Volunteerism celebrated at Nakusp Citizens of the Year banquet

by Jan McMurray

Four outstanding citizens were honored and celebrated at the Nakusp Citizens of the Year banquet on May 2. Kathy and Len Smith received the Citizens of the Year Award, Ken Williams the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Taylor Aichele the Youth Award.

Nakusp Rotary Club member Dan Nicholson chaired the event, and noted that this was the 40th annual Citizens of the Year banquet. The club has been hosting the event since 1975.

Nicholson said there were 54 nominations for the awards this year, and thanked the selection committee, made up of past award recipients, for their hard work.

Harry Eells, incoming Nakusp Rotary Club president, welcomed everyone and said this year’s recipients exemplify Rotary’s motto, “service above self.”

On behalf of the Village of Nakusp, Mayor Hamling congratulated all recipients and thanked them “from the bottom of our hearts” for the important volunteer work they do in the community.

Doreen Dobbins, on behalf of MP David Wilks, and Louisa Page, on behalf of MLA KatrinaCrewe, presented the recipients with certificates.

“We all get it that volunteerism is a community effort,” said Page. “This is all of us working together. Thank you to the Rotary Club for getting us together every year to elevate and celebrate the spirit of volunteerism in the community.”

The Citizen of the Year plaques were presented by people who nominated the chosen recipients.

Chris Faint introduced Kathy and Len as “the two people I admire most” in the community, who have shown “remarkable and awe-inspiring dedication to this area.” In their careers, they have protected and managed the forest, and in their spare time, they preserve mining history. Kathy, with Len’s support, has volunteered with the Bow and Gun Club, the Recreation Commission, PALS, Music in the Park, and the winter bird count. She has been involved in NACFOR from the start, and took over the chair in 2013. Both Kathy and Len are active members of the Arrow Lakes Cross Country Ski Club.

Kathy thanked the Rotary Club for giving people of the area the opportunity to recognize the volunteers they work with. She said it was humbling to be chosen for the award, especially because the community is full of volunteers. She also thanked Len for his support.

“He knows when I’m involved, he’s involved,” she said.

Len also thanked the committee “that selected me along with Kathy.” He said Kathy is “a mover and shaker, and I just come along and do whatever I can.” He said he represents the “worker bees” — the people who help out by setting up the tables, sweeping the floors, mowing the lawn. “I am quite proud of that,” he said.

Harvey Truax introduced Ken Williams, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. Ken is an active member of the Legion and has been on the executive many times, but Truax maintains that his true “claim to fame is Mr. Bingo.” Ken is also very involved with the Arrow Lakes Historical Society. He is also a volunteer driver on the Muskox bus, and he was on the ambulance crew for many years.

Ken thanked the people who nominated him for the Lifetime Achievement Award. He said he has lived in Nakusp for 40 years and thinks it’s “the centre of the universe.” He says he volunteers because he enjoys it, and he likes working with his fellow volunteers.

Beth McLellan introduced Taylor Aichele. Taylor is a Level 1 certified ski coach whom the kids love, has coached soccer, is active on the student council, and attends School District 30 board of education meetings as the NSS student representative. She is organizing the “Run for the Cure” in Nakusp on June 19 to raise money for the Canadian Breast Cancer Association. “Taylor has good leadership skills, good enthusiasm, and is good for getting everyone involved and excited about things,” Beth said.

Taylor thanked everyone who appreciates her in the community. She will be attending the Electrician Foundation Program at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops in the fall. “Nakusp is a hard community to leave and I hope to come back,” she said.

Chris Faint presented Kathy and Len Smith with the plaque for Citizens of the Year.
Slocan District Chamber of Commerce hosts Airband Contest

The Air Band Contest was successful beyond the wildest dreams of the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce. ‘The 4 Shades of Grey’ won first prize with their rendition of the 1960s hit, ‘Lollipop’.

PEOPLES PHARMACY
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Navel Oranges Extra Large - Californian PER LB $1.49
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Foothills Butter With Sea Salt or Regular 400g - 454g $4.99
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Foothills Garlic Butter Delicious on your Favorite Breads 250g $3.19
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5 Great Tasting Flavours

Slocan Valley Co-op will be holding its AGM Sunday, May 3rd at 1:00 PM at the Passmore Hall. A light lunch is provided. See in-store for details or check our website: www.slocanvalleycoop.ca

SERVICE CHANGES
We regret to inform that, in order for the Co-op to accommodate the increased cost of doing business, as of Monday, April 27th, the Slocan Valley Co-op will be changing Can Bar services to Self Serve for all fuelling at the Slocan Park pumps.

Jennifer Chocolates
10am - 5pm, Tues - Sat.
91 4th Ave, Nakusp
250-265-1799
Triple-header at the Slocan Community Library

You will also meet Ernst Heikken from Nelson, a prolific writer and publisher of all kinds of books. He has written 17 books, and he is known for his concise writing style. Heikken freely admits, “Life colours our memories, and in the end, the colouring is what we remember best.” For more information, visit the author’s website: www.abcwbookworld.com.

We are looking forward to meeting Owen, a poet from Winnipeg and New Denver. He is a graduate of the University of Victoria in both creative writing and anthropology. As a working anthropologist in the oil sands boreal forest, his poems often explore people, our histories, the dig site, and how we choose to interact with nature. His work has appeared in Planet Earth Poetry’s recent anthology, Poems from Planet Earth, as well as in Prairie Fire, the Canadian literary magazine of new writing. He won their 2014 Balfour Book Award for Poetry in the Summer 2014 edition, and placed second in the same competition in 2013. Last September, Owen was presented with a jeweller-cast replica of Carman’s ring at the Poetry Bash of Thin Air 2014. He returns to the Slocan Valley fresh from his recent travels.

Ferries, in an interview. “We regret the mechanical breakdown that put us in this position, but it is machinery and will be subject to breakdowns. It’s how you deal with those that’s key. If this happened again, we’d have the Galena [larger back-up ferry] in service within two hours.”

During the time that the smaller back-up ferry was in service from Thursday night to Saturday afternoon, the Drive BC website was warning travellers to expect two-hour delays. “We heard of lots of people who had long waits on Friday night,” reported Nakusp Mayor Karen Hammond. Nakusp was hosting the Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments (AKBLG) conference at the time, and several of the 200 people who came down to the conference made alternate arrangements to get home.

“We’re going to have to go to the minister,” said Mayor Hammond. “He promised that a back-up ferry would remain in place for two years, but we’ll need more than that. We need a back-up ferry, period,” she said. “There is an attitude that the brand new ferry won’t work, but now it’s gone down, and it can happen again.”

Hamling says that when the ferry is out of service, it has a huge impact on the economy. “The amount of income that’s lost at our restaurants, hotels and hot springs is phenomenal,” she said.

John Harding of Waterbridge Ferries reports that the propeller of the new MV Columbia was damaged when it was hit by something unknown—presumably a large stump or log below the waterline—interactions with birds and other animals that share this planet with us. “When we see them as individuals with their own lives and communities, rather than a disposable commodity, we are on a potential path to ‘transcendence’ in our limited tendency to see humans as the centre of the universe.”

The larger back-up ferry, theDEV Galena, had to have a survey done of its hull by Transport Canada before it could be put into service. While waiting for divers to come and do the inspection, Waterbridge worked on putting the smaller Slocan Bay ferry into service.

“She’s in the shop at the shipyard,” said Mayor Hammond, “we’re hoping to get her out of the water and her for easier parking.”

Meanwhile, the new MV Columbia was taken to the Waterbridge shipyard in Nakusp, where there is a spare propeller. Harding described the installation of the new propeller as “a major job.” The damaged propeller is in the shop at the shipyard, waiting for parts that are expected from Germany. Once it’s fixed, Waterbridge will again have a working spare propeller.

“Now [the propeller manufacturer] said the propeller is much larger and stronger than the one on the older ferries, so we weren’t expecting this,” said Harding.

Owen Nicholson, recent recipient of the Barf Centre Bliss Carmean Prize for Poetry, will introduce his work at the Slocan Community Library, May 15.

You will also meet Ernst Heikken from Nelson, a prolific writer and publisher of all kinds of books. Along with so many other skills and achievements, he is editor-in-chief of the literary magazine New Orphic Review and has published 47 books. Listen to this description of his latest book of tales that “unfold in the landscape of his youth”: “All the stories in False Memories and True Tales are fundamentally true, although the author’s reconstructions are as inventive as the imagination will allow, or so he would have us believe.”

