Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour comes to the West Kootenay

by Jan McMurray

A big part of the MS Society’s fundraising efforts for over 20 years is its Bike Tours, and the first annual tour in our area took place August 18-19.

About 55 riders participated in the West Kootenay Glacier Challenge MS Bike Tour, which followed the Silvery Slocan Circle Tour, from New Denver to Nelson on Saturday, and from Nelson up to Kaslo and back to New Denver on Sunday.

“We raised over $60,000!” reported Leona Dimock, fundraising coordinator for the MS Society’s West Kootenay chapter in Nelson. “We are very grateful to our participants and sponsors for making the tour such a successful event.”

Riders are required to raise a minimum of $350 in pledges to participate, and there is a registration fee as well.

New Denver resident Richard James, a passionate cyclist whose wife, Barbara Wejr, has MS, participated in the tour and raised $2,150.

There are many incentive prizes for the riders to raise money – the top fundraiser gets a bike, and there are great prizes for those who raise $500, $1,000, $2,000, $5,500 and $10,000.

Dimock said about two-thirds of the registrants were from the West Kootenay and the remaining one-third were from Alberta, the Lower Mainland, and Northern BC.

“We chose the Silvery Slocan loop to highlight the history of the area. We are hoping that riders from outside the area will want to come back again as visitors to explore further,” she said.

Another attraction to the West Kootenay Glacier Challenge is that it is the longest MS Bike Tour in Canada. The average tour is 150 kilometres, and this one is 220 kilometres. Riders had the option of hiking the full route or biking only 150 kilometres, with organizers providing transportation over part of the route.

Dimock explained that organizers wanted the Saturday overnight stay to be in Nelson, where there is the greatest number of accommodation options. “So that put the logical start and finish in New Denver, being about equal distance from Nelson on the two days.”

Dimock said she and her nine-member organizing committee worked for one and a half years to get approval for the tour from the MS Society’s national office and to organize the event. “The plan is for this to be an annual event, now that we have put so much into the first one,” she said. “It’s very well supported, with stops for refreshments, lunch, and support vehicles to pick up the riders if required. It’s a great opportunity for people who have wanted to do the ride but didn’t want to do it without support.”

There were about 50 volunteers over the two days, from Nelson, New Denver and Silverton.
Revenues up at Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival 2012

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival Executive Director Jim Holland reports that revenues were up about 13 percent this year, even though attendance was about the same as last year.

“We’ve turned a corner,” said Holland. “2008 is the last time we saw a surplus in the operating budget and I’m cautiously optimistic about having one this year. We’ll see when the bookkeeping is all done.”

With 1100 tickets sold on Friday, 900 on Saturday and 800 on Sunday, numbers were close to what was expected, said Holland. The increase in the Friday night ticket price from $30 to $45 this year made a big difference. “Friday night is the biggest night because we’re putting the highest profile acts on Friday night, and that’s a format we’ll stick with,” said Holland.

To survive these economic times, Holland says they have operated on a business case model, streamlining and cutting costs. They have gained efficiencies by cutting the number of volunteers from over 350 in 2008 to about 200. This means that individual volunteers contribute more hours than they used to. “The volunteers have really stepped up to the plate and it shows on our bottom line,” said Holland.

He said they have also held down costs by doing their homework in finding new artists – primarily Canadian. US artists are too expensive, he said, and Canadian content is important to festival organizers. At the same time, he said they definitely want to maintain the international flavour. This year, there was one international band scheduled for each night, but one of them cancelled, so Saturday was 100 percent Canadian content.

Two of the bands cancelled very late this year – something that has never happened before. “Part of that was about the instability in the whole entertainment industry. They couldn’t get enough dates together to support their tour, so that’s indicative of a tighter market and a new economic reality,” said Holland.

Jimmy Bowskill cancelled and was replaced by Headwater, a Vancouver band. The Boom Booms stepped in for Septeto Santiguero, the Cuban band scheduled for Saturday night. The guitarist from the Boom Booms, Tom Van Deerusen, is originally from Kaslo, and was stoked to be on the floating stage. He told the crowd about a defining moment he had at the Jazz Fest one year when he was young, when Colin James stepped off the stage and walked right up to him and played a solo. It was then that young Tom decided he wanted to be a guitar player.

Although Holland couldn’t say whether the natural disasters prior to the festival affected the attendance, the high lake levels meant they had to shift the site layout back to the way it was in previous years. The far side of the bay was too muddy for seating this year.

He said there was a pall in the atmosphere because of the Johnsons Landing tragedy. The two young women who lost their lives in the landslide had volunteered for the festival in past years and were on the roster for this year as well. “What I expressed to the audience as MC was that these were keen-to-full-on-live-life-to-the-max type ladies, and if they could have been there in ethereal form, they would have been the first ones to encourage everyone to smile at the person next to them and celebrate and enjoy the Jazz Fest in this beautiful setting. I challenged the audience to celebrate in their memory.”

Holland reported that $1,000 was raised for Johnsons Landing residents at the festival.

In conclusion, Holland talked a bit about the future: “The organization is now quite mature – it turned 21 this year, so it’s not a teenager anymore. In order to maintain its vibrancy and relevance to the community, the board is going to want to take steps to spread our wings a bit further and fly a bit higher. I’m predicting new elements of programming that will expand out from what we’ve done over the past three or four years,” he said, adding, “We are focusing on creating a greater connection to youth in our programming and want to get some younger people involved in the organization.”
Johnsons Landing in limbo until geotechnical report complete in spring 2013

by Jan McMurray

Many of the questions on the minds of the people of Johnsongs Landing will remain unanswered until the geotechnical assessment is completed in spring 2013.

“The key step is the geotechnical report,” said Jim Gustafson, Chief Administrative Officer at the RDCK, at an August 8 meeting to update the residents of Johnsons Landing on the recovery process.

“There is a period of limbo that exists, and I encourage the community to establish its priorities so people’s needs are met until the answers come.” Gustafson suggested that the community form an ‘unmet needs committee,’ a model from the US that came.” Gustafson suggested that the needs are met until the answers establish its priorities so people’s minds of the people of Johnsons Landing in limbo until geotechnical report complete in spring 2013.

Landing on the recovery process. RDCK, at an August 8 meeting to discuss this with the community and suggested they may want to deal with it through their Official Community Plan. He said that in other areas of the Regional District where there are geological ‘hot spots,’ building permits are not issued without a favourable engineer’s report.

Gundula Brigil of Emergency Management BC said that emergency funding may be available to people whose property is deemed a hot spot. She said this is evaluated on a case by case basis. “Different things have happened in different places around the province,” she said, adding that she would connect the RDCK with North Vancouver and Oliver, where this has happened.

Gustafson reported that the Johnsons Landing event had taken 900 man hours of various RDCK staff, and the RDCK had authorized payment of $330,000 to different contractors “to get where we are today.” He explained that the RDCK does not provide the funding – the Province provides the funding through Emergency Management BC. “When emergency funds are identified, they come to the RDCK Emergency Operations Centre and the team in the EOC does an evaluation on it. We make the request to Gundula’s organization [Emergency Management BC] and they approve the funding. Thanks to Gundula, the money flows and the contractors get paid,” he said. “The RDCK is essentially a broker.”

AN APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR THE ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

THE APPLICATION

On July 26, 2012, pursuant to the Utilities Commission Act (Act), FortisBC Inc. (FortisBC) filed an application (Application) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPN) for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project (AMI Project). FortisBC requests approval of a revised depreciation rate of five percent for the proposed AMI meters. The AMI Project has an estimated capital cost of approximately $47.7 million and is expected to commence in late 2013 and be complete by 2015. FortisBC proposes to install 115,000 residential and commercial AMI meters.

INTERVENTIONS

Persons wishing to actively participate in the FortisBC proceeding must register as Interveners through the Commission’s website at www.bcuc.com or in writing. By Friday, September 7, 2012. In their registration, interveners must identify the issues that they intend to pursue, and indicate the extent of their anticipated involvement in the review process. Interveners will each receive a copy of all non-confidential correspondence and filed documentation, and must provide an email address if available.

Persons not expecting to actively participate, but who have an interest in the proceeding, should register as Interested Parties through the Commission’s website or in writing. By Friday, September 7, 2012, identifying their interest in the proceeding.

By participating and/or providing comment on the application, you agree that all submissions and/or correspondence related to the Application will be placed on the public record and posted on the Commission’s website.
Worn flags on MV Osprey give bad impression

While crossing Kootenay Lake aboard the MV Osprey on August 6, 2012, I was disappointed by the condition of the Canadian and British Columbia flags flying above the bridge of the vessel. The Canadian flag was missing the red bar on one end, and the BC flag was completely worn out. The ferry was full of travelers from all parts of the world, judging by the licence plates, I wondered what they must think of a country with so little pride in its national flag.

Alan Beacham
St. Albert, AB
Revelstoke ATV Club thanks New Denver campground operators

Our group would like to thank the operators of the municipal campground in New Denver for the wonderful hospitality extended to us on the weekend of August 11 and 12. The campground operators are a credit to your community. The campground was very busy, and it should be mentioned our group was large enough that your group sites, had any been available, would certainly have been sold out. We are aware of the standard formula that tourist group sites, had any been available, would have attracted some of our buses.

Our group would like to thank the operators of the municipal campground in New Denver for the wonderful hospitality extended to us on the weekend of August 11 and 12. The campground operators are a credit to your community. The campground was very busy, and it should be mentioned our group was large enough that your group sites, had any been available, would have attracted some of our buses.

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RCPM handling of hit and run

My husband was a member of the RCPM for many years and it was something he always said was very important. After the actions, or should I say inaction, by the RCPM Friday night, August 3, I no longer feel that sense of pride.

My son and his friend were hit by a car which spun around on the highway and came straight for them. My son was able to dive out of the way, but his friend was not so lucky. He was hit and thrown onto the middle of the highway. The driver left.

The senior member who responded to the 911 call said he was pretty sure he knew the vehicle that hit them. Two days later, the member issued a fine for leaving the scene of an accident.

Since when has using your vehicle to run someone over an "accident"? That vehicle was used as a deadly weapon. There are laws in our country that say his actions were an assault with a deadly weapon and that punishment is a lot stiffer than a fine.

