Japanese Canadian internment remembered in the Slocan Valley

by Jan McMurray

Many people know that Japanese Canadians were interned in this area during the Second World War, but all who participated in the commemoration events on June 16 came away with an intimate knowledge of this disgraceful period of history.

At the afternoon signage dedication events and the evening social at the old Odd Fellows Hall (today’s Legion or Silvery Slocan Hall), former internees and local people who lived through that time shared their stories and experiences.

Joy Kogawa, author, Order of Canada recipient, and former internee, was the guest of honour at the event. Her novel Obasan revealed what internment was like from the inside – as did her moving address at the hall.

Kogawa explained that the internees loved Canada “desperately” and were heart-broken to be seen as enemies. “The need to belong was a universal experience,” she said.

She remembered the last time she was in the hall as a child. “We used to come to the Odd Fellows Hall to watch newsreels on Saturday nights, and it was there that I learned to hate Japan because the war atrocities were unspeakable, unimaginable, barbaric and savage. And I was not that – but I was, because that’s why we were looked upon the way we were,” she said.

It is of great importance to her that the internment story be better known in Japan, and that the Japanese people understand the internees’ desperate need to prove they were not like them. “We were not spared the real story of the atrocities of the war. We grew up with that and it destroyed any kind of pride we had being Japanese. That story must be fully, deeply known as much as the holocaust. Let the truth be told so we can have reconciliation in all countries.”

Another special guest was Naomi Yamamoto, BC Minister of Advanced Education. She delivered the same speech she gave in the legislature on May 7, when her motion unanimously passed for the House to apologize “for the events during the Second World War, when under the authority of the War Measures Act, 21,000 Japanese Canadians were incarcerated in internment camps in the interior of British Columbia and had their property seized. The House deeply regrets that these Canadians were discriminated against simply because they were of Japanese descent and believes that all Canadians regardless of their origins should be welcomed and respected.”

In her speech, she told the story of her father’s experience as an internee in Lemon Creek. She also spoke of the BC government delegation that travelled to Ottawa in 1942 to make the case for internment. Although the RCMP and senior officials in the Canadian military did not feel the Japanese Canadians posed a threat to national security, the BC delegation was insistent. “This is a historical injustice for which our provincial government at the time was directly responsible,” she said.

Roy Inoue, past president of the National Association of Japanese Canadians and current president of the Kamloops chapter, and who was instrumental in negotiating the federal Redress Settlement in 1988, said several Japanese words came to mind to describe the internment. The word for “shameful” or “disgraceful” describes the way the Japanese Canadians hung their heads in shame and obediently went to the internment camps because they knew it could not be helped. The word for “wasteful” describes the time spent sitting idly in the camps.

Inoue listed the milestone events that “finally brought closure” for the internees: the return of full citizenship rights in 1949, the federal government apology on September 22, 1988, and the BC government apology on May 7, 2012.

Aya Higashi, long-time Kaslo resident, was also an internee and was principal of the school at the Popoff internment camp. “I refuse to be a hyphenated Canadian,” she said, “I have refused to think of myself as anything but. I am one happy 92-year-old Canadian.”

Some of the special guests at the June 16 event commemorating the internment of Japanese Canadians were Roy Inoue and Naomi Yamamoto (bottom row), and Joy Kogawa and Aya Higashi (top row).
Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation to provide better connectivity

by Jan McMurray

The Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC), a new subsidiary of the Columbia Basin Trust, has a plan that could greatly improve internet speeds in communities throughout the Basin.

Mark Halwa, Chief Operating Officer of the company, made a presentation to the RDCK board of directors on June 21. Halwa said most communities in the Basin have internet speeds of somewhere between two and five megabits per second. “The pipe we put in will be 100 megabits per second,” he said.

Halwa showed the RDCK board a piece of fibreoptic cable, made up of 48 strands of fine, flexible glass. “The equivalent of two and a half months of high definition video can come down this piece of glass in a second,” he said. “It’s high horsepower.”

He explained that the broadband corporation is trying to get one of these pieces of glass into every municipal office in the Basin. “We are not trying to connect all the homes and businesses – our network ends at the municipalities,” he said.

However, he said that the existing wireless internet service providers would benefit from the CBBC plan. On June 5, they held a meeting with all the internet service providers throughout the Basin. “We heard from them they are hampered by their systems and to get cable type connections, but we can drive faster connectivity deeper. We can help them by giving them a faster, better connection.”

Halwa explained that the goal of the corporation is to provide connectivity, not to build infrastructure. “Our goal is to provide connectivity to a world class open access broadband network across the Basin,” he said.

The program will be available to all Basin municipalities that choose to join, and will be priced according to population. He indicated that the next step for CBBC is to get together with the CAOs of the Basin municipalities to work on agreements with Telus and Shaw.

CBBC purchased CMON (Columbia Mountain Open Network), which provided the company with the initial infrastructure needed for the program. The corporation also has agreements with Telus and Shaw.

Kaslo’s water system damaged in mudslide

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo’s water system was damaged by a mudslide on Kemp Creek, the Village’s main water source, affecting water supply for residents.

“Our main dam has been severely compromised by a mudslide on Kemp Creek. No water is flowing into our main reservoir,” states a public notice issued by Kaslo’s CAO, Rae Sawyer, on Sunday, June 24 at 3 pm.

Residents were asked to restrict water use, and the Village recommended that every household set aside a supply of drinking water. Public Works crews responded immediately, and two hours later, at 5 pm June 24, the CAO issued another notice to inform residents that they were successfully supplying a limited amount of treated water to the Village from the emergency source at the Kaslo River.

On Monday morning, June 25, a further notice states that “the main reservoir and water treatment plant continued overnight with constant attention by Public Works and lower overnight flows.” However, the levels were expected to decline during the day as residents used water. "Temporary repairs were underway, and extreme water conservation measures were still in effect.

High Slocan River levels prompt evacuation orders

by Jan McMurray

The RDCK Emergency Operations Centre in Nelson was re-activated June 23, as creeks and rivers across the region were running at near-record high levels due to heavy rainfall and the melt of above-normal snowpack this season.

With Slocan River flowing over sections of Slocan Valley West Road in the late afternoon of Sunday, June 23, the road was closed, a state of local emergency was declared, and an evacuation order was issued, affecting residents of approximately 30 homes. Slocan Valley West Road remained passable at that time.

Man drowns in Goose Creek

submitted by RCMP

The body of 72-year-old Edward Posnikoff was recovered from Goose Creek near Pass Creek Road in the Crescent Valley area on June 24 at about 2:05 pm.

RCMP report that Posnikoff had gone out to check the water levels and flooding on and around his property in the 3300 block of Pass Creek Road at about 7 pm the night before. He was last seen on a privately owned bridge that connects his property to Pass Creek Road.

His brother went outside about 30 minutes later to find the bridge washed out. Nelson RCMP was alerted at 7:34 pm. Nelson Search and Rescue, the Kootenay Boundary Regional Detachment Police Dog Service, Nelson Rural RCMP and the Crescent Valley, Beasley, and Tarry’s fire departments all attended.

Search efforts, limited because of the weather conditions as well as the rapid water flow and high water levels, were suspended late Saturday evening and resumed Sunday morning. The body was found at about 10:30 am.

A state of local emergency had been declared for this area on June 23, and three residences were under tactical evacuation status until the evening of June 24. Traffic on Pass Creek Road was being controlled by ministry flaggers on June 24.

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Concerns about high Kootenay Lake levels and flooding prompted the RDCK board to ask the premier to intervene.

At the RDCK board’s June 21 meeting, the board passed a resolution directing Chair John Kettle to ask the premier to seek protection for residents and businesses around Kootenay Lake and along Kootenay River.

Director Andy Shadrack introduced the motion, saying there were already some basements flooded in Area D, and the five marinas in his area experience substantial damage from wave action – one to the tune of $30,000. “Small businesses on the lake cannot stand this,” he said. “This lake is two feet above what it normally is during freshet. I think it’s time for political intervention to make sure something is done about discharges at Libby.”

Kootenay Lake expected to peak at 1753.2 feet this week

On Monday, June 25, the RDCK Emergency Operations Centre issued a press release to inform residents living on Kootenay Lake that BC Hydro advises the lake has not yet reached its peak level.

Inflow/outflow information from contributing dams, weather forecasts and the inflow of high-elevation snowpack melt from creeks and streams indicates the lake will continue to rise marginally in the next few days and remain at high levels until at least July 4. International treaty obligations are also a factor.

On June 25, the lake level was 1752.9 feet. BC Hydro is expecting the lake to peak in the next few days at a level of 1753.2 feet before gradually dropping. This will be the highest level in almost 50 years. In 1974, Kootenay Lake reached 1754.2 feet.

Rainfall events forecast over the next few days – particularly isolated thunderstorms that should occur – could increase levels at a more rapid rate than forecast. Rain is expected over the next few days along with below seasonal temperatures, which should keep inflows to current or slightly increased levels.

The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is providing sand for residents at the North Shore Hall, Heroux Road at Nine Mile, Balfour and at the Kaslo Public Works yard and at RDCK’s head office on Lakeside Drive in Nelson.

Shadrack said, “The US wants to continue discharging water from Libby that they don’t need to.”

Director Larry Binks (Area C near Creston) said the US was planning to release water at Libby Dam over the weekend of June 23-24 that would raise Kootenay River by two feet. “That water will flow into farmers’ properties – it will pour into 1,000-1,500 acres of farmland probably. I am going to have thousands of acres underwater if they do this, flooding out crops and farms.”

Kaslo Mayor Greg Lay voted against the motion to call on the premier to intervene. In an interview after the meeting, he explained why. “In my opinion, this is a waste of taxpayer money,” he said. “The US Army Corps of Engineers is the one responsible for running that system. This matter, while important, should not be a priority in those discussions. We should work proactively with proposed solutions.

Cunningham explained that Libby is not one of the treaty dams, so it can operate independently from the rest of the system. He suggested that co-ordinated operations at Libby should be a priority for treaty negotiations in 2014. He acknowledged that Canada would likely have to give something up if the US agreed to operate Libby in a co-ordinated fashion, because that’s the way negotiations work, but he also said, “The US wants to continue with assured flood control and they didn’t pay much for that [when the treaty was signed in 1964], but they will have to now because we suffer in many ways – we lose power generation, recreation, etc.”
Climate change

I read with interest two letters on climate change in your June 13, 2012 edition. One was by Vladimir Stuchlik and the other by Roger Pratt and both refer to 50 NASA scientists claiming man-made global warming is not happening.

