Community of Hills celebrates grand opening of new fire hall

by Jan McMurray

The community of Hills celebrated the grand opening of its new fire hall/community hall on Sunday, August 19.

“It’s been a real successful effort in building some capability for fire protection and getting together as community members and working on common project,” said Richard Allin, one of the project’s key volunteers. In 2003, a grass fire almost destroyed a hillside home of Patrizia Menton’s house. “That really spooked us,” said Allin. “That was just a couple of weeks before the 2003 Garlic Fest and that’s when we moved the festival to New Denver because we were so unprepared for fire here. That’s what got us rolling with fire protection.”

The building is 30 feet by 40 feet, 1,200 square feet, and has two big bays, a fully equipped kitchen, two bathrooms, a utility room, and a loft area. The community has a fire truck, originally from the Salmo fire department and donated to Hills by the RDCK when Salmo was upgrading. It was built on land within Hills Community Park, a five-acre parcel deeded to the Hills Recreations Society 20 years ago, and which also has a tennis court, basketball court and picnic area.

The building will serve as both a fire hall and a community hall. “From the outset, we had that in mind,” said Allin. “In Hills, we have the Doukhobor Society Hall, which is a great little hall, but now we have a larger space for events in Hills and it allows us to store our fire truck and related equipment.”

The hall was built mostly by volunteer labour. “There were work bees virtually every weekend during the building season over the last five years,” said Allin. He said 5,000 volunteer hours went into the project by 40-50 Hills residents. A core group of five volunteers were recognized at the grand opening for their outstanding contribution: Lawrence Schiavon, John Hermann, Wayne McCrorey, Phil Babakaiff, and Richard Allin. There were also several local tradespeople hired. About 16 different local companies were involved, including tradespeople, building supply outlets, and equipment operators for the site preparation. “Most of those companies and tradespeople donated part of their time or materials to our project as well as our hiring them. We’re very appreciative of that. We placed a plaque on wall thanking our donors and listed them all,” said Allin.

The Hills fire brigade will never be a certified volunteer fire department because there is not a big enough tax base to support it. “When the RDCK did the calculations for setting up fire halls in the valley, the numbers didn’t work out for Hills,” explained Allin. “You have to be within eight kilometres of a fire hall, and the tax base within that radius is not sufficient. But we’re still trying to be prepared so that we can respond in the event of fire.”

The community has a roster of firefighters, a phone tree, a list of residents and their addresses, maps, inventories of water sources and local resources. Over the course of the last five years while building the hall, the fire brigade has been learning how to operate the truck and has held practice sessions. They have responded to three fires in Hills with the truck and have saved some property. “Now that the hall is complete, we’ll be focusing on improving our preparedness and getting more practice and training,” said Allin.

The hall was built for $130,000, from various sources of funding. The largest chunk – $45,000 – came from Hills residents and the Hills Rec Society. The Hills Rec Society also received a $45,000 provincial gaming grant, over $20,000 from the RDCK in CBT Community Initiatives funding and Community Development funding, $5,000 from the Kootenay Savings Community Foundation and $5,000 from BC Hydro. Allin says the community appreciates the support of the two Area H directors who have been involved. Former Director Don Munro got the fire truck for them, and Director Popoff has been very helpful in organizing funding.

“Your independently owned regional community newspaper serving the Arrow Lakes, Slocan & North Kootenay Lake Valleys.”

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Visistor Information - Pages 16 & 17
An exciting new website was unveiled at Kootenay Lake School District No. 8’s 2012-13 opening celebration held August 23 at the Prestige in Nelson. “This is a portal that students and teachers can access, and where teachers can get together and share resources,” explained Superintendent Jeff Jones. “This is a leap into the future and definitely leading the way in the province.”

The website was inspired by the provincial vision of a ‘learning commons,’ and was built over the summer by Lorri Fehr, district principal, Innovative Learning Services and Jeff Yosinchuk, teacher/librarian at LV Rogers.

The site has a section with links to online databases that provide excellent educational resources to students and teachers. “These databases are the most powerful tools you can use,” said Fehr. “Teachers and students don’t have to go to the internet because it’s all here in these databases – videos, images, everything you’ll need.”

Fehr pointed out that the online databases provide digital security “because the kids are not googling with no supervision. This is vetted information.” She also pointed out that the school district has been paying a licence fee for the use of these databases for several years, “so we need to get everyone using them. We want you to teach the kids how to use these databases effectively.”

The website also has a section where teachers can share lesson plans and resources. “We encourage you to share here,” said Fehr. “Work that’s already been done can be made available here, so teachers can use each other’s stuff. Together, we’re constructing a site of shared resources and a community of learners.”

Teacher librarians will be trained on the website, so they will be the experts in the schools. Also at the opening celebration, both Superintendent Jeff Jones and Board of Education Chair Mel Joy spoke to the large group of teachers, administrators and trustees in attendance. Both focused on the district vision – for every student to develop in four domains: academic success, imagination and creativity, resiliency, and citizenship – and both emphasized the importance of all school district employees keeping this vision in mind.

“It’s important to engage all employees in our common purpose, from caretakers to bus drivers to teachers to secretaries,” said Jones.

Joy said that the vision “has to be the vision of everybody for it to work,” and added, “What’s happening on the ground in the schools is way more important than any other level.” She said the politics will be much like last year, as another round of bargaining with teachers begins March 1. “Try not to let it impact what is happening at your school too much,” she said.

Jones also made some predictions about the future of education. He expects increased immigration from war-torn countries, resulting in more English as a Second Language needs in schools.

The economy will continue to challenge more families, he believes, so schools will want to respond with a bigger budget for snack and meal programs.

“The political landscape will become even less stable,” he said, adding that he does not feel the May election will bring stability. It will probably bring an influx of money earmarked for specific things that may not meet the needs of students.

Technology will become more sophisticated and students will expect schools to provide access to the many different types of technology.

He believes there will be greater demand for choice and feels strongly that the public education system must respond to that demand or see its demise.

“Curriculum is going to change,” he said. “Finally, there will be only one or two pages for every content area, but this will demand that teachers be more creative. There will be more lists of what you must do.” He said this will provide more opportunities to integrate the curriculum and apply the curriculum to learning instead of applying learning to the curriculum. This is a very important flip.

Jones too believes that completion requirements will change in the next three to five years to become more based on 21st century competencies instead of memorization of material. “We’ll no longer be teaching content, but teaching students to access content.”

Finally, he foresees teacher preparation programs changing and a multigenerational work force emerging. “We have one of the oldest teaching populations in the province, so we will bring more and more younger people in.”

What’s new at Kootenay Lake School District No. 8

The new school year brings some changes in the Sicamous Valley and at Jewett School in Meadow Creek north of Kaslo, says Brent Cross, who is now principal of LV Rogers in Nelson.

Mike Hurley comes to Brent Kennedy from Slocan where he was principal at Salmo Elementary and vice-principal of Salmo Secondary for four years. He has been with School District No. 8 since 1982, starting at Blewett School. He has also worked at Hume School and at JV Humphries in Kaslo. “Brent Kennedy is a wonderful school,” he says. “There’s an energy around getting on with the school year this year now that the job action is over with, after a bit of a struggle last year.” He says he is not one to make sweeping changes when he starts at a school. “I’ll be observing and absorbing the Brent Kennedy culture.”

At Jewett Elementary in Meadow Creek, there is a new vice principal position this year, filled by Molly Litynski, who is also the teacher of the school’s one class (K-5). Dan Miles continues to be principal of both JV Humphries and Jewett Schools.
School District No. 10 ushers in school year with distinguished educational researchers

by Jan McMurray

School District No. 10 Arrow Lakes launched the 2012-13 school year with a professional development day on August 29 at Burton School.

World-renowned educational researchers, Judy Halbert and Linda Kaser from Vancouver, facilitated the day’s discussions and activities around ‘innovative inquiries for student learning.’

What’s new at School District 10 Arrow Lakes

by Jan McMurray

School District No. 10 starts a new school year with some changes in leadership.

The new superintendent/secretary/treasurer, Denise Perry, says she is excited to begin her first school year in her new position. Perry comes from another small school district, no. 49, in the Bella Coola Valley.

Perry arrived in Nakusp last June and was able to visit all the schools in the Arrow Lakes district. She says she is very impressed with all the innovative things happening in our schools.

Although Burton Elementary is closed as a school this year, it is open for Strong Start, library patrons and community events. A community group is looking at transforming the facility into the Burton Learning Centre.

The Kootenay Firefighters Association is possibly interested in using the school and grounds for training, and Perry says the hopes groups within the school community will use it - for staff retreats or student functions, for example.

Perry says the district is looking at developing some special academies and apprenticeship programs, and the Burton facility may be ideal for some of these.

“Perry says the district is looking at developing some special academies and apprenticeship programs, and the Burton facility may be ideal for some of these.

We will start to look at ways we can more effectively and efficiently meet the needs of our students. We already do that well here, but we would like to see some special academies and apprenticeship programs, so we will be auditing all of our programs over the next several months. We are looking at some budget changes – not significant ones at this stage,” she said.

Long-time district employee George Harding is retiring in June. Harding has been principal of Nakusp, Burton and Edgewood Elementary Schools, and Special Education Coordinator for the district for the last several years.

Harding will continue as principal of NES this year, and Leslie Leitch will be head teacher. Harding will teach with Leitch and will help train someone within the district to take on his Special Needs role.

Sally McLean, former vice-principal of Nakusp, Burton and Edgewood Elementary Schools, is acting principal of Edgewood Elementary this year. She will also be providing preparation relief for teachers who want to do innovative and creative projects.

There is a new counselor at Nakusp Secondary, and Ashley Barker will provide counseling at all the elementary schools.

“Long-time district employee George Harding is retiring in June. Harding has been principal of Nakusp, Burton and Edgewood Elementary Schools, and Special Education Coordinator for the district for the last several years,” she said.

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Some School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) staff and a group of student teachers from the West Kootenay Teacher Education program at Selkirk College joined SD10 staff for the day with these two highly regarded educational leaders. Almost all SD10 employees were in attendance, including bus drivers, maintenance staff, teachers, principals, vice principals, special education assistants, secretaries, and trustees.

“All these people make a difference in the students’ learning,” said Terry Taylor, Lucerne School teacher. “Research shows that if there are two adults in the building who believe in that student’s success, there is more chance that student will succeed. So we are creating this type of environment.”

