Ministry of Environment releases test results to a frustrated public

by Art Joyce

Slocan Valley residents have been frustrated by the lack of communication regarding test results following the jet fuel spill. But the August 19 release of data is aimed at clearing the air. According to Wayne Smuck, senior Vice President of Airport Services for Executive Flight Centre (EFC), the delay has been due in part to the need for the data to be "vetted and organized."

"Today’s release of the testing data is evidence EFC and government agencies are committed to transparency," Smuck said.

Executive Flight Centre’s environmental science consultant, SNC Lavalin, has completed analyzing data from air, water, soil and sediment samples done between July 28 and August 9. This data was the basis of the removal of the water use ban by Interior Health (IB), starting with the Kootenay River on August 6, the Slocan River downstream of Warden on August 8, and the rest of the affected area on August 9. It is not clear whether the official testing regime has continued past that date.

According to the EFC media statement, “all of the water sample data provided by the Ministry of Environment and agencies contracted by Executive Flight Centre meet the Canadian Guidelines for Drinking Water. As well, visual assessments of the containment boom and shoreline have not detected levels of fuel that pose health concerns.”

SNC Lavalin and the Ministry of Agriculture has been collecting soil and vegetation samples. Kootenay Organic Growers Society President Jody Morton reported that of five commercial organic farms tested in the valley, all samples were clean except one, which was well within acceptable limits. According to the Ministry of Environment, there have been 199 surface water samples taken both above and below the surface of the river, including surface water intakes. In addition these there have been 122 sediment samples, 89 soil and agricultural samples and eight groundwater samples from drilled or dug wells.

Jennifer Yeo of Passmore Labs and Slocan River Streamkeepers said according to the manufacturer, there were no benzene, toluene or ethylene in this particular batch of A 1 jet fuel, yet these are all listed in product data sheets for this fuel. This complex of additives, known as BTEX, is highly volatile and will dissipate quickly. It’s also highly toxic. Yeo’s group is taking samples to test for BTEX.

Streamkeepers has been keeping baseline data on Slocan River for 16 years. Yeo was out taking samples on August 10 and 13 with resident Elisabeth von Ah. The stretch of the river south of the Lemon Creek confluence is probably the most diverse, sensitive, fragile and pristine part of the riverine ecosystem, explains Yeo. It’s also where the highest fish population have been identified. The good news? A fish biologist who took a count at the confluence pool found 67 trout and 500- plus whitefish.

"The river is good at cleaning itself out," says Yeo. "There are pockets of residue but we’re encouraged by what we saw – pikeminnow, bugs and ospreys, all looking healthy."

In a conference call with media, Brad McCaulfield, senior Environmental Protection Officer with the Ministry of Environment in the Nelson office, stated that, “In the Slocan system and the Kootenay system there is nothing detectable.” This is where the ministry and local observers often part company. Observations by Yeo and her volunteers reveal that some sections of shoreline are still highly contaminated.

“Just touching the rocks, a slick would form – you could see dead insects and fish,” says Yeo. “And this was on the 10th, quite a long time after the spill.”

Fuel that remains on the surface probably won’t be washed off until the full rains or next spring’s freshet, explains Yeo. It also breaks down with light from UV radiation. Streamkeepers will seek a petroleum engineer to replace ecological toxicologist Katherine Eatts, who is no longer working with the group.

Fisheries biologist and Streamkeepers volunteer Peter Corbett reports that a specialized piece of low-impact machinery known as a Spider is being used in Lemon Creek to lift rocks and free up fuel, which is then hosed downstream, where 10 containment booms collect it. “They plan on treating all of Lemon Creek from the spill site to the confluence of the Slocan—approximately 4.5 kilometers,” wrote Corbett in an email dated August 16. “I’m very impressed with these efforts. Very little sedimentation is being created from this work and the treated habitat looks the same as it did prior to disturbance.”

Meanwhile, Ministry of Environment staff has been on-site monitoring the shoreline cleanup being done by the Polans team. An estimated 20,000 hours has been logged so far by cleanup crews. EFC must submit daily reports on cleanup activities to Interior Health, the RDCK, MoE and several other ministries. An environmental impact report, including all actions taken since the spill, is due by the end of August. MoE will also oversee ongoing monitoring of the watershed.

Area H Director Walter Popoff says he has contacted Minister of the Environment Mary Polak and has been told she will visit the valley in late August or early September. The public and recreational users of the Slocan River and Lemon Creek are asked to remain clear of crews and containment booms.
Winlaw Fire Department returns to service after chief reinstated

by Jan McMurray

The Winlaw Fire Department was out of service for approximately 48 hours earlier this month in a show of protest against the August 13 suspension of Winlaw Fire Chief Jon Wollenberg. Department members agreed to return to active duty when Wollenberg was reinstated as fire chief at a meeting with RDCK officials at the Winlaw fire hall August 15.

“The proposed disciplinary suspension of the Winlaw Fire Chief, which prompted the volunteers to withdraw their services, has been revoked and the matter is being referred to a committee of four RDCK Fire Chiefs who will report back to the Chief Administrative Officer,” states a press release issued by the RDCK on August 16.

All 19 members of the Winlaw Fire Department left active duty on the evening of Tuesday, August 13, when they found out Wollenberg had been notified of his suspension earlier that day. He was suspended because he refused to take a command from his superior, Regional Fire Chief Terry Swans, to have the Winlaw Fire Department members provide traffic control for the July 30 public meeting regarding the Lemon Creek fuel spill at Winlaw Hall. The suspension was for no less than three months with a condition to receive some training.

“The Winlaw Fire Department is a volunteer group that has come together to help their community in the event of an emergency,” said Wollenberg in a written statement he issued August 14. “I believe that demanding a volunteer fire department to respond to a non-emergency goes against the principles of what this group has volunteered to accomplish. The members of the Winlaw Fire Department support this opinion and believe we have done nothing wrong in refusing to respond to a non-emergency event. The members have agreed that any disciplinary action taken against me will be served by the entire department, resulting in the Winlaw Fire Department being out of service.”

Some community members showed their support for the fire chief and department’s position by coming out to protest outside the August 15 meeting at the fire hall. A member of the Winlaw Fire Department, Carol Feliz, set up outside the hall for the two days the department was out of service (August 14 and 15) with signs to inform people of what was happening.

The RDCK worked quickly to resolve the situation. An August 14 media release assured Winlaw residents that the Provincial and Slocan fire departments had agreed to cover Winlaw in the interim. Then on the evening of August 15, RDCK Chair John Kettle, CAO Brian Cammerts, Regional Fire Chief Terry Swans and Area H Director Walter Popoff held a meeting at the Winlaw fire hall with the Provincial, Slocan and Winlaw.

YRB

Yellowhead Road & Bridge Heavy Duty Mechanic Wanted

Yellowhead Road & Bridge (Kootenay) Ltd. is looking for a Mechanic for our New Denver facility. Applicants will need to hold a valid TO for Heavy Duty or Commercial Transport, class three driver’s licence and Motor Vehicle Inspection licence would be an asset.

Resumes can be faxed to 250-352-2172

KASLO HOTEL

Kaslo Hotel invites all to a summer’s end party Labor Day Weekend.

Rukus, live at the Hotel Friday and Saturday nights starting at 9 pm.

No Cover Charge

Call to ask about our Fall room specials beginning September 15.

Carpenter Creek erosion causing serious concern

by Jan McMurray

The erosion of the banks of Carpenter Creek in Sandon continues to be a serious concern. Washouts of Sandon Road and the Kloslikhe Silver mining company’s maintenance yard have resulted in so much sediment flushing down the creek and into Slocan Lake during the last two spring freshets that local governments and organizations are sounding the alarm.

New Denver council and Area H Director Walter Popoff plans to meet with the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations on this issue at the upcoming Union of BC Municipalities convention September 16-20.

“The Province needs to take control of the situation and make sure the stream is cleared and stable. If anything ends up in our lake or aquifer, we’re going to be mighty unhappy,” said Mayor Ann Banka in a telephone interview.

At the August 13 New Denver council meeting, council received two letters from community organizations to the Ministry of Environment, complete with photographs, clearly showing the grave need for stabilization of the creek banks.

The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society submitted a graph of turbidity data on the creek, showing an “extreme spike” in June this year and an “alarming” spike in June last year. The letter also includes an aerial photograph showing a huge amount of sediment entering Slocan Lake from the creek in late June this year. Perhaps of most concern are the results of testing for heavy metals in the outfall of Carpenter Creek last year. The tests showed “alarming levels of heavy metals in last year’s runoff.”

The society is concerned that the material flushed into the lake may be hazardous to aquatic and human health. It asks the ministry to “develop a comprehensive restoration plan for the lower reaches of Carpenter Creek” in consultation with a hydrologist and other appropriate government agencies; to direct Kloslikhe Silver to rehabilitate the yard and the eroding banks below its tailings ponds; and to direct the owner of old machinery parked on the edge of the creek to remove it.

The letter also notes that the Ministry of Environment on this subject, copied to the Village of New Denver, is from the Valhalla Wilderness Society (VWS). This letter includes photographic evidence showing that the situation is urgent, and calls on government to “initiate a multi-agency plan immediately,” in consultation with professional hydrologists, to stabilize the banks of Carpenter Creek.

“This has been going on for a long time and seems to have been hailed back and forth from one ministry to the other,” said New Denver Mayor Ann Banka. “It’s time for action, before there is a problem. Every year we stand a greater chance of having a disaster.”
Removal of Interior Health water use ban on Slocan River controversial

by Art Joyce

It appears that bureaucracy and reality seldom meet. On August 9, Interior Health lifted the total ban on one of water in the Slocan River watershed, but residents were still reporting daily to the Resiliency Centre in Winlaw that they were seeing and smelling fuel in their water.

Dr. Andrew Larder, Senior Medical Health Officer with Interior Health (IH) is the authority who must make these decisions. He says, “I lifted the order knowing full well that there was still fuel in some locations on the river, but we had a lot of information that has not been provided was that the amounts were relatively small and were localized in back eddies and log jams. The clean-up efforts would not release the fuel into the river and into the containment booms. Lifting the order was not a signal for people to stop paying attention and being careful. If they’re concerned about contamination of their well or their water supply, they need to contact the number we supplied.”

Interior Health during the spill aftermath held daily meetings with the Ministry of Environment to assess water samples. Dr. Larder says he lifted the water ban progressively as information became available for each section of the river. “It was constantly being reviewed based on what the test results showed and what the clean-up was finding.”

Dr. Larder continues, “What I’m telling them is that the river is still full of fuel and the clean-up crews are Rugran to be leaving sometime this week. Nelle Maxey has been hired by the Regional District to manage the Recovery Centre. It’s thanks to the efforts of Maxey, Area H Director Walter Poppoff, MLA Kattrine Conroy and MP Alex Atamanenko that these facilities have been extended. Maxey says RDC CKAO Brian Carruthers has also been a strong supporter of keeping the Centre open. “It’s been insane saying, it’s three days, it’s four days—it’s impossible to work that way,” says Maxey. “I just told them, you fill those showers and portable water you’ll have a revolution in the Slocan Valley. At least we have a local government that’s responsive, and thank God our MLA and MP” Executive Flight Centre (EFC) had earlier reported that it would be shutting down the centre due to reduced need. However, Maxey says she’s been run off her feet trying to get up and keep trying to get more staff. Her job includes maintaining public information boards, answering calls, and being the point person to advise Emergency Management BC to issue evacuation orders. And while multiple household water systems are governed by IH, single user systems aren’t regulated in BC at all. So Slocan Valley residents with wells will have to lobby Executive Flight Centre (EFC), the company responsible for the spill, for water testing costs charged by IH. EFC is responsible for the costs of providing displaced residents with portable water.