I know something about these so-called NASA ‘scientists’ and the statements these two gents were making are quite misleading if not entirely flawed. I assume the rest of the info in their letters is equally flawed.

Here is what I know…

These so-called 50 NASA ‘scientists’ wrote a letter to the head of NASA essentially saying two things: NASA’s claims that man-made carbon dioxide is having a catastrophic impact on global climate is unsubstantiated; and they request NASA refrain from making unproven remarks.

The signatories of this letter were former employees. Twenty-three were administrators, eight were engineers, seven astronauts, five technicians, four were scientists and none were climate scientists.

If you read the peer-reviewed literature on climate change, you will find ‘NASA’s claim’ are ‘substantiated’.

NASA’s response to these former employees states the following…

NASA supports open scientific inquiry. Many NASA scientists are involved in climate change investigations.

NASA encourages its scientists to subject their results and interpretations to scrutiny by the scientific community through the peer review process. After their results have met the appropriate standards of peer review, NASA strongly encourages the scientists to communicate these results to the public.

If these former employees disagree with specific scientific conclusions made by NASA scientists, NASA encourages them to join the debate in the scientific literature or public forums rather than restrict any discourse.

Mike Geisler
South Slocan

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

Letters and articles should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material.

Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

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

Opinions expressed in published letters are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Valley Voice.

My ode to heaven on earth

Mountains so high and snow-capped; year round
Doesn’t look real, big and expansive
Eagles in flight, breathtaking
Deer everywhere and waterfalls
Wildflowers, butterflies and hummingbirds
Hillsides so green, lots of snow
White sandy beaches, rock cliffs that reach to the sky
Natural hot springs to heal body and mind
Rainbows so bright and brilliant

In touch with nature
Calm and peaceful, breathing effortlessly
Clean and bright, even when it rains
Clear water
Fish a plenty
Lovely rocks, my favourite
Wilderness so deep and thick, untouched

Sloping down to take it all in
Close knit community, everyone cares
Gentle people with kind hearts
Who wouldn’t want to live here
Sanctuary through clouds, Heavenly picture
Concern for environment and development
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle; be careful
Land of milk and honey, mother earth is here
Do not want to leave, but I’ll be back
Have to find strength to live without it
My heart is breaking, leaving on a jet plane
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE ON EARTH

Linda Lascelles
New Denver/Ottawa

Re: ‘Did you know?’ Valley Voice, May 30

Smart meters are safe. They use radio frequency signals that are similar to what is used in televisions, radios and other common household devices.

BC’s Provincial Health Officer, Health Canada and the World Health Organization all confirm the wireless meters pose no known health risk.

Independent testing confirms the meter communicates for less than two seconds per day. Smart meters are below the strictest standards in the world for radio frequency that are based on the precautionary principle.

The security of our meters and our grid is an issue we take seriously. We live in a connected world and are taking the necessary precautions to ensure our grid and customers’ information remain safe and secure.

Smart meters are an important part of upgrading and modernizing the electricity grid, which delivers power to almost 1.9 million customers and supports our economy. They will also get the lights back on faster during power outages and provide customers with tools to conserve energy and save money.

Upgrading the electrical metering system and grid will deliver $1.6 billion in savings to British Columbians over the next 20 years and help keep our rates among the lowest in North America.

Gary Murphy
Chief Project Officer, Smart Metering and Infrastructure
BC Hydro

Council decisions

When comparing Kaslo’s council notes with the council notes of several other communities here in the West Kootenays in the Valley Voice, I can say that Kaslo council is the slowest to make decisions.

For example, a typical piece of correspondence has to be submitted six days before the next council meeting. This correspondence then goes to the council meeting, where it often gets referred to a committee meeting. Then it has to get back to the next council meeting. This usually takes two months.

While most of the Kaslo councilors have ten years decision making by council was last year when they voted themselves a pay raise.

Patrick Mackie
Kaslo

Harper has set the stage for environmental destruction

To say I’m upset about the passing of Bill C-38 would be putting it mildly. Stephen Harper has said that we won’t recognize Canada by the time he’s through with it.

Bill C-38 is just setting the stage for more destruction of our environment, since it essentially opens the door for more IPPs (independent power projects) by taking away the power of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Ministry of Environment.

A good example of their slow decision making is with the Kaslo fire hall, where four trucks have been parked in a three-bay garage for ten years, and although council has had two public meetings and has promised two referendum(s), there has been no decision yet. In fact, they now are undertaking another study on the problem.

I would say that the only quick decision made by council was last year when they voted themselves a pay raise.

Patrick Mackie
Kaslo

The Ingrid Rice cartoon is a satirical look at current events in politics and is sponsored by the Kaslo Hotel. The Hotel does not necessarily share the political views of the artist.

The Valley Voice
This is all done under the auspices of budget cuts, yet he can spend $28 billion on a celebration of the War of 1812 being fought abroad. (It was a war between Native people, I heard on CBC.)

Anne Sheredor stated at the Jumbo Wild rally that we had stopped AXOR and the Glacier/ Hovers project. I’m sorry that’s not true. I wish it were. They have only gone into remittance and still have equally odious alternative plans. Harper has just made it easier for them. Environmental integrity is not high on his list of priorities. This is the first time I’ve heard PM! At least he cares.

I’m not looking forward to the battles to come to protect the sacred. I hope the readers will join us.

Be ready!

Gabriela Grabowsky
Glacier Creek

**Extinction**, deception and treaty

Anyone who has taken the time to educate themselves on the history of the place we call home will be familiar with the Sinixt story. Declared extinct in 1956 by the government of Canada 57 years prior to the signing of the Columbia River Treaty, and exiled to Colville, Washington along with 12 other distinct tribal groups who were also dispossessed of their lands, the Sinixt have come home to protect their territory and uphold their cultural responsibilities in the face of a system that erases their presence in their homeland and very existence as a threat.

Having worked over the last 20 years to represent themselves and maintain their homeland as a distinct and sovereign nation, they have met with resistance from a multitude of colonial institutions which have attempted to undermine the cultural and political traditions wherein they can appear to be consulting with the appropriate indigenous nations when they are actually consulting with their own well-paid employees.

D. Zarenkov
Vallican

**Taxes**

There was a time not so long ago that every tax had a specific service or definite expenditure that it was assigned to. The provincial sales tax was the social services tax and that tax was to pay for social services. Income tax was a tax implementation to pay for the war debt. Other taxes were for specific purposes. This system gave taxpayers an idea of where their taxes dollars were being spent. As politicians learned to be more devisive in their tactics, it was easier to increase taxation, they invented the idea that all taxes should go into general revenue. This allowed the ruling party to play politics with the general public. The end result is a loss of connection between the voters and the taxes that we pay and accountability for these expenditures. This is all part of the central mind-set that believes that politicians, professionals, and bureaucrats have a better plan for your country than what you and your neighbours have.

General revenue is wrong. What people need is direct democracy and a return to direct taxation. Sales taxes should be for the purchases of related services, recycling, garbage disposal, and regulating consumer goods. Fuel taxes should fully cover the costs of highways and all health costs automatically from the net of income. Income tax is based upon the ability of the taxpayer to pay the taxes and should be used to administer law and order, military defense of the country, and social services. Royalties on resource extraction should fully cover the costs of environmental monitoring and enforcement. The balance of resource revenues should be paid out to the citizens of Canada, the owner of those resources, and we should not be liquefying these assets but rather using them for living.

Property taxes should only be used for the protection of property and fine services. To tax property for commercial, entertainment, education, and other services not related to property is immoral. Your property is paid for from money that you have already been taxed and the government should not be taking an additional lien on your property for more taxes. Property taxes are based on an assumption that if you have property, the market value of that property is a measurement of your ability to pay the taxes. This is faulty thinking as many homeowners realize, especially in West Vancouver where a modest home can be valued over $1 million. In our region the RDCK does more than happy to see properties sold to wealthier individuals. The RDCK now needs a new building to serve their wealthier clientele. Rising property taxes will make it more and more difficult for you to leave this area as your taxes are no longer affordable for working people and will contribute to a future class structure where only the wealthy will be able to afford property. The tyranny of property tax.

Ed Nixon
Perry Siding

**Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society – moving forward**

The Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society, which manages Passmore Lodge in the Slocan Valley, has now come through a difficult time. In April, four directors of the society resigned from the board with no reason or explanation given. Following seven directors included the vice president, but no other executive officers.

Even though the BC Society Act requires that any directorship requisition be filed on Form 7 immediately and our bylaws state that vacancies shall be filled by appointing directors temporarily until the AGM, the vice president was unwilling to call a directors’ meeting to discuss these matters. He claimed that the board was “dysfunctional” and that four of the remaining directors were not at arm’s length. Failure to comply with these requirements could put the society at risk, which in our case could have left the vice president unwilling to call a directors’ meeting to discuss these matters. The lawyer advised that the board was “dysfunctional” and that four of the remaining directors were not at arm’s length. Failure to comply with these requirements could put the society at risk, which in our case could have resulted in BC Housing witholding funding and loss of our charitable status with Canada Revenue Agency.

This very serious and disturbing situation required the remaining directors to seek independent legal advice. Their lawyer advised that they were indeed at arm’s length and should be able to proceed. They had received a return to direct taxation. Sales taxes should be for the purchases of related services, recycling, garbage disposal, and regulating consumer goods. Fuel taxes should fully cover the costs of highways and all health costs automatically from the net of income. Income tax is based upon the ability of the taxpayer to pay the taxes and should be used to administer law and order, military defense of the country, and social services. Royalties on resource extraction should fully cover the costs of environmental monitoring and enforcement. The balance of resource revenues should be paid out to the citizens of Canada, the owner of those resources, and we should not be liquefying these assets but rather using them for living.

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Ed Nixon
Perry Siding

**Climate change viewpoint from personal experience**

One of the biggest problems most humans have is that we are not living long enough in one place to be able to observe change. In fact most of us do not live long enough to understand what a place was like before we arrived in it. During the discussion that lead up to the building of the Arrow Generation Station at Castlegar, I remember one person wanting that this hydro project would likely only have a 10% impact on the environment. The problem with this conceptual approach is that it does not take into account cumulative impacts.

Prior to the building of the Arrow Generation Station, the impact of human industrial activity on the Columbia Neckera and Valley Building had reduced the number of fish using the river by around 90%. Thus the cumulative impact of constructing the generation station could increase the loss of fish by 91%.