SD10’s new superintendent, Denise Perry, said the last time all district employees got together was in the 1990s. “There are so many incredible things going on in this district – many thanks to my predecessor – and today is another example. How many bus drivers would be willing to take the risk to talk about learning in front of teachers? One of our bus drivers said he can do that well here, but we would like to see some special academies and apprenticeship programs, so we will be auditing all of our programs over the next several months. We are looking at some budget changes – not significant ones at this stage,” she said.

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Tattered flags

In the August 22 Valley Voice, someone complained about tattered flags flying on the MV Osprey on Kootenay Lake, ending his letter: “...what most people think of a country with so little pride in its national flag.”

The complainer still recognized one flag as the Canadian, the other as the BC flag. They obviously still did their intended job. Perhaps our ferry administration has not fallen victim to the throw-away mentality when something isn’t quite as spiffy as on its first day. (What or even who is?)

To me, a frayed flag symbolizes way more than just a formal state symbol. Certainly, a perfectly whole flag flitting in the wind radiates freshness and youth and strength, something a nation can be proud of, while a frayed flag means wind and weather over the country it flies. A frayed flag speaks of wear and tear, not only of the flag, but also of the people who live in this country. Let’s celebrate the wear and tear this country endures, not just in extraordinary circumstances.

Most Area H South residents do not want planning

I for one am getting tired of reading letters regarding the need for planning in Area H South. People have short memories; the majority of residents in Area H South do not want planning! We would like to see less government interference, not more. We prefer to live in harmony with our neighbours. No, I may not approve of what some people do on their properties, but it belongs to them.

Valhalla Park visitor disappointed by dogs

We were on a trip to Valhalla Provincial Park from the Lower Mainland. As a result of the poor behaviour of dogs, we plan to travel elsewhere next time.

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

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

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

Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your name, address and telephone number if you wish to have your letter printed.

Most concerns you have regarding this process should be made in writing to Village staff at Box 14, 421 Lake Avenue, Silverton, BC V0G 2B0.

 Yours truly,

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

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

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Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your name, address and telephone number if you wish to have your letter printed.

Please use your energy and voice on issues that would better serve the majority of our residents, for the good of us all.

Mona Ferguson
Winlaw
FortisBC has applied for smart meters

Once again we are being kept out of the loop! FortisBC has applied to BCUC (British Columbia Utilities Commission) to install smart meters in our area.

The first notification in the Valley Voice was dated August 22, 2012 with closing date for intervention applications set at September 7, 2012. People acting as intervenors will be presenting the ‘other’ side of the debate. There was nothing in the Valley news about this important application. August is the busiest vacation month for most people. One has to wonder if this may be the reason that FortisBC chose this particular time to submit its request.

Do we conclude that FortisBC is hiding something from its customers?

When the wire is removed from the meter, our body becomes the wire with electrical frequencies pulsing continuously all day long, forever. The pulses range from 14,000 pulses per day up to 190,000 pulses or more depending on where you are located in the routing that occurs between your meter and your neighbours’ meters as well as the neighbourhood collector. That may well be in your yard. Health Canada told us that a major concern of 100 percent of the population is susceptibility. House wiring is a 60 Hz grid while smart meters pulse at 928,000,000 Hz into all the homes.

We will require new ‘smart appliances’ as our present ones will no longer be compatible. Smart metres are literally cheap and cheerful compared to the lifespan as compared to the 50-year lifespan of an analog meter. There is no beneficial economic savings on power usage – that is a human endeavour.

Health Canada told us that lead, mercury fillings, DDT and asbestos were safe. Why do we still trust these people? 3.5 million people in the province say “no” to smart meters but Rich Coleman, Attorney General, answers “get off the grid or leave the province.” How could this happen in a democracy? Hmmm... follow the money.

I urge you to write to BCUC (commission.secretary@bcuc.com) to express your concerns about smart meters. Do so quickly and mark it to express your concerns about smart meters. Do so quickly and mark it

Open letter to BC Hydro

The technology market offers a choice between two kinds of smart meters. There is the relatively benign variety, which transmits its data over landlines. And then there is the other kind – the type of smart meter that BC Hydro is imposing on all B.C. citizens – which has a wireless communication transmitter (the “Microwave Device”) with two, pulses, microwave-emitting circuits.

On May 31, 2011, the World Health Organization recognized that radiofrequency electromagnetic fields are a Class 2B possible human cancer risk. The emissions generated by the Microwave Device fall under this classification of emissions and risk. Why are we being exposed to this risk and who is behind it? BC Hydro is, for all intents and purposes, an agent of the government and its powers may be exercised only as an agent of the government.

The imposition of a microwave transmitter in our homes by a government agent strikes an Orwellian tone; it violates the sanctity of the home and is inconsistent with the very nature of a free society. In a world full of toxic chemicals and radiation, the home is the last place people think should be the reason that FortisBC chose this particular time to submit its request. The IHA tried taking the pressure off the steam pot of public outrage triggered weekly community meetings, briefing over into marches, demonstrations, sit-ins, vigils, mock funerals, fundraising, lawsuits, ER watch and equipment watch. Sombre meetings ensued with officials and politicians for months, even years.

The Health Authority (IHA) was one of five authorities formed by BC Liberals as a bureaucratic buffer between its citizens and government. Rural BC saw them as bold new edifices to health care, devastating morale and turnout the tide of residents against our explicit objection. The IHA tried taking the pressure off the steam pot of public outrage triggered weekly community meetings, briefing over into marches, demonstrations, sit-ins, vigils, mock funerals, fundraising, lawsuits, ER watch and equipment watch. Sombre meetings ensued with officials and politicians for months, even years.
Kootenay Kindness

I drove here recently from Kentucky for an extended visit – a trip of some 2600 miles. After settling in Argenta, I had reason to take a drive in to Kaslo. Imagine my disappointment when my vehicle came to a stop and I saw a sign indicating that I had driven right by Argenta. This little community had survived the longer journey. Truly, I was a stranger in a strange land, stranded on the highway, knowing no one, and absent a cell phone of course.

It is at times like this that the character of a community can be tested. Amidst my situation, numerous people, young and old, stopped to offer assistance. One kind individual brought me oil, called me a tow, and helped me to coordinate my way to safety. Numerous others stopped and extended assistance.

I am grateful for the generous spirit of the people of this area. I congratulate them most heartily as such kindness would have been extended elsewhere to a total stranger. Thanks for your Kootenay Kindness.

Joel Gosses Argenta

Help bears stay wild

Last summer, almost a dozen bears were shot in the vicinity of the village of New Denver. They discovered cherries in July, ripe and unpicked, and then got used to finding easy food in the village. Garbage is a huge attractant. Fruit left out on a porch or a deck, or left out on trees and compost) who will help of the VWS (to erect around fruit trees and compost) who will help

I am the president of our community’s referendum that the application, responding “no comment” because there is no Official Community Plan for this area. Yes, our director wrote a letter of concern to the Ministry along with probably 100 others. So getting back to the Constitution of Canada, I’d like to know who the hell is looking after our interests, our right to enjoy our private property and to seek benefit from it. As far as the letter last issue titled “Referendums, not OCP’s…”

Our community’s referendum was the over 100 signatures on the petition for the application to the Regional District and provincial government. Where did they get us?

The letter implies that if we have some concerns about the application, we can use as tools we will lose our democratic rights. What rights do we have now?

You don’t want higher taxes? I paid $367 last year strictly for the operation of the RDCK and all I get is “there is nothing we can do.”

I’m not finished yet.

Peter Kabel
Slocan Park

Climate change (what else?)

It is unfortunate, but not surprising, that Sean Rooney is unable to relate the clean-up of smog-bound areas of the planet with climate change. He seems to think that the clean-up of polluted rivers is also an important link in the process of cleaning up the environment. It seems that Jeff Do has not taught us about Environmentalism 101. It also seems to me that the most important issues for those who call themselves ‘environmentalists’ is to demonize corporations and capitalism, and to promote socialism.

In the Alberta oil sands developments, corporations such as Imperial Oil have explored various techniques to lower their greenhouse gas rates while causing minimum damage to the environment, i.e. in-situ methods. They will be seeking to reduce emissions, or cleaner, than conventional oil. Mr. Rooney complains about a supposed environmental disaster in Northern Alberta, but fails to mention the environmental disaster of Lake Maracaibo in socialist Venezuela. It seems that socialist pollution is good pollution and must never be touched.

‘Environmentalists’ seem to oppose all pipelines and oil tankers, because I have heard it stated many times in newspapers, on the radio and television. Would it not be better to transport Alberta oil in pipelines to Ontario rather than the existing method of shipping oil to Ontario and the east in tankers from Venezuela and Algeria? Apparently it is acceptable to ship socialist oil in tankers to ‘export’ it, whereas it is capital oil in tankers that ‘environmentalists’ have a problem with.

There was a recent interview on CBC radio with Dr Richard Muller of the University of California at Berkeley. Like me, he was a skeptic about the man-made causes of climate change, but found his team have now changed their minds and determined that it is the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that is the primary cause. However, he is not a fanatic and he made a lot of sense.

He stated that if the US cut its carbon dioxide emissions to zero next year, it would not make a difference to global climate change, because China is the world’s greatest emitter and they continue to increase their emissions. They could not do this. We have to cut our carbon dioxide emissions, but this is not the way to climate change on the planet, China would have to switch from coal- fired power to natural gas.

Then the Kinder Morgan Pipeline (KMP) many times in the 1970s while working for the Ministry of Highways on the Yellowhead Highway near Valemount and along the Coquihalla route before they constructed the present highway. This 1,200-kilometre pipeline has pumped approximately 225,000 barrels per day for 59 years, crossing 98 streams and rivers, including the Fraser River, with little complaint. What would happen if KMP shut down the pipeline, and all tanker traffic was banned off BC’s coast? What would the citizens of the Lower Mainland do for transportation? If ‘environmentalists’ such as Al Gore, David Suzuki, Greenpeace, the Sierra Club, and Sean Rooney, etc hate the oil industry, pipelines, and oil tankers so much, why do they not produce oil, gas or clean, or, cheaper, than conventional oil. Mr. Rooney complains about a supposed environmental disaster in Northern Alberta, but fails to mention the environmental disaster of Lake Maracaibo in socialist Venezuela. It seems that socialist pollution is good pollution and must never be touched.