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Loud pipes on motorcycles

I live near Hwy 31A, and have to put up with loud motorcycles for much of the year. Apparently, some bikers feel they are safer with loud pipes because others on the road will hear them coming. I recently read an article on www.Autoevolution.com by Florin Tito that debunked the myth that loud pipes saves lives.

The article said that loud pipes are not a primary safety measure, but a secondary one. Learning how to ride carefully is the most important thing you can do for safety. Other things include installing a better horn, or a brighter helmet or jacket.

Simple physics tells us that pipes generate a lot more noise behind the bike than in front of it. So loud pipes don't help bikers get noticed by drivers in front of them. Statistics show that around 77 percent of the accidents come in front of the bike, and only 3 percent from behind.

Finally, the article pointed out that owning a motorcycle does not come with the right to break noise regulations. It’s a matter of being polite and having respect for those around you.

I agree wholeheartedly with Florin Tito.

Suan Varychuk
New Denver

Vertigo blues

I just came back from Vancouver, where I apparently spent one day too many. From my years of investigation into this subject of harm from super high electrical frequencies (EMFs), what I see most typically where the usage is heavy and non-stop (e.g., homes with wifi, microwave ovens, lots of portable phones and cell phone use) is an increasing irritability, and increasing complaints of insomnia.

Vertigo is also one of the symptoms you get when you’ve had too much of the stuff. And the last morning I was there,

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” and include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

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.

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Local NDP candidate comments on federal budget

In the media release on the recent federal budget, the Conservative candidate seems proud of his party’s “balanced” budget. This budget was only balanced by minor adjustments (which belongs to the workers who paid those into it) for $1.8 billion, taking $2 billion out of the $3 billion contingency fund (good fiscal managers should know that contingency funds are for year end spending in extraordinary circumstances, not for spending at the start of the year for political reasons), and selling off GM shares at below market price.

Readers should be aware that this is the first balanced budget the Conservatives have tabled in the last seven years. They might also be interested to note that, according to Statistics Canada, the party with the best record of balancing provincial budgets in Canada over the past 35 years is – wait for it – the NDP.

The Conservative budget rewards the wealthy and does little or nothing for lower and middle income Canadians. The doubling of the Tax Free Savings Account maximum to $10,000 is only useful for individuals with $10,000 in the bank at the end of the year. Harper’s new savings program will benefit only those who benefit the top 15 percent of income earners and will cost all taxpayers $2.2 billion.

The NDP proposal for a $15/day child care plan will, on the other hand, directly benefit working families that need two incomes to get by. This program will create jobs and generate incomes that will be spent in our communities.

The NDP is happy to see some of the parts of the Conservative’s budget – the reduction of the Small Business tax from 11 percent to 9 percent, the reduction of the minimum withdrawal amounts for Registered Retirement Savings Plans, and protection for unpaid internships.

Finally, there is no mention of climate change in this budget. Canadians demand action on this front and the Conservatives continue to bury their heads in the sand. Harper could have taken bold steps to move subsidies now paid to the oil and gas industry to fund new initiatives in solar power and other renewable energy industries, creating good, well paying jobs to replace those lost in the petroleum sector. But instead we got no action at all.

Canadians deserve better.

Richard Cannings
NDP federal candidate,
South Okanagan-West Kootenay

Letters to the editor

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Combat climate change with the language of the bottom line

Climate scientists have long spoken about the dangers of locking up the earth’s atmosphere with carbon dioxide. Also, these efforts have overwhelmingly fallen on deaf ears.

We have been speaking the language of the corporations understand; that is, the language of “the bottom line.” No amount of moral implications or new science is enough to make fossil fuel corporations from exploiting their assets as long as it is profitable for them to do so. There is nothing surprising about this.

It is time we learnt the language of the bottom line.

We must engage corporations in terms they will heed, and two terms in particular. First, carbon pricing, with particular interest in “fee” and “dividend.” Second, the powerful term of our divestment from fossil fuels.

A fee and dividend carbon price is set at the level of the manufacturer, with a dividend sent to citizens, in contrast to the Canadians, who would notify the fact that fossil fuel corporations are destroying their way for free, and would level the playing field for Canadian manufacturers, making them economically competitive.

As for divestment, the 2014 Global Investor Statement on Climate Change, signed by 47 institutions managing over US $24 trillion, is a clear sign that financial brokers no longer consider fossil fuel corporations good investments.

The application of these powerful financial tools will bring markets to bear on global warming, in a language that corporations will hear loud and clear.

Dona and Paul Grace-Campbell
Kaslo

Dear under 40 crowd

I am sorry to inform you that the people who do not care about your future are not the corporations – they are your parents or grandparents, the baby boom generation. They are the largest entitled and wealthiest generation born right after World War II.

Did you know that the baby boomers/re parents sacrificed and paid higher taxes so that their children (the baby boomers) could wall fund fooded schools, universities, job opportunities and a working infrastructure?

As the boom generation has aged, taxes have progressively lowered and lowered. Federal and provincial governments are selling off government assets to keep the taxes at these unprecedented low rates.

El income tax credits and CPP payments are going to increase as the baby boomer retire. El and CPP are pension rates that retired people don’t pay. The retired baby boomer will be suckling the working young dry.

Royalties from non-renewables are being used in general revenues instead of being used to fund new initiatives.

When the non-renewables are gone and the baby boomers become part of the Big Bang, standart, then guess who will be paying the extraction taxes and a lower quality of life.

You will be increasingly asked to support private and public senior discounts and subsidies to the most affluent of our elderly.

The protest generation is a big voting block. They may have protested the Vietnam War but I haven’t seen one protest divestment of their money.

But take away one second income, and I guarantee there will be a loud flower power sit-in or petition somewhere.

Year under 40 crowd, please get your eyes off that screen. You need to start demanding a better future for your generation: income based discounts and substantial increases in retirement income, and consumption taxes, payroll taxes that benefit working people, and non-renewable royalties to be saved for your generation. Unless you start participating and voting, the ‘peace loving generation’ is going to snore you.

Nina George
Crossnet Valley

The gnarly politics of extinction

Last week I was writing to reflect on the Sinixt event held by Touchstones on April 9 and its aftermath. As Will Johnson aptly pointed out in his article in the Nelson Star, “compromisingly absent from the proceedings was former Sinixt spokesperson Marilyn James.” Many would agree that leaving Marilyn out of an event celebrating 35 years of Sinixt resurgence in their traditional territory is like celebrating 50 years of Canadian government without a Trudeau. It doesn’t matter what your political stripes are, the magnitude of those perspectives is perfectly clear.

Some people are curious about what is going on. And the Nelson Star’s refusal to print Marilyn James’ letter concerning the event and the letter itself, which appeared in the April 27 edition of The Valley Voice, have left many people upset. In her letter, Marilyn’s assertion that Touchstones is colluding with ethnic cleansing in particular was tremendous. I will attempt to cast some light on this matter that concerns all of us living in Sinixt Traditional Territory.

One of the key tools of colonialism in Sinixt Traditional Territory is the manipulation of the languages of First Nations people. As elucidated by Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, most of us are living in Sinixt and certainly otherwise severely punished for speaking their own languages. The result has been what linguists such as Daniel Iredale have called ‘language murder’ (Vanishing Voices: The Extinction of the World’s Languages). Because language has been tightly woven with cultural, political, and social identities, it is unacceptable for what we do and don’t do around recognizing the Sinixt. So, to say that we support the Sinixt is like saying “I support Canada” without saying which vision, which is not you support – for example, Stephen Harper’s vision or Maude Barlow or David Suzuki’s vision.

It’s time to set aside personalities and our own fears of being held accountable for ‘ethnic cleansing,’ or ‘genocide’ and get to work. We can support the self-determination and contributions of each Sinixt person all the while deciding which vision of Sinixt Territory/our home fits with our own political perspectives. I support a vision that recognizes the Sinixt and their responsibilities to their land and addresses the very real and ongoing problems of the Canadian colonial agenda, which is not about obliterating First Nations cultures but also the very land we rely upon for our survival. From a line of one Sinixt elder to another: At what point in our history/did the cocoon of nice become more important than truth?

K.L. Kivi, Nelson Sinixt mu:n-an-lat’7aw (pronounced toon-who-lan-h)
North Slocan Music Lesson Bursary Program available for local families

Submitted

The Valhalla Fine Arts Society announces that the new North Slocan Music Lesson Bursary Program is now available for local families. This bursary program reflects the society’s mandate to build musicality in children and advocate for local families who have children participating in private music lessons.