In this context I came to the Kootenays in 1973, first living in the dunes at Harling Bay, then moving before moving to Baker Street and to High Street in my third and fourth winters. In my second winter, I was living in a basement suite. We had so much snow in Nelson that I had to dig out my basement window. And in my very first winter, when I hatched from Saskatchewan to Nelson after the Christmas holidays, it was so cold that the day time I reached Salmo that I had to sleep in a hotel lobby for the night. Having lived in Kaslo from 1987 to the present, commuting to Selkirk College for 13 of those years, I can definitely say that we neither get the snow nor the cold temperatures that we did when I first moved to the Kootenays thirty years ago.

Other anecdotal evidence I get comes from Canadians who tell me that the snow ice does not form as fast or as thickly in the high arctic and that ice roads take longer to form and exist longer, if they form at all. Most interestingly, as part of the Kaslo and Area D climate adaption project, we held a meeting in Meadow Creek with local agronomist and food producers. While not everyone in the room believed in human-induced climate change, everyone could and did talk about how the climate was changing, including some decade-long rhythms.

Climate science is still in its infancy and how we in the West look at our climate change is that we ask ourselves is whether the evidence to date is enough to determine if humans are having an impact on the earth’s climate and what the likely sources of that climate change may be.

I was born and raised in London, England and grew up with first experienced as a baby and then chronic bronchitis as a child. One of my teachers adjured me to a boarding school out in the country at age 13. As a small child, I distinctly remember being kept home from school because the town was so foggy. I recall going to a swimming pool and being kept there because the pool was so foggy. I remember being sent to bed with a cold on Christmas break. I can definitively say that school was changing, including some decade-long rhythms. Climate science is still in its infancy and how we in the West look at our climate change is that we ask ourselves is whether the evidence to date is enough to determine if humans are having an impact on the earth’s climate and what the likely sources of that climate change may be.

In conclusion, philosophically I believe that we as humans have a responsibility to leave a place or situation in better shape than when we found it. What I know about climate change, at 62, is that the full impacts of my actions are not likely to be truly felt until I am dead and gone some 30 years from now. For me, Roger and Vladimir, having lived through and personally experienced the impacts of humans on our planet and the ecosystems we live in, I am inclined to believe that we need to address the use of fossil fuels and the rate at which we are pumping our byproducts into the atmosphere.

Sandi Balfour
Kootenay Community College. The debate is that most of us will not be around to see who is right or wrong, but our children and our grandchildren will be. And given what I know and have seen over the last 62 years, my vote is to do something for my 30-year-old daughter and her generation and their children.

This is not a theoretical debate. It has real consequences like most human actions do.

Andy Shadrack
Kaslo
Kaslo council, June 12: Smart meter concerns presented

by Jan McMurray

• Steve Doucet of the Kaslo Citizens for Safe Technology group presented information on smart meters to council, citing financial, safety, security, environmental, health and lack of public consultation concerns. He had collected 150 signatures. The petition asks council to pass a resolution to request the Province to implement a moratorium on the installation of smart meters and to establish a team of Kaslo citizens to opt out of the program at no cost. Council referred the matter to the Municipal Services Committee for recommendation to council.

• The lease currently in place for the Community Garden will be cancelled, and the possibility of a new lease with a community organization will be advertised, including the requirement for proper liability insurance. In the event no appropriate applications are received, a Community Garden lease is received from interested organizations prior to the second regular council meeting in July. Public Works will be directed to remove all structures and to level and seed the Community Garden space with grass.

• The Arena Association board sent council a list of recommended contractors to complete the upgrades being funded by the Community Recreation grant. Council agreed to hire the recommended contractors, subject to quotes being received. Any budget overages will be the responsibility of the Kaslo & District Arena Association or Kaslo Curling Club. Contractors are: Steve Jaksa (electrical), Ken Murphy (cork flooring), John Hughes Refrigeration (compressor, dehumidifier, wiring) and Jason Cross (removal, asbestos).

• Council received a copy of the Sufferfest application to the Province for permission to hold the Sufferfest races on Crown land. Maps accompanying the application show the route crossing the Village of Kaslo airstrip runway. Council will inform the Province it is in favour of the Sufferfest application, save and except any incursion onto the Village of Kaslo airstrip runway. Council will also meet with Sufferfest organizers to locate an alternate route.

• Council authorized Bruce Freeman to act on behalf of the Village of Kaslo to explore the disposition of the Imperial Oil property in the downtown core, which has been identified as a potential location for parking.

• A letter will be sent to Mr. Fitzgerald, owner of the Merriwake, advising the Village of Kaslo is unable to accommodate more than transient mooring at the tourist dock facility. • CBT funding of $4,500 for wildfire prevention activities was received.

• The Village received three RDCK Community Development grants: $14,500 for a public launching ramp; $5,000 for the Wildfire Urban Interface Fuel Management project; and $5,000 for economic development initiatives.

• Pat Mackle will be thanked for his comments about a boat launching ramp and advised his concerns will be considered as project progresses.

• Letters will be sent to all property owners in the commercial core reminding that sidewalk signage requires a resolution of council, and will be removed in future unless it conforms to sign bylaw and heritage design guidelines.

• Council decided not to grant permission for a bicycle rack in front of Kootenay Mountain Sports, but instead to improve bicycle rack parking at Front Street Park.

• A final report from Rocky Mountain Appraisal with a cost estimate for all municipal buildings in the amount of $28.1 million was accepted.

• Council received notice of a Community Garden grant in the amount of $2,500 for an event on National Tree Day, September 26. This was referred to the Development Services Committee.

• An email from the Nelson & District Hospice Society gives notice of the cancellation of its lease at Kemkhill Memorial Centre effective July 1, as Kaslo has decided to form its own hospice society rather than continue under the Nelson society.

• A request dated from the Kaslo Trail Alliance to erect trailhead signs on Village property was referred to staff to report back to council on acceptable locations and sign design.

• Correspondence from David Smith and Janet Buck was referred to the Development Services Committee for recommendation to council. Their letter is in regards to water issues for Spruce Avenue homeowners, caused by the access roads to the recycling and public works yard.

• The Kaslo Youth Mountain Bike Camp was permitted exclusive use of the Vimy Park picnic shelter, and non-exclusive use of the field and skatepark, for a total rental fee of $250 for the period July 2-6 and 9-13.

• Council agreed to thank, Rob Moran for his proposal regarding fundraising with his foot massage machines, but encouraged to arrange with a private property owner or festival organizers to locate other than on Village-owned public property, pursuant to the Business License Bylaw.

• A maximum of five iPads will be purchased for use by council members for municipal business. Staff was directed to develop policies and procedures regarding social media and technology.

Kaslo’s fire hall is back to the drawing board

Just two days before the RDCK board meeting took place, Kaslo council had a special meeting where they evidently decided not to proceed with the RDCK proposal at this time, but that another study can be done.

At this June 19 special meeting, council agreed to contribute up to $15,000 from the RDCK feasibility fund for the study. The study is estimated to cost $23,000.

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by Jan McMurray

• Danika Hammond attended to show a video presentation of her experience at the Forum for Young Canadians in Ottawa March 25-30 and to thank New Denver council for contributing $1000 to her trip.

• A response to council’s letter asking residents to decide if they want to opt out of the BC Hydro smart meter program was received by Minister Rich Coleman. The letter states: “An opt-out provision would have a cost impact on those customers who accepted their new meter, as the costs of the program would increase and the net benefits would decrease. Additional infrastructure would be required to address gaps, and BC Hydro would have to operate two systems for collecting data and integrating it into the system. BC Hydro encourages customers with concerns to contact them directly at smartmeters@hcinvoro.com or 1-800-224-9376.”

• Council granted permission to New Denver Bear Aware Community Coordinator Bree Lillies to use the gazebos at Centennial Park to hold Bear Aware information sessions for campers throughout the busy summer months, and to hold an electric fencing workshop on June 16.

• A letter of support for a WestJet service to the West Kootenay region will be provided to the West Kootenay Regional Airport Advisory Committee. Representatives from the committee are meeting with WestJet officials in Calgary June 27 and 28 to discuss potential future service to the area.

• Councillor von Krogh reported on his visit to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities convention, where there was a concerted effort by all municipalities to work together to have a long-term infrastructure plan in place by 2014. She also reported on the BC Policing Regional Roundtable meeting, where the service would cost.

Mayor Bunka reported on a meeting between the Slocan Valley Local Governments (Villages of Slocan, Silverton, New Denver and Area H) and Ministry of Transportation representative Glen Olleck. Olleck reported they would be fixing potholes from south of Silverton to Rock Lake this season.

In response to concerns about cyclists on the highway, Olleck suggested a possible future solution could be for cyclists to use the old highway from Slocan to the Cape. Mayor Bunka noted that until the road from Silverton to Rosebery erodes, there will be no bicycle lanes. To address the issue of highway traffic travelling through the residential area behind the school, Olleck said they will look at new direction signs. He also informed council that there are temporary speed bumps that can be removed before snow plowing, if council wants to install speed bumps in that area.

Olleck said the ministry would look at crosswalk signs, but a new crosswalk at the Newmarket Foods is unlikely. There is a crosswalk at the intersection a block away.

• Council determined it will not suggest residents place electric fencing around the Village-owned fruit trees after receiving a letter from the Municipal Insurance Association of BC, stating “...if any member of the public was injured as a result of this fencing it would be a difficult case to defend given that we knew of its hazard prior to erecting it.”

• Council will remove the large cherry tree at the end of Kildare Street in front of the Mori residence.

• Councillor Fox, reporting on the Community Greenhouse Project, noted that the greenhouse will need final approval from the building inspector. There are 150 tomato plants ready to go into the greenhouse, and they are also growing beans, greens, and potatoes on the school grounds. They will need an irrigation system. Paula Shandro and Julia Greenlaw are investigating funding opportunities for ongoing programs involving the greenhouse.

• Council approved a $100 sponsorship for the Citizens of the Year Awards.

• A sign about invasive plants will be provided by the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee and placed at the boat launch.

Food program launched in New Denver

submitted

The Healthy Community Society in New Denver has received a $10,000 grant from the Columbia Basin Trust Community Development Program to run a food program that will make use of the greenhouse and garden at Lucerne School.

“We’ve started a gardening club and we invite all community members, young and old, to join us,” says Julia Greenlaw. Julia and Paula Shandro are the project coordinators.

The club’s first work bee on June 15, the greenhouse is now full of tomato plants. The plants were donated by Kevin Murphy, who was the visionary behind the community greenhouse project at the school.

Paula and Julia would like to see broad community access to the garden and greenhouse, and hope to maximize the potential of these two community assets.

Some of the grant funding will go towards some new fencing to go around the garden, and a tool shed for gardening supplies.

