Wildfire season in full swing: 35 residents on evacuation alert south of Silverton

by Jan McMurray

The wildfire season started in earnest in our area with scattered lightning storms on the night of Friday, July 10 and the morning of Saturday, July 11.

Mt. Ayrlwin fire

Among them was the Mt. Ayrlwin fire, just two kilometres south of Silverton near Beaveron Creek at the base of Mt. Ayrlwin. An evacuation alert was issued for 17 homes, affecting 35 residents, on Hwy 6 between Enterprise Creek and the south entrance of Red Mountain Road on Friday night. Members of the New Denver and Area Fire Department went to each of the 17 homes at about midnight to let the occupants know. The evacuation alert remains in effect as of Monday, July 13.

The fire was approximately 10 percent contained by the morning of Monday, July 13, with the containment on the flank along the bottom of the mountain nearest the homes.

“There’s been minimal growth over the last 24 hours,” said Fire Information Officer Jordan Turner on July 13. “The initial attack has been very successful, and even the small amount of precipitation we’ve had on the fire has been helpful.”

When the fire first started, it was growing towards the homes, so air tankers started putting in containment lines immediately on Saturday morning. Crews are now working on direct suppression — putting out hot spots and getting it under control as quickly as possible. The fire was approximately eight hectares in size on Monday.

Crews constructed a helipad on Sunday, July 12 to gain better access to the blaze. “They can get in quicker each day and work longer, as they don’t have to hike in,” said Turner.

Twenty firefighters are tackling the fire, with support from two helicopters. On July 11 and 12, there were also multiple air tanker groups on the fire.

When on evacuation alert, residents are advised to prepare for a quick exit in the case that an evacuation order is issued. If an evacuation order is issued, emergency personnel will again notify all impacted residents by visiting their homes. Notices will be posted in neighbourhoods, and the alert will also be broadcast on local radio as well as on the RDCK Facebook page and website.

Spring Creek fire

On Saturday, July 11, a small 0.15 hectare wildfire was discovered burning very close to the village of Slocan, just up Spring Creek on the east side of the highway. The Slocan fire department was deployed along with a ground crew from the Southeast Fire Centre, and a bomber plane and a helicopter. Thanks to the quick response, the fire was contained and 90 percent extinguished the same day. Members of the Slocan Fire Department returned on Sunday morning to check for hot spots.

Nemo Creek Fire

This small fire (0.3 hectares) started on Friday night and is located between Nemo and Hoben Creeks, roughly two kilometres from the lakeshore in Villahina Park. Nine crew members with helicopter support were working on the fire on Monday, July 13. The fire is not immediately threatening any of the homes on that side of the lake.

There is a 0.5 hectare fire on Mt. Loki, visible from Kaslo. This fire was discovered on July 8 and has not yet contained by Monday, July 13. An initial attack crew was working on it. There are also two ‘modified response’ fires between New Denver and Kaslo at 12-Mile Creek and Robb Creek. Modified response means that they are being monitored and allowed to burn naturally.

Skitum Fire

The evacuation alert affecting 350 households as a result of this fire was rescinded on Monday, July 13, due to the recent precipitation and reduced fire activity. Located on the North Shore of Nelson between Dunakan and Sitkum Creek, this fire was discovered July 4 and the evacuation alert was issued the same day to homes between Sitkum Creek South and Willow Point (Six Mile Lakes Road).

As of July 13, the fire was estimated at 450 hectares in size and was 30 percent contained. Crews were conducting controlled fires to keep the blaze between the Dukanum and Sitkum drainages. There were 120 firefighters, 22 support staff, four helicopters and air tankers as needed working on the fire.

BC is having a very active fire season this year. Since April 1, there have been 1,065 fires province-wide, burning 279,000 hectares at a cost of over $103 million. This is more than double the number of wildfires in the same time period last year, and ten times the number of hectares burned. It is also quite a bit ahead of the ten-year average for the April 1-staid July period—369 fires and 25,000 hectares burned.


An air tanker drops fire retardant at the Mt. Ayrlwin fire, south of Silverton.
CBT to receive $3.34 million for broadband project

by Jan McMurray

Columbia Basin residents can look forward to better internet access and higher speeds by the end of 2017. On July 8, the federal government announced that it will provide Columbia Basin Trust with $3.34 million under the Connecting Canadians program.

The project, involving high-speed internet service to approximately 11,000 households in the Basin at minimum speeds of five megabits per second, is the Trust’s subsidiary, Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC), will work with 12 internet service providers in the region to complete the project.

The total value of the Basin broadband project is almost $7 million. The $3.34 million from the federal Connecting Canadians program represents 50 percent of the funding. CBT will provide the remaining 52 percent, the 12 ISPs will provide $600,000; and the Regional Districts of Central Kootenay, Kootenay Boundary, East Kootenay and Columbia Shuswap will provide $600,000. In the Valley Voice coverage area, the service will begin to come to the Slocan Valley Columbia Wireless, the North Kootenay Lake Valley via the Kaslo infoNet Society (KIS), the Edgewood and Whitewater Lake area via the Edgewood Community Internet Society, and Ferguson via Trout Lake BC Internet Society.

Ben Leslie of Columbia Wireless says he plans to upgrade all of his existing infrastructure this year, allowing the company to offer faster internet speeds. He will also bring one new tower online near Slocan City, using an old CBC tower he acquired last year. Next year, he intends to expand the Columbia Wireless service from Salmo to Park Siding and from Fruitvale to Trail. Leslie estimates that it will serve 250 new customers by the end of 2016.

The Kaslo infoNet Society (KIS) has an ambitious program to serve all North Kootenay Lake communities from Ainsworth to Hsowser with 10 megabit per second service. Tim Reason of the society says the engineering studies and construction plans have been drafted, and expects the project to take until the end of 2017 to complete. He reports that they will accomplish their goal with a combination of wireless technology and fibre-optic cable. KIS has applied for funding from the Northern Development Initiative Trust and the Province in addition to the approximately $450,000 it is slated to receive from the Connecting Canada program.

The Edgewood Community Internet Society will upgrade all of its equipment in order to provide five megabit per second service, and will add new access points to reach new customers.

The Trout Lake BC Internet Society will bring service to Ferguson, a tiny, remote community northeast of Trout Lake. Ferguson doesn’t have power or telephone, so the wireless internet service will be the only communication tool for residents. This project involves installing a new radio at the Trout Lake fire hall and a repeater on Great Northern Mountain.

Johnson’s Landing story told by survivor in new book

by Jan McMurray

Amanda Bath came to New Denver on June 30 to talk about her book, Disaster in Paradise – an up close and personal account of the Johnson’s Landing slides of Thursday, July 12 and Friday, July 13, 2012. She was introduced by author Sean Arthur, who said the experience forced residents to “see where they stand on the scale of human resilience.”

Bath and her partner, Christopher Klassen, lived in Johnson’s Landing for nearly 20 years up until the time of the slides, when their home was destroyed. Bath feels very lucky that she wasn’t at home at the time of the first slide on the Thursday. Unfortunately, four others weren’t so lucky and lost their lives that day. Diana Weber, 22, and her sister Rachael Weber, 17, went to Johnson’s Landing on the evening before the slide to visit their father, Val. Diana was visiting from LA and Rachael was working at the Kaslo Motel. Both Klassen and Bath had received the evacuation notice from their friends in Argenta on Thursday morning but didn’t rush to that particular Thursday because her friend had a doctor’s appointment.

The couple, Christopher Klassen, was away in Oregon, so she was without a car. Although Tuesday was her regular day to go to Kaslo for supplies, she went on Thursday that week because that’s when she was able to get a ride. She left behind Otsaz behind, and went to Kaslo with her friend Jinah Madis. When the slide came down on Thursday, Jillian’s husband John sought refuge behind their house and was the closest witness. He described the sound of the 320 cubic metre tonnes of material coming down the mountain at 150 kilometres an hour as “enormous.” “It snapped the tops off of trees, and it created its own wind,” Bath said.

When the material hit the bank where Gnar Creek takes a dog leg turn, a huge amount of it jumped the creek and destroyed Pettis Fesee’s house and the Weberb home, killing the occupants. The rest of the material continued down Gnar Creek, knocked down Bath and Klassen’s house, and stopped at the lake.

When friends of Bath brought photos of her collapsed house to Kaslo that same day, she got the “foolishly and desperate” idea to go back the next day to see if Otsaz the cat had survived. “People told me not to go, but there would be another slide,” she said.

The cat was too run off to make that material, so it had to flush out. But Bath didn’t have a cat to go get Otsaz and I didn’t record any of these warnings.”

On Friday the 13th, Bath and her friend Otsaz Thatcher, also from Johnson’s Landing, went back to the Landing by boat. Bath had only been on land for a matter of seconds, calling Otsaz, when she heard a noise like thunder that was very close. Prompted by the sound of a dog barking, Bath went to the back of “Road Block Road,” ran back and jumped into the boat, with trees falling and mud sliding down right behind her. This amazing escape was captured on film by a Global TV crew and was shown on two million times on YouTube.

After the slides, there was a huge effort to recover the bodies of the four who died. Bob Staita, retired coroner living in Kaslo, became the coroner in charge of the recovery. They found Val and Diana first, and Rachel one week later, but they didn’t find Pettis. Bath said that in Stair’s opinion, the four slide victims would have died instantly.

Both acts that she and Klassen dealt with the disaster in very different ways. Bath didn’t want to be in Johnson’s Landing much anymore, whereas Klassen wanted to evacuate the site to find their things. He found his tools and their two computers. Amazingly, the data on both hard drives was saved. On the last day of digging, he found Otsaz. Bath said it was comforting to bury the cat in the garden of their former home, and to know that Otsaz, who had been crushed, would have died instantly.

Bath felt a very strong need to tell the story, and began writing immediately. “There was a book that wanted to be written. I felt that quite strongly,” she said. She says she never felt so alive as when she was writing the book. The disaster has had a profound effect on Johnson’s Landing. “The land has changed,” said Bath. “There is a scar down the middle and people have moved away. Some feel better because their friends are gone. We were a very close community.”

However, she says some young people have moved in, and this may be partly because of the low real estate prices. Property values have plummeted, even though many properties in the community are still safe.

One very sore point is that there is still no permanent water system for those who used to draw their water from the Cur Creek system. “It’s terrible for this to still be in limbo so long after the slides,” said Bath.

Financial compensation for displaced residents is inadequate. Insurance companies wouldn’t pay because it was considered an “act of God.” The provincial Disaster Financial Assistance program was a help to some, but only provides 50 percent of the assessed value of a primary residence, and nothing for the outbuildings or any contents. “The government didn’t help people out,” said Bath. People who own properties that can never be built on again have to pay property tax and have insurance. Bath said she was notified by insurance companies that there are only three houses in that position, but the Province refused to buy them out. Former RDCK chair John Kettle and former Area D Director Andy Shadraw argued forcefully with the Province on this issue for more than a year, to no avail.

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Hills burns down from spreading any further. Lawrence Schilivon of the Hills Fire Brigade said he was thankful for the fairly heavy rain in Hills on Sunday “that saved us from having an interface fire.”