“If a well is contaminated, we’ll talk to the owner and advise them on what the steps to take,” says Dr. Larder, “It’s the homeowner’s responsibility for well testing costs. We have not recommended that everyone test their water.”

Recovery Centre Manager Nelle Maxey says she’s still getting reports from residents of fuel in their water, as late as August 12. She thinks the ban was lifted too soon. It could also raise liability issues—there’s already a class action lawsuit underway against EFC and the provincial government.

John Wittmann, who served as Volunteer Coordinator with the Resiliency Centre and is volunteering at the centre now, has transitioned into a Recovery Centre, is especially concerned that lifting the ban will let EFC off the hook, leaving residents to their own devices for clean water supplies. So far EFC has been responsive to residents’ concerns.

“Now one should be expected to drink it, let alone give it to her children,” said Wittmann in a Facebook posting, “Meanwhile, Interior Health and the Ministry of Environment have deemed that the water is safe to drink, bathe in, irrigate their crops with, feed their family with, water their animals with. This is a travesty. It has got to stop now before someone gets sick.”

Jennifer Yeow of Passmore Labs and Slocan River Streamkeepers say they will be doing independent monitoring and testing of the watershed. She says the ‘snuff test’ is actually a reliable guide, since a person’s nose is sensitive up to parts per million, more than most instruments can detect. She advises residents to put 10-20 milliliters of water into a clean jar with a lid, let it warm to room temperature, shake it, then crack the lid and smell. The odour is obvious if there’s any fuel present.

Interior Health advises households with private wells and water systems to follow its protocol for flushing (see interiorhealth.ca).

Those with specific health questions or noticing symptoms should contact their physician. Residents with concerns about food or drinking water should contact IH at 250-420-2220.

Fuel spill update: Recovery Centre facilities extended

by Art Joyce

The good news is that the Recovery Centre has moved to the Winlaw Hall, where it will remain indefinitely, depending on funding. The bad news is that clean-up crews are rumoured to be leaving sometime this week.

Nelle Maxey has been hired by the Regional District to manage the Recovery Centre. It’s thanks to the efforts of Maxey, Area H Director Walter Poppoff, MLA Kattrine Conroy and MP Alex Atamanenko that these facilities have been extended. Maxey says RDC CKAO Brian Carruthers has also been a strong supporter of keeping the Centre open. “It’s been insane saying, it’s three days, it’s four days—it’s impossible to work that way,” says Maxey. “I just told them, you fill those showers and portable water you’ll have a revolution in the Slocan Valley. At least we have a local government that’s responsive, and thank God our MLA and MP.”

Executive Flight Centre (EFC) had earlier reported that it would be shutting down the centre due to reduced need. However, Maxey says she’s been run off her feet trying to get up and keep trying to get more staff. Her job includes maintaining public information boards, answering calls, and being the point person to advise Emergency Management BC to issue evacuation orders. And while multiple household water systems are governed by IH, single user systems aren’t regulated in BC at all. So Slocan Valley residents with wells will have to lobby Executive Flight Centre (EFC), the company responsible for the spill, for water testing costs charged by IH. EFC is responsible for the costs of providing displaced residents with portable water.

“If a well is contaminated, we’ll talk to the owner and advise them on what the steps to take,” says Dr. Larder, “It’s the homeowner’s responsibility for well testing costs. We have not recommended that everyone test their water.”

Recovery Centre Manager Nelle Maxey says she’s still getting reports from residents of fuel in their water, as late as August 12. She thinks the ban was lifted too soon. It could also raise liability issues—there’s already a class action lawsuit underway against EFC and the provincial government.

John Wittmann, who served as Volunteer Coordinator with the Resiliency Centre and is volunteering at the centre now, has transitioned into a Recovery Centre, is especially concerned that lifting the ban will let EFC off the hook, leaving residents to their own devices for clean water supplies. So far EFC has been responsive to residents’ concerns.

“No one should be expected to drink it, let alone give it to her children,” said Wittmann in a Facebook posting, “Meanwhile, Interior Health and the Ministry of Environment have deemed that the water is safe to drink, bathe in, irrigate their crops with, feed their family with, water their animals with. This is a travesty. It has got to stop now before someone gets sick.”

Jennifer Yeow of Passmore Labs and Slocan River Streamkeepers say they will be doing independent monitoring and testing of the watershed. She says the ‘snuff test’ is actually a reliable guide, since a person’s nose is sensitive up to parts per million, more than most instruments can detect. She advises residents to put 10-20 milliliters of water into a clean jar with a lid, let it warm to room temperature, shake it, then crack the lid and smell. The odour is obvious if there’s any fuel present.

Interior Health advises households with private wells and water systems to follow its protocol for flushing (see interiorhealth.ca).

Those with specific health questions or noticing symptoms should contact their physician. Residents with concerns about food or drinking water should contact IH at 250-420-2220.

Jumbo Glacier Resort machinery turned back by citizen checkpoint

submitted

An ad hoc group calling itself Citizens for Jumbo Wild, camped on their families’ Glacier, turned back machinery heading to the glacier August 10.

“A compact excavator was on its way to the glacier, working on the glacier for summer skiing,” said K. Linda Kivi, one of the citizens of the camp. “My concern is that the provincial government has yet to set an end date for summer skiing and enforcement procedures. There is no program to monitor what they are doing.”

Kivi said according to the master agreement between the provincial government and Jumbo Glacier Resorts, the resort is not allowed to do any altering of the glacier.

“It would be impossible to get a snowcat on the glacier for summer skiing without altering it,” Kivi added. No machinery arrived Sunday.

Contact

In our coverage of the Lemon Creek fuel spill in August 7 issue, we failed to acknowledge that Castlegar Search and Rescue helped with the evacuation of residences on the night of the spill and the next morning. The Valley Voice sends out huge thanks to everyone who has volunteered in any capacity on this disaster.

WILDLIFE and LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP with JIM LAWRENCE and JESSE SCHPAKOWSKI

Sunday, September 15, 2013 • Hidden Garden Gallery • New Denver
Indoor session 9 am - noon, lunch provided
Outdoor session on Rosebery to Summit Rail Trail
Cost is $20 donation to North Slocan Trails Society
Call Mike at 250-338-2600 to register
Funded by Columbia Basin Trust

ULRIKE ZOBEL, LAWYER
PRACTICE RESTRICTED TO:
CRIMINAL & FAMILY LAW
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
209 Broadway St., Nakusp, BC
250-264-4372 • 1-877-264-4372
www.zobelzelbel.com
Serving the Arrow and Slocan Lakes

Never miss another Valley Voice deadline!
Sign up for our e-mail reminder list: valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca

MEN with BROOMS CHIMNEY SWEEPS
250-265-4134
Insurance Inspections & Installations of Wood Burning Appliances
WETT Certified with Factory Safe BC
Bonded • Insured

Community Calendar

Thursday, August 22
Gardener Colleen Callander at 11
Slocan Legion Hall 5 pm (approx.)
Friday, August 23
Seam Ashley
Friday Market
Silverton Gallery 7:30 pm
New Denver 10 pm
Monday, August 26
Natural Watershed
Council Chambers 7 pm
Tuesday, August 27
New Denver council
Council Chambers 7 pm
Kinzon council
Council Chambers 7 pm
Wednesday, August 28
Robert Jenkins’ Limpid painted pantings reception
Hidden Garden Gallery 7 pm
Friday, August 30
Celebration of Winning
NES Gymnasium 9 am - Noon
Silverton Gallery 9 pm
New Denver 10 pm
Summer’s End Party
Kinzon Hotel 9 pm
Saturday, August 31
Kinzon Hotel 9 pm
Lawn to 11 pm
Jackie Bennett
Sea Shack More, Skag 9-11 pm
Sunday, September 1
Kinzon Hotel 9 pm
Whites Bull Bowls Game
Silverton Legion Logen 7 pm - 1 am
Monday, September 2
Rosebery Resort
Rosebery Bay
Tuesday, September 3
Back to School
School District 10 9 am-noon
Saturday, September 7
Silverton School Ballroom
Silverton Gallery 4-9 pm

Nakusp Rotary Club
Meets Wednesdays at 7:00 pm at the Nakusp Rotary Villa • 206 - 7th Ave
Winlaw Fire
Chief re-instated
Winlaw Fire is back in service. The department being out of service for the last two months (August 16 and 15) drew a lot of attention from BCDFR management and they were quickly at the table willing to listen. We have now come to an arrangement that will give our community peace of mind.

Diana Greene Burnsaby
Winlaw Fire Department thanks the community
It's been an emotional couple of weeks for the firefighting volunteers of Winlaw. A forest fire in our backyard, a jet fuel spill and a large scale evacuation. All of these incidents were handled to the best of our abilities. We're proud of the job we did.

Following the evacuation, a town hall meeting was organized in Winlaw. Our department was ordered to tag the event at this stage. As a group, we welcomed, as we felt that we are part of the community and important to attend the meeting. Also, we are not certified flaggers and are not insured under WCB for an emergency.

The reaction on our part is a result of the suspicion of our chief, for three months. The charge was insubordination. We stood by our chief and voted to take his punishment with him.

Thankfully, the situation has been resolved and our chief has been fully re-instated with an apology from the BCDFR.

The lessons we have learned are: standing up to bullies, supporting each other emotionally, sticking together as a team, communicating with the public better, and most importantly, improving our department.

Thank you to all of the citizens who offered kind words of support and thanks throughout the past few weeks. We are here to serve YOU, first and foremost. We feel lucky to be a part of this community and enjoy giving back in our volunteer capacity.

Stephanie Whitney
Captain, Winlaw Fire Rescue

Sinixt Nation accused of trespassing in their own territory
The Sinixt have established a cultural use camp on the northern reach of Ferry's Ridge for the summer of 2013. Cultural practices are being undertaken including berry picking, gathering, spiritual activities and observances of our natural environment and watershed.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and BC Timber Sales have openly threatened Sinixt Nations for trespassing and run-ins for their rightful occupation and use of these threatened, sacred lands.

The former Minister of Indian Affairs Ron Dewar stated the Sinixt will not come out of extinction unless their community is to recognize them in their territory.

The struggle for the recognition of our cultural, indigenous, and lesbian rights has gone on far too long. Our request is for those willing to support us to contact the following offices and demand recognition and respect of the Sinixt Nation, the right to cultural freedom and to travel freely and unrestricted in our traditional territory.

Please support the Sinixt Nation by contacting the representatives below and/or visiting the camp. To reach the camp, go up Cranvel Pl Road (south entrance to Village of Slocan) and continue uphill. Bear left onto Little Slocan Forest Service Road and follow that to the camp.