I know how frustrating it can be to be a police officer and a lot of the time it's a thankless job. Having said that, members are getting paid to protect the public. My son and his friend don't feel very protected right now.

Shame on the member who laughed it off and said he would lose his temper, again because next time it might be someone's life.

Sandi and Jeff Butler

Kaslo Referendums, not OCPs

In letters to this newspaper, some residents are again picking up the issue of planning. It is important to remind and inform the residents why the planning process was defeated in the South Slocan Valley.

The present system of planning is prescribed by the Local Government Act and the Community Charter. These documents can be found online if you wish to read them.

There is a prescription that allows for the circumvention of direct democracy, allowing local government officials to decide issues that should be done by referendum. An Official Community Plan as prescribed by our overlords, the provincial government, can easily be thwarted by the right kind of silver-tongued developer with deep pockets. These Official Community Plans are an insult to the free will and intelligence of the residents where they have been accepted.

An OCP is a legally binding mechanism by which you sign away your democratic rights by giving them over to elected representatives that are subject to lobbying by special interest groups. The democratic way is not to incorporate numerous bylaws into one OCP but rather that each and every piece of a rural area without zoning, and that all planning issues should be addressed on an individual basis by referendum.

Ed Nixon

Kaslo Community Garden

2012 has been a very difficult year for Kaslo, with all the rain, power outages, loss of the water system, and the landslide destroying the lives of the community members in Johnson Landing. So also has it been a difficult year for the Kaslo Community Garden.

On April 15, the lease was returned to the Village of Kaslo, just as the beds were beginning to show signs of life. We, the gardeners, were bereft to garden because of this situation. We regrouped, held a meeting and signed many lists of support for the need and existence of the Kaslo Community Garden.

We went to the Village to give us the lease so we could begin gardening. As it takes time for the municipal process to proceed, the record rains stopped and the sun came out, and the grass grew to record heights and the weeds flourished in the once clean beds.

We requested assistance from the Village [the leaseholder] in containing the ungainly overgrowth. We have a push mower that could not go through that grass. What did we do with our remaining daycare funds? We hired a landscape crew.

The ‘Interest to Lease’ was published as a deadline on July 18. The Village instructed Kaslo Community Garden to publicly accessable garden lot and a bonsaide leaseholder. In the initial request for the lease, we had a sponsor to do all these things, but because of unclear or process reasons, we needed to seek the approval of someone to the group to sponsor us.

We have this done. The lease has been awarded and signed by the Village, but is still in process, I was told to go ahead with the new plans for the Kaslo Community Garden. This fall, we plan to have a garden party and begin to build raised beds and remove the grass in between and concrete the areas we’ll get seeded because it is low maintenance. We will leave a small area of grass by the shed. Next spring, we will begin a major scraggly overgrown garden – a valuable asset and very good thing for the community of Kaslo! Great thanks to all the people of Kaslo for your support.

Koehle Ocello, Secretary/ Treasurer

Kaslo Community Garden

Open letter to BC Utilities Commission re: smart meters

I am writing to express a grave concern with the current installation of smart meters by BC Hydro in rural BC. Please contact Robert McLennan, the president of 3000 Islands (KIN), to confirm the technical concerns expressed in this letter. Mr. McLennan is a 50-year veteran of the electronics industry, including military and space programs.

Mr. McLennan has identified three specific issues: the manner in which BC Hydro has implemented installation of the meters, the accuracy of the measurements and the fact that BC Hydro has made, in the Iron meters use the ISM bands rather than the designated ITU frequencies; and, the type of spread spectrum being used in the Iron meters. In relation to these problems identified by Mr. McLennan, attached, please find the letter of Nita Buxoromand, president, Slocan District Chamber of Commerce, which underscores just how much BC Hydro has disrupted personal and business communications in some parts of rural BC.

BC Hydro is the regulatory body to which citizens turn when there are problems with our public and private utilities. Although BC Hydro has been contacted by other residents in the province, there continue to be issues arising in rural communities regarding internet services being disrupted due to smart meter installation and use. The Utilities Commission has an obligation to bring forward this matter to the Province on behalf of affected areas, as the issue continues to occur with numerous attempts to try to prevent lost or greatly interrupted internet service.

BC Hydro, while installing smart meters in the likely area, caused the destruction of the local wi-fi service operated by CP Electronics of Williams Lake - at a cost to the company approximately $121,000 to $15,000 to fix the problem. The owner of CP Electronics stated to Chatham Kent Amateur Radio Club as early as 2010 at http://www.wbcs.ca/wpcontent/uploads/pages2?id=10. Further, the owner of CP Electronics stated that the BC Hydro, initially, would not return his phone calls.

BC Hydro’s ‘West Kootenay area advisor was alerted and it was requested that BC Hydro sit down with Mr. McLennan before installation of smart meters began in the West Kootenay. In late June, despite BC Hydro talking with Broadband BC, the installation of smart meters in Area H of the Regional District of Central Kootenay and Silverton again disrupted wi-fi service for some 80 local residents and businesses (Kootenay Voice, July 11). A solution must be found for the proposed operation of these devices when they overlap with pre-existing local and rural wi-fi services. It is simply unacceptable that a pre-existing communication service vital to rural residents and businesses across BC should be detrimentally disrupted when BC Hydro has known for nearly nine months that there is a problem with the installation of smart meter technology blocking regular wi-fi signals in some communities.

Further, starting in July, there is now disruption of wi-fi service occurring in the Larder Lake area in Area D of the Regional District Central Kootenay. Where are the regulatory agencies like yourselves and Industry Canada that are set in place to monitor and regulate utilities like BC Hydro, among others? Why is it that at the moment and in the future, is significant and with the provincial government putting families first with job creation as a top priority, it appears that the affected rural areas do not seem to be of any concern. On March 15, BC Hydro finally decided to contact Mr. McLennan and begin discussions to find a solution to the disruption they were causing for KIN’s customers in the Larder Lake area.

In contrast, FortisBC a utility currently with an application before the Commission, has been open to communications and appreciative of the issue being raised. FortisBC arranged to meet Mr. McLennan and a local government representative to try to find a way to resolve the issue, caused by their plan to install wireless smart meter technology in rural BC in their service area.

That is the way BC Hydro should have handled the situation, which is to say at least it looked like that installation of wireless smart meter technology was disrupting pre-existing wi-fi services and their customers.

If the Commission and their staff do not have direct regulatory power over BC Hydro in this matter, they should have at least agreed to hear the concerns and take the matter up with the current BC government and Industry Canada to ensure that BC Hydro started responding appropriately with the affected communities.

Andy Shadrack

RDCK Director Area D

Fix ambulance service

The following is NOT an indictment of the hard working men and women of the BC Ambulance Service; they are doing the best they can with what this government allows them to work with.

There is no other area of medicine where spending such a small amount more up front will make such a profound difference both in terms of additional lives saved and people kept out of long-term care (or from sustaining permanent injuries) than in our pre-hospital care system.

Fixing BC’s grossly out-of-date BC Ambulance Service should be the highest priority for this government; to be clear, the BC Ambulance Service is inadequate to the needs of British Columbians. Fixing the BC Ambulance Service means adding a dozen rapid response, doctor-led, EMS helmets to the system. This approach will provide patients with vastly more capable medical care much quicker, especially for all areas outside immediate Metro Vancouver and Greater Victoria.

Such an approach will dramatically reduce our pre-hospital mortality and morbidity rates. Pre-hospital mortality rates remain extreme (third-world like) in some areas of BC. They are: 12% in Metro Vancouver, 49% for parts of Vancouver Island, 59% for the interior, 75% for the north and 82% for the northwest.

British Columbians should know that up to 50% of all trauma related deaths are influenced by delays in the provision of advanced life support (ALS). This means out of the 7,500 unpreventable post-hospital deaths in BC each year, hundreds, potentially even into the thousands, could have been prevented if the affected rural areas had been attended to sooner and by higher capability medical practitioners.

Alberta, a province with almost a million fewer residents than BC, has only 2 advanced life support (ALS) teams. Their challenging terrain than BC has two world-class trauma centres centrally located in Edmonton and Calgary and 2,100 advanced life support parameters. BC only has one, a ‘level one’ trauma centre located in Vancouver, and out of our total 3,650 BC Ambulance Service employees, we only have 137 (full-time) advanced life support paramedics. BC only trains 20 advanced life support paramedics each year (with only 16 graduating on to the roster, thus BC Hydro was able to install smart meters in the FortisBC service area). BC Hydro has disrupted personal and a local government representative to try to find a solution to the problem caused by installing wireless smart meter technology in rural BC in their service area.

That is the way BC Hydro should have handled the situation, which is to say at least it looked like that installation of wireless smart meter technology was disrupting pre-existing wi-fi services and their customers.

If the Commission and their staff do not have direct regulatory power over BC Hydro in this matter, they should have at least agreed to hear the concerns and take the matter up with the current BC government and Industry Canada to ensure that BC Hydro started responding appropriately with the affected communities.

Hans Dysarsz

Delta
The Valley Voice  August 22, 2012

Kaslo & Area

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo Housing Society representatives Rod Arnold and Sean Kubara attended with two requests. First, they asked for the use of the property behind the Kemball Memorial Centre for a housing project. At the initial planning stages, and was providing the Kemball building with a three-storey tower to connect the new building to the Kemball building. The tower would provide elevator service and fire escapes for both buildings, providing safe and good access.

Kubara said the society was in the process of applying for funding under the Affordable Rental Housing Initiative program, a partnership between CBT and BC Housing. Arnold explained that the society had already earmarked for affordable housing does not meet the criteria of the funding program because it needs water, sewer and power.

“Council is in the process of approving the Kemball building with safe and good access. Kubara said the society was in the planning stages, and was looking for the go-ahead from council to investigate further. She said the society wants to work with the Village as they move forward.

The second request was for an OCP amendment. “To have a successful affordable housing strategy, you need regulations and policy to support it,” she said, adding that the Focus report has wording for the OCP and suggestions for zoning.

This was referred to the Municipal Services Committee.

Council expressed thanks to everyone involved in the emergency response to the Johnsons Landing landslide, including Kaslo Search and Rescue, Urban Rescue Team, ESS volunteers, and Portman, RDCK staff and Red Cross.