Equipment used to fight the fire included the Hills fire truck, a Hills resident’s truck with tank, and the New Denver Fire Rescue sprinkler unit. Because Hills is outside of the New Denver and Area Fire Department’s district, Fire Chief Leonard Sailey received permission from Mayor Ann Buia to attend with some department members and the sprinkler unit. The cause of the fire is unknown. A representative from the Office of the Fire Commissioner was expected to arrive on Tuesday, July 14 to investigate and try to determine the cause.
The importance of intact forests in the face of climate change: Herb Hammond

by Jan McMurray

“If we can learn to think like a forest or other kind of ecosystems, we can have a happy ending.”

This is how Steven David  resident and forest ecologist Herb Hammond concluded his talk at the Kanes Creek Visitor Centre on July 6 about the importance of intact forests in the face of climate change.

“We’re at a tipping point,” Hammond said. There is now over 400 parts per million of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere when scientists warned us not to exceed 350, and we’ve warmed the planet by 1°C and are committed to at least another 1°C. “It’s too late to avoid tragedy, but it’s probably not too late to avoid global catastrophe. It’s truly a global emergency.”

Hammond says we need to respond to the emergency with transformative out-of-the-box thinking, cooperation, the taking back of responsibilities (“Government by corporations will only increase unless we take back power in dignified ways”); and prudent forest management.

Hammond has spent his life in forests, he is now seeing things in the forest that he has never seen before.

Executive Flight Centre files lawsuit against Province

by Jan McMurray

Yet another court case has been filed in the aftermath of the Lemon Creek fuel spill. Executive Flight Centre Ltd. has filed a civil lawsuit against the Province of BC and Transwest Helicopters Ltd. for negligence and/or breach of contract.

EFC’s fuel truck landed in Lemon Creek in July 2013, spilling more than 30,000 litres of jet fuel into the waterway. Transwest was the company that ordered the fuel from EFC for its helicopters, which were under contract to the Province for the Perry Ridge firefighting operation.

According to EFC’s notice of civil claim, filed in the Supreme Court of BC (Vancouver registry) on July 3, the Province gave EFC the wrong directions to the helicopter staging area. The claim says the company was told to use Lemon Creek Road instead of the correct road nearby (Ursus Road). With no adequate signage on the highway indicating the correct road and no pilot vehicle, EFC’s fuel tanker driver went up Lemon Creek Road, which gave way beneath him.

“The road beneath the Fuel Tanker — things he calls ‘warning.’ One of these is the presence of a lot more insects. He explained that when there is not enough water, plants become stressed and are more susceptible to predators, like insects. “So we should reduce the stress by prohibiting the cutting of old-growth forests, which are the best at conserving water, and reducing the cutting of natural intact forests that are key to water production,” he said.

Another obvious warning is the increase in wildfire activity. Hammond said that in the past in West Kootenay forests, there were landscape-level fires on about 250-500-year cycles.

That is definitely changing. As things dry out, we will have more and more fire, and more intense fires that take down the trees,” he said.

Hammond is the co-founder of the Silva Forest Foundation. More information at www.silvafoundation.org.

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Services for Sumio Matsuhashi (1917-2015) of New Denver, BC, wife of Shioichi (Spud) Matsuhashi (pre-deceased) and mother of Elaine Masaye Lett and Arthur Masato Matsuhashi, will be held at 3:30 pm, during Oboh in New Denver, July 26th, 2015 at the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre in New Denver, BC. Tea to follow at the Centre.
Johnson’s Landing landslide – 3rd anniversary and no water system in sight

Three years after the landslide destroyed homes and lives, the residents of Johnson’s Landing still do not have a permanent water system.

On July 12 and 13, 2012, a disastrous landslide and mudslide wreaked havoc in the tiny remote Kootenay community of Johnson’s Landing. Those of us who remain have had our lives irrevocably changed. We’ve lost friends, neighbours, land, forest, homes, a way of life, and, that most precious of basic needs: water.

Gar Creek, our water source, is in a ‘very high hazard zone’ and active slide path, prohibiting our ability to access water for drinking, irrigation and fire protection. The evacuation order was lifted on July 31, 2014 but the ongoing hazard rating was assessed as very high in the geotechnical report issued July 25, 2014, which includes warnings such as: “Even temporary or seasonal uses are subject to significant risk to the safety of your property and person, including life, by debris flows in the area.” With a significant scarp of 800,000 square metres of material that remains at the top of Gar Creek, the area remains a hazard zone as prescribed by the Province and administered by the RDCK.

Much has been done by the residents to recover, but a stable, permanent water system remains elusive. Working with the Interior Health Authority, a system has been designed to source water from an acceptable location 1,600 metres above the hazard zone, but projected expenses and government inertia hinder further progress. Engineered plans were completed by Urban Systems Ltd. IHA granted a construction permit (January 8, 2015) based on those plans and a commitment to approve point-of-entry water treatment systems at each dwelling. Those systems have been installed and are up and running. A detailed budget/cost estimate has been developed by the project manager.

The RDCK, the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, Disaster Financial Assistance, the Columbia Basin Trust and private donations have provided significant funding that has enabled us to get this far. The project is ‘shovel ready’; however, with a $192,000 shortfall necessary to complete it, another construction season has gone by while the community’s water remains very vulnerable.

Fifteen non-government-based funding entities have been approached for help. With a one-off exception, all have responded by saying that funding water systems is a governmental function and they cannot participate. RDCK Area D Director Alaine Watson and Chair Karen Hanlon have requested to meet with ministers to present our case and specifically request the shortfall. So far, these efforts have met with rejection or postponement. We have been told that the Province cannot find a suitable ministry or other governmental function empowered with a mandate to help people in an emergency such as ours. The Gar Creek Water Users Association does not fit into any of the boxes and is consequently left with a basic need – water – unattainable.

Provincial MLAs and federal MP candidates are being invited during this third anniversary period to be updated on the status and reassured as to the realities of this event and its consequences. We hope they will explore with us solutions to help make the plans a reality.

Kate O’Keefe
Johnson’s Landing

No Denver

As a taxpayer citizen of ‘New Denver’ for 40 plus years, I am thoroughly amazed (tongue in cheek) we can afford five people in our Village office, but cannot afford something to support our local area society. What a slap in the face to all the hard work these volunteers have done for years. I guess this type of recreation for our children and others isn’t green enough. It’s no wonder we are becoming the place known as ‘No Denver.’ Next year I will be sure to purchase something and donate it from the Village of New Denver instead of (tongue in cheek) worn out tools, garbage bags, or a date with the mayor.

Julie Heichert
New Denver

Lake mishap

I had a wonderful day kayaking on the lake July 3. It was particularly wonderful because of some Winlaw residents who responded to my capsizeing in the wind in mid lake.

Bean’s keen eye spotted my difficulty from a long way off, so Stu paddled out in a good scooting boat to get closer and appraise the situation, and then Patrick came to assist me in his little powered Zodiac. They had me back on shore before I even got cold. Channele helped me with her cell phone and concern for my warmth. It was very humbling to be shown such instant care and generosity by my Sloan Valley neighbours. It was all great fun. I’m thankful I had my life jacket ON!

It’s a day that I’ll never forget! Thank you again, all of you, including my two friends Mike and John for their part in making this a day to be very thankful for.

Eric Fankhills

Thankful for health care professionals

Given the determination of my New Denver GP, Dr Magier, to find out why I was only firing on seven of my eight diesel engine cylinders (March 2015), I was diagnosed with having colon cancer on June 9. Two weeks later, a team of surgeons in the Trail hospital performed a flawless three-hour operation to remove a tumour of “significant size in an awkward place.” Three days later, following round the clock care from teams of doctors, nurses and support staff, I returned to our home in Hills. The external support network from local to international friends and family was simply astonishing. My biggest rock was my personal team – my wife, Natasha Miles. Thank you to each and every one of you.

The public sector is an absolute crucial element to the success of our modern day society. Knock and criticize it at your peril. The Interior Health Authority and BC health care are in no way perfect – dogged by politics, demands, expectations and budgets. But what I do know is that those who deliver this care do so with professionalism, confidence, expertise and a smile. The teams all belong to, that of community, neighbours, friends and family – they work too.

Tim Sander
Hills

Thanks to the firefighters

I would like to thank all the firefighters who are working so diligently to put out the fire above Enterprise Creek – to the five chaps on the ground and the water bombers in the air, especially the helicopter pilot who persevered on Saturday until 8:30 pm and was then back the next morning at 6:00. From those in the area, and in particular those of us who live below the fire, I want to give our sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Penelope Stuart Silverton

The Valley Voice
Box 70, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0
Phone: 250-358-7218 Fax: 250-358-7793 E-Mail: valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca Website: www.valleyvoice.ca
Publisher: DANNICHLASON Editor: JAN IMCMURRAY Food Editor: ANDREW RHODES Reporters: ART JOYCE, KATRINE CAMPBELL, BARBARA CURRY MULCHAY Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada
The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Playmore Junction to Edgewood and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake.
Circulation is 7,600 papers, providing the most complete news and advertising coverage of any single newspaper serving this area.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $54.60, USA $84.90, OVEREASES $126.00. E-Mail Subscription $22.40 (Prices include GST)
Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021391
LETTERS

Fire hazard potential of smart meters
No matter whether smart meters have their radio on or off, they have the same fire hazard potential.
Shaul Noah recently wrote a great letter about smart meters to Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines, detailing the fire hazards, issues related to the BC Safety Standards Act, and the ordering of equipment with the intent to avoid the off-the-shelf equipment of the likes of the BCUC and the BC Safety Authority, by the Clean Energy Act.
In her letter, Noah includes testimony from the lineman in a Texas court involving the same Itron meters being used by FortisBC and BC Hydro. According to the linemen, part of the fire hazard problem is a mismatch between wires of the Itron smart meters and the analogue meter bases.
Our Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Section 7, grants Canadians the right to be protected against actions by the government that the citizens believe to be harmful. Maybe you don’t want a radio on or radio meters on your house.

Allison Lang Window

Maggie Winters’ letter of resignation from Kaslo Health Care Select Committee
Please accept this letter as my resignation from the Health Care Select Committee. I have been involved in this effort for almost three years now. While it has been tiring, frustrating and stressful at times, I am also proud of what has been accomplished to date and I commend the efforts of everyone on the original Kaslo and Nelson D Health Care Working Group and the Village of Kaslo Health Care Select Committee. Those not involved from the beginning will never be able to fully comprehend the work that has been done and the work that has been done to date. There is simply no way to communicate that in its entirety without breaking confidentially agreements with Interior Health and other stakeholders that allowed all involved to discuss issues openly, frankly and without rancour.
The Working Group and the Select Committee have worked diligently to try and preserve health care services in Kaslo and Area D, ensure the continued presence of the Victoria hospital, ensure health care in the community and explore new means of delivering services in a manner that will create a climate of stability for the future. My voice was heard and I was given a voice and that has been valued and appreciated.

Dona and Paul Grace-Campbell
Kaslo

Nature documentary
When a beaver creates a pond, the wildlife in the area will gather around. Creations of all types will make it to the lake’s front: dragonflies, water spiders and yellow pond lilies and these are only a few. I am always joined on the nature walk. Let’s go has a look at some tadpoles. Look into the water there, you can see their little black legs and hands forming on the sides of their skinny insect bodies. We learned that the beaver dam is a balanced and profuse web of life.

