Wildfire situation eases locally as fires rage to the south and west

by Art Joyce and Katrina Campbell

The air is smoky and residents are on edge as new wildfires are reported every day. Most of the smoke that is visible is coming from fires in Washington, Idaho and the Okanagan, and is expected to linger in the region due to prevailing winds from the south and west.

On August 20 the BC Wildfire Service reported it was responding to a number of new fires that were highly visible from surrounding communities throughout the Southeast Fire Centre. None of these fires are immediately threatening any communities or structures but due to their location the public may see an increase in smoke and air operations in response to these incidents. The ministry responded to 18 new fires the day before, almost all of which were caused by lightning strikes. ‘Hoolover’ fires, caused by strikes over the past few weeks, have flared up in the hot and dry conditions. Altogether, across the province there have been 246 fires, with 104.35 contained. Last week the provincial air quality health advisory was in place more than 100 missions. Firefighters from Ontario and Australia and South Africa were recently released from service.

There are fires near Rockwood (lower Arrow Lakes), Tendal Brook (west Arrow Lake), Haas Creek (eight km northwest of Trail), Kelly Mountain (6.5 km northeast of Fruitvale), and west of Rossland in the Big Sheep Creek area. A public access restriction is in effect near this fire, including the old Rossland-Cranbrook Highway north to the intersection of the Seven Summits Trails and the top of Red Mountain Resort. As of noon on August 20, the 190-hectare fire was over 30 per cent contained.

Officials from the BC Wildfire Service met with the American Incident Management team on the Stickpin fire, less than five kilometres south of the border near Grand Forks. As of August 24, this fire is estimated at 190 square kilometres, dwarfing even the Rock Creek/Midway fire, which grew to 4,534 hectares. The Stickpin fire is responsible for most of the smoke haze visible in the Slocan and Arrow lakes area. BC Wildfire Service firefighters and heavy equipment have been stationed in Grand Forks and Christina Lake in case this wildfire threatens the border.

The famous Mount Revelstoke water bomber was not operational for a period due to staffing issues, but was to be working until August 25 and after that as needed. The estimated cost to date for the bomber is more than $650,000. Already by late June, the BC Wildfire Branch had spent $35.2 million of its $63 million budget for the year. Last year was the third worst fire season in BC history, and this year could easily beat that record. Climate-change-induced conditions also made history as the southern part of the province was declared a Level 3 drought zone for the first time, with the South Coast and Fraser region declared a Level 4 - the highest drought rating.

The Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with the Interior Health Authority, has issued a Smokey Skies Advisory. The ministry and Interior Health advise residents to avoid strenuous outdoor activities. Contact your health care provider if you experience difficulty in breathing, chest pain or discomfort, and sudden onset of cough or irritation of airways. Exposure is particularly a concern for infants, the elderly and those who have underlying medical conditions such as diabetes, and heart or heart disease.

BC Liquor Stores announced its customers can donate in stores across the province to support Red Cross relief efforts for fire victims. Customers can make donations of $2 or $5, or multiples of $2 or $5, at the checkout. The Red Cross asked for the help as it is providing evacuees with immediate needs such as blankets, food and water, reuniting family members, and assisting with longer-term needs such as rent, or replacing equipment to return to work.

BC Government suspends fishing in lower West Kootenay

by Art Joyce

The Government of BC is suspending angling for the southern Kootenays due to ongoing warm water temperatures and low flows, effective August 15 through September 15. The closure has been put in place to protect fish stocks at a time when they are vulnerable due to low flows and high water temperatures. Upper Kootenay Lake, the Arrow Lakes and the Slocan Valley are not affected so far by the closure but remain under close scrutiny. "In the Slocan system, we know that it does get warm in the late summer, so we have very conservative catch rates already," says John Krebs, FLNRO Regional Manager for Fish and Wildlife. "But now the temperatures are cooling at night so we're hoping we're through the worst of it. The real risk for the latter part of the summer is the flow if there's no precipitation."

There are cool water refuges for fish in the larger lakes but if the smaller streams that become critical as flow rates go down and water temperatures rise, adds Krebs. Current closures will be reassessed after September 15.

The closures cover a belt of territory across the southern Kootenays south of Nelson, from below Lower Arrow Lake in the west across to the Kootenay River, east of Cranbrook. In addition, Michel Creek, Coal Creek, Lizard Creek, Sand Creek, Kiklowm Creek and Morrissey Creek and their tributaries will be closed to angling in the East Kootenay. These streams are in Wildlife Management Units 4-02, 4-22 and 4-23.

The Columbia River from the High Keeping Road to the Kootenay State border, and the Kootenay River from Brilliant Dam to the confluence of the Columbia River are exempt from the closure. These streams have sufficient water refuges to adequately protect fish.

BC government fisheries biologists are monitoring approximately 30 other key angling streams across the province, and if conditions warrant, additional closures are possible.

Business and individual sponsors who donated $1,000 toward construction costs and outstanding volunteers were honoured with commemorative photos of the new Unity Bridge across Kootenay River. The grand opening was held Sunday afternoon, August 23. 77 volunteers put in a total 1,050 volunteer hours.

Studio Connexion Gallery is an official venue of the ALFA Art Walk.
IHA informs RDCK of new paramedic agreement

by Art Joy

Cheryl Whittall, an Interior Health community health administrator for Kootenay Boundary, appeared before the RDCK board August 20 to announce a new five-year provincial agreement for paramedic services. The agreement between the Ministry of Health, IHA and other regional health authorities, First Nations Health Authority, BC Emergency Health Services, and the Ambulance Paramedics of BC (local 873), will see at least 80 new full-time equivalents hired to support community paramedic programs in rural and remote communities between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2019.

According to Whittall’s Powerpoint presentation to the board, the rationale for the new agreement is the low call volume in rural and remote communities, “making it difficult for BCEHS to offer sufficient numbers of full or part-time positions to ensure 247 paramedic coverage. There are times when there is no choice for BCEHS but to assign paramedics from other locations.”

In part the agreement reflects somewhat of a repurposing of the paramedic services to deal with the shortage of medical services in these rural communities. “The practice of paramedicine is transforming away from an emphasis on pre-hospital emergency care,” explains Whittall, “to a model that includes prevention, health promotion and primary health care.”

The presentation was unclear as to what primary health care services paramedics would be providing, or how this would overlap with such services as currently provided by front line staff such as ER nurses. The project backgrounder states that the arrangement will “bridge any gaps identified in a patient’s health care plan with local health care providers.”

In response to an inquiry by the Valley Voice, Whittall explained: “Primary health care (PHC) is the first level of care, and usually the first point of contact that people have with the health care system. PHC supports individuals and families to meet their health needs. It includes advice on illness and injury prevention, health promotion, individual health assessments, diagnosis and treatment of episodic and chronic conditions, and supportive rehabilitative care. A primary health care team is physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals working together to develop the best plan of care for the patient. This will be an additional resource in rural communities implementing the care plan.”

The new agreement has a three-phase implementation timeline, with Phase One already in progress. Its goals are to “build on the competencies and skill sets of existing paramedics, using models successfully introduced in other jurisdictions where appropriate, and evaluate outcomes including patient experience.” The scope of this phase will cover implementation of five to seven community paramedicine projects in rural and remote BC, “to demonstrate the value of community paramedicine practice for health outcomes, system improvements and patient satisfaction.”

Phase Two, starting this fall, will expand the project based on “lessons learned” from Phase One, with new procedures introduced as skills are advanced. Phase Three, schedule to be determined, will “explore integration of community paramedics into clinics and facilities.”

Determining which communities qualify will be based on distance from health care facilities, rates of hospital admissions/emergency room and clinic visits, population health status, and availability of health care resources in the region.

DestinationBC Pilot Project comes to area Visitor Centres

submitted

Visitors to each of three official Visitor Centres along the West Kootenay Route – Kaslo, New Denver and Nakusp – will find new touchscreens that provide up to date information from the Visit BC Kootenay Boundary database, the Visitor Services division of DestinationBC. The joint project between the Chambers of Commerce of each valley and the Kootenay Historical Society was the idea of KLHS Board member Andy LeCoultre. “The funding opportunity to produce Visitor Service pilot projects gave us a chance to design and build a project idea I had been considering for some time. The idea is simple enough – produce a website that brings into one spot all sorts of existing, relevant online tourism information. I think of it as a sort of online ‘toolbox’ for travellers.”

After some discussion, it became apparent that this idea would fit very well for the set of three visitor centres which lie within the West Kootenay Route and so the website was developed with each valley in mind and with input from each Visitor Centre. While the large touchscreens are set up as self-service kiosks, the information helps visitor centre staff show information including local information such as online local 10 things to do, official local visitor websites, an online map, highway information and much more. The project design includes a “shop local” strategy featuring a beautiful wire and steel kiosk structure in which the touchscreen is mounted. Local artists Christopher Peterson and Spring Shane from Arenta were enlisted to create the unique eye-catching displays.