Julia and Paula plan to organize community-wide educational activities about food growing and preserving, farm tours, and events such as the annual Harvest Festival and Thanksgiving Dinner. They will provide healthy snacks for after school programs, and involve children in gardening activities and food preparation.

“We are also interested in improving food resiliency in the community,” says Julia. “We’re looking at bulk food buying and storage, and tool and crop sharing.” They say she will send out a survey about bulk food buying in the fall.

Community representatives. The biggest problems in our region are drugs and alcohol, domestic violence and organized crime. A draft policing plan will be completed by fall for further review by stakeholders. It will also be posted on the internet for public input. There is a concurrent review of the justice system underway, as well.

The temperature of Slocan Lake, below 40 meters, is 4°C Celsius all year. At this temperature, water is at its densest and heaviest as it sinks, forcing warmer water upwards in a convection process.

Slocan Lake Stewardship Society
Slocan LakeSS.wordpress.com

NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!

Swimming Lessons will be held at Bigbelow Bay, New Denver, BC starting Monday, July 23rd and ending August 3rd (9 sessions) sponsored by Slocan Lake Rec. Comm. #6. A certified swimming instructor, Claire Smith will be teaching all levels. Registration will be held on Friday, July 13th, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Village of New Denver Meeting Room. Fee will be $30.00 each, $20.00 for 2nd child in family. Registration is limited so register early. You may also pre-register by phone: Kevin Murphy 358 7143.

If you’ve been missing our famous bread and unbeatable sweets, come on in! And don’t forget our unique Kootenay double-bottomed burger buns.

Money tight? Toinie Tuesdays: all day-old bread for $2 a loaf.

Sappho’s Bakery is a proud supplier of bread to New Market Foods, delivered fresh on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Sappho’s also supplies much of the bread and buns you eat at The Apple Tree and Rory’s on Main in New Denver, at the Cup and Saucer in Silverton, and the Fat Frog at the Slocan Lake Golf Course. If you’re in Nakusp, swing by the Nakusp Esso for a coffee and one of our delicious muffins, cookies or scones.

Sappho’s Bakery is at the rear of 309 Kildare, in the Orchard, right across the alley from the Nikki Centre. Starting July 3, we will be open Tuesday through Saturday, from 9 am to 6 pm.

We welcome wholesale orders, and all customers are invited to call 358-2119 to order, whether you need one loaf or 20.

NOTE: Sappho’s is no longer making pizza.

Sappho’s Bakery is re-opening for the summer!
Nakusp council, June 11: Reg Gustafson honoured as Road Rescue volunteer

by Veronika Pellowski

Reg Gustafson was presented with a provincial award for his outstanding volunteer contribution to Road Rescue emergency services.

Every year, the Province honours six emergency volunteers – one in each of these six categories: Road Rescue, Search and Rescue, Emergency Social Services, PEP Air, Emergency Communications, and Lifetime Achievement. About 14,000 volunteers give of their time to provide emergency response services in BC.

Gustafson was commended for his astounding mechanical ability and his creativity in extricating just about anyone out of any vehicle on our windy Kootenay highways. Mayor Hamling expressed appreciation for Gustafson’s time, effort and dedication to helping our communities.

Councillor Zeleznik requested that council honour NACFOR’s driving force, Jesper Nielsen, who is leaving the community in July. He said that without Nielsen, Nakusp would not have had a community forest. Council will present Nielsen with a letter of appreciation and a plaque at the July council meeting.

Mayor Hamling reported that WaterBridge Steel Inc. of Prince George had signed the contract to build the new $26.5 million ferry for the Galena/Shelter crossing. Construction will take place in Nakusp, creating 65 new jobs. (See story, page 15.)

A report from CAO Linda Tynan indicates that the arena roof has been leaking significantly and in new places over the past few weeks of heavy rain, and there is concern about damage.

Council has already approved repair or replacement of the roof, subject to an architect’s report, in its five-year financial plan.

The architect’s report has not been done, but staff had the opportunity to engage Pacific Interior Roof Consulting and Inspection (2010) Ltd from Kelowna while the firm was in town doing some work for the school district. Councillor Mueller expressed concern that the report, although well done, was only about the surface of the roof and that simply replacing the roof with different roofing material was not the answer to the problem. She said additional issues that need addressing are the design of the arena entrance and the effect of snow loading on Pacific Interior’s recommended roofing changes. Councillor Mueller, supported by Councillor Hughes, stressed the need to address the whole issue and not just the surface.

Council decided to look into funding programs or loans for up to $400,000 for the project. Meanwhile, a tender call will go out for a report from an architect or engineer.

The Arrow Lakes Historical Society, represented by Earl Freirichs, attended to update council on the addition to the Centennial building. The society has a budget shortfall to complete the project, and is asking the groups who share the building – the museum, the library and the Village – to participate in raising the balance of the funds. A request was made for the Village to contribute $10,000. Mayor Hamling reminded them that when the society originally came to council with the proposal for the addition, council support was granted with the explicit understanding that the Village was providing the building and lot, and there would be no further contribution from the municipality.

Council has not allowed for further participation in its three-year plan or in the budget, and does not provide grants. The society was encouraged to look for other funding sources to cover the shortfall.

Councillor Mueller reported that Nakusp’s new physician and his family would be arriving June 23. The committee and the foundation purchased a home in town for the resident physician and is providing furnishings. The fact that a home was available was a deciding factor in attracting the new physician.

Flooding in the Health Unit building was reportedly caused by water undertaken by Canada Post in the parking lot. Canada Post has been contacted and will rectify the problem.

Councillor Hughes reported that the Rec Commission has been able to set up a 2012 swim program and the instructor has committed to running the program for 2-3 years. There will also be a week-long soccer summer program.

Nakusp Esso is looking into installing a boat washing station.

Character portraits by Nakusp artist at Studio Connexion

by Jan McMurray

Kim Izairovich’s very first art show is on display at Studio Connexion in Nakusp June 26 - July 14. The opening will take place Tuesday, June 26 from 5 to 8 pm, with the artist in attendance. Gallery hours are 11 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Sunday.

Kim Izairovich, who is from Nakusp, paints character portraits. “Painting character portraits gives me the avenue to paint a feeling. It is important to me for people to have a personal bond with their portrait,” she says.

When Kim first started doing portraits, she says she got frustrated because her subjects did not come to life as she painted. That all changed when her niece was born. “She had such personality in her face and gestures! I started doing portraits of her making funny faces, laughing, and smiling. I enjoyed capturing the essence of her.”

Then Kim’s daughter, Grace, was born two and a half years ago and has provided even more inspiration. In fact, Kim says Grace is a budding young artist herself, and will have a piece in the show.

Kim is very thankful to Grace and her husband, Hal, for their support of her as an artist. She also thanks Anne Beliveau, Studio Connexion owner, for “whipping her into shape” for the show.
SLSS presents results of latest studies on Slocan Lake

by Art Joyce

Prevention is better – and cheaper – than cure. That’s what the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society believes, so while the lake is considered clean, they take steps to keep it that way. At a presentation in WE Graham school the evening of June 21, SLSS presented the latest results of water quality and fish inventory studies.

The water quality monitoring is the second year of a three-year project, its results are more definitive than the first year’s. Five sites were sampled in deep waters on Slocan Lake to a depth of 100 metres. At 60 metres and below the temperature is consistently lower than surface waters, and the lake exhibits a vertically stratified condition, creating a naturally sterile, stable environment. Factors like dissolved oxygen content and conductivity are measured. Dissolved oxygen levels at 100 metres are 7.5 mg/l, the right balance of zooplankton in the lake, the micro-organisms that are the basis of the food chain. If there are too low dissolved oxygen levels near the surface this will tend to result in algae blooms, which can cause fish die-offs. These levels appear constant in Slocan Lake, indicating a healthy condition.

Conductivity is a measure of the dissolved ions (electrically charged mineral particles) in the water and measures very low in this lake, 500 microsiemens per litre, the drinking water standard and we’re still at a tenth of that.

“We all want to do our best to protect the clean waters of Slocan Lake, but how? How do you engage enough of the community to make this happen? What partnerships need to be built in order to get support from various levels of government?” These were some of the questions discussed at the BC Lake Stewardship Society conference Saturday on June 9. Enveloped: Dark and Blue: Exploring the Lake Valley; “How did it get here?” and the conference held at Silverton’s Memorial Hall featured speakers from Parks Canada, the Ministry of Environment, the BC Lake Stewardship Society, and other environmental consultants.

The panelists for the discussion were Hillary Elliott, Village of Slocan; John Ashmore, volunteer with the East Kootenay Integrated Lake Management Partnership; and Gorman Sudin with the RDCK.

How does a group initiate or engage local governments in a lake management planning process? Or vice versa, how do they engage citizens in the process? Elliott pointed out that “there’s no one right answer, but many. Creating partnerships is key. Having a local biologist assist the SLSS draft lake management plan was important. “You can initiate the idea in the community that water is important; it can be worked into Official Community Plans,” said the chair. Petitions for a lake management plan can also be a basis for a larger upper levels of government. Epps spoke of the Saltspring Island initiative, which began with different groups working toward a similar goal. The groups conducted different sampling under a single umbrella and were eventually able to make it a local government-led initiative. Ashmore agreed, adding, “I can’t emphasize enough collaboration and integration. We now have 18 partners in the East Kootenay plan.”

How do you direct petitions to change regulations, such as an OCP? Sudin advised going to both planning departments and Regional District boards. Elliott agreed, saying it’s important to note that things can only be as good as possible. Both regional directors and municipal councillors worked with SLSS to ensure a seat at the RDCK table. Goderich added another important factor, Elliott said, making sure the message of lake management gets out.

What does a lake management plan consist of in terms of short- and long-term goals? Ashmore said “the first part is science, the second is social,” indicating the need both to acquire accurate data on lake ecosystems as well as public engagement in discussion through community potlucks and other social events. Sudin pointed to the role of the local DFO (Department of Fisheries and Oceans) officer in helping create a public education program and helping define terms of reference. “One thing that’s different from East Kootenay that’s being done in the West Kooteney will be an archaeological assessment in addition to the aquatic habitat index,” she said. “Then comes the process of public engagement with guidelines.” Epps said consultation with landowners and other stakeholders will help set terms of reference. “Is the water quality already good and you want to maintain it? Or do you need restoration? A lake management plan takes the science and adds the social, cultural and economic values.”