Global warming’s silver lining
We can all feel overwhelmed in the face of what global warming portends for ourselves and our planet. It is so overwhelming that we often do not know where to begin.

One of the most exciting ventures that deserves more notice is the recent alliance between two organizations – the Rocky Mountains Institute and the Carbon War Room. This alliance combines cutting edge technology with entrepreneurial expertise into a powerful engine for creating and financing the emerging low carbon economy. It’s this kind of dynamic private sector partnership that will lead us in the way of implementing effective solutions to global warming.

Governments are stepping up, too. During the period between 1980 and 2009, for example, the Danish economy grew by two-thirds, while carbon emissions fell 21 percent. This is just one example. While other European governments have not yet adopted a virtual self-financing strategy to get completely off fossil fuels by 2050 by further boosting efficiency and switching to renewables, which already accounts for 36 percent of their electric generation. Europe as a whole is going in the same direction and the governments of Japan and China are moving that way as well. These are but a few examples. History shows that the calculus of adversity and challenge often forces humanity's most creative, audacious, and profound responses. No challenge has perhaps been greater than global warming: it is humbling to see some of our best and brightest leading us into a better and future.

Dona and Paul Grace-Campbell
Kaslo

Canada’s debt to Aboriginal peoples
Am I happy to live in Canada? Yes, I am.

I love how Canada made abortion and gay marriage legal long before every other country. I love that my health care is basically free. I love that we don’t have to worry about the cost of the Vietnam War and later the Iraq War and we never turned on Cuba. I love that the woman raised by a single mother, have been able to attend university, because I always had a roof over my head and food on my table. More and more of these things, I have the Upper Arrow Lakes and the views over the Columbia River, I have the mountains in every morning as I sit outside and drink my coffee. I love that I am surrounded by forests and grew up with a family that could hunt and fish and moon. Mostly I love this land. But this land is not Canada.

Canada is a state that has existed for 150 years but this land has belonged to the Kanata since 2006 years. While first the British Crown and later the Canadian government have signed treaties with Indigenous nations further east, promising them such things as health care and educational services, there is no such exchange for the right to share their lands, most of BC is without such an agreement. While feel privileged to be a Canadian citizen, I cannot acknowledge that those who were here for centuries before those who have benefited from our colonial state; the thousands of mining and unmarked Indigenous women in Canada, not even 100 of them I have known the Snuney, who have been declared not to exist by the federal government so that the Columbia River might be flooded and provide hydroelectric power to the settlers population, to me, these living on reserves without access to clean water, to rook, to adequate housing, to mourning food who are again in my mind with the forgotten, poise as colour in the drunks, fallen from the days of the noble savage and obsolete in the modern world.

Canada is a wonderful country to live in for me, and every single person I saw today sporting a Canadian flag. But, on a day when we celebrate our nation, there needs to be a recognition of our debt.

Everything that Canada is today has been built on native lands. Everything you have today, paid for by native resources. So for one day, let us not complain about how much the government given to Indians, instead, let’s thank them for everything we have taken. Maybe when we understand this, we can learn to understand.

Happy Canada Day.

Hayley McLeod
Nakusp

Tide is turning on smart meters
The good news is that the tide is turning. Irrefutable recent aggregate of evidence from all frontiers – medical professionals, academics, scientists – all that is starting to create a global grid system which ‘smart’ utility meters are the pivotal part of, are, beyond doubt, an illusory creating product.

Also part of this good news is that our neighbouring good district of Okanagan and Similkameen recently passed a resolution to “immediately halt mandatory installation of advanced (wireless) utility meters on all private residences within their jurisdiction” and that “all such meters recently installed within Electoral Area D of the Regional District be removed immediately, at full cost to FortisBC.”

After citing some of the irrefutable evidence leading to then basing high level condemnation of the roll-out, the resolution goes on to state, “And finally, whereas the British Columbia Public Health Act gives ultimate responsibility for Health Promotion to the Minister of Health and to BC’s Chief Medical Health Officer, and under Sec. 83 (1), the Act requires that any local government must take action upon being made aware of any health hazard or health impairment within its jurisdiction, by reporting the health hazard to a Provincial Health Officer, and by taking actions or enforcing regulations as prescribed by Sec. 120(3) of the Public Health Act.”

It seems thus that responsibility does indeed lie in the hands of our local elected officials. However, the local elected officials were not made aware in immediately to this matter and as result our neighbouring Regional District officials did, and perhaps with even more effect. It is that your ‘too late’ and that failing to do so would have saved us many thousands of dollars could possibly lead to personal liability.

The bad news is that Fortis-Columbia-Slocan Valley-Creston area, the very last to be deployed in the FortisBC area, time is running out. In order to prevent this public health disaster before it serves on our well or property this summer, homeowners need to take action as the government law is quite gotten there yet. (Remember how much money they who know the truth about lead spend up the end of lead in gasoline by these years, we can forestall damage from smart meters in your home by taking way the lead when necessary as it sometimes is in both these cases.)

Join the tide turning awareness here by sending FortisBC your letters of refusal here. Unfortunately, their ‘off’ option is inadequate because unless the whole area does off RF, the microwaves frequency would still be sent throughout the entire community. It’s been recommended that homeowners lock up their meters and put up a signed refuse notice while they investigate this issue further, and not to rely solely on the information provided by FortisBC. We cannot use the risk of fires, and there have already been many of these after installation. (Google or YouTube these smart meters time.

With hopes that the government acts more quickly than the industry.

Daphne Fokkens
Slocan

Attendance required for election candidates
As we vote our minds to the upcoming federal election, we will be looking for opportunities to compare the candidates who are running for Member of Parliament. The Nelson and Kootenay Lake North communities, new to the riding of Kootenay-Columbia, will be expecting to meet the incumbent MP for the first time.

Unfortunately, during the 2011 election campaign, Conservative David Wallin’s incumbent status and his campaign meetings was only 43 percent. That’s not enough respect for the folks I know – as if we voted don’t matter.

Politics is a dirty game and defining the portrait of a candidate. Under pressure and adapting to spontaneous demands, the potential leader has the opportunity to present his capabilities. As our future leader, the delegate must be confident in high pressure situations, think clearly, have social and environmental knowledge, and have excellent communication skills. Watching a debate with all the candidates participating is crucial for the voters to determine who will truly represent our individual and community needs.

Forfeiting political debate is a clear indication that the delegate doesn’t have what it takes to be a true representative of the people. We Kootenay-Columbia citizens have a responsibility to make ourselves as visible and as mobile as possible in every community. There is no excuse to not participate in every debate in this diverse riding, if you want the seat.

Suanay Yalik
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Lemon Creek archaeological site draws large crowds for open house

by Art Joyce

A steady stream of people responded to the open house for the Sfnst archaeological pitouse site near Lemon Creek on Sunday, July 12 hosted by Du. Nathan Goodale and Alexa Nanus. Students from the archaeology program at Hamilton College in New York State and the anthropology program at Stelick College provided interpretation of dig results at four separate sites along the Slocan River.

Dr. Goodale explained that the site along the Slocan Narrows is one of the most significant archaeological sites of its kind in North America due to the fact that the river has not been dammed, leaving most pitouse sites intact. There is evidence of a substantial winter settlement between here and Slocan city, with some 90 pitouse sites identified. At the narrows, the settlement was divided by the river, with some 23 homes located on the west side and another nine on the east. Goodale said the original mapping of the site was done by ethnographers in the late 1970s – valuable because even since then, the river has risen, inundating some of the sites and bisecting others along the banks.

The pitouses would have been lived in late fall to early spring, at which point the seasonal round of fishing and in the region. At the narrows, the settlement was divided by the river, with some 23 homes located on the west side and another nine on the east. Goodale said the original mapping of the site was done by ethnographers in the late 1970s – valuable because even since then, the river has risen, inundating some of the sites and bisecting others along the banks.

The pitouses would have been lived in late fall to early spring, at which point the seasonal round of fishing and food gathering sites would have begun. About once every couple of decades, the pitouses were burned as a means of cleansing them and removing rotting or insect-infested roof beams. There is now reliable carbon dating to prove occupation as early as 1250 years BP (before the present) until the time of first contact with Europeans in the late 1700s, when a smallpox epidemic decimated local Sfnst populations.

Although occupation was not continuous, many sites were re-used repeatedly over the centuries. An unexplained gap in occupation occurs between about 2500 and 3000 BP. Dr. Goodale said studies on the west coast of BC have shown that a sudden drop in fish populations around this time may have had something to do with the sudden abandonment at Slocan Narrows.

Each site is assessed for four archaeological markers: lithics (stone implements), charcoal, identifying features such as hearths, post holes and tool-making areas, and of course artifacts such as arrowheads. The oldest pitouse excavated by the team has been dated to 2500 BP. Each site is divided into several one metre squares and carefully excavated using time-honoured archaeological techniques – old-fashioned brushes and trowels and careful, back-bending labour. Modern techniques come into play when soil samples are taken and sent back to the lab for chemical and geological analysis. Fragments of carbon from wood fuels used for cooking, light and heating in the pitouses are assessed using radiocarbon dating. Dates are accurate to within two or three centuries, so other means are used to narrow down dates, such as dating artifacts found at the same site.

The most recent pitouse at the site was dated to only 300 years ago. Another dated to about 1100 years ago. At a site closest to Slocan River, visitors were shown a pitouse site burned by the rising waters; this site has been buttressed along the shore by stones to prevent further deterioration. Also at this site was a small excavation that revealed a different kind of habitation, probably a 'nut lodge,' made similar to a teepee and covered with bark or other bark. In contrast to the winter pitouses, this was likely used as a summer shelter. Evidence was found of heat-cracked rocks. The Sfnst traditionally heated rocks and then

named CAO of Village of Slocan

by Jan McMurray

Michelle Gordon became the Chief Administrative Officer of the Village of Slocan on July 2.

Gordon has been working at the Village office since June 2008. She was first hired for a one-year term on a specific project and eventually became Administrative Assistant, and was then named acting CAO. Then in January of 2012, Gordon was hired on a two-year contract to complete Gordon's CAO mentorship.

Gordon has taken many courses in workshops and seminars related to local government administration over the years. She will complete her Local Government Administration Certificate in March 2013.

"When I started working for the Village, I knew it was a possibility that I would someday move into the position of CAO," she says. "Over the years, I have been able to expand and grow with the town, learn the ins and outs of local government, and understand the financial struggles we now have in this time of transition. I feel confident and excited about this new position - I have an amazing supportive council and a wonderful team of staff. I am energized and very much looking forward to being a team leader for the Village of Slocan."

Nicole Latorrune will be returning to the Village in a full-time employment beginning on September 1, and Gordon is "absolutely thrilled."

Gordon was born and raised in Langley, and moved to Slocan permanently around 2003. She moved out of the city to get away from the fast-paced way of life, with the intention of starting a family. She now has an almost five-year-old, who will be attending WE Graham in September.

