Three boys brought home to families: Slocan Lake drowning victims recovered

by Jan McMurray

The three young men who drowned in Slocan Lake on May 10 were recovered on May 28.

Gene and Sandy Ralston of Idaho, along with a friend from Seattle, the RCMP dive team and New Denver Fire Rescue, recovered the boys on Wednesday morning after locating them with their side scan sonar equipment on Monday, May 26.

“We were very touched with the incredible outpouring of appreciation from the whole community,” said Gene. “People came to the campground to thank us and bring us gifts. People were constantly expressing their appreciation.”

The boys were found further out than originally thought, a bit deeper than 500 feet down. It was originally thought that they would be close in toward the bay. “When you’re going from point A to point B, you are probably going to go in a straight line. It didn’t make sense that they would have gone out into that bay, and the wind direction would not have supported that,” said Gene.

Four friends had launched the canoe at the foot of New Denver’s main street and were heading to Rosebery when the wind picked up and the canoe capsized. Lily Hamer-Taylor, 15, was found unconscious with the canoe and died that night in the Slocan Community Health Centre in New Denver. The three young men who drowned were Hayden Kyle, 21, Seye Lockhart-Domet, 18 and Jake Wiltshire-Peefield, 15.

The head of the RCMP/diver team had contacted the Ralstons shortly after the May 10 canoe accident, but they could not come because they were on a search in Montana and on standby for another search in California. These other teams searched for the boys without success, and the RCMP suspended the search on May 20, after 10 days. One of the teams, Bruce’s Legacy from Wisconsin, continued the search on May 21 and 22 in any case, as they had come so far and wanted so badly to come through with results for everyone involved,” according to an update they posted on their website. At that point, New Denver resident Ily Schumann called the Ralstons again and found out that their schedule had been freed up. Subsequently, two of the boys’ families contacted the Ralstons and asked them to come.

The Ralstons found the boys with their side scan sonar equipment on Monday, May 26, the second day of their search. Because they were afraid that their own ROV (remotely operated underwater vehicle) would not be able to go down far enough to retrieve the boys, they asked their friend from Seattle to come with his ROV.

On Tuesday, May 27, while they were waiting for the ROV to arrive, the Ralstons made preparations for the recovery by putting out markers close to the boys and setting out anchor lines to assist in the deployment of the ROV. On Wednesday, May 28, the weather was so calm that the anchor lines were not necessary and the recovery went very smoothly and quickly.

Gene thanked his friend from Seattle for the excellent ROV handling techniques, calling him a “true craftsman” when it comes to operating an ROV. He also thanked his friend John Zeman, who attended from Vancouver, Washington despite a fractured ankle, to assist on the boat. And last but not least, he thanked his wife, Sandy, who drives the boat. “Nobody can handle a boat like Sandy does,” he said. “Her job is the hardest, driving the boat on an exact grid line.” Gene operates the side scan sonar and ROV.

The Ralstons are kept very busy recovering drowning victims. Gene said they spend 150-200 days per year on searches. They retired from their environmental consulting business, where they specialized in water-related issues such as fisheries inventories, water quality studies and sediment sampling, “but we’re busier now than when we were working. This is more like a mission to us.”

Gene and Sandy do this work as volunteers. They ask that their expenses be covered, but do not charge for their time. “If we had to make money at it, we wouldn’t do it,” he said. “People who have lost a loved one are extremely vulnerable and it’s easy for an unempolstered person to take advantage of them. That’s not what we’re about. We’re about finding the victims and bringing them home to their families.”

Gene has had two near drowning accidents himself, and lost a good friend to drowning, but he says those experiences did not motivate him to do this service. “It does give me insight about how families feel when they lose someone who can’t be found, though,” he said.

“The first drowning victim I recovered was in 1983 and the family of that lady had the most wonderful thank you that you can imagine. That brings home what it means to families to find a missing loved one. It helps them to have some resolution to the situation.”

Donations to assist the four families are being accepted at New Denver KSCU summit savings #1 account 54734. There is also an online fundraising campaign for the families at youcaring.com (Slocan Lake Accident Victims’ Families). The RCMP is paying for the Ralston’s expenses, and donations for their service are also being collected at the Apple Tree and New Market Foods.

Lucerne School teachers on the picket line, May 27

Slocan Lake Golf Club 19th Hole Restaurant Bulletin Board
Open 8:00 am to 6:00 pm daily

Saturday 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Prime Rib Night
Every Sunday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm Rennie’s Brunch Buffet
Breakfast Buffet Monday to Saturday 8:30 am to 11:00 am

Come for the views. Stay for the food!

Visitor Information – Page 13
Streamkeepers releases new report on Lemon Creek spill

by Art Joyce

Fifteen months after the spill of 33,000 liters of jet fuel in Lemon Creek, test data shows that evidence of the fuel persists in both the stream and side channels. Slocan River Streamkeepers has released a report dated May 24 with the results of surface water and sediment samples collected on May 7. In addition to regular sampling and control site tests were also done in response to complaints of fuel odor or visible presence in the Lemon Creek area.

"Hydrocarbons were detected in water downstream from the spill site over nine months after the spill occurred," notes the report. "They included both heavy (C1932) and light (C1019) varieties. The water contained levels above drinking water standards and the sediment was below CER-Wildlands standards."

The report emphasizes that "all samples were collected by a technician trained in accordance with methods outlined in the BC Environmental Laboratory Water and Air Monitoring and Sampling Methods, 2009," including the use of prescribed sample containers for both water and sediment.

"Recently, local residents who reside near Lemon Creek have reported strong hydrocarbon odor in water and shenn in still water pools. It may be that recent rain has resulted in rising ground water flows, which bring trapped fuel to the surface. The fuel is known to biodegrade in the environment. However, it will be important to continue measuring hydrocarbons levels in sediment at the Slocan/Lemon side channel and on Slocan Island to assess potential toxicity to aquatic life."

Adding weight to the report is the report by retired Fisheries Canada biologist Otto Langer, who with wife Sondra Boungard, spent several days in late September last year inspecting sites along Lemon Creek both above and below the spill. Boungard had been invited to visit the Slocan Valley by Marilyn Burgoon of Perry Ridge for the BC Rivers Day celebration. Langer has been an expert witness in over 100 habitat and pollution trials across Canada during his career. He was an early proponent in pollution and habitat protections under the Fisheries Act. Langer disputes industry claims that 85 percent of jet fuel will evaporate in 48 hours and the rest will dissipate and disappear soon after that. When Langer and Boungard did their inspections it had been 65 days since the spill and there was ample evidence of fuel.

"Jet fuel cannot be contained even in a well-fenced environment," explains Langer. "It was my view and experience over the years that such fuels do not evaporate quickly in cold water as it will in a warmer environment."

A silver oil sheen was easily found upon turning up rocks on Lemon Creek side channels. The odor of fuel was also observed evident in detritus samples collected from the creek (needles, leaves, etc.). Yet what was most worrying was the total lack of invertebrate life at almost any point downstream of the spill. While upstream of the spill site Langer and Boungard found "bottom invertebrate life was very sparse," also appeared, as L cited would have expected in any normal and clean BC mountain stream," a similar inspection of rocks about one kilometer downstream of the spill site yielded no invertebrate life. Langer concludes that the spill "did indeed kill all visible bottom macroinvertebrate life in the stream and its side channels," this has dire implications for fish populations in the watershed as well as on any animals or birds that feed on them.

When asked if the lack of invertebrate life in the stream might have something to do with the sudden appearance in the Pleasant Bay, Langer speculates that "when one kills off the stream grazers (the invertebrates that eat the algae in the stream), the algae becomes more significant and obvious. It's like removing the cows from the pasture - you will notice much more grass growth from the grass growers on.

He emphasizes that "extensive scientific invertebrate sampling above and at several locations below the spill site should have started well before September and be repeated before freeze-up is broken. This should be repeated in 2014 and "possibly the summer after that." In 2015 Langer said that fuel recovery efforts were probably doomed to failure, with blooms only likely to recover less than five percent of remaining fuel in the fast moving stream.

Based on his experience in over 100 court cases, Langer believes Section 36 charges under the Fisheries Act should be "an expected outcome... and a defense of the diligence seems to have gone down the drain."

This new era of staff cuts and industry "self compliance," "we can most often be disappointed by a dearth of any prosecutions by either of the three agencies that should do this work, i.e. MOE, DFO and Environment Canada."

Langer's pessimism was reflected in another recent debate in the BC Legislature when MLA for Kootenay West Katrine Conroy noted the discovery of absorbent booms left behind by clean up crews.

"Polluter pays" is meaningless if there is no ongoing supervision of the cleanup. Conroy challenged Environment Minister Mary Polak. In answer to Conroy's question, "why would the government or any other company pay for failing to properly clean up Lemon Creek?" the minister once again reiterated, stating that the matter should be left up to the companies. Conroy noted that Streamkeepers seems to be bearing the costs of proper monitoring efforts.

"There are other courts, but there should be people out there working," said Conroy. "There should be ministerial people working. Are we going to wait for the courts to be before we're going to clean up the pollution in that creek? If polluters pay, why do the people of Lemon Creek and the Slocan Valley continue to pay for this spill?"

Kaslo infoNet Society starts to build new internet system with CBT bandwidth

by Ian McMurray

Kaslo infoNet Society is moving along quickly with plans to build a high-speed and better high-speed internet network in Kaslo and the North Kootenay Lake area, using bandwidth provided by Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC).

Just last week, KIN was able to access the CBBC bandwidth for the first time," said Don Scarlett, board chair, at the last meeting. "We have a high-speed internet connection for a week, we have already improved the bandwidth to our wireless customers in the north section, supplied the Kaslo Library with much faster service than they had before, and are working on several other new connections."

The new system was made possible when CEBC, a subsidiary of the Columbia Basin Trust, offered to deliver 100 megabits per second of bandwidth to Kaslo's municipal CBB. Currently supplied by Telus, 70 homes can be served this way, and this method can be used in other areas, particularly where KIN already has towers, to serve many other customers.

"We are getting so much in the way of high quality live on sight location and everyone has burned fibre in their backyard. That's our vision and our commitment, and we're looking for people to sign on and help us build it out," said Scarlett.