A draft Development Procedures Bylaw, produced by lawyer Lori Stuplis, was referred to Municipal Services. The bylaw sets out fees and procedures for applications for amendments to the OCP and zoning bylaws, and for the issuance of development permits, development variances, and permits for temporary commercial or industrial permits.

“Ramp up the Suffering race caused by the fact that the airport is not being avoided as requested by council more than once. Organizers will be instructed to revise the route to avoid the airport, and will be provided with a copy of the federal regulations governing the airport.”

At a City Hall Committee meeting on July 25, a draft application for a $130,000 Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund grant was presented. If successful, the grant would match CBT committed funds of $100,000 and budgeted Village funds of $30,000. The grant would enable completion of the building’s top floor, staircases, and the washrooms, meeting room and hallway on the main floor.

The committee decided to hire an electrical engineer to put together a detailed tender document for the main floor electrical.

“The Trailblazers’ proposal to build the 5th Street Unity Bridge was approved, including permission to cut down eight trees on the right of way. Village machine and operator time will be provided.”

Councillor Leatherwood reported that the Trailblazers were planning to apply for a Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund grant to raise the elevation of the waterfront trail over 2012 lake levels.

Councillor Leatherwood proposed that the Village apply for a $100,000 BC Ideas grant to hold a monthly coffee party in different locations around town to discuss council issues. The main intent behind the coffee parties is to engage the public. Council supported the proposal.

“Support by the Municipal Insurance & BC Housing. Arnold explained that the Affordable Rental Housing Initiative of applying for funding under the

Tourism affected by disasters in Kaslo area

by Jan McMurray

Tourism had a slow start this year in our area due to extremely wet weather this spring, leading to road washouts, flooding and landslides. Probably nowhere else was hit harder than the Kaslo area.

Kaslo and Area Chamber of Commerce President Steve Hoffart, and Vice-President Daphne Hunter, who works at Kaslo’s Visitor Centre, report that they are still getting phone calls from people asking if it is safe to come to Kaslo.

However, they are optimistic about tourism in Kaslo going forward. “We are confident in our community’s resilience and we know that we have a world class tourism product,” said Hoffart. The Chamber of Commerce continues to work to promote the area through strategic initiatives and partnerships.

Adversity makes us stronger and working together will ensure that we thrive once again.”

The “Adversity” was a series of disastrous events in the Kaslo area this year.

At the end of June, there were washouts on many roads, including Highway 31 north of Kaslo, which was closed at Gerrard for three days. Meadow Mountain and Glacier Creek Forest Service Roads, which accept popular recreational pursuits and hiking trails, were also washed out in the spring and remain closed, as they have not been repaired.

Also at the end of June, the dam for Kaslo’s water system washed away in a debris torrent in Kemp Creek. A temporary water system was set up immediately, so Kaslo was never without water. However, the large amount of debris in the creek resulted in high turbidity in the water, so the Village put out a Water Quality Advisory, advising people with weakened immune systems to boil the water or use an alternate water source. Although there was always water available, and was always safe for most people to drink, Hunter says people are still calling the Visitor Centre to ask about the water.

Kootenay Lake was at its highest level in 40 years at the end of June and beginning of July, causing flooding at marinas, on the Kaslo Waterfront Trail and in some basements.

Then on July 12, the Johnsons Landing landslide occurred, bringing media outlets to Kaslo to report on the devastating event.

“That’s when the phone really started to ring off the hook,” said Hoffart. “Many people thought the landslide happened in Kaslo, and that Kaslo was being evacuated.”

Hoffart said that a 20-30 percent cancellation rate was reported by local accommodations going into the Kaslo Jazz Festival weekend, although that was offset by people making the last-minute decision to attend the festival.

Hoffart reports that Visitor Centre statistics show May was down 18 percent despite the busiest May Days weekend ever, June was up slightly, and July was down 19 percent compared to last year’s figures.

The visitors finally started to arrive in August, but the effects of the wet spring are still putting a damper on tourism. “We’re finally getting visitors, but Meadow Mountain Road and Glacier Creek Forest Service Road have been washed out since spring, so our visitors can’t get to some of the most popular hiking in the area, like the Macbeth Icefield, Monica Meadows, and Jumbo.”

Hoffart commented that forest service roads are very important to the community’s recreational and tourism economy, and they are in need of attention. “We have to be able to access these roads – they are very important to our economy.” He pointed out that there used to be four access roads to Kokanee Glacier Provincial Park, and now there is only one. The other three have been closed for years.

Hunter added that Cody Caves Provincial Park just south of Kaslo, a major tourist draw, has been closed for three seasons now. The government cannot find an operator since they increased the operator’s fee from $100 to either $250 or $1 per visitor per day, whichever is greater. In 2009, the last year Cody Caves was open, the caves saw 4,500 visitors.

A Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations spokesperson reported that the Meadow Mountain Road is a low priority road and there are no immediate plans to repair it. He said Glacier Creek Forest Service Road, however, is a high priority road because of its high recreation value. The repair is held up because a slump in the road at the 13-kilometre mark is still moving. “We still plan on repairing the road this year when the engineer determines the movement has slowed to an acceptable risk level,” he said.
Valley Voice

August 22, 2012

SLOCAN VALLEY

Sloanc Lake Management Plan to incorporate science and community values

by Jan McMurray

The Sloanc Lake Stewardship Society (SLLS) gave a report on their progress towards a Sloanc Lake Management Plan at a public meeting on August 9 in New Denver. Therese Descamp, SLLS board president, and Richard Johnson, director, explained that since the society’s inception in 2007, they have been focusing on having scientific studies done to provide baseline information about the lake.

The science is ongoing – a three-year water quality study is midway to completion now – the society is turning its attention to a community values study.

“The science and the community values come together in the lake management plan,” explained Descamp. She said residents will be asked to fill out a survey this fall about their values regarding the lake. Results will be available in early 2013.

All studies will be submitted to the RDCK’s planning department, which will draft the lake management plan. Descamp said the RDCK is currently working on a management plan for Kooyen Lake, and the Sloanc Lake plan is next on their project list.

She explained that a lake management plan is a local government document, and although it doesn’t supercede federal or provincial law, “it has some teeth to it. So, for example, if a big hotel were proposed at Enterprise Creek, and the community says we don’t want a big hotel at Enterprise Creek, and that makes sense with the science, then maybe the proposal wouldn’t be approved.”

Johnson gave an overview of the scientific studies that have been done. A baseline water quality study was completed in 2008, and a three-year water quality study will be completed next year. As part of the water quality study, the water is being tested regularly over the three years for heavy metals, coliforms, nutrients, zooplankton (fish food), conductivity, electrostatic measurements, etc. When all the data are in, a water trend analysis will be done.

The Foreshore Fish and Wildlife Habitat Assessment Report, completed May 2011, shows that most of Sloanc Lake’s foreshore – about 91 percent – has very little disturbance. Of the 87 kilometres of shoreline, almost 80 kilometres is natural. Descamp added that when over 30 percent of a lake’s foreshore is developed, it is very difficult to restore.

The shoreline was rated for fish habitat: 11.5 percent was rated very high quality for fish habitat, 45.7 percent was rated high, 34.3 percent was rated moderate, 8.2 percent was rated low, and 0.3 percent was rated very low.

Johnson said aquatic vegetation, or weed beds along the lakeshore, is very important for fish. Unfortunately, people like to pull the weeds out. Descamp reminded people that it is illegal to remove vegetation below the high water mark. The new brochure produced by the society explains that the foreshore, from the water’s edge to the high water mark, is Crown land. To build on or alter the foreshore in any way requires a permit from the province. Furthermore, the Area H North OCP designates a 30-metre area up from the high water mark as a Development Permit Area, so a permit is required to do any development in this zone.

To fund its work, the society has received $180,000 in grants and has contributed about $70,000 worth of volunteer hours. The grant money has been used to pay consultants and the laboratory where the water is tested.

Johnson reported that the society has made a co-operative agreement with Selkirk College that gives the society 17 days of free mapping. Also, some Selkirk College students will be doing their thesis papers on various aspects of the lake next spring.

Check the society’s website for more information at www.sloanclake.com.

Sloanc Lake Senior Housing Society is seeking qualified applicants for 3 positions at Passmore Lodge

1 Employee Position: Lodge/Society Administrator 12 hrs/wk
2 Independent Contractor Positions: 1 Bookkeeper 5 hrs/wk 1 Building/Systems Maintenance & Groundskeeper 7.5 hrs/wk
Closing date: Sept 7th, 2012
SVSHS Office: 250-226-7136
Send resume/request details by email: sseniorhousing@neideala.com
SVSHS is a non-profit, BC Housing subsidized, low-income seniors’ housing society.

Cedar Creek Cafe

5709 Hwy 6, Winlaw
250-226-7355

Bringing you “Tunes for our Times”

The Carnival Band – Thurs. Aug. 23
Little Birdie – Fri. Aug. 24 (6 p.m. show)
Hazen Sage: You, Me & the Sea; Father Paul & The Prophets – Sat. Aug. 25 (5 – 10 p.m)
Max Hawk and the Raptors – Sat. Sept. 15
Ethan Cullister - Thurs. Sept. 20
Fabulous Chairs – Sat. Sept 22
Andrew & Zach Smith – Sat. Sept 29

Weekly Music:
Wed. Open Mike night
Thurs. Diamond Willow Fri. (Din McKee & Friends

Sloanc Lake Arena Society is selling cash draw raffle tickets at the following businesses:

Anita’s Hair Designs
Anita’s Studios
Glacier View Service
June’s Trinkets & Treasures
Mountainberry Foods
New Market Foods
RHC Insurance
Silverton Building Supplies
Sloanc Lake Hardware

We are selling tickets in front of the Laundromat and at New Market Foods on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Cash Prizes of:
First - $5,000.00
Second - $2,500.00
Third - $1,500.00

Draw to be held on October 12, 2012 at the Bosun Hall at 8:00 pm. Only 52 days left to buy your ticket.
Suzuki Valhalla Institute owes its success to Daphne Hughes

by Jan McIurray

From August 5 to 10, 82 Suzuki students of violin, viola and cello and their families gathered in New Denver/Silverton for another very successful Suzuki Valhalla Institute (SVI) summer session.