“We are very proud to partner with the Slocan Lake Gallery Society and Recreation Commission #6 to make this bursary fund available for local youth,” says Katrina Summall, Valhalla Fine Arts President. “We wanted to create a subsidy that will show families our support for music education and enrich our communities with performing arts.”

Applicants must be under 18 years old and reside within the North Slocan area (Enterprise Creek to Valley). A teacher recommendation is required. Eligible students will have the cost of their lessons subsidized by $6 per lesson through payments made to the teacher on their behalf.

The deadline for fall/winter term of each year is September 30 and the spring/summer term deadline is January 15. This fund is available starting 2015 and eligible families can apply for this year’s lessons.

Due to a late start in launching the program this year, the January deadline has been extended.

For application forms or more information, please consult with your child’s music teacher or call 1-877-458-7794.

COMMUNITY

The new van for Pension residents has been ordered! Fundraising efforts by the Slocan Community Health Centre Auxiliary recently got a huge boost with a $30,000 donation from the Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary.

The Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society is holding its AGM on Thursday, May 21 at 7:00 pm at W.E. Graham Community School in Slocan.

Join us as we celebrate the past year and announce this year’s grant recipients.

SLOCAN VALLEY LEGACY FUND

ROCK Resource Recovery Facilities

VICTORIA DAY
HOURS OF OPERATION

All Waste Facilities will be CLOSED on
Monday May 18, 2015

Summer hours will be in effect at Edgewood
Transfer Station with additional opening on Sundays
from May 18th, 2015 (12 noon to 4:00pm)

For more information contact the
Recycling Council of B.C. Hotline at 1-800-667-4321
or the RDCK at 1-800-266-7325
or our website: www.rdock.ca

Silvertown’s CBT Community Initiatives funding allocated

Health Arts Society’s Concert in Care project ($1,000); Healthy Community Society’s North Slocan Food Program ($4,900); Kootenay Spirit Festival ($1,500); Kootenay Sufferfest Society ($2,950); New Denver and Area Youth Centre ($3,250); PALS Animal Rescue Program ($300); Slocan District Chamber of Commerce’s consumer survey ($600); Slocan Integral Forest Co-operative’s North Silvertown fuel treatment program ($10,000); Slocan Lake Early Learning Society’s nursery school furniture ($800); Slocan Lake Gallery Society’s Celebrate the Kohan Marketing Plan ($200); Slocan Lake Garden Society’s irrigation system extension and landscaping ($300); Slocan Lake Stewardship Society’s science-based strategic framework for Slocan Lake watershed ($2,900); White Pines Aikido Association’s student bursary ($800).

Two projects were partially funded. The Slocan Lake Golf Club’s project to repair south side deck was awarded $828. The club asked for $6,500. SQA Dacruz asked for $1,000 for interactive dance awareness programming in public schools, and received $500.

Three projects weren’t funded from Silvertown’s Community Initiatives allocation: Slocan Solutions Society (Sylverton tennis court repair); KBRH Health Foundation (urology campaigns); and Trail Traditional Karate (competitive karate in the Kootenays).

The Village of Slocan

The Village of Slocan is recruiting participants (one project manager, three construction workers and two communications design specialists) for a 28 week Job Creation Partnership “Owl Walk and Tourism Enhancement Project”. This project involves developing and promoting an Owl Walk with interpretive signage through the lands previously known as the “Valhalla Crew Camp”. The JCP will involve work on site preparation, developing trails and an outdoor classroom space, as well as a marketing strategy, promotional materials and educational materials for the new community tourism asset. This Project is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

Further information on this employment opportunity can be found at www.slocanicity.com or www.facebook.com/villageofslocan, or call 250-355-2277. Project start date: May 19th, 2015.

Silverton’s CBT Community Initiatives funding allocated

by Jan McMurray

A proposal for Public Access Lifeguard stations on the shores of Slocan Lake is the result of a donation in memory of the four young people who drowned in Slocan Lake a year ago.

Thanks to Kathy Nicholls, grandmother of one of the victims, Skye Donnet, the BC Government Employees’ Union has made an $8,000 donation to the Lifesaving Society – BC & Yukon. Nicholls belonged to the union, and was responsible for initiating the donation. Nicholls was also a driving force behind getting the specialized search team, Bruce’s Legacy, to New Denver last year at the time of the tragedy.

The Lifesaving Society is proposing one or more stations on Slocan Lake, to be used to save a life in case of a water-related emergency. The society wishes to memorialize the four young people and recognize BCUE on the stations.

Lifesaving stations proposed in memory of four drowning victims

by Jan McMurray

Silvertown council has made its decision on the CBT Community Initiatives funding applications. Final approval is expected at the May 21 RDCK meeting.

The following projects were fully funded: Harvest Share ($1,295).

What’s your vision for the Slocan Valley? Join and become a community builder!

SLOCAN VALLEY LEGACY FUND

www.slocanvalleylegacy.com; donations@slocanvalleylegacy.com

Silvertown’s CBT Community Initiatives funding allocated

The Village of Slocan

The Village of Slocan is recruiting participants (one project manager, three construction workers and two communications design specialists) for a 28 week Job Creation Partnership “Owl Walk and Tourism Enhancement Project”. This project involves developing and promoting an Owl Walk with interpretive signage through the lands previously known as the “Valhalla Crew Camp”. The JCP will involve work on site preparation, developing trails and an outdoor classroom space, as well as a marketing strategy, promotional materials and educational materials for the new community tourism asset. This Project is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

Further information on this employment opportunity can be found at www.slocanicity.com or www.facebook.com/villageofslocan, or call 250-355-2277. Project start date: May 19th, 2015.

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Winlaw School needs your vote for Growing Nature Stewards funding

Winlaw School is once again in the voting pool for funding the Growing Nature Stewards Program and would appreciate your voting support. Voting begins on May 4 at the link below.

Growing Nature Stewards is an aspect of the Winlaw Indigenous Leadership Development (WILD) initiative at Winlaw School. This program facilitates environmental education to create experiential learning and stewardship by accessing local resources, developing sustainable education tools and studying diverse habitats. Primary learning takes place in the outdoor classroom and permaculture gardens at Winlaw Elementary School, with enhanced learning through accessing diverse local habitats. The outdoor experiential learning program provides students with opportunities to create solutions for local environmental enhancements, such as a bee conservation garden, permaculture and soil studies, riparian repair projects and a native forest food garden.

The program’s vision is to have an open structure with interactive learning tools to facilitate group work, presentations and nature studies. Teachers would receive professional development and have access to field study supplies to take on nature study outings. Field trips to other habitats would provide learning experiences for students to compare and appreciate diverse natural environments, with an emphasis on conservation to foster stewardship.

Voting for this project takes place daily. Please start voting daily at http://learningproject.ca/look/768. Your votes will help grow a generation of Nature’s Stewards!

Winlaw School would like to acknowledge the financial support already received from CST Looming Projects and CBT Community Initiatives. If the school receives this final grant, the full vision of the Growing Nature Stewards Program will be brought to fruition.

Students from all over the world who are participating in this year’s Rotary Exchange program in the district toured New Denver, Kaslo and Arrowsmith Hot Springs on April 29. Next year, Clare Yaremchuk of New Denver will be in Switzerland as a Rotary exchange student.

Kani Springs shows off her wings at the Winlaw Water Festival on May 2. This popular annual event was bustling as usual with a colourful parade, a water dedication by the river, a market, a silent auction, and live music.

SVOA holds successful family day

Sloanc Valley Outriders Association Family Day with EASE (Equine Awareness Safety Education) was a great success. Dozens of families brought horse lovers of many generations together to share in the free event at the Sloanc Riding Grounds on April 18.

Sunshine and smiles abounded, with pony rides from many different breeds of horses, lunch concession, great baking, prizes, and many children’s activities, as well as road riding safety demonstrations with horses and riders. Reflective safety equipment made by club members was sold to help cover insurance costs and to maintain the arena and grounds.

Proposed Kootenay Operations Centre

Later this year, FortisBC will submit an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for approval to construct a FortisBC operations centre in Castlegar. If the BCUC approves the application, FortisBC expects facility construction to begin in the spring of 2016.

The proposed facility will mainly provide FortisBC with a long-term solution for replacing aging facilities and those that are reaching the end of their useful life in the Kootenays. The new operations centre will allow us to better serve our customers in the region.