Scarlett explained that KIN was not going to compete with Telus at first, but that changed when Telus said it had no more ports in Kaslo. He acknowledged that there is a risk involved in the agreement, especially in the area of high-speed bandwidth to all 28 municipalities in the Columbia Basin.

After many meetings in 2012 and 2013 between KIN, CBBC, Kaslo council, the CEBC and the Kaslo Chamber of Commerce, an agreement was developed that saves the Village from using taxes to pay for the CBBC bandwidth. KIN will distribute the bandwidth from the Village office to people in Kaslo and the North Kootenay Lake area with a combination of broad high-speed fibre-optic cable and radio-driven wireless technology.

Tim Ryan, KIN director, explained that KIN had secured grant funding from Kootenay Columbia Energy Island to build the new infrastructure. They plan to start with the downtown core and the Kaslo Heights/ Arena Road areas first, and if successful, will expand the service throughout Kaslo as cash flow permits," he said.

Within the next two months, KIN plans to bury fibre-optic cable in downtown Kaslo from down Pleasant Lane, 5th Avenue and Water Street. "We are looking for subscribers from the business community as soon as possible," he said.

The Kaslo Heights/Arena Road area is being served thanks to a family on Harkness Avenue, who allowed KIN to install an antenna site on their property. "The CBBC bandwidth is delivered to the antenna with the help of new radios that KIN has purchased, and will be delivered to homes via bundled service provided by Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC).

Cost of water meters shocks Nakusp council

by Katrine Campbell

In 2007, the Village of Nakusp adopted a new Official Community Plan (OCP) which included specific policies related to water consumption. It developed initiatives to reduce water waste usage, ranging from outdoor watering restrictions to targeted leak repairs.

The Village also mandated water meters in all buildings. In 2011, Nakusp decided to undertake a more thorough assessment of water metering. Urban Systems was contracted to produce a report, which was presented to council May 12.

After reviewing the report, council decided the cost, which would be about $2 million over 20 years to install the meters, was not reasonable.

Environmental benefits would include reduced water withdrawal from Brouse and Hafley Creeks, reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a result of reduced energy use, and minimized sewer effluent volumes.

Social benefits would be equity and fairness in levying utility charges. For the middle and upper income families, utility operations would be enhanced, with an increased ability to detect leaks, to account for water within the system, to identify and bill customers, and extend the life of the water and sewer utilities.

activist
Zarelli sentenced to 14 days house arrest for blocking Perry Ridge logging road

by Jan McMurray

Denis Zarelli, communications liaison for the Sinixt Nation, was sentenced to 14 days of house arrest, followed by 18 months of probation, in a criminal contempt of court trial.

The trial took place in Supreme Court in Nelson on May 20 and was presided over by Justice McEwan.

Zarelli was charged by Nelson Police in a civilian incident involving a logging operation on Sinixt Nation land, and pleaded guilty.

The Crown argued that the contempt occurred when Zarelli blocked a logging road and a logging and contracting company filed a contempt application to prevent Zarelli from continuing to do so.

Justice McEwan found Zarelli in contempt of court and sentenced him to 14 days house arrest and 18 months probation.

Zarelli was released from jail but only allowed to leave his residence to attend court and a judge.

In her decision, Justice McEwan noted that Zarelli had not shown remorse for his actions and that he had showed a pattern of non-compliance.

Justice McEwan warned Zarelli that any further contempt of court could result in a more severe sentence.

Zarelli has a long history of conflict with the logging industry and has been involved in numerous legal battles.

Despite the sentencing, Zarelli has continued to protest against the logging operation, citing concerns about the impact on the Sinixt Nation's culture and heritage.

A spokesperson for the Sinixt Nation said the sentence was a step forward in the legal battle for traditional territory rights.

The Sinixt Nation is one of the few indigenous groups in Canada that are still seeking to have their traditional territory recognized.

The case has drawn international attention and has been the subject of numerous documentaries and media coverage.

For more information, contact the Sinixt Nation at 250-664-4523.

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BC Hydro smart meter opted-out fees must reflect actual meter readings: Self-reading program rejected

by Jan McMurray

The recent decision on smart meter opt-out charges by the BC Utilities Commission (BCC) also deals with the meter readings (estimated billing) and the self-reading program.

If a customer’s meter is read less frequently than bimonthly, BCC ruled that it is unjust and unreasonable for BC Hydro to charge those customers an extra fee.

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If a customer’s meter is read less frequently than bimonthly, BCC ruled that it is unjust and unreasonable for BC Hydro to charge those customers an extra fee.

BC Hydro spokesperson Sabrina Luciccro said, “BC Hydro will refund those customers who have opted out of the program.”

Sabrina Luciccro, BC Hydro spokesperson, told the Valley Voice that “BC Hydro is working on determining the amount of the refund and how to provide it, and will take a proposal to the BCC by June 30, 2019.”

A decision has been made to bill customers based on their actual meter readings.

When asked why a credit was not applied to the most recent BC Hydro bill,_bc hydro spokesperson Sabrina Luciccro said, “BC Hydro will refund the difference in charges as a credit on the customer’s bill.”

Since BC Hydro bills are typically issued bi-monthly, it takes some time to process the refunds.

This is why they will be provided within the next few months.

Many people wonder why they can’t read their meters themselves.

BCUC looked at this and decided not to approve a self-read program, as the commission “is not persuaded that the assumed cost savings and proposed benefits of self-reading are sufficiently outweighed by state costs and the concerns expressed by BC Hydro.”

One of BC Hydro’s concerns is that a self-read program would require large billing adjustments later, whereas timely meter readings allow for accurate and timely collection of revenue for the company.

Another concern is that BC Hydro’s ability to identify anomalies in the electric system, such as load imbalances caused by distributed generation, can be impaired.

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Community Calendar

Sunday, June 7
Laurency Graduation Ceremonies
Lazare Gym, New Denver
1 pm
Glenmore St
Sicamous
8 pm
Sunday, June 8
Electric Fence Workshop
Kerr Hall, New Denver
10 am - 1 pm

Tuesday, June 10
Powers Heritage Tour: Temple Church Historical New Denver Council Chambers
Local Lake Club Hall
7 pm
Nakusp Secondary, Res 7
7 pm

Wednesday, June 11
O.S. Shaw Sheriffette Stakes
Laurency Memorial Field
7 pm
Silverton Memorial Hall
8 pm

Thursday, June 12
Aboriginal Tourism Workshop
Nakusp Secondary, Res 7
7 pm

Friday, June 13
Denise McLeod Art Opening
Studio Conversion Gallery
7 pm
Downtown New Denver
Cooks Hot Springs pool open
Edgewood Legion
9 pm

Saturday, June 14
Electric Fence Workshop
Kerr Hall, New Denver
10 am - Noon
Cozy Haven, Silverton
1 pm

Sunday, June 17
Volunteer Recruitment Workshop
Kerr Hall, New Denver
Kerr Hall, New Denver
8 pm
Silverton Memorial Hall

June 4, 2014 The Valley Voice
Letter of condolence to New Denver

I was deeply saddened to hear of the tragedy that befell your community, a breathtakingly lovely place I have come to consider a second home. I have had the immense privilege of working with the remarkable students and staff at LES for most of the past nine springs, and meeting so many of the great parents there, and I wish I was in New Denver this year to join hands with you all at this profoundly difficult and challenging time.

My heart has been with you over the past weeks, and I hope the families and friends of Lily, Jude, Siya, and Hayley can find some solace in knowing that you have already found creative and loving ways to honour these beautiful young people. Wishing you all strength.

Stuart Ross Cobourg, Ontario

Teachers’ strike

I feel the heavy boot of government repression coming down on us yet again here in BC, as I watch the disgraceful treatment of our hard-working and talented public school teachers – treatment that also burdens our students and the families of our province.

I see so many of our decent Canadian values being eroded because the money is not there in the budget – or so the government says. We know from statistics that the gap between the rich and the poor is widening and no one, certainly not those who are better off, seems to want to contribute more through taxation to the public purse.

We need a progressive tax system based on income – the more you earn, the more you pay. I call for a return to a fairer tax system that supports the things Canadians really believe in and I know public education, not private education, is one of these.

In closing, I charge the present government with not caring about the quality of public education in this province and it follows, in my opinion, that it doesn’t really care about democracy either.

Tori Freeman
Red Mountain Road

Memorial buoy in Slocan Lake

I had a thought last night and want to pass it along to you at the Valley Voice to see if anyone else thinks this idea has merit. I have had a recurring thought to have a permanent memorial buoy (decorated by the families, kids, community) placed in the lake where the bodies of the three missing boys have been found. It would be an ongoing memorial to all of the four children we have lost in this tragedy as well as an ongoing reminder to everyone that bathing on the beautiful Slocan Lake can be dangerous and deadly.

This permanent memorial buoy may require permits and permissions from some or many provincial and/or national governments, but some things in life worth doing requires us common folk to jump through hoops to get what we want or need. You may need to get the help of your local and provincial politicians to accomplish this goal and it may require many local peoples’ efforts and collaborations, but we’ve convinced nothing is the New Denver/Silverton communities can’t do. However, that being said the time to do it is now while support runs high for the community and the families. A year from now, that support may be less, so you’d do it now then.

As always my best to the community and the families.

Paddy Ray Barnes (former Slocan Valley resident)

Spokane

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

THE VALLEY VOICE

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The Valley Voice June 4, 2014
New Denver council, May 27: Rezoning

by Karine Campbell

- Council gave second reading to two amendment bylaws regarding rezoning the Turner Memorial Church into Public and Institutional to Single and Two Family Residential. OCP Amendment Bylaw #688 2014, and Zoning Amendment Bylaw #69 2014, will now go to public hearing.
- Council gave first, second and third reading to the Consolidation Authority Bylaw #690 2014. This allows for updates to bylaws to be consolidated into the original, rather than exist as appendices to the original.
- A request from Carla Nenroff, for a discounted rental on the Knox Hall to accommodate some performing artists already booked for the now-closed Silverton Gallery, was turned down. Council agreed with a staff analysis that such a discount would benefit performers from outside the area, while local people would still be required to pay the full booking fee. In addition, the analysis noted that since the Village of Silverton closed the Gallery, and offered the use of other venues at no additional cost, a grant-in-aid from Silverton might be more appropriate.
- Council compromised on a request from the family of Lily Harmer-Taylor, who died May 10 in a canoeing accident, to place an upright headstone on her plot at the New Denver Cemetery. All markers in the cemetery must be flat, tablet-style. Since the family bought the plot but did not intend to inter her remains there, council decided to offer them a refund, and to allow placement of an upright memorial marker for Lily on Village-owned property in a location agreed to by the family and the Village. This decision, says Mayor Ann Bunka, “gave the most latitude for Village staff to build something to come up with something suitable.”
- Councillor David Hodsoll was granted a leave of absence from council until June 15, due to his work commitments out of town.
- Councillor Henning von Krogh replaced Mayor Bunka as delegate to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities AGM in Niagara Falls, May 30 to June 2. Bunka stayed home because of the missing canoeists on the lake.