Founded by mother and daughter Daphne and Miranda Hughes, the institute has flourished since its beginning in 2005.

Daphne is moving back to Guelph, Ontario this fall, marking a change for the institute – but definitely not the end. She has promised to stay on as advisor, keeping in contact via the internet, for at least next year. There is also a group committed to keeping the institute in New Denver/Silverton, including Miranda Hughes, Katrina Sumrall, and some of the SVI faculty members.

At the final SVI student concert on August 10 at the Silverton Memorial Hall, key volunteer organizer, Katrina Sumrall, announced that the institute would continue. The audience responded with a standing ovation when she said: “Daphne is going to re-locate but she will be involved with us until we see Fiona [Daphne’s granddaughter] become the first violin in the chamber group.”

Family is very important to the Suzuki method of teaching, and Daphne’s story highlights this. She has started two Suzuki schools so far in her lifetime, so that her children and grandchildren can take lessons. The Suzuki Valhalla Institute is really the legacy of three generations of the Hughes family.

Over 40 years ago, in 1971, Daphne Hughes was raising her four children in Guelph, Ontario, and wanted them to take Suzuki music lessons. So, she became a Suzuki violin instructor and started the Suzuki String School of Guelph, which is still going strong today.

After over 30 years in Guelph, and raising three violinists and a cellist, she moved to New Denver where her daughter, Miranda, lives.

“I thought I would retire, but Suzuki teachers never retire,” she said. “Miranda was already teaching a bit and wanted her kids to have lessons, so the Suzuki Valhalla Institute grew from there.”

The institute has indeed grown into a very well established school and an important part of the community. Many of the students, some 60-70 percent, come back year after year, and the feedback is always very positive. “They love coming here – the community is one of the biggest attractions, apart from the faculty,” Daphne said.

Another of Daphne’s daughters, Anna, lives in Guelph. A Suzuki violin teacher, Anna was on the SVI faculty last year and is involved in the Suzuki school in Guelph.

The community will be said to see Daphne Hughes move back to Guelph, but very thankful that she leaves us with the Suzuki Valhalla Institute.

Back to text
Nakusp Roots Music Society declares bankruptcy
by Jan McMurray

The Nakusp Roots Music Society filed for bankruptcy on July 25, dashing any hopes for a come-back of the Nakusp Music Festival.

The festival, held eight times from 2004 to 2011, had an excellent reputation for being well organized, and a great show in a spectacular setting. It was an important event for the local economy, with spinoffs estimated at around $3 million annually. The first six years were successful financially, but losses in 2010 and especially in 2011 were too great to recoup.

About 20 local people showed up at a meeting of the creditors held August 12 at the Kuskanax Lodge. Jim Gilchrist of KPMG Inc. in Kelowna, the trustee, chaired the meeting. He explained that the amount owing by the society exceeded the value of its assets – the office building and furniture at 619 Broadway – so there will be nothing for unsecured creditors.

Grand Forks Camp destruction brings Kids Fest to Nakusp
submitted

Nakusp has stepped up to fill in part of the void left by the destruction of the Pines Bible Camp in Grand Forks last month by hosting Kids Fest on August 27 at the gazebo in the park.

After the Pines Bible Camp was destroyed in a violent storm that tragically took the life of an 11-year-old camper, the Kooteny Camp Foundation had to cancel the kids’ camps they had organized there for the season. Instead, they contacted a number of communities about holding day camps and other events.

Photography at its best – Patrizia Menton shows at Studio Connexion
submitted

‘WOMAN,’ a new exhibition of fine art photography by Hills artist Patrizia Menton, is the next exhibition to show at Studio Connexion in Nakusp, August 28-September 15.

The show features a selection of Patrizia’s favourite images of women from different countries and backgrounds, and explores the female presence in the modern world.

Truly inspired by architecture and nature, Patrizia also finds people to be very fascinating subjects. She has wanted to put together a series like this for a very long time.

This special series of photographs are in both colour and black and white. Patrizia still shoots on film and uses the traditional printing process.

Patrizia was born in Italy, and grew up there and in Germany. She moved to Canada in her early 20s. Her love for visual arts led her to study photography and print making in Vancouver. She has shown extensively here and abroad.

This is the only photography exhibition of the season at Studio Connexion Gallery, showing from August 28 to September 15. The reception for the artist will be held on Friday, August 31 from 5 to 8 pm. Everyone welcome. Studio Connexion is located at 203 Fifth Avenue in Nakusp.

The creditors’ information package shows a list of 47 unsecured creditors, most of them from the Nakusp area, owed a total of almost $200,000. Kootenays Credit Union is the only secured creditor, owed more than $350,000. Canada Revenue Agency is a preferred creditor, and is owed about $30,000 for taxes for out-of-country performers. The total amount owing comes to more than $500,000. The value of the Music Festival’s office building and furniture comes to about $360,000. KSCU will get the office building, Gilchrist said, and although there is a chance the six directors of the society board will be personally liable for the $300 owing to Revenue Canada, the society’s directors’ liability insurance should cover that.

Octopus Productions, hired by the society to produce the show every year, is one of the largest unsecured creditors with $16,000 owing to them. Willi Jahnke, owner of Octopus Productions, is also on the list of creditors.

Jahnke produced a music festival in Penticton this year, Rock the Peach, which did not attract a big enough audience to break even.

In happier times, the Nakusp Music Festival brought thousands of spectators and bands from all over the world to the community.
Slocan Lake Dance Camp wrap-up

The Slocan Lake Dance Camp, in its eighth year, once again hosted nearly 100 dancers from around the region over the four days of the event. Held, as always, the weekend prior to the August long weekend, the camp offered 31 daytime workshops, two evening classes, three evening dances, plus a sit-down catered dinner.

Many participants attend just one workshop each day and the evening dance, taking time to enjoy the beauty of the area and the many recreational opportunities offered here.

A highlight of the event is the Friday night Polka-Dot Party. Mixer dances, great refreshments, plus prizes for the best attire add to the festivities. This year’s Polka-Dot Party winners: Bob Deptuck (Cranbrook) won an overnight stay at Villa Dome Quixote; Katya Maloff won a pair of tickets to the Kaslo Jazz Festival; Phil Angriogn won a 50 percent off voucher for a pair of dance shoes from the resident shoe lady, Chris the Brit from Two-Left Feet in Kelowna; Dennis Vogel won a gift certificate from New Denver’s Sandrelia boutique/café.

Saturday evening featured incredible performances by this year’s instructors, who demonstrated ‘Dancing with the Stars’ style right here in the Koots! Lyle Clarke and Linda Fernier gave the audience an emotional, fluid and elegant Viennese Waltz; Bobby Engene and Sharon Sebo dazzled with the athleticism and control of their lift in an intricate tango routine. Both women’s costumes were beaded and beautiful. With lovely Ganna Teturenko, Ricardo, a terrific showman, exhibited salon style Argentine Tango with a great deal of flash.

DJ Michael Weibe did a great job with the music each night and Randy Tapp and Kim Bombardier facilitated some hilarious and wonderful mixer dances and kicked up the fun factor.

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Sharon Sebo and partner Bobby Engene, both of Kelowna,噪声 fire audience at the Argentine Tango performance in Banff Hall during the Slocan Lake Dance Camp. The pair taught three workshops and one evening class at the camp this year. Visit slocanlakedancecamp.ca for more photos.

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Mungall calls for nominations for Queen’s Jubilee Medal recipients

MLA Michelle Mungall is asking the people of the Nelson-Creston constituency to help choose recipients of the prestigious Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medals. Mungall has been tasked with nominating four individuals to receive a medal. To do this she has devised a process that will involve every member of the community.

“Receiving one of these medals is a great honour,” says Mungall. “It is important to me that members of our communities have the opportunity to reflect on the reign of Queen Elizabeth as well as recognize the contributions of their peers.”

To be considered for nomination, applicants must have made significant contributions to their community. Nominations will be accepted in writing by mail or email from August 1 to 31. Nomination forms can be downloaded from www.michellemungall.com or picked up from locations all across the Nelson-Creston constituency.

Any questions about the process can contact Mungall’s Community office at 1-877-388-4498.

Society, the regional club, is also gratefully acknowledged. Visit kootenaydancingbeet.org.

The Slocan Lake Dance Camp would not be the success that it is without the cooperation and assistance of the local media. Please visit slocanlakedancecamp.ca for news and updates.

Smoke, but not much fire

Smoke, but not much fire

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Smoke, but not much fire

by Jan McMurray

Despite the smoky haze in the air, there have not been many fires of note in the southeastern fire centre this season. The smoke has been tracked to wildfires burning in the USA.

So far this season, the southeast fire centre has seen 114 fires which have burned 332 hectares. Of those fires, 36 were person-caused and 78 were lightning-caused.

The five-year average for this time of year is 316 fires.

In mid-August, there was a small spot-sized fire caused by lightning in the Silverton Creek area.

There was also a 10-hectare fire west of Kaslo, burning in a logging cutblock in the Creek Ken area. The fire was reported on August 8 and was 100 percent contained and being mopped up by August 14.

The Prince George fire centre is seeing most of BC’s wildfire activity so far this season.
Barbara Lindsay steps down as Slocan Valley School trustee

by Ian McMurray

Slocan Valley School Trustee Barbara Lindsay will be stepping down from her role as trustee to work with the Ministry of Education in Zanzibar, Tanzania through the volunteer organizations CUSO (Canadian University Students Overseas) and VSO (Volunteer Services Overseas).

“I’ll be working with the Tanzanian government on meeting their objectives of improving the educational system in Zanzibar,” she said.

Lindsay has signed a one-year contract for the job, starting October 1. She will be flying out on September 27.

No stranger to international experiences, Lindsay has worked in education in Kuwait, Mexico City, Egypt and Qatar. However, most of her experiences so far have been in elite schools.

“This won’t be like my other international experiences,” she said. “It’s hard for me to imagine what it will be like – I’ll be jumping in – I like to be more active in teaching.