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New Denver Hospice Society Volunteer Training Program

submitted

The New Denver Hospice Society has been able to provide service to New Denver and its surrounding communities since 1991. There is much gratitude to its founding and long-term members, in particular Agnes Emery and Sue Davies, and to New Horizons, which provided the funds to organize and train volunteers in our first years. New Denver Hospice Society also recognizes the level of community support that has sustained the society.

New Denver Hospice is currently offering its four-week Volunteer Training Program, which will take place Thursday, September 27, October 4, October 11 and October 18 from 9 am to 4 pm. This program is available to people in the Nakusp, New Denver and Kaslo areas. People interested in becoming volunteers for either the Nakusp or Kaslo area would be connected to the hospice societies within these communities. Funding for this program is from the British Columbia Hospice/Palliative Care Association.

This program consists of seven modules and provides a broad base of understanding and skills needed in end-of-life issues. Topics include pain, personal and practical care, psychosocial and spiritual care, loss and grief, communication and self-care.

Some people who attend the training decide to become volunteers for the Hospice Society while others attend for personal and professional learning and knowledge. People who have taken the training feel that the training is valuable. Many people on the hospice volunteer team say that volunteering with hospice has been one of their most meaningful experiences.

Roles that volunteers may fulfill for Hospice include: help with practical, day to day needs like shopping, appointments and outings; respite care, to caregivers at home and/or in the palliative room; practical and emotional support for the patient and their family; support to help access information needed on end-of-life issues, i.e. advance care planning and funeral arrangements; ongoing bereavement support after death of a loved one. Other roles can include sitting on the board, helping with fundraising/special events and clerical work.

Volunteers are provided ongoing educational opportunities as well as support throughout the volunteer/client relationship. The qualities that are most needed in this role are the ability to listen and just be with another person – qualities we need in most of our life relationships.

Anyone interested in attending this program, to either explore the possibility of becoming a Hospice volunteer or for personal learning, contact Tanya Thompson, New Denver Hospice Coordinator, at 250-358-7298.

HGG Food for Thought: ‘Reading Neuroscience With Brain AND Heart’

submitted

Dr. Therese DesCamp will serve up the next offering in the Food for Thought series on Saturday, September 15 at 7 pm at the Knox Hall.

Therese’s talk, ‘Reading Neuroscience With Brain AND Heart,’ will explore how the explosion of neuroscience research into the popular press has forever changed our understanding of our own minds. But popular explanations of this research usually don’t recognize – much less address – the basic assumptions of contemporary brain science. Therese will address the questions: So what does it mean that the biological sciences are based on a Newtonian world view? How do the assumptions of mechanistic materialism get addressed? What is the difference between a practice and a skill, and does it matter? Is it valid to reduce first person experience to third party observation? What difference does a scientist’s personal conceptual framing make to their conclusions?

Therese DesCamp, co-founder of Heart’s Rest Retreats in New Denver, has a PhD in biblical studies with a concentration in cognitive linguistics. She studied cognitive linguistics with George Lakoff and Eve Sweetser at UC-Berkeley, and is the author of one book and a number of articles on applied cognitive linguistics and co-author of (hopefully) forthcoming volume in the same area. Her work these days includes teaching about the intersection between prayer and neuroscience. She uses as a laboratory for her research her 25 years of spiritual practice.

The Food for Thought series is presented by the Hidden Garden Gallery. All are invited to ‘Reading Neuroscience With Brain AND Heart.’ Admission is by donation.

Storytimes begin again at the Nelson Library

submitted

The word is out: storytimes are running at the library for more than a lifetime. Storytimes have been a key step in literacy and love of reading that will follow a child through a lifetime. Storytimes have been running at the library for more than half a century! By bringing your kids to storytimes, you’re not only part of a long tradition – you’re part of the future.

For more information contact: Lorna Radonich, Volunteer Coordinator, at 250-351-0220 or email nradonich@nelson.ca to register.

Preregistration is required, and opens on Tuesday, September 4th. Visit the library, call 250-352-6333, or email lrandonich@nelson.ca to register.

Volunteer Training Program

New Denver Hospice Society

September 5, 2012 The Valley Voice

New Denver Hospice

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The seniors have been paying for the insurance, utilities and maintenance of the building, and for the insurance, utilities and floor of the seniors' hall. They discuss the replacement of the roof and floor of the seniors' hall. They have to be purchased soon to take advantage of the good pricing.

Councillor Heath explained that approving these expenditures now would require an amendment to the budget, which is not a simple process. She mentioned that as the seniors were willing to pay for the roof and half the flooring, they might want to purchase the flooring now and the roof later. Meanwhile, the councillors would still have the opportunity to amend the budget for council’s 2013 budget deliberations.

The seniors have been paying for the insurance, utilities and maintenance of the building, and have done a lot of work on the roof since the Women’s Institute turned it over to them in 1966. Councillor Leathwood said she had spoken to CAA Sawyer and found out that the Village owns the building. It belongs to the Village as long as the seniors’ organization in Kaslo continues to use it over to them in 1966. Councillor Leathwood said she had spoken to Don Nash and Don Dobson of Urban Systems. The email from Don Nash says they cannot complete a cost estimate for the construction of the new dam until they have structural drawings, expected by the end of August. He asks if council would authorize up to $400,000 for the project, to be on the safe side. The other option is for council to hold a special meeting to award the contract the day after the close of bid. Council opted to authorize up to $400,000. Councillor Leathwood pointed out that council will still vote on the final contract.

The email from Dobson (senior water engineer) reveals the cause of the June 24 event that destroyed the original dam on Kaslo Dam. The June 24 event was related to unusually high flows as a result of above normal snow packs combined with a rain on snow event. The damage report says that black water events in August were a result of intense, localized rainstorms and Kaslo River this year were good. The recommendations on how to ensure the safety of local governments and addresses those concerns with recommendations on how to ensure a smooth transition.

Council agreed to refer this to 2013 budget deliberations.

Kaslo & Area
Kaslo council, August 28: Seniors’ Hall needs new roof and floor

by Jan McMurray

• A delegation from the Kaslo Seniors Association attended to discuss the replacement of the roof and floor of the seniors’ hall. They had shopped for materials and found a good deal on commercial grade laminating paper, at about $2,700, and estimated the cost of roofing materials to be about $2,000. They proposed to purchase the roof and half the flooring if the Village would pick up the balance. Meanwhile, the councillors would still have the opportunity to amend the budget for council’s 2013 budget process.

Council agreed to refer this to 2013 budget deliberations.

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Council agreed to refer this to 2013 budget deliberations.
Free outdoor movie in Bonnington Park

Submitted

Once again, Bonnington Regional Park, on Brown Road in South Slocan, will be hosting a free outdoor movie on a giant inflatable movie screen. This year’s event will take place on Sunday, September 9, with show time at 7:45, so it will be over early.

Slocan Valley seniors win medals at the Games

By Jan McMurray

Slocan Valley residents Don Currie and Lydia Kania brought home medals from the BC Seniors Games held in Burnaby this year, August 21-25.

Lydia Kania, 88 years old, received the silver medal in the 5K power walk.

“I’m afraid I’m getting more silvers than golds lately,” she said in an interview.

Kania has been attending the games since 1993, competing mostly in the 5K and 10K power walk events. She had to miss one year, in 1998, when she broke her neck. “As long as I’m still around, I plan to continue attending,” she said.

Don Currie, Slocan City resident, brought home a very impressive three golds and two silvers. He got the golds in the 5K and 10K power walks and the 400-metre sprint. In the 100-metre sprint and 200-metre sprint, he earned the silvers.

Running is new to Currie, and he plans to pursue it. “I wanted to know how I would stack up in the running, and this gave me a confidence boost,” he said. “I got a good handle on the competition and fitness level I have to be at, and I’m just about there.”

Currie says he plans to train for the 300-metre, 400-metre and 1500-metre running events for next year, and he may drop one of the power walk events.

Currie won gold medals at last year’s Seniors’ Games in the 5K and 10K power walks.

Slocan Valley Historical Society volunteers get trained in archival practice

Submitted

The Slocan Valley Historical Society (SVHS) is in the process of setting up an archives above the Village office in Slocan, and hosted two one-day workshops on archival practice on August 28 and 29 at the WE Graham Community School in Slocan.

Thanks to these workshops, SVHS volunteers are now able to offer Slocan Valley residents full confidence that documents, photographs, maps and other historical material they donate to the new archives will be handled, processed, stored and catalogued in a competent manner.

Linda Wills, who has more than 20 years experience as a professional archivist, delivered the training to staff and volunteers from Fort Steele, Nakusp and New Denver, as well as to five local volunteers.

Members of the public who have photographs or documents they may wish to donate to the new archives are invited to contact SVHS President Joyce Johnson at 250-355-2230 or by email slcanhistoricalsociety@yahoo.ca to discuss arrangements.

The workshops were made possible through funding from Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance. One workshop was entitled ‘Introduction to Archival Practice’ and the second was called ‘Managing Archival Photographs.’

Don Currie of Slocan brought home three gold and two silver medals from the BC Seniors Games held in Burnaby, August 21-25.

Lydia Kania of the Slocan Valley won silver in the 5K power walk in her age category at the BC Seniors Games this year.

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Slocan Lake Golf Club AGM

The annual general meeting of the SLGCC will be held Thursday September 27 at 7:00 pm in the clubhouse (101 Golf Course Road).

All members are invited and encouraged to share their views on membership rates, course operations and the future direction of our club.

This being the last season of The Fat Frog leaving our premises, we wish to extend our best wishes to Vince Obre in whatever his future holds.

Your board reminds you that as a membership driven society we need your support and input.

See you on the 27th

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250-547-9296

Rita Moir's The Third Crop comes out on top

It was done, says OBOK organizer Helen Graham.

“It was an exciting, neck and neck race. I couldn’t call it until the last of the 19 participating libraries, in the Kootenay Library Federation, weighed in. All three books were popular choices, but in the end Rita’s really spoke to the majority of OBOK readers.”

Moir’s beautiful book of image and essay about the history of the Slocan Valley reflects sentiments both local and universal. In The Third Crop, Moir embarks on a personal journey through memorabilia found in private albums, dusty shoeboxes, and community archives, skillfully and passionately recounting the stories of an era. More than 180 historic photographs are beautifully juxtaposed with contemporary images of the valley. For anyone living rural, or simply loving history, the story resonates.