“If I had left before it was resolved, I wouldn’t have been any good there, anyway.”

- Council received for information a notice from the North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council, outlining its purpose and the fact it would be holding public input sessions to gather opinions on its role and mandate. The organization plans to cover Nakusp, Burton/Fauquier, New Denver, Silverton, Slocan and Kaslo.

COMMUNITY

Turner Memorial Church

Village of New Denver

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, at 115 Sloan Avenue, New Denver, BC

Applicant: Trustees of Turner Memorial Church

Property Affected: 214 7th Ave Lot 6, Block 14, Plan 9501, District Lot 432, Kootenay Land District

In general terms, Bylaw 688, 2014 will amend the Village of New Denver Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 611, 2007 land use designation from “Public and Institutional” to “Single and Two Family Residential” and Bylaw 689, 2014 will amend the New Denver Zoning Bylaw No. 912, 2007 designation from “Public & Institutional” to “R1 – Single and Two Family Residential”.

Laura Landsberg brings ‘A Simple Twist’ to Silverton

submitted

Nelson-based vocalist Laura Landsberg is spreading her latest offering of wonderfully reinvented classics across the Kootenays, backed by a host of local musicians. It’s a delight. She will appear at the Silverton Memorial Hall June 11. Doors open at 7 pm, show starts at 7:30. Tickets are $15, $12 seniors, at the door.

Landsberg released ‘A Simple Twist’ earlier this year and has been looking forward to bringing her take on classics from Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, Led Zeppelin and more – on the road. Take one part rock ‘n’ roll, one part jazz, and one part country; shake it up with a gorgeously dynamic voice and that’s what audiences are in for this June.

“There’s nothing better than touring with a band of respected musicians with an album that people will easily find a connection to,” says Landsberg. “I had such a wonderful time recording these incredible songs in a new way. I just can’t wait to perform them in front of a live audience.”

Helping bring ‘A Simple Twist’ to life will be the band of Tom Neville (vocals), Tony Ferraro (drums), Paul Landsberg (guitar), Doug Stephens (bass) and Miles Black (piano).

19th Hole welcomes diners to Slocan Lake Golf Course

submitted

Gary Wade and Rennie Cunnings are the new managers of the 19th Hole restaurant at the Slocan Lake Golf Course near New Denver. Combining his expertise in food and golf with his business start-up experience, Wade is excited and enthusiastic about turning the 19th Hole into your first choice for special dinners and occasions for individuals, families, groups and businesses.

With this vision in mind, Cunnings came to the Slocan Valley for the adventure, and to consider expanding his business. He oversees a successful catering business, Dominion Catering and Limousine, in southern Alberta that allows him to travel in large venues and large. The 19th Hole features a buffet breakfast every morning, with an impressive and varied brunch on Sundays. The lunch menu includes favourites like beef dip and fish and chips, along with a wide selection for every palate. In the evenings, the restaurant will highlight steakhouse dinners.

The 19th Hole overlooks beautiful golf course greens and the awe-inspiring views of the Valhallas and Slocan Lake. Whether you are sitting in the restaurant, on the deck or on the balcony, Gary and Rennie will strive to provide exceptional meals and a relaxing atmosphere.

Reservations for dinner or events are accepted.

Gary and Rennie hope to have the 19th Hole Restaurant open year round, so come visit, enjoy the food, and appreciate the spectacular views.

Youth Art Show at The Outlet

submitted

The Hidden Garden Gallery sponsors Wednesday afternoon drop-in art sessions at The Outlet, New Denver’s art centre. One of our other, HGG board member, artist and experienced teacher, has provided studio art support and instruction since the fall of 2013. She and youth centre director Paula Stansio have crafted an arts experience program to fit the needs of area youth. Now those aspiring and talented students or their families will exhibit their work.

Their show, appropriately titled ‘Youth Art Show’, will be held at The Outlet, Thursday, June 5, downtown New Denver from 6-8 pm, with music by Jeremy Dow. Then the show will move to The Hidden Garden Gallery, 830 Kalispell Street, New Denver, June 9 from 6-8 pm, with music by Miranda Hughes and Fiona Borkholder.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Village office at (250) 358-2316.

Bruce Woodbury
Chief Administrative Officer
Slovene school offers two great outdoor programs

by Katrine Campbell

Rock climbing, hiking, canoeing, and skiing—this is the way you'd like your child to spend part of their school time, then WE Graham Community School in Slovan has just the program for you.

Each year the grade 7/8 cohort spends a full year in the

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To the Dear Folk of New Denver,
The paternal family of Lily Harper-Taylor wish to thank you for your profound kindness.

Many shoulders coming together. Sharing grief, making the unimaginable... bearable.

We thank you for being a loving community who sheltered, supported and stoked Lily's dreams.

Thanks to her many “Mothers and Fathers” who scooped her into the fold, sharing family, modeling wisdom and unconditional love.

To the school, for mentoring and encouraging Lily to “stay the course” in the midst of life’s distractions.

To the man called 911, initial responders. Dr. Burkholder and nurses who worked tirelessly in their efforts to perform a miracle.

To Sue and Tyre for helping facilitate hospital arrangements in a way that was intimate and fitting.

And Rob. In addition to feeding and caressing the walking wounded, your calm and solid presence gave space to gauge our beginnings.

The drumming and singing ladies, for your sacred presence at Bigelow Bay.

Steve, Bob, Trevor, Chloë, Natasha, Janet, Last Wild Society, and all the others whose names have been lost...

And lastly, our dear Katrina. You’re so very, very Wonderfull.

Peace and heartfelt condolences to all.

The Taylor Family

The Valley Voice June 4, 2014

Slovan school offers two great outdoor programs

Grassroots Grammars host June 7 event at Passmore Lodge

The Slovan Valley Grassroots Grammars have an event planned for Saturday, June 7 at the Passmore Lodge starting at noon.

It will begin with a potluck lunch, followed by a brief annual general meeting. Don’t worry, you won’t be coerced into being on a board: the group operates with a very happy coordinating committee which is willing to carry on.

The event features a talk by Sharon Henderson of the Nelson Grains, just back from an educational visit to Ethiopia and South Africa. With 21 other Lewis Foundations Canadian grandmothers, Sharon met with African grandmothers who are raising children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. They are touring the tide through their incredible community-based organizations.

The Grassroots Grammars hosted 100 guests at their afternoon tea recently. ‘Kazari Jewellery’ handmade by women working for the fair trade Kazari company in Kenya was sold, with proceeds going to the Stephen Lewis Foundation’s Grandmothers to Grandmothers program.

The society manages an endowment fund, called the Slovan Valley Legacy Fund, and distributes the investment income as grants to support community projects in the valley. The legacy fund now totals over $177,000.

Eight projects receive funding from Slovan Valley Legacy Society

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Kaslo council, May 27: Water Street project scheduled for early summer

by Jan McMurray

Also, the minutes state that during a May 12 conference call with BC Ambulance Service and IF committee members learned that no changes have been made to ambulance protocols since the reduction in ER hours on April 1.

The Water Street project is scheduled for late summer. Grizzly Curb and Gutter will do the curb and gutter work for up to $26,000 and Okanagan Aggregates Ltd. will do the gravel grading for a total of $45,000. The company will be in the area doing other work for the Province, substantially reducing costs to the Village. Okanagan Aggregates was also awarded up to $32,000 for additional paving works in Kaslo.

Four lamp posts will be installed on Water Street. The LED textured black, retro style lamp posts cost $3,500 each and will be installed by Kaslo Eléctric at a cost not exceeding $15,000.

Kaslo infoNet Society was given permission to place broadband fibre infrastructure in the Water Street road allowance (business side), pending a first agreement with a plan and standards and subject to approval by the CAO and Public Works Foreman that it is safe and possible to do so during the summer works activities.

The purchase of appropriate residential recycling bins suitable for Kootenay Waste Services Ltd. to begin loose collection instead of by ‘blue bag’ will be explored and costed ahead of 2015.

Fred Plenier will be informed that council will not approve a Temporary Use Permit in block property for his property as a cheerleading competition or zoo at this time.

Council received letters against the granting of the permit from School District No. 54, Environment Canada and the Kaslo & District Economic Development Society.

Councillor Holland made a motion of motion that the Village of Kaslo consider participating in a Kaslo/ Area D Conservation Service with a referendum question posed to residents in November.

Council voted to take no action to dissolve the RDCK Kaslo and Area D Economic Development Service. This service has been dormant (no taxes have been collected for the service) for at least 4 years, as the Kaslo and the Area D RDCK directors have not reached consensus on projects. Recently, Area Director Andy Shadrack asked to withdraw from the service. A report from the CAO points out that a number of Area D residents and interests, over the last year, have shown the service that they expect or wish to see economic development initiatives coming from the Village of Kaslo. This suggests that there is a demand for projects that might be funded through this service.

Also, stakeholders consistently ask about a local economic development strategy, which this service was intended to provide.

Kaslo & District Community Forest Society News

June, 2014

New Board of Directors

At the AGM on April 16th, an election was unnecessary as four members ran for the four open positions. The new board of directors includes Erin Webster (vice-chair), Jeff Mattis (treasurer), Steve Fawcett (secretary), Stan Baker, Cloc Bayeur-Holland, Donna Cormie, Ross Lake, and Glen Settle.