She said she has really enjoyed the connection with people, parents and communities, and feels that being a part of the board was “a phenomenal experience because I had nothing to do with that as a parent and teacher. Learning about policy and governance has been an invaluable learning experience that I will probably fall back on.”

The board of School District 27 will officially receive Lindsay’s resignation at its August 28 meeting.

Lindsay says she is encouraging people to run for the position. In the 2008 election, the first time she ran, there were three candidates. The second time, in the November 2011 election, she was unopposed.

Lindsay has a teaching certificate with a focus on early childhood education, and spent most of her teaching career at the elementary and secondary schools in Slocan. In 1974, she taught in Silverton, and was the last teacher to teach Kindergarten at the Silverton school (now the Silverton Gallery). She taught one year at Brent Kennedy, and retired in 2002.

Watch for fundraising events Lindsay will be organizing in support of her Zanzibar teaching experience. She explained that all CUSO VSO volunteers are asked to raise $2,000. “For every dollar we fundraise, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will multiply it nine times, so $2,000 becomes $18,000, which basically covers the cost of sending the volunteer,” she explained.

9-7 pm, with music by Carol Street and Abby Cowan. Karen and Donna are two emerging and very different artists who celebrate their individuality of expression in this, their first show together. Karen Hornby’s works were very difficult to make the decision to step down as trustee, she is a teacher at heart. “It’s very sad to leave, but at the same time, in my heart, I always want to jump in – I like to be more active in teaching.

She said she has really enjoyed the connection with people, parents and communities, and feels that being a part of the board was “a phenomenal experience because I had nothing to do with that as a parent and teacher. Learning about policy and governance has been an invaluable learning experience that I will probably fall back on.”

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Final shows of the 2012 season at the Hidden Garden Gallery

August 22, 2012 The Valley Voice

Barbara Lindsay steps down as Slocan Valley School trustee

Car goes over the bank north of New Denver

New Denver Fire Rescue had to use its over-the-bank equipment on August 9 when a vehicle went over the 225-foot embankment on Hwy 6 between New Denver and Rosebery rolling several times, and trapping the female passenger inside.

After Fire Rescue cut the female passenger out, the car went off the road, causing it to collide with a water pump house located at the Springer Creek Forest Products property in New Denver.

RCMP responded to a report of a hit and run crash on Krestova Cemetery Road on July 24 at around 1 am.

The Ford Escape forced a car off the road, causing it to collide with a water pump house in the 360 block. The passenger suffered minor injuries and was treated by BC Ambulance.

The vehicle was believed to be racing around the Krestova area just prior to the crash.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Nelson RCMP at 250-352-2156 or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

RCMP in New Denver requests persons with information are asked to contact the RCMP at 250-352-2222 or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TPS.

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Dark Water Dragons fundraising for dragon boat on Slocan Lake

by Jan McMurray

The Dark Water Dragon Society is hoping to have a dragon boat on Slocan Lake by next spring.

Shelley Pentland, president of the society, reports that the society has 50 members, all who want to paddle. A full dragon boat crew is 22, and the boat can operate with a minimum number of 16 paddlers. Dragon boats are 43 feet long and are like very long canoes, originally from China.

Pentland became interested in getting a dragon boat on Slocan Lake after she had the opportunity to go for a paddle with the Nelson Rhythm Dragons on Kootenay Lake last spring. “It was awesome!” she says. “I considered joining the Nelson group, but the timing just didn’t work for me. Once I decided to start working on getting a boat here, I had 50 members within a month. People are very interested in it.”

Many dragon boat societies hold races and events to raise funds for a worthy cause. Pentland says that once they get the boat, the Dark Water Dragons will be sponsoring spinal cord and breast cancer research.

Pentland’s husband, Doug, suffers from a spinal cord injury, and there are six breast cancer survivors in the group.

Pentland said they plan to buy a used boat at a cost of about $16,000. To purchase the paddles and life jackets as well, the total amount needed to get set up is about $22,000. The group has received grants from the CBT Community Initiatives program from New Denver, Silverton, Slocan and Area H totaling $11,000, and a $1,200 grant from Kootenay Savings Community Foundation. They have also had booths at New Denver’s May Days celebrations, Silverton’s July 1st celebrations and the Christmas Flea Market at the Bosun Hall. “We’ll be at the Bosun Christmas Fair again this year, and are planning other fundraisers, as well,” she said.

Donations are gratefully accepted. The society has an account at the New Denver KSCU. For more information, contact Pentland at 250-358-2756.

Kootenay Lake stewardship group offers Lake Keepers course

By Tanya Thompson, New Denver Hospice Society.

To find out more about this event and details about when and where to drop off baking, or have food picked up, please contact Sue Davies at 250-358-7787.

The Amazing Hills Garlic Festival is coming up on September 9, and the New Denver Hospice Society will again have its booth, selling beverages, treats, muffins and cookies.

This has been a very successful annual fundraising event for the society, because of the very generous contributions of the many, many fine bakers who live in our community. Every muffin, cookie, and piece of delicious sweet treat has been greatly appreciated and has contributed to fulfilling the society’s mission – to provide service to people in New Denver and surrounding communities when they or their families are faced with the challenges of life coming to a close.

New Denver Hospice hopes that people who have baked for them in the past will continue to do so, and welcomes all new bakers. “We would be delighted to accept your contributions,” says Tanya Thompson, New Denver’s hospice coordinator. “We thank you for your support and generosity, and we look forward to seeing you at the Hills Garlic Festival.”

New Denver Hospice Society asking for ‘sweet’ contributions submitted

Kootenay Lake is known for its pristine waters, abundant wildlife and beautiful people. Let’s keep it that way by increasing our knowledge of the lake and planning for the future.

The Friends of Kootenay Lake (FOKL) is a new-formed lake stewardship group. FOKL brings Kootenay Lake communities together to protect the ecological, cultural values of the lake, while supporting economic and recreational uses.

Want to get engaged with the lake you love? Come to our Lake Keepers Course Saturday, August 25 and Sunday, August 26 at Kokanee Creek Provincial Park.

Lake Keepers is an info-packed two-day course for the curious and passionate lake steward. Certified instructors will explain the basics of limnology (the study of fresh water) and then participants will be able to contribute to the challenges of life coming to a close.

New Denver Hospice hopes that people who have baked for them in the past will continue to do so, and welcomes all new bakers. “We would be delighted to accept your contributions,” says Tanya Thompson, New Denver’s hospice coordinator. “We thank you for your support and generosity, and we look forward to seeing you at the Hills Garlic Festival.”

To find out more about this event and details about when and where to drop off baking, or have food picked up, please contact Sue Davies at 250-358-7787.

Monies raised from the event and activities will go towards renovations for the palliative care room in the Pavilion and ongoing training opportunities for volunteers.

For information on the New Denver Hospice Society and its services and/or volunteer training program, call 250-358-7828.

Kootenay Lake is known for its pristine waters, abundant wildlife and beautiful people. Let’s keep it that way by increasing our knowledge of the lake and planning for the future.

The Friends of Kootenay Lake (FOKL) is a new-formed lake stewardship group. FOKL brings Kootenay Lake communities together to protect the ecological, cultural values of the lake, while supporting economic and recreational uses.

Want to get engaged with the lake you love? Come to our Lake Keepers Course Saturday, August 25 and Sunday, August 26 at Kokanee Creek Provincial Park.

Lake Keepers is an info-packed two-day course for the curious and passionate lake steward. Certified instructors will explain the basics of limnology (the study of fresh water) and then participants will be able to contribute to the challenges of life coming to a close.

New Denver Hospice hopes that people who have baked for them in the past will continue to do so, and welcomes all new bakers. “We would be delighted to accept your contributions,” says Tanya Thompson, New Denver’s hospice coordinator. “We thank you for your support and generosity, and we look forward to seeing you at the Hills Garlic Festival.”

To find out more about this event and details about when and where to drop off baking, or have food picked up, please contact Sue Davies at 250-358-7787.

Monies raised from the event and activities will go towards renovations for the palliative care room in the Pavilion and ongoing training opportunities for volunteers.

For information on the New Denver Hospice Society and its services and/or volunteer training program, call 250-358-7828.

Kootenay Lake stewardship group offers Lake Keepers course

By Tanya Thompson, New Denver Hospice Society.

To find out more about this event and details about when and where to drop off baking, or have food picked up, please contact Sue Davies at 250-358-7787.

The Amazing Hills Garlic Festival is coming up on September 9, and the New Denver Hospice Society will again have its booth, selling beverages, treats, muffins and cookies.

This has been a very successful annual fundraising event for the society, because of the very generous contributions of the many, many fine bakers who live in our community. Every muffin, cookie, and piece of delicious sweet treat has been greatly appreciated and has contributed to fulfilling the society’s mission – to provide service to people in New Denver and surrounding communities when they or their families are faced with the challenges of life coming to a close.

New Denver Hospice hopes that people who have baked for them in the past will continue to do so, and welcomes all new bakers. “We would be delighted to accept your contributions,” says Tanya Thompson, New Denver’s hospice coordinator. “We thank you for your support and generosity, and we look forward to seeing you at the Hills Garlic Festival.”

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GOLF COURSES
Nakusp Golf Course - Nakusp
Phone/Fax: (250) 265-4531 www.nakuspgold.com
- HOLE: PUBLIC, COURSE, RATES IN EFFECT 7 DAYS A WEEK
- GREEN FEES: $20.00 per 18 holes, seniors $15.00, Juniors 18-19 $17.00 and 6-18 $10.50 per hole, 18 hole cart package available.
- General Manager: Jim Draper
- Rental clubs, pull carts, 18 hole Driving Range.
MOUNTAIN VIEW CAFE – Fully licensed restaurant; Ph: (250) 265-5835
- Washrooms and air conditioning required.
- Ladies nights: Tuesdays 4:00-6:00. Guests welcome.
- Men’s nights: Fridays 4:00-6:00. Guests welcome.
Slocan Lake Golf Course - New Denver
Phone: 250-358-2408
- HOLE GOLF COURSE – NO TEE TIMES NEEDED
- GREEN FEES: $15.00 per 18 holes, seniors $10.00 per 18 holes, Juniors $5.00 per hole.
- CLUBS AND POWER CARTS AVAILABLE
- Show your current golf membership card & receive 25% off green fees
- Bar and snacks served 11:00 AM and 9:00 PM
Valley View Golf Course - Winlaw
Phone/Fax: (250) 226-7241 www.valleyviewgolf.ca
- HOLE GOLF COURSE AND RESTAURANT
- Hours of operation for the 2012 season:
  - 10:00 AM, May through September.
  - 9:00 AM, June through August
  - 11:00 AM, July and August
  - 50 per cent off greens fees after 2:00 PM, daily.
- 10- and 9-hole punch pass available.
- 18-hole and 9-hole rounds available.
- RESTRICTED: power carts, pull carts, and club rental.
- Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
- Most tees always available, check with club pro.
- Men: Juniors: $10 incl cart, frisbee $1, pop, prises $1, members free.
- Women: frisbee $1, pop, prises $1, members free.
- 10% off greens fees for golfing within the Acoustic Open Site bi-weekly.
- Call (250) 226-7241 for more information.