Contact Bernad Valcher, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (1-819-997-0002), Shane Bowden (BC Timber Sales Manager – Kootenay, 250-825-1100), Katrina Conroy, MLA Kootenay West (1-888-753-0556), Michelle Mungall MLA Nelson-Creston (1-877-388-4498), Alex Atanasenkov, MP BC Southern Interior (250-365-2792).

I'm limit – thank you. Sinixt Nation

Do you love your Silverton Gallery?
By now you've probably heard of our financial difficulties, but here's something you probably don't know: We have $30,000 in grant money that is tied up until council commits to supporting the gallery. This lovely heritage building is in need of repair and the Slocan Lake Gallery Society (SLGS) is seeking grants to keep the building open to the public. Last August 15, the Holly and Ian Blue concert at the Silverton Gallery enjoyed an audience of over 50, which proves that the Slocan Lake Gallery Society is still alive and thriving in Silverton.

SLGS is a non-profit organization that can apply for grants not open to municipalities. Our members and board work voluntarily to provide a wide variety of entertainment, culture and workshops that aim to keep our community vibrant – our present social-economic situation is temporarily popular with the young. SLGS annually receives around $10,000 from the BC Arts Council, enabling us to stay in the running of the gallery, plus a minimal rent (hence NOT costing the taxpayer $6,700 per year as suggested in the recent taxpayer questionnaire). In addition, SLGS manages the gallery and its programming at no cost and distributes each year between $10,000-$15,000 of CKCA grants to artists working in this community.

Currently, our lease with the Village is due for renewal by Village council. If that lease is renewed and council makers it known to gallery funders that they are in support of the facility, we can free up the $30,000 to begin work. Strong Village and community support for the gallery will also open up opportunities for grants from funding bodies outside the Village of Silverton. Devon: love your Silverton Gallery? Please support us by visiting our website www.silvertonartgallery.ca and take two minutes to fill out our survey. Thank you for your time.

Pendpeo Stuart
Silverton
Poor communication on Lemon Creek spill

As owner of a waterfront property near Lemon Creek, I understand that dealing with such a disastrous accident for the first time is extremely difficult for residents as well as authorities and that—being in shock—many private owners are not always acting in the best way. I have not thought much about coordination. However, two weeks after the disaster, I am totally disappointed with the poor communication and information not only by the company responsible but also by government officials. EFC's website www.lenonesecreekresponse.com does not provide the facts and data I wanted, but only cursory statements.

I am heavily disappointed that there is still NO INFORMATION available through a government official interactive website, where questions and professional and accurate answers are placed publicly; which provides actual water quality related facts on a daily basis. There has been a lack of continuous water samples and results of testing; with information through a lawyer specialized in environmental law about our legal rights, with information about placing a claim.

The set up of a fund for immediate financial support is urgent as many small farming businesses depend on their income from their agricultural products. When I learned that private wells would not be tested by authorities, I did my own simple testing with old test strips developed by the German company Medaer-Nagel. These strips detect lherasone in water and salt through a color reaction. They are available in Canada through Alder Chemical Ltd. in Toronto (www.alderchemical.com, aldert@telus.net, tel. 416.236.6222, 100 test strips are $14.80 incl. shipping + tax, shipped from USA). Good news. In my private testing from August 5, these strips detected no lherasone in our well and river water.

As long as communication between officials and residents is so poor, it might be advisable that all affected residents record their individual situation by date, damage/loss, and costs.

Elizabeth von Ah
Lemon Creek

Join the class action against BC Hydro: re: smart meters

A class action lawsuit has been launched against BC Hydro regarding the untested nature of their smart meter programs. The BC Attorney General Bill Bennett has offered a smart meter opt-out to a limited number of people, for a limited time, for initial and ongoing charges as yet unspecified.

The smart meter class action asserts that for BC Hydro to install a wireless transmitter on every home in the province without the proper testing of the technology and informed consent is not lawful. Issues of cost, privacy, health and security are involved. As well, it violates our civil, democratic and human rights.

Any participant can in the class action, whether they currently have a smart meter or an in-home display. This includes those of us who never had the chance to refuse the smart meter and now have to remove it, those who have moved since it was installed, those of us in rural areas, townhouses etc. with our own Hydro account, and business owners whose requests were denied.

Everyone with an analog meter received a letter from BC Hydro in January saying they have no choice but to accept a smart meter. BC Hydro has publicly announced its intention to install a smart meter on everyone’s home eventually.

There is an initial cost of $100 to join the class action. This will pay for itself in short order when the no-choice opt-out is granted. If you register for the class action, you will receive an official acknowledgment that your registration has been received. All members of the class will 100% go to the legal action. An additional donation would be most welcome to help with our awareness campaign.

Time is of the essence. If the initial response is slow, the court will take that into account, as will Hydro’s lawyers. We need to show the court is short order the fact that we are a major group calling to be heard. This can only succeed with true participation. Please communicate this to friends and colleagues, and ask them to do the same.

For more information and links visit: http://citizensforsafetechnology.org/Class-Action-Member-REGISTRATION-FORUS-Updated-July-26,2013

Elizabeth von Ah
Lemon Creek

Kaslo airport development

Last winter, the mayor of Kaslo, Greg Lay, called for volunteers to come forward to champion five projects he put forward as beneficial for the Village. The airport was one of these five projects.

A group of volunteers came forward to help with the airport project, some being local flying pilots, others being both pilots and local businesses with long-term interests and expertise in aviation. This group has met some 20 times over the past seven months. We have developed plans for future stages of improvements to the airport, both for safety and the convenience of the travelling public. Mayor Greg Lay, and Councillor Rob Lang have both participated with this group of volunteers. This group identified a number of things that could and should be done to alleviate safety concerns and to upgrade the airport. All of these are seen as critical in maintaining a safe and sustainable route of flight and travel for the Kaslo and surrounding communities, and safe and convenient air travel for the residents of Kaslo.

Our group has identified that there are a number of things that we could do to make the airport safer and more efficient. It is the group’s opinion that these things are possible. The group is in agreement that current funding is not sufficient to fund these improvements in the near term. However, the group believes that we should invest in the Kaslo airport as it is a critical component of the transportation network for the Kaslo community. The group also believes that the airport is a critical link to the Kaslo community and to the surrounding communities in the Kaslo area.

Join the class action against BC Hydro: re: smart meters

July 5 planned power outage

I am writing in response to the letter from the Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce regarding the planned power outage on July 5 in Nakusp, New Denver and Silverton.

The letter appeared in the July 24 edition of the Valley Voice. I appreciate the opportunity to address these concerns.

The July 5 outage was necessary to perform critical safety improvements at the Arrow Lakes Hospital, as required by Transport Canada, and for reasons of public safety the work could not be delayed until the end of the summer.

These upgrades undertaken by BC Hydro are important for Arrow Lakes Hospital and the community, as the installation of the manual feeders will allow helicopters to fly and land safely on the Arrow Lakes Hospital helipad when providing emergency medical services day or night in a range of weather conditions. In order for BC Hydro to ensure the safety of employees and the public, this work cannot be done with live power and power had to be temporarily interrupted.

This was a major undertaking that involved significant preparation. BC Hydro received the request from Transport Canada and began planning and organizing for this outage in May.

This highly specialized work required extensive planning and preparation, including developing a work plan, securing equipment, materials and other resources; scheduling local crews and arranging for additional crews to travel to Nakusp from other areas of the province; ensuring secure coordination and communication with notifying customers. The work could not proceed until preparations were complete and resources were available, so July 5 was the earliest date that work could go ahead. As the directive from Transport Canada was to complete the work as soon as possible, BC Hydro could not do it any sooner.

Throughout our thorough planning process, we were also able to minimize planned outages required for this area by coordinating this work with other work in the area that also required a planned outage to be safely carried out. By doing the work at the same time, we were able to minimize the impact for the community that the connectivity was without power from eight hours to four hours. During the four hour outage itself, there were two line crews working in Nakusp, five power line technicians in New Denver, and 11 power line technicians at the Monashee substation.

As the work could not be safely carried out during daylight hours, we rescheduled the outage to start and end one hour earlier than originally planned in order to minimize impact to the business community. The outage was originally scheduled from 8 am to noon, and we later rescheduled it to take place from 7 am to 11 am.

In Nakusp, the majority of businesses were without power for two hours instead of three during regular hours of operation. Our crews did a great job with the long task of installing the new equipment. Although this is not a frequent occurrence in Nakusp, planned outages do occur regularly across the province in order to maintain impact to the normal business hours. These planned outages are necessary to ensure the safety of our crews and the public in instances when work cannot be safely handled any other way. We do recognize that any outage power is an inconvenience, and so we do our best to minimize any impacts and accommodate the affected customers whenever possible. We also try to notify customers in advance, which can include discussions with local elected officials and advertising in local newspapers. We also try to communicate with our customers and will discuss future planned outages with the Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce in advance whenever possible.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to address these concerns.

Mary Anne Cooks
Stakeholder Engagement Advisor
BC Hydro
**DRUMMER BOY ENTERPRISES**

Since 1985

**“Eat Well - Live Well”**

Gourmet Food, at competitive prices, delivered right to your front door in the West Kootenay!

Brian will be delivering September 3-11, 2013

**Brian Udal**

Call Brian Now, Call Collect
1-604-541-1313

Cell Phone: 1-604-220-6256

e-mail: drummerboyent@shaw.ca

---

**COMMUNITY**

**New Denver council, August 13: Food security committee report**

Veronica Pellowik.

- Kevin Murphy has resigned from the Rosebery-Three Forks Regional Trail and Roselvy Parklands Commission. He will stay on until a replacement is found.
- Mayor Ann Bunka reported on the meetings she attended in July, including one with Area Roads Manager Bruce Lintott over highway concerns, and two meetings regarding emergency services.

At the RDCK, the district is inviting a report from Fire Underwriters Survey, which provides public fire protection data to insurance companies, to provide an update on proposed changes to ‘dwelling grades’, which will have an impact on local insurance premiums. Bunka requested that municipalities’ CAOs and fire chiefs attend the meeting.

New Denver’s request to join the RDCK’s Emergency Program Extended Service Area has received the necessary four readings and has been sent to the ministry for approval.

---

**Pedestrian killed in Winlaw**

*by Jan McMurray*

Winlaw resident Denette Lee Cotton was killed by a chip truck in Winlaw on August 14. Denette was the mother of four children between the ages of 5 and 12.

Police are looking for witnesses. Anyone who saw a female hitchhiking between Playmor Junction and Winlaw around 10:30-11 pm is asked to contact the RCMP.

Slocan Lake RCMP, along with West Kootenay Traffic Services, were called to the scene in the 5900 block of Highway 6 shortly after 11 pm. Their investigation showed that a loaded Chambers chip truck travelling southbound on Highway 6 struck 35-year-old Danette, who was standing on the roadway. The area had no artificial light and she was dressed in dark clothing.

The BC Coroners and WKTs are continuing to investigate this fatal crash.

---

**SLUGS 2013 BULB BOOTH**

37 varieties
3,000+ bulbs
reasonable prices

September 8, Garlic Fest
#143, next to South Gate

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE
KOHN GARDEN
See article this issue for details

---

Valhalla Fine Arts Society wants to thank the community for a successful 2013 season.