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The Valley Voice July 15, 2015

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www.slocanvalleylegacy.com donations@slocanvalleylegacy.com

2 Nights Dance & Theatre Performances

July 17 @ 7:00 pm Silverton Memorial Hall
VISTA (ages 5-11) and Peak Dance (ages 11-18) students are excited to perform their creative pieces for the community.

July 24 @ 7:00pm Lucerne School Gym, New Denver
VISTA (ages 11-18) and Experience Dance (ages 5-11) students are eager to show what they’ve been working on all week. See you there!
Turner Zion United Church funds community projects

by Jan McMurray

A wide variety of community projects are being made possible by the generosity of the Turner Zion United Church. The church has recently given away $80,000 — most of the proceeds of the sale of its New Denver church property — to local groups for projects that will enhance the well-being of the community.

“We were thrilled with the applications and so happy to have money to give away,” said Eleanor Spangler, church member.

With just four members of the United Church left in New Denver, Spangler said they don’t have the “people power” to do a lot of community projects. “But there are people in the community who want to do all these exciting things, and we feel blessed to be able to support them.”

Groups supported include: Healthify Community Society (breakfast and lunch programs at Lacuna School), Slocan Elders Book of Food project, and Food Hub planning; Gary Parkstrom and Nadine Raymonds (contemplative education); Slocan Lake Early Learning Society (playground climbing structure), Health Centre Auxiliary (Pavilion fundraiser); Last Wishes (advertising and website); Duck Water Dragons (boat maintenance and equipment storage); Lacuna PAC (mural on school); Slocan District Chamber of Commerce (tour of local tourism facilities), North Valley Mountain Film Festival (film and photography workshops), and the Silverton Community Club (seniors’ lunches).

Some of the proceeds will go towards church initiatives: Jazz Vespers celebrations once a month, a ‘Blue Christmas’ event and a festival of the waters in the spring.

“We wanted to fund all the community projects that were proposed, so we ended up cutting down on the amount we had originally budgeted for our own projects,” said Spangler.

Requests from community groups totalled $105,000, so some groups did not receive 100 percent of their ask. “But it was all positive and exciting,” says Spangler. “Every one of the projects was supported by the members of our group. It’s about doing as much as we can.”

Within the last decade, the Turner United Church congregation in New Denver and the Zion United Church congregation in Silverton joined together due to declining membership. They decided to sell the church in New Denver and continue their activities at the Zion Church in Silverton. Spangler says that people from the Turner congregation, such as Webb-Cummings and Marguerite Thing, were quite attached to the building and wanted it to be preserved. The church members were very pleased to sell it to a young man from Banff who works in heritage conservation and intends to restore the building.

Ravencourt welcomes the Clinton Swanson Trio

The third house concert of the season is coming up at Ravencourt B&B in the Slocan Valley on Saturday, July 25 at 7 pm. After playing on the Celtic harp, then singing in the blues, it’s time for a little classic jazz when the Clinton Swanson Trio drops by to bend some notes in the courtyard of this strawbale B&B.

In the classic trio setting of drums, acoustic bass, and tenor saxophone the Clinton Swanson Trio pays tribute to the legendary jazz saxophonist Sonny Rollins.

Saxophonist Clinton Swanson has always been inspired by Sonny Rollins and will perform songs from Sonny’s famous repertoire of calypsoes, originals, and jazz standards. Joining Clinton will be Doug Stephenson on acoustic bass and Steven Parish on drums.

The Ravencourt concerts continue to be a popular summer pastime, so you can expect a pretty full house. It’s recommended to come earlier and enjoy the ambiance of Ravencourt before the music begins. Admission for these concerts (as always) is by donation with all proceeds going to the performers.

Ravencourt B&B hasn’t moved an inch. It’s still located at 4615 Upper Passmore Road (www.ravencourtbndb.com). Turn off Highway 6 at Passmore, cross the bridge and follow the signs to pure musical enjoyment. It’s a windy drive down to this strawbale B&B, but well worth the discovery. Refreshments will be available. For more information phone 250-226-7801.

North Slocan Trails
Society Hiring Trail Crew

We are looking for one lead hand and two trail crew to work as contractors from August to October. Successful candidates will be engaged in remedial work, primarily brushing and trail tread restoration. Salary will range from $18 to $20 per hour for crew and $22 to $24 per hour for lead hand, based on qualifications and experience. Must have own tools and first aid certification is an asset. Send your written resume and cover letter by July 24 to:

North Slocan Trails Society,
Box 213, New Denver
V0G 1S0

This project is funded by CBT and Recreation Sites and Trails BC.
New Denver Pavilion Memorial Gardens celebrated
by Jan McMurray
The New Denver Hospice Society and its Pavilion Memorial Garden Committee held a celebration of the memorial garden on July 8.
In the lovely garden seating area, Pavilion residents and guests were treated to delicious strawberry shortcake prepared in the health centre kitchen while enjoying music by Joe Trosca of Silverton and Dan and Mary Vetor of Vernon.
The gardens on the Slocan Community Health Centre property include trees, benches and flower beds in memory of Pavilion residents and staff. The Pavilion Memorial Garden Committee took over the maintenance of the gardens about three years ago, when the garden fund bequeathed by Bill Jones had been depleted, and the gardens were becoming overgrown. A move at the centre, Andrea Smith, got a group of volunteers together to do some garden maintenance. That was the beginning of the Pavilion Memorial Garden Committee, operating under the umbrella of the New Denver Hospice Society. With the help of volunteers, donations and grants, the committee has restored the garden and has had the memorial plaque re-done. The biggest job was re-shaping and re-planting Illana’s Memorial Gardens – done by 30 volunteers on a very rainy day.
Chairpersons of the committee, Andrea Smith and Colin Moss, say the community has given its support to the project beyond their highest hopes. “We can’t thank the volunteers, donors and funders enough,” said Smith. “The community has responded in a big way,” agreed Moss. “A lot of local individuals and businesses donate yearly to keep us going.”
Now that the gardens are in good shape, it’s a matter of keeping up regular maintenance. The committee has hired a gardener to look after the gardens over the summer, and hopes to be able to continue on with paid help. The committee wants to minimize the need for volunteers so as not to draw volunteers from the Koleni, explained Moss.
The committee will hold a fundraising garage sale at the end of August again this year.

Wild Days family nature programs planned for August
submitted
Curious about the amazing plants and animals of the Slocan Valley? Have you ever wished you could be in a naturalist’s back pocket seeing what they see? There’s outdoor fun and learning to be had in August during Wild Days!
The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society is offering four family-oriented nature programs in August to explore different habitats within the Slocan Lake watershed. Each day will have local naturalists and scientists on tap to make the day interesting.
The first program is scheduled for Saturday, August 1 from 9 am to noon and features a walk along the shores of Slocan Lake in New Denver. We will meet at the bottom of Main Street at the sculpture.
The second program will take place on Wednesday, August 12 from noon to 3 pm and focus on the variety of wetlands in Hills. The meeting place is at the Hill Fire Hall, 18 km north of New Denver on Highway 5. This event is co-sponsored by SWAMP (the Slocan Wetlands Assessment and Monitoring Project) and will conclude in time to hop up to the beginning of Toodfest at Summit Lake Provincial Park at 4 pm.
The last two Wild Days programs, focusing on creek and riparian habitat, are scheduled for Saturday, August 19 in Slocan (near the gate of Ergo Park) and on Saturday, August 29 in Silverton (near the Village Office and Silverton Gallery parking area). Both programs are free.
Please save these dates on your family calendar. For further information, contact 250-358-7714 or email ferranen@telusplanet.net.
And come learn more about the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society at our table at the New Denver Friday Market.

New Denver resident recognized for protecting Slocan Lake from invasive mussels
by Jan McMurray
New Denver resident Margaret Hartley was presented with a volunteer award by the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society on June 27 at a party at the Old Church Hall in Nelson.
The non-profit society, formerly called the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee, has been working hard to keep Slocan Lake free of invasive Zebra and Quagga mussels, but we could not do it without the dedicated volunteer effort of New Denver resident Margaret Hartley,” says a CKIPS press release. “Margaret has been an active board member with the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society for the past six years and understands the importance of protecting BC lakes from the devastating impacts of Zebra and Quagga mussels.”

Grassroots Grams host deluxe rummage sale July 18
These super-organized Slocan Valley Grassroots Grams are at it again. This Saturday, July 18 they will host “Treasures and Tools Two,” a deluxe rummage sale at the Window Hall, 5807 Hwy 6.
You won’t want to miss this great opportunity to find a reasonably priced household item, a unique decoration, or that special tool that’s just right for the job. The last time this event was held (in 2012) it was so successful folks were talking about it for months. The sale starts at 9 am and runs until 1 pm. All proceeds go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation to support African orphans and grandchildren in the wake of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The Village of New Denver
Presents a
WATER MOMENT
Sprinklers that lay water down in a flat pattern are better than oscillating sprinklers which lose as much as 50% of what they disperse through evaporation.
Monthly Water Use June 2014 3,254,610 USG
June 2015 6,714,329 USG

Slocan Lake Stewardship Society presents
WILD DAYS! Take the family out for a fun outdoor adventure & learn about the Slocan Lake watershed from local naturalists and scientists:
Saturday, August 1 in New Denver, 9 am-12 pm, Lakeshore walk.
Wednesday, August 12 in Hills, 12-3 pm, Wetlands tour.
Saturday, August 15 in Slocan, 9 am-12 pm, Creekside walk.
Saturday, August 29 in Silverton, 9 am-12 pm, Creekside walk.
Wild Days are FREE! Look for posters or check Valley Voice publications in July for more information. Also, look for the SSL booth at the Friday Market for more information.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Village of New Denver would like to advise residents that, as of July 15, 2015, additional summer sprinkling restrictions will be in effect.
To conserve water and lower the high cost of pumping during the summer months, please limit sprinkling to odd-numbered days of the month, between 6:00 am – 10:00 am and 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm. No sprinkling is permitted on even-numbered days. Hand watering is permitted at any time.
For helpful tips about water conservation, please visit www.cbt.org/watersmart
Celebrate the Kohan Garden’s 25th anniversary, July 26

Robin McNabb.

Participate in activities such as Children’s Fun Art ($2), a Kohan Garden Exploration Game (with prizes) and garden tours focusing on the Kohan’s history, plants, bags and birds.

Learn new skills in two adult workshops. Watercolour Painting (two sessions, 10 participants each) will be facilitated by experienced art teacher Donna Hicks, and Macro Photography (five participants) by professional photographer Sara Rainford. Registration fees are $7 for painting and $10 for photography. Register early by contacting Barb Yeomans at yeomansbluetartidea.com or 358-7765.

While in town you can attend the Nikka Centre’s Osoyoos Ceremony and visit the antiques sale on Main Street. The day promises to be one of adventure and fun for all the family. Please invite your friends and plan to join us in celebration of the 25th anniversary of our lovely lakeside community garden, a cherished asset for all. Entry by donation.

Pick up a flyer with details of the day’s program at local outlets or visit www.silverongallery.ca and www.newdenver.ca.

The Slocan Lake Arts Council is once again pleased to offer the Unity Music Festival.