The Third Crop is Moir’s fourth book, Survival Gear (Polestar, 1994), Buffalo Jump: A Woman’s Travels (Coteau, 1999), The Windshift Line: A Father and Daughter’s Story (Greystone, 2005), have all been shortlisted for or have won awards, including BC’s Hubert Evans award.

Moir is delighted that The Third Crop got the nod.

Hundreds of people contributed to this book during the years of research: Molly Hufly, whose recall was phenomenal, and who just died this summer; Ray Kostickan, who inspired the book’s title when he spoke of bounty and hard work and luck; all the families and all the archivists, volunteer and professional, and the entire team at Sono Nis Press, that's who made this book what it is,” says Moir. “I'm deeply gratified that people throughout our region look at The Third Crop and see the book for what it is: a story of the ancestry of place, the story of what makes a rural community.”

In October, Moir will embark on a multi-library tour sponsored by the Kootenay Library Federation, Columbia Basin Trust and the host libraries. To find out when she will be at a library near you, go to www.obok.ca, ask at your library, or watch for an announcement in your local newspaper.

One Book, One Kootenay is a region-wide book club that celebrates the work of the talented writers living in the Kootenay Boundary. Tom Wayman's collection of short stories, Boundary Country, and the memoir Yes Sister, No Sister by Jennifer Craig were also shortlisted this year. All three authors were celebrated at the OBOK launch in Nelson this spring, and appeared at solo readings across the Kootenays throughout the summer.

CASUAL CALL-OUT EMPLOYEES

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) is accepting applications for casual employees throughout the district in the following job classifications:

- Bus Drivers - Education Assistants - Custodians
- Library Clerks - School Secretaries - Program Assistants
- Noon Hour Supervisors - StrongStart

Successful candidates will have their names placed on the C.U.P.E. Casual Call-Out List and are needed to replace full and part-time employees on an as required basis. A resume outlining 12 completion, qualifications, and experience should be attached to your application. Only successful candidates will be notified in writing.

Employees currently on the Casual Call-Out list must reapply by September 1, 2012.

For further information please contact the School Board office in Nakusp, 265-3638, ext. 3301 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. prior to 1:30 p.m. on September 1, 2012.

Please Note: that prior to being placed on the casual call-out list, applicants must submit to a criminal record search.

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes)
P.O. Box 340, Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0

Mine Tailings comes back to the Silverton Gallery

The narrator of the play, Mine Tailings, introduces himself as “the ghost of the old Standard Mill.” The Standard Mill’s mine was a large ore concentrator mill in Silverton whose abandoned trestle still spans Highway 6 at the north end of town when Mine Tailings was first performed in 1982. The “ghost” attempts to take you through a tour of “this town” but is interrupted by ghosts of other places who also “just want to set the record straight.”

The original play was a collective creation and developed through a series of improvisational exercises. The process was one that was used by Theatre Energy, a regional professional company whose rehearsal home was in South Slocan. Mine Tailings actors Hank Hastings, Celesttina Hart and Ruby Trudy were also part of the Theatre Energy performance collective and implemented that process with writer John Norris in creating the script for Mine Tailings. John wrote the scenes of the play and the songs were created by the actors. Celesttina Hart was Mine Tailings’ musical director and her love of Broadway musicals would influence the melodies; however, most of the lyrics were created through the collective process.

“We were young and silly then. And more than willing to bend any convention,” says Celesttina. “I have such fond memories of being at the Gallery and working on the opera together. We would laugh and laugh when someone came up with a line. I remember Pam (Leighton) being around and adding her two cents worth... folks would drop by and join in the fun... silly, silly FUN. Well, we aren’t young anymore but it seems we haven’t lost our ability to be silly.”

Come join the fun and celebrate the 30th anniversary reader’s theatre presentation of Mine Tailings on September 29 at 8 pm at the Silverton Gallery. Tickets are on sale at the Apple Tree, Garden Graces, Silverton Building Supplies, and the Cup and Saucer Café. Advance tickets only $20. This is a fundraiser for the Silverton Gallery. Doors will be locked once the performance begins. No photographs, audio or video recording will be permitted during the performance.
Nakusp council, August 27: Residential Resort zone on waterfront to be reviewed

by Jan McMurray

• Council decided to deny the application submitted by Crossley and Sandra Coates to re-zone their waterfront property on 13th Street from R5 Resort Residential to R4 Comprehensive Residential. Council intends to review the entire R5 zone through a comprehensive public process.

In their application, the Coates indicate that their motivation for the zoning request is to reduce their tax bill. With the R5 zoning, BC Assessment Authority assesses the vacant portion of the land at commercial tax rates. The Coates’ note that they are holding the land for long-term residential use.

Mayor Hamling explained that this is an OCP review council directed staff to review the zone Industrial before the OCP review occurred in 2007. At that time, there was a lot of interest in rezoning land around the bus terminal to Resort Residential by people wanting to develop the properties. But then the economy crashed.

• Mayoral Task Force on Housing, chaired by Mayor Hamling, spoke in favour of reviewing the entire R5 Resort Residential zone. She made the point that the Village does not have an industrial zone. She said during the OCP review, the community agreed to move the industrial zone to an area up Hot Springs Road, but it turned out that the road was too steep. “We have failed to provide proper industrial land—we tried but haven’t been successful. No one is beating down our door to build a factory here, so how do we best serve the Village for the next ten years?”

CAO Tynan added that at the time of the OCP review, council did not know that the R5 zone would trigger increased taxes. Had council had this information, it may have made a different decision.

Tynan also said there were three more applications from property owners in the same area. “We have the potential to rezone the community agreed to move the industrial zone to an area up Hot Springs Road, but it turned out that the road was too steep. “We have failed to provide proper industrial land—we tried but haven’t been successful. No one is beating down our door to build a factory here, so how do we best serve the Village for the next ten years?”

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Although council directed staff to review the Village’s permissive tax exemption policy “to give council more objective rationale for approving denials of permissive tax exemptions” and “to more closely align exemptions with council strategic priorities,” staff had not had time. The review will occur at a later date.

Councillor Duchaine pointed out that organizations getting tax exemptions and arena auditorium rental fees were “duplicates” to the Village. Mayor Hamling said council had discussed this with the organizations, and they are also working with the Village to support them so they can contribute back to the community. “It ends up being a philosophical thing,” she said. Hamling suggested a meeting of the Joint Commission be called with the Arrow Lakes Area K Director to review rental rates at the arena.

• Columbia Power Corporation intends to have construction of Nakusp’s new boat launch underway by the end of February to June 2013. During this time, the public will be directed to use the MacDonald Creek boat launch. The project will go out to tender in September. Council authorized the issuance of an access permit for the project.

• A year-to-date (July 31) financial report shows that the Village is generally on track with its budget, with the exception of the hot springs. CAO Tynan reported that business at the hot springs was very slow all year but had picked up considerably in August. Up to the end of July, the hot springs had generated 47 percent of the year’s projected revenue.

• Highlights of the CAO’s report to council

– Grant applications have been submitted for the arena roof and building envelope project to the provincial Community Infrastructure Improvement Program ($225,000) and CBT ($50,000). Total project cost is $450,000. Announcement of successful applicants is expected late fall.

– Gas tax grant applications for sewage treatment plant lagoon cover and water reservoir liner have been submitted. Announcement of successful applications expected in November.

– There has been some vandalism around town this summer, including in the campground. The antenna on the lift station was broken off and found in the lake, which jeopardizes the Village SCADA system. RCMP have been notified of all incidents.

– An application has been made for the Energy & Environment Action Award (Corporate Operations category) from the Community Energy Association. The application highlights all of the Village’s efforts to become more energy efficient. Winners will be announced at the UBCM convention.

– Public Works has repaired five waterfront leaks in the past few weeks.

• The Village is applying for a Crown Land tenure for the pedestrian bridge over Kuskanax Creek at the hot springs. When applying for permits for the construction of the new bridge, the Province discovered that no tenure had ever been granted, even though there has been a bridge there for years. The Province has indicated that the approval process will be straightforward.

Tynan also reported that there was no immediate response to the tender for the new bridge and the project has been postponed to the spring.

The Chamber of Commerce has asked if the Village would partner with them to provide coin-operated public showers at the marina of condos. The Chamber would seek grant funding for the equipment if the Village agreed to install and maintain them. The Visitor Centre gets several inquiries about public showers. Staff will research this with the Chamber and report back to council.

• The Mayor will send a letter of congratulations to Bruce Lintott, recipient of the Ministry of Transportation Deputy Minister’s Award (Public Service category) in recognition of his exceptional public service contribution. Lintott is based in Nakusp and is the ministry’s Area Manager.

• Council authorized the attendance of Councillor Duchaine and senior staff at the third annual CBT WaterSmart conference in Kimberley October 24 and 25, with expenses paid by the Village.

• Councillor Mueller brought council’s attention to RDCK Area D Director Andy Shadrack’s draft presentation to the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission.

The commission is proposing to redraw the boundaries, affecting both local ridings (Kootenay-Columbia and BC Southern Interior). Shadrack is advocating for Nakusp and Area K, and Areas H (Slocan Valley) and D (North Kootenay Lake Valley) to be “wholly situate within BC Southern Interior.” He will be making the presentation at a public washday on October 2 in Nelson. Councillor Mueller informed council that the RDCK board supports Shadrack’s stand.
It’s not just about garlic... Taste the food... See the art... Listen to the music

FOOD!!! Yes there will be food. The popular Verna’s Country Kitchen (Russian food) and Father Pete (shaved ice and nachos) are returning. Wolf’s Catering features smoked and barbecued sandwiches (look for him in a new location by the lake). Whole Earth Foods (chicken tagine and calamari), Rockingham Enterprises (wraps), Mobile Munchies (burgers and fries), and Sanderella (crepes) are definitely patron favorites. All Fired Up and El Taco will be serving up Mexican food while Kootenay Filipino Foods and King’s Vegetarian Food patron favorites. All Fired Up and Mobile Munchies (burgers and fries), and Sanderella (crepes) can satisfy your craving for Asian cuisine. Cedar Creek Farm, Creedy’s Farm, and the Slocan Legion are cooking up hot dogs, smokies, and Yogi Berry (frozen yogurt). Snacks and beverages can be found at Kootenay Kettle Corn, Ogopogo Mini-donuts, Twisted Lemon, The Smoothie Guy, and New Denver Hospice.