We appreciate all the support from the local businesses, School District#10, Lucerne School summer cleaning staff, Silverton and New Denver Village Councils.

Thanks to everyone who participated, those of you who attended performances and concerts. Your support makes these wonderful programs continue in our communities.

With heartfelt appreciation we say thanks!

---

**If you see a wildfire call **5555** on your cell.**

Nearly half of all wildfires are preventable. Please, be responsible in our forests.
Slocan Solutions forumbrainstorm responses to fuel spill

by Art Joyce

When the going gets tough, the tough get going, as the saying goes. Valley residents affected by the jet fuel spill at Lemon Creek gathered at the Columbia Wagon on the evening of August 12 to brainstorm ways of responding to the disaster. Dobbé the Slocan Solutions forum organizer with Shania Jure of the Valley Union Council and Melan Christiansen, the mediated world café format helped channel heated emotions into clear-headed solutions.

The Slocan River Stanhope pub was hosted by local perspective expert Géorgie Lannoune, who said the group has been on the river collecting samples since the water ban was lifted by IHA. Lannoune said the north side of Lemon Creek—which had been ignored by the RCMP—remains the focus of the cleanup.

Representative of the Village of New Denver

The Council of the Village of New Denver is actively seeking a person to sit on the Galena Trail Rosebery Parklands Commission in a representative of the Village of New Denver. Letters of interest should be submitted to the Council of the Village of New Denver, PO Box 40, New Denver, BC, V0G 1S0, Phone 250-356-2316, or via email to office@newdenver.ca. Please submit letters of interest no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 5, 2013.

HIRE A STUDENT AND RECEIVE A WAGE SUBSIDY

School Works provides an $8/hr student wage subsidy during the school year.

• Columbia Basin small businesses, non-profit, First Nation or public organizations may qualify.
• Application intake starts August 14, 2013, noon PT.
• Contact school@cbt.org or phone 1.877.485.2687 ext. 3584 for more information.

Hire a Student and Receive a Wage Subsidy

Since 1973... Small multi-aged classes in a nurturing, non-competitive, inspiring environment.

THE WHOLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION DAY

Thursday September 5th, 2013
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
5614 Highway 6 – Winlaw

2013/14 Kindergarten & Multi-age Elementary

New Registrations Now Accepted

For more information call our School Coordinator (250) 226-7737

Can you identify anyone in this photo? The Slocan Lake Gallery is hosting a Silverton School Reunion Sat. Sept. 7th, 4 p.m. at the Gallery. All Alumni and families welcome & asked to bring photos and memories. Community potluck supper. 6:30 p.m. Thanks to Kathy Provisor for finding & providing this photo by the Silverton Historical Society Photo Archive. For more information, visit www.silvertongallery.ca or phone 505-2504.
Nakusp and District Fall Fair
September 14, 2013

Enter your best Baking, Crafts, Flowers, Vegetables, Canning & Fruits. For entry details see the program, or view the website: arrowlakesarts council. webs.com

Entries are to be submitted on Friday, September 13, between 3:00 and 6:00.

Featuring: NACF “Jail and Ball” 10:00-Noon, Zucchini Races sponsored by the Overwaitea at 12:30 pm, and the TRASHION SHOW at 1:30 pm.

Join us to Celebrate Learning in SD #10
Parents and Community Members, You’re invited!

School District 10 (Arrow Lakes) invites you to hear of some of the innovative programs and practices in our schools.

Come learn about:
- Our Primary Reading Initiative
- Portfolios and New Ways of Assessing Learning
- Outdoor Education
- Walking Wednesdays
- “Mountains as Teachers” and Into Learning Weeks
- Self-Regulation Programs
- Aboriginal Education Initiatives
- Secondary School Re-visioning
- DL programs: Mathematics and Art

A new school year is beginning; new pages in the stories of our students’ lives are about to be written. We invite you to help shape our stories in the year to come! Please join us.

When: Friday, August 30, 2013, 9 AM to noon
Where: Nakusp Elementary School gymnasium

For additional information, please contact:
Ms. Terry Taylor, Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer, 250-265-3638, Ext. 3304 or
Mrs. Nicoi Suhr, Vice-Principal Nakusp Secondary School, 250-265-3638, Ext. 2

Celebrate agriculture at the Nakusp Fall Fair submitted
Don’t miss the Nakusp and District Fall Fair September 14, celebrating the agriculture heritage of the Arrow Lakes. The event takes place at the arena/auditorium complex from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm. Admission is $3 per person, with children under 12 free.

Exhibits must be at the auditorium between 3 and 6 pm the day prior, for registration and set up. Judging takes place at 7 pm September 14. Categories: competition includes fruits, vegetables, preserves, baking, art, crafts, and horticulture, and recycling.

There will also be a wide range of community group displays and information, and events including the Nakusp & Area Community Foundation’s Jail & Ball from 10 am to noon, kids’ macho races from 12:30 to 1:30 pm, and the Tradies Show at 1:30 featuring re-styling wearable items. Deb Christ hosts the food concession, open from 9:30 to 3:30.

Celebrate agriculture...sub

Celebrate agriculture at the Nakusp Fall Fair submitted Don’t miss the Nakusp and District Fall Fair September 14, celebrating the agriculture heritage of the Arrow Lakes. The event takes place at the arena/auditorium complex from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm. Admission is $3 per person, with children under 12 free.

Exhibits must be at the auditorium between 3 and 6 pm the day prior, for registration and set up. Judging takes place at 7 pm September 14. Categories: competition includes fruits, vegetables, preserves, baking, art, crafts, and horticulture, and recycling.

There will also be a wide range of community group displays and information, and events including the Nakusp & Area Community Foundation’s Jail & Ball from 10 am to noon, kids’ macho races from 12:30 to 1:30 pm, and the Tradies Show at 1:30 featuring re-styling wearable items. Deb Christ hosts the food concession, open from 9:30 to 3:30.

Celebrate agriculture at the Nakusp Fall Fair submitted Don’t miss the Nakusp and District Fall Fair September 14, celebrating the agriculture heritage of the Arrow Lakes. The event takes place at the arena/auditorium complex from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm. Admission is $3 per person, with children under 12 free.

Exhibits must be at the auditorium between 3 and 6 pm the day prior, for registration and set up. Judging takes place at 7 pm September 14. Categories: competition includes fruits, vegetables, preserves, baking, art, crafts, and horticulture, and recycling.

There will also be a wide range of community group displays and information, and events including the Nakusp & Area Community Foundation’s Jail & Ball from 10 am to noon, kids’ macho races from 12:30 to 1:30 pm, and the Tradies Show at 1:30 featuring re-styling wearable items. Deb Christ hosts the food concession, open from 9:30 to 3:30.

Celebrate agriculture at the Nakusp Fall Fair submitted Don’t miss the Nakusp and District Fall Fair September 14, celebrating the agriculture heritage of the Arrow Lakes. The event takes place at the arena/auditorium complex from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm. Admission is $3 per person, with children under 12 free.

Exhibits must be at the auditorium between 3 and 6 pm the day prior, for registration and set up. Judging takes place at 7 pm September 14. Categories: competition includes fruits, vegetables, preserves, baking, art, crafts, and horticulture, and recycling.

There will also be a wide range of community group displays and information, and events including the Nakusp & Area Community Foundation’s Jail & Ball from 10 am to noon, kids’ macho races from 12:30 to 1:30 pm, and the Tradies Show at 1:30 featuring re-styling wearable items. Deb Christ hosts the food concession, open from 9:30 to 3:30.

Celebrate agriculture at the Nakusp Fall Fair submitted Don’t miss the Nakusp and District Fall Fair September 14, celebrating the agriculture heritage of the Arrow Lakes. The event takes place at the arena/auditorium complex from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm. Admission is $3 per person, with children under 12 free.

Exhibits must be at the auditorium between 3 and 6 pm the day prior, for registration and set up. Judging takes place at 7 pm September 14. Categories: competition includes fruits, vegetables, preserves, baking, art, crafts, and horticulture, and recycling.

There will also be a wide range of community group displays and information, and events including the Nakusp & Area Community Foundation’s Jail & Ball from 10 am to noon, kids’ macho races from 12:30 to 1:30 pm, and the Tradies Show at 1:30 featuring re-styling wearable items. Deb Christ hosts the food concession, open from 9:30 to 3:30.

Celebrate agriculture at the Nakusp Fall Fair submitted Don’t miss the Nakusp and District Fall Fair September 14, celebrating the agriculture heritage of the Arrow Lakes. The event takes place at the arena/auditorium complex from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm. Admission is $3 per person, with children under 12 free.

Exhibits must be at the auditorium between 3 and 6 pm the day prior, for registration and set up. Judging takes place at 7 pm September 14. Categories: competition includes fruits, vegetables, preserves, baking, art, crafts, and horticulture, and recycling.

There will also be a wide range of community group displays and information, and events including the Nakusp & Area Community Foundation’s Jail & Ball from 10 am to noon, kids’ macho races from 12:30 to 1:30 pm, and the Tradies Show at 1:30 featuring re-styling wearable items. Deb Christ hosts the food concession, open from 9:30 to 3:30.
**SLOCAN VALLEY**

**Slocan council, August 12: Beach concerns discussed**

by Barbara Cart Malchuk

- Councillors discussed various concerns at the beach: heavy public use, dogs running loose, whether to charge fees for launching boats, hot water at the dock, picnic tables not put out yet, and no response from the Unity Festival to requests to remove a trailer left on the beach.

- Councillors discussed, without reaching a decision, whether a fee to use the boat launch would provide enough money to pay an attendant to work on weekends and holidays collecting fees, keeping order, and also collect dog poop. Public Works staff will be directed to move some picnic tables and benches to the beach.

- During public participation, council was asked whether it had considered asking volunteers to collect boat launch fees and to enforce dog rules. Mayor Perrier said this is a “great suggestion” but said, “I don’t know if it’s possible.” An alternative suggestion was a donation box for boat launch fees. Council noted that the campground attendant could empty the box during the busy season.

- Council will invite Roy Lindsay and the Slocan Valley Historical Society to come to the October council meeting to discuss developing a prehistoric museum in Slocan.

- The Village will provide a letter of support for the Slocan Valley Historical Society’s grant application to create a self-guided Historic Walking Tour. The society has applied to an Vest for $10,000. If granted, the funds would have to be matched by business sponsorship.

**2013 Hills Garlic Festival**

**September 8, 10 am-5 pm**

Centennial Park – New Denver
Garlic – Produce – Crafts – Food
Live entertainment by Mountain Station, Motes and Oats, Flydivi, 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 23 – Get them early – limited supply

- 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

**WANTED TO BUY:**

Cedar and Pine poles
Joel Springer

- 250-306-2995 (cell)

Please contact:

Gormans Pole Division

250-547-9296

**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF SLOCAN**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

September 9th at 6:00 pm

Pursuant to Sections 890, 891 and 892 of the Local Government Act, notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on the proposed Village of Slocan Zoning Bylaw No. 633, 2013.

The Public Hearing will be held on Monday, September 9, 2013 at 6:00 pm in the Village of Slocan Council Chambers, 503 Slocan Street, Slocan BC.