July 25-26

UNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

SLOCAN CITY BEACH, BC

WEEKEND $75 ADVANCE $85 GATE

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www.unitymusicfestival.ca

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Mountain Valley Station, Slocan / Gaia Tree, Winlaw
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Presented by Slocan Valley Cultural Alliance

Slocan Lake Stewardship Society

slcanvallets.com

LONG-TOED SALAMANDER

This 8.5 cm amphibian is a nocturnal (night) hunter of worms and insects. Predators are discouraged by the distasteful poison secreted from glands on the back and tail, but if a predator does make lunch of a tall or leg, salamanders can grow back!
Nothing says Canada Day like the maple leaf. Overiselis Foods of Nakusp was proud to fly the national flag in the July 1st parade. The float won 3rd prize in the annual competition.

Mike Smith of the Kaslo Volunteer Fire Department with the Canada Day Cake for Kaslo’s celebrations, July 1.

A clown helped out with the face painting at Silverton’s Canada Day Celebration.

Mitsui New Canada helped dish out the Canada Day cake at Silverton’s July 1st Celebration.

Dave White poses with the Box Lake Lumber float. Box Lake Lumber is known for their creative float making, usually with products made in their mill. They’ve used fencing many times in the past, but this is the first float to incorporate any of their trees.

You’re at home here.

FOOD SPECIALS

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GOT WHAT YOU NEED FOR SUMMER?
Also on sale is Banana Boat Sunscreen SPF 30 or 60 - 240ml - $7.99
Blistex Lip Ointment & Medex Assortment - 6g - $1.89

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JULY
Fri 17
Sat 18
Sun 19
Mon 20
Tues 21
Wed 22
Thu 23
Prices effective July 17 - 23, 2015 - White supplies last
Sun 8 AM - 9 PM * Mon - Sat 6 AM - 9 PM
It was nice to see the ROMP out for Canada Day celebrations in Nakusp. Two members attended in red and white and distributed candy to youngsters before the parade began.

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July 27–31, Crawford Bay School

CAHNA DAY CELEBRATIONS

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Obon Ceremony in New Denver

An invitation to attend the annual Obon service officiated by Reverend Miyakawa, Jodo Shinshu Church, Kelowna.

Obon is an annual Buddhist Memorial service that has been held in New Denver since 1943. The meaning of ‘Obon’ is to pay respect to the people who have passed away before us. Please join in and celebrate at the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre

O B O N C E R E M O N Y
Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre
Josephine Street, New Denver

For more information:
250-358-7288

July 15, 2015 The Valley Voice

JULY HOT SPECIALS

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Herbal Musings

with Colleen Emery

Respiratory wellness during fire season

Summertime is such a lovely season, a time for relaxing at the beach, hiking our vast and wonderful forests, barbecuing with friends and family. Normally we are relaxing with ease and relatively low stress; however, this year, we are faced with unprecedented dry conditions resulting in many fires in our region as well as Western Canada in general.

Many of us in the region have been under a constant, grey haze from the fires. When exposed continuously to poorer air quality our respiratory systems can become compromised, especially for those who already deal with chronic respiratory concerns or for those who work outside and have a longer, more consistent exposure to the smoke.

Fortunately there are many herbs, nutritional and lifestyle strategies that one can implement to help encourage respiratory wellness and counter the symptoms that arise during prolonged exposure to compromised air quality. The benefit of adopting these strategies at this time of year is that you also bolster your resilience for the upcoming cold and flu season in the fall.

Remember, if you are taking any prescription medicine or have any outstanding health concerns have a little chat with your health provider prior to introducing anything new to avoid any contradictions.

Top five strategies for respiratory wellness:

• Limit micro-forms foods: Mucus is an important part of the immune system because it literally traps and eats foreign particles. However, if the body is locked into a cycle of overproduction and inflammation, it can make it tough to breathe. Foods to avoid include refined fats, sugars and flour products as well as certain dairy products. Foods to include are: garlic, ginger, onions, apples, and dark green leafy vegetables, and citrus fruits.

• Flake herbal allergies: The flowers love certain herbs, as do the bronchi and sinuses. Mullein leaf is a lung restorative helping reduce mucus production and recover the system after distress or illness. Elderflower, horehound and eucalyptus are all excellent expectorants meaning they aid the body in moving mucous up and out. Violet leaf provides gentle support for a respiratory system that is dry and tired, especially helpful for children when prepared as a tea with a bit of raw honey.

• Neti pot: This ancient, Ayurvedic way of cleansing the nasal and sinuses pathways is a must have during times of exposure to poorer air quality. Not only does it clean the sinuses, it nourishes the sensitive mucous lining and invigorates the immune system, providing a stronger foundation for respiratory wellness. Want to learn how? Check out this website: www.hrimahayurvedinstitute.com/product.html?productID=22&productCat=898

• Include essential oils: Essential oils are the very concentrated distillates of certain herbs, trees, woods and flowers. Oils to access from a qualified provider include ravenssara, rosemary, eucalyptus and certain strains of lavender. When inhaled, certain essential oils can act as gentle bronchodilators, encouraging the airways to open up, allowing more air to move. When essential oils are applied correctly and used appropriately they have the ability to encourage wellness in the most profound kind of way. Remember that essential oils are extremely potent medicinal agents and can be toxic to the liver in small doses. They are only safe to use internally under the supervision of a trained and certified practitioner.

• Get adjusted, have a massage, see your acupuncturist. Having a body treatment helps to drain the toxins and improve your lymph function. Mention this article when visiting Emery Herbs Dispensary and receive 15% off of our Breath Easy Essential oil blend and/or our Cough Ease Syrup Elixir, both excellent allies for respiratory wellness.

Colleen Emery, Master Herbalist and owner of Emery Herbs Dispensary, Healing Space and Teaching Centre in Warin, is passionate about offering access to information that enables the community to be self sufficient and take charge of their personal wellness.

At the Hidden Garden Gallery

submitted

“All Encouraged” is the title of the first show at the Hidden Garden Gallery, July 20 to 25. The artist says, “using my camera as the focal point I will present a 360° perspective of my surroundings.”

Debbie’s interest in photography began at the age of 12. She shared her first professional camera with her mom. She has gained much experience over the years and now makes her own greeting cards focusing on nature and wildlife in the Slocan Valley.

“My vision and hope for this show is to inspire you, make you think and just maybe start a conversation,” she says.

“Don’t always see life like everyone else. I envision life through the lens of my camera, wondering how I can develop a photograph that depicts just how beautiful our surroundings really are. For me, photography has little to do with the things we all see and everything to do with how I see them.”

Debbie’s reception is Monday, July 20 from 7 to 9 p.m. Local musician Noel Fudge will entertain with classical and contemporary guitar selections.

Koko and Fujibayashi join for Langham exhibition

submitted

The Langham Gallery is proud to present, Regeneration, an exhibit by Tsuneko Koboko and Toru Fujibayashi, two senior artists with extensive, fascinating and variant backgrounds, who have been part of the Kootenay arts and culture fabric for many years.

Regeneration evokes a minimalist design and aesthetic, like a Japanese style garden of contemplation with its tightly bounded compositions of gravel and rocks and sparse vegetation. Regeneration, at its heart, is a way of seeing; a study of memory and the motivations and methods with which we are able to understand lives lived. As the title tells us, these works are about life and death, but they also give us a glimpse of the doing in between.

Please consider yourself invited to attend the opening event on July 24, 7-9 p.m. The artists will be in attendance and there will be a short performance and spoken word presentation in lieu of an artist talk. For more details: www.thelangham.ca

Rail Trail proposal update

submitted

The results of the poll on the Roseberry Summit Lake Rail Trail management are being tabulated, and a report is under preparation as this issue of the Valley Voice goes to press. A full story on the results will appear in the next edition. The results may also be posted sooner on the rail trail website: roseberrysumm itrail.com
Wendy Too good exhibits as part of ALFA Guild ArtWalk

The Museum of Ephemerous (MOE) will present a one person exhibition by Nakusp artist Wendy Too good as part of ALFA ArtWalk 2015. The show, "Visual Narrative," features 65 drawings and one textile work. The exhibition will be on view every Saturday until August 30, from noon to 4 pm. There is no admission charge.

Everyone is invited to attend the opening reception on Saturday July 5, from 4 to 6 pm; refreshments will be served.

In all the drawings Too good is featured as the central figure as she documents her day-to-day activities: working on art projects, news headlines on the radio, lunch with friends, working in the garden, cooking dinner and other similar events. All the drawings are pen and ink on paper, many vibrantly colored with watercolour or gouache pastel.

This is Too good's first one-person exhibition in Nakusp but she has had many one-person exhibitions, or has participated in group exhibitions in Canada, the USA, Mexico, Japan, England, Germany, and Australia. She has won numerous awards for her artwork including a 75th Anniversary Alberta College of Art & Design Alumni Award of Distinction in 2002 and her work was shown by the National Gallery of Canada for the Four Hangings Exhibition, which toured Canada in 1970. Too good was born in Bristol, England in 1947; she has lived in Canada since 1952 and is a Canadian citizen. She graduated from the Alberta College of Art in 1969; then did postgraduate work at the Institute Allende, Mexico in 1970. Too good lived in Toronto from 1970 through 1974; during this time she spent six months touring extensively in Europe. She returned to Calgary in 1974 and lived there until 2006 when she retired and moved to Nakusp. She was a full-time instructor at the Alberta College of Art & Design (ACAD) from 1975 until she retired.

MOE is located at 312 - 3rd Avenue NW in a two-storey green building located at the back of the property. Please note: Access to MOE is via the back door, from the alleyway.

Lucia Mann’s fourth book now available

The book, A Veil of Blood Ganges Over Africa; The Birthplace of Slavery, by Nakusp author Lucia Mann, is now available at amazon.com and Home Hardware, Nakusp.

All over the world people yearn to be free. This story magnifies the meaning of liberty and emboldens those who struggle to be free. The Veil of Blood Ganges Over Africa is reissued in its original form and should be of interest to people who care about slavery and those who want to understand the history of slavery and its impact.

Heritage barn burns in Edgewood

On July 7 the Edgewood Volunteer Fire Department responded to a report of a barn on fire. The call was received at 2:10 pm and when the fire department arrived at the scene the building was fully engulfed. Flames were shooting some 60 feet into the air and could be seen for miles.

The fire, which was located close to the valley road, burned through overhead wiring, leaving the entire community without power or telephone for a few hours.

By about 1:30 am the fire crew had dosed the flames and prevented the fire from spreading into dry grass or neighbouring buildings. At the time of the fire, the barn was empty and the cause of the fire is unknown.

Despite the hundreds of gallons of water that were poured on the fire on the evening of July 7, the fire department was called again the next day because smoke was visible at the site.

This particular barn, which was located on the west side of the Howsekin Valley Road, was considered a heritage building and had been standing for over 70 years.

Corporal Jason Burndred arrives in Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

The new corporal for the Nakusp and Revelstoke RCMP detachment has arrived. Corporal Jason Burndred is very happy to be posted in Nakusp, where he looks forward to experiencing the Kootenays and to doing some community policing.