Silviculture

We are 75 percent complete with our 2014 planting program of 187,000 trees and will have planted about 160 hectares this year. The final week of high elevation planting is scheduled for the second week of June. All blocks harvested prior to our 2013/2014 season are now stocked and seedlings are grown at the PRT nursery in Procter during the winter months. We have new blocks in the spring of 2015. Recent regeneration assessments in some of the blocks planted during the spring of 2013 identified areas of final logging which were ill-plantled while planters were in the area. Mortality was attributed to moisture stress and unlagged planting.

With planting wrapping up, silviculture emphasis will shift towards assessing needs of the over 60 plantations currently under our licence and planning for the remediation of problems if encountered.

In the West Kootenay: Planning for the Future

On April 3rd the community forest hosted a symposium on local forestry issues and opportunities. About 35 attendees met for a full day at the Kaslo Golf Course Clubhouse with representatives of West Kootenay sawmills, Selkirk College, the Forest Service and its recreation branch, the BC Community Forest Association, Kaslo Council and RDCK Area D. The discussion was wide-ranging and both the audience and presenters were engaged; this was an event that brings together people concerned with all aspects of forestry does not happen often enough.

Worker training and capacity for manufacturing innovation and problems with the current tenure system turned out to be major issues. Quite a few positive connections were established at the meeting, and as far as the Kaslo community forest is concerned, preliminary steps towards establishing a forestry skills training centre in our licence area were taken.

Training Program Being Considered

Following the April 3rd forestry symposium, KDCF’s woodlands manager Bill Seeley has been working with the Kaslo Community Forest Association, Kaslo Council and RDCK Area D to develop a logger training program. The goal is to establish an on-demand community forest skills training centre for young people interested in entering a logging career. A team of three Selkirk College representatives met, to see if this training program could become a reality and to discuss the structure of the program. The next step is to begin formal discussions with the local logging contractors to discuss this initiative with them, and hopefully get their endorsement to continue to develop a program.

KDCF Information

Keep up to date with operations and activities through the society website. We’re always uploading the latest meeting minutes, financial reports, and planning maps.
Nakusp council to invest in Invest Kootenay
by Art Joyce

• With small rural communities facing huge economic challenges, Nakusp is getting pro-active and signing on to the Invest Kootenay initiative. At its May 26 regular meeting, Nakusp council voted to commit to participating in the initiative for the next five years. The annual maintenance fee of $2,500 will be shared 50:50 between the Village of Nakusp and the RDCK. Area K Director Paul Peterson has already agreed to support the first year with $1,250.

Laurie Page of the Nakusp and Area Development Board explained the benefits of the program, timed well with the recent completion of the Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) study. That study noted that 22 percent of local businesses anticipate an ownership change in the next three years, and only two of the 46 businesses interviewed have a formal succession plan. Added to the recent slump in the lumber market, this could place the local economy on shaky ground.

“Invest Kootenay is a way of collaborating on promotion between communities,” said Page. “This is something people in Nakusp have been talking about for years.”

There are about 900 investors registered on the Invest Kootenay website and the number is growing. Of these, 43 percent are in the Kootenay region. The site links potential investors with those seeking to start up businesses, or seeking an investment partnership for expansion. Each community has its own profile on the website and individual businesses are also featured. Both the Nakusp Chamber of Commerce and NADB are supportive of the initiative. For the startup fee of $2,000, Invest Kootenay helps shape an effective online presentation for the community. Community members promote the website and encourage businesses to enrol. NADB would pay the startup fee and be the organization managing the contract.

To make this worthwhile we need to commit to doing it for five years,” said Page. “It’s a bit of a money position for us but we believe, with the amount of support and investment, it will pay us back.”

• Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Old Firehall Collective Society. CAO Linda Tynan said although much more information is required on the business plan to be proposed by the society, the MOU is less a contract than an agreement to move forward. Tynan and council expressed some concerns over the lack of detail in the proposal. “I’m very supportive of this project but past experience tells me we need to get more information on what their backup plan is if tenants can’t pay rent,” explained Tynan. “It’s one thing to say the Village isn’t on the hook for any costs but what happens if they’re in the middle of a construction project and can’t complete it, then the Village is suddenly faced with picking up those costs.”

The society wants a commitment from council that it won’t sell the building. Council can never say never, said Tynan, since another council could decide to break the lease. Councillor Duchaine asked what would happen if they “suddenly found out that the roof trusses are rotten and need replacing.” Tynan said the Village would make sure that the final lease agreement is specific on such points and that the lessee is held responsible. Also discussed was a tax exemption for the society; currently the Village receives no taxes for the building. Council voted to sign the MOU and will direct staff to gather more information on the lease agreement.

• Tynan supplemented her CAO’s report by noting that she had just received information on changes to the federal gas tax program. The annual amount received by the Village is expected to rise from $11,300 to $18,000 annually. While originally focusing on supporting municipal efforts to reduce greenhouse gases (GHGs) and address energy sustainability, the program will now also broaden its scope to cover recreational facilities, water systems, and basic infrastructure.

• Tynan also reported on the “soft start” of the new recycling program. The Village has chosen to use the blue bags rather than bins for now. So far there has been almost no contamination of recyclables collected. Unfortunately, glass will not be recycled under the Village’s new arrangement with MMBM. Councillor Mclntyer said the has heard that there is interest in starting up a bottle depot again locally.

NACFOR’s 2013-2014 activities presented at open house
by Jan McMurray

The Nakusp and Area Community Forest (NACFOR) held its annual open house at Selkirk College in Nakusp on May 25.

In 2013, log markets improved and NACFOR was able to harvest 61,022 cubic metres of wood, more than the total cut for the five previous years. From 2008 to 2012, due to poor markets and operational start-up constraints, NACFOR harvested only 41,197 cubic metres. NACFOR’s annual allowable cut is 20,000 cubic metres, for a total of 100,000 cubic metres for the 2008 to 2012 period. In 2013, NACFOR was able to capture undercut timber from this period.

In 2014, NACFOR plans to log 24,000 cubic metres and develop 25,000 cubic metres of cutting permits. Logging is planned for the Box Lake, Summit Lake and Gobosa Bay areas. NACFOR also plans to complete its 20-year plan by the end of 2014, and launch its grant program in August. The organization has $52,616 available to disburse this year. The application deadline will be sometime in September and grants will be awarded in late October.

In 2013, 16,275 seedlings were planted on 11.9 hectares, and in 2014, 229,140 seedlings are slated for planting on 169.9 hectares in the Fereul and Shawnika areas. In 2013, NACFOR and the Village of Nakusp finalized an agreement that allows NACFOR to develop a log yard on the Village-owned lot between Airport Road and the Public Works yard. Development of the yard will continue in 2014.

The community forest has provided quite a bit of local employment since it started up in 2008: five different local logging contractors, employing a total of about 40 people; 26 local taxi operators; one road construction contractor; two road maintenance contractors; one local management company; and several local and regional specialists.

NACFOR is also working with the Kaslo and District Community Forest and Selkirk College to address the shortage of training opportunities in forestry. The organizations hope to develop a program that will offer some core forestry courses, with extensive on-the-job training on logging work sites. NACFOR has formed partnerships with educational institutions. Five students in the UBC Masters of Sustainable Forest Management program developed a forest health strategy for the NACFOR licence area, two fourth year UBC co-op students completed a three-month work term with NACFOR; and Selkirk College’s second year forestry students did a field lab assignment in NACFOR’s Box Lake area. In May, NACFOR partnered with School District 10 on a project where students from New Denver and Nakusp harvested cedar bark for basket weaving with local aboriginal artist Eloise Charon. On May 15, students from Nakusp Elementary went on a field trip to a cutblock in the McDonald Creek area and planted some trees. The Nakusp Secondary outdoor education class will be spending a day in the field with NACFOR on June 5.

Community initiatives NACFOR has participated in include the bioregion initiative, the Bioburker program, and the wood manufacturing and marketing workshop.

NACFOR donated six loads of firewood to community organizations in 2013, and provided NS5 grade students with three bursaries totaling $2,000.

NACFOR directors are Kathy Smith, president; Cami Leitch, treasurer; Lee-Anne Marshall, secretary, Paul Peterson, RDCK; Tom Zeleznik, Village of Nakusp and Frank Poitier, director.

Annual Strawberry Shortcake Sale
Wednesday, June 11th
Noon to 2 p.m.
Robertson United Church
$3.00 each or two for $5.00
These delicious desserts come in bowls with lids, ready to eat or to tuck away in the freezer for future enjoyment. Stop by and put them to the taste test!

For orders call:
June Brown 265-3123
Agnes Finch 265-3369
Heather Maxfield 265-7240

This is our annual fund raiser, 2/3 of the funds raised stay within this valley. The remainder raised will go to help cover post surgical dressings we make and provide to cancer patients; to support Cancer Research and for various scholarships.
Martha Chapter No. 24, Order of the Eastern Star thanks you for your support!

Summit Lake Ski Club AGM
Tuesday, June 10, 2014
Nakusp Senior
Secondary
Room 20 @ 7:00 Everyone welcome.

Both Mr. Look explains the NACFOR Granting process at the May 28 Open House.
Trouble with boat ramps at Burton and Edgewood

by Jan McMurray

RDCK Area K Director Paul Peterson’s frustration level with BC Hydro over the boat ramps at Burton and Edgewood recently reached a peak, prompting him to write the following:

“Dear BC Hydro: You have spent over $2,000,000 on Burton and Edgewood’s ramps and haven’t improved our access to the Arrow Lakes at all. You have created a danger zone for launching in Burton, and wrecked the peninsula in Edgewood. What are you going to do for us next?”

Edgewood ramp

Many people in Edgewood are very disappointed with the location of their new breakwater, which is on top of the beautiful sandy peninsula to the south of the ramp. On May 24, one of their fears was realized when Eagle Creek cut a new channel that washed away a chunk of the peninsula, taking part of the breakwater with it.

Peterson notified BC Hydro right away, and received a response on May 28. “BC Hydro is taking a number of steps this week to assess what’s happening on site and ensure public safety. This includes involvement from our geotechnical/erosion, engineering and safety experts. As a result, we will see some onsite activity in the next few days as we determine the safest response.”

However, “it will take time to determine a feasible alternative.”