For more information and to submit comments, visit fortisbc.com/KootenayOps, email KootenayOpsFeedback@fortisbc.com or call 1-866-436-7847.
New Denver Council April 28 – Lieutenant Governor to visit

by Katrine Campbell

• The Village’s request for $1,000 from Columbia Basin Trust for a structural assessment of the Knoll Hall was approved.

• The BC Lieutenant Governor, Judith Guichon, will visit New Denver between 8 am and 10:30 am, and would like to visit the school or seniors residence.

• Council approved a service provider agreement between the Village and Slocan Lake Community Soccer. The agreement will allow SCLS to be covered under the Village’s liability insurance; SCLS will be responsible for deductible costs, expenses and policy premiums ($250).

• A proposal was received from the Lifesaving Society (BC/Yukon) to install one or more Public Access LifeRing (PAL) stations on Slocan Lake beaches, which would be a memorial to the four young people who died by drowning off Bigboy Bay on May 10, 2014. Council decided to accept the offer, get one or two in Centennial Park, and to refer the offer to the RDCK which has jurisdiction over Bigboy Bay.

• Council received a letter from Kilian St resident Mr. Sager suggesting that “we all voluntarily let our laws go brown as a sign of our concern over the larger possible water shortage throughout the valley.” He noted the unusually low snow pack and the low level in the lake. However, Fire Chief Leonard Casley has pointed out the dry brown laws were a fire hazard.

• Asked what triggers Level 2 restrictions, CAO Bruce Woodbury said it was hit call, “if people are wasting water we look at Level 2 restrictions. It’s not a shortage of water, it’s its constant pumping and related costs.” WaterSmart will pay for small ads in the paper promoting conservation, and Councillor Nadine Reynolds suggested it be a topic in the next Council Community Woodbury said he liked Sager’s suggestion as a voluntary choice, but it wasn’t up to Council to mandate.

• Mayor Ann Bunka reported on the last RDCK meeting:
  - The household hazardous waste round-up will take place in September, with Nakusp, Silverton and Castlegar participating.
  - The West Kootenay Transit Committee decided that the boards of RDCK, KRD and the Nelson city council should send letters to the Minister of Transportation Todd Stone “encouraging the minister to provide the transit funding that will at a minimum maintain current level of transit service.”
  - The RDCK board-directed staff to “review the 2011 Product Stewardship Interest Statement to confirm current legislative provision for the essential waste services and; identify duplicate costs to rate payers, and report back to the board.” MMB (Multi Materials BC) is “a non-profit Organization, financially industry to manage residential packaging recycling programs in BC.” Bunka called it a colossal disappointment for all of rural BC, “people are paying twice so let’s fix that and make sure and send them a bill.”

• Councillor Heather Fox

WANTED TO BUY: CEDAR AND PINE POLES

Brian Major

• 250-938-3000

Please contact: Gormans Pole Division 250-547-9296

SLOCAN VALLEY

The Valley Voice May 6, 2015

Fire interface work begins on Silvertown outskirts

by Art Joyce

Silvertown Mayor Jason Clark commented at the recent Council Café that the village will be the most fire safe community in the province, and for good reason. The Village has a Community FireSmart Coordinator (CoCo) who has begun phase two of its fire interface work around the village. The project should see completion by summer 2016.

The first part of the Silvertown fire interface was done in 2012-13 on the south portion, covering 47 hectares from Rowland Street to East Chief适当 Now a Silco crew is at work is moving its way from the north side of Silvertown Creek, eventually making its way to Silver Lake at the village’s north end. This will create a fire safe zone that wraps around the private land in the village. The technique is simple: remove the undergrowth in order to keep wildfires at ground level. With too much fuel on the forest floor, there’s a danger that fires can ignite to the tops of trees, causing a ‘crown fire’ that is extremely difficult to control.

Phase two was initiated in early March and will go straight through to mid-June as long as there are no major fires. Work stops completely in the summer and starts again after the fire season is over, usually in the beginning of October. Some years, work can proceed through the winter, depending on snowfall levels. Crews are on track so far, and expect to have a complete project done by the time the spring snow is gone.

“We’re hoping to do this in three seasons so that by the summer time 2016 the job will be done,” says Silco supervisor Stefan Martinson. “It’s a big project to do in three seasons but that’s what we’re pushing for.”

Martinson says it’s already dry in the forest right now, hinting at concerns for a dry summer and high wildfire risk. “We’re seeing some June behaviours in the forest already. We definitely need the rain that’s predicted for the next two weeks. It’s amazing how climate change is affecting us. By the time we’re done Silvertown is going to be as protected as it can get.”

The Village of Silvertown has also had its fire smart work completed but New Denver has had only the first phase completed. Funding for the work comes from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), as well as funding from the federal government. They were given money for five years but they knew it was going to last quite a bit longer so they’re now going year to year, says Clark. “I think we thought it was going to be over by April so they announced another round of funding. I definitely hope they’re going to keep going so I don’t think IBC is ready to call it a wildfire protection program complete.”

Genevieve and the Wild Sundays come to the Kootenays

submitted

2016 was a big year for Genevieve, with the release of her critically acclaimed album ‘Breaker’ and her appearance at a host of international festivals. The Kootenays were graced with Genevieve’s unique brand of soulful music in March and April with performances at the Spring Music Festival and the Nelson Winter Carnival respectively. With a strong follow-up album on the cards, Genevieve’s next Kootenay performance will be at the Trail Summer Futures Festival on July 2nd.

Genevieve and the Wild Sundays perform at the Silverton Memorial Hall on May 9

Genevieve’s debut solo album ‘clouds/paints’ garnered a 2014 Producer of the Year Award for Max Atkinson, and her song ‘Farmer Don’t’ in the Dell was nominated for Country Recording of the Year. In March 2015, she was chosen to be the featured Open Mic artist of the month on the popular website Folk Alley.com.

Laura and Kelly also add original compositions and turn takes on lead, delivering a powerful and engaging live show, that can turn any night of the week into a Wild Sunday.

Notice to Amend Council Procedure Bylaw

In accordance with Section 124(3) of the Community Charter, notice is hereby given that the Council of the Village of Silvertown intends to consider repealing and replacing “Council Procedure Bylaw No. 478 - 2012” with “Council Procedure Bylaw No. 487 - 2015” at the May 19, 2016 Regular Council Meeting which commences at 7:00 pm in the Silverton Council Chambers, 421 Lake Avenue, Silverton, BC. In general terms, the proposed amendments contained in “Council Procedure Bylaw No. 487 - 2015” include the following:

Inaugural Meeting: This section has been updated to reflect new Provincial law, such that the inaugural Council Meeting is held the first Tuesday of November in the year of a General Local Election.

Time and Location of Meetings: This section has been changed such that Regular Council meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (was the third) at 7:00 pm.

A copy of “Council Procedure Bylaw No. 487 - 2015” is available for viewing in person, Tuesday through Thursday, except Statutory Holidays, between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm at the Municipal Hall, 421 Lake Ave., Silverton, BC, V0G 2B0 (250-358-2472).

Written submissions may be delivered to the address above or sent via email to: rmmiles@silverton.ca

Melisa Miles
Chief Administrative Officer

Genevieve and the Wild Sundays perform at the Silverton Memorial Hall on May 9.
Herbal Musings
with Coleen Emery

Strategies for tick prevention and management
If you live near or spend time in wooded areas, blood-sucking ticks are part of your world. This year’s early spring brought with it an early and very active tick season. Knowing how to prevent tick bites as well as how to handle a tick bite effectively is key to avoiding health consequences such as Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and Tick Paralysis.

The first strategy in tick prevention is to understand the types of ticks and the various mammals that may be carrying this pesky parasite. Caused by the bacterium Borrelia burgdorferi, Lyme disease is carried by deer ticks (also known as black-legged ticks). White-footed mice frequently serve as reservoirs for the bacteria, as do deer and many other mammals. Other tick species transmit diseases as well, including Rocky Mountain spotted fever as well as Tick Paralysis affecting both humans and animals. Check out www.agf.ca to learn more about tick identification.