The joint pilot project requires final reporting to DestinationBC this fall. Along with 27 other pilot projects from around the province, the feedback and results will be reviewed to find best practices as DestinationBC continues to roll out a new marketing strategy. An integral part of the strategy recognizes the changing but ever important role played by local visitor centres and tourism stakeholders. More and more, visitors are using online information to plan their travel from before they leave home. But they still look for up-to-date local information while they are travelling.

The kiosks are part of a Destination BC Initiative providing funding for up to $200,000 to support more than 30 projects across the province to test and document innovative approaches to providing tourism services. New approaches include roaming visitor counsellors, mobile information displays, state-of-the-art touch screen kiosks and the use of social media channels. The program is the result of consultations with more than 100 representatives of visitor centres between November 2014 and July 2015 to explore ways to modernize the delivery of visitor services.

“One of the lessons the research tells us that visitors’ information and trip planning needs have changed,” says Martha Warden, CEO, DestinationBC. “New technologies and delivery of information to visitors where they are and when they need it are fundamental to evolving the visitor experience for the future.”

Kaslo Visitor Centre serving Kaslo and area, New Denver Visitor Centre serving the Slocan Valley and Nakusp Visitor Centre serving Upper Arrow Lake are open daily.

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Heave Steve

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Remember: No dogs please!
www.hillsgarlicfest.ca

Participants brush up on fire safety and trail planning skills

submitted

Participants in two Koootenay work experience projects are sharing wildlife awareness tips and gaining hands-on practice in wildlife prevention and trail building, thanks to more than $135,000 from the provincial Community and Employer Partnership fund.

In the Village of Slocan, four participants are sharpening their carpentry and construction skills as part of an effort to establish destination recreational trails through the region’s western slocan owl/whistle. This project is receiving more than $60,000 in funding through the Jobs Creation Partnership (JCP) program. Since May 2015, participants have laid new chip trails, reconstructed an old wildlife cawcaw camp and will be building a new information kiosk and signs out of the salvaged camp materials later this month.

“As a small village, our capacity to work on special projects like this one is limited,” says Mayor Jessica Lunn. “The JCP crew have been doing an excellent job at cleaning up and developing the site, as well as with the development of marketing and information items for the walk. It has definitely been a win-win for all involved.”

The Owl Walk is expected to open in October and visitors can learn more about the new trail system on a website designed by one of the participants at www.slocanowlwalk.com.

The provincial government has provided nearly $72,000 for a partnership with Selkirk College to help four participants in Crawford Bay gain work experience and training in wildlife management and first aid on the east shore of Kootenay Lake. Participants have already hosted a FireSmart community workshop, in addition to wildlife awareness and chainsaw training, GPS and digital mapping skills.

These projects are funded through the Community and Employer Partnership programs, featured in BC’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint. It provides support to workers who are struggling to gain a foothold in the job market and builds partnerships with industry and labour to connect British Columbians with classroom and on-the-job training.

To date, more than 800 job seekers have benefited from work experience and nearly 180 projects have been funded throughout the province.
Meeting on strategic voting held in New Denver

by Jan McMurray and Art Joyce

A group of citizens met in New Denver on June 25 to discuss a strategic voting initiative for the upcoming federal election. The meeting was organized by Danika Hammond, a political science student at UBC, working on behalf of the Dogwood Initiative. This was followed up by a meeting August 16 for a presentation by Danika Hammond, who is not ‘stumping’ for any one party in the next federal election, but looking to the platforms and past performance of all the candidates in each BC riding, making public that information, and hoping citizens will support the candidate in their riding who best stands for democracy and environment, and who has a good chance of winning.

Power outage hits New Denver and Silverton

by Art Joyce

About 1,000 customers lost power just after 5 pm Friday, August 21, affecting New Denver and Silverton and resulting in an unusually long outage for summertime. An equipment failure sparked a pole top fire, causing damage to both the pole and power lines.

Mona Scott, spokesperson for BC Hydro, says the delay in restoration of service was due to the equipment in New Denver itself in a new riding for this next federal election. The current riding of BC Southern Interior has been re-drawn and renamed South Okanagan-West Kootenay (SOWK). The re-drawn SOWK riding includes Penticton, and does not include Nelson and Kaslo.

The communities in the new riding are: Nakusp and Area K (Arrow Lakes), New Denver, Silverton, Slocan and Area H (Slocan Valley), the City of Castlegar and Areas I and J, the entire Regional District of Kootenay Boundary ( Trail, Rossland, Warfield, Montrose, Fruitvale, Midway, Greenwood, Grand Forks and Areas), Oyama, Oliver, and Peckton.

Most tellingly, Frye showed an analysis of the 2015 election results in our new riding if everyone votes the same as they did in 2011. The analysis, found online at wikipedia.org, shows the Conservatives winning with 44.77 percent of the vote. The NDP comes second with 39.14 percent of the vote. Lagging behind would be the Greens with 8.13 percent and the Liberals with 7.10 percent.

Danika Hammond, who during her limited time away from university studies is volunteering to go door-to-door in the Vancouver Centre riding, spoke to volunteers at the August 16 meeting in New Denver. In her role as volunteer coordinator she coaches volunteers to encourage people to vote, not necessarily promoting any particular party. She said it’s surprising how many people either don’t know the election went has been dropped or they won’t decide how to vote until the last minute. Vancouver Centre could become a key ‘swing’ riding in the election, because voters are upset with Liberal incumbent Heidi Fry voting in favour of Bill CSI. Voters are being urged to consider the consequences of electing another Conservative government, after the last direct vote or ‘vote splitting.’ Hammond herself is promoting the NDP candidate for that riding, Constance Barnes. She sees the NDP’s green platform as a viable alternative to the Green Party.

A recent political ad on YouTube points out that during the last federal election, it only took six million votes to give the Conservatives their majority, thanks to our outdated first past the post electoral system. The YouTube video points out that there are potentially seven million youth votes, but less than half voted in the last election. Hammond’s volunteers are directing voters to support parties such as the NDP who promise electoral reform. However, due to the demographics and cost of living in Vancouver Centre, the proportion of youth votes there is small.

Hammond was asked what insight she might offer to rally the youth vote. Jobs and post-secondary education are the big issues for people her age. Security issues like Bill CSI are less important to them, but Internet freedom is a top priority. She said personal stories are the best motivators; they show how politics affects us at the daily level. “I have a one-on-one conversation with my friends and talk about what issues matter to them. Some of them don’t care at all, even I struggle to explain why they should care. It’s hard for me to have those conversations because I want to push them to vote, so the way I want to vote, and that’s hard to do. I think with youth it’s more about the party and less about the candidate, though not always.”

Frye said that by presenting this information, he and Wallis are hoping “to create a coalition of citizens who are united in their wishes to vote for a SOWK candidate whose platform best matches the desire for a true democracy, values the imperative to act now for a sustainable environment, and who has a very good chance of winning in the new riding.”

LeadNow, the Dogwood Initiative and the West Kootenay Ecocentre are all supporting strategic voting. For more information contact Fran at 250-358-2448.

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- Locking up the meter and posting a sign to inform CORIX not to remove the meter.
- Sending a letter of refusal to FortisBC and to CORIX. CORIX is doing the installations for FortisBC and therefore must be contacted at this late date, by phone.
- Choosing the RF-OFF option by calling FortisBC (our M.P. Atamanenko is doing this); we are told that the RF-OFF smart meters will be installed by FortisBC electronics, and that we can make an appointment for this. 1-866-436-7847 Confirming by phone with CORIX in case your information has not been transferred from FortisBC.
- Choosing the RF-OFF option AND demanding from FortisBC a statement that the RF (the micro wave radiation frequency) will NOT be switched on without home owners consent.

Residents are doing this because they are aware that, for example:

- The W.H.O. (the World Health Organization) lists RF as a "possible carcinogen."
- Health Canada Radiation Safety guidelines which also allow smart meters to be utilized, are considered by some to be inadequate. For example, Dr. Lennart Hardell of Örebro University Hospital in Sweden in a Canadian Medical Association Journal is quoted as saying, "Health Canada’s safety guidelines represent a “disaster to public health.”
- In May of this year, 190 distinguished international scientists and cancer specialists from 39 nations appealed to the W.H.O., United Nations, and U.N. Member States to address the emerging public health crisis related to cell phones, wireless devices, wireless utility meters (aka smart meters) and wireless infrastructure in neighbourhoods (see EMFScienceList.org).