Once you have a plate full of food, come listen to the music. The main stage features two new groups who have never played the Garlic Festival before: Mountain Station from Nelson and Kenny Konrad from Slocan. These bands will alternate sets all day long. You won’t want to miss either one.

In the family entertainment area, Flydini the Magician is back by popular demand to mystify us with his amazing tricks. Visions Alive Puppetry will once again offer storytelling with unique marionettes. In addition, the Kootenay Association submitted join the Kootenay Association for Science and Technology (KAST) and Raptors Ridge Birds of Prey at this year’s Garlic Festival in New Denver.

Have you ever wondered exactly what a ‘raptor’ is? Or what the difference is between birds and ‘birds of prey’? For an up-close and personal educational experience with these fascinating animals, visit the KAST booth at this year’s Garlic Festival on Sunday 9.

KAST brings a touring birds of prey exhibit to Garlic Fest

Professional handlers from Raptors Ridge will bring two birds to the West Kootenay for a series of public presentations – demystifying the role that birds of prey play in our environment, as well as offering up cool facts about our feathered friends. Photographs, inquisitive minds and questions are welcome! The Birds of Prey tour comes to the Grand Forks Fall Fair on September 7, Rossland Golden City Days on September 8 and the Hills Garlic Festival in New Denver September 9. The tour is presented by KAST’s Growing, Learning Opportunities with Science (GLOWS) annual educational programs, presented with the support of the Capilano Suspension Bridge, a premier Vancouver tourist attraction.

"We aim to promote an exciting educational experience giving an opportunity to learn, develop, and acquire a fuller understanding of ecological interaction between humans and Birds of Prey," explained Raptors Ridge co-founder Karen Kamstra.

GARLIC FESTIVAL

One hundred sixty vendors will be offering a variety of foods, crafts such as pottery, stained or others display a variety of arts and candies with the distinctive salts, powders, braids, wreaths, and candles with the distinctive taste and aroma of garlic while others display a variety of arts and crafts such as pottery, stained or fused glass, photography, paintings, jewelry, textiles, and body and health products.

KAST booth at this year’s Garlic Festival in New Denver September 9. The tour is presented by KAST’s Growing, Learning Opportunities with Science (GLOWS) annual educational programs, presented with the support of the Capilano Suspension Bridge, a premier Vancouver tourist attraction.

"We aim to promote an exciting educational experience giving an opportunity to learn, develop, and acquire a fuller understanding of ecological interaction between humans and Birds of Prey," explained Raptors Ridge co-founder Karen Kamstra.
### Regular School Hours (effective September 4, 2012)

**Edgewood/Nakusp Route 2012/13**
- **AM Run:** 7:30 Pre-trip, 7:40 Leave YRB, 7:50 Laklin Rd, 8:00 Purdy Rd, 8:08 Crown Rd, 8:10 Baldwin Rd, 8:12 Stop, 8:13 Hills Rebin Rd, 8:15 Rosemary Loop South, 8:20 Log Dump, 8:23 Maxxum, 8:27 LESS, 8:30 Silverton Bigway, 8:42 Silverton Ball Park, 8:43 Hills Rd, 8:47 LESS
- **PM Run:** 7:00 Leave YRB, 7:09 Laklin Rd, 7:14 Hicks Rd, 7:17 Silverton Ball Park, 7:18 Silverton Bigway, 7:22 Golf Course, 7:26 Maxxum, 7:29 Log Dump, 7:31 Silverway Loop South, 7:34 Hicks Rd, 7:35 Log Dump, 7:39 Hicks Rd, 7:45 Leave NSS, 7:50 Leave Base

**Hills, New Denver, Silverton Route 2012/13**
- **Bus #4100**
  - AM Run: 7:20 Pre-trip, 7:30 Leave YRB, 7:39 Laklin Rd, 7:45 Leave YRB, 7:50 Laklin Rd, 8:00 Purdy Rd, 8:04 Purdy Rd, 8:08 Crown Rd, 8:10 Baldwin Rd, 8:12 Stop, 8:13 Hills Rebin Rd, 8:15 Rosemary Loop South, 8:20 Log Dump, 8:23 Maxxum, 8:27 LESS, 8:30 Silverton Bigway, 8:42 Silverton Ball Park, 8:43 Hills Rd, 8:47 LESS

**Bay View/Crecent Bay/Brouse Loop Route 2012/13**
- **Bus #1900**
  - AM Run: 7:25 Pre-trip, 7:30 Leave Base, 7:35 Leave Base, 7:40 Leave Base, 7:45 Leave YRB, 7:50 Laklin Rd, 8:00 Purdy Rd, 8:04 Purdy Rd, 8:08 Crown Rd, 8:10 Baldwin Rd, 8:12 Stop, 8:13 Hills Rebin Rd, 8:15 Rosemary Loop South, 8:20 Log Dump, 8:23 Maxxum, 8:27 LESS, 8:30 Silverton Bigway, 8:42 Silverton Ball Park, 8:43 Hills Rd, 8:47 LESS

**School District No. 10**
- **September 4, 2012 - all district schools will be in session 1/2 day only**

#### School Opening

**COMMUNITY**

**SCHOOL ZONES:** Motorists driving through School Zones between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. must use caution and restrict speed to 30 km/h.

**40-115**

**Vehicles OPERATORS:** September 4, 2012 will be the official opening of school for School District No. 10. We like to remind motorists to watch out for children walking to school or waiting for school busses.

**Alternate Flashing Lights:** School busses are equipped with alternate flashing red lamps and when they are flashing, traffic in both directions must stop and remain stopped until the red flashing lamps are turned off. The flashing lights are to indicate the school bus is loading or unloading school children. It is an offence under the Motor Vehicle Act to pass a school bus with its overhead red lights flashing.

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**Driver:** Raynelle Posiniskoff • Bus # 6100

**Driver:** Denis Deaworkers • Bus #100

**Driver:** Jim McKee • Bus #101A

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**Where Bus service is not available, Transportation Assistance may be provided to eligible parents who apply for assistance. Remember to apply in September as Transportation Assistance is paid starting at the beginning of the month when submitted and not retroactive to the beginning of the school year.**
Below Assessed Value: $776,000

SANDY BEACH
NELSON HOME
AT EXCLUSIVE
BEALBY POINT
FOR SALE or exchange for 20+ acre farm by owner:
Well maintained 4 Br. home with large deck, dock, fruit trees and developed garden, garage, carport, workshop.
NO HIGHWAY NOISE!
Sunny late into the evening, lovely tranquil walk or bicycle on Bealby Rd. or access BNR rails-to-trails out your back door, 3 minutes from Nelson.
more info/pics at: www.propertyguys.com
"quick search" id: 196488
Call: 250-505-5031
email: andrepiver@shaw.ca

31st annual Rosebery Regatta was packed full of fun and surprises
by Jan McMurray
No one can remember a Rosebery Regatta quite so packed with activities

ROSEBERY REGATTA

as this year’s.

There were the usual boat races, and songs by the Sea Shanty Singers, but there were also kayak races, a treasure hunt, plank-walking, and a special surprise visit from the Herbavore Houseboat.

People came from as far away as Winlaw, and the event was attended by many of the ‘who’s who’ from the New Denver area, including former Commodores Allison Gale and Isaac Scheepens, and two members of our distinguished royalty, Charlotte Farrell and Molly Fry. A few of Slocan Lake’s pirates showed up, as well.

There was even a boat built by Oscar Levine of Blaine, Washington while he was here on vacation. He attended one of the boat building workshops with master boat builders Richard Johnson, Howard Bearham and Rod Farnsworth. Oscar couldn’t make it back for the regatta, so asked 2011 Commodore Sakura Azzopardi’s mother, Analisa, to sail it for him. Unfortunately, she forgot.

Apologies to Oscar.

The races got underway around noon, starting with the boats in the styrofoam category. Heats were also held in the vegetable category and the recycled materials category, and there was an open heat to end the event.

The most contentious race was between Dagmar’s zucchini boat with lettuce sail and Donna Hicks’ ‘Corny’ boat made out of an old corncob. Upon launching them, Dagmar and Donna could see that neither would make it to shore without help, so it became a contest of who had the better throwing arm. Donna’s made it to shore in one piece, whereas Dagmar’s came in in pieces…lettuce last. A difficult decision for Judges Dan Nicholson, Richard Johnson and Jules Delaney – but Dagmar came up with a bribe of blueberries and was declared winner.

There were clearly three in the running for this year’s Commodore, who is bestowed the honour of organizing next year’s regatta. Sakura’s boat proved itself superior again, winning both the recycled materials and open heats; however, the judges decided against having the same Commodore twice in a row. Tom Fry’s vessel was very impressive, coming in second in both the recycled materials and open heats – but his mother, Julie, wrangled her way out of having to organize next year’s regatta with a bribe the judges could not refuse. So, Olivia Miles was named Commodore – her boat won the heat in the styrofoam category.

Everyone was impressed with the paddlewheeler ‘Herbavore Houseboat’ when it beached in the bay and owners Herb and Sandy MacKelburger from Calgary offered rides. Herb and Sandy heard about the regatta while staying in the New Denver campground, and extended their visit so they could attend.

Building boats is Herb’s hobby (herbsboats.wordpress.com). The Herbavore was first built in 1995 by his friend, who took a 1984 Chevette apart and put it all back together as a paddlewheeler. The diesel engine drives a hydraulic system to turn the paddlewheel. Five years ago, Herb bought the boat and began a huge project to replace the cabin. The boat features many recycled items and is outfitted with hot water on demand, a 50-gallon holding tank, an RV fridge and oven, and solar panels. The couple is looking for property in the New Denver area so they can spend more time on Slocan Lake.
William Brookfield performs at Silverton Gallery submitted

If you like a unique blend of many genres of music, then William Brookfield is the man to see and hear. He is coming to the Silverton Gallery on September 15. The name “Brookfield” might sound familiar – William’s father is the late Gordon Brookfield of New Denver and Nakusp and his stepmother was the late Lorna Oehmeyer, also of New Denver. William Brookfield is an original artist and composer from Enderby, who also performs cover tunes such as Johnny Cash, Neil Diamond, Billy Joel, James Taylor, Jim Reeves, Jerry Lee Lewis etc. in a review of a recent performance at the Cleland theatre in Penticton, James Miller of the Penticton Herald had this to say: “This reviewer’s favorite song was clearly ‘Great Balls of Fire,’ featuring Brookfield on keyboard and lead vocals. His rendition could wake the dead.”