The intent and purpose of the Village of Slocan Zoning Bylaw No. 633, 2013 is to replace the current Village of Slocan Land Use Bylaw No. 393, 1988.

All persons who believe their interests in property are affected by this proposed bylaw shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions before Council on the matters contained in the proposed bylaw at the above time and place.

Village of Slocan Zoning Bylaw No. 633, 2013 may be inspected from August 12th, 2013 to September 5th, 2013 from 9:00 am to noon and from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Monday through Thursday, exclusive of public holidays, at the Village Office, 503 Slocan Street, Slocan, BC.

Copies of the proposed Village of Slocan Zoning Bylaw No. 633, 2013 and the current Village of Slocan Land Use Bylaw No. 393, 1988 may be viewed online at www.slocanicity.com. If you have any questions regarding the public hearing or the proposed Village of Slocan Zoning Bylaw No. 633, 2013, please contact the Village Office at 250-355-2277.

Written submissions may be sent to the Village of Slocan, Box 50, Slocan BC, V0G 2C0. Electronic submissions should be sent to info@villageofslocan.ca. Comments must be received no later than 4:00 pm on September 9th.
Another successful season for Valhalla Fine Arts programs

by Jan McMurray

Once again, the Valhalla Fine Arts Society’s summer programs provided wonderful experiences for participants and quality entertainment for residents in the New Denver area.

This year’s programs included theatre, dance and music explorers” in July; Valhalla Suzuki Institute (VSI) during the first week of August; and the Valhalla Summer School of Music (VSSM) during the second week of August.

“All in all it was a fabulous season!” exclaimed Katrina Summill, president of the society.

All programs were well attended, and so were the performances and concerts. VSI, with new artistic director James Malmberg (replacing Daphne Hughes) this year, had 83 students with their families.

VSSM had 77 students in total, with 22 in the adult program. Summill said the adult program is growing every year. The range of instruments is also growing. The school started out in 2001 with instruction in violin, viola, cello and piano, but has added flute, clarinet, oboe and double bass over the years.

New VFAS fundraiser gives back to the community

by Jan McMurray

The Valhalla Fine Arts Society has launched a new fundraiser this year that gives back to the community.

“We wanted to figure out a way to give back to local businesses while raising funds to support our music, theatre and dance programs,” said Katrina Summill, president of the society.

The new fundraiser is a raffle with prizes of $1,000; $500 and $250 — redeemable only at local businesses. The prizes come in $50 vouchers, and the entire $50 must all be spent in one place. The vouchers are good for one year, from September to September.

This was the 13th season of VSSM, the ninth season of VSI, the seventh season of the theatre school, and the second season of the dance program. The theatre school was also offered in Nakusp.

Raffle tickets will be on sale at the society’s table at the Garlic Festival. The draw will take place at the Harvest Festival at Lucerne School on September 27.

The younger theatre group in the Valhalla Fine Arts program performing “The Quest for Silver.” Here, Molly Fry, playing the evil, ugly queen, gives orders to her subjects.

Buy More Save More

Receive up to $750

in mail-in rebates on select Frigidaire® appliances.


See a sales representative for details. Must purchase 2 or more appliances.

FRIGIDAIRE PROFESSIONAL
FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY
www.frigidaire.ca

PARNELL’S
44-08 27th Street, Vernon BC
250-542-6998
www.parnells.ca

The Better Insulation
INSULATION FOR AN
ENERGY EFFICIENT, QUIET & SAFE HOME

SILVERTON BUILDING SUPPLIES
216 Lake Avenue, Silvertone
Phone: 358-2293
Toll-free: 1-800-532-0588
ebs@silvertontbuilding.ca
Great music at the Silverton Gallery: Sean Ashby and Justine Bennett

submitted

Mark the last two Fridays in August on your calendar. The Silverton Gallery hosts guitar great Sean Ashby Friday, August 23 at 7:30 pm, and Justine Bennett on Friday, August 30 at 8 pm. Admission is $12 at the door for each concert.

Ashby is one of the Canadian music industry’s top guitarists. He has released three solo albums, the latest being Fantastico. Sean was lead guitarist with Canadian superstar Sarah McLachlan for 12 years. He plays lead guitar in bands Jack Trigger and Delirium, and his band includes well-known singer such as Ria Chiarilli, Maureen and Sue Medley.

If you love guitar and the blues/rock genre, Sean Ashby’s show is a must. Sean uses six different guitars on stage, including his lap steel, similar to a dobro, which he plays with amazing skill. He describes his performance as a “singer-songwriter, guitar-guy show,” and his musical style as “twangy and slide—heavy on the twang.”

He plays his own material plus covers of Motown and rockabilly tunes, some country classics, and even older tunes using a hollowed out Gretsch guitar. Originally from Ontario where he had his formal musical training, Sean was based in Vancouver for many years and now calls Winnipeg home. He spends half of the year touring solo throughout Canada and the US playing large and small clubs and festivals. This will be Ashby’s third concert at the Silverton Gallery. More at www.seanashby.com

• Enjoy an intimate evening with singer-songwriter Justine Bennett at the Silverton Gallery August 30.

Raised in Silverton, Justine Bennett was already impressing local audiences by the time she was five years old. Los Angeles is now home for the talented singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist and affords her the chance to pursue music full time. Justine’s songwriting is so outstanding that her original songs are now featured on many popular TV shows including the CW’s One Tree Hill and ABC’s Pretty Little Liars.

Justine is a mesmerizing performer. Most recently, she starred as Joan Baez in the LA Times’ critically acclaimed folk musical Lovelorn Traveler. She has released three original EPs and her full-length album titled Orchards due out this fall. Her accolades include working as a studio session singer on dozens of artists’ albums and for producers including the legendary Grammy award winning Glen Ballard (Michael Jackson, Alanis Morissette), leading her vocals to the latest Cover Girl commercial.

Come share an intimate evening of music in her absolutely favorite venue, the Silverton Gallery. More at www.justinibennett.com

THE BEST THINGS REALY DO COME IN SMALL PACKAGES!

This 5.4 acre property, one of the loveliest in the Slocan Valley, is located in Vallican on the Little Slocan River. It’s a sunny pocket of land surrounded by majestic cedars, approximately a half-hour drive from either Nelson or Castlegar.

The house is truly original, small but cozy and full of character with many interesting features:

- The 12 x 12 kitchen/dining room has a high ceiling, five windows, large pantry, attractive cupboards and Italian tile counter tops.
- The 12 x 24 living room also has a high ceiling, built-in shelves, a free-standing wood fireplace with slate surround. Eleven windows face south overlooking the gardens and river.
- The 12 x 12 bathroom has an antique clawfoot tub, separate tiled shower and a high ceiling.
- The 10 x 8 main bedroom is cool and quiet.
- The two remaining rooms are very bright with skylight and many large windows. One is currently used as an office and the other as a year-round dreamy sleeping room. These could serve as studio, den, guest room or...?

The property features approximately 700+ feet of riverfront. The house, out-buildings, and gorgeous gardens are situated on the 3.4 acre north side of the river. The gardens are creatively landscaped with a lawn area and many flower beds, rockeries, rock pathways, an abundance of shrubs, perennials, annuals, bulb plantings and apple and pear trees. The remaining two acres on the other side of the river are forested and ensure complete privacy for the entire property.

This is a unique home offering lots of scope for the imagination and is perfect for one or two people and their pets.

HOME AND ACREAGE

$319,900

To Arrange Viewing, Contact
Joni Askew, Realtor
Century 21

Century 21 Mountainview Realty

250-365-1307 | direct: 250-365-2170

view 21 photos at:
www.3922indianpoint.com

Mayflies are an important food source for fish in Slocan Lake. Eggs laid on the surface sink to become nymphs on the bottom. They then empty their guts and fill their excretions with air in order to float back up to the surface, split open and allow their wings to emerge.

Happy 60th Anniversary
Bud & Marie
with love, Don & Ella Brown
Tamis & Perry Rombough

joldhamfinehomes.com

When You Want It Done Right...

Contact Jessi Oldham
130
New Denver, BC V0G 1S0
Ph: (250) 551-2093
Fax: (250) 551-2593

National Home Warranty Packages available with all new construction.

joldham holdings Inc. est. 2005
Specializing in New Homes, Garages, Carports, Shops and Sheds, Renos
submitted

La Caffeine has been striving to bring high quality classical music to the ears of Kootenay listeners since 2008. On October 1 at 7:30 pm, they will bring two famous piano trios to Silverton for classical music lovers.

Haydn’s “Gypsy” trio is recognizable because of its lively last movement, which uses themes based on Hungarian gypsy music. Beethoven’s “Archduke” trio is considered the pinnacle of the piano trio repertoire with its expansive themes and orchestral-like instrumentation.

La Caffeine will perform at the Silverton Memorial Hall; admission is by donation, with a minimum of $5.

The 2013 fall concert tour is a series of tests for La Caffeine. The classical music group has been touring the Kootenays since 2008, performing concerts mainly for the string quartet format, with occasional guests. In this next series of concerts, they will present piano trio repertoire for the first time.

“We are without our cellist for this concert,” says Carolyn Camerone, “as he is busy with his new appointment at the Hand and Soul Wellness Centre in Silverton. Please see the ad in the classified section of this issue for more information.”

Grief is a normal, healthy response to the losses that occur in our lives. It is a complex experience that involves all parts of our body: physical, social, spiritual and emotional. Grieving is the process that helps us to adapt to the changes in our lives that come with loss. Grieving a loss is an essential part of healing. It can be a frightening, painful, overwhelming and sometimes lonely experience. Each person’s grief is unique. The experience will be influenced by the nature of the relationship with the person who has died, the circumstances surrounding the death, emotional support systems, culture and religion.

New Denver Hospice Society offers bereavement journal program

While we usually think of grief in terms of loss that comes through death, we also experience grief through the changes in our lives, such as loss of dreams, moves, retirement, family changes and so forth.

There are several theories of the stages of grief which are useful and helpful to guide context and meaning to a person’s grief. The theories of these theorists stress that while there are stages, grief is not an orderly process but rather one that has its own rhythm for each individual.

Life Matters with Debbie Perreversoff

Understanding the post-retirement benefit plan

Nearly every working Canadian plans for their retirement to the Canada Pension Plan, but not everyone understands how the actual benefit works as you transition your way into retirement. Things can get particularly complicated if you start collecting a CPP pension but also continue to work – a choice that more and more Canadians seem to be making these days.

In the day, the familiar “Freedom 55” retirement dream was on everybody’s wish list. Fast-forward to today and it’s clear to see that with the high cost of living, longevity and not nearly enough retirement savings, more than seven in 10 Canadians plan to keep on working after reaching retirement age. Prior to 2012, workers had to stop working or significantly reduce their earnings for two consecutive months before being eligible to receive their CPP retirement pension, before age 65. Then once they started receiving their CPP pension (as early as age 60 in some cases), they could not make further CPP contributions even if they wanted to.

Now however, those rules don’t apply so it makes smarter for contributors to make a gradual transition to retirement — you can continue working and still collect the CPP benefit.

There is a new lifetime benefit for individuals that work while receiving a CPP retirement pension — called the Post-Retirement Benefit (PRB). This benefit increases your retirement income and rises with the normal increases in the cost of living (even if you already drew the maximum pension from the CPP).