This message supported by:  Tia Hall, Jules Delany, Gail Elder, Brenda Elder, Penny Clark, Brian Cross, Peter Kobaib, Edda West, David Butt, Val Roy, Frank Nixon, Jane Bell, Nel Maxey, Ellen Warner, Linda Louisle, Helen Moorish, Daphne Fields, Ed Nixon, Sue Teel, Betsy Sheets, John Watt, Levina Hyacinth, Sandra Dekker, Bob Lerch, Keith Taves, Holly Woods, Pete Reikoff, Laura Tiberiti, Bo Conlan, Wolfgang Telner, Deryl Poli, Kelly Reeves, Lesley Mayfield, Diane Moriss, Cathy Poznikoff, Christina Yahn, Lori Deane, Jim Brennan, Rod Currie, Maggie Tiener, Caroline de Marco, Rabi Gonzalez, Bryan Slade, Java Secajlo, Hope Mead, Helga Copeland, Gwendolyn Cirellin, David Cirellin, Dorothy Schlichting plus many many more!!!

And...... MARK YOUR CALENDAR: OCTOBER 24th SMART METER FUN & FUND-RAISING PARTY
The tipping point for change

Though the forecast was for rain, from where I’m sitting all that’s coming down is ash. With over 1,479 fires in BC in this fiscal year, I could be anywhere in the provinces. Children and our elders with asthma or lung conditions are struggling to breathe. Through the haze it can be hard to see solutions to the mess of climate change.

A decade ago it was inexcusable that there could be gay marriages or reconciliation efforts with First Nations people. And yet, it happened because people who wanted change led from the grassroots. Whatever you may think of these issues, their trajectory show how quickly change can happen.

The same can and must happen with climate change. Innovative solutions are available now, like a few and dividend system on carbon emitters, to corporate giants committing $140 billion to address climate change, to capturing energy waste from the concrete and predictable flow of municipal water systems, to decreasing our own consumption.

There is a way out of this, and our will is the driver of that change.

Beverly Grace-Campbell
Kaslo

Rock Creek fire as metaphor

The Premier of BC said it — this summer of extreme weather and forest fires is a result of climate change and will become the new norm. Since at least the 1980s climate scientists have been warning us that our attachment to the burning of fossil fuels will have a serious impact on the global climate. Dead cells you say — we’ve had at least 35 years to prepare and make adjustments to our collective behaviour so as to avoid what is happening now.

People in the Rock Creek area, in some cases, had less than 35 minutes to react to an effect of climate change — there was no choice, no time to plan. If we don’t use the Rock Creek fire as a metaphor for the effects of climate change, it becomes obvious that 35 minutes does not give enough time to effectively deal with the issue. It would seem 35 years is too much time and has led to inaction on the part of governments everywhere, who tend to focus only on today.

Clearly, governments need our help and our permission to develop effective and measurable policies that will remediate our current dilemmas. A global evacuation notice is not an option.

Ron Robinson
Nelson

Social media not enough for predator warnings

It’s my understanding that the mission of the Protecting Animal Life Society (PALS) is to protect animals within the Arrow Lakes region: dogs, cats, rabbits and other domesticated varieties. To accomplish this more effectively, the general public must be made aware of habituated resident predator animals, such as bears and cougars.

According to the Arrow Lakes News, the public was made aware of the recent resident cougar through social media. What about all the people who are not on social media? After talking to many area residents, including some PALS board members, I learned that the cougar had been in the vicinity of Nakusp for a long period of time, as cats and dogs went missing for the last six months.

I believe that it should be the mandate of PALS to be proactive and warn the general public when a predator animal has become habituated in the Nakusp area. Depending on Conservation Officer intervention and social media is not good enough. Once specific information is gathered, PALS should notify the Conservation Officer and issue a warning by newspaper and PALS notice boards. This would help the public to be more aware of the danger and take extra precautions with their pets.

Ken Williams
Nakusp

Favours multi-use Nakusp rail trail

I am in favour of the old CPR rail bed becoming an official multi-use trail for the use of all of the people of Nakusp, surrounding area and for our visitors to enjoy.

Recently barricades have been erected on this valuable right of way restricting the passage to persons that are healthy and able-bodied, making the trail available to a very small portion of the above. There are many dangers in the placement of these barriers.

Even if you are thinking this doesn’t involve you, it may through our economy or other ways you are not thinking about. It may affect your future generations; please keep the opportunities open for our future.

Yes people, please talk to your neighbours, conversation is awesome and maybe your neighbour will realise how important this is. It’s about the here and now, it’s about tomorrow and more important it’s about 5, 10, 20 years from now. It’s about our children’s and grandchildren’s legacy when there’s nowhere else for them to access the wilderness from their homes.

If the trail becomes a walking trail only, the portion from Nakusp to the viewpoint will become impassable, cutting off the continuous route to what I call God’s country. This is a very serious matter and we can’t let it go to the wayside. Please I beg everyone to think hard on this situation. It’s my heritage and I’m trying to protect its use for everyone near and far.

Susan Smith
Nakusp

Motorbike petition misconceptions

It seems important to point out a couple of misconceptions expressed in Don McTaggart’s letter in the August 12 edition of your paper.

First, there is no reason to treat with a nightmare of rampaging hairy bikers, massacres or otherwise on Mrs. Gloria Ligo. The reality is often bad enough. Anyone living along the curve and inclined approaches to New Denver and Silverton on Highways 6 and 31A can attest to that. Furthermore, Don is completely wrong in implying that Gloria is some kind of dirt. I can assure him that she is the most thoughtful and generous of persons who has had a long and successful career as Nursing Coordinator at a major hospital. Clear thinking and a practical nature are essential for such work. I’m sure Don would be impressed if he were to meet her.

I suppose it’s generous of Don to suggest that any threatened economic troubles here can be relieved by cohorts of bikers riding through town. There’s no doubt some business is generated by visiting bikers during the few weeks of good weather and I’m sure that is, of course, very welcome. An open-minded look at the petition circulating will make clear that no one is opposed to motorcycles as such. All that is asked is compliance with the law when it comes to revving and racket. Clearly, those car and truck drivers who might also use the highways irresponsibly and dangerously, as implied in the letter, should be sanctioned. I believe the Montreals are aware of that.

Don really doesn’t need to fret too much about a dowtown in the local economy were the laws properly enforced against noisy and dangerous bikers. Rather the opposite: it is widely known that well-ordered and pleasant communities (i.e. noise compliant) are today far more prosperous than others.

The petition in question is available at the Valley Voice for responsible people to sign.
ATV use of old rail grades

Having just spent the weekend of August 7-9 in the Nahkoo area, specifically camped at Three Island Resort, we had the opportunity to ATV the many of the areas the Arrow Lakes ATV Club have spent time on working the trails, brushing overgrown roads and generally making the areas more accessible.

One of the areas in particular is the abandoned K&K's rail bed. Accessing it from the resort we travelled to Rosebury where we were picked up and trailed by the Arrow Lakes ATV Club to the start of a logging road which allowed us to make a circular trip back to our campground.

Along the way we enjoyed the opportunity to travel the rail grade, enjoy the scenery and see the potential for the whole area in allowing this trail from Nahkoo to Rosebury to remain a rail trail.

What started out as a motorized route (trains) has given the recreational community of this area the opportunity to develop an old rail grade into a rail system that can be used by all users, motorized and non-motorized alike. Without development of this route it was easy to see it being already reclaimed by Nature, the trail has washed out in parts along the way, growth is fast overtaking it, erosion, small landslides, etc.

It is definitely a multi-use trail that should and could be developed and maintained and used by all – from motorcyclists to horseback riders, snowmobilers to ATVers; those picking berries, taking pictures, mushroom pickers and campers. Clearing and restoration of the trail has to be done and it has to be done soon and more importantly those having to realize that all users must have the opportunity to use it regardless of the type of access you choose. Preserve your history, now while along the route to Rosebury don't cut it off as it is the first thing an active railway, one that opened this area to settlement, such a chance.

So while we spent time in this area, enjoyed the people and what the area had to offer, we urged all users to work together to develop this into something you can be proud of.

Ron LaRoy
Revelstoke

New Denver – a hidden gem

When we decided to move to New Denver I was a little apprehensive. I had never even visited the Kootenays before, and New Denver was a far smaller community than I originally wanted. I was concerned that my children (ages 2 and 4) and I would have trouble making friends because there is so little going on and people didn’t like minded people would be small.

Since moving here, I’ve been blown away by how friendly and welcoming this community is. I’ve met people in the bit of time we’ve been here quite a lot. I welcome adventure because I’m a naturally outgoing person who go out of my way to meet people and make connections. New Denver is the first community I’ve been to where people approached me and introduced themselves without me initiating it. I’m continually amazed at the outpouring of friendship and community nature of this town. It’s so refreshing to meet people who place more importance on community and building relationships than on personal gain.

Every day, it seems, someone comes to our door with fresh fruit and/or vegetables from their garden to share. Our neighbors brought over toys for our children to play with when we first moved in because ours hadn’t arrived yet. When we went to swim the lake for the first time, a local resident gave us one of his kids’ floaty toys to help keep our children entertained.

