOne Credit Union

Empower yourself with a CreditMaster Mortgage!

Planning a vacation? Let us show you how our CreditMaster Mortgage can make your vacation dreams a reality. You’re in Control...choose your options.

250 545-9251 • vantageone.net • 1-888-339-8328

Experience Extraordinary!