Ticks are most likely to transmit Lyme disease to humans when they are tiny nymphs (juvenile ticks), only slightly bigger than a period at the end of this sentence. Lyme disease manifests as a multi-system inflammatory disease that may affect the skin in its early, localized stage, and later spread to the joints, central nervous system, and other organ systems. Stephan Harrod Buhner explains in his book, Healing Lyme: Natural Healing and Prevention of Lyme Borreliosis and its Co-Infections (Silva City, NM: Raven Press; 2005:12), “[I]f you’re bitten by a tick or two, you should consider yourself lucky.” Lyme disease is especially insidious in its ability to mimic many other conditions such as fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue, and autoimmune conditions.

2. Wear protective clothing: Before your adventure to the woods, prepare by wearing clothing that makes it hard for ticks to get a hold. Wear long pants and long-sleeve shirts, and tuck your sleeves into your pants. Wear light-colored clothing (helps you see ticks before they find skin), and tuck your own hair into your pants and your pants into your shoes.

3. Be on active tick patrol. Before you come indoors after outside activities, shake out your clothing, brush off your hair and check your pets.

4. Do tick checks. Ticks must feed for 36 to 48 hours in order to transmit Lyme disease, so regularly checking yourself for ticks after you’ve been in wooded areas is a largely effective preventive measure. Look for tiny and foreign dark dots, especially in moist body creases in the armpits, groin, hairline, scalp, waistband, and the backs of your knees.

5. Upgrade your tick removal equipment. If you’re using tweezers to remove an attached tick from yourself or your pets, you’re doing it the hard way. Instead, try using small tick removal “spoons” such as the “Tick Tweezer” for little deer ticks or a “Tick Key” tick remover for larger dog ticks. Look for them at pet stores or online merchants.

6. Maximize natural predators: Ticks have few natural predators, however various birds and mammals make fast food out of these pests. In a study from South Africa, chickens were found to eat an average of 10 ticks per hour.

7. Keep your yard tidy, grass cut. Ticks are most likely to find you as you walk through tall grass or hang out in shady, mowed areas. Open space makes poor tick habitat and acts as a good buffer zone between your house and the wilder habitats preferred by ticks.

8. Use natural tick deterrent products. If you venture into tick territory often, consider using deterrent products. Covering the exposed skin with a granary salve that contains essential oils such as geranium, eucalyptus citronella, and lavender not only repels ticks due to its scent, it stops the ticks from being able to attach to the skin.

(Visit Emery Herbs to obtain more info and try our TICK OFF salve.)

9. Support the immune system: Why is it that one individual recovers from a tick bite with no issues while another struggles with a negative health outcome? The answer is immune system strength. When the immune system is strong and resilient, a parasitical attack on the body (aka a tick bite) is resolved quickly and without consequence. But when the immune system is compromised, sluggish or weak, the consequences can be dire. Focus on all the building blocks of a healthy immune system so if a tick bite does happen your arsenal of defense is stocked and ready.

10. Follow a tick removal protocol. If you do find an attached tick, remove it carefully and completely (very important) with tweezers or a tick removal tool, wipe the bite with an antiseptic, and circle it with a permanent marker. Check the bite location for charges such as a red or other unusual inflammation, and promptly seek medical attention from a Lyme literate health professional if you see or experience any symptoms of Lyme disease. The disease is curable if treated in its early stages, but if you wait too long, you could be in for a long and difficult recovery.

Emery Herbs would like to welcome Brendan Murray Nelles, R.Ac to the Healing Team at the Healing Suites of Emery Herbs. He joins Larry Zalecki, DC, Barry Coutant RMT, Joe Mattetta, M.A.C.C.Jessie Spier, ND, Ben Brown, TCM and Colleen Emery, M.H. Welcome Brendan! Colleen Emery, Master Herbalist and owner of Emery Herbs in Winlaw, is passionate about offering access to information that enables individuals and families to be self-sufficient and take charge of their personal wellness.
A whole lotta fun planned for New Denver May Days

by Jan McMurray

The May long weekend is packed full of events in New Denver.

Friday night features the Miss New Denver Royalty pageant at 6:30 pm at the Bonam Hall, followed by the teen dance. With only one candidate for Miss New Denver this year, the format has been changed to one evening only. Elizabeth Sylvain is this year’s candidate, and she will be named either queen or princess on Friday night.

The fish derby starts at 8 am on Saturday ($25) with the Centennial Park campground attendant. The Sicamous Lake Golf Club hosts its May Days golf tournament against this year. Tee off between 10:30 and 11:30 Saturday morning.

The New Denver Quilt Guild’s show and tea is also scheduled on Saturday, from 1 to 4 pm at the Knox Hall. The winning raffle ticket for the beautiful Peace Cranes Quilt will be drawn at 3:45 pm.

Bonam Hall will be decked out for the adult dance on Saturday night. Tickets cost $17 and are available at New Market Foods, Una Coffee Shop, and Mountainview Foods. There will be live music and a midnight buffet, and designated drivers will be available to take people home.

The 31st annual Summit Lake bike race starts at the Summit Lake Day Park at 9 am and ends at Centennial Park. On Sunday, you won’t want to miss the pancake breakfast hosted by the Sicamous Lake District Chamber of Commerce at the park from 7:30 to 10:30.

Head downtown after breakfast on Sunday to the RBC Bike Rodeo and stick around for the entertaining soapbox derby, which starts at 10:30 am (registration at 10 am). What’s in store is offering free ice cream during the derby.

At the park on Sunday, the bocce tournament starts at 10 am. At 1 pm, you can bring your tools and buckets for some sand sculpting fun on the volleyball court. Rob’s Bike Event happens at 3 pm.

Sunday evening, there’s Bingo at the Bonam and an outdoor movie night at Centennial Park.

Everyone will be out on the streets on Monday morning for the 10:00 parade. At 10:30 at the park, watch the crowning of the royalty and the presentation of the Citizens of the Year awards. Afterwards, browse through the artisans and garden market, and the silent auction, and don’t miss the kids’ races and games at noon, and the adult race at 2 pm. The weekend wraps up with the Duck Race Finale.

NEW DENVER MAY DAYS

May 15 – 18

CENTENNIAL PARK

FRIDAY, MAY 15TH, 2015

6:30 pm – MISS NEW DENVER PAGEANT @ Bonam Hall
9:15 – 10:30 pm TEEN DANCE @ Bonam Hall

SATURDAY, MAY 16TH, 2015

4:15 pm – FISH DERBY
Miss New Denver’s Regatta with Centennial Park Boat Adventure. For more info call Great Lakes Marine at 250-552-3662.
10:30 am – 11:30 am TEE OFF 50 GOLF TOURNAMENT
For more info: Call 250-552-3653.
9:15 – 10:30 pm NEW DENVER QUIET GUILD TEA AND QUILT SHOW
Royal Hall, Pacific Avenue.

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH, 2015

10 am – 9:00 pm FISH DERBY CONTINUES...
Cabin Creek Catch & Greet at 9 am. Free Kids’ Fishing Derby & Breakfast.
2 pm – 4 pm PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Hosted by Chamber of Commerce
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm 21ST SUMMIT LAKE BIKE RACE
Start and Finish at Summitt Lake Day Park. For more info: Call Mike and Heather Koster at 250-758-2869.
5:30 pm – 8:00 pm BOCCE BIKE RODEO on Main Street
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm SOAP BOX DERBY
Registration on Main Street.
10:30 am – 11:30 am SOAP BOX DERBY CAFÉ on Main Street.
11:30 am – 1:00 pm “WHAT’S 2’N STORE?” Free ice cream on Main Street.
11:30 am – 1:00 pm 4TH ANNUAL THOMAS DICKEN BODIES TOURNAMENT @ Centennial Park.
11:30 am – 1:00 pm HOT AND COLD BOOZE @ Centennial Park.
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm SAVAN GARDENS @ Centennial Park.
5:30 – 6:00 pm SUMMIT LAKE SPORTS FUN @ Centennial Park.
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm VILLAGE BOOK FAIR @ Centennial Park.
7:30 pm – 10:00 pm BOSS @ Bonam Hall

MONDAY, MAY 18TH, 2015

ALL EVENTS AT CENTENNIAL PARK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
FISH DERBY & BOCCE TOURNAMENT CONTINUE...
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm PARADE LINE UP @ Luminara School
8:00 pm – 10:30 pm POST AND GOLD ROOFING
10:30 pm – 11:00 pm PARADE BEGINNING
Luminara School to Centennial Park.
11:00 am – 1:00 pm MISS NEW DENVER CROWNING CEREMONIES OF THE YEAR HONOURS MAY DAY 2015 AWARDS
11:00 am – 1:30 pm ARTISAN AND GARDENS MARKET
For more info contact EDA at 250-691-9364.
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm SILENT AUCTION
Bonam Hall from 2 to 5.
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm NOON – 9:00 pm BAYSHORE GARDENS
NOON – 6:00 pm KOOD RACES
12 noon – 1:00 pm TREASURIES IN THE HAYSTACK
12 noon – 1:00 pm GAMES, BOUNCY CASTLE AND MORE.
11:00 am – 1:00 pm CELEBRATION TOURNAMENT
Win yourself a free meal in the Luminara Inn at 250-336-2366.
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm ADULT RACES
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm DUKE RACE FINALE

Wishing everyone a happy May Days Weekend!
We’re closed Sunday and Monday
Go to Centennial Park
Support the community!