New Denver is a place where you go to pick up bread from the local bakery and sit down for a drink. It is where another mother will watch your kids for you so you can go for an armchair massage, or drop someone off, and ask nothing in return. It is where you can move into town and six days later attend a birthday party for a local child so you and your kids can meet other families.

Our children love the community and the produce is fresh, local and delicious. This is such a vibrant and wonderful community and I just wanted to say, Thank You, for welcoming us with open hearts and open minds. New Denver, you are truly a hidden gem and we are so happy to be here.

Kelly Herder
New Denver

Motorbikes not the only loud vehicles on the highway

My husband and I live right on the main road going through Silverton and New Denver in the school zone where we know firsthand how noisy vehicles can get. When I say that actually I am not talking about the motorcyclists only. I’m talking about the chip trucks that go by our house so fast it makes my windows shake. They are loud when they are going speeding by your place at all hours of the day and night. There are some great chip truck drivers out there, but on our road the trucker who causes the most damage is the one that causes the most damage to our lives and home.

The Waterbridge workers on the Ferry were equally satisfying – they were740 in quick and quick to fill the ferry to capacity, all the while dealing with frustrated drivers. Waterbridge workers did such a great job and kept us from getting back on the road. The waiting lines were so long that we waited in line for 30 minutes shorter than for many of the drivers.

I am so proud of our citizens but one woman where the local motorcycle community blaming them for something when in fact, as all know, it’s not just the bikers that are loud. So if you want a noise reduction for New Denver, how’s that going to work? Are we going to report and sign against anyone and all vehicles that are some what people consider loud?

In all my time here, I have talked with Mr. McTaggart 100 percent. This is an attack on the motorcycle community and we have some of the best roads up here for motorcycling. People are really going to risk losing business in small communities in the valley and areas and people are really going to risk losing and exploring and supporting the valley. You guys want to throw that away despite the problems, or so-called problems, as I see it.

I think this has a lot to do with the old saying, “You can’t judge a book by its cover.” Not all bikers or people that ride a motorcycle are bad people. They are in fact some of the nicest genuine people you will meet.

And yeah if you guys still want to sign that petition go for it but than you should add chip trucks, commercial vehicles, pickup trucks, loud cars, etc. Because either way it is still discrimination.

Tom who rides a motorcycle, I salute you – RIDE SAFE!

Tanya and Chasann O’Neill
New Denver

Acts of kindness keep long ferrys going

I live in Fairbanks and Friday, August 14, 2015 due to several road closures because of fires the line up for the New Denver ferry was so long – three kilometers or so – that some people were waiting for more than six hours. J&S Sacko, the Riding Club and the Smithie Club of New Denver supplied food to those waiting – coffee, apple pies and frills as well as access to washrooms at J&S Sacko. No sign saying "the customer use only" at J&S Sacko.

This was very much concerning the local business owner expressed, her concern was not about making money, it was about the people stuck in line without food or water or access to a washroom. Fairbanks has no restaurant so food could have been a big problem, The Ridding and Smithie Clubs supplied prepared food from their own potato to serve. J&S Sackos and the Edgewood General Store stayed open last year their usual closing time to assist the drivers.

I heard stories such as: "We were parked on the road, in the heat outside someone’s house and the lady came out to ask if we needed water or a bathroom." And: "A lady visited those vehicles with pets and offered water to the pets," then laughing the pet owner said, "after the dog was looked after she asked the people if they needed anything." And: a nice lady took her disabled passenger home to come to use the bathroom and then drove her back to car in the line up.

The Waterbridge workers on the Ferry were equally satisfying – they were740 in quick and quick to fill the ferry to capacity, all the while dealing with frustrated drivers. Waterbridge workers did such a great job and kept us from getting back on the road. The waiting lines were so long that we waited in line for 30 minutes shorter than for many of the drivers.

First strike PM dodges ‘Duffy Balls’

Invisible dodging Duffy Balls, Mr. Harper has now promised to spend more on the military by increasing the number of reservists in the country. I don’t agree with this and I don’t argue against it. I just think that Canada does not need a strong defensive force to protect our borders, to help out in domestic disasters, and to provide peacekeepers when called on by the United Nations.

I am not proud, however, to be living in a nation that sends high tech machines to attack others in the world on the basis of, "if we don’t attack them, they will probably attack us." I do not believe in this first strike mentality.

Is ISIS a threat to Canadians? Now! They probably are, but only because we decided to join the Americans and attack first. That done, they have every right to retaliate. I don’t believe that ISIS was a threat to Canada before we attacked them. Their focus is uniting the Arab world, not taking over Canada. The west is responsible for much of the turmoil in Syria and Iraq, but I don’t believe the problems will ever be solved by western troops or western bombs. It seems to me that one only who can solve the problems in Syria and Iraq are the people of Syria and Iraq. Why? They would likely be a lot better off if we had minded our own business in the first place.

Stephen Harper believes in the old post Second World War theory that, if it’s our job to fix the problem then we should prepare for war. We have lived by that edict for 70 years, and the result is nothing but empty pot dictators, and many Western countries as well, are among the teens with the most unimaginably horrific weapons. This is not the path to peace. This is the path to more devastating, horrible wars. If we stick with this policy we would be waiting for war.

For a time the Second World War was, Canada was a peaceable nation. I want that reputation back.

Rod Rezchuk
Glace Bay
Unity festival a huge fan success despite storm

by Art Joyce

The fifth annual Unity Festival, held for the third year in Slocan, was another unforgettable event. Almost every year the festival seems to face major challenges, and in 2013, it was no different; the Luminoon jet fuel spill; another year it was an evacuation alert from wildfires. This year it was gale force winds from Slocan Lake during setup with heavy rains and freezing mist on the festival site, delaying the opening act.

“The amazing thing was that the stage didn’t go down, even with the wind,” said festival coordinator Felicity Gervais, who produces the festival with Chris Berger and stage manager Scott Mille. There have been three different stages at the site; this year’s stage was brand new. “It was amazing, people just stepped up to the plate and the storms died away as people started arriving, it was just incredible the end of the night for Delta to Slocan.”

It also rained on Sunday, but other than the epic storm, everything went according to plan. Well it rained at Woodstock and it rained every year at Winnipeg and other festivals. It’s a real exercise in weathering the elements. I mean, we’re Canadians, we’re used to dealing with weather. All in all, it turned out great; people raved about the lineup.

Festival highlights included Sherree Plett with Jeremy Eisenhower, a Vancouver-based duo who recently moved to Kaslo. Gervais says their performance was “extraordinary. Can Smokey Creek Salvage 21 HIR TOWING 359-7815; 1-877-370-6539 4351 YATMAN RD, SOUTH SLOCAN

FortisBC Q&A: Advanced meter installations

FORTISBC

What is an advanced meter? Advanced meters look like regular digital meters. The difference in appearance is the ability to communicate wirelessly with FortisBC. Once the meters are activated, FortisBC won’t have to come onto your property to read the meter for billing purposes. This information will be sent wirelessly. By not having to manually read meters, it means wireless readings will vary from hour to hour.

Are advanced meters safe? FortisBC has safely installed more than 100,000 advanced meters with millions more installed across the province. The meter installer will knock on your door in case you’re not home and want to turn off any electronics. (You don’t have to be home for the exchange.) The installer will inspect your meter base for any potential existing safety issues before installing the new meter.

Can I get a meter that doesn’t use wireless signals? There is a radio-off option that gives customers the choice of an advanced meter with the wireless transmissions disabled. A radio-off meter does not transmit and is not connected to the wireless network in any way. The BC Utilities Commission approved a fee for the radio-off option, including a 10-year premise fee of $88 and an ongoing per-read fee of $18, usually every other month.

Am I required to get an advanced meter? This is an equipment upgrade for all customers. There isn’t an option to keep the old electricity meter. FortisBC has determined that the advanced meter is the best marketing option for its customers, and the BC Utilities Commission, through a rigorous review, has supported that selection.

Are they certified? Advanced meters are certified by IEEE, ANSI, Industry Canada and Measurement Canada. Like other utility owned and operated equipment, electricity meters do not require certification from the Canadian Standards Association because that standard applies to consumer products. Though not required, the meters recently received certification from UL.

Can I refuse the meter? Technically, yes. However, if you do FortisBC will be forced to disconnect your electricity service. The utility owns the meter and is responsible for its safe operation and accuracy. Refusing an electricity meter is the same as refusing electric service. What if I’m disconnected? If you refuse a meter and are disconnected, you’ll need to choice a new meter you wish to receive before FortisBC is able to exchange the meter and restore power. As with other instances where power is disconnected, there is a fee to safely reconnect to the system.