As you know, employees and employers each must contribute 4.95% of your pensionable earnings towards the Canada Pension Plan. If you start receiving CPP Benefits while you are still working, then you are now required to continue paying into the CPP plan — but, your contributions would go into this new PRB (Post-Retirement Benefit) plan instead.

Your ‘normal’ CPP will not increase — but, if you did make contributions towards the PRB then those benefits will be paid to you automatically the year following your contributions.

Under the revamped 2012 rules however, anyone still working is expected to contribute to the CPP until they reach age 65. After that, you can choose whether to participate or not up age 70, providing you’re already collecting a CPP pension.

In fact, contributions are still mandated until age 70 whereas if you opt out filing form CP30, Election to Stop Contributing to the Canada Pension Plan, or Revocation of a Prior Election with your employer. But, for some, that might not be the right choice.

The main considerations when deciding to contribute or opt out depend on how much you’re earning, age and whether you’re an employee or are self-employed.

The cost of contributing to the CPP is 4.95% of your earnings above the Year’s Basic Exemption ($35,800 for 2013) and up to the Year’s Maximum Pensionable Earnings ($51,100 for 2013).

Starting at age 65, it would take close to eight years (until age 73) for your total PRB received to equal the actual cost of those voluntary contributions made into the CPP plan.

But things aren’t so cut clear for those who work for themselves. As a self-employed person, the CPP contribution costs would be double — at 9.90% — as they would have to pay the 4.95% employer cost AND the 4.95% employer cost. The break-even age would actually be pushed out well into your 80s before you get back what you actually put in.

This suggests that continuing CPP contributions past 65 might be a sound choice for workers who have employers still paying half the freight, but substantially less so for those self-employed workers who have to pay both ends.

As always, it is important to discuss this with your financial planner to see what works best for your particular circumstances.

Debbie Perreversoff is a financial planner with Assante Wealth Management and Vice-President of her company; The Affolio Financial Group Inc., in Castlegar.
Sloanc Lake Golf Course - New Denver
Phone: 250-358-2408
9 holes, $15 per person; 48 HOURS NOTICE REQUIRED; Greens fees $21/9 holes or $31/18 holes
Restaurant
RESTAURANT OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK, 8AM - 6PM

Silverton Municipal Campground - Silverton
(250) 358-2472 www.silverton.net
Located downtown, 3 blocks from public beach and adjacent to the Community Park, which includes a tennis court, basketball court, ball park & soccer field. Music in the Park every Wednesday during July & Aug. 41 tent sites, 13 spots, shower, laundry, fire rings. Hot showers and restrooms. Open May to Oct. Reservations accepted. Closed Nov to Apr.

Centennial Park - New Denver
(250) 358-2867 in the lake in New Denver. 44 sites, 8 with electricity & water hook-up, sand dumpsters, showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

Silverton Municipal Campground - Silverton

Spring Creek RV Park & Campground - Silverton
(250) 358-2265 hrs. 8AM to 8PM. Open May 27 to Oct. 31. Located at 1058 Silver St., Silverton. Turn right immediately off of Hwy 386 to entrance of Village of Silverton. Full hook-ups, partial hook-ups, tenting sites, sand dumpsters, pets on leash and seasonal tourists/Information booths.

Lemon Creek Campground - Lemon Creek
(250) 353-2043 1-877-970-8070 info@lemoncreekcondo.com www.lemoncreekcondo.com 7691 Kennedy Rd., 9 km south of Silverton off Hwy 97. 129 tent and RV sites. 13 sites with water & power, 15 sites 30 amp service. 26 tent sites, all with fire pits and tables. Indoor washrooms with hot showers and laundry. Seasonal sites available.

Kaslo Municipal Campground - Kaslo
(250) 353-2462 www.kaslo.ca/kaslocampground@yahoo.com April 1 - October 15, weather permitting. Serviced ($37) Unserviced sites ($25), 33 tent sites, 12 tent hook-ups, fire pits, picnic tables, restrooms, hot showers. Downtown location, close to park, beach, playground, 55 Mile Hotline and great hiking. Pets on leashes welcome. Wifi.

Woodbury Resort and Marlin - Kaslo
(250) 353-7177 20000 Salmo Rd., Kaslo, BC 560-50. 64 sites, 40 hook-ups, mini golf, volleyball, sand box, playground, horseshoes, pool, 3 miles from the Kaslo River. Restaurant.

Sloanc Lake Golf Club...Putts and such
It’s hard to believe that it is the middle of August already. The course has been very busy with members, clinics and juniors. The junior clinic held in mid-July was a great success and saw a total of 22 young people from 6-13 take the joy of golfing the ball in the cup. We are grateful to Harold and Betty Ann Mon for organizing the clinics.

A reminder that young or old the course welcomes golfers of all skill levels.

There is a lot of time still to enjoy the course...but the restaurant will be opening on reduced hours and we suggest that you call before planning your event.

The AGM will be held on Monday September 30th in the clubhouse and we encourage all members to attend. This is a society run by volunteers and the participation of everyone is important to the outcome of the club. The AGM is an important opportunity for members to discuss the board of directors and the future could the opportunity to have your input heard on the future of the club. See you at the Toonksters on Sept 7th!
Kaslo council to take broadband, airport, City Hall and emergency services to UBCM

by Jan McMurray

At the August 13 council meeting, Kaslo council approved four draft briefs prepared by the CAO in preparation for appointments with provincial ministers at the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention in September. The briefs include background information on each issue and clear requests to the ministers. Regarding broadband, council will ask that the Province restore the Connecting Citizens grant program to help Kaslo and other rural communities fund high-speed ethernet broadband systems.

Regarding the airport, council will ask that the Transportation Partnerships Program or similar program be re-established for small municipal airports, with funding available. Council will also ask for some feedback on its application to annex the airport into the Village.

Regarding the City Hall, council will ask the Heritage Branch for guidance on how to complete the restoration project. Regarding emergency health care at the Victorian Community Health Centre, council will ask for a firm decision be made until the work of Dr. John Ross has been reviewed by IHL, the Village and the RDCK.

In response to a letter from Paul Wooglar, who is concerned about the health effects of the coffee bean roasting being done by a local company, council agreed that the Village would open a dialogue with the property owner. The intent is to review the situation in terms of Village bylaw provisions. During public time, Mayor Lay assured Wooglar that council would attend to this very soon.

Staff will visit an outdoor signage installation that combines a Village of Kaslo notice board with a Kewall Memorial Centre tenant directory.

A Request for Proposals will be issued for an engineered assessment of options for improvements for the Kaslo River water intake system. Currently, the intake is not very functional because the screens get plugged with silt and debris. Another issue with the Kaslo River water system is that it does not have a back-up power source. Council asked staff to cost the generator project for potential completion this year.

Discussion and recommendations with respect to the airport and adjoining lands were returned to the purview of the Development Services Committee.

Staff was asked to proceed with website development for Kaslo Airport in-house, proceed with maintaining airport runway striping and mowing, proceed with runway shoulder graveling, and proceed with wind sock stand replacement and installation.

Councillor Leatherwood stated that misinformation was circulating in the community regarding council stopping airport development. She reported that the Village has awarded the contract for line painting at the airport, and is waiting for the company to come and do the job.

Saturday Market organizers and vendors will be required to park in the designated municipal parking locations as a condition of their site rentals at Kaslo Front Street Park. The south side of Water Street at Front Street Park will be designated a loading zone, and no parking signs will be installed from the cemotop to the bottom of the hill in front of the Kaslo Boat Club. Further discussion of parking signage was referred to the Development Services Committee.

The Village crew will be sent a letter of thanks for their work on the safety markers buoy at the public swimming area.

Bylaw 1144, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Statutory Reserve Bylaw, was reconsidered and adopted. This sets up a reserve fund to be used for funding projects that reduce greenhouse gases or to purchase carbon offsets.

Councillor Leatherwood pointed out that council was receiving requests from citizens for gas tax funding, and suggested that council discuss criteria for the funding. Council asked staff to prepare a report on this for consideration by the Municipal Services Committee. Mayor Lay was opposed.

Mayor Lay suggested that the Village become a member of the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association. "I view it as a great source of information," said Lay. Councillor Holland said she had concerns about becoming a member of a group that lobbies municipalities as part of its activities, and pointed out that no municipality is a member of the organization. Council decided that the Village would not become a member. Councillor Lang commented that the Kaslo Airport advisory group should become a member once it has formal status.

The Village of Kaslo will write to the mayor and council of Lac Mégantic and express its solidarity with the community in its time of need.

Kaslo’s Moyie gets a retrofit courtesy of local craftsmen

by Art Joyce

There’s plenty of life in the old gal yet and local craftsmen are dovetailing their time to make sure the SS Moyie stays shipshape. Local timber fummer Christopher Petersen was on hand August 7 to guide the positioning of new timbers that support the ship’s paddlewheel.

Known as ‘monkey beams’, one on each side of the paddlewheel housing, these were made from old growth Revelstoke fir with a four-foot (1.2 metre) diameter. This allowed for the cutting of two 30-inch (76 centimetre) beams with no heartwood – just the kind of strong, straight-grained wood CPR shipwrights would have sought in the Moyie’s day. Until recently, this kind of shipwright work has been somewhat of a lost art. Petersen has been doing volunteer retrofitting on the ship for about three years now. Just last year he replaced beams on the sternwheel’s ‘saw’.

An old-time Argenta resident, Petersen clearly has a passion for his work.

“When it was first brought up on the beach, some locals said it should be scuttled,” he recalls. “Now you see some guys from Tennessee sitting here in his RV and he’s just over the moon because he can come and see this ship.”

The monkey beams carry the spremium beam that stretches the length of the ship, an integral part of its infrastructure. These new beams attach to the steel superstructure and protect the paddlewheel’s Pitman arm – the mechanism that once drove the Moyie, similar to the arms on the wheels of a locomotive. While Petersen and I were speaking, an English gentleman told us of a ship restoration project in the south of England. The British are now trying to restore as much of the Duntroon steam fleet as survives. Clearly, international interest in the preservation of vintage ships is stronger than ever.

Petersen hopes to make the replacement of the deteriorating paddlewheel cover his next job. Although only about 27 years old, it had weathered badly – irreversibly so in part to turn environmentally friendly paints. J Fred Hume, who opened one of Nelson’s first hardware stores in the 1860s, used to guarantee that his lead-based paints would last the lifetime of a house. ‘I could do this for the last 20 years of my life,’ says Petersen, ‘working on the Moyie a month out of every year, that would be just sport.’

Petersen and the Moyie Visitor Centre would like to acknowledge the generous assistance of Parks Canada, the KSCU Community Fund, Rotary Club of George, and the Village of Kaslo public works crew for the heavy equipment required to lift the beams into place.
At the Hidden Garden Gallery: Robert Jenkins

submitted
Robert Jenkins’ show ‘Diggings’ will run at the Hidden Garden Gallery from August 25 through August 31. A reception will be held Wednesday.

Beauty and the Bulb
submitted
While we may be preoccupied with summer pursuits, now is the time to contemplate next year’s spring glory of fall-planted bulbs. To support the Kohn Garden in New Denver, the SLOGS are offering an impressive 37 varieties of new, exotic and traditional bulbs at our garlic bulb booth. Picture a drift of yellow crocus punctuated by dwarf purple iris associated with spring heat. Imagine echoing tray clear blue forget-me-not-like flowers of Brunnera with rosy blue-centered mini-botanical mugs.