Brookfield has been a professional musician since high school (1974) and spends much of his time doing concerts throughout Western Canada with a tribute show, “The Louisiana Hayride,” which is based on the radio program of the same name from the 1950s. He also performs a variety of solo gigs and he and his wife Penny host Singalongs at the Cup and Saucer Café in Silverton, the SLUGS have ordered an exciting selection for this year’s sale. These excellent quality bulbs, from Van Noort Bulb Company in Langley, are offered for prices below most catalogue companies.

The Full Bulb Sale is the last SLUGS activity in a very busy year. On September 1, the SLUGS and the Slocan Lake Gallery Society hosted an Arts by the Lake Festival in the Kohan Garden. Over 200 folks strolled amidst professional artist displays to the gentle sounds of classical, Eastern, jazz and folk performances while nibbling Robin McNabb’s delicious treats. According to many, the highlights of the day included both the ‘Watercolour at the Water’ sessions where Donna Barker inspired 26 beginning painters in the joy of creating at the lakeshore, and the informative ‘Garden Botanical and Cultural Tours’ by Nicole Nicholson.

The garden was also the chosen venue for four weddings in 2012, and five weddings are already booked for 2013, including one in January! The Mother’s Day Art Draw and sales from the weekly Friday Market booth, as well as public donations at the Garden Gatehouse, will help finance ongoing maintenance and improvement projects at this popular public site.

The Kohan Garden’s sustained beauty is due to the efforts of a small, but enthusiastic core of local volunteers who do weekly maintenance and a major clean-up three times per year. It also enjoys the continued support of the Village of New Denver council, staff and crew.

However, there are projects requiring paid professional expertise: electrical upgrading, trimming and falling, pond cleaning, Gatehouse roof renovation and service area screening. Any surplus funds are used for the purchase of new plantings and supplies.

Community donations are always welcome: Box 331, New Denver. Charitable tax receipts are issued for those over $20. Membership for $5 is open to all, to Margarethena Peyenburg, Box 382, New Denver.

For more information or to send questions: email gnmbrake@ymail.com, or call 604-302-0055.
Two new constables join Slocan Lake detachment

by Jan McMurray

The Slocan Lake RCMP detachment in New Denver welcomes two new members. Constable Chris Spiers and Constable Bill McKenna have recently arrived, replacing Constable Kent Kryzanowski and Constable Bill McKenna, who have recently arrived, replacing Constable Bill McKenna. Constable Foley has not gone very far – he transferred to Nakusp. Constable Shaun Foley. Constable Kent Kryzanowski have recently arrived, replacing Constable Bill McKenna.

Constable Chris Spiers was stationed in Chetwynd for four years before coming to New Denver as a general duty member. He also policed the G-20 summit in Toronto. Spiers says he’s looking forward to the next three years here, and commented on how friendly people are in the Slocan Valley. He says he came to New Denver to get closer to his hometown of Vernon, where he still has family. This posting is also giving me the opportunity to complete several courses that will allow me to apply for a United Nations Police mission overseas,” he said.

Constable McKenna was most recently stationed at the Sunshine Coast detachment in Sechelt for five years as a general duty constable and as a youth intervention officer. This is his second posting.

“I chose to transfer to New Denver because I like small town policing and getting to know most of the people within the community,” he said. “Policing small communities gives you the opportunity and time to approach issues and concerns within the community through consultation and harm reduction. Many small town issues are not criminal acts, but civil disputes or patterns that can be resolved outside of court using consultation and mediation from the RCMP. It is important to become part of the community in order to understand the community and its concerns.”

McKenna has a wife, Michelle and son Joshua, who has just graduated from high school.

Kootenay Storytelling Festival returns

Well known Kootenay Lake East Shore storyteller and writer Susan Hulland will be one of the featured tellers at this year’s storytelling festival in Nelson and Procter.

Susan was a favourite storyteller in Procter many times during the festival’s existence from 1999 to 2007, not to mention her many appearances at East Shore events. The Kootenay Storytelling Festival in Procter took a five-year hiatus from 2006 to 2011 but is being revived this year.

The festival will take place in Procter on Saturday, September 15 and then will pick up and move to Nelson for Sunday, September 16, where it will continue into the future.

Other storytellers will include Joe Pierre of the Ktunaxa First Nation, Marilyn James of the Similk First Nation and Carolyn McGaggart, whose story of Kootenay Lake’s Gunpowder Gertie the Pirate Queen achieved some notoriety on CBC Radio a few years ago. Joshua Klassen appeared nine years ago at the age of ten, the festival’s youngest teller ever, and he will return this year at the ripe age of 19, still the youngest storyteller. There will be a Doukhobor story from Wendy Vojkan, a natural history story from Kokanee Creek Park interpreter Olivia Van Jarrett, and a Procter tale from Barry Gray. The festival will also feature a storyteller from Toronto, Mariella Bertelli, who has many years of international storytelling experience and who has an interesting connection to Carolyn McGaggart. She told Carolyn’s story (with her permission, of course) in Italian at a Tall Ships festival in Genoa, Italy. They will meet here for the first time in person and have agreed to work something up (bilingual storytelling presentation?) at the festival.

‘Evolve’ has become a bit of a key word for the organizing committee. The original intent of the festival was to present the history of the Kootenays through oral storytelling. As the festival moves from Procter to Nelson, it needs to take on its own energy and focus, and as such will, in future, seek to bring storytellers from afar (starting this year with Mariella Bertelli) and allow them to present stories from their own regions and broaden and enrich the experience for the local audience.

“But we will never forget our roots and the Kootenays will always still play a very strong role in our roster of storytellers and the tales they bring,” says Barry Gray.

The dates again are Saturday, Sunday, September 15 and 16 – in Procter the first day and Nelson the second. Storytelling is alive and well in the Kootenays. Just think of the wonderful storytelling festival WORD OF MOUTH in Passmore in February. Storytelling of this caliber is back in Nelson and Procter.

FLOVERS and GIFTS

Spruce Gum Gifts - South Slocan

www.sprucegumgifts.com

250-353-8084

Come in and experience Marlin’s fresh new gift shop next to Crescent Valley Beach. Be inspired by quality local art such as woodcarving drums, pottery, acrylic and oil paintings, jewelry, and unique gifts never seen before. “This posting is little gem a multi-cultural feel. You won’t be disappointed!”

Sports and Outdoor

Barren’s Sport Shop - Kootenay

Barren’s Sport Shop

(250) 353-2617

info@barrensports.com

219 4th Street, Nelson

-Fishing, camping, hunting, skateboarding, painting supplies and much, much more. Come browse this unique small town sports shop - you won’t believe the selection. Rental of fishing and paintball gear, and the inside track on the best fishing, camping, and hunting spots in the area.

2012 Hills Garlic Festival

September 9, 10 am-5 pm
Centennial Park – New Denver

Garlic – Produce – Crafts – Food

Live entertainment by Kenny Konrad, Mountain Station, Flydini, Visions Alive Puppetry

** Enter the Garlic Poetry Contest **

Admission: $4.00
No charge for children 12 & under

Advance tickets:

$3.00 at Friday Market starting August 24

- Use the Shuttle Bus to/ from the Valhalla Inn
- Vehicles with 5 or more passengers get 1 free entry at the gate

Remember: No dogs please!

www.hillsgarlicfest.ca
Bankruptcy was last resort for Nakusp Music Festival

by Jan McMurray

Despite the best efforts of the Nakusp Roots Music Society to avoid bankruptcy and save the Nakusp Music Festival going, it was not to be. “We tried everything we could think of,” said NRMS Director Tom Zeleznik. “We worked really hard,” added NRMS President Donna Rebman. “It was devastating to say no, we can’t do the festival. There was nothing left but bankruptcy.”

Rebman and Zeleznik explained that after the 2011 festival, with almost $200,000 owing (a little more than half to local businesses and the rest to businesses from further afield), the society applied to the Columbia Basin Trust for a $100,000 loan to be secured by the Nakusp Music Festival office building. As part of the CBT’s decision-making process on the loan application, the Trust hired KPMG out of Kelowna to do a financial assessment of the society. Meanwhile, the society developed a proposal for how they would pay back the loan. KPMG, at a festival attendance of 3,000-3,500, and figured it might have taken two years to pay it back,” said Rebman. Four months after the society submitted the loan application, CBT turned it down. However, CBT also said that it would give the society $100,000 if the society were debt free.

So, the society went back to the drawing board. By this time, it was January – waiting the four months for the CBT decision “put us way behind the eight ball,” commented Zeleznik. The board’s new plan was to ask all creditors if they would take 40 cents on the dollar, and then to try to raise the funds to pay them back, so they would be eligible for the $100,000 from CBT. All creditors had to agree to the plan, according to the society’s lawyer, and some didn’t. So that plan did not pan out either.

The society put the office building up for sale in fall 2011, but it still has not sold. Rebman explained that when they bought the building in 2008, the ambulance station was located there. “We had the money for the downpayment and the rent from the ambulance paid the mortgage, so it made sense at the time,” explained Zeleznik.

The bankruptcy is a big loss to the community, not only because of the uncollectable debt and cancellation of an event that generated economic activity and promoted the area, but also because the society, as registered charity, put all the profits from the festival back into the community. The festival received hundreds of emails of support, said Zeleznik, with many used a slogan they had organized the festival was. Rebman said there were a lot of comments from people who came to the festival mainly because of the location. “They just love the area,” she said.

“We didn’t take the decision lightly,” concluded Rebman. “We really tried hard to find a solution. It’s a sad situation all around.”

Author Angie Abdou comes to Nakusp and Nelson

submitted

It’s been quite a ride for Fernie author Angie Abdou: her first novel, The Canterbury Trail, was a CBC Canada Reads book, and the next, The Canterbury Tales, was a finalist for Banff Mountain Book of the Year. Abdou has seen two of her literary publications as Quill & Quire and BC Bookworld. 

Abdou will read from her work at Nakusp Public Library on Saturday, September 22 at 2 pm and at the Nelson Public Library on Friday, September 21 at 7.30 pm.

Abdou, an instructor at College of the Rockies with a PhD in creative writing, is the author of three notable works of fiction.

Her short story collection, Anything Boys Can Do (Thindown, 2006) was heralded by BC Bookworld as “an extraordinary literary debut.”