Who do I call if I have other questions? If you have unanswered questions about advanced meters, call FortisBC at 1-866-436-7847 or visit fortisbc.com/ami.
Illegal dumping at RDCK recycling stations a problem

by Jan McMurray and Art Joyce

Residents and contractors are reporting that garbage is being dumped at RDCK recycling depots, particularly in Nakusp and Slocan. Some who are watching illegally dumped waste are concerned that such waste could pose a health or fire hazard.

The Valley Voice editor Jan McMurray took it upon herself to find out more about the situation.

“The Valley is so much more off-tourists, so when you start to see crap dumped all over the place, it really looks like a new day in the life of the British Columbia Environmental Technology with the RDCK. The majority of the public uses these facilities responsibly and it’s likely only a very small percentage of the population that abuses these recycling depots.”

What sorts of things are being dumped?

Investigation into de Groot incident continues

by Rob Gulin and Art Joyce

Before the August 10 regular council meeting, Coun. Emily Thompson, a regional inspector for the Kootenay Boundary, gave a report regarding the Peter de Groot incident. Roy’s official statement was that the RDCK would provide new information to provide, as the Independent Investigations Office has yet to submit its official report.

The RDCK’s final report will still take a great deal of time to complete. “They are swamped with a dozen investigations in the province,” said a municipal official.

Several members of the public were present with questions for Inspector Roy. In regards to any history of incidents with Mr. de Groot, Roy commented that the RDCK had dealt with PD before, but it had never gone like that. We had no idea that two minutes later there would be gunfire. As Mr. de Groot’s mental health continues to be a topic of debate, members of the public asked what if police, in the future, would work closer with the Canadian Mental Health Association?

“We are woefully underresourced,” commented Roy respectfully.

Danna de Groot has called her brother’s death in last year’s standoff with police “an execution,” and said at a press conference on October 20, 2014 the family is considering a lawsuit.

The de Groot family indicated that Peter did not have PTSD, schizophrenia, take drugs or drink alcohol. He had suffered an anxiety some years ago that affected his health but was not considered mentally unstable, contrary to media misinformation that spread in the wake of the tragedy. De Groot was known for pursuing an independent lifestyle, growing his own food and raising livestock. His sister called the massive police response “a gross over-reaction” resulting in de Groot’s death.

Currently the RCMP has little choice but to employ what Roy has called “band-aid solutions”. When second hand stores are another great resource. Call ahead to find out which items they take and when they are able to accept them. Ensure items work and are clean.

There are small free paper bags that contain classified advertisements in local print media. The internet provides many options including forums, Facebook groups and websites such as Kijiji where people are able to buy and sell items for no cost. I have seen items go by within minutes on many forums and know many people who have successfully sold or bought items through these tools. Twice during this RDCK holds a region wide Trash to Treasure event where people place unwanted items in their yard with a T2T sign. Just be sure to clean up all items by 5 pm. The next Trash to Treasure event is on October 17.

What is the penalty for illegal dumping?

If there is a “free store” at the Nakusp transfer station?

There is a Reuse Building located at the Slocan Landfill. All items intended for the Reuse Building will be inspected and approved by the attendant.

How can the public ensure the recycling program is successful?

Only dispose of recyclable material specified: cardboard (fattened), mixed paper, metal food cans, food grade plastics #1–7 (NOT styrofoam), plastic bags and glass (washed). Ensure all recyclables are clean and dry; gritty recyclables attract wildlife.

What about those who say some recyclables end up in RDCK landfills anyway?

The RDCK spends approximately a million dollars on the recycling program annually and the contractor is legally obligated to ensure the recyclables are neither buried nor burnt – they must go to recycling markets. The contractor servicing the RDCK Recycling Depots, Waste Management, has increased efficiencies by collecting garbage from private business on the route north, disposing of the garbage at the Nakusp Landfill and collecting recyclables as they return to their facility in Coldstream. This way the truck is never empty, which decreases GHG emissions.

Anderson says an update on RDCK recycling and depots is forthcoming.

Village of Slocan passes smart meter moratorium

by Art Joyce

The Village of Slocan has joined 60 other BC municipalities expressing serious concerns regarding ‘smart’ meters by passing a moratorium on their installation in the community.

A resolution passed at the August 10 regular meeting of council petitions Premier Christy Clark, the Minister of Health Terry Lake and BC Chief Medical Officer Dr. Perry Kendall, noting that current exposure standards for wireless devices under Safety Code 6 are “outdated and do not adequately protect citizens of the Village of Slocan.”

The statement is based on testimony given the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health hearings in 2010 by several international scientists.

The resolution notes that the Iron Open Way AM-17 meters currently being installed throughout BC are “not UL approved or CSA certified”, nor will FortisBC provide a letter of certification from a qualified professional engineer giving assurance that these systems do not constitute a risk to health and fire safety, as required by the BC Safety Standards Act, Section 21(4); raising doubt that such installations are legal, or that liability is accepted by FortisBC.

Councillors are concerned on several recent international developments in the field of microwave radiation research. On May 17, 2015 the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) published a scathing condemnation of Health Canada’s Safety Code 6 guidelines for non-ionizing radiation from wireless devices, including ‘smart’ meters (what FortisBC prefers to call Advanced Metering Infrastructure or AMI). The CMAJ further warned that microwave radiation from wireless devices in public school classrooms, residences and workplaces are “a disservice to public health.”

This announcement by a prestigious medical journal followed on the heels of an international appeal in May by some 200 scientists to United Nations member states and the World Health Organization, calling upon the WHO to reclassify microwave radiation from wireless devices as Class 2A ‘probable carcinogens’, a step-up from the current hazard designation of Class 2B, ‘possible carcinogens.’

In fact, Slocan council was motivated by the BC Public Health Act, Section 83(1), which requires that any local government “must take action upon any conviction or penalty up to $1,000 may be imposed.”

Has the RDCK fined people for illegal dumping?

There are security cameras at the recycling depots. The RDCK has security cameras at many Resource Recovery sites, including Recycling depots. The security cameras have helped identified people participating in illegal activities such as illegal dumping.

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Anderson says an update on RDCK recycling and depots is forthcoming.
Kaslo and Area Medical Care Society appeals to IHA

by Art Joyce

The Kaslo and Area Medical Care Society has written to the Provincial government appealing for its support in getting fee-for-service physicians in Kaslo. In a second letter to Kaslo Village council, society president James Morris alerted them to the fact that the society is negotiating a lease agreement for an ‘independent’ medical clinic in Kaslo.

In a letter to the Village, Morris noted that the society now has nearly 300 members supporting its mandate, “about one in six adults in the region.” A request to council for a permissive tax exemption for the clinic was turned down despite an appeal for “treatment at least equal to that received by the Langham, the Golf Club and other permissively exempt facilities.” (See Kaslo council notes for the Village’s response to the society.)

The society’s letter to the Provincial government was addressed to Minister of Health Terry Lake, President and CEO of Interior Health Dr. Robert Holmes acknowledging “many years of work and VP of Medicine and Quality Dr. Jeremy Etherington. In addition to introducing the society and its projects, the letter states that the “unassailable” situation of medical staffing in Kaslo, in particular the closure of 24/7 emergency services two years ago by IHA. “Even with the hours reduced to eight hours a day on weekdays, the Kaslo clinic is staffed with doctors on a very uncertain basis. This past week, for example, there were only three half day shifts of doctors available in Kaslo, and only two half shifts – eight physician hours total – for the public.”

The letter also raises the lack of continuity in medical care due to this fluctuating service. “It is nearly impossible to know in advance which physicians will be on duty on any given day, or indeed, if there will be any physician at all. This is not only a substandard condition, but dangerous to patients.”

The letter asserts that this situation is actually more costly to the IHA due to constantly having to recruit new physicians and locums. The society points to the example of New Denver, which has 24/7 emergency services and two resident physicians plus locums based on a fee-for-service model. “Unlike IHA salaried full or part time physicians, fee-for-service physicians have made personal investments to stay and make and build successful medical practices in the community.”

The society plans to raise money to help with physician relocation and clinic costs. “I really want to make it clear that this is not a philosophical thing, it’s pragmatic,” says Morris. “It’s not like we’re thumbing our nose at the Canada Health Act or anything like that. We really want everyone to work together to fix the situation.”

The letter to IHA expresses concern that the Victorian Health Care Centre facilities might at some point be forced to close “due to the difficulty of staffing and ongoing room temperature in about two and a half minutes. Experts say cooling your beans in under ten minutes provides a superior flavour. From there the beans are packaged to go out to customers.

And while IHA and itsclose but not never the range of flours the Ethiopian Wild Limmus produces is tantalizing and diverse. The Santander, a Colombian bean, has a short vanilla taste; the Peruvian a chocolate-like taste. The Costa Rican tends to have a mocha flavour, while the Ethiopian Wild Limmus has more of a chocolate finish. Kaslo’s Bean Roasting does not roast beans for clients who prefer darker roasts are advised to select the Peruvian variety.