It’s not just your health that you should insure while travelling. Trip cancellation insurance will reimburse you for nonrefundable pre-paid travel arrangements and baggage insurance will cover the cost of clothes, toiletries, and other necessities you may have lost. Of course, as with all policies, there are conditions and exclusions.

Why should I buy travel insurance?
Excellent question. Here are some reasons:
Take for example a couple of snowbird vacations. While on a visit to Arizona, a man suffered a heart attack, was admitted to hospital, and was evacuated by air back to Canada the following day. His wife went with him and a drive-away company was hired to bring their RV back home. The total out-of-pocket cost was $47,868 of which their provincial medical plan paid only $400.

Visit the MSP website for details on what they will cover for out of province care—your may be shocked. Not only are we out of country emergencies costly but MSP limits coverage once you leave BC whether it is a trip within Canada or abroad.

COMMUNITY

Tales from the Fisherman’s Market: Not All Salmon Are Alike
Back in my trolling days I spent two seasons fishing the North Coast on a small West Coast troller for pink and silver-bright salmon.

The gear we used was the same as for sockeye, green flasher and pink hoochie but the action was much more fast and furious. Most of the fishing was done by trolling fairly close to shore, cutting into cover and then back out into the straits. We were fishing 30 hooks per line and three lines per side. When the fishing was good the bells on the ends of the poles would never stop ringing. As you brought up each line you could look into the deep and see the silver green backs of salmon every 6 ft. Beautiful ocean run pinks and silverbrights that had not yet touched the fresh water of the rivers that would book their jars and turn them skin dark. We would haul gear like maniacs, fish slime from head to toe. During any full in the action we would be cleaning the catch and icing them down in our hold. Fishing pinks is what made me good with a knife, sometimes cutting up to 1000 fish a day.

I have just returned from a trip up to Rupert lining up some boats and watched some gill-netters being unloaded at one of the plants. The pink salmon had not been cleaned and were being vacuumed out of a slush tank and pumped into totes. They had been bent, twisted and almost stripped of scales on their journey through the pipes. That’s the 1 for 1 salmon sale fish you see on the market today, sitting in a bag, 7 days out of the water, cheap and mis-handled from the beginning.

BCHydro will be conducting survey work in the Rosebery area during the month of August. This work will facilitate future upgrades to the power lines that serve this area as well as vegetation maintenance work, both of which will improve reliability to our customers in this area.

Thank you for your understanding while this work is being completed.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION: WORK PLANNED FOR ROSEBERY AREA

Tales from the Fisherman’s Market: Not All Salmon Are Alike
Back in my trolling days I spent two seasons fishing the North Coast on a small West Coast troller for pink and silver-bright salmon.

The gear we used was the same as for sockeye, green flasher and pink hoochie but the action was much more fast and furious. Most of the fishing was done by trolling fairly close to shore, cutting into cover and then back out into the straits. We were fishing 30 hooks per line and three lines per side. When the fishing was good the bells on the ends of the poles would never stop ringing. As you brought up each line you could look into the deep and see the silver green backs of salmon every 6 ft. Beautiful ocean run pinks and silverbrights that had not yet touched the fresh water of the rivers that would book their jars and turn them skin dark. We would haul gear like maniacs, fish slime from head to toe. During any full in the action we would be cleaning the catch and icing them down in our hold. Fishing pinks is what made me good with a knife, sometimes cutting up to 1000 fish a day.

I have just returned from a trip up to Rupert lining up some boats and watched some gill-netters being unloaded at one of the plants. The pink salmon had not been cleaned and were being vacuumed out of a slush tank and pumped into totes. They had been bent, twisted and almost stripped of scales on their journey through the pipes. That’s the 1 for 1 salmon sale fish you see on the market today, sitting in a bag, 7 days out of the water, cheap and mis-handled from the beginning.

I ask you to come in and try it the other way. Handled with care, filleted, pin boned, vacuum sealed almost immedi- ately. A pink or silverbright that was caught at sea, strong and healthy, not at the mouth of the river. Salmon sourced from top boats that take care of the fish they catch. These two salmon are a fantastic, economical and healthy alternative to sockeye and springs.

Pink and silverbright salmon are on sale this month while supplies last at all three Fisherman’s Market locations.

Geoff A., Fisherman’s Market
Quality you deserve
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

AUTOMOTIVE — SMALL MOTORS — MACHINE SHOP

CARLTON SERVICE — REFURBISHMENT & REPAIR
250-283-4787
5035 Ninth Ave. North
Newcastle, BC

SLOCAN AUTO & Truck Repairs
24 hr Towing
B.C.A., St. Eustache, BC
250-263-2712

Your ad could be here for only
$11.00 + GST

BREWING

Winlaw Brew-Up
Wine & Beer Making Kits to satisfy all budgets!

 grim wincalibur wincalibur

Live Music & Karaoke

Slocan Valley Athletic
Club 260-4701

MASSAGE THERAPIES

Health & Wellness Centre

SPECTRUM HOME & Family Care

Meditation and Laughter Yoga

VALHALLA WILDERNESS SOCIETY

NEW LOCATION & contact info

305 South Road

Hand & Soul Wellness Centre

MayAnn Waterfield 1611

RegistRED MAcASSAGE THERAPIST

Contact: info@265-3894

Osterberg, BC

Lauren Bergholz — RMT

Mandell 358-4720

Cariboo Service

B.C.A., 265-4406

SLOCAN GLASS

265-3232

8th St., New Denver

SLOCAN GLASS

265-4406

B.C.A., St. Eustache, BC

265-263-2712

24 hr Towing

Your other choice for all your glass needs!

Your ad could be here for only
$11.00 + GST

BREWING

Winlaw Brew-Up
Wine & Beer Making Kits to satisfy all budgets!

grim wincalibur wincalibur

Live Music & Karaoke

Slocan Valley Athletic
Club 260-4701

MASSAGE THERAPIES

Health & Wellness Centre

SPECTRUM HOME & Family Care

Meditation and Laughter Yoga

VALHALLA WILDERNESS SOCIETY

NEW LOCATION & contact info

305 South Road

Hand & Soul Wellness Centre

MayAnn Waterfield 1611

RegistRED MAcASSAGE THERAPIST

Contact: info@265-3894

Osterberg, BC

Lauren Bergholz — RMT

Mandell 358-4720

Cariboo Service

B.C.A., 265-4406

SLOCAN GLASS

265-3232

8th St. Ext.(St. Eustache, BC

265-263-2712

24 hr Towing

Your other choice for all your glass needs!

Your ad could be here for only
$11.00 + GST

BREWING

Winlaw Brew-Up
Wine & Beer Making Kits to satisfy all budgets!

grim wincalibur wincalibur

Live Music & Karaoke

Slocan Valley Athletic
Club 260-4701

MASSAGE THERAPIES

Health & Wellness Centre

SPECTRUM HOME & Family Care

Meditation and Laughter Yoga

VALHALLA WILDERNESS SOCIETY

NEW LOCATION & contact info

305 South Road

Hand & Soul Wellness Centre

MayAnn Waterfield 1611

RegistRED MAcASSAGE THERAPIST

Contact: info@265-3894

Osterberg, BC

Lauren Bergholz — RMT

Mandell 358-4720

Cariboo Service

B.C.A., 265-4406

SLOCAN GLASS

265-3232

8th St. Ext.(St. Eustache, BC

265-263-2712

24 hr Towing

Your other choice for all your glass needs!
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

JANITORIAL SERVICES
Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is seeking proposals for janitorial services for CBT’s Nakusp office. Services to start September 9, 2013. Visit www.cbt.org/opportunities for more information.
Deadline is August 29, 2013, Noon PT
www.cbt.org • 1-888.595.8998

CLASSIFIED ADS

SERVICES
ROGAN ELECTRIC • Residential, commercial, industrial wiring. Local references available. All work guaranteed. “We get the job done” 604-663-7.
PETER’S WINDOWS & DOORS • Renovations/repairs of wooden and metal windows and doors. Energy efficient vinyl and wood windows. Sales and installations. Peter Demoschaff 250-399-0079.
GERRY CONWAY • Journeyman carpenter/builder 250-264-3163.

WANTED
CARS HARE • Anyone interested in donating a vehicle to the Kootenay CarShare Co-op to facilitate starting a local CarShare group in the New Denver area, contact Sean at 355-0084.
WANTED • ONE HAPPY, ENERGETIC PERSON who likes kids and is looking for additional income. Little help needed with babysitting. Hours to suit you. Contact 355-0084.

YARD SALE
STATE STREET • 9:15 am to 11:30 am and 1 pm to 4 pm. Tools to Teacups, Antiques to Vehicles. Don’t miss us! 6443 Hwy 3a. Just 20 min from Nelson.

OBITUARY
LOIS MARGUERITE (RITA) MORRISON (1948-2013) Rita passed away on August 1, 2013 after a lengthy battle with dementia. She fought this disease with all of her will and survived four strokes during the battle. Her family will miss her terribly, her husband of 48 years, Barry; her daughter Melody, her oldest son Michael and family, and youngest son, Kristin and family. She will also be missed by her older brother Alan and older sister Patry. Rita was pre-deceased by her Mom and Dad and younger brother, Larry. After her graduation from Saint Mary’s College in Victoria, Rita and Barry were married in 1966. Rita was, during her marriage, a legal secretary, a health care secretary, a private secretary to two Chief Executive Officers, and a part-owner of her own restaurant. But above all, she was an accomplished artist in water colors and oils. She took special delight in painting some of the old times when their life digging for gold “In Them Thar Hills” in and around the Silvery Stools in the Stoney Kootenays.