SLSS board member Richard Johnson asked the critical question: “How do we make sure that the planning service by cutting down dead trees along lakeshore,” says Johnson. “But a as a result families of flickers and woodpeckers are displaced.” Chickadees, bats and beavers also suffer as nesting sites are lost. Another area of concern were geese on gravel beaches, rocky shores and cliffs or gravel beaches. Epps added that some areas of the province have Riparian Area Regulations we don’t have here, adding another layer of protection to lake management plans. “Prevention is costly but it’s not as costly as control and eradication efforts once an invasive species such as zebra mussels are established. Why not put the money in now, before it’s a problem?”

Given the current Conservative government’s budget bill, eliminating federal environmental assessment regulations, this reporter asked the panel if they felt any responsibility to exert pressure upwards in the bureaucratic chain of command. “Unfortunately that’s not the way government is organized,” answered Elliott. “I can go and talk to the federal government but I’m only one person representing only 300 people in my community. But if 10,000 people do it then much more pressure can be exerted.” Yet many citizens are already doing this and feeling ignored. Elliott acknowledged this frustration and lack of communication with higher levels of government.

Once a plan is finished, how do you measure success? Elliott stressed the importance of volunteers, who can do everything from being board members to getting out in a boat to help monitor water quality. “Volunteers are success. It’s a process that builds up itself constantly.” “You have to look out from politicians and you need local champions,” added Sudin. “The local champions could be ministry people. If you could implement one thing the plan says, then that’s success. It’s not always successful, it’s a struggle. It’s just one step at a time.”
Slocan Park Community Hall renovations celebrated, June 9

submitted

A grand opening of the recently renovated Slocan Park Community Hall was held June 9 and attended by about 50 people.

Leonard Markin, Master of Ceremonies, started off the event by reading a blessing in both Russian and English. Jeanette Podovelnikoff outlined the hall’s history from its beginnings as a school until Brent Kennedy Elementary was built and all the community schools were amalgamated at the new school facility. George Swetlikoff and Lewie Verigin told the story of the community acquiring the school for a community hall, and spoke about some of the upgrades made to the hall in their time.

Markin spoke about all the work done, as well as the grants, donations and rebates received, totalling $92,310. The RDCK provided and rebates received, totalling $6,200. FortisBC provided a $2,040 energy rebate.

Slocan Park Hall directors send a heartfelt thank you to Markin for overseeing the entire renovation project from start to finish.

Sharon Butler and Peter Vogeza reported on the restoration of the mural on the hall grounds, thanks to a grant from the arts council.

The ribbon cutting ceremony took place with Brandon and Haley Soukeroff holding the ribbon and Directors Karen Markin, Lorraine Podovelnikoff, Yennie Shkuratoff, and Edna Sapriken cutting the ribbon. Missing directors were Verna Puschhoff and April Anderson.

Finally, Karen Markin presented a PowerPoint, showing the renovations undertaken over the years by different boards of directors, the Fall Fairs held at the hall in the ‘70s and ‘80s, and all the fundraising events put on by the ladies’ organization for all the renovations. All boards of directors were present for full details on this outstanding home & property.

225 Birch Drive, Edgewood K211799
MLS #10044370 $339,900
- Quiet & private Edgewood – fantastic recreational facilities at your doorstep
- Gorgeous 8 acre property with large shade trees, huge gardens & fruit trees
- Impressive 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath family home + separate carriage house for guests
- Close to school, general store, Needles ferry & golf course
Contact Howard Neufeld 250-938-3358 or howard@vantageone.net for full details on this outstanding home & property.

Impressions of Cuba at the Hidden Garden
submitted

A photographic exhibit by Patrizia Menton will be shown at the Hidden Garden Gallery July 2 through July 14 with a reception on Monday, July 2 from 7 to 9 pm. The featured music for the evening is provided by Dirty Laundry: delicate cycle.

Patrizia states, “Cuba, a long sought after destination... Camera in hand, and with much excitement I finally witnessed in person a glimpse of the complex realities of modern Cuban lives. A total immersion in culture, sound and crumbling walls. A diverse people, their history visible, evident everywhere. Old faded billboards, testaments of the past. An island in transition between yesterday and tomorrow. My camera and I privileged to be there. Unforgettable Cuba!”

Italian-born photographer Patrizia Menton has been pursuing her passion for the captured image for the last 23 years. Her work in Fine Art photography includes black & white and colour, which she still enjoys shooting with film. Her photographs have been exhibited in Italy and Canada and her work is also on display at Chiarosucuro Photographic Gallery, her home studio in Hills.

The Hidden Garden Gallery, 803 Kildare Street, New Denver, is open 10 am to 3 pm Monday through Saturday.

The Kootenay Savings Community Foundation awarded a $1,000 grant to the Silverton Community Club to help out with the purchase of Canadian art. The students at WE Graham Community School in Slocan are ‘going for a million.’ They started a penny drive in November, and have collected over 55,000 pennies to date. Pictured here, the 4-3 class and their teacher, Hall Runes are enjoying a class pizza party, their reward for collecting the most pennies in the school’s classroom penny challenge. This class alone collected 12,408 pennies in just one month. All proceeds will go toward gym equipment and technology. Anyone willing to help these kids can donate their jars of pennies by calling the school at 250-355-2212. Pick-up can be arranged.

The students at WE Graham Community School in Slocan are going for a million. They started a penny drive in November, and have collected over 55,000 pennies to date. Pictured here, the 4-3 class and their teacher, Hall Runes are enjoying a class pizza party, their reward for collecting the most pennies in the school’s classroom penny challenge. This class alone collected 12,408 pennies in just one month. All proceeds will go toward gym equipment and technology. Anyone willing to help these kids can donate their jars of pennies by calling the school at 250-355-2212. Pick-up can be arranged.
I’d like to begin by expressing how honoured I am to be elected as valedictorian for the grad class of 2012. I must say, it’s been a real challenge to try and find the right words to describe my classmates. As a whole, we’re very unique. To put it simply, our class is a zoo. A twisted zoo filled with crows, mongooses, goblins, and one more than enthusiastic chicken fanatic (I assume you are all familiar with these nicknames). This is a class that, in grade 6, established a “black market” for the classroom ‘scholar dollar,’ a token given for excellence within the classroom and was used to buy chocolate or assorted candies. We were a bit ahead of our time.

How we came to be like this, I’m not too sure. But I have my suspicions that our teachers were a contributing factor to our intellectual distortion—which might I add, is not necessarily a bad thing.

A particular incident that comes to mind happened one computer class a few years back, when an unsuspecting Peter asked to play games all class and got a bit more than he asked for from Mr. Borely. It taught us to seriously consider what we ask for.

I tell you, these teachers have taught us more than we realize. If it weren’t for math, how else would we know how to fight off a rabid permutation should we ever happen upon it? Or in this case the mathematics of our lives?

I cannot possibly imagine what our community, for its continuous support. They have loved us at our best and worst and for this, from the depths of our hearts, we say thank you.

Lastly, I’d like to thank the community, for its continuous support. I cannot possibly imagine what our school life would have been like if the valiant members of the community hadn’t jeopardized their sanity in the minds of students to give us our opening ceremony.

Where do we go from here? This, nobody but you can decide. But I must admit, it saddens me a little to know that, come September, I won’t be walking back into the school to find you all sleepy eyed and delirious. Some even on the brink of crying because you can’t escape the resounding echoes of the claps and “good mornings” from Mr. Miles. I’ll miss the silent acknowledgment from the ladies when we all decide that it must be a sweatpants day. I’ll especially miss picking on Jonah for falling asleep during a Cinque du Soleil performance on our Vancouver field trip.

And so, as I wrap up this speech, I would like to leave you with a quote from a poem written by TS Elliot. It is dedicated to those who may feel as though there’s not enough time to accomplish everything you set out to do in this lifetime.

There will be time, there will be time,
To prepare a face to meet the faces
that you meet
There will be time to murder and create
And time for all the works and days
Of a hundred years there in the future
And time yet for a hundred visions and revisions
Before the taking of a toast and tea.

Grad class of 2012, it’s been a pleasure. I would like to congratulate you and thank you for the honour of being your voice tonight.

Congratulations to the J.V. Humphries Graduating class of 2012!

KASLO MOHAWK
JV Humphries Class of 2012 holds graduation ceremonies

by Jan McMurray

The graduation of 22 “eccentric” JV Humphries students took place June 22 in the school gym. Superintendent Jeff Jones stressed the significance of graduation when only six percent of people in the world complete a high school education. He acknowledged that every graduate has a dream, and gave them this piece of wisdom by comedian Stephen Colbert: “Thankfully dreams can change. If we had all stuck with our first dreams, the world would be overrun with cowboys and princesses. So whatever your dream is right now, if you don’t achieve it, you haven’t failed.” Jones wished them each a life filled with wonderful people, amazing experiences, and lifelong learning.

MLA Michelle Mungall told the grads this was not a beginning or an end, but a marking of their achievement. She noted that they were a part of a small group in the world who have the opportunity to get a high school education, and said that if they ever had a chance to travel to a country like Zambia, said that if they ever had a chance to get a high school education, and said that if they ever had a chance to travel to a country like Zambia, where she lived for a while, they would be extremely complex. In those moments, remember who you are and where you came from, because this community loves you dearly and you couldn’t have had a better start.”

Graduate Emily Smith introduced Cam Zuk, guest speaker, as someone who has been “incredibly inspirational to all of us.” Zuk’s speech shed some light on why this class was often described as “eccentric.”

“You taught me about honouring everyone’s individuality – but you are all wearing the same thing today [cap and gown], which flies in the face of who you are as a class. You will be remembered as a class who accepts others and doesn’t understand those who don’t. You are not mainstream. You are not swallowed up by pop culture.”

He said these grads come from a generation that is “not allowed to fail.” Teachers today stay after school to help, personalize assignments, and extend deadlines for students. “That’s not going to happen anymore. Now you are in charge. You determine the path and you have to do the work to stay on it,” he said, acknowledging that this is “liberating to some and frightening to others.” However, he said he knew each and every one of them was more than capable of it.

Jonah Fraser thanked Mr. Zuk. Rose Shine thanked parents and staff, and Lara Hunter thanked the community.

Scholarships in excess of $25,000 were presented. Principal Dan Miles, in his closing remarks, said that the grads were a very colourful bunch – like the wild tie he was wearing, which graduate Jasper Holland had given him and dared him to wear.

Congratulations to the Class of 2012! 

Kaslo Automotive 
Class of 2012, 
Good Luck Changing Gears!

Kaslo Automotive
6510 Hwy 31 353-2533
www.falkins.com
Falkins Insurance Kaslo
2012 graduates! 
JOB WELL DONE!