“Our original vision was to build the flavour in your beans, to be superior to the wild beans in Uganda and in Ethiopia. If you take the wild beans, and you lose the depth of the natural taste, then you probably don’t get the depth of the wild beans in Ethiopia.“

Kaslo’s Bean Roasting offers top quality fresh coffee beans grown at lower altitudes and tends to have a stronger flavour. Kaslo’s focus is on the roasting of beans, preferring a single origin coffee, although they aren’t mulling out blending in future. Two of the beans are organic, and three are certified and sustainably sourced from the Rainforest Alliance. Certified beans take their reputation for growing practices, ensuring farmers get a good price and protection of the environment. The Columbian coffee tends to have a smooth and creamy taste, while the Ethiopian Wild Limmus has a rich, fruity taste with a deep, rich aroma. The Tanzania has a smooth, buttery taste, while the Ethiopian Wild Limmus has a rich, fruity taste with a deep, rich aroma.

Churchill, who is based in Kaslo, says the beans are suitable for all types of coffee. “We have the espresso machine in our house and we’re all excellent.”

The Ethiopian Wild Limmus is one of the few coffee grown in the wild in the Kaffa Forest, which is believed to be the origin of the word coffee. All of these beans are high altitude arabica beans, compared to the robusta variety which is typically

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Glen and Heidi Stewart and family pose outside the family's coffee roasting shack in Kaslo.
New water monitoring society formed in Kaslo

by Art Joyce

With the 2015 fire season one of the worst in BC history and clearly affected by climate change-induced drought, it’s appropriate that the Kaslo and District Water Monitoring Society should be born. Working with the society will be several well-known scientists, including conservation ecologist Greg Utzig, hydrologist Martin Carver, geologist Bill Wells, climatologist Mel Reasner and others.

Peter Jordan, retired climatologist from Ministry of Forests, who did the evaluation of the Car Creek landslide at Johnson’s Landing, is also on the board.

Ross Lake, who also serves on the board of the Kaslo and District Community Forest Society (KDCF), says the society arose in part due to the community forest board deciding water monitoring was no longer a priority. However, the new society has been given a $5,000 grant from KDCF for the design of monitoring protocols and self-sustaining operational models, plus another $10,000 from the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT). Lake, a retired Nelson realtor who now lives off-grid at Murphy Creek Landing, was a strong proponent of the community forest water monitoring program.

“The community forest board sees this as an exit strategy,” says Lake. “Last year the board decided it’s no longer a priority for their own operations. But I’m optimistic they’ll come back on board eventually and really become a partner on behalf of the community.”

The society will develop a monitoring program that will include the community forest but be expanded considerably to include mid to high level elevation water and snow monitoring. Data will be coordinated with government operated weather monitoring stations to assess the ongoing impacts of climate change on the hydrology of the region. During the past five years in the north Kootenay Lake region, explains Lake, there have been three freshets in June that have exceeded 100-year averages. Some of them exceeding 200-year averages. Lake’s own small community at Murphy Creek Landing is experiencing record low water levels.

“It’s not just dryness that’s occurring, it’s also the freshets and floods becoming excessive as well.”

I moved permanently to Murphy Creek about two years ago. We generate 52 kilowatts when we can; right now we’re only generating 30 with the water shortage.”

Lake says the society’s intent is to build partnerships with as many of the local service organizations as possible, and is optimistic that 28 potential groups are interested in partnering. Partnership arrangements will be developed over the coming year as the design protocol proceeds. This will likely include an outreach to organizations far beyond the region that have an interest in close monitoring of water levels, including BC Hydro, FortisBC, the City of Nelson, and the regional district, who administer subdivision bylaws on flood plains and alluvial fans. Others with a stake in such an ongoing database would include the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Highways and the US Army Corps of Engineers, who play a key role in assessing reservoir levels on the Columbia River dam system.

Kaslo Community Forest youth crew upgrading area trails

by Art Joyce

Visitors to Kaslo and the north Kootenay Lake community have the youth crew from the community forest working on areas for improving area trails. Kaslo and District Community Forest Society (KDCF) director Chris Wrobel and assistant supervisor Jay Heintz have provided Valley Voice readers with an update. The crew during the past three years has consisted of four youth workers and a trail boss — basically enough to fill a crew truck.

“They’ve just done a superb job,” says Webster. “We drive up to where the trails are and take them pastries to show how much I appreciate their work. We’ve got nothing but praise everywhere we go.”

In addition to brushing out access roads and trails throughout the valley, the youth crew is assisting with the new mountain biking project in Kaslo. Recent work projects include the Macbeth Isfelds on Glacier Creek, Monica Meadows trail, and Jumbo trail.

Brits Invade: Kaslo car show coming

If you’re someone with a taste for classic cars, you won’t want to miss the second annual Brits Invade Kaslo’ car show on September 13 from 11 am to 3 pm on Water Street behind the Kaslo Hotel. Hosted by the Old English Car Club, Kootenay Branch, this year’s show is expected to be even bigger and biter than last year, with MGs, Triumphs, Morris Minors, Hillmans, a Rolls Royce and even a Bentley. And with the extreme beauty of beautiful Kootenay Lake one couldn’t ask for a more picturesque setting for these triumphs of automotive engineering.

The roads into Kaslo are very picturesque with hills and curves that would make any British sports car enthusiast ecstatic driving to the show. (Please drive safely on these challenging roads.) Car owners and clubs from Vancouver to Calgary as well as Kasloans and the Okanagan are expected to show up. Last year a 1914 James motorcycle was part of the lineup, but any model year or make is welcome as long as it’s British. There will be goodie bags and prizes, with sponsorship by Lordco and the Village of Kaslo.

The car show also marks the 100th anniversary of the Kaslo Auto Club.

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Thank you!
VFAS wraps up another successful summer season

by Art Joyce

The Valley Hall Fine Arts Society completed six successful programs this summer, says coordinator Katina Sunnall and Miranda Hughes. All programs were fully enrolled, as was evident by the influx of families visiting the communities for the various programs. The surge in business for local accommodations, shops and restaurants was obvious, adding to an already busy season due to tourist attractions and the increasingly popular Friday Market.

The Suzuki music school enrollment saw a slight increase from previous years at 93 students, under the direction of Miranda Hughes and James Mahanburg. This program has paid huge dividends for past students such as Angela Rys, who have moved on to train for professional careers in music. (See story.) The theatre program taught by Matt Mattland and Nicole Ratign was a slight drop in students. The dance program taught by Danielle Gibson of Nelson – with two age categories for younger and older dancers – saw 22 and 12 students respectively. The Valley Hall Summer School of Music (VSSM) component saw 56 students enrolled under the direction of John Kraa and Bill Van der Sloot. The Mosaic Explorers program under Lila Strand had 12 students enrolled.

According to the kids who got to enjoy a first-class teaching retreat in sight of the gorgeous Valleyhalls this year – the Adult String Orchestra – it was the future students learning under the direction of Ann Scott and Elissa Serene-Janz.

Instructor Kevin Hesscheidt’s wrap-up concert raised over $1,000 for the VFSM to assist local music students with lesson costs. Hesscheidt challenged VFAS faculty to be the first to donate, a strategy to kick off donations. “It was a great summer,” says Katina Sunnall. “I could not do this without the board of directors who volunteered their time and hours of their time. We have an excellent board.”

She says without having the venue of Lucerne School, it’s hard to conceive of being able to host this event due to the savings in rental costs it represents. Sunnall credits the support of local businesses, Arrow Lakes School District #10, Recreation Commission, Village council and the community in general for making this event possible. Annual fundraising is done through the Your Turn, Win! Lottery, giving participants a chance to win a spending spree at New Denver and Silverton businesses.

The VSSM board is still assessing how many local students were enrolled this year, and what the next steps are coming into the community to attend.

New Denver Council August 12: request for PALS support

by Katrina Campbell

Anna K. director, Paul Peterson, Cathy Smith and Michelle Dietzmann attended as a delegation to request the Village consider taxation in support of PALS, the Protecting Animal Life Society. Their request is for $0.012 per $1,000 of assessed value, which would work out to $2.40 on a $200,000 property. PALS provides food, shelter, medical care and adoption for homeless pets from Edgewood to Tots Lake to Enterprise Creek, and wants ongoing, stable funding of $15,000 per year. The delegation requested the Village engage in an Alternate Approval Process to establish the service, i.e. it would proceed unless 10 per cent of electors objected, in which case it would go to referendum.

After much discussion, council resolved that New Denver express an interest in supporting local government taxation in support of PALS, but did not like the AAP and would rather the RDKC spend money on a referendum. Staff were instructed to obtain more information on the process.