Peterson reports that people from Edgewood had originally wanted BC Hydro to realign the Eagle Creek – north side of the peninsula and bury the breakwater on the north side. When asked why this was not done, BC Hydro spokesperson Sabrina Locicero said, “The anchor blocks were not originally buried on the peninsula due to the fact that it is an archaeological site. BC Hydro’s priority is to address the safety and functionality of the Edgewood ramp and breakwaters. Erosion of the peninsula was caused by a side channel of Eagle Creek, and was not caused by, nor aggravated by, the breakwater and anchor block structure that rests on the peninsula.”

In addition to erosion concerns, many Edgewood residents feel that the breakwater is an eyesore on the pretty peninsula, and that the anchor blocks will be a hazard to boaters when the water rises over top of them.

Burton ramp

The Burton ramp is not safe to use because it is not finished, and the drop-off at the end of the camp goes straight down about 8-12 feet.

“BC Hydro spent $1.2 million building a new ramp that is closed and it is the May long weekend,” writes Director Peterson to BC Hydro.

The community was given a choice between an upgrade to the existing ramp in Burton Historical Park or a new ramp south of Burton that would provide access to the lake for a longer season. Peterson is now questioning the choice of the new ramp, as it is not providing any access to the lake whatsoever at this point. BC Hydro spokesperson Sabrina Locicero reported that the current top of the ramp is built to an elevation of 439.5 metres, and will be extended out to 425.5 metres. This work was scheduled for February, but due to rising water levels, had to be deferred to next year or “the next available opportunity based on reservoir elevations.”

Meanwhile, BC Hydro has taken steps to alert boat ramp users to the drop-off at the end of the Burton boat ramp. In early May, a barricade was installed and safety signage was installed following the May long weekend.

Then on or around May 27, the walkway partially submerged on one side when one of the walkway chains got hung up on a piling while the reservoir was rising. “What caused the walkway chain to get caught on the piling is unknown,” reports Locicero. “Our crews righted the walkway on Tuesday, May 27. We don’t anticipate this to be a commonly recurring event.”

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Only $10-$30
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Calling all sport and recreation groups!

You are invited to attend a FREE workshop on Volunteer Recruitment and Retention, Thursday June 12 at 7:00 pm at the Seniors Hall in Nakusp. This workshop is brought to you by the newly forming North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council.

To register, send an email to nkrsconference@gmail.com with your name, contact info and name of your group.

You are also invited to attend a public meeting on Tuesday June 17th at 7:00 pm at the Knox Hall in New Denver to discuss the formation of the council. Your opinion is important! You can check out our webpage at www.nkcrc.org for more information.

Building Permits - Do You need one?

Building permits are required for any new construction within the Regional District of Central Kootenay. A building permit is required before starting any building construction projects, as well as addition or alteration projects such as:

- Decks
- Placing manufactured homes
- Carports, garages and sheds
- Modifying or adding to plumbing systems

All building permit applications are reviewed for health and safety related design details, as regulated by the BC Building Code. This review will save you time and money through the construction process. The cost of a permit is 1% to 1.5% of the construction value of the project (material and labour at market rates).

Applications for building permits are also reviewed for compatibility with land use regulations relating to the Provincial Agricultural Land Reserve, floodplain management, and Regional District zoning bylaws.

Applications for permits and other construction-related information can be obtained at the Regional District of Central Kootenay Building Inspection Office nearest you, or online at www.rdck.ca. For further information, please contact:

Building Inspection Services
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Box 580, 202 Lakeside Drive
Nelson, B.C. V1L 5R4
Phone: (250) 352-4150 Toll Free: 1-800-266-7325
Fax: (250) 352-9300 email: blddept@rdck.bc.ca
Office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
WildSafeBC program expands into Regional District Area K

COMMUNITY

For more information, contact Bree Lillies at newdenver@willsafebc.com or by phone 250-354-8120. Check out www.willsafebc.com and follow it on Facebook at www.facebook.com/willsafebc/newdenver.

WildSafeBC New Denver is grateful for the support from the Ministry of Environment, Columbia Basin Trust, Regional District of Central Kootenay, the Village of New Denver, and the British Columbia Conservation Foundation.

Nakusp artist Denise Marshall to exhibit at Studio Connexion by Art Joyce

With an excellent little gallery like Studio Connexion in Nakusp, it’s no surprise that artists are coming out of the woodwork. Denise Marshall will exhibit her ‘Explorations’ series of oil and watercolour paintings at the gallery from June 10 to 28, with the opening reception Friday, June 13.

Marshall, who works as head cook at the hospital, has no formal education as an artist but has been mentored by some of our best local artists, including courses in oils with Betty Fahiman and figure drawing with Booche Elzinga. Marshall also studied drawing with Voorhees Nakusp artist Barbara Myers. As influences on her work she says she “absolutely loves” the Group of Seven, Emily Carr and Georgia O’Keefe.

Although always very creative, like many parents she had to wait until her children were grown up in 2002 before she had time to pursue her art. She’s definitely seeing a trend in her painting toward the impressionistic and fine arts moving into abstraction. Although mostly painting in oils, she recently began experimenting with watercolours, adding ink and graphite to the medium. “I definitely love more impressionistic art than realism. I’m just in the middle of really exploring all kinds of different styles and media. I feel like I’m really growing. I’ve produced a lot of art in the past few years. I’m striving to be looser, I don’t want to be tight.”

Marshall’s leap into creating art began with helping her husband paint teapots. They ended up with leftover canvas and she began painting designs intended originally for use as rugs. But people who saw the work said they couldn’t imagine stepping on them and encouraged her to display them as art. She began by volunteering to host shows for the ALFA Guild before joining the board and submitting her first piece in 2003.

The series title ‘Explorations’ well reflects her adventurous approach to painting media. She says she’s still developing her style but firmly feels she has enough skill to successfully explore different styles.

Africa’s Unfinished Symphony wins award by Jan McMurray

Singer-songwriter Lucía Mann’s most recent book, Africa’s Unfinished Symphony, has won a National Indie Excellence Award (NIEA) in the Historical Fiction category. NIEA was created to help establish self-publishing as a proud, legitimate, and strong facet of the publishing industry. In the email informing Mann of the award, NIEA President and CEO Ellen Reid states, “Your book, Africa’s Unfinished Symphony, truly embodies the excellence that this award was created to celebrate, and we salute you and your fine work.”

Africa’s Unfinished Symphony has also been shortlisted for One Book One Kootenay 2014. The selected CBOK will be announced September 8. People can vote for their favorite of the three shortlisted books at Nakusp Library until August 9.
Slocan Valley Co-op grand re-opening event July 18 & 19

submitted

The Slocan Valley Co-op is thrilled to announce a fun filled (two-day event – Member Appreciation Day, Friday, July 18 and Family Day, Saturday, July 19) in celebration of the exciting grand re-opening of the newly renovated store. The Co-op kicks off the event with a members-only appreciation gift coupon, where members can save up to $5 (some restrictions apply). Coupons provided when you come and find us on Friday, July 18. Saturday, July 19, festivities will begin with the official cutting of the ribbon at 11:00 am. Katrin Conway, owner, will be in attendance. Free hot dogs, snow cones, vegetarian alternatives, as well as ice cream and pop will be served.

Metal racks of ‘stickers’ stolen from Slocan mill site

by Jan McMurray

A theft has occurred from the Slocan mill site. Several metal racks holding ‘stickers’, small pieces of wood used to separate lumber while it’s drying, disappeared from the site sometime during the week of May 19. Kevin Sutherland, the wood salvage subcontractor on the site, discovered the theft. Ralph Tomlin, site manager, said that thousands of the stickers were stolen, and “we’re trying to decide who did it.” The other element we’re really excited about is the events calendar where people can list events related to food production or local food advocacy. At the end of the day, the ultimate goal of the site is to have a truly living place where we can come together and see what’s happening in the rest of the region.

neatly folded and clicking ‘Farms’ you’ll find Quick Me Up Farm and Fitchery, run by Mee-Jen Dickie, providing eggs, duck and ducks. Not only does she raise ducks, she has a heritage conservation

The site provides profiles of local farmers and food suppliers and has already started visiting to previously little-known food providers. For example, a visit to the ‘Dig It’ tab and clicking ‘Farms’ you’ll find Quick Me Up Farm and Fitchery, run by Mee-Jen Dickie, providing eggs, duck and ducklings. Not only does she raise ducks, she has a heritage conservation

element to last business, seeking to preserve rare breeds. When asked about the most challenging aspects of the farm, Dickie talked about the lack of locally grown feed available. ‘We need a reliable source of grain around here. We get really good feed from this farmer who grows his own grain. But he lives in Alberta, so we need someone around here to be able to grow the grain and mix it at the same time. We want to know where the food comes from. We want to know what’s in the feed.’ Which is exactly why a site like kootenayfood.com. The site is so valuable – grain suppliers who meet their criteria can post their own profiles to the site.

Under ‘Dig It’/Food Groups’ you’ll find Kootenay Permaculture, Kootenay Organics Growers Society (KOGS), the Regional Food Hub and the Nelson and District Women’s Centre. While some groups such as KOGS have been around for some time, others like the Regional Food Hub are just getting started. Once again, having the website as a central portal is an ideal way to attract people from the food industry to participate. The Hub hopes to help Kootenay growers from Grand Forks to Creston and Salmon to Meadow Creek and Nakusp through ‘building agricultural capacity, infrastructure, educational and marketing opportunities.’ The ‘Fork’ section remains to be built, directing users to restaurants, grocery stores, farmer’s markets and other food retailers.

Teare says the project is currently working on a documentary of about a dozen Slocan Valley farms, which will be premiered at the Deconstructing Dinner film festival in October. The idea of a paid administrator is also being explored — someone who can manage traffic on the site and help connect people throughout the entire Kootenay region.

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Selkirk College Rural Pre-Medicine Program student takes on challenge in South Africa

submitted

Jesse McDonald, who grew up in Nakusp, is preparing for her medical school journey by spending an intense summer on a research project aimed at making life better for some of the most vulnerable youth in South Africa.

Earlier this year the Nelson resident was accepted into Selkirk College’s Rural Pre-Medicine Program and will be part of the new program’s first cohort. While searching out options for the summer break, the 23-year-old came across the Indiegogo Caring Families Project currently being spearheaded by researchers at the University of Oxford’s Centre for Evidence Based Intervention.