The Stoney Lake was a favorite summer vacation spot and when her husband’s work took her away from the lake, she would always find time to get back to Stoney to spend a week or two by the lake. And much of that time was spent getting with the family on the Stoney Lake Golf Course.
Because of Barry’s job in the forest industry and the WCB, the family was moved from BC and Rita loved moving - each move was an adventure to her.
Rita’s final two years were spent in the Munro House in Nakusp. The love, the patience, the understanding and the professional pride held by the staff at the Munro House were a source of comfort for the entire family. There are a number of very special people working at the Munro House.
Rita did not want anything special marked her passing. Celebration will take place and a small family service will be held shortly. Rita’s wish was for flowers but a donation to Munro House in the aid of fighting dementia would be welcomed.
Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Valley Funeral Home Ltd.
Online condolences may be expressed at www.valleyfunerals.ca

The Valley Voice August 21, 2013

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CONSTRUCTION • HOME • GARDEN

KF PowerVac
Duct Cleaning & Duct Sanitizing
Local: 355-0084 • Toll-Free: 1-888-509-0090
email: kfpwrvac@rogers.com

LAKESIDE READY MIX
• Registered Septic System designer and installer
• Ready Mix Concrete
• Lock Blocks • Drain Rock
• Road Crush • Sand & Gravel
• Pump Trucks & Excavation
• Crusher • Coloured Concrete
• Site Preparation

ARROW LAKES
Box 1001, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1R0
250-265-4615 • veirac@telus.net

Calgary

HALL LUMBER & BUILDING SUPPLIES
Open Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat 9 am to 5 pm, Thurs 10 am to 5 pm
PHONE 250-266-0043
Find us at 280 Lower Inverness Road, Englewood, BC

Embedded doe 250-226-7320

Qualiﬁed Well Pump Installer & Licensed BC Plumber
Representing Goulds & Grundfos Pumps
Deep Well Installations & Constant Pressure Control Systems
Wolfgang’s Plumbing Services, West Kelowna, BC

hardwood floors only
100% CANADIAN FLOORING AT WHOLESALE
Pre-finished, antique, oak, maple • Bamboo • Cork
At JUAN’S 350 Hwy 1A Thrushes 250-399-6377 Mon-Sat 8:30 am-5 pm

Big Daddy Contracting
Journeyman Carpenter
Home Energy Upgrades • Renovations & Repairs • Drywall • Interior Finishing • Tile • Doors • Fencing • Siding • And Much More • Serving the Arrow & Stoney Lakes Areas
No Job Too Small • Call Jim Today!
250-265-4422 or 250-265-1649
email: bigdaddyccontracting@gmail.com

Indoor Garden Supplies
Castlegar
250-304-2911
1730 Hwy 3, Selkirk Spring Building
dan@canadiangardensupply.com

WEST KOOTENAY TREE SERVICE
Call Shayan Avest & Shabnam 250-226-5877 in Nelson.
All kinds of Christmas trees.
250-395-4220

Canadian Electrical Supplies
Castlegar
250-304-2911
1730 Hwy 3, Selkirk Spring Building
dan@canadiangardensupply.com

One Time Electrical
Jacob Butt
Certified Electrical Contractor
Katy Licensed & Insured
office: 250-501-1051
mobile: (250) 501-TIM (846)
jacob@onetimeelectrical.com
www.onetimeelectrical.com

Gustafson Balsam Fir Products
250-304-2621

Crescent Bay Construction Ltd.
Eric Makela • George Robison
Nakusp BC • Ph 250-265-1777, Fax 250-265-3021
email cresentbay@blue.net

HAIR

AvA’S Hair Studio
OPEN YEAR-ROUND
358-7769

For last minute of the Wild Rose Restaurant in Beaverley

HAIR

AVA’S Hair Studio
OPEN YEAR-ROUND
358-7769

For last minute of the Wild Rose Restaurant in Beaverley

Even little ads get noticed in the Valley Voice

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST • a legacy for the people
Young woman from Slocan scores scholarship to study Forestry in Europe

**by Jan McMurray**

Janice Burns of Slocan has received a scholarship to her Masters degree in Forestry in the European Union. The Enunci Municho scholarship, awarded by the European Commission, was established to promote higher education in the EU.

Winlaw photographer featured on BC Day submitted

A photograph taken by Winlaw resident Rod Tydeman was part of Capture BC, a province-wide exhibit held in Victoria during BC Day celebrations. About 8,000 visitors to St. Ann’s Academy National Historic Site caught

New raised garden beds at Passmore Lodge submitted

Thanks to the generosity of the community, seniors at Passmore Lodge are enjoying new raised garden beds built from concrete. The 10 beds, one for each apartment, replace the original wooden beds built by the Boy Scouts in 1959 when the lodge opened. Without the community’s support and the expertise of Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society board member Keith Steiko, this project would never have come to fruition.

The other individuals who donated their time were: Henry Toster, Linda Martin, Peter Chensoff, Don Leschak, Frank Schwall, Dextor Adams and Skirl Beyer. The generosity of area businesses was astounding. Those included: West K Concrete, Nelson Ready Mix, McNally Excavating, Rob Nimnikin, Rona Building Centre, Maglio Building Centre, Home Hardware, M-C Mini Excavating, and Nelson Farmers’ Supply, and Four Seasons Greenhouse and Dog Garden Centre which donated plants. Funds also came from Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives and Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society.

Passmore Lodge is an independent living facility in the lower Slocan Valley for seniors 55+. Its subsidized one-bedroom apartments feature many amenities including these new garden beds.

**COMMUNITY**

**AGNES HERBISON**

March 8, 1917 - August 6, 2013

Agnes Herbison, the eldest of four children, was born in Salt Springs, Nova Scotia. She moved to British Columbia in 1927 to live with her brother and sister-in-law, John and Sadie Herbison. Agnes attended high school in Revelstoke, where she was a member of the school choir, and later went on to the University of Toronto with a scholarship from the National Council of Women of Canada. After graduation, she moved to Victoria, British Columbia, where she studied music and dance at the B.C. Conservatory of Music. She later moved to Vancouver and worked as a music teacher for several years. In 1948, she married Hugh Herbison, and together they moved to the Okanagan, where they lived until her death in 2013.

**COMMERCE**

**HIGHLAND CREEK CONTRACTING LTD**

**QUALITY WOOD PRODUCTS**

**MADDEN TIMBER CONSTRUCTION**

**PRIMA MATERIA**

**SPECIALIZING IN HAND PICKED QUALITY DECORATIVE**

**TEXTILES, OBJECTS, ARTWORKS**

**SPECIALIZING IN HAND PICKED QUALITY DECORATIVE FASHION & JEWELLERY FROM CENTRAL & SOUTHERN AMERICA. MUY RECONO**

318 Broadway St. Nakusp BC 265-3288

**www.casaandalayla.com**

**MADDEN TIMBER CONSTRUCTION**

Nakusp BC 250 265 1807

**QUALITY WOOD PRODUCTS**

**CUSTOM TIMBER HOME PACKAGES**

**CONCRETE, FRAMING**

**STAIRS AND FINISHING**

**WWW.MADDENTIMBER.COM**

**Studio Connexion Gallery is very proud to celebrate 5 years of Fine Art**

**August 9 to 31 • Madeleine WOOD B & Dan CONNAUGHTON**

**September 1 to Sept. 21 • Holly WOODS & Denise MARSHALL**

**September 24 to Oct. 12 • Barbare MAYE**

**Member of Saturday Art Tour**

**HIGHLAND CREEK CONTRACTING LTD**

**DREAM DESIGN DUMP DONE**

**Premium Garden Soil**

Nutrient Rich • Omri Certified Organic • Humus Soil

Call Peter for delivery - 250-358-2199 • 250-505-4347

**Photo courtesy of Janice Burns**

Janice Burns has won a scholarship.
### SCHOOL OPENING 2013/14

**September 3, 2013** - all district schools will be in session 1/2 day only

**STUDENT'S RIDING SCHOOL BUSES MUST BE AT THEIR BOARDING POINTS PRIOR TO POSTED BUS ARRIVAL TIME.**

**EDGEMOOD / NAKUSP ROUTE 2013/14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM RUN</th>
<th>PM RUN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Pre-Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:17</td>
<td>1953 Yard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:19</td>
<td>Forrest Rd South Dwy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:23</td>
<td>4300 Inverness Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:25</td>
<td>Robinson Rd Highwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>4625 Inverness Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:33</td>
<td>Hwy 5 Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:33</td>
<td>Grand Pl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:33</td>
<td>4850 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:35</td>
<td>3015 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:38</td>
<td>J&amp;S Snocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:54</td>
<td>Stark Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:55</td>
<td>3245 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:57</td>
<td>1767 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:11</td>
<td>Silver Queen Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:13</td>
<td>3350 H 5 Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:13</td>
<td>Clarke Dr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:14</td>
<td>McDermott Rd/McDonald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:14</td>
<td>Silver Queen Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:14</td>
<td>Burden United Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:14</td>
<td>7747 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:16</td>
<td>4340 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:18</td>
<td>5200 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:21</td>
<td>3115 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:24</td>
<td>4800 E 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:25</td>
<td>4725 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:27</td>
<td>4215 Inverness Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:28</td>
<td>Forrest Rd South Dwy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:33</td>
<td>3350 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:35</td>
<td>10150 Inverness Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:42</td>
<td>1471 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:47</td>
<td>NBS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:50</td>
<td>NBS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUMMIT LAKE/GLENBANK/HIGHWAY 23 ROUTE 2013/14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM RUN</th>
<th>PM RUN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:10</td>
<td>Pre-Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:12</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:14</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:16</td>
<td>Hwy 6 Eastbound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:18</td>
<td>King Road 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:20</td>
<td>2250 Hwy 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:22</td>
<td>2250 Rd 6 East and Circles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:26</td>
<td>1750 Hwy 6 Northbound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:28</td>
<td>Alexander Rd Turner Gate 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>5041 Alexander Rd 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:32</td>
<td>Alexander Rd Turner 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:34</td>
<td>Hopps Rd 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:37</td>
<td>Vel Clinic 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:39</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:42</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:44</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:46</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:48</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:50</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:52</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:54</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:56</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:58</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:59</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:01</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:03</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:05</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:07</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:09</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:11</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:13</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:17</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:19</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:21</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:23</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:25</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:27</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:29</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:31</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:33</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:35</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:37</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:39</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:41</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:43</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:47</td>
<td>4810 Nelson Rd 3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EDGEMOOD ROUTE 2013/14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM RUN</th>
<th>PM RUN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:53</td>
<td>Pre-Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:55</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:13</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:22</td>
<td>Pre-emption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:32</td>
<td>Forrest Rd B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:44</td>
<td>Robinson Rd N 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:50</td>
<td>Drivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:54</td>
<td>Shaler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:54</td>
<td>Tableau Rd Mailbox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:58</td>
<td>Carkoway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:58</td>
<td>Green Pk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:58</td>
<td>Forrest Rd S 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>NBS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS**

(effective September 3, 2013)

**Edgemood Elementary School**
Monday to Thursday
Hours: 8:20 - 12:04 and 12:50 to 3:10

**Nakusp Elementary School**
Phone 265-3638 press 4
Hours: 9:00 - 12:00 and 12:50 - 2:50

**Nakusp Secondary School**
Phone 265-3638 press 2
Hours: 8:50 - 11:40 and 12:20 - 3:00

**Lucerne Elementary-Secondary School**
Phone 265-3638 press 3
Hours: Grades K-7
9:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 3:00

**Lucerne Elementary-Secondary School**
Phone 265-3638 press 5
Hours: Grades 8-12
8:55 - 11:51 and 12:36 - 3:00

**Edgewater Lakes Distributed Learning School**
Phone 265-3638 press 3
Hours: ALDL School in New Denver at Lucerne School
Thursdays 9:00 - 11:50
Fridays 9:40 - 11:50

**ALDL School in Nakusp at Selkirk College ABE**
Fridays 9:30 - 3:30

**HILLS, NEW DENVER, SILVERTON ROUTE 2013/14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM RUN</th>
<th>PM RUN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:18</td>
<td>Pre-Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:20</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:33</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:50</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:10</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:20</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:40</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:50</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Leaver Lane E3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BAY VIEW / CRESCENT BAY / BROOSE LOOP ROUTE 2013/14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM RUN</th>
<th>PM RUN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:20</td>
<td>Pre-Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:50</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:10</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:20</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:40</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:50</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10</td>
<td>Leaver Lane</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.**

**VEHICLE OPERATORS:**
September 3, 2013 will be the official opening of school for School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) 2013/14 session. 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.