MUSEUMS
Silvery Slocan Museum - New Denver
(250) 358-7250
- Inner workings of the foot of Nakusp main street, restored to circa 1930. Special tours welcome.
- 250-358-2201 or 250-358-2266 for further information. Hope to see you soon.

Kinkel Internment Memorial Centre
New Denver (250) 358-7288
- The only historic site in Canada dedicated to the memory of the internment story. Located on the Orchid in New Denver, open 7 days a week 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre - Sandon
(250) 358-7520 www.sandonmuseum.ca
- Open: May 15 to Oct 15, 7 days a week, 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Admission: $6 adults, $5 seniors, $3 children, $15 for families.

S.S. Moyie National Historic Site - Kaslo
Ph/Fax: (250) 353-2525 www.kilts.bc.ca
- 324 Front Street, Kaslo BC. Visit the world’s oldest operational sternwheeler in Kaslo. Kaslo has been called the “Queen of the Slocan” and is the hub of the Slocan Valley, nestled at the head of Kootenay Lake, with sandy beaches, crystal blue lakes, and world-class fishing.

Lardeau Valley Historical Society Museum
Meadow Creek Museum, kilts@终极mente.ca 1343 Highway 31, (250) 353-2161 www.kilts.bc.ca
- Visit the UHS Museum in scenic Meadow Creek and experience the history of the “Land of the Larder.” Houses in the historic Carron House on the property are open to the public.

HOT SPRINGS
Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa - Nakusp
Phone: 1-888-689-4699 (250) 265-3554
Fax: (250) 265-3887
www.halcyonhotsprings.com
- info@halcyonhotsprings.com - Halcyon Hot Springs Village and Spa.Lakeside Resort is open year round. Ancient Healing Waters & Soul. Damper yourself in your private onsen. Relax in our cozy cabanas in luxurious suites. R/F/P packages available. Enjoy tournaments and events from the Kinsman Restaurant.

Nakusp Hot Springs & Campground - Nakusp
(250) 265-4528 1-866-999-4528
www.nakuspwhirlpools.com
- Information: (250) 265-4528 (250) 265-3554
- Relax, Relax, Relax. Open year round. Rejuvenate in the natural soothing mineral pools, nestled in a lush mountain setting. Camp at serene riverside, hike on nearby trails, soak in our pools, shop, restaurants, lake, gift shop, snack bar, private event hosting.

Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort - Ainsworth
www.hotnaturally.com
(250) 266-1711 (250) 229-4212
- Visit one of the “coolest” places in the Kootenays. Experience our uniquely Ainsworth style with our award-winning restaurants, lake, swimming pool and spa. Savour fabulous food in our dining room and then enjoy the comfort of our 41 air-conditioned rooms. Wireless internet available.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND RESTAURANTS
Selkirk Inn - Nakusp
1-800-661-8007 (250) 265-3666
www.selkirkinn-nakusp.com
- email: selkirkinn@ColumbiaBelt.com
- CAA & AAA approved. Located in the heart of Nakusp we are close to the Nakusp Hot Springs, Kootenay Lake, hiking trails, and only a short drive away from the towns of Kaslo, Sandon, Kaslo, and Warfield. We offer spacious, comfortable rooms with all the amenities you expect. All 39 Deluxe rooms have a TV, phone and fridge. 34 units with air conditioning, some units with kitchens, wheelchair accessible units available, pets allowed in select units.

Murphy’s Landing - Nakusp
Phone: 250-358-0020
info@murphyland.net
- 1200 Hwy 23N, Nakusp. With us you’ll love our 40-acre Private Resort: walking distance to town. Very clean 1 bedroom Cabins & Chalets; with loft; fully equipped accommodations, kitchens, satellite TV, phones/Wi-Fi, air conditioning etc. Spacious 30-50 amp full service RV sites; fully contained units only. Sandy beach, natural pool, private docks. Reservations are recommended.

Villa Dome Quixote - New Denver
Loft / Cottages / Spa
(250) 358-7242 www.villaquixote.com
info@villaquixote.com

The Wild Rose Restaurant - New Denver / Rosseau
(250) 358-7744
- Reservations recommended, located in Rosseau, just north of New Denver. Come and enjoy our festive atmosphere, exquisite dinners, and authentic Canadian cuisine. We offer a full bar with well-stocked glassware and extensive wine selections since 1981. Patio dining. Open 5-9 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

William Hunter Cabins - Silverton
(250) 358-2647
www.williamhuntercabins.ca
- 404 South St, Silverton. We have two lovely log cabins divided into a total of four suites. All suites feature a queen-sized bed, spectacular mountain views, kitchenette with shower/bath and a kitchenette with a 2 burner cook top, mini fridge, sink, microwave, toaster, coffee maker and rocking chairs on the deck. All suites have outdoor hot tubs.

Lemon Creek Lodge - Lemon Creek
(250) 353-2403 info@lemoncreeklodge.com www.lemoncreeklodge.com
- 1987-970-8090 www.lemoncreeklodge.com
7060A Kaslo Rd, 9 km south of St. Mary’s, and 5 km east. 10 Bedroom, and 10 Bed cabins. 100% smoke free. 2 Bedroom cabins are available.

Kaslo Hotel & Brew Pub - Kaslo
(250) 353-7714
www.kaslohotel.com
- Front Street, Kaslo. New & Vintage. Enjoy luxury guest rooms and vacation rentals, all with private balconies. Relax in our pub, dining room or patio, all with spectacular lake and mountain views. Free high speed Wi-Fi. Walk to the S.S. Moyie, gift shop, museums, galleries. Kaslo Hotel and Brew Pub... where you want to be.

Wing Creek Resort - Kaslo
www.wingcreekreosort.com
- Experience this tranquil Kootenay Lake waterfront resort offering ownership opportunities, vacation rentals and the Falling Water Spa. Relax in your ke膏epy cottage with private en-suite, enjoy adventure in nature. Stunning mountain and lake views. Twenty acres of orchard, gardens, trails and beautiful white beach. Optional organic breakfasts. Adults only.

The Windsor Hotel - Trout Lake
Phone: (250) 369-2244
- Trout Lake waterfront resort Restaurant and Blades. Open Thursday to Monday, 10 am to 7 pm until September 15.

Read the Valley Voice online. www.ValleyVoice.ca
Canadian financial institutions are required to report annual financial information on their clients’ accounts if they are US citizens. This development will make it nearly impossible for US citizens living, working, and investing abroad to continue to simply ‘hide’ from the IRS. Though there has been heavy lobbying by Canada and other countries against the plan, the IRS has thus far stuck to their guns. The implementation has been pushed off another year to 2014, but beyond that point any US or dual citizens, who are not compliant with the requirement to file annual US tax returns, will automatically become criminals (tax-evaders) in the eyes of the US government.

Now, it has been our experience that the great majority of US citizens living in Canada usually do not actually owe additional US tax. Even if they did file, due to the exemptions available under the tax treaty between our two countries, the tax paid in Canada is generally enough to satisfy the US tax payable as well. However, along with the actual tax returns, there are certain information returns (such as a listing of their foreign bank accounts) and elections (such as treating their IRS RSPs as tax-deferred retirement plans) that are required. Failing to file these before the deadline each year (usually June 15 for Canadian resident US citizens) carried onerous automatic late filing penalties, which could run into the thousands of dollars or even more, depending upon the number and type of returns. This creates a substantial disincentive to ‘catch up’ for a US citizen who is currently non-compliant.

Needless to say, then, the automatic disclosure to the IRS of a US citizen’s foreign bank holdings in 2014 will put them in a very scary situation!

Some of these taxpayers have recently become aware of their filing obligations and now seek to come into compliance with the law. The IRS is softening their approach somewhat by announcing a new procedure for current non-residents, including not only limited to dual citizens, who have not filed US income tax and information returns to file their delinquent returns. This procedure will go into effect on September 1, 2012.

**Description of proposed new procedure**

While more details will be forthcoming, taxpayers utilizing the new procedure will be required to file delinquent tax returns, with appropriate related information returns, for the past three years and to file delinquent FBARs for the past six years. All submissions will be reviewed, but the intensity of review will vary according to the level of compliance risk presented by the submission.

For those taxpayers presenting low compliance risk, the review will be expedited and the IRS will not assert penalties or pursue follow-up actions. Submissions that present higher compliance risk will be subject to a more thorough review. Tax, interest, and penalties, if appropriate, will be imposed in accordance with US federal tax laws based on a review of the submission. For a summary of information about federal income tax return and FBAR filing requirements and potential penalties, you may want to do an internet google search on: IRS Fact Sheet FS-2011-13 (December 2011).

**Compliance risk determination**

The IRS will determine the level of compliance risk presented by the submission based on certain information provided on the returns filed, and based on certain additional information that will be required as part of the submission. Low risk will be predicated on simple returns with little or no US tax due. Absent high risk factors, if the submitted returns and application show less than $1,500 in tax due in each of the years, will be treated as low risk.

In general, the risk level will rise as the income and assets of the taxpayer rise, if there are indications of sophisticated tax planning and avoidance, or if there is material economic activity in the United States. Additional risk factors include any additional history of non-compliance with United States tax law and the amount and type of United States source income. Additional information regarding the specific factors the IRS will use to assess the level of compliance risk – and how information regarding those factors should be presented in the submission – will be released prior to the effective date of the new procedure.