Congratulations from 
FALKINS INSURANCE
Kaslo

Congratulations!
Wishing each J.V. Grad a successful life. Be curious, open to new ideas, and thank those who support you.

Best Wishes to the
2012 Graduating Class
of J.V. Humphries School

MANON VAN TUYL
Certified Management Accountant
250-353-2655 • Kaslo, BC
Mt. Sentinel graduates receive scholarships and awards

Carmen Berger: Columbia Basin Trust Award, CUPE Local 748 Award; Get High on Nature Scholarship; Emily Bromley: Slocan Valley Co-op Association Bursary; Jasmine Burrows: RHC Insurance Brokers Scholarship, Selkirk College Board of Governors (Sec. Grad Award); Tyler Crenkenhoff: Castlegar Minor Hockey Assoc., Crescent Valley Fire Dept., Kootenay Savings Comm. Found. Bursary, Mt. Sentinel PAC Bursary, Nelson and District Teacher Member Award; Jacinta Clark: CUPE Dist. Council, Alex De Sousa: Coca Cola Bottlers Association, Nelson and District Teacher Member Award; Jaya Ducharme: Columbia Basin Trust Award, Dogwood District/Authority Award, Masonic Lodge Award (female recipient); Avery Fayant: Aboriginal Heritage Scholarship; Camille Gilbertson: Mt. Sentinel Yearbook Bursary; Zach Grigg: Columbia Power Corporation, Emie Gare Scholarship, McEwan and Co. Law Corporation, Royal Canadian Legion; Rebekah Halliday: Selkirk College Board of Governors (Sec. Grad Award); Miranda Jameson: Bragagnolo Scholarship, Nelson and District Credit Union, Robert Boyer Memorial Bus. Admin. Entrance Scholar, Selkirk College Board of Governors (Sec. Grad Award); Ryan Jmaeff: Fortis BC, N.D.T.A. Scholarship; Dana Knapik: K.A.S.T. Award, Mt. Allison University Entrance Scholarship, Nelson and District Teacher Member Award, Rotary Club of Nelson, Selkirk College Board of Governors (Sec. Grad Award), Yellowhead Road and Bridge Award; Brianne Lakeman: CUPE Local 748 Award; Morley Lamb-Paul: Slocan Valley Co-op. Assoc. Bursary; Rosalind McGregor: Aboriginal Heritage Scholarship; Jasmine Negreiff: Mt. Sentinel Yearbook Bursary; Eddie Podevelnikoff: Heritage Credit Union Award, Mt. Allison University Entrance Scholarship, Selkirk College Board of Governors (Sec. Grad Award); Ryan Son: Kootenay Int. Schl. Student Leadership & Integ. Scholarship; Spencer Stocker: Robert Boyer Memorial Gen. Scholarship; Clayton Thompson: Slocan Valley Co-op. Assoc. Bursary; Bernadette Tomanek: Mt. Sentinel Administrators Awards; Katie Conroy MLA Trades Bursary; Allyssa Webber: Selkirk College Board of Governors (Athletics), Slocan Valley Women’s Institute; Nathan Wheaton: Mt. Sentinel PAC Bursary.
Mt. Sentinel Class of 2012
by Jan McMurray

The Mt. Sentinel graduation ceremony took place June 15 in the school gym.

As the 66 graduates made their entrance onto the stage, Masters of Ceremony Andy Leatherwood and Brent Cross read out each grad’s message to their fellow classmates. Some of these were: “Never ask why”; “Happy to be moving on”; “You’ve got to fight for your right to party”; “Just keep taking chances and having fun”; “Dream as if you’ll live forever, live as if you’ll die today.”

Superintendent Jeff Jones told the students that they join a unique and very fortunate minority in the world: only six percent of the world’s population completes high school. “We are very, very proud of you. Your accomplishment is significant.” He said he is consistently impressed whenever he speaks with people of this generation. “I believe the world is a better place because each and every one of you is here,” he said. He promised the graduates that if they allow it, their education “will open doors to a future we cannot even imagine.”

MLA Katrine Conroy congratulated the grads, as well as their family members and teachers. She counselled the graduates to enjoy their lives, successes, issues and experiences: “they will make you who you are.” Glen Campbell, principal, noted that the students seated themselves on the stage not in the order they were supposed to – “but that’s appropriate for this class because they did it all in their own way.” Campbell said he had to find a way to connect with these students, who wanted to learn their way, and acknowledged that this approach to learning is becoming the norm these days. “We need to personalize it for them and get to know them and find out their interests and passions. Educators have to move from being lecturers to being guides and coaches.” He also recognized the record number of graduates (seven) from the Sequoia Alternate Education Program. “Find your passion and pursue it, even if it takes a lifetime to achieve,” he said, and concluded with the words written on a prison cell wall by an unknown author, entitled, ‘The Man in the Mirror.’

Guest speaker Blair D’Andrea, vice principal, described the class as an eclectic, talented group. He spoke about the fast changing world these students have to deal with – knowledge is doubling every 18 months, resources are dwindling and population is climbing.

Quoting Arthur C. Clarke, he said, “The only way of discovering the limits of the possible is to venture a little way past them into the impossible.” What used to be considered fantasy, i.e. computers and the Hubble telescope, are now reality, he said, “because people like you believed it was possible.” He left them with the challenge of figuring out how he could live to 150 and be the longest running Mount Sentinel vice principal ever.

Mount Sentinel Valedictory Address

Mount Sentinel: don’t be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone, challenge the system and be an individual. This is the perfect time for it. If there is anything we’ve learned from the past couple of years, it’s that Mount Sentinel will support you no matter who you are or who you choose to be. Party hard, kiss everyone, sneak out, learn your own lessons, and last but not least, I don’t care how many times they are removed, you are still related.

The Village of Slocan

MLA Katrine Conroy presents the Trades Bursary to Bernadette Tomanek.
Nakusp’s Saturday Art Tour returns

For the second year in a row, an informal group of artists, art gallery owners and curators are offering a cultural experience to visitors and locals alike – the Saturday Art Tour (SAT). Every Saturday in July and August from 11 am to 3 pm, after the Nakusp Farmer’s Market, selected studios from individuals, businesses, financial institutions, Lynda Lafleur from CBT Connexion Gallery, Betty L. Fahlman and Paul Peterson from RDCK. The brochure and poster were re-designed and has been created for the weekly SAT. Owners of all public facilities must post a Water Quality Advisory at all sinks or drinking water fountains accessible to the public (alternatively, public fountains and taps may be turned off). As opportunities arise, they should also advertise verbally of the advisory. The RDCK is taking additional measures to reduce risk. Interior Health has been fully involved, and the public will be notified when conditions change or water quality has improved.

Burton Seniors wind up for summer

Burton Seniors gathered at the Burton Hall Wednesday, June 14 for their end of the year banquet. The catered meal provided by Ann Burton, also available at hotels, B&B, restaurants, and other area venues. After a first successful year, the tour was able to gain more sponsorships from individuals, businesses, financial institutions, Lynda Lafleur from CBT and Paul Peterson from RDCK. The brochure and poster were re-designed and has been created for the weekly SAT. SAT is made up of a very eclectic group of people, who want to share their passion by displaying beautiful artworks inspired by the Arrow Lakes region. These cultural ambassadors of Nakusp and area saw a need and a richness in showing a variety of fine art and folk art created in this amazing Kootenay environment. SAT is: Paul Kelly from White Raven Folk Art, Debra Rushfeldt Studio Gallery, Keith Merkley from Tale of the Dragon Pottery, Anne Béliveau from Studio Connexion Gallery, Betty L. Fahlman Studio, Barbara Mye Studio and Susan Janzen from Rock Island Pottery Studio.

Burton Seniors' musical group will be featured at the Burton Singers event, which will be held on Saturday, July 1 at 1 PM in the Legion Hall, 401 1st Street NW, Nakusp. The Burton Singers' performance will be followed by a Farmers' Market in the Park, which will take place from 11 am to 3 pm. After the market, the Burton Singers' event will continue with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Fire Brigade at the Legion Hall. The day will end with a street dance starting at 8 pm.

New Upper Arrow Lake ferry to be constructed in Nakusp

The new ferry for the Galena-Shelter crossing on the Upper Arrow will be constructed in Nakusp, bringing much-needed employment to the community. While some of the jobs will be filled by specialists from other communities, Mayor Hamling reported that local hiring and the purchase of locally obtained materials will be a priority for the contractor, WaterBridge Steel Inc. of Prince George. The project is expected to provide employment for approximately 65 people for up to two years.

Hamling reported that company owner, John Harding, has already secured a building site along the water, apartments for any workers coming into the community, and a home for himself so he can oversee the construction. “It is great news that the new ferry will be constructed in the Village of Nakusp,” said Hamling. “A project of this size will have a positive effect on our local economy. This will provide our businesses and residents the opportunity to showcase our spectacular scenery and unlimited recreational activities.” The Province announced the award of the $26.5 million contract on June 13. The new ferry will be “drive-on, drive-off, open-decked, and capable of transporting 80 cars and 250 passengers. It will have a larger vehicle and weight capacity, and faster loading and unloading times, which eliminates the need for an auxiliary ferry during the peak travel season,” according to the government press release.

The new vessel will replace the two existing ferries, the MV Galena and the DEV Shelter Bay. The two current ferries have a combined capacity of 78 cars, but the second ferry operates only during the summer and only from 9 am to 7 pm. The 80-car replacement ferry will run year round on the regular schedule, which is from 5 am to 12:30 am. It is expected to go into service in spring 2014.

WaterBridge Steel Inc. is owned by John Harding, who has been in the business of designing, building and operating car/truck passenger ferries for British Columbia lakes since 1976. He was responsible for the construction and operation of the largest freight-carrying ice-breaker in the world when it went in to service on Williston Lake in 1995. The company also constructed the 2004 Francois Forester, which provides ferry service under contract with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on Francois Lake.

Water Quality Advisory issued for Edgewood

The Regional District Central Kootenay (RDCK) has issued a Water Quality Advisory for users on the Edgewood water system. Recent testing shows that current water quality is ‘fair’ due to increased turbidity (cloudiness). Health risk increases within a short time.

While health risks are considered low, the RDCK and Interior Health recommend that children, the elderly, people with weakened immune systems, and anyone seeking additional protection drink boiled water or a safe alternative until further notice. For these at-risk populations, water intended for drinking, washing fruits or vegetables, making beverages or ice, or brushing teeth should be boiled for one minute. Health risks increase as turbidity rises, particularly for at-risk populations such as newborns, the elderly, and people with weakened immune systems. Contaminants such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites can attach themselves to the suspended particles in turbid water. These particles can then interfere with disinfection, limiting chlorine’s ability to remove or inactivate the contaminants. Owners of all public facilities must post a Water Quality Advisory at all sinks or drinking water fountains accessible to the public (alternatively, public fountains and taps may be turned off). As opportunities arise, they should also advertise verbally of the advisory.