Corporal Burndred comes to us from Sicamous, where he worked for three and a half years on the Integrated Constable Lee Bellamy posted to Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

Constable Lee Bellamy is the newest member of the Nakusp RCMP detachment. He applied for the Nakusp posting after coming through on a camping trip two years ago. “I love the area – it has amazing scenic outdoor activities and the people are outgoing and friendly,” he said. Bellamy added that he is impressed with the restaurants he has tried so far in Nakusp.

Since Bellamy joined the RCMP seven years ago, he has been stationed in the Prince George area on general duty.

Bellamy grew up in Vernon. Prior to joining the RCMP, he was a snowboarder – a milestone for machines that run any type of saw.

Constable Bellamy is very happy to be in Nakusp. “Everyone has been very welcoming and willing to answer the questions I have,” he said.

In the short time he’s been here, Bellamy has been to watch a ball game, visited with people at Music in the Park, and met up with Search and Rescue.

Volunteers need to help Rosie with ongoing Lukenda Photography business in Nakusp

Dear Community Members:

Rosie Lukenda our beloved local photographer is involved in the BC Employment Program for Person’s with Disability. Since 2012 this program has provided a variety of supports to formally launch Rosie’s photography business. Thanks to the many who have helped Rosie achieve her dream; home support workers that support Rosie in the most essential ways, Rosie’s home volunteers, Rosie’s family and job coaches. Rosie has worked very hard and diligently - her business is flourishing!

Rosie has received job coaching support for the past 2 years but those supports will end August 29, 2016 and Rosie needs volunteers to help her maintain the level of success she’s achieved. Your action in service of this way strengthens each of us and this amazing community we share.

Rosie is asking for new volunteer “job coaches” to assist her to assemble photos cards, real and frame photo prints, replace and track art card inventory and card income with two Nakusp merchants. Rosie also needs volunteers to help her manage simple tasks related to personal needs at home.

Please contact Tom McLeod of West Kootenay Vocational Rehabilitation Services to learn more about this unique opportunity to be in service in a meaningful way. Call 250-265-0177 or email wkr@koctimberlakecad.com or Rosie directly at 250-265-3344 rosieschedule@gmail.com

Shon’s Bike & Ski

250-265-3332

86-4th Ave. SW Nakusp

www.shons.ca

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription

Only $10-$30

Send Cheque to: Valley Voice, Box 70 New Denver, BC V0G 150

Looking for a forever home:

Mern - gentle and quiet.
The little male kitten is very sweet and will make a wonderful companion.

Always loving. Call please. PALS at 250-265-3792 if you are interested in meeting these kittens.

POLICE

Constatble Lee Bellamy

Nakusp

(250) 265-3635

www.alikodokwally.com

Police Officer: Constable Lee Bellamy

Kootenay Sufferfest

Idaho Peak Mt Marathon and 10km Trail Run on July 29th in New Denver. Participate or volunteer in this spectacular, grass roots event! More information and to register: kootenaysufferfest.com/run-races idaho-peak-summit-race or contact Janis at 250-265-8707.

Kaslo Golf Club

The Earl Zilkie Memorial tournament takes place July 26, 2015. This is a round in open tournament and there are still openings. A signup sheet is at the clubhouse or you can contact Albert Volpati at 365-4467.

White Pines Dojo

Martial Arts Training Seminar (Adult) July 31st – August 3rd with guest Instructor Deduk Sensei, 6th Dan. Join us for a week of aikido training, good food, and fun. Observers and participants welcome, more in formation, please contact the dojo (250) 355-0009 or see www.whitepinesdojo.com for full class schedule.

North Kootenay Sport & Rec Council

Starting a new fitness class? Holding a fundraiser for your sport club? If you would like to place an announcement about a recreation or sport event, please contact (250) 777-1548. Members of the NKSRC place ads here for free!
**COMMUNITY**

**Shokunin master classes set on beautiful Kootenay Lake**

Imagined being able to sit aside a week just to polish that novel or family history you’ve been working on, or start learning that new craft—perhaps a secret lifelong dream you’ve only now had time to indulge. Maybe your fascination runs to photography, or maybe you’re a closet actor just dying to come out. Or maybe you just needed something more creative for your kids. The Kelowna SMART (science, movement and art) camp offers you this summer. The Shokunin Summer Program will specialize in small intensive classes from July 21-24 held between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm. Japanese, a shokunin is a master craftsman or artisan, implying an ethic of striving for excellence and a responsibility to benefit one’s community. LaVerne Booth, the Selkirk College Community Education & Workplace Training (CEWT) coordinator is offering a 7-night summer program at Crawford Bay School, featuring regional artists and craftpeople. Programs will be offered in theatre, writing, music, photography and visual arts.

For those interested in honing their writing skills, novelist Laurence Armstrong presents The Writer That You Are, helping you get in touch with your own writing process, find your creativity, and match it with the craft of story making through writing.

Photographer and historian Sean Arthur Joyce offers Exploring the Past in the Present. While the basics of mapping our historical research is essential, this is not a course in genealogy. Artists of all skill levels will find plenty to choose from. Zora Dewl will guide a class in Spontaneous Art, Ink, paper, charcoal and acrylics will be used.

Visioning and Shamansm Painting with Danielle Tonomos asks the question: if psychonauts were magic wands what would you create? Through a simple step-by-step process, Danielle will guide you to explore The Queen in your Heart. No previous painting experience needed.

In Wildlife and Nature Photography, masterful wildlife photographer Jim Lawrence will teach you camera function, lighting, composition, close-up photography, specialized equipment, animal behavior, and marketing. Students will be expected to have a camera, camera manual, tripod, and a strong interest in preservation of wildlife and habitat.

The Language of Music, presented by Greg Lomnatsco, will help musicians take their skills to the next level. Learn how to apply musical theory and harmonics, the rudiments of rhythm, basic singing, ear training, contemporary harmony, applied theory and how to play by ear.

Please contact the instructor so Greg can develop the course based on the interests of the students. Anyone who’s seen one of Lucas Myers’ hilariously one-man shows knows what it is to laugh from the belly. Now he teams up with Krista Lynch to offer Telling Your Story, teaching students how to present their stories dramatically in both solo and ensemble pieces.

The four-day master class courses are each $200 for four days, lunches and refreshments available for purchase. To register send a deposit of $50 adult payable to Selkirk College, Box 100, Crawford Bay, BC V0B 1R0 or visit websites at eastshoresmallschool.ca.

**Goodbye to our Mexican Exchange student - Pato Morfin**

Another Rotary Youth Exchange student is returning to Mexico this year. Pato Morfin arrived from Mexico in September. He plans to return to the United States to attend university. Pato enjoys sports and music and is looking forward to studying at university in the states.

**Receive up to $800 for job training through CBT program**

Are you looking to enrol in short-term training that leads to immediate employment? If so, now is the time to apply for bursary-style funding through the CBT program. Applicants residing in Kelowna or the Okanagan are eligible to apply for up to $800 in bursary funding. Application deadline is August 15. Visit the CBT website for more information.

**Things to do**

**CHOCOLATE SHOPS**

Jennifer Chocolates (250) 265-7199

www.jenniferchocolates.com

91 4th Ave. Our local artisan chocolatiers makes everything right here at their chocolate shop! Indulge in a dark chocolate truffle or cool off with a fresh banana dipped in chocolate. Bring the family and experience the fine art of chocolate making right here in Kelowna.

**HOUSEBOAT RENTALS**

The Kaslo Shipyards Company - Kaslo (250) 353-2866 1-800-554-1687

www.kaslohouseboats.com

2 houses: Cruise, fish, and explore sensational Kootenay Lake from the comfort of a houseboat. Enjoy the hearth and hot tub, sandy beaches, tennis courts, a deepwater fishing, and all the excitement of houseboating. A spectacular waterfront location, fully furnished, with hot tub, full kitchen, and complete show room facilities for four, six or eight people.

**SPORTS/OUTDOOR SHOPS**

Valhalla Pure Outfitters - Nk'Mip Desert

(250) 361-7557

Specializing in all things for the great outdoors including biking, hiking, camping, backcountry, skiing, snowboarding, running, climbing, and more.

**The Wall for Fun for Fun around Summit Lake on July 12 was a huge success, with 158 participants and $4,650 raised for the Arrow Lakes Hospital. Pictures here are Katelyn Brown from the Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation (right) and Inna Piskhott from These Islands Resort. The resort has been organizing this fundraising event for the hospital for 10 years.**

**Columbo Bistro in Kaslo. To learn more about the Trust’s programs and initiatives, visit cbt.org or call 1-800-505-8989.**
**Museums**

Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre National Historic Site – New Denver

(250) 358-7826 300 Josephine St. www.newdenver.ca/nikkei
May 1-Sept. 30, 9am-5pm 7 days/week. The only Harris’s stone in Canada dedicated to telling the story of the WWI internment of Japanese Canadians in the West Kootenay during World War II. Displays, permanent exhibits, and period artifacts offer visitors an immersive experience in this extraordinary period in Canadian history.

Silverton Slocan Museum – New Denver

(250) 358-2201 The old bank of Montreal building at the foot of New Denver’s main street, restored to circa 1900. Special tours welcome 250-358-2201 or 250-358-2266 for further information. Hope to see you!

Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre – Sandon

(250) 358-7920 www.sandonmuseum.ca
Open 10 AM to 5 PM. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy 3. Features collection of antique and ghost town objects. Collections of stunning photographs and fantastic artifacts. Admission Cash $5 adults, $3 seniors, $10 families, free for 5 and under.

S.S. Moyie National Historic Site – Kaslo

(250) 368-2235 www.moyiehistoricalsociety.com
324 Front Street, Kaslo, BC. Visit the world’s oldest intact passenger sternwheeler in Kaslo. A heritage gem located on the shores of Kootenay Lake! A 19th century steamboat, beautifully restored! Easy access from anywhere in the Kootenays, open daily.

Larade Valley Historical Society Museum – Kaslo

(250) 368-4111
museum.khs@gmail.com 13455 Highway 31 (SE corner of Larade Valley) Rail property is owned by KCS. The museum is located on a 10-acre lot near the town of Kaslo. The museum provides a collection of historic artifacts and information about the history of the area. Donations are always welcome!

**Galleries**

The Langham Centre – Kaslo

(250) 353-2661 www.thelangham.ca 447 Avenue, Kaslo. Billed as the “The Langham, a national historic site and the center of arts and culture May 1 – October 1). Kaslo Art, exhibitions in our 2 art galleries, live performances in our theater. During WW1, Japanese Canadians were interned here – visit the interpretive center from May 1 – October 1. Open 8am – 8pm daily. Gallery open 10am – 5pm. Donations very much appreciated.

Studio Connexion Gallery – Fine Art – Kaslo

(250) 368-8888 303 Fifth Ave. NW, Kaslo. Art exhibitions from mid-May to October. Each gallery has 3 artists on show, 2019 artists represented: Holly Woods, Jessica (Stevens) Gray, Rick Rogers, Tim Andrus, Sharan Bambat, Mirja Vahala, & Deirdre Durnell. Open Tues- Sat. from 11 am to 4 pm or by appointment. Gift shop for your eyes and ears...