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Enjoy New Denver May Days!

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Enjoy New Denver May Days!
Kaslo May Days celebrates youth with kid-centric Saturday

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo May Days celebrates the young and young at heart this year.

Start the weekend off right by checking out some live music at the Bluebell Bistro, Kaslo Hotel and Buddy’s Front Street Pizza. These restaurants will have live music on Saturday night, too, and various locations around town will host live music on Sunday evening.

Kaslo Logger Sports is well worth seeing on the May long weekend

Kaslo’s Front Street on Sunday.

The annual Kaslo May Days baseball tournament starts at 8 am on Saturday at Vinya Park. Craft and food vendors open at 9 am on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. On Saturday, there will be helicopter rides from noon to 3 pm, and a horse demonstration at the Riding Club grounds on Arnot Road.

On Monday, visit the Garden Festival (9 am to 2 pm) before catching the parade at noon. The theme of the parade this year is ‘Celebration of Youth.’

Follow the parade to Vinya Park, where the May Pole Dance and Citizens of the Year presentation will take place.

Kaslo Mohawk

Kaslo Mohawk

Kaslo Mohawk

Have a fabulous time at our annual May Days festivities!

Open 5 am to 9 pm
7 days a week
405 4th St. • Kaslo, BC • 250-353-2205

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May Days Celebration

Local produce

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Creston Asparagus

Have a great weekend in Kaslo

Kaslo Community Pharmacy

IDA: HAPPY MAY DAYS!

Serving Kaslo & New Denver
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250-353-2224
kaslopharm@gmail.com

KASLO LOGGER SPORTS

has been
SUPER-SIZED!!!

Saturday, May 16th, Sunday May 17th

Tree Climbing, Log Rolling, Axe Throwing and much more!!

Saturday – Novice and Intermediate Events
Sunday – Men’s, Women’s and Open Events

Both days feature Canadian Championship Competition

11:30 am to 4:30 pm
Kaslo’s Vilay Park
soundsprings.net/idea.com for more info
Great location and high visibility!! Kaslo Florists is walk-in ready for you!

Owner/Floral Designer, will provide some training if required, so that you be ready for the busy spring and summer season. The price of $39,900 includes an extensive inventory of giftware and everything you will need for floral construction as well as a three-door cooler, nice shelving, professional sink, cash register and much more. A guaranteed low rent of under $400 per month makes this the perfect business opportunity.

Contact Louise De Pape at (250) 353-7766 or info@kasloflorists.com or visit our website: www.kasloflorists.com, and our Facebook page

**COMMUNITY**

**Selkirk awards honourary diploma to Atamanenko**

Selkirk College is recognizing retiring British Columbia Southern Interior MP Alex Atamanenko with an honourary diploma in Peace Studies for his contribution to furthering the cause locally and across Canada.

The region’s representative in Ottawa since the 2006 federal election, Atamanenko has been a strong national voice for peace as a member of the New Democratic Party.

“Alex is passionate about world peace,” says Selkirk College President Angus Graeme. “It has been a significant part of his platform and message to constituents and the Canadian people during his nine years as MP.”

In 2011, Atamanenko introduced a private members bill—the Conscquences on Decision Action— which introduced the notion that Canadian citizens opposed to the use of military intervention in conflict zones could have their portion of taxation redirected to humanitarian uses. Though not successful in passing, the introduction of the bill became part of the national conversation about Canada’s role in the international community and theatres of conflict.

“It was a real surprise and a true honour,” Atamanenko says of the honourary diploma. “I am only getting this diploma because I have been working with people that have been involved and dedicated in furthering the cause of peace—people like the folks at the Min Centre for Peace at Selkirk College, the people I have met with in peace rallies over the years and the people all across the country who are making a difference. I am just one spoke in this wheel and it’s quite a humbling experience to be receiving a diploma.”

Atamanenko spent a life teaching prior to entering politics. He moved to the West Kootenay in the early 1990s and began teaching at Stanley Humphries Secondary in Castlegar. In the mid-1990s he teamed up with former Selkirk College instructor Myler Wilkinson to resurrect the Russian language program at Selkirk College, which he helped teach on a part-time basis.

“Selkirk College is a dynamic institution with so many worldwide and innovative programs that serve our communities,” Atamanenko says. “From nursing to forestry to cooking to the arts, it’s a major component of our area’s education. It’s also a significant provider of jobs and contributor to our economy.”

Atamanenko’s entry into politics came in 2004 when he represented the NDP in a hard fought election against incumbent Conservative Party MP Jim Groulx. Atamanenko narrowly lost in 2004, but stayed with it and won the local seat by a landslide in 2006. He has remained a popular regional politician, winning both the 2008 and 2011 elections by a large margin.

Over the years, Atamanenko has maintained his connection to Selkirk College and helped enhance post-secondary education in the region.

“At least has never refused invitations to come and present to students at Selkirk College on a variety of topics,” says Graeme. “He is a frequent contributor to college-wide student events and is always interested in engaging with students on the importance of young Canadians getting involved in the democratic process.”

Now 70, Atamanenko has decided not to seek another term and will not run in the October federal election.

**KASLO MAY DAYS**

Friday, May 15th

From 7:00 pm – Live Music – BlueBike Grato, Kaslo Hotel and Buddy’s Pizzeria

Saturday, May 16th Kid Centric Saturday

It’s all about the Kids

8:00 am – Softball Tournament – Vern Park baseball at weekend
9:00 am – 5:00 pm – CRAFT and FOOD Vendors – from 10:00 am throughout the day – KCDS Races – Puppet Show – Giant Bubbles and more
11:30 am – 4:30 pm – Loggers Sports – Chawnae Carney Ryan Cook
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm – FREE Live Music – Vern Park – Featuring Kootenay Musicians – 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm – Helicopter Rides – 1:30 pm – Horse Demonstration – Riding Club Grounds on Areas Road
2:00 pm – Live Music – Bistrecelle Bistro, Buddy’s Pizza and Kaslo Hotel

Sunday, May 17th

8:00 am – Softball Tournament – Vern Park baseball all weekend
9:00 am – 5:00 pm – CRAFT and FOOD Vendors – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm – Steve W Show – A Unique Show in Vern Park – 11:00 am – 4:30 pm – Loggers Sports – Novice and Intermediate Events in the Logger – 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm – FREE Live Music In Vern Park – Featuring Kootenay Musicians 9:00 pm – Live Music – Various Locations around town

Monday, May 18th

8:00 am – Softball Tournament – Vern Park baseball all weekend
9:00 am – 9:00 pm – Garden Festival – Front Street Park Park
9:00 am – 4:00 pm – CRAFT and FOOD Vendors – 12:00 pm – May Days Parade – Celebration of Youth – 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm – May Pole Dance – A village tradition since 1921 – 2:00 pm – Citizen of the Year Presentation – Vern Park Gazebo

**Walk with your Doc in New Denver next week**

The annual Walk with your Doc Week is happening this year May 9-17, with a walk being organized by the Kootenay Boundary Division of Family Practice, Drs. Chuck Burdholder and Miranda Hughes, and Nurse Practitioner Donna Gibbons at the New Denver Medical Clinic. Thursday May 14, at 5:30 pm.

BC’s annual Walk with your Doc will see nearly 100 doctors in the interior prescribe exercise to their patients as well as host walking events in an effort to get people in local communities outside and moving.

**Happy May Days!**

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**MEXICANA NIGHT SPECIAL**

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**Happy May Days!**

**NEW MENU - DAILY SPECIALS - DINE IN - TAKE OUT**

**VALEH MADINA**

**NEW DENVER**
Kinship Connection Centre celebrates grand opening June 24

by Jan McMurray

The Kinship Health Centre building in Nakusp has been renovated and re-purposed into a non-profit hub. The new Kinship Connection Centre will celebrate its grand opening on June 24 at noon.