The RDCK apologizes for any inconvenience this might cause, and appreciates residents’ cooperation and patience during this time. For more information, contact the RDCK at 250-352-6665 or visit www.rdck.bc.ca.

Found

Adult Siamese-cross neutered male. If he is not claimed he will be looking for a new loving home. If you recognize this kitty or want more information please call PALS at 250-265-3792 or info@pals-online.ca.

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Williston Lake in 1995. The company worked on this project for two years. In 1995, the company was called WaterBridge Steel Inc. and was owned by John Harding. Since then, they have been responsible for the construction and operation of the largest freight-carrying ice-breaker in the world when it went into service on Williston Lake in 1995. The company also constructed the 2004 Francois Forester, which provides ferry service under contract with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on Francois Lake.

Closing date for application is June 30 and July 1

June 30 – Coffee with the Mayors - 9 am Broadway Deli
Open Official Opening Ceremony
Full day of events ending with street dance 8 pm
All events on Broadway.

July 1 – Fire Brigade Pancake Breakfast
Emergency Services Building • 7 - 10:30 am
Parade 11 am – Full day of events
Farmers’ Market in the Park
Opening ceremonies Noon and children’s events
Ball, Gag N’ Chain Band – 2 pm - 4 pm
Beer Gardens – 2 - 8 pm
Jam Session – 6 - 8 pm (Bring your instrument)
Fireworks 10 pm – Fire Brigade

Come join the Party!!
Buy a button.
RDCK board, June 21: Krestova residents angry about pulp mill sludge in their neighbourhood

by Jan McMurray

• The safety of applying pulp mill sludge as a “soil amendment” on residential properties was strongly questioned in a letter to Chris Stroich of the Ministry of Environment from 13 Krestova residents. The letter was copied to the RDCK board, and Area H Director Walter Popoff brought the letter to the board’s attention at the meeting.

The letter states that the sludge was applied to a property in Krestova in the spring that is close to a potable water supply and a community hall that offers children’s programs. When the sludge was applied to the same property in 1996, the community protested loudly and won the right to be notified if the sludge was to be applied in future. No notification was given this spring. Residents want the sludge tested for chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and petroleum products.

Director Popoff reported that the Zellstoff pulp mill in Castlegar had more than 60 potential orders for the sludge to be delivered throughout the RDCK.

It was decided that Director Popoff, Chair John Kettle, and CAO Jim Gustafson would meet with Chris Stroich of the Ministry of Environment to discuss the safety of the sludge.

• The RDCK board agreed to submit two resolutions for consideration at the upcoming UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) convention.

The first was put forward by Director Ramona Faust and calls for the surveying of all lands that are public access points to be installed in the Zellstoff pulp mill in Castlegar and a community hall that offers participating in the program. Shadrack’s resolution points out that the RDCK has called for adequate compensation for all parties involved in “Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) recycling programs,” and genuine participation from all parties in planning of the programs. However, the suppliers of sludge depots are withdrawing from the programs because of their onerous rules and inadequate financial compensation. The resolution asks the UBCM to canvass all areas of the province where the program is failing and take that information to the provincial government.

• The meeting’s chair’s salary was officially increased from $200 per month to $500 per month. When Chair John Kettle put the request to a vote, surprisingly three months ago to raise Vice Chair Hillary Elliott’s pay, he explained that she is involved in everything he does and she is ready at any moment to take the helm if necessary. Elliott’s remuneration as a municipal director is $1,006 per month, and she now receives $500 per month.

Pulled pork sighted at Rory’s on Main!

Rock on Rory’s

On Saturday, my fearless publisher, Dan the Man, and I just had to go to Rory’s on Main for dinner.

Rory Pownall was born and raised in New Denver. Just about a year ago, she opened her own restaurant on New Denver’s Main Street. She named it Rory’s on Main. I love going there for many reasons.

There are very few places in which I’d describe the décor as “under-stated elegance.” Rory’s is one of them. The place is still so new that when I walk in there, I seem to forget for a second that I’m in New Denver. Then I hear Rory’s lovely laughter emanating from the kitchen or from a table’s sitting. Then I remember where I am.

What’s new on Rory’s? Plenty. First of all, expanded hours. Rory’s is now open Thursday through Monday from 5 pm to 9 pm. We all love that. The second piece of great news is the expanded menu, and it holds some wondrous things, not least of which is the PULLED PORK SANDWICH! I gotta talk about it.

I asked Rory about the basics of preparing it. Rory personally looks after each step in this process. First of all she marinates the pork in a “dry rub” (secret ingredients) for a whole day. That would be 24 hours. I did the math. Then she smokes the meat for 10 hours, after which she (slowly) bakes it for another six hours. Finally she pulls it apart, although I’ll bet a lot of it falls right off the bone. Homemade BBQ sauce (more secret ingredients) is then added. But it’s not ready yet. The meat, dripping with sauce, is heaped atop one half of a toasted white bun from Sappho’s. Brilliant, Ymir and Robson. This retrofit is a significant amount of energy (80,808 kilowatt hours per year) and money. The project will cost $74,700 and result in savings of about $7,443 per year. This project will be paid back in less than three and a half years. The funds for the project come out of the pooled savings of $23,134 per year, so it will pay for itself in seven years.

The Valley Voice June 27, 2012
Slocan council, June 11: Boom chain logs create havoc at beach

by Barbara Curry Mulcahy

- Council considered the log boom problem at the public beach. After the last windstorm, some of Springer Creek Forest Products’ boom chain logs broke loose, damaging the swim dock and creating havoc with the boom. The boom chain logs that had been used to delineate the beach. SPPF General Manager Ralph Tomlin replied to an email from CAO Richardson have to ensure water access will not be difficult for the company to do anything. In the end, council voted to replace and/or remove the boom logs. After the last windstorm, Springer Creek Forest Products’ boom chain logs broke loose, damaging the swim dock and creating havoc with the boom.

- Ingram pressed for information about the waterline, and whether or not the system has the capacity to supply the water, before making the request, made two months ago, that CAO Richardson had work that had been done last year. Ingrasm pressed for a decided, and said the society could move ahead if council passed a motion of support in principle. In the end, council voted to support the subdivision proposal in principle, with a condition that council would meet with staff to ensure water access will not be an issue. Councilors Elliot and Lunn expressed appreciation for the way local volunteer groups had united in support of this project. Lunn, said, “we see it as opening doors for community capacity building.”

- The Village’s application for $9,000 under the UBCM’s Fuel Management Prescription Program was successful. Council discussed whether or not to proceed with the project, which would be to develop a prescription for 80 hectares of the Village and the best way to fund the 6 acres across from the Village. The Village would be responsible for contributing $3,000 to this project. Some councillors worried that this would just be a duplication of previous work and that the project itself goes against the principle of having one chain log at a time.

- Councillor Patterson seconded this motion and all voted in favour. Council requested that staff follow up and report on a second site in town that had been declared a nuisance situation. Council decided not to install a boat washing station in 2012, but to consider it for 2013. These stations enable boaters to wash their boats before and after using the lake, preventing invasive plants from travelling with the boats.

Stephen Schellenberg’s art exhibit asks the big questions

Silverton Gallery’s summer season of exciting art is about to begin, with a new series of new works by New Denver artist Stephen Schellenberg. He is a painter, actor, filmmaker and playwright – a prolific and well-respected artist.

In this collection called “Down the Rabbit Hole,” the artist raises questions on a grand scale for humanity, such as why has the world been spinning out of control since 9/11? “We have had the Occupy movement’s uprisings across the globe, to mention the economic collapse we see everywhere...something is going on,” he says.

This show explores the struggle Schellenberg goes through as both an artist and a human spirit. He does not claim to have all the answers, he says, but is inspired to create art that challenges us to simply ask “why?”

Schellenberg’s paintings are created on recycled fabric, newspaper and cardboard. He believes these disposables have a value long after they have been discarded. In this work he uses large canvasses with mixed media, including melted wax and hand sewn seams.

The show will be on display June 26 - July 5 (2-6 pm). The gallery is closed Monday, July 2. At the performance event on Friday, June 29 at approximately $4,700, Silverton and New Denver are installing these stations this year.

The show is on display June 26 - July 5 (2-6 pm). The gallery is closed Monday, July 2. At the performance event on Friday, June 29 at 7 pm, refreshments will be served. Silverton Gallery is on Silverton’s Main Street, aka Highway 6, just south of the bridge.
Silverton council, June 19: Internet service discussed

by Jan McMurray

• Councillor Main reported that her internet speed recently slowed down considerably, so she contacted Larry Lavan of Red Mountain Internet Society (RMIS). Lavan indicated the problem may be due to interference from the Telus tower, and indicated that the Village should contact Telus about it. Mayor Provan reported that she had met with Lavan and Bruce Gardner about this, and they had asked the Village to purchase filters. Provan told them there was no budget for this, and asked them to write to council with their concerns. Councillor Johnson pointed out that this was an issue between RMIS and Telus, and said she felt the Village should not be involved. Council decided to invite RMIS to a meeting.

• Mayor Provan reported on the Action Charter, committing to becoming carbon neutral by 2012. This makes Silverton eligible for an annual provincial grant equal to its carbon tax costs.

• Councillor Main gave an RDCK report. She said the Slocan Lake Management Plan is “ready to go” for the 2013 budget, but it had been previously agreed to get it started in the third quarter of this year. She said the Slocan Valley Local Governments would discuss “why this is getting delayed again.” She also reported that an extra position had been created in Parks Planning and Management, and a meeting would be held to discuss increased taxation for this. The RDCK passed a resolution opposing the federal and provincial governments and we do it with eight percent of the tax dollars,” she said.

• Mayor Provan reported on a regional hospital board meeting, where Interior Health representatives made a presentation and stressed the need for “legible access” to health services across the region, whether in a rural or urban setting. The board asked IF to publish a newsletter and get training into Selkirk College for health professionals.

VILLAGE OF NAKUSP

2013 PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS

The Community Charter allows Village Council to exempt certain properties from taxation. All non-profit or charitable organizations are eligible to apply for an exemption. Applications will be considered by the Mayor and Council at a Regular Council meeting. Eligibility criteria may be obtained from the Village office.

The deadline for receiving applications for the 2013 taxation year is June 7, 2012. Organizations which received a permissive tax exemption last year for 2012 must reapply for 2013 exemption.