However, after the meeting, when he was again allowed to speak, Peterson pointed out the cost of a referendum would take the first two years of taxes collected.

• Mayor Bunka reported the city is considering its residents at the Friday Market about their preferences on how the Village communicates with them. She also reported the attended the Karen event held August 8 at the Kothan Garden and the Nikkei Interment Memorial Centre, honouring O-Senmi Masami Tomioka, the Father of Canadian Karate, who was interred in Rosebury.

• Conclusion of deforestation in the joint Union of BC Municipalities provincial government Green Communities Committee congratulating the Village for achieving corporate carbon neutrality for 2014.

Justine Bennett and Jamie Drake kick off tour in Silverton

Wild Mountain Thyme, Flowers Never Bend with the Rainfall in an ode to the characters they have both played – Joan Baez and Judy Collins – in the critically acclaimed musical their West End Sisters. Their West Coast tour will kick off in Silverton, Justine’s beloved hometown, before heading to Seattle and d诸如 the craze of California. Experience their vocal duality firsthand, two songbirds sweeping back and forth harmonically. They will share their original material along with some classic folk songs like Sweet Child O’ Mine and Soaring High.

Herbal Musings with Colleen Emery

Nutrient-Dense Lunch Ideas

With Labour Day fast approaching the time of back to school preparations kick into high gear. As we start to get the supplies organized, indoor shoes purchased, backpacks filled and books purchased, it’s also time to start thinking about filling up the cupboards and fridge with favourite foods for lunch kits.

There are many considerations to factor in when creating a healthy, packable lunch. How much does your child have to eat their lunch? Will they be able to get enough calories and nutrition from the food you pack in the time they have to eat it? Packaged foods are expensive and create a large amount of waste. Is there a less expensive, less wasteful way of packing your child’s lunch? Most importantly will your child like what you pack and be inspired and happy to eat it?

With so many things to consider, packing a lunch that meets all needs can be overwhelming. Here are five nutrient-dense suggestions to try this fall.

1. Power Balls: Mix date paste with hemp protein or heart, maple syrup and almond butter to the consistency of peanut butter. Shape into small, round balls and roll in coconut, nuts or dust with cacao powder. Better yet, include your children in the preparation of this fun and yummy food.

2. Pesto Pasta: With the abundance of basil in our gardens, now is the time to get your pesto done and in the freezer for winter. A simple, easy way to upgrade your pesto is to make it with hemp oil and hemp hearts and a few cloves of garlic. These four ingredients create an omega fatty acid rich pesto that is delicious as well as nourishing and supportive of a child’s developing brain.

3. Bone Broth Soups and Stews: Bone broth provides a super array of nutrients that nourishes and builds the immune system. Traditionally, bone broth is used as a base in soups and stews. It is also an effective way to maintain a healthy immune system function. Everything from common childhood illness, vaccine awareness to food sensitivities and gut health will be covered.

Colleen Emery is the owner and Master Herbalist of Emery Herbs Dispensary, Healing Suites and The Greenery Cabin. Located in Silverton, BC. Colleen is passionate about empowering individuals and families to take charge of their health through fostering traditional skills and connection to the natural world.
Diana Morita Cole to launch internment memoir at Nikkei Centre

submitted

Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit will be launched by Nelson author Diana Morita Cole at the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre on Saturday, September 12, at 1 p.m in Centennial Hall, 306 Josephine Street, New Denver, BC and at the Langham Cultural Centre, 447 A Avenue, Kelso, BC during the Cafe Langham Series, on Thursday, September 24 at 7 pm. Sideways is published by Diaspora Press with funding from the Columbia Basin Trust and the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance.

Sideways chronicles the childhood of a Nikkei born a prisoner in one of the many concentration camps created around the Pacific Rim during WWII to incarcerate citizens and legal immigrants based solely on their ancestry. The book shatters the notion that newborn babies and children were unscathed by their unlawful imprisonment inside these detention centres.

Cole’s story begins inside her mother’s womb, where she overears the internment camp doctor speculate that her 44-year-old mother may not survive childbirth. Cole writes, “Luckily 1, a mere fetus at the time, had big ears, so I turned a somersault in utero—one of my rare moments of grace—and my forty-four-year-old mother survived.”

Critics say Cole’s story offers amazing and piercing insights into the exile and resettlement of her family and provides the reader with a surprising new awareness of the Nikkei experience throughout North America and Latin America.

The documentary film, Hidden Internment, will be premiered in Canada during the Cafe Langham launch in Kelso. A preview clip will be shown at the New Denver launch.

Professor Rita Takahashi of San Francisco State University says, “Sideways is a very portal through which we view the hidden aspects of three important cultural icons: William Holli, who led a massive class action lawsuit against the United States, Iva Toguri, who was convicted of treason and subsequently pardoned, and Roy Mik, who was born in exile in Canada.”

Diana Morita Cole’s first chapter of Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit was published in The New Orbic Review and shortlisted in the Open-Season Competition of The Malahat Review creative non-fiction category for 2013. It was also nominated for the Pushcart Prize Anthology for 2015.

Another of Cole’s creative nonfiction works, “Two Witnesses: Complaints,” is required reading for the San Francisco State University graduate social work course Ethical and Cultural Concepts and Principles.

Living in Canada for over 40 years, Cole has initiated projects to help diminish racism and foster justice, peace, and environmental awareness. She was a co-founder of the Seventh World, an association of biracial couples that created a writing contest for London Ontario K-12 children to promote racial harmony. This program has since been implemented in several other communities throughout Southwestern Ontario.

Her reports, chronicling her battle against the spraying of Agent Orange in Nova Scotia forests and organizing the Consumers’ Association of Nova Scotia, have been cited by Mark Richard Leeming in his 2013 Dalhousie University Doctoral Thesis, In Defense of Home Places: Environmental Activism in Nova Scotia, 1970–1983. Diana has also made presentations to Parliament, advocating the banning of Agent Orange, and to the US Congress, advocating against landmines. She has also organized local forums in support of Residential School victims.

Diana will present one of her family’s stories regarding the internment of the Japanese Latin Americans at the Nelson Storytelling Festival, which takes place on September 25-27.

Reporter’s new gig: chasing monsters in Saskatchewan

by Katrine Campbell

New Dwarf author and Valley Voice reporter Art Joyce can now add TV researcher and writer to his resume. Earlier this year, he received a call from an old friend who has a production company in Regina, asking him to work on an episode of a reality TV show.

Nordic Lodge is in northern Saskatchewan, 600 kilometers north of Saskatoon—literally at the end of the road near the Cree settlement of Southend. The show, also titled Nordic Lodge, centres around day-to-day life at the fishing lodge and the couple who own it, Darren and Jennifer Kimmel. The Kimmels made international news about 18 months ago as the couple with the ‘million dollar baby.’ While vacationing in Hawaii, Jennifer, who was seven months pregnant, gave birth prematurely. The baby girl, Keane, had to be kept in the presence ward and when the couple got home, they received a bill for nearly a million dollars. It wasn’t a promising start for the couple, who had recently made a career switch from farming to running the lodge.

One of the stories the Kimmels heard in the local community was the story of an Ongie-like serpentine creature that was said to live in the deepest parts of Reindeer Lake in Deep Bay. Joyce says his friend, Dawn Bird, wanted somebody who could come in with some expertise in mythology and native legends for the episode. The Deep Bay Monster, as it’s known locally—or Mishin-goshis to the Cree—is actually seen as a harmless, secretive creature.

“The idea was I would interview the Cree about their mythology and the sightings they’d had,” he says, as well as being interviewed on camera during the “monster” hunt. The production company also hired Daniel Stewart, a remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV) technician from Prince Edward Island, to go out to the deep parts of Deep Bay with underwater cameras and try to get some images of the creature.

Filing took place July 30 to August 6. Joyce calls the week, “one of the high point experiences of my life.” He says it was an amazing experience working with the professional crew and director Chris Tallo, who was “popping with ideas.” Taffe has produced TV series for Discovery Channel and the History Channel as well as producing commercials.

“These guys are just at the top of their game and so easy to work with, so friendly—no egos clashing around the set.”

They spent two days on the water, the first day was a loss because the weather was so bad the crew couldn’t deploy the equipment. The crew concentrated on marking the deepest parts of Deep Bay on the sonar equipment—800 feet and 500 feet. On the second day, the weather cleared and the ROV could be sent into the water to film the lake bottom at these points.

“It was terrifying to be tossed around on six feet swells on a lake with, like, three feet, is up to 800 feet deep,” says Joyce. “But when it cleared up it was so much fun. I kept pinching myself, telling myself, ‘This is just too cool for words.’”

Did they find the monster?

“No, but we did actually find something...I can’t say yet because I can’t let out any spoilers. You’ll just have to tune in to watch the episode when it comes out in October.”