“I just wanted to do something that would get me really, really pumped up for the next 10 years of school,” McDonald said on the eve of traveling to South Africa in late April.

McDonald was accepted as a volunteer frontline research assistant on the project that is attempting to reduce the risk of child abuse in rural South Africa. The purpose of the project is to develop a culturally relevant, evidence-based parenting and teen program designed to reduce the risk of maltreatment and abuse inside and outside the home.

The program is aimed at high-risk families—families affected by HIV/AIDS and those already in child protection services—with children aged 10 to 17.

“We have the ultimate goal of becoming a doctor in rural Canada and previous volunteer work with Canadian Mental Health, McDonald decided her vacation had provided her the opportunity to spend four months immersed in hands-on research.

“While I really like about it is that it goes well beyond the generic volunteering,” she said. “It’s meaningful research that’s going to be used for a long time. My goal is to be a family doctor, so getting to go and participate in something that is based on family dynamics and interpersonal dialogue between parents and children is going to be relevant.”

Overcoming adversity of her own

McDonald grew up in Nakusp and from an early age found a passion for snowboarding. With the Summit Lake Ski Hill acting as her playground, she became very good in the discipline of boardercross.

By her teen years, McDonald was a nationally ranked boardercross athlete with her sights set on making the Canadian National Team for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver/Whistler. While training in Austria in 2008 she suffered a knee injury that would become a six-year ordeal of being misdiagnosed through the medical system.

While she battled chronic pain and anxiety, McDonald attempted a comeback for the 2014 Winter Olympics Sochi. Unable to regain her form, a year ago McDonald realized the dream of a boardercross gold medal was over.

Last summer McDonald decided to move on with her life and enrolled in Selkirk College where she began charting her course for a career in medicine.

“It’s hard for me to shift my focus to something else, but it has been amazing,” she said. “I have been given so many opportunities in the last year and that is mostly to do with Selkirk College and the people at the college.”

A harsh introduction to rural South Africa

McDonald arrived to Cape Town, South Africa in the first week of May and has been thrown right into the thick of the research project.

In her first blog post of the trip, McDonald wrote about setting into her new community of King Williams Town where the contract between life in Canada and South Africa was clear.

“These rural living conditions are horrifying,” she writes. “It seems shocking that parts of South Africa are still living in extreme poverty in this day and age. South Africa is considered very developed in comparison to other parts of the continent.”

Though a volunteer and new to the project, in the first month McDonald has been given plenty of responsibility as researchers recruit families for a series of workshops that will be vital to outcomes of the study.

In her blog, McDonald describes what she and her colleagues are up against.

“Teens are tough — yes, all over the world! But the likelihood of a teen developing behavioural problems increases when there is hunger, disease, being poor, etc. thrown into life. Same goes for the caregiver. I saw on my first day a mother who has seven children all living in one room, with chickens and goats. She is an alcoholic and leaves every day to find liquor. The children see no choice but to skip school and go to the dump to find food for basic survival.”

Preparing for a career in medicine

McDonald’s contract in South Africa runs the length of summer. In late August she will return to school. I love learning and am looking forward to stepping back into it with this program.”

In order to help her pay for the month of volunteer work in South Africa, McDonald has set up an Indiegogo campaign where she is raising money to cover her costs. In return, those who support her will be provided with updates from her journey. Find out more about the campaign at her Indiegogo page: https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/make-a-difference-support-my-volunteer-work-with-teens-in-rural-south-africa/home

StewardChoice to propose new recycling plan as alternative to MMBC

submitted

StewardChoice Enterprises Inc. has announced that it intends to offer an alternative to the MMBC recycling plan to producers of packaging and printed paper.

This month, the company will publish a draft stewardship plan, which will undergo public consultations over the course of the summer. Once the plan is approved, the new recycling service will commence as early as next year, initially in multi-family residential buildings.

Neil Hastie, Development Director and spokesperson for StewardChoice Enterprises Inc., said the company would be open to conversations with communities that are not currently covered by the MMBC plan, but “we are going to try pretty light in that area because we need to get our feet on the ground and get some experience working with multi-family buildings.”

“We see this as an opportunity to provide producers with more choice while offering cost-effective solutions,” says Hastie. “We strongly believe that producers should have the ability to choose a preferred service when determining how to meet their regulatory obligations.”

Under the British Columbia Recycling Regulation, companies must recover at least 75 percent of their packaging and printed paper generated through households. Today, more than 20 percent of multi-family buildings in BC do not receive a producer funded recycling service.

“We have two priorities at StewardChoice. One is to provide solutions for producers to achieve their environmental goals in compliance with the Recycling Regulation,” says Hastie, “and the other is to offer a plan that will increase collection of packaging and printed paper waste generated in BC, beginning with areas like multi-family buildings that are currently not receiving any producer funded recycling services.”

StewardChoice Enterprises Inc. is a subsidiary of Reclay Stewardship Canada, a Canadian-based company that provides packaging stewardship solutions to consumer product goods organizations.

StewardChoice is based and managed in the province of BC. Further information can be found at www.stewardchoice.ca.

ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED

for the November 2014 General Local Election

The Regional District of Central Kootenay is recruiting for election officials for the November 15th, 2014 General Local Election.

To be considered for a position, you must:

• Be 18 years of age or older
• Legally able to work in BC
• Work on election/advance voting day (Nov 5-15, 2014) from 7 am to 10 pm
• Previous experience desirable

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact:

Randy Matheson, Chief Election Officer, RDCK
250.352.8153 or rmatheson@rdck.bc.ca

The Valley Voice June 4, 2014
Golf Courses
Nakusp Golf Course - Nakusp
Phone/Fax: (250) 265-4531
www.nakuspgolfcourse.com
rcg@nakuspgolfcourse.net
GREEN FEES: Adults $25.00/9 holes, $34.30/18 holes
Senior rates - 10% off. Juniors 14-18 $31.00 and 6-13 $22.50/9 holes
9-hole punch card available.
Manager: Mel Paul
Reservations: 24 hr. Peak Season, Drive Range.
THE MOUNTAIN VIEW CAFE – Fully licensed restaurant;
Phone: (250) 265-3500 Walk-in on tee times, no reservations required.
Ladies’ nights: Tuesday 4:00-6:00 Guests welcome
Men’s nights: Thursday 4:00-6:00 Guests welcome.

Slocan Lake Golf Course - New Denver
Phone: (250) 358-2408
www.slocanlakegolfclub.com
9 HOLE/PAR 3 COURSE - LADIES NIGHT REQUERD
Green fees $2/12 Holes or $33/36 Holes
Reservations, golf carts, lessons available.
Ladies Night – Tuesday. Guests welcome.
LETHA HOLE RESTAURANT. FULLY LICENSED, OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK.
Johnny Tier Men’s Tournament – Saturday, June 14
Food Bank Fundraiser – Saturday, July 12
SLGC Open – Sunday, August 10
Kushwakken Couples Tournament – Saturday, September 6
Club Closing (Members Only) – Sunday, September 21

Hot Springs
Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa
(250) 358-6899, 686-4699, 265-3354
www.halcyonhotspa.com
www.halcyonhot springs.com
温泉 / mineral hot springs are the main attraction in the area. The resort offers a variety of spa treatments, including massages, facials, and body wraps. The resort also has a restaurant, a fitness center, and a pool. The resort is open year-round.

Wilson Creek Resort & Spa - Kaslo
(250) 358-7788
wilsoncreekevent@telus.com
www.wilsoncreekevent@telus.com
Just north of New Denver. Nestled between Wilson Creek and Galena Roads to trails. Two-Miles from town to lake. Drive along mountain biking, hiking and lake tours. Paddleboard, kayak and roundtail rentals. Reservations preferred. Turn off Hwy 6 towards the lake at Deaf Joe Drive (south side of Wilson Creek) and follow the signs.

Centennial Park - New Denver
(250) 358-2867
www.newdenver.ca
On the lake in New Denver, 50 sites, 6 with electricity & water hook-up, sauna, dump, showers, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

Silverton Municipal Campground - Silverton
(250) 358-2472
www.silverton.ca
At Leaveland and Turner Streets. 20 sites, 18 with water and sewer hook-ups; 1 with full service, Local bars and restaurants nearby.

Springer Creek RV Park & Campground - Slocan
(250) 355-2266
springer@telus.net
www.slocanrvpark.com
Open May 16 to Oct 15. Located at 1206 GRM Rd, Slocan, Turn right immediately off Hwy 6 entrance to Village of Slocan. Full pull-through sites and KOA camping using designated back-ins. Local dining, bars, and entertainment.

Kaslo Municipal Campground - Kaslo
(250) 353-2662
kaslo@kaslocampground.com
www.kaslocampground.com
April 1 – October 15, 2023, every site with water and sewer connections. Tent sites and RV sites available. Local bars and restaurants nearby.

Woodbury Resort and Marina - Kaslo
(250) 353-7717
www.woodburyresort.com
www.kasloandkaslocampground.com
www.wmresortandmarina.com
On the lake in Kaslo. 25 sites, 20 full service. Local bars and restaurants nearby.

Ministry introduces five-year guide outfitter licence
subsidies
New five-year guide outfitter licences will save guides time and money, while lowering fees for visitors, under a broad range of government, says the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations web.
The cost for a five-year licence will be set at $2,000, $500 less than if five consecutive one-year terms were purchased. One five-year licence fees will remain at $5500.
The new regulation will also eliminate the $25 late payment fee currently in place for licences purchased after May 31.
An applicant who has not previously held a guide outfitter licence will pay a $25 fee with their application.
In 2014, amendments to the Wildlife Act will allow corporations as well as individuals to hold guiding territory certificates. Another amendment also replaces the licensing requirement for assistant guides with an authorization issued by the employing guide outfitters, giving guide outfitters more flexibility to hire help in unexpected peak periods. Regulations enacted both these changes are being developed for implementation for the 2015-16 guiding season.

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription
Only $10-$30

Vineyard
CHOCOLATE SHOPS
Jennifer Chocolates - Nakusp
(250) 358-7950
chocolate@ Jenniferchocolates.com
www.jenniferchocolates.com
91 4th Ave. - Our local artisans chocolates make everything right here on location at the chocolate shop, from the bean to the bar of chocolate! We have a chocolate bar, truffle, and House Blend, and crafts our chocolates with care and patience.