**How taxpayers will be able to take advantage of the new procedure**

Taxpayers wishing to use the new procedure will be required to submit:

1) delinquent tax returns (with appropriate related information returns) for the past three years,

2) delinquent FBARs for the past six years – and, (3) any additional information regarding the type of United States source income.

Further information regarding the level of compliance risk factors required by future instructions. Information regarding compliance risk factors, if the submitted returns are treated as low risk.

**Other considerations**

Taxpayers who are in a situation where they are concerned about the risk of criminal prosecution should be advised that this new procedure does not provide protection from criminal prosecution if the IRS and Department of Justice determine that the taxpayer’s particular circumstances warrant such prosecution. Taxpayers concerned about criminal prosecution because of their particular circumstances should be aware of and consult their legal advisors about the Offshore Voluntary Disclosure Program (OVDP), announced on January 9, 2012, which offers another means by which taxpayers with undisclosed offshore accounts may become compliant.

While this program will not necessarily be a saving grace for those citizens with substantial US tax liabilities, it will be HUGE relief for many, many non-compliant US citizens who have been living and working in Canada for years, oblivious to their growing US tax liability.

The IRS promises more information to come before the September 1 inception date. As with all tax matters, anyone considering taking advantage of the program is urged to seek the assistance of a professional with cross-border tax expertise. If you would like a referral to such an individual, please let us know and we will attempt to help you locate one.

Debbie Pereversoff is a financial planner with Assante Financial Management Ltd. and Vice-President of her company, The Affilior Financial Group Inc., in Castlegar. Please contact a professional advisor to discuss your particular circumstances prior to acting on the information above.
Slocan council, August 13: Open house on microhydro proposal scheduled

by Jan McMurray

• The Village has applied for a Water Power Crown Land Tenure (File No. 4405049). The application is posted online at www.arfd.gov.bc.ca. To satisfy First Nations consultation requirements, council will be meeting with Westbank First Nation representatives regarding their views on the proposal.
• The Village was given an opportunity to comment on a ‘Notice of Work’ from the Ministry of Energy and Mines for mineral exploration work in the Springer Creek area by Rainbow Resources Inc of Calgary. Village staff met with a representative of Rainbow Resources at 6709 Hill Avenue and the proposal is to drill 24 exploration holes at 12 locations on the Gold Viking property near Springer Creek, probably in the fall. Staff provided FrontCounter BC with a letter expressing that mining exploration work does not impact the Village’s proposed microhydro project or its irrigation/alternative water source.
• Paving is required in front of the Wellness Centre in order to complete the drainage dry well project, begun last year. Council budgeted $15,000 for the paving, but the three quotes obtained came in at $18,000, $18,580 and $19,400 to pave the 22-feet-wide area along Harold in front of the Wellness Centre, from 6709 Hill Avenue.

Community

Micro Electric-assist bikes – a great way to explore your community submitted by Craig Lawrence

Have you ever wanted to try riding an electric-assist bike but didn’t have a pocket deep enough to buy one? Well, the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society (SVHTS) has an answer to your dilemma. Two years ago apart of electric-assist bikes were purchased by the Slocan Valley Lions and now the managers of the Slocan Valley Rail Trail have taken over making sure everyone who wishes to try one!

Many people have had the opportunity riding the Slocan Valley Rail Trail on these bikes. In fact, some have even gone on to purchase their own bikes after trying these out. The bikes can be ridden for up to 50 km between charges and allows those with some mobility issues the chance to go on an enjoyable ride without having to push a bike. As the Village continues to move this project forward, Council agreed to meet with society and Anna H representatives regarding the future of these bikes.

The Public Works Foreman Tim Hill reported that he spent 40 hours on the water system over the weekend due to a large amount of sediment in the water box. In speaking with a local resident, he suspects the increase in sediment is coming from some private properties in Valhalla Park, where trees were uprooted during a tornado two years ago. He expects this will continue to cause problems in the waterbox, and said they would have to put in a flushing system onto the pipe. The CAO said they had notified the ministry about the increase in sediment.

Have informed council that the main ongoing issue with the water system is that the water box is not big enough, making it difficult to get water to the filters. Hill reported that the crew managed to chain all the boot bags back together, using his boat. Council thanked him, saying the kids were very happy to have the boom back. He said they would take the swimming dock out of the water this winter.

Mayor Perriere asked Hill to praise the summer students. Hill agreed that they were doing an excellent job.

A draft Campground Use Policy was drawn up by staff in consultation with the campground operators. The policy deals mainly with fees and reservations. The CAO said there were many people who reserved a site and then did not show in June, so the policy states that ‘no-shows’ will be charged the first night of camping fees on their credit card. The policy includes general information, which council felt did not belong in the policy but rather in a pamphlet handed out to campers. Staff will revise the policy and bring it back to council.
• At the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention in the fall, Slocan council will join New Denver, Silverton and Area H for a meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to discuss the condition of Highway 6. Council also asked staff to arrange appointments with the Premier, the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, the minister in charge of provincial parks, and the Minister of Tourism to discuss the issue of access to provincial parks. Mayor Perriere said that both Lemon Creek and Enterprise Creek Forest Service Roads are closed, and those are access roads to Kokanee Glacier Park.

• Mayor Perriere will make a short presentation at the October 2 meeting regarding the Vancouver proposed federal electoral boundary changes to let the committee know council is in favour of keeping the boundaries the way they are now.

• Council decided to write a letter to BC Finance Minister Kevin Falcon, opposing the government’s plan to privatize the BC Liquor Distribution Branch warehouse and distribution system. It is believed that if this happens, the privatization of liquor stores will follow. Councillors McGreal and Elliott said research shows that private liquor stores are much more likely to sell to minors. Mayor Perriere wondered why the government would want to privatize this when it generates revenue for the Province.
• The Village received a response to its query about the continuation of the Small Communities Grant program after 2014. The program is expected to continue with annual payments in 2015. The CAO explained that for the past few years, the grant has been front loaded to give local governments more ability to stimulate the economy.
• Councillor Lunn will sit on the Kootenay Regional Workforce Round Table on behalf of the Village and the organization she works for. She said they were looking for people who wear multiple hats. This will not incur any cost to the Village.
• Councillor Elliott gave a brief RDCK report. Local states of emergency have been the focus for the last two to three months. She said Windlaw Park and Golena Trail were damaged by flooding but have been repaired. The RDCK continues to work on the recovery of Johnson Landing after the landslide, and the monitoring of the Salmo tailings pond while options for decommissioning are being investigated.

The Slocan Valley Historical Society is pleased to offer two exciting workshops this summer as part of their ongoing Village & Valley History project.

Introduction to Archival Practice and Managing Archival Photographs
August 28th & 29th, 2012 at WE Graham Community School in Slocan, BC

These workshops are open to anyone in an interest in volunteering in local archives or in managing their own collections.

For more information please email: jaj@netidea.com

This project is funded by Columbia Basin Trust and the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance.

The Corporation of the Village of Slocan

Micro Hydro Project Open House
The Village of Slocan is continuing to study the viability of developing and constructing a small micro-hydro project on Springer Creek.

Engineering & Environmental studies have been performed to determine economic and environmental attributes of the Project.

As the Village continues to move this project forward, Council believes it is essential to maintain effective communications with the community and to share information on this community project. Slocan Village Council is hosting a

Public Open House September 6th
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Silvery Slocan Legion Hall

This Open House will give those attending an opportunity to meet and discuss with the Selkirk Power engineers and biologists who have worked on this project since 2010.

The Valley Voice
Silverton Memorial Hall. It is a wonderful thing to see how the people living in our small communities come together with their generosity and support when a family experiences a loss or tragedy. What a lovely place we live in.

SLOCAN LAKE DANCE CAMP: 76 to the instructors. Randy Tapp and Kim Bombardeau of Cranbrook, Ricardo Pacheco of Kelowna, David Daignault of Kamloops, Lyle Clarke and Linda Ferrier of Spence Grove, Alberta and Michael Wiebe of Calgary. Kudos to Michael for great dance music and taping the video content and to Eric Marks for photography. Special thanks to my sister Noma Weatherby who was heroic in being and doing everything! and to Bean and Tacko for help with registration and all the other behind the scenes tasks they performed! Thanks to Wah and Aiko for their assistance with dinger and thanks to Peter & Lynn Enderwick, Sam Tichenor, Margaret Barker, Taai, for set-up and clean-up. Big thanks to Patti Sebben and Glenn Jordan for once again hosting Silverton’s Wind-up-soldier dance, and special thanks to all the friends around the region who put up posters and distributed the brochure in their neighbourhood: Brian Koster, May Barge, Barb Little, Michelle Desautels, Larrie Thiette, Grace Fitzpatrick, Pati Kelly, Erin Rousse, Kim Walker and Anne Delucia. Thanks also to Kootenay Savings Credit Union, Recreation Commission #6, the Kootenay Danube Dance Society and Regional Director, Walter Poppett.

Much appreciation to: the Villa Dome Quinte, The Cup & Saucer Café, Sanderella, The Raven’s Nest, Two Left Feet (shoe store), Soul Tango and the organizers of the Kaslo Jazz Ex Festival for their generous donation of prizes.

What a grand team effort to make the camp a great success! Visit www.slocanlakedancecamp.ca. Thanks so much! In Loving memory of our mother Winona (Nonie) Marie Gordon and our father Clarke and Linda Ferrier of Spruce Grove, Alberta and Micheal Wiebe of Calgary. Kudos to Michael for great dance music and taping the video content and to Eric Marks for photography. Special thanks to my sister Noma Weatherby who was heroic in being and doing everything! and to Bean and Tacko for help with registration and all the other behind the scenes tasks they performed! Thanks to Wah and Aiko for their assistance with dinger and thanks to Peter & Lynn Enderwick, Sam Tichenor, Margaret Barker, Taai, for set-up and clean-up. Big thanks to Patti Sebben and Glenn Jordan for once again hosting Silverton’s Wind-up-soldier dance, and special thanks to all the friends around the region who put up posters and distributed the brochure in their neighbourhood: Brian Koster, May Barge, Barb Little, Michelle Desautels, Larrie Thiette, Grace Fitzpatrick, Pati Kelly, Erin Rousse, Kim Walker and Anne Delucia. Thanks also to Kootenay Savings Credit Union, Recreation Commission #6, the Kootenay Danube Dance Society and Regional Director, Walter Poppett.