Hidden Garden Gallery – Kaslo

(250) 368-4403 563 Kiddle Street, New Denver Monday through Saturday, 10 to 3. A new art shop from the Kiddle every week, June 12 through August 25. Enjoy a glass of wine, enjoy your own piece of glass, talk to our artists and be the best of local artists.

**Hot Springs**

Hailyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa – Kaslo

1-866-689-4699 (250) 355-3554 www.hailyon-hot springs.com
info@hailyon-hot springs.com
Hailyon Hot Springs Village and Spa Kaslo Resort is an open year round. Ancient healing waters surround your body and soul. Forever yours in our Spa. Relax in our cozy cabanas or luxurious chalets. RV hook-ups available. 100% Natural and pure. Beautiful views from the Hot Springs Restaurant.

Nakusp Hot Springs, Chalets & Campground – Nakusp

www.nakusp-hot springs.com (250) 265-4528 info@nakusp-hot springs.com
2640 Hwy 97 N, Nakusp, BC. Enjoy a soak in the natural hot springs, relax and enjoy the scenery in one of our 91 air-conditioned guest rooms. Wireless internet available.

**Golf Courses**

Nakusp Golf Course – Nakusp

Phone/Fax: (250) 265-4531 www.nakuspgolf.com ncg@nakuspgolf.net
PRACTICE RANGE: 300 yard driving, 125 yard pitching, 60 yard sand. THE MOUNTAIN VIEW GAZE – Fully licensed restaurant.
FREQUENT GOLFER POINTS: 25 points for 5 rounds, no reservations required. Ladies’ nights: Tuesday 4:30-5:15pm Guests welcome Men’s nights: Thursday 4:30-5:15pm Guests welcome.

Kaslo Golf Course – Kaslo

Phone (250) 353-2262 www.kaslogolf.org
(9 hole course – no tee times)
GREEN FEES: $32.19 holes, $35.18 holes, $18 twilight rate
PRACTICE RANGE: $8.18 holes, $20.18 holes
RENTALS: Clubs and pull carts available (Free club rentals for motorcyclists)
RESTAURANT: Open Daily: 10:30 am – 5:30 pm. Please join in on any of the following regular events and get to know the members: Men’s Night: Tuesday 4:30-5:15pm, Ladies’ Day: Tuesday 4-5:15pm, Senior Men – Wednesdays 9 am – 1:30 pm

**Restaurants & Accommodations**

The Paddack Shack

250-365-2355 The Paddack Shack, located on Highway 6, Nakusp. Enjoy a peaceful place to stay, relax and dine. Choose a homemade burger, hotdog, wrap, sandwich, or something entirely of your own at the beach. Top off the meal with a fresh smoothie from the health food cart. Come and enjoy a great day at the large outdoor seating area.

Murphy’s Landing

(250) 265-0265 291 Columbia Ave. (Main street) New Den ven Open Thursday to Saturday 5-9 pm. Reservations recommended. Call 250-358-2261. Enjoy fine dining in a relaxed atmosphere, excited in the heart of the West Kootenay. Located across the street from Murphy’s Landing.

Rory’s on Main – New Denver

(250) 358-2499 www.rorysonmain.com 17th Avenue (main street) New Denver Open Thursday to Saturday 5-9 pm. Reservations recommended - call 250-358-2261. Enjoy fine dining in a relaxed atmosphere, excited in the heart of the West Kootenay. Located across the street from Murphy’s Landing.

Villa San Ildefonso

(250) 368-7272 314th Street, Kaslo, BC www.villa-sanildefonso.com
Located in downtown Kaslo, a family run, 2nd generation restaurant with a large dining area and a fully licensed bar. Come and enjoy a delicious meal in a relaxed atmosphere.

The Cup and Saucer Cafe – Silverton

206 Lake Ave. Serving breakfast, lunch, lattes, espressos, treats, soups, salads, and bagels. Amazing gluten-free sandwiches.

Helmcken Hot Springs Resort & Spa

www.helmckenhot springs.ca
Located 3 km south of Silverton on Hwy 6. We offer your choice of luxury spa and restaurant. Next to the Trails to Rails and fantastic catch & release fishing.

Kariu Park Cottages & Campground – Winlaw

(250) 355-4515 1322 Winlaw-Raymond Road Winlaw, BC. Relax and enjoy the scenery of our 250-site campground, right next to the Rails to Trails trail system. Write “Free Hikie Trail” to Scuba Dive the Assinniboine wrek, 4 km north of Assinniboine Hot Springs on Hwy 3.

**Campgrounds**

Nakusp Municipal Campground – Nakusp

(250) 265-1051 www.nakusp-campground.com

Coachman Campground – Nakusp

(250) 265-4212 www.coachmancampground.com
Contact: Lynden (250) 250-4212
1701 Hwy 33 N, Nakusp, BC. V0G 1R0
Full, partial and non-serviced sites available. Some sites in the trees and some in the open area. 2 bath houses with flush toilets and coin operated showers, fires and picnic tables at each site, seasonal outdoor pool, and fire and firewood sales, small convenience store. One cabin rental. Call for reservations.

Centennial Campground – New Denver

(250) 355-2468 www.centennialcampground.com
Located at 10200 20th Ave, New Denver. Turn right immediately off Hwy 6 to entrance of Village of Slocan. Fully and partially hooked-up, tent sites, sand-dump, wheelchair accessible washrooms and showers, win on gas and diesel. Seasonal. Information Booth.

Lemon Creek Lodge – Lemon Creek

(250) 368-2262 www.lemon creeklodge.com www.lemoncreeklodge.com
Lemon Creek Lodge is located on Hwy 6, 9 km south of Slocan off Hwy 6. 10 bedroom and beach lodge, full breakfast included. 2 cabin rentals and licensed casual P.E. fishing restaurant. Next to the Trails to Rails and fantastic catch & release fishing.

Woodbury Resort and Marina – Kaslo


**Visitor Information**

Hailyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa – Kaslo

1-866-689-4699 (250) 355-3554 info@hailyon-hot springs.com
Hailyon Hot Springs Village and Spa Kaslo Resort is an open year round. Ancient healing waters surround your body and soul. Forever yours in our Spa. Relax in our cozy cabanas or luxurious chalets. RV hook-ups available. 100% Natural and pure. Beautiful views from the Hot Springs Restaurant.

Nakusp Hot Springs, Chalets & Campground – Nakusp

www.nakusp-hot springs.com (250) 265-4528 info@nakusp-hot springs.com
Nakusp Hot Springs Resort – Kaslo

1-800-688-1717 (250) 229-4212
Visitor Information and pick up for our unique Hot Spring and spa. Fabulous food in our dining room and then enjoy the comfort of one of our air-conditioned guest rooms. Wireless internet available.
The Madeline Tasquin Trading Co. in concert at the Langham

submitted

The Madeline Tasquin Trading Company will play the Langham in Kasilo August 15 at 8 pm, part of the San Francisco band’s BC tour. The 20-date, 40-day tour brings Madeline Tasquin back to her BC home with her new band, to spread the word about her forthcoming full-length release set to come out later this year. To go along with the tour, Tasquin has released the first peek at her new album, a summery track called Free Love, with instructions on her website for a collaborative music video project inviting footage contributions from her fans throughout the summer.

Singing in both English and French, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Tasquin weaves charmingly from jazz-tinged folk to odd-metered soul, from twisted pop ballad to delicately dark fairy-tale, delivering it all with a radiant stage presence.

Raised in Quebec by her opera singer mother and Austrian gold miner father, Tasquin began playing the piano as soon as she could reach the keys and developed a keen sense of harmony by singing on long car trips as a child with her mother and two younger sisters. In her teenage years, art rock bands Primm and Mr. Bingle played on repeat alongside Rachmaninoff, Satie and Chopin. After completing a degree in architecture in Sydney, Australia, she returned to her musical roots upon relocating to Berkeley in 2006 and has since added the concert stage and guitar to her repertoire, next to her first love, the piano.

Kaslo Jazz Fest welcomes The Slocan Ramblers

submitted

Add The Slocan Ramblers to the list of bands taking a pass on polished pop production values and embracing the unvarnished authenticity of old-time mountain music and bluegrass—while showcasing their own worldly influences.

Formally, the band is from Toronto. They named themselves after the historic Slocan Ramblers mine because their bass player, Alastair Whitehead, used to spend summers in the valley.

Praised everywhere from Hickey Night in Canada to the pages of Sing Out magazine for their debut effort Shaking Down The Acorns, and having already opened for Steve Martin and been featured in a TV series alongside the Blind Boys of Alabama, the Slocanans launched a follow-up album, Coffee Creek, on July 16.

Recorded live-off-the-floor in Toronto’s Casa Wronton studio and produced by banjo wizard Chris Coole (Foggy Hootgown Boys, Sylvia Tyson, Tyler, Caddy, David Francey), the album features a diverse repertoire that ranges from a sweet bluegrass original written on the shores of the Sea of Galilee (Galilee) to a rowdy recreation of the classic Groundhog and a tender original called April’s Waltz, which proves the band can also play slow—with great precision and emotional sensitivity.

Evans showcases his wizardry at both clawhammer and three-finger banjo styles, often duelling with mandolinist Adrian Gross where other bands might feature a fiddle solo. Whitehead’s bass and Patterson’s muscular rhythm guitar and occasional flourishes of fancy flat-picking fill out the sound. All one-time students of the

Kaslo receives its new 5th Street Unity Bridge, July 2

submitted

Kaslo’s 5th Street Bridge was completed with a new wood superstructure, including a roof, in a design similar to the 2007 bridge constructed farther upstream as part of the Kaslo River loop trail. The Kaslo Trailblazers Society says a huge “thank you!” to all volunteers and supporters who have helped to make this project a success.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUDDY’S PIZZA, KASLO: Award winning, hand-stretched artisan pizza. 250-353-2560

NEW SLOCAN VALLEY RIDESHARE PROGRAM sponsored by The Healthy Community Society. For more information check community connections.ca

NATALLIE’S PRODUCE will be in Meadow Creek every Sunday at the Farmer’s Market from 10 am to 2 pm. Cherries, peaches, apricots, blueberries. Natallie: 250-509-0173.

MONTY TIMBLINGTON, a former student of Emily JHL, but graduated in Nelson. Siskatexan. Monty has an academic scholarship from McGill University, Montreal, where he will study engineering. Congratulations, Monty, and best wishes for your future.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

WORK YOUR DREAM JOB and be your own boss with help from the Self Employment Program at Community Futures! Through this program you will receive business plan instruction and ongoing business mentor coaching while you start your business. And if you're eligible you will usually receive free financial support for the first year. To learn more call 265-3674 ext. 201 or email nankus@futurebc.ca.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SWIMMING LESSONS @ BIGLOW BAY: Tuesday, August 13—Monday, August 24. Lessons start at 2 pm. All Levels: $6.50/Child, $10.00 Adults. To register or for more information please contact: rcorcoran@gmail.com or call 250 358 2117. PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE AUGUST 10TH.


FOR SALE: Oldsmobile 98, 10,000 kms. $1400. Call 250-429-3430.