All of the chocolate food products are made with a passion for excellence, and the chocolate is made fresh every day.

KAYAKING
Kaslo Kayaking - Kaslo
(250) 358-5757
kaslo@kaslocampground.com
www.kasloandkaslocampground.com
www.kaslokayaking.com
www.kasloandkaslocampground.com
Kaslo Kayaking is a family-owned business located on the beautiful Kootenay Lake in Kaslo, British Columbia.

Outdoor activities include kayaking, canoeing, and stand-up paddleboarding. Kayaking and canoeing rentals are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

SPORTS/OUTDOOR SHOPS
Valhalla Pure Outfitters - New Denver
(250) 358-7757
www.valhallapureoutfitters.com
www.valhallapureoutfitters.com
www.valhallapureoutfitters.com
www.valhallapureoutfitters.com
Valhalla Pure Outfitters is a full-service outfitter and retailer specializing in high-performance clothing and gear.

Open 2nd weekend in May, Close Thanksgiving weekend in October - Open: 7 days a week - 8 am to 6 pm.

HISTORICAL EVENTS
Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription
Only $10-$30

Yoga
CHOCOLATE SHOPS
Jennifer Chocolates - Nakusp
(250) 358-7950
chocolate@ Jenniferchocolates.com
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91 4th Ave. - Our local artisans chocolates make everything right here on location at the chocolate shop, from the bean to the bar of chocolate! We have a chocolate bar, truffle, and House Blend, and crafts our chocolates with care and patience.
Feature film from Nelson to be screened on Parliament Hill

submitted

The Nelson-produced feature film "The Change Agents" was scheduled to be shown on Parliament Hill June 3.

M.P. Alex Atamanenko, in collaboration with the Citizens’ Climate Lobby, screened the film for an invited audience of senators and members of the House of Commons. Representing the film and attending from Nelson were writer/director Robyn Sheppard, producer Sarah Hayward, and actors Lucy Carver Brennan and Mike Coons.

"The Change Agents" is the coming-of-age story of Carly Duffett, a high school student whose growing anxiety about the global environmental issues, and her family's apathy of the adults that surround her, inspire her to organize a youth movement that challenges her peers and community to step up and show environmental leadership. The drama about finding the strength to turn your beliefs into action captures the authentic voice of youth.

The film itself is a testament to the power of youth to inspire action. Its director, Nelson teacher Robyn Sheppard, wrote the screenplay after cocreating a program to educate students about the climate change crisis. Not only did Sheppard’s script explore the subject of youth empowerment, but it also inspired the drama students of Nelson’s/ULV Rogers Secondary School to turn the script into a full length feature film.

Students were involved in all aspects of the film making process, both in front of and behind the camera. Mimicking the film’s plot, the production brought together the students, gifted mentors, some film professionals, many local businesses and the community at large, of whom volunteered their expertise, time and talents.

For actor/school student Lucy Carver Brennan, the Parliament Hill screening is like "a film come true."

"It’s so exciting for us to share our film with our political leaders. We want them to know that we know how serious it is, and that we are ready to make change happen... and that we really need their help."

Community

submitted

"The making of a feature length film is a Hercules undertaking and not for the faint of heart," says producer Sarah Hayward. "Without the support of workshop participants, members of the Nelson Film Society, Moussianovski (co-producing executive), the people of Nelson, and in particular executive producer In Ann Lowell, this film would not have been possible."

"We are so pleased to be co-hosting the screening of The Change Agents with the Centre for the Living Arts, City of Nelson, Update, the Nelson Film Society and the Kootenay, national manager of Citizens’ Climate Lobby. "The Change Agents" is an important story that needs to be told and we are grateful for the opportunity to do so."

Program for abused women plans fall session

submitted

Women interested in enrolling in the very successful Bridges for Women program need to get their names in now for the fall session.

Running September 6 to November 27 in Nelson, this will be the fourth Bridges’ session, a 12-week program designed for survivors of violence or abuse. Women work to improve the quality of their lives, rediscover their self-worth and value, and move toward improving employability and involvement in their communities.

The program explores the psychological, emotional, physical and spiritual impacts of abuse, and delves into the role of culture, parenting, self-care, employment readiness, the hidden job market and the role of personality, among many other topics. Along with art and group discussions, a major project in the creation of a vision board. Mentors from the community are also invited to speak on issues that have relevance to the health and wellbeing of the women as they move forward with their lives.

"Women come away from the sessions inspired, skilled and motivated. Though I knew I had experienced abuse," said one participant, “it was such a validation and an exploration of the actual impact it had on me.”

Said another, “I feel now I have a plan and made a solid decision as to my future that I don’t need to evaluate constantly. I feel I can take action and move forward.”

The Bridges for Women program in Nelson is a joint project of Nelson Community Services Centre and Kootenay-Columbia Child and Family Services.

Community Services Centre and Kootenay-Columbia Child and Family Services provide support to children, youth and families. Support is available in a variety of formats, including but not limited to: individual and group counseling; crisis intervention; support planning; practical assistance; and training and education. Please contact the Community Services Centre at (250) 352-3574 or Kootenay-Columbia Child and Family Services at (250) 352-3300 to inquire about programs and services available.

New summer programs planned

submitted

Valhalla Fine Arts

Registration forms available online at or Lucerne School.

Staged reading of new play at The Langham Cultural Centre

submitted

From the page to the stage - a script development workshop and staged reading triangle played in Nelson on Sunday, June 8 at 7 pm at The Langham in Kaslo.

Holley Rubinsky at Writing Residencies Kaslo, worked with Crookshore playwright Debbie Milner over a period of 18 months on her script Front Door Women.

Now, thanks to funding from CBST’s A D Region Community Initiative Grant, Vancouver actor and director Barbara Pollard (Mom’s the Word) will lead a script development workshop of this brand new play in Kaslo over the weekend of June 6, culminating in a dramatic staged reading starring Lynn van Deusen, Colette Enns and Duscie Mathews, at The Langham Theatre on Sunday, June 8 at 7pm.

The script workshop weekend involves fine-tuning the play’s dialogue introducing basic blocking, and, as anyone who has seen live theatre knows, working on the timing. By Sunday play the "gets on its feet" in front of a live audience for a staged reading - so no, no theatrical lighting just the voices and flow of this fast-paced, funny play with a message. The audience will have a chance to talk to the playwright and the director about the dynamic process of script development.

Playwright Milner wrote ‘Front Door Women’ with small, rural futures in mind - small cast, minimal set, and the Langham is the perfect venue.

Milner is the first artist selected for the Langham Cultural Society’s Artist in Residency program, inaugurated this year to celebrate The Langham’s 40th anniversary.

Kaslo Guitar Festival coming up in August

submitted

The second annual Kaslo Guitar Festival, August 11-16, attracts classical guitarists for a week of master classes, private instruction, ensemble playing, and workshops culminating in a Saturday afternoon performance showcasing the week’s accomplishments.

Daniel Boulton, Canada’s leading classical guitarist, returns this year, and we are pleased that San Francisco Conservatory’s Marc Teicher will also join our faculty. Boulton has been to Kaslo several times in the last six years as a guest of the Kaslo Concert Society and says he is charmed by the village as location for an annual guitar festival.

Teicher has been teaching at Mt. Royal University’s ‘Guitar Fest West’ for the past several years, and the timing of the Kaslo even makes it possible for us to engage him as well. Other faculty members include well-known Kootenay guitar teacher Rita Dwanse and David Stewart as well as Stephanie Judy, author of Making Music for the Joy of It.

Here’s what one participant said about last year’s festival: “It was a super-inspiring Classical Gas: five full days of tempo and technique workshops, ensemble and orchestra practice sessions, master classes, followed by a final day of group and solo performances by the students. All of this in a milieu of eager students of varied age and skill levels, coached and inspired by the infectious enthusiasm of an astoundingly competent and encouraging faculty.”

He has already signed up for 2014.

Classes and workshops run from 9:30 am until 4:30 pm each day and there will be public concerts throughout the week featuring faculty members.

To register or for more information about Kaslo GuitarFest 2014 e-mail kasloguitarfest@gmail.com.

Columbia Basin Trust commits $275,000 over three years to Invest Kootenay

submitted

A regional partnership that focuses on developing business, economic and financial investment in Basin communities will receive a funding boost over the next two years.

With commitment of $275,000 from Columbia Basin Trust, Invest Kootenay will continue to help member communities attract, retain and expand the level of investment in their communities, as an economic sustainability and development tool in the region.

Invest Kootenay is a partnership between local governments, economic development organizations and chambers of commerce. Current member communities include Castlegar, East Kootenay and Invermere.

New Summer Programs for Kids!

July 7 - 12, 2014

- Music Explorers - ages 4-6
- Experience Dance - ages 5-11
- VISTA Theater for ages 12+

- "Adventures with Shakespeare"

All programs are found on our web site www.valhallafinearts.org

New summer programs for kids in Nelson.

Meadow Creek mill starts up

submitted

Meadow Creek Forest Products has announced that it has achieved its goal of starting up the mill before the end of May. The first log was run through the mill on Friday, May 30.

Bob Botold of MCFP says the machinery is all ready to go, but full production is expected soon, with logs starting to flow into the mill this week.

"The team working at the mill worked long and hard to ensure a prompt start," he said.

Bothold reported that clients from local and overseas markets have been inquiring about the availability of lumber products from the mill. "On the mill side, business is good, full of setting up supply contracts with these clients," he said.
Silverton council, May 20: CBT Community Initiatives funding results

by Jan McMurray

• CBT Community Initiatives Funding was approved at the April 22 Committee of the Whole meeting, as follows: Harvest Share ($1,995); North Slocan Trails Society for K&S Trail improvements ($1,896); Slocan Solutions Society for Radar Speed Display Board ($6,300); Healthly Community Society for Educational School Gardening Programs ($3,750); Slocan Solutions Society for New Denver Recycling Centre/Regreen ($400); New Denver and Area Youth Society ($3,250); New Denver Hospice Society for Bereavement Journal Program ($505); Slocan Lake Golf Club for Pumphouse Rebuild and Water Pump Control ($4,000); Hills Nordic Ski Club ($750); Kootenay Sunniferstl Upgrading for Trail Maintenance and Upgrading ($1,000); LACE for Board Courtyard project ($1,500); Health Arts Society for Concerts in Cure ($1,000); Friends of Silverton Memorial Hall for tables and chairs ($2,500); Kootenay Open Network Alliance ($250).