For more information and application forms please contact Robert Richards at the Village Office:

91-1 Street NW, (250) 265-3689 or rrichards@nakusp.com

Robert Richards
Chief Financial Officer

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COMING TO THE SILVERTON GALLERY:

MEMORIAL TEA FOR NONIE GORDON—The Gordon family would like to invite family, friends and acquaintances to celebrate the life of Nonie Gordon, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, at a Memorial Tea, at the Slocan Lake Golf Club on Saturday, July 7, 2012, from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm.

HOBBITS & HUMANS: What Fresh Fossils and Ancient Genes Suggest about the Strange Shape of Our Family Tree.
Mark J. Gilbert, professor at Utah Valley University, speaks about strange new twists in the human family tree, including hobbit-sized humans. Hidden Garden Gallery’s Food for Thought Café, Kootenay Ave., Hall, Sat. June 30, 7:30 pm, by donation.

MOTHERGOOSE SUMMER SESSION, the first three Thursdays in July. The 6th, 13th and 20th at 1:30 pm at the Silverton Bay Park by the lake. Caregivers and children ages 0-3 are welcome to join us for two free one-hour sessions of singing and storytelling. Grandparents also welcome! Contact Julia at 554-2745 with questions. Rainy days in Knox Hall.

COMING GRAND:
NEW DENVER FRIDAY MARKETS happens in downtown New Denver every Friday, June through September, 10 am to 2 pm. Fresh local produce and artisans wares at this vibrant community event. ndfridaymarket@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS OF ALL AGES needed for 2 events. Thank you for considering. Teens especially Welcome. COME: DAY: FACE PAINTERS NEEDED meet at the Dewis Baseball Park JULY 1st following the Parade until 2 pm. Come for an hour or more of your choice. We have paint and brushes, show your artistic flair and paint joy on every child’s face. Call if you need more details at 250-456-2562. ROSEBERRY REGATTA Boat Building workshops to happen at the Silverton Bay Park this July. Two or three sessions. Dates TBA with Sailing trials. Anyone interested in participating see Silverton Valley SE 7th 2011 back page. Looking for Treasure map designers, shipwrights, captains and all kinds of kids. The Whalers and Sea foam Sirens who want to sing can keep us company by singing their repertoire. Anyone with the song books and suggestions are invited to bring them.

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COMING TO THE SILVERTON GALLERY: We’re very excited about our summer schedule of exhibitions by superb local artists. Gallery hours are 2-6pm. Openings include food and performance with art! “Down the Rabbit Hole” an exhibition of mixed media paintings by Stephen Schellenbergers, June 26-July 5 (closed on Monday, July 3). Don’t miss Stephen’s performance art and opening reception, Friday, June 29 at 7pm. From July 10-14, ‘Stranger than a Wolf’, a collaboration between Ellie Scheepens (ceramics), Virginia Boyd (photography) and Heather Spears (poetry). Canadian Heather Spears is a Governor General Award winning poet, who now lives in Denmark. She will be reading from her work, at the opening reception on Friday, July 12 at 7pm. July 1 is the Annual Canada Day Dog Show at the Gallery! Please attend with dog or as a spectator. Special category this year: Fancy Dress. Ongoing: Community Music, July 1 and July 8, 6:30-8:30pm. Submissions for Grass Roots un-juried, group art show in August now being accepted. For more information contact Andrea: mahl717@gmail.com.

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Slocan Lake Golf Club on Saturday, July 7, 2012, from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm. Grandmother, at a Memorial Tea, at the Silverton Bay Park by the lake. Caregivers and children ages 0-3 are welcome to join us for two free one-hour sessions of singing and storytelling. Grandparents also welcome! Contact Julia at 554-2745 with questions. Rainy days in Knox Hall.

The Strange Shape of Our Family Tree. Fossils and Ancient Genes Suggest about how our species were shaped and modified over millions of years. From the strange new twist we have found in the human family tree, to strange new twists such as hobbit-sized humans, Dr. Mark J. Gilbert, Utah University, will discuss new twists in our understanding of the history of life on Earth. Hidden Garden Gallery’s Food for Thought Café, Kootenay Ave, Hall, Sat. June 30, 7:30 pm, by donation.

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HBD, Jo-Anne: Peace and joy on every child’s face. Call if you need more details at 250-456-2562. ROSEBERRY REGATTA Boat Building workshops to happen at the Silverton Bay Park this July. Two or three sessions. Dates TBA with Sailing trials. Anyone interested in participating see Silverton Valley SE 7th 2011 back page. Looking for Treasure map designers, shipwrights, captains and all kinds of kids. The Whalers and Sea foam Sirens who want to sing can keep us company by singing their repertoire. Anyone with the song books and suggestions are invited to bring them.
June 27, 2012

P.2

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The Valley Voice
The Valley Voice June 27, 2012

The Orchard - 303 Union St., New Denver
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Lot Size: 30’ x 118’. Extensive renovations last year - effectively re-building the entire house - and was almost complete when our dad passed away. There is an open building permit with three requirements to close it. Estimated cost of finishing is approx $3,000. It requires a finish coat of stucco so it’s not much to look at right now. There are two outdoor sheds as well. 690 square feet includes an indoor workshop, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, a kitchen and a living room. The foundation, roof, walls, insulation and windows are all new. The finishing - door, window and floor trim - needs to be done. The kitchen cabinets are handmade and a new owner may want to replace those. The linen and carpet could stand to be replaced as well, but the house is quite livable as it is. Heat is electric baseboard. There is no fireplace or woodstove. 2012 Assessment: $151,600. Offered at $133,000 o.b.o before we get a realtor involved. Please call Donna 250-358-7985.

Next Valley Voice Deadline: July 6, 2012
Kaslo celebrates Canada Day with second annual Folk Music Festival

Come celebrate Canada Day in Kaslo with the Folk Music Festival, Friday June 29 to Sunday July 1, with fireworks at dusk on Sunday.

The festival features 10 bands, and is free of charge. Hosted by the Kaslo Hotel, the festival had its inaugural year last year. “The response was so great that we decided to go even bigger this year, with more great musicians,” says Heather Wilson from the hotel. “We’re also making it more accessible.”

Last year, musicians performed in the hotel pub only, so only those 19 and over could attend. This year, a stage will be set up on Water Street behind the pub so everyone can come out and listen and dance. There will be musicians on the Water Street stage from noon to about 8 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Evening performances will be in the pub on Friday, Saturday and Sunday starting at 8 pm (8:30 pm on Sunday).

“Many of the bands are from right out of Kaslo,” says Wilson. Festival programs, with band bios and the festival schedule, are available at businesses in the area.

The Kaslo Hotel kicks off the weekend on Friday night with music in the pub by Alex Vissia, who has just released her first album as a solo artist, ‘A Lot Less Gold.’

Saturday’s line-up on the Water Street stage consists of Dawna McLennan (aka Harp Pixie), Ron McKlligan and Friends, more Alex Vissia for those who missed out in the pub the night before, Buckman Coe, and an open jam. The music then moves inside for an evening with Daniel Huscroft, who was fantastic at last year’s Folk Fest. Sunday is another day filled with performances by talented musicians: Highly Strung, Jenie Thai, Stone Crowe, an open jam hosted by Kaslo musician Randy B., Anne Waters, and Chiselspark. The music then moves into the pub for a night with Jenie Thai, with a break at dusk for the fireworks – the patio of the Kaslo Hotel is the perfect place to watch. This year also sees the addition of a fun beard and mustache contest. There will be prizes for longest, fullest, and more. Call the Kaslo Hotel at 250-353-7714 for details about any of the weekend’s festivities, or to register for the contest. For more information, check kaslocanadadayfestival.org.

Edmonton’s Jenie Thai will be performing at the Kaslo Hotel, July 1.
Youth from across the Basin, including Winlaw, Nakusp and Kaslo, met at CBT’s CONNECT Youth Action Summit in Kimberley May 3 to 6 to get inspired, educated and empowered to create action events in their own communities. The result was 18 youth-inspired and youth-created Action Events across the Basin.

Elliot Gatenby and Jayden Fehr of Winlaw decided to form ‘Activate Winlaw,’ a group dedicated to engaging people in the community. “We’d like to put ourselves forward as volunteers available for community service,” said Gatenby. “We’re open to any ideas the community has for improvement and would love to hear them.”

Hailey and Liam of Nakusp came up with a project called ‘Skills Share: youth and seniors sharing skills, creating conversation and building ties across generations.’

Lara Hunter and Rose Shine of Kaslo came away from the summit inspired to start a campaign against non-reusable plastic water bottles sold in the vending machine at their school, JV Humphries. “We were amazed at the school’s feedback when we presented the idea,” says Lara. “Apparently other students have wanted to do something about this issue but had a hard time getting started. So now we can move ahead together to reduce our consumption of non-reusable plastic water bottles by raising awareness and giving away reusable water bottles in a fun way.”

At the summit, eight youth were selected to form CONNECT’s Multimedia Team. Supported by two members of Pacific Cinémathèque’s Education Department, these youth had a full day of media training boot camp before the summit. The team then filmed and edited material from the summit and documented it in short videos, which can be seen at www.cbt/connect. Also, a special issue of SCRATCH magazine will be out this summer featuring CONNECT and the Action Events.

“CONNECT was an opportunity for youth to get engaged and grow as leaders, and wow, did the participants step up,” said Michelle d’Entremont, CBT Basin Youth Liaison. “I saw such dedication and commitment to planning and carrying out these actions, and I really got caught up in the incredible energy and passionate networking that took place at the summit.”

The Lardeau Valley Opportunity Links Society will receive $10,000 in funding from the Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition (SIBAC) to assist with the completion of a Forest Inventory - Investor Package.

“Through this project, our hope and intent is to bolster the local economy by attracting businesses and families to relocate to the Lardeau Valley,” said Don Edwards, Lardeau Valley Opportunity Links Society president. “We plan to develop an investor package that will broaden our contacts in the forest industry and strengthen our capacity to network around the region and province.”

Greg Lay, SIBAC board member and Kaslo mayor, said the SIBAC board saw the Lardeau Valley Opportunity Links Society’s application for funding as an opportunity to assist a rural community that has been deeply affected by the decline in the forest industry.

SIBAC is one of three Beetle Action Coalitions in BC’s Interior created in 2005-2006 to help affected communities endure the impacts of the mountain pine beetle epidemic. The funding is intended to support projects that create business partnerships, diversify local and regional economies, find innovative and value-added uses for forest resources and explore new industries to assist rural interior communities through this transition.