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What a grand team effort to make the camp a great success! Visit www.slocanlakedancecamp.ca. Thanks so much!...
COMING EVENTS

AT THE SILVERTON GALLERY:

CLASSIFIED ADS


WELL CARED FOR OLDER MANUFACTURED HOME for sale. Must be moved. 1973 Mobile Monarch. Currently located on a farm near Burton. There is an add-on of a livingroom and a third bedroom and a deck with wheelchair ramp. Comfortable and spacious new flooring this year. Stove and new washer and dryer included. Asking $24,000 obo.

Pad rental is $175 per month. Close to trail to Sandon, close to the lake - Denversiding. $45,000 firm. Phone Sharon: 250-342-2499.

YOGA HAS CHANGED LOCATION AGAIN FROM THE SILVERTON GALLERY EXHIBITION ROOM to upstairs at the Fire Hall in Silverton. Entrance stairs are on the back side of the Fire Hall facing the side of the Gallery. Times same as Monday 9-9:30 and Thursday afternoons 4:30-5.00. Open at all levels - a flow class unlike any other. Come and rejuvenate yourself.

IN MEMORIAM
In Memory Of Our Dear Dad.
Sydney Alex Bierwolf. With Love On His 100th Year Age: What we’d give if we could say, Hello, Dad, in the same old way To hear your voice and see your smile To sit with you and talk awhile So if you have a father, Cherish him with care For you will never have the knowledge Until you see his vacant chair. Lovingly Remembered, Your Family

Next Valley Voice Deadline: August 31, 2012
CLASSIFIED ADS

ROGAN ELECTRIC: Residential, commercial, industrial wiring. Local references available. All work guaranteed. “We get the job done.” 250-265-1588.


GERRY CONWAY: Carpenter/builder. 250-265-3163.


RENTAL OR RENT TO OWN WANTED: 3 bdrm home Nakusp to Cherryville area, preferable acreage. 780-266-3888.

WANTED: Wanted to purchase one acre in Nakusp for sale. Contact Emme for details 250-365-1588.

CUSTOM BUILT 3,900 sq. ft. home on one acre in Nakusp for sale. Contact Emme for details 250-365-1588.

35 ACRES - Nicely treed property with year-round creek running through and backing on Crown land. The property is accessed by public road with power and tel at lot line. Outstanding building site in a quiet area close to amenities in Silverton. $120,000. Call Larry @ Landquest Realty 250-513-2733.


36 ACRES SILVERTON - Just minutes from Slocan on a public road with power and telephone. There’s a water license in place, so you’re ready to build and enjoy the outdoor activities of the Slocan Valley! $150,000.00. Call Larry @ Landquest Realty 250-513-2733.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SEPTIC TANK CLEANING: “Serving the Valley” 7 days/week, 24 hrs. All Around Septic Services, Don Brown (250) 354-6644, emergency 352-9700.

Slocan Valley Threads Guild Hall to see energy retrofit

by Jan McMurray

The Slocan Valley Threads Guild Community Hall will be renovated this fall to improve the building’s energy efficiency by 75 percent. The RDCCK has approved funding of $39,619 for the project from the Area H Community Works Fund. The money in this fund comes from federal gas tax dollars, which must be used for green infrastructure projects resulting in cleaner air, cleaner water or reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

The Slocan Valley Threads Guild Community Hall Society had a building Energy Audit done by FortisBC for the building. The many deficiencies that were found account for significant cost savings in the winter. The upgrades will result in an estimated annual savings of $1,000 on the society’s power bill.

“With the cost of electricity and heating going up, societies like the Threads Guild need assistance so they can keep their operating costs down and continue to serve the community,” said Area H Director Peter Demoskoff. Renovations to the Threads Guild building will include insulating the ceiling, replacing light fixtures, replacing windows with double-pane, vinyl-frame ones, installing window blinds, installing a heat source pump heating system, and covering the hot water tank with an insulation blanket.

The Threads Guild Society, founded in 1981, uses the building mostly for workshops and meetings. The society has repeatedly held the building for meetings and workshops as well.

Three other Area H halls have had energy efficiency upgrades with Community Works funding in the past year – Slocan Park Hall, Winlaw Hall, and Crescent Valley Hall.
New Denver Village Council August 14, 2012: Dragonboat on Slocan Lake this spring

by Dan Nicholson

• Shelley Pentland attended council as a delegation from the Dark Water Dragons Society. She thanked council for their support of the society’s application for CBT funding. The society will continue fund-raising over the winter, and hopes to be able to purchase a used dragon boat next spring.

• During verbal reports, Councillor von Krogh spoke of a Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program meeting that he attended in June. It seems that BC Hydro wants to pass on responsibility for administering the FWCP to another entity. Von Krogh said that his group recommended that the responsibility be passed on to an educational institute, such as UBC.

• Mayor Ann Bunka reported on the progress of the dike management plan, saying that she expected it by the end of the month.

• New Denver’s Municipal Campground has lost its approved accommodation status, largely because of problems with the old washroom building which, although very clean, has fallen into a state of disrepair. A new washroom for the campground remains a work in progress.

• Mayor Bunka appointed Councillor Raynolds to chair the new communications committee. Bunka will also serve on the committee, as will a member of staff. The committee will deal with the newsletter and such public notices as must be posted.

• Von Krogh reported from public works that the boat launch project would be finished at some time during the third week in August. Apparently there was a delay in galvanizing a component of the system.

• In her RDCK report, Mayor Bunka noted that June was the wettest month ever in the West Kootenay, since records have been kept.

The issue of the collapsed boathouse at Bigelow Bay was raised again. Staff was instructed to investigate options for removing the collapsed structure, as it is a risk to public safety.

• In her RDCK report, Mayor Bunka noted that June was the wettest month ever in the West Kootenay, since records have been kept.

She noted that the village continues to support the RDCK Agriculture plan as a useful tool for formulating good OCPs.

• Councillor Raynolds reported that the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce had hired a new manager - Theresa Tremaine, and that the Visitor Information Centre was open seven days a week.

• Council passed a motion of opposition to the proposed federal electoral boundary changes, citing reasons of physical and cultural geography.

• Council will sponsor the annual Citizen of the Year award to the tune of $100.

• Bonnie Greensword’s request for Development Permit fee waiver and application for facade assistance was approved, so that the Valley Voice building can get a new coat of paint.

• A request from LACE for improvements to the drainage at Bun Hall was referred to next spring’s budget meetings.

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Sunday, August 26
10-3 pm

Lunch served by St Andrew’s United Church

Ballgame in the afternoon.

Entries on Saturday, August 25 • 3-6 pm

This summer could be a scorcher.

Nearly half of all wildfires in British Columbia are caused by human carelessness. Please prevent and report wildfires. To report a wildfire, call 5555 on your cell.

For more information, visit emergencyinfo.bc.gov.bc.ca

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

FrontCounter BC Cranbrook has accepted an application made by Slocan Lake Enterprises Ltd. of Nelson, BC, on behalf of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRDO), Kootenay Region, for a Crown Grant and License of Occupation to legalize an encroachment (house and retaining wall) situated on Provincial Crown land/foresight near Silverton (BC) and containing 6.00563 hectares more or less (house) and 0.00687 hectares more or less (retaining wall).

The FLNRDO File Numbers that have been established for this application are 4405256 and 4405257. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to FrontCounter BC, 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook B.C. V1Y 5G1 or email to: AuthorizingAgency.Cranbrook@gov.bc.ca. Comments will be received by FrontCounter BC until September 22, 2012. FrontCounter BC may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please refer to our website http://www.wrrl.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp.

Search > Search by File Number: insert Lands File Number for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office in Cranbrook.
Two Winlaw men arrested following crime spree

submitted by RCMP

Police are recommending charges of Assault, Mischief, Break and Enter, and Theft against two Winlaw men after a series of offences were committed in Winlaw on the evening of July 19. The men were arrested, and then released from custody on a promise to appear in Nelson court on September 20. On the night in question, the two suspects were first reported to have instigated an altercation near the Mini-Mart with three people visiting the area. During the altercation, one male and one female reported being assaulted and having their vehicle damaged. The two suspects allegedly attacked the visiting male driver in his vehicle while bending back the driver’s side door, causing significant damage. The same two suspects are then believed to have broken into Sleep is for Sissies. After damaging the building while breaking in, the culprits stole a number of items from inside the restaurant.

Police are aware that the same two suspects may be responsible for further offences on the same evening.

Take some steps to help animals in your community

submitted

Registration is open for the 2012 Scotiabank & BC SPCA ‘Paws for a Cause’ walk held each September to raise funds for abused, injured, neglected and homeless animals. This year, participants in 34 BC communities will walk to raise $1 million to help our province’s most vulnerable animals.

The Scotiabank & BC SPCA ‘Paws for a Cause’ walk in Nelson will be held at Lakeside Park on Sunday, September 9 from 9 am, with the walk starting at 11 am. Registration is $25. Participants will be able to enjoy fantastic entertainment and activities, including dog agility demonstrations, pet first aid, doggy games and a police dog demonstration. Visit spca.bc.ca to register and to get all the latest news and information.

All youth participants 17 and under register for free and are automatically entered to win a PlayStation Vita Console. “This is the largest single event supporting animals in BC,” says Farrah Rooney, manager of fundraising events at the BC SPCA. “Participants are already signing up and will be fundraising in their own communities all summer long. The creativity and passion that people show in their fundraising efforts each year is absolutely inspiring and the walks are always so much fun for both the two-legged and four-legged participants who attend.”

Participants are invited to join as an individual or as part of a team and are eligible for fabulous local and province wide prizes. Exciting prizes to be won by top fundraisers include an amazing Okanagan trip (courtesy of our sponsor, See Ya Later Ranch Winery), an Xbox Kinect bundle and a fabulous Group Gift Basket from Bosley’s Pet Food Plus valued at $1000 and for every $100 participants raise before September 8 they will get one entry for a new iPad.