The Raven Cage (NeWest, 2007) chronicles the stories of Sadie and Digger as they prepare for Olympic competition in swimming and wrestling, respectively. His selection by NHL player Georges Laraque for the Canada Reads competition thrust Abdou into the spotlight and a number of literary publications as Quill & Quire and BC Bookworld. 

Abdou’s readings are sponsored by the Kootenay Library Federation and the host libraries, Abdou will also be reading at the Rossland Public Library on September 22, in Kimberley October 3, and in Invermere October 10.

For more information contact Nelson Public Library at 352-6333 or Nakusp Public Library at 265-3363 or go to www.abdou.ca.

Getting it right for seniors in British Columbia

submitted

BC Ombudsperson Kim Carter is visiting Nelson and Castlegar September 12 and 13 to present her findings regarding improving seniors’ care in BC, with special reference to the West Kootenay area. Those organizing her visit to the area, from local health advocacy groups, have scheduled events in both Nelson and Castlegar at different times of the day in the hopes that as many people as possible will be able to hear her important recommendations for change.

In Nelson, she will speak on Wednesday, September 12 at 7 pm in the Nelson United Church Hall, 602 Silica Street.

The following day, on Thursday, September 13, she’ll make a similar presentation in Castlegar from 12 noon to 2 pm at the Castlegar Recreation Centre, 201 6th Avenue. An optional lunch, by donation, will be available at 11:30 am. Both presentations are free of charge.

The BC Government has been given a unique opportunity to improve the lives of seniors in the province with the 176 recommendations made by Carter in her recently released report, ‘The Best of Care: Getting it Right for Seniors in BC.’

However, according to Castlegar Health Watch member and event organizer, Bud Godderis, “The government needs encouragement to fully implement the report’s recommendations. The public is encouraged to come out to meet the BC ombudsperson, learn about her report and find out what concerned citizens can to urge immediate government action.”

To read the full report, visit www.bcomбудsperson.lcw.ca.

For a 14-page summary of the report, visit www.bchealthcoalition.ca.
New arts programming at Selkirk College

Selkirk College has brought together three program areas that reflect different aspects of the arts into the new School of the Arts. The new school includes Digital Arts and New Media, Contemporary Music and Technology, and the Craft programming that was previously under Kootenay School of the Arts. Leadership for the School of the Arts will come from School Chair Jason Taylor, and Kate Pelletier, Dean of Instruction for all Nelson campuses.

The School of the Arts will be located at two campuses in Nelson: Digital Arts and New Media and Contemporary Music and Technology will be located on the 10th Street Campus, and the Craft programming will be delivered on the historic Victoria Street campus in downtown Nelson.

The Craft programming will consist of five different certification programs: Ceramics, Jewelry and Metals, which are ten months in length, while certificates in Blacksmithing and Metal Casting can be earned in consecutive four-month periods. All programs except Metal Casting begin in September with the latter commencing in January.

The new Craft programming brings with it a number of benefits to students, such as lower tuition, accelerated learning, and opportunity to apply skills in a self-directed studio experience. An additional benefit comes from the new alignment with Digital Arts and New Media and Contemporary Music. Faculty and students will have a greater opportunity for collaboration with one another, including shared learning and teaching, and the possibility of new programming.

According to School Chair Jason Taylor, “The vision of the School of the Arts is to inspire students in their development as artists and designers by providing an excellent studio-based education. The programs will emphasize development of practical skills, with a foundation in professional practice and design”. More information can be found at selkirk.ca/programs/arts.

The redfish (Kokanee) are running at Bonanza Creek and Wilson Creek!

Slocan Lake Stewardship Society SlocanLake55.wordpress.com

by Jan McMurray

Two independent power projects are currently being proposed for the Arrow Lakes area—one on St. Leon Creek and the other on the Upper Incomappleux River.

TransAlta Corporation out of Calgary has submitted applications for ‘investigative licences,’ which would allow them onto the Crown land around the proposed projects to conduct the studies required to progress to the next stage of the application process.

“The Investigative Licence is not an approval to proceed with the waterpower project or to proceed with the installation of the project, it would only give the company the opportunity to study the area in more detail,” said Ken Casley, owner of the Coin Laundry in New Denver, who also has a washing machine at his home. “It would allow the company to study the area to determine whether that area is suitable for a power project.”

Independent power projects in investigative stage for St Leon and Upper Incomappleux

submitted

For the Upper Incomappleux River project, the company plans a 45 MW generating station. The intake would be situated about 37 kilometres above Upper Arrow Lake and would feed an 8.8-kilometre-long penstock to the powerhouse. About 75 kilometres of 69 kV transmission line would be built to connect the Illecillewaet substation.

Comments on the applications for the investigative licences are being accepted until September 20 for the Upper Incomappleux project (File No. 440471) and until September 22 for the St Leon project (File No. 4404639). To provide comments and to download a copy of the company’s applications with maps, go to www.arfl.gov.bc.ca. Click on ‘Advanced Search’ and type in the file number.

New Denver Laundromat closes after 44 years

submitted

The Coin Laundry in New Denver, sitting on the original New Denver Light & Power office property, is closing a chapter in its life of 44 years young. Even though it is considered young, it is rich with local history. Everyone who has used the laundromat in the last 26 years will remember the elderly gentleman who loved the business so much that he was always checking the machines. Ken Casley was also a history buff.

The brick wall that the dryers are sitting on the original New Denver Arena that burnt down November 27, 1992, so he laid pieces of cement from the ice surface into the ground in front of the laundromat. The ‘Coin Laundry’ sign dons two old washboards: one from his family and the other from the old Esso garage.

There are lots of stories from local people and repeat tourists about their experiences with the gentleman at the laundromat that are still being told to his family. If he saw that you needed help with your laundry, he would tell you how to wash or dry your laundry in the best way for it to come out clean. There was even a marriage proposal that took place in the laundromat 36 years ago.

From the day it opened on January 4, 1968 until the date of its closing on September 5, 2012, it had only three owners, all in the same family. All the previous owners—Bev Casley, family, and the late Ken Casley, Clinton and Mary Casley; Wally and Mary Fulco—would like the community to know that they enjoyed having this service available in our area and thanks the community for their support.

Help clean up the Slocan River on Rivers Day

submitted

Slocan Riverwatch, a not for profit society formed of a small group of local volunteers, is organizing a river clean-up day, and looking for volunteers to help with the effort.

The 32nd annual BC Rivers Day is Sunday, September 30. What better way to celebrate our beautiful rivers and area but to help clean one up and keep it pristine.

Meeting at the Slocan Valley Rail Trail parking lot across from the Frog Peak Cafe at 10 am, volunteers will be organized into small groups and dispersed to different areas of the river valley to pick up garbage, litter and debris. The more the merrier. Please come out to help.

For more information, visit Slocan Riverwatch on Facebook or call John at 250-505-2689.

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submitted

The Coin Laundry in New Denver, sitting on the original New Denver Light & Power office property, is closing a chapter in its life of 44 years young. Even though it is considered young, it is rich with local history. Everyone who has used the laundromat in the last 26 years will remember the elderly gentleman who loved the business so much that he was always checking the machines. Ken Casley was also a history buff.

The brick wall that the dryers are sitting on the original New Denver Arena that burnt down November 27, 1992, so he laid pieces of cement from the ice surface into the ground in front of the laundromat. The ‘Coin Laundry’ sign dons two old washboards: one from his family and the other from the old Esso garage.

There are lots of stories from local people and repeat tourists about their experiences with the gentleman at the laundromat that are still being told to his family. If he saw that you needed help with your laundry, he would tell you how to wash or dry your laundry in the best way for it to come out clean. There was even a marriage proposal that took place in the laundromat 36 years ago.

From the day it opened on January 4, 1968 until the date of its closing on September 5, 2012, it had only three owners, all in the same family. All the previous owners—Bev Casley, family, and the late Ken Casley, Clinton and Mary Casley; Wally and Mary Fulco—would like the community to know that they enjoyed having this service available in our area and thanks the community for their support.

Help clean up the Slocan River on Rivers Day

submitted

Slocan Riverwatch, a not for profit society formed of a small group of local volunteers, is organizing a river clean-up day, and looking for volunteers to help with the effort.

The 32nd annual BC Rivers Day is Sunday, September 30. What better way to celebrate our beautiful rivers and area but to help clean one up and keep it pristine.

Meeting at the Slocan Valley Rail Trail parking lot across from the Frog Peak Cafe at 10 am, volunteers will be organized into small groups and dispersed to different areas of the river valley to pick up garbage, litter and debris. The more the merrier. Please come out to help.

For more information, visit Slocan Riverwatch on Facebook or call John at 250-505-2689.
The Valley Voice  September 5, 2012

with the 5th Avenue drummers. Saturday September 29: Mine Tailings a 50th anniversary remount of the original theatre piece. Ticket pre-sales only. $20. Benefit for the Silverton Gallery. See large ad for details.

SUITE FOR RENT – One mile from Nakusp. 3 bdr, 1.5 bth, 1200 sq. ft, Privacy. Availability: $800/ month. 250-575-8687 or 250-860-8985.

WINCH EMERGENCY ready to rev it up, 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, 1500 sq., fits, electric heat, beautiful view of Frog Peak. 40 minutes from Nelson, Castlegar, Trail. Landlord references, no indoor pets, no smoking. Available. $1200 plus deposit. 250-262-0168.

CARPET SALE, wanted to live in Cambodian orphans. 5-7 pm. Bring a $20. A fundraiser for the Silverton Gallery.

Silverton Gallery. See large ad for info.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT TALK – admission by donation.

Spectrum Home & Family Care
Helping you maintain strength & peace of mind in the midst of climactic changes. Come into your own strength & peace of mind in the midst of climactic changes. Come into your own

TRUNK SHOW – featuring Silvertone, “Reading Neuroscience With Therese Descamp, co-founder of Heart’s Rest Retreats, “Reading Neuroscience With Therese Descamp, co-founder of Heart’s

STRONGSTAR WELCOMES Change Fighters to Lennon School for the 2012/2013 school year! Our schedule is Mon. Wed/Fri - 9 am to 12 pm and Tues/Thurs - 2 pm to 5 pm. Families with children ages 0 - 5 yrs. are invited to drop in to our after-school learning program. For more information or to please call Charlotte @ 250-358-7766.

SALT SPRING FALL BULB SALE – September 9 at Garten Fest. Booth 143 next to South Gate. 21 varieties, for 50 cents or 5 for $2. Proceeds to Kokanach Garden.