• Silverton’s Canada Summer Jobs application was denied, “since the demand for funding has exceeded the budget available in your constituency.”

• A letter from UBCM thanks the Village for submitting the final report for the completion of the North Silverton fuel management prescription project. A cheque for $11,250, or 75 percent of the total cost of $15,000, was on its way. The council decided to join the Villages of Slocan and the Towns of Golden and Valemount in writing a letter to Environment Minister Mary Polak expressing concerns about the new recycling program. All these small municipalities feel the program was designed for larger communities and are unsure if they will be able to participate.

• Council Chair gave her RDCK report. A Slocan Valley Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be developed, financed with Area H Community Development funds of $30,000.

• RDCK will put its carbon offsets money into a special reserve fund to use toward lowering emissions within RDCK operations.

In response to skyrocketing insurance costs, RDCK will ask the Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute to complete an analysis on the viability of establishing a Columbia Basin Home Insurance program, and will invite representatives of the Insurance Bureau of Canada to meet with the chairs of the RDCK, REKDE and RDKN.

The Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission has hired a consultant group called Withnight to engage the community in discussions around the $300,000 funding for the Slocan Valley under CBT’s Community Directed Funding program.

At a recent West Kootenay Transit Committee meeting, a bus shelter for the junction was discussed, as was a bay from Nakusp to Invermere that runs daily from Slocan to Nelson.

• Council Chair noted that Carol Bell attended the last Chamber of Commerce meeting as a delegation to announce that she’s been hired as a coordinator for child and youth services in the region. The Chamber is working on signage to promote the Slocan Valley at the Needles and Shelter Bay ferry landings.

Information about Communities in Bloom will be inserted with the new signs. Several people have donated perennial plants.

• The CAO report states that Melissa Miles has moved into the CAO office and is assuming more responsibility. CAO Lauree has reduced hours and will no longer attend meetings. Financial services are being provided by consultant Mark O’Toole of Nelson.

• None Consolidated Bylaw was given three readings. In general, quiet time is from 11 pm to 7 am (9 pm on Sundays). Violators can be fined anywhere between $100 and $2,000.

• The budget bylaw was given three readings. The 2014 budget total $779,958. Property taxes account for $113,406 or 14.52 percent of the total budget. Residential taxes make up 85 percent of the $113,406 and business taxes make up 15 percent. Some significant changes from 2013 are as follows: Fire inspections will be conducted once every two years instead of every year for a savings of $3,500. Repair and maintenance budgets, totaling $80,000, were added for all buildings ($2,000 for Memorial Hall and Village Hall, $1,000 for fire hall, curling rink, gallery and day park).

• Tax Rate Bylaw was given three readings. Residential property owners will pay $2.60 per $1,000 of taxable value and business property owners will pay $5.18 per $1,000.

Employment Opportunity Village of Silverton

Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeping Clerk

Under the supervision of the CAO, the Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeping Clerk will perform a variety of duties. You will be responsible for general front desk reception duties, accounts receivable/payable, payroll, data entry, answering general customer inquiries. You will assist the CAO in the research and preparation of agendas and minutes, record keeping, report writing, correspondence, bylaws, policies, legal plans and documents etc.

The Village is offering a salary of up to $22/hr, depending on qualifications and experience, plus full benefits. A six month probation period will apply. This is a full time position, with a minimum of 25 hours per week. Our office is open Tuesday to Thursday. Attendance at evening meetings may occasionally be required.

The successful candidate should have:

• High School matriculation graduation
• Minimum 2 years’ experience in a municipal administrative position
• Training and Understanding of accounting principles
• Strong leadership, interpersonal skills, and an excellent team player
• Working knowledge of the Local Government Act, Community Charter
• Ability to work independently under pressure, multitask, set priorities and meet deadlines
• Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written
• Valid BC Class 5 Driver’s License

Preferences will be given to individuals who have a post-secondary education in Local Government Administration, Accounting, or Records Management. Experience working with municipal software and an in-depth knowledge of automated accounting systems within a municipal environment is preferred.

Current resumes reflecting applicants’ knowledge, skills and abilities relevant to the position and proof of education, qualifications will be accepted until 4:00 pm, June 18, 2014. Please provide the contact information for at least two previous employer references. Mail your resume to Melissa Miles – PO Box 14, Silverton BC, V0G 2B0 or to mmiles@silverton.ca.

We thank all applicants, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
Nakusp continues to explore bioenergy options

Could Nakusp become home to a clean energy bioenergy plant employing up to 45 people? Imagine taking all the wood waste produced in Nakusp and area – the waste from the mills and the slash piles in the back country that are burned in the fall – and converting it into usable clean, green energy.

This is the proposal of John Christie of Vineyard Tech Consulting and Kelly Burnham of Proton Power Inc., two experts in the development of green technology, who came to Nakusp on May 28 to meet with members of council, local businesses, the Chamber, and the Nakusp and Area Development Board. Christie spoke of two options for Nakusp – to manufacture torrefied wood pellets or to produce green diesel.

Christie focused on the production of green diesel option, describing it as “the most exciting new technology.” The first plant to make green diesel from biomass was opened in Austria in July 2012 by BioEnergy International and OMV, an Austrian oil and gas company. Converting wood waste to green diesel also results in a byproduct called biochar. Christie explained, which is becoming very valuable to restoring carbon in the ground for agriculture.

Christie believes there is enough wood waste available in Nakusp and area to make a green diesel plant feasible. And because green diesel is in high demand, he said there are good investor opportunities. A green diesel plant would require an area of approximately two hectares (five acres) and could produce up to 15 million litres of liquid fuel per year, and employ 40 to 50 people year round.

Christie said green diesel plants can also convert decedent trees like cottonwood, birch, and willow, straw, hay and some municipal garbage into fuel.

Nakusp businessman Tom Zelenkock, who is championing the green energy initiative in Nakusp, says the amount of wood waste in the area is a real problem. “We have so much wood waste from local mills, the pole yard, and Box Lake Lumber, and these businesses cannot dispose of it. This is causing possible business closures or the bfining of this valuable product.”

In June 2013, the Nakusp District Heating Group formed and is looking at a district heating system with Nakusp and community energy projects such as bioenergy and community water go after use? We also delve into some of the complexities of watershed management and how land use can influence watershed health.”

Students also learn that although there is an abundance of water in the West Kootenay, the costs of pumping and treating it make water conservation very important.

Mary has a Master of Science in Plant Ecology, and has worked as a conservation biologist on projects targeting habitat protection, and water and land conservation and stewardship in the Columbia Basin, in both Canada and the US.

Nakusp students know their watershed

“...The curriculum is designed to teach students: What is a watershed? How do we assess its health? Where does our drinking water come from? Where does our household water treatment and sewer infrastructure.”

**Author Bobby Hutchinson comes to the Nakusp Library**

Find out what happens when a marathon running, romance-writing, feisty entrepreneur opens a B&B in Vancouver – and lives to tell the tale in One Book, One Kootenay shortlist author Bobby Hutchinson brings her lighthearted, quirky Blue Collar B&B: Adventures in Hospitality to a special OBK booklist reading on Wednesday, June 18, 7 pm at the Nakusp Public Library.

Please forward your resume in confidence to Linda Tynan, CAO, Village of Nakusp – Box 280, Nakusp BC V0G 1R0, 91 1st Street NW. E-mail tyanan@nakusp.com. The Village thanks all who apply however only those chosen for interviews will be contacted.

**The Village of New Denver would like to invite you to**

**Carrol Gordon’s Retirement Party**

For 27 Years of Dedicated Service
Please bring any “Carrol Stories” you may have. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided.

Date: Sunday June 8th, 2014
Time: 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Location: The Bosun Hall
Nakusp Secondary team competes on Junior Dragons’ Den

submitted

An entrepreneurial team from Nakusp Secondary School is one of six from the area that will compete in a Junior Dragons’ Den, to be held in Trail on June 6.

The NSS team, which is marketing the tri-flash fishing lure, goes up against four teams from Selkirk College and one from Trail. The tri-flash was developed by students and teacher Dorian Bowell several years ago, and has been a consistent seller with profits going to the NSS outdoor education program. Although there are similar products on the market, the Nakusp design ensures the lure rotates at a constant speed, even if the boat speeds up or slows down.

Nelson kids clean up the Slocan River

submitted

The Slocan River is well looked after by the community, but a group of students from Nelson still managed to haul almost 300 pounds of garbage from the water and shoreline.

On May 13, bright and early, the Adventure Tourism Leadership and Safety (ATLAS) Academy, an outdoor program based out of L.V. Rogers Secondary, headed towards the Slocan with the intention of cleaning up the waters and shores of the popular river.

After reviewing, and learning more about river safety, the group set out on rafts provided by John Dutto, owner of Nelson Whitewater rafting and another river guide, Pete Johnson, who generously donated their time to the effort.

We found very little trash, which was a great reflection on the surrounding community, but after several hours of scoping the shores, the group still amassed almost 300 pounds of glass, rubber, metal, and plastic. This haul was an important reminder to respect the hazards and treasures of the Slocan, which offers so much, whether it’s kayaking, canoeing, scenic tube floats, or refreshing dips throughout the seasons.

Nakusp woman officially ‘silver-tongued’

submitted

It is official and photographic evidence has been provided. The Articulators, Nakusp’s Toastmasters Club, is privileged to have in its ranks a silver-tongued member.

After eight years and 32 speeches, Mayumi van der Poel has been awarded her Advanced Communicator Silver Award, presented to her by Toastmasters International Area Governor Elaine Lindsay.

When asked how Toastmasters has impacted her, van der Poel said “Because of the Toastmasters experience during the past eight years, I now enjoy meeting and talking with various types of new people.”

Toastmasters meetings are held regularly in Nakusp at Selkirk College. New people are always welcome to check out The Articulators. The next meeting is June 17th at 7pm.

Chimney fires are preventable. Have a certified technician service your stove and sweep your chimney regularly—ideally once annually.*

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