“It’s been a fabulous project,” exclaimed Teresa Westhead of Options for Sexual Health Nakusp and chair of the steering committee for the project. “It’s a home for three non-profits, and it gives us the security we need to thrive.”

The Options for Sexual Health Nakusp clinic remains in the building, and the Nakusp and Area Youth Society and the Arrow Lakes Arts Council moved in, as well. There is also room in the building for Arrow and Slocan Lake Community Services to expand its programs. This makes the space there is still an office space for rent.

The renovations, done with grant funding from CBT’s Social Program and RDCK Area K, have resulted in a more energy-efficient and attractive space. Insulation and windows were replaced, the building’s heating system was upgraded, and energy-efficient lighting was installed.

The project was financed through an application for a non-profit loan. The applications was approved by the Canadian Foundation for Economic Development (CFED) and the Canada Economic Development for Arctic and Northern Communities (CEDAN)

To learn more, visit the website at www.kinshipconnection.ca or call 250-265-3066.

Celebration of Life
for
Lloyd Mair
Sunday, May 17
2:00 pm
Legion Hall, Nakusp

by Art Joyce

Studio Connexion in Nakusp is entering its seventh season with this year’s focus being on the theme of diversity. The first exhibition starts on the Victoria Day long weekend, Friday, May 15, with “17 Pieces of Glass by Holli Mair” and art from the studio and mixed media. It has become a tradition for Studio Connexion Gallery to begin the regular shows at this particular time of year, says gallery owner Alli Mair.

Woodworking takes a playful, experimental approach to these watercolours, using a squeeze bottle for the acrylic paint and a tube of oil paint for the oil. She also uses a texture effect with rubbing alcohol. Her creativity extends to the very edges of the frames, which she builds herself from wood remnants that might otherwise have ended up on the burn pile. Woods also has experience using a miter saw, planer and sander

Fish enhancement project on Heart Creek in Faquier goes ahead

by Jan McMurray

A project to eliminate a fish barrier at the mouth of Heart Creek in Nakusp is in full swing. It is a day for change. A large culvert will be replaced with a bridge, hopefully by the end of May.

The fish want to go up that stream to spawn, but that culvert must be a six-foot jump, said Hank Scowen, president of the Nakusp Rod and Gun Club. It’s an impossible height for most fish to leap up and into the culvert.

The Ministry of Transportation has partnered with the Nakusp Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans through its Recreational Fisheries Conservation Program, to fund the project.

Scowen says there are kokanee, Rainbow trout, and probably Dolly Varden, which would spawn in Heart Creek once the culvert is replaced. “Every fish that spawns means potentially many fertilized eggs and many fish that enter the Arrow Lakes,” he says.

Phases two of the project, which Scowen says will happen in the “not too distant future,” will see the removal of another barrier further upstream, opening up an additional 1.2 kilometers of stream habitat for fish.

Scowen says that if this project proves to be successful, “perhaps other systems along the Arrow can be assisted in a similar way.”

The Arrow Lakes Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program is supported by the Arrow Lakes Watershed Association and the provincial ministry of Environment. The program is supported by the federal government. In addition, the Arrow Lakes Watershed Association has received a grant from the Columbia Basin Trust.

However, the project is not without its challenges. One challenge is the potential for adverse impacts on fish populations. Another challenge is the need to minimize disturbance to the habitat during construction.

The project is expected to be completed in the fall of 2016.

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Kaslo’s budget and tax rate bylaws introduced

by Jan McMurray

At Kaslo council’s April 28 meeting, the budget and tax rate bylaws were given third readings. The bylaws are expected to be adopted at the May 12 council meeting.

According to the draft bylaws, Kaslo has a budget of $3,255,199 this year. Taxation represents 14.5 percent of that, with other revenues coming from grants and fees charged for services.

The Village will collect a total of $535,913.50 in municipal taxes in 2015, approximately $20,000 more than last year. “This increase will in part address the urgent need to replace some smaller items of capital equipment required by the Public Works department for snow removal and greenpace maintenance,” said CAO Neil Smith.

Residential taxes will make up 80 percent of the municipal taxes collected ($406,096) and business taxes will make up 18.3 percent ($92,812). The amount of taxation collected from businesses remains the same as last year, so the additional $20,000 this year will be collected mostly from residential taxation. The business tax rate multiplier was decreased to 2.25 times the residential rate, in order to maintain the same requisition from business properties as was required in 2014.

For the municipal portion of taxes, Kaslo residents will pay $3.40 per $1,000 of assessed value; businesses will pay $7.91 per $1,000. For regional hospital taxes, residents will pay 30 cents per $1,000; businesses will pay $1.03 per $1,000. For the regional district portion of taxes, residents will pay $2.77 per $1,000 and businesses will pay $5.57 per $1,000.

More than $1,000,000 has been budgeted for capital improvement projects in 2015, including streetlighting (all Kaslo), City Hall interior renovation, a storm drain upgrade for the water treatment plant, and the controls project for the water treatment plant. All but the controls project are dependent on the outcome of grant applications.

The budget for the aerodrome this year is $15,500, which includes $10,500 for grading the runway. A five-year operational contract with Kaslo Community Airport Management Corporation will be put into effect.

Some other highlights: a new sander for snow removal and a replacement mower for greenspaces (a new dump truck has been deferred for another year); a small program of sidewalk improvements and repairs; a geotechnical report on options for the Kaslo River dyke area, which requires some erosion mitigation; a new swim dock for the Moe Bay beach; a concept plan for the new City Hall garden area; a deep stabilization plan for the S.S. Moyie National Historic Site; Liquid Waste Management Plan Stage 2.

Parcel taxes remain unchanged, but user fees have been increased for both the water and sewer utilities.

Jumbo’s building footprints in violation of environmental certificate

The BC Environmental Assessment Office has advised the proponents of the controversial Jumbo Glacier Resort that the building footprints installed last fall are in violation of the project’s environmental certificate, reports the West Kootenay EcoSociety. In a letter to project proponents on October 25, 2013, Manager of Compliance Autumn Cousins ordered that all construction activity cease unless he is satisfied in applying for an amendment to the Environmental Assessment Certificate. The certificate — originally issued in 2004 — requires that all residential and commercial buildings be outside the avalanche hazard area. An independent analysis of avalanche risk found that the two floating substructures constructed in October 2014 are partially or entirely within areas with medium to high risk of avalanche. The certificate has been a matter of intense scrutiny as opponents of the project have noted the lack of compliance with measures required to protect endangered species, ensure adequate water supply, and protect Jumbo and Toby creeks, among other issues.

The Environmental Assessment Office will propose issuing a letter of non-conformance just days before the proponents poured several tons of concrete in the wildness valley.

New resource for sport and physical activity in the region

The Province engaged in sport and physical activity in the Columbia Basin can look forward to improved support through the newly formed PacificSport Columbia Basin Society. Columbia Basin Trust and VisSport are providing $800,000 and $300,000 respectively toward this initiative for the next three years.

The group’s primary goals are to promote sport and physical activity in the Basin; provide services and programs for local athletes, coaches, officials and parents and to promote health by encouraging and helping the public to participate in physical activities.

“This will benefit people of all ages, from those wishing to have fun and stay fit, to those striving to excel in their sport,” said Janis Neefeld of Nakusp, new board member and president of the Kootenay Sufferfest Society. “We’ll make better use of the facilities we have already while improving our ability to attract and retain coaches, athletes and sponsors to support our volunteers. By having communities work together, it will help eliminate some of the barriers and boundaries that this region encounters.”

“The Trust has been working on this since May 2013 to determine how we can best support sport and physical activity in the region,” said Brian Math, CBT President and CEO. “We’re pleased to partner with VisSport to establish the PacificSport Columbia Basin Society. It will draw on the expertise of the broader provincial alliance to advance local priorities.”

Still in its formative stages, the society will work with Basin communities and organizations, as well as access the broader provincial alliance to advance local priorities.


BC Community Forest Association opposes proposed amendment to forestry legislation

The BC Community Forest Association is concerned about one of the amendments to forestry legislation that has recently been introduced in the legislature. The amendment gives the minister discretionary authority to include a volume reservation for BC Timber Sales within a new community forest.