PERSONALIZED DOG CARE – WINLAW. Your dog’s home away from home, that special touch of care for your beloved pet, in a home environment. Call now to book your dog’s vacation- 1-250-418-6655, www.winnlawnldogcare.ca

SHOP WANTED. For SALE: 3-day ticket to Kootenay Jazz Festival. Bought pre-season, selling for $125.00 Phone call: Anne 250-226-7325 or Janie 250-226-7205.

Estate Sale: Troy Built horse rototiller, 7 horsepower-$500. Multiple sizes of chainsaws. Compost tumbling mixer. Generator of the line snow blower. $1.000 tools, mics, drills, drills, etc. Canning jars, food dehydrator, kitchen grill and all. Please call Alan Brown 250-269-5769.


NOTICES


BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CONSTRUCTION • HOME • GARDEN

Safety, Service, Satisfaction Installation and maintenance jim@jemscom

HALLUM LIBRARY & BUILDING SUPPLIES Open Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat 10 am to 5 pm PHONE 250-268-6045 Find us at 800 Kildare St Nelson, BC 250-268-7329

LAWN MOWING From Silverton to Nakusp - SLOCAN YARD AND HOUSECARING 250-358-2561 354-3423 crarn_PC@gmail.com


HIANO N DECKING Window Replacement for wood and the outdoor living area. Nelson 352-1614 www.ownbei.com

HIGHLAND CREEK CONTRACTING Excavating, Demolition and landscaping Call for an estimate Pete Schwartz 250-358-2199 cell: 505-4347 highlandcreekcontracting@gmail.com

HARDWOOD FLOORS WHOLESALE 100% CANADIAN PRE-FINISHED HARDWOOD. MAPLE, OAK, CHERRY, PECAN, HEMLOCK, BIRCH. All products are pre-finished and pre-coated with 5 coats of UV, satin, semi-gloss finish. Call 250-365-6555 or email 250-355-1082.

LARRY’S LAWN & Yard Service • Lawn mowing • Pruning • Clean-up & Odd jobs Call Larry “the lawn guy” 250-358-7777 or 358-7177.

JIM POWNALL & CO. LOG & TRIM FRAME HOMES New Denver • BC 250-358-2566 jpowall@telus.net

CANADIAN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS Limited Certified Electrical Contractor Fully Licensed and Insured mobile (250) 551-TUBE (8843) jacob@oneelectric.com www.onetimeelectrical.com


LAWSON’S LANDSCAPING Backyard Master with attention to detail, design and function. Starting small projects. 250-352-1434

JIM POWNALL & CO. LOG & TRIM FRAME HOMES New Denver • BC 250-358-2566 jpowall@telus.net
SLOAN VALLEY REC
SLOCOM LAKE AUGUST SWIM PROGRAMS
check out our Leisure Guide at www.rllckca.org

250-220-0600

SERVICES
SAVE MONEY on PETER'S WINDOWS & DOORS with energy-efficient windows, doors and siding by Casey. We are the exclusive dealer of long lasting, high performing windows by Gendex. We also have lots of wood and metal doors in stock.

Now selling Gendex siding. 1-250-359-0079.
SUE MISTRETTA, M.A., offers Online Consulting and Counselling services in Silverton and Winlaw offices. Contact www.suanhandmand.ca or 151-2177.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED
RUSTY VOLKSWAGEN bus/van with split front windshield. Any information please call 403-877-0046.

ANDREW ROODS is again looking for a ride to Kelowna on Wed. July 30 for a doctor’s appointment at 3:15 pm. He can return later that day or any time the following day. Please contact him at 250-358-7685 or drewroodshandicap@gmail.com. Thank You!

YARD SALES

MOVING SALE – 2 FAMILY: toys, furniture, home décor, kitchenware, air conditioners, bedding, jewelry, yard furniture, pottery, Courtenay Milne photography. Sat. and Sun. July 18 and 19. 9 am – 4 pm. Slocan Valley Medical Clinic parking lot, 3138 Slocan Port Rd., Slocan Port, Bonnie Nepin.

MOVING SALE: Saturday, July 18 (10 am-3 pm) & Sunday, July 19 (10 am-1 pm). 910 Bernard St. S., Nakusp. Everything must go!

SERVICES FOR Sandie Matsuoka (1917-2015) of New Denver, BC, wife of Stelio (Stelie) Matsuoka (pre-deceased), and mother of Elaine Massey Let and Arthur Maruo Matsuoka, will be held at 3:30 pm, during Obon on Sunday, July 26, 2015 at the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre in New Denver, BC. Tea to follow at the Centre.

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Former valley resident Melissa Ruth returns to perform in Winlaw by Art Joyce

Melissa Ruth, who is currently touring America with her band LikeYou Stories to promote their new album ‘Riding Mercury’, will be performing in Winlaw July 31, 7 pm at Mama Sita’s. For this engagement she will be performing as a duo with her husband, musician Johnny Leal. The duo will also perform August 1 at the Drifter’s Inn, Meadow Creek, 7:30 pm.

Ruth’s family were residents of Nelson Road. She was born here and spent most of her preschool and school years in the Slocan Valley. Her father, Joseph Imai, is a musician who played in various rock ‘n roll bands while her mother was in the Winlaw community band. Melissa attended Winlaw Elementary, WE Graham and Mt. Sentinel but the family moved to California in her senior year, where she graduated. Still, her early musical influences – piano lessons at age five and flute lessons as a teenager with Sara Munsey – stuck with her. She decided to pursue a degree in music education and become a teacher thanks to Munsey’s inspiration. At college she earned her degree in classical flute performance but it was then that her musical path began to veer off in a new direction.

‘It sort of felt like I needed a way to blow off some steam, so I picked up the guitar and started writing songs just for myself, to get away from the rigors of classical music. It was just kind of a stress release, writing songs continued on page 19

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COMMUNITY

Former valley resident Melissa Ruth returns to perform in Winlaw

continued from page 18
that were never really intended for anyone else’s ears.”

Eventually Melissa found the songs acquiring a life of their own, especially when she got an electric guitar and her style began moving from folk toward roots and blues. After finishing her music studies in college, she decided to polish the songs to a fine finish, gradually leading her into her current career as a recording and performing artist. She started by playing solo and jamming with others but stuck a deep affinity with a musician she’d met in college, Johnny Leal, a guitarist. It was one of those moments when you realize a kind of magic — a synergy — is happening between two artists. They began performing as a duo and eventually were married. Johnny’s brother Jimmy, a drummer, was later added to the band. Johnny recorded some of the bass lines for the new album along with another bassist. Their sound as Likely Stories is self-described as "doo-wop twang.”

“It’s a really wonderful synergy,” says Melissa. “One of the things I love about Johnny’s playing is that he always tries to make his skill set fit the song rather than the other way around. His brother brings a similar perspective to the band, and I’ve found it incompa
table to any other playing I’ve done with other people.”

Their debut album, ‘Ain’t No Whiskey,” was released in 2011 while the couple was living in Oregon. Melissa had been listening to a lot of The Band, blues legend Willie Dixon, and New Orleans musicians, subtle influences on the recording of the album. And although roots music may seem a long way from her classical roots, she found that early training invaluable.

“She decided to pursue my own original music because I’d written a lot of my own songs, been to music school, and I knew it was a good idea to go.

She says the band prefers a live sound in the studio, just like the early days of recorded music before multi-tracking studios existed. “We all get in one room and turn the microphones on and just go for it. Like you were saying about the synergy, there’s a different energy you get that way.”

“Riding Mercury” continues in a similar style but with slightly more layering of instruments, with Melissa adding some keyboard and banjo parts this time. She considers herself a music connoisseur, always listening and absorbing a wide range of influences. Although she doesn’t see it as an influence on the new album, she plays for fun with a band of women in their 70s who perform old time country music in the style of Gena Autry and Dale Evans. But she can speak to those early recordings is something she does consciously emulate. “There’s something about the way that old music allowed so much space for listeners to put themselves into the music; all the space is just crammed with something. I just love that, it just opens up so much to your imagination.”

Since the album’s release in 2014, ‘Riding Mercury’ has been featured on independent and college radio stations throughout the US, Canada, and Western Europe. August 2014, ‘Riding Mercury’ debuted on the Proform America Roots (PAR) radio charts at #12, the latest from John Hiatt.

And she’s excited about being in the Sicamous Valley again. “I love coming home for so many reasons but I especially love playing music there.”

For more information visit http://www.melissaruthmusic.com.

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COMMUNITY

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COMMUNITY

Metalworker Tim Andrew exhibiting at Studio Connexion

by Art Joyce

Continuing in its 2015 exhibition season, Studio Connexion offers yet another innovative artist, Tim Andrew, displaying stainless steel engravings in a show titled ‘Moving Mountains.’ The show will run July 21 to August 9, with an opening reception on Friday, July 24, 5-8 pm, with the artist in attendance.

Andrew and his partner Gillesie Daival are creative entrepreneurs whose business, The Rare ‘n Iron, for 18 years has helped provide for a family of two children who are now adults. Andrew’s family had a farm in the Vancouver Island Highlands region near Victoria, where his father taught him farrier skills for horses. This led naturally to training as a blacksmith and later as an aircraft parts fabricator as well as creating tungsten carbide tool and dies. He worked on both fixed wing aircraft and helicopters at Viking Air in Victoria, Field Aviation in Calgary and Helicopter Welders in Richmond. This involved ground-up fabrication that required making drawings, making the tools to make the part and then actually manufacturing the part, with incredible attention to detail and quality. After all, people’s lives depend on the safety of these parts, Andrew explains. But gradually he and Daival found themselves wanting to exercise their creative inclinations. As a kid he’d done sketching, sculpting and painting, often in the ‘steampunk’ style, but these days he does mostly landscape art.

“I’ve always wanted to be self-employed as long as I can remember and art has always been incredibly important to me. Both my parents were artistic although that’s not what they did for a living. Once in a while you’d see colours arising in the metal from the heat or when a mistake was made. So I became interested in exploring that for pieces of art instead of pieces of industrial equipment.”

The idea to fully branch out into creative rather than technical fabrication came during the couple’s visits to public markets on Vancouver Island. They noted how individual the handcrafted jewellery was selling and one day Andrew created a stainless steel heart pendant for Daival. Before long people were asking if they could buy one, and the rest, as they say, is history. They began creating engraved designs on money clips, earrings, pendants and other designer items. But with the urban sprawl from Victoria pushing further out into the country, Andrew found himself uncomfortable with the changes there.

“The closest neighbour was a ten minute walk away when I was growing up. It’s all built up now and I don’t live in those areas now,” he says.

The Valley Voice  July 15, 2015

The events I go to draw really great people. I really enjoy sharing my stories with my customers and I like to encourage people to share their dreams. A lot of people are saying to me, ‘Oh, you’re living the life.’

Studio Connexion is open from Tuesday to Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm. Private visits outside regular hours can be arranged by contacting Anne Belliveau at 250-265-8888 or 250-265-3586.

Sadye Butler receives ‘Community Champ’ bursary

by Jan McMurray

Sadye Butler is one of four recipients of a 2015 ‘Community Champ’ bursary of $2,000 from the Kootenay Savings Community Foundation.

The bursary is given to grade 12 and post-secondary students who are doing their part to inspire community spirit and pride. Sadye’s extensive volunteer work includes her service as Miss New Denver in the Ambassador program.