SUITE FOR RENT – One mile from Nakusp. 3 bdr, 1.5 bth, 1200 sq. ft, Privacy. Availability: $800/ month. 250-575-8687 or 250-860-8985.

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YOGA UPTAIRS at the FIRE HALL in Silverton. Entrance Monday mornings 9:15-10:30 and Thursday afternoons 4:15-5:30. Open to all levels - a flow class unlike any other. Come and rejuvenate yourself!!

2 BDR NEAR WINLAW Laundry, woodstove, internet, garden. References and damage deposit required. No smoking. Pen negotiable. $800. 250-315-7963.

HALL

Kaslo Trailblazers Society: bridging the gap is one step closer to reality

The Kaslo Trailblazers have received approval from the Village of Kaslo for a second pedestrian bridge spanning the Kaslo River. The 5th Street Bridge will follow the river loop trail and provide safe walking and wheelchair access to downtown from the south side of Kaslo.

The Trailblazers are proposing a single-span, arched glulam beam bridge to be located where 5th Street crosses the river. The group’s previous plan for a cable suspension bridge design precluded wheelchair access, so the Kaslo Trailblazers Society (KTS) sought other alternatives.

Final engineering and construction plans are underway, and it is hoped that construction will begin this autumn. The bridge will be approximately 125 feet long, six feet wide with a three-foot arch and 23 feet above the river bed.

Securing the funds for the project began three years ago and sponsors for the glue-lam beams are being sought. KTS has raised approximately $100,000 to date, including donations and projected grant funds. The society should like this to be a UNITY bridge with bridge plaques from all over the world and donations of any amount are gratefully accepted. Donations can be made online at Canada Helps or by cheque to Box 1024, Kaslo, BC, V0G 1M0. All gifts of $20 or more, including bench and bridge plaque donations, will receive a Canadian tax receipt. Memberships to the KTS cost $10 per year, $45 for 5 years, and $90 for 10 years. Picnic table and bench sponsors are also available and welcome.
Toadfest a huge success: 500 turn out for third annual event

by Jan McMurray

Approximately 500 people enjoyed the sunshine and activities during the third annual Toadfest at Summit Lake Provincial Park south of Nakusp on August 22 and August 23. While the goal of the event was primarily educational, to raise awareness about the importance of this breeding site for western toads, more than 12,000 toadlets were safely moved across Highway 6.

“We were extremely pleased with the turn-out, and the enthusiasm from those attending to help, and learn about, the toadlets,” said Trevor Oussoren, program manager for the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP). “It was really a joint effort that made the event successful, and we could not have done it without the help of the project partners involved.”

The event was hosted by the FWCP (a partnership between the Province of BC, BC Hydro, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada), BC Parks, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and Columbia Basin Trust. YKB provided professional flaggers to ensure that the road was safely closed for short periods of time during the event. The public is reminded not to move the toadlets across the highway outside of this time.

The toadlet migration typically lasts between four and six weeks starting in mid-August. Every year tens of thousands of western toadlets, each not more than the size of a dime, get squashed as they attempt their migration from the shoreline of Summit Lake to upland habitat where they spend several years maturing before returning to the lake to breed.

There are a couple of toad tunnels to help the amphibians go underneath the highway, but the migration moves from one area to another so most still have to cross the road. The total number of toadlets moving from Summit Lake can number into the millions each year.

“While the western toad population is still healthy at Summit Lake, we want to do everything we can to keep it that way,” added Oussoren. “They are an important part of the ecosystem but in North America we have seen their numbers decline significantly, and this province is now the centre for western toad distribution in the world. Helping people connect with nature in this fashion will help with long-term conservation of the western toad which is listed federally as a species of concern.”

Nakusp welcomes new doctor to town

by Jan McMurray

After searching for an additional doctor for the community for at least five years, Nakusp welcomed Dr. Sayed Subzwari to town on July 3. Dr. Subzwari, originally from Pakistan, has recently completed his Masters in Public Health at UBC.

The struggle to find doctors for rural communities seems to be mainly due to the requirement for on-call and emergency room shifts, but Dr. Subzwari sees that rural areas offer opportunities for doctors to enhance their skills.

“You can get skills and experience here that you don’t get in large cities, like emergency care and procedures,” he said. “In the big city, there are specialists helping you, so here you can enhance your skills.”

With two full-time doctors (Dr. Subzwari and Dr. Lea) and one part-timer (Dr. Goranson) in Nakusp, he said, “In the big city, there are specialists helping you, so here you can enhance your skills.”

To bring on additional help and to promote the community with him. Dr. Subzwari said the house was “absolutely” an attraction for him to come to Nakusp, but certainly not the only one. During a visit to Nakusp last fall, Dr. Subzwari was very impressed by the excellent clinic staff as well as the clinic set-up, and the hospital. “I met with Dr. Lea and I was sure I saw my future in this community,” he said. “It is also a lifestyle choice. Nakusp is such a beautiful place with many outdoor activities. I like boating and fishing, and am excited to get out and do these things.” He has signed an eight-year contract with Interior Health.

Dr. Subzwari’s wife and six-month-old daughter have recently joined him in Nakusp, and his parents also moved in. His in-laws have helped him move in and his old daughter have recently joined him in Nakusp. The house was arranged for medical students from UBC to come to do their residencies in Nakusp. He said the UBC residency program is keen to send residents to rural areas for their training, and that the Ministry of Health has doubled the number of training positions from 12 to 24 to address the shortage of doctors province-wide.

Dr. Lea has been leading the charge to find doctors for the community. With no results for his efforts over five or more years, the Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation and the Arrow Lakes Hospital Auxiliary decided that they could help lure a doctor by providing housing. They shared the cost of purchasing, renovating and partly furnishing a house and have made it available to Dr. Subzwari for the term of his employment in Nakusp. The house also has an adjoining suite for locums. Dr. Subzwari said the house was very impressed by the excellent clinic staff as well as the clinic set-up, and the hospital. “I met with Dr. Lea and I saw my

Village of New Denver

TAX SALE

The following described properties and improvements thereon shall be offered for “Sale by Public Auction” at the Village of New Denver Municipal Office on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. unless the delinquent taxes and interest thereon are sooner paid:

Lot 6, Block G, Plan 9501, District Lot 432, Kootenay Land District – 112 6th Avenue

Lots 21-23, Block 46, Plan 557, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District – 508 6th Avenue

Parcel C, Block 60, Plan 557, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District – 712 9th Avenue

Village of New Denver

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF COUNCIL MEETING

The public is requested to take notice that the Tuesday, September 25, 2012, Regular Meeting of Council has been cancelled so that elected officials may participate in the Annual Convention of the Union of BC Municipalities. The Tuesday, September 11, 2012, and Tuesday, October 9, 2012, Regular Meetings will take place as planned.

Carol Gordon, CMC
Chief Administrative Officer

South Okanagan

TAX SALE

The following described properties and improvements thereon shall be offered for “Sale by Public Auction” at the Village of Silverton Municipal Office on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. unless the Delinquent Taxes are sooner paid:

Parcel A, Block 3, Plan 574, District Lot 434, Kootenay Land District, (SEE 247731); Lot 9, Block 3, Plan 574 District Lot 434, Kootenay Land District, EXC PCL A (247731); Lot 10, Block 3, Plan 574, District Lot 434, Kootenay Land District

• 605 Lake Avenue, Silverton, BC
The Valley Voice  September 5, 2012

Village of New Denver

Please join the Mayor and Council of the Village of New Denver for a special event at the Knox Hall on Thursday, September 13th at 7:00 p.m.

On this occasion the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal will be presented to Mrs. Agnes Emary in recognition of her years of service to our country and community.

Refreshments will be served.

PHOTO CREDIT: CaRLa NEMIROFF

Panama hats, harem pants, amazing jewelry, and the best “Boho Chic” decor in the Kootenays. See for yourself!

BC Human Rights Tribunal approves smart meter class action

The society may be contacted at www.citizensforsafetechnology.org by any person wishing to join in the complaint. The tribunal found that the complaint brought by the Citizens for Safe Technology Society properly alleges a breach of the Human Rights Code in that it alleges a disability, adverse treatment in respect of a service customarily available to the public, and a nexus or connection between the disability and the adverse treatment. By way of the complaint, the Citizens for Safe Technology Society seeks:

• A declaration that BC Hydro has discriminated against each person in the Class by failing to provide each person in the Class with an unconditional written commitment that BC Hydro will refrain from installing and/or operating a wireless smart meter at the individual’s place of residence and/or residential complex.

• An order that BC Hydro cease and desist forthwith from the said discrimination by offering to refrain from installing and/or operating a wireless smart meter at the individual’s place of residence and/or residential complex.

On August 28, the BC Human Rights Tribunal (BCHRT) issued a decision approving a representative complaint (akin to a class action) against BC Hydro on behalf of “those persons allegedly diagnosed with electromagnetic hypersensitivity and who have been advised to avoid exposure to wireless technology.”

A copy of the tribunal’s decision is available at: http://www.bchrt.bc.ca/decisions/2012/August.htm. The tribunal approved the representation of that class by the Citizens for Safe Technology Society, which it found to have authority to bring the representative complaint.

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PHOTO CREDIT: CaRLa NEMIROFF

Nakusp Rotary Club served breakfast to the Horizons Unlimited motorcycle travellers’ club in Nakusp in late August. District Governor Michelle Lee, third from the right, was on hand to assist the club with this task. Over 200 came to this “world meeting” in Nakusp, one of 14 this year around the globe, where information of all sorts about motorcycle traveling is shared. Visit www.horizonsunlimited.com for information about this international organization. The Rotary Club also served breakfast to the Bee Cee Beemers Motorcycle Club when they made their annual visit to Nakusp in mid August. Meals were served up Rotary style at other Nakusp events, as well – the Rodeo in July, the July 1st celebrations, and the August long weekend ball tournament.

PHOTO CREDIT: BILL TOBEY

The watercolour workshop by Donna Hicks of Hills was one of the highlights of this year’s Arts by the Lake.

Winlaw weaver Dianne Carter demonstrated her craft and displayed her beautiful woven work at Arts by the Lake at the Kohan Garden September 1.

PHOTO CREDIT: BILL TOBEY

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registration deadline: October 5

WordPress Essential Training - October 25
for self-hosted site owners
registration deadline: October 22

Pre-registration required.
For details or to register, please visit futures.bc.ca or call Community Futures Central Kootenay at 250 352 1953

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