In an article on Bill 25 published on the BCFFA website/newsletter, the association explains that it opposes the amendment because it goes against the original principles of the community forest agreement: community control of local forest resources for local benefit. If the amendment is passed into law, a community forest with a volume reservation for BCFFA “would no longer have the exclusive right to harvest in the licence area. The right would be shared with BCTS.”

The proposed amendment would not be applied to existing community forest agreements only — new ones as well. However, the BCFFA article states that if an existing community forest wants to expand, this provision could be a condition of the expansion.

Other amendments proposed in Bill 25 are seen as positive by the BCFFA. “Some of the changes are intended to make it easier for BCTS to collaborate with the holders of community forest agreements and First Nations woodlands licences. These amendments are designed to enable voluntary business to business relationships. We see this as a positive change,” states the BCFFA article.

Marley-Bertoli Duo in Kaslo season finale

Kaslo Concert Society’s finale to the 2014 season features the Marley-Bertoli Duo. The concert takes place on Tuesday, May 12 at 7 pm at St. Andrew’s United Church in Kaslo. Cellist Paul Marley and keyboardist Peter Bertoli have performed with North Americans, Europe and Asia and has teamed up with Italian-born pianist Mauro Bertoli, winner of 24 national and international competitions. Tickets ($22) are available at the door or online on the night of the concert. School age children admitted free when accompanied by an adult patron. Information: rtpke@kaslo.org, 250-353-7000.

The Valley Voice May 6, 2015
New Denver resident Jeff Pilsnner is back home in New Denver, recovering remarkably well from his heart surgery. He and his partner, Ana Bokeström, have been through a lot since April 14, when they found out he had a heart-related condition.

It all started when Jeff went for a stress test in Nelson on April 14. When his heart went into distress during the test, he was sent to Kelowna in an ambulance. He had an angiogram as soon as he arrived at the Kelowna hospital, and this is when they discovered the hereditary heart condition. This meant he needed surgery as soon as possible.

On April 23, he had a quadruple bypass. Unfortunately, the artery used from his chest for the bypass burst when it was canistered, so he had to have a second surgery the next morning at 6:30. Thankfully, this second surgery was successful. Jeff stayed in the hospital for a few more days, and was released April 30.

Jeff’s father and grandfather both died of heart attacks, but no one in the family knew about the hereditary condition. So, Jeff wrote to his family to warn them, to get their hearts checked — even though he hadn’t spoken to his family for 15 years. “This is the silver lining,” said Ana. “He had been trying to reconnect with his family, and this has really helped him.” Jeff’s niece and nephew are coming for a visit on May Days weekend.

According to the doctors, Jeff would have started to develop the condition in his 30s. Had they known about it then, they would have addressed it and the problem would not have progressed as far as it did. One side of his heart was 100 percent blocked, and he had grown two new arteries around the blockage. “When they realized how many blockages he had, they told him he was so lucky to be alive!” Ana said.

Luckily, Jeff’s heart is strong and wasn’t damaged. His recovery will take time, but Ana says he can still do computer work with her help.

Jeff and Ana are amazed by the support from the community. People are cooking for them, and friends are coming in every morning while Ana is at work.

Community Health Centre

The regional hospital district states that the rural strategy document would be expected to address the plan, timelines, and priority of the


Important Notice

Due to increased vandalism, unauthorized logging, campfires and destruction of our property known as “The Preemption” on Alexander Road near Nakusp, we will be enforcing "no trespassing" to motorized users. Trespassers will be prosecuted and made to pay for damages.

For information please call us:
phone (250) 265-2016, or email us will@nakusp.net OR greencapes@nakusp.net

Notice of Public Hearing

Burton Community Hall

notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held at the date and location as noted above to receive representations from all persons who deem it in their interest to make representations regarding the following:

General Location & Legal Description: Burton Main Road (Legally Descr in Lot 3 Distriict Lot 7990 Kootenay District Plan 41510 PSI 007-378) (see map below)

Bylaw 2451: proposed to amend Electoral Area K – The Arrow Lakes Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2012, by re-designating a 3 hectare portion of the subject property from Industrial (I) to Institutional (I) and the Remainder from Industrial (I) to Agriculture (AG).

Bylaw 2452: proposed to amend ROCK Zoning Bylaw No. 3675 by amending the zoning designation of the subject properties for a 1 hectare portion of the subject property from Heavy Industrial (M3) to Institutional (I) and the Remainder from Heavy Industrial (M3) to Agriculture (AG).

Written submissions for or against the proposed amendment can be read, or verbal submissions made, at the Public Hearing. If you are unable to attend the Hearing, written submissions must be delivered to the Regional District of Central Kootenay, prior to 4:00 pm on the day before the Hearing.

All written submissions are public information pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Submissions may be delivered to: Regional District of Central Kootenay, Box 500, 292 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC V1L 5R4 or by fax at (250) 353-8590 or submitted by email at plansdept@rock.bc.ca or by hand to the Nelson address below. Please direct enquiries to Meer Durand at (250) 353-8432 or toll-free 1-800-268-7231, email mdurand@rock.bc.ca.

The aforementioned proposed bylaw may be inspected from May 11, 2015 to May 27, 2015 both inclusive, on the web at www.rock.bc.ca and at the locations and times as follows:

Nakusp Building Office, ROCK, 204th Avenue NW, Nakusp, B.C. between Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 to 1:00 am, closed statutory holidays

dated at Nelson, B.C. this 1st day of May, 2015.

Arieta Wilke
Manager of Administrative Services

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Notice of Public Hearing

6:00 p.m., May 25th, 2015
Burton Community Hall

Notice of Public Hearing

6:00 p.m., May 25th, 2015
Burton Community Hall

Regional hospital district asks IH to collaborate on rural strategy

by Jan McMurray

The West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District board has written to Interior Health to request that the two organizations collaborate on a strategy to address rural health care issues in the region.

The letter lists 11 general issues, plus issues at specific health facilities in the region, that were identified at a strategic planning workshop of the regional hospital district board.

General issues include transportation, addiction centres, affordability, demographics, long-term care facilities, mental health care, physician recruitment and retention, wait lists, lack of specialists in the region, service erosion and wellness clinics.

At the Victorian Community Health Centre in Kaslo, the emergency department, physician recruitment and retention, and service erosion are the issues the board would like to see addressed.

At the Arrow Lakes Hospital, the regional hospital board would like to work on a plan to address emergency department deficiencies, and to increase services.

At the Sicamous Community Health Centre in New Denver, the board would like to discuss how to handle the downgrade of the facility from acute care to a community health centre, and a plan to increase services.

Donations collected in the community paid for the rental of a hospital bed for a month and the first batch of medications. “Everyone has been fabulous! We are getting so much support. And he is alive, so we have so much to be grateful for,” said Ana.

Jeff plans to get right back on the air with his ‘Shift Happens’ radio show on Tuesdays from 2 to 3 pm on Kootenay Co-op Radio. For the next few Tuesdays, he will likely be talking about what he learned from the experience. Podcasts of the shows will be available at http://shifthappensnow.ca.
COMMUNITY

Nakusp’s second annual Wine Festival another huge success

by Jan McMurray

The second annual Wine Festival at the CMB K2 Rotor Lodge in Nakusp was a huge success once again this year.

“We’re so pleased that the community rises to the occasion,” said Rees van der Pol, active member of the Rotary Club of Nakusp, which organizes the event.

Tickets were sold out more than a week in advance, and the silent auction was well supported by the community, reported van der Pol.

The event raised close to $7,000. These funds are being donated to the scholarship funds at Nakusp Secondary and Lumby Schools, Polio Plus (Rotary International’s project to eradicate polio from the world), and the waterfront lighting project.

There were 150 tickets sold this year, up from last year’s 100. “That’s as big as it can get,” said van der Pol, adding that the club is very pleased with the venue. He said they have no intention of changing the venue to allow for a bigger event.

Winners of the door prizes were Linda Nero and Patti Lea. Linda won the wine connoisseur’s kit donated by Overwaitea, and Patti won brewing paraphernalia donated by Caribou Brewing.

The annual event is organized in partnership with the Arrow Lakes Grape Growers Society, which is researching the viability of a grape-growing and wine-producing industry in the Arrow Lakes Valley. The society is collecting weather and soil data, and is growing 21 varieties of red and white wine grapes on a test plot in Burton. The research concludes in 2020, and will be available to the public.

The data will be helpful to people planning to grow grapes or other agricultural products.

Nakusp Winestief, 2015 - Food, wine, what’s not to love?