Nordic Lodge is broadcast on CITY TV Saskatchewan, which may be available to people with full satellite service in this area. It will also be podcasted on the web at a later date. Joyce’s blog has more details about the Deep Bay Monster hunt at www.chanceoffire.wordpress.com.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY Volunteer in the Valley

The RDCK is seeking volunteers to serve on the following commissions: Slocan Valley Economic Development, Recreation Commission No. 8 and the Rosebery Parklands and Trails Commission.

What’s in it for you:
- Share your expertise, enthusiasm and viewpoint
- Contribute to your community—help make a great place even better!
- Meet new people
- Gain experience and learn new skills
- Have fun!
- What to expect:
  - Make recommendations about economic development or recreation in the Slocan Valley
  - Meet other valley folk
  - Meet six times per year

Help the RDCK make the Slocan Valley a better place to live, work and recreate in!

Want more information? Please contact Walter Popoff, Area H Director, at: wpopoff@rdck.bc.ca or 250.359.7455

Want to volunteer on one of these commissions? Please submit a letter of interest to the RDCK c/o Anita Winjie:
Mail Box 590
202 Lakeside Drive Nelson, BC V1L 5R4
Email: awinjie@rdck.bc.ca
Fax: 250.352.9300
Former New Denver student Angela Ryu wins national music competition

by Art Joyce

Fifteen-year-old Angela Ryu, who received her earliest music training in New Denver, has just won first place honour in a classical music competition at the National Music Festival held in Edmonton August 13-15. Ryu won first place in the strings category and also won the Grand Award, which is given to just one competitor at the festival. Ryu’s family formerly ran the Eldorado Grocery on New Denver’s main street.

Kootenay SUFFER FEST

Kootenay Sufferfest 2015
September 5 - September 7

Kaslo Races (Saturday, September 5)
6K trail run 10 am Logger Sports Grounds
12K trail run 9:30 am Logger Sports Grounds
25K Trail Run 8:30 am Logger Sports Grounds
50K Milford Mountain Marathon- Shuttles to depart from Kaslo at 5:15 am, Race Start: Rossiter Road, 6 am.
Kids Races Bike & Run- Race starts 12:30 pm Awards at 2 pm - Logger Sports Grounds

New Denver Races (Sunday, September 6)
Marin Denim Crit 7pm Saturday (Silly fun race, riders have to wear denim and ride a single speed bike). Judged on tricks, costumes, style, and showmanship. Fun for family to watch!
15K Mt Bike 11 am Centennial Park
40K Mt Bike 10:30 am Centennial Park
100km XC Bike (Sunday start in Kaslo, Finish in New Denver) Start - 7 am Vimy Park, Kaslo

Nakusp Races (Monday, September 7)
Off-Road Duathlon 9:10 am Gazebo Park
Junior Off-Road Duathlon 9:10 am Gazebo Park
Sufferfest Corporate Challenge 9:15 am Gazebo Park
Tour de Nakusp 20K Cyclocross Bike 9:00 am Gazebo Park (Group start with the Furry Forty)
Furry Forty Cyclocross Bike Race 9:00 am Gazebo Park

Please watch for racers on roads and trails within the region

The maximum age of competitors is 25 but there’s no minimum age requirement. Ryu began her musical training at age five, studying in New Denver with Daphne Hughes in the Suzuki program for five years. Although the Suzuki approach is different than the more traditional, formal approach of Mt. Royal, it prepared her well.

“Without her, I wouldn’t have been able to come this far,” says Ryu, “just because it’s such a small town there’s not many other opportunities. It was a really great point in my life and I was able to just build onto that.”

Angela moved to Calgary at age 10, studying violin with Bill Vanderkoot at the Mt. Royal Conservatory of Music. She takes private lessons with Vanderkoot, who is also director of the academy program at the school. Angela has won other competitions this year, clearly she has both technical skill and natural ability. She plans to continue her music studies at Mt. Royal, moving this year into the advanced performance program.

“This year has been really big for me. I’ve just been doing a lot of summer camps and other musical competitions. I’m still in between deciding between an academic career and music but I’m leaning toward music.”

Her classical repertoire is broad. Recently she performed Concerto #1 by Shostakovich, hitting a high water mark for such a young musician. “It’s a really special piece to me as well. It really enjoys playing it. It’s a very well-known piece but technically it’s very difficult to pull off.”

FOOD SPECIALS

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Slocan Valley Co-op
3024, Hwy 6, Slocan Park
Ph: 250-226-7433

The Valley Voice August 26, 2015
Love songs through the ages with Noémi Kiss and Rita Deane

submitted

Hungarian vocalist Noémi Kiss and classical guitarist Rita Deane will be performing a concert of love songs from across the centuries at the Silverton Hall. The concert will include a wide range of repertoires from solo classical to contemporary, including works by Dowland, Sor, Giuliani, Rodrigo, Britten, Villa-Lobos, Sacher, as well as contemporary love songs and folk songs from around the world. The duo will be performing at the Silverton Hall Saturday, August 29 at 7:30 pm.

Noémi Kiss (pronounced ‘Kish’) is an internationally acclaimed vocalist, whose voice has been described by critics as “gloriously lyrical over a strikingly wide range” (BBC Music Magazine). With performances in many of Europe’s concert halls, Noémi’s concert engagements take her to many of Europe’s festivals and include appearances in Iceland, Norway and Israel. Born in Hungary, Noémi Kiss studied at the Academy of Music in Budapest and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Her recording of Pergolesi’s Marion Vesper with New College Choir and the Academy of Ancient Music under Edward Higgensbottom was nominated for both the Gramophone Award and the Classical Grammy Award. For more information visit www.noemikiss.com.

Rita Deane grew up in Rosland, and studied for many years with Mike Artist José Luis Torres assembles ‘Mutations’ at the Oxygen Art Centre

submitted

As part of the Oxygen Art Centre’s summer residency and exhibition program, Quebec resident and Argentina-born sculptor José Luis Torres will create and install new work from his series of in situ installation pieces called ‘Mutations’. In these evocative installations the artist has in the past gathered and then assembled random everyday materials such as snowboards, deer antlers, chairs and street signs into contemporary art constructions. He reflects back to us our obsession with material culture and our desire to collect.

The Oxygen Art Centre in Nelson will host an opening reception for Torres and his Mutations August 28 from 7 to 9pm.
Jimi Holland retires from Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival

by Jan McMurray

Jimi Holland, founding father of the Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival, just finished his 24th and last season at the helm of Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival.

At the festival on Sunday, a group of people took to the stage to recognize the ‘blood, sweat and tears’ that Jimi has poured into this event over the years. Chris Temple and Jessy Breyer, Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society board members, presented Jimi with a plaque signed by all board members, and a certificate “in recognition of his tireless and outstanding contribution to the community of Kaslo over past 24 years.”

Bessie Wapp, who has been involved with the festival for years as a performer and attendee, said a few words: “It takes a visionary to start something like this, she said. “It takes a tenacious person who can get past people saying, ‘You’ll never do it, it can’t be done!’”

Wapp also pointed out that all the while Jimi was dedicating summers to the jazz festival, he also held other important roles—father of three children, building contractor, tree planter, mayor of Kaslo, and Village councillor.

The festival officially welcomed Jimi one week after the 2015 festival.

How did you get the idea for the Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival?

I got the idea when I was down in Texas for my mother’s funeral in 1991. I hadn’t been back to Texas since 1974, when I moved to Canada. Feeling nostalgic and overwhelmed, I was wandering up the beach and I wandered right into the 31st annual Corpus Christi Jazz Festival. I walked into a test full of white people, who were cheering and applauding the entire time. And the music on the stage was amazing. I thought I could do something like this. So I came back from there and there was no succession. When I lived there as a child, a mixed race couple would have been looked down upon in our society. And I knew it was incredible and the music was amazing. I thought it would be really cool to have an event like that in Kaslo. When I come home, I thought about the idea for a few people and they said, ‘Great idea – you should do that!’

so how do you make it happen?

I didn’t know what I was getting into. I had no experience in the music business. But a Ridley thing happened in late fall of 1991, shortly after my experience in Texas. I was in Spokane and I had a chance to talk to the founder of a jazz band. He turned me on to Gary Hilker at the international Rhythm & Riffs, who got me to talk to Jimi and I asked Jimi to get me into the mix. Jimi and I turned it into a Jazz Festival and I called up bands from Spokane to come and play. They told me how much money we had to go into the hole, but I asked people if they would support it. I raised $300 and that was enough to get the band set up. The band was going to be Kaslo and I and I asked Jimi and I told him Vanity Park and Kaslo Bay Park. Gary thought Kaslo Bay Park would be amazing from the standpoint of the acoustics, but it was an industrial site at that time that council was trying to have re-zoned, so the festival was held in Vanity Park in the first year. We sold about 90 tickets and it was a sellout, but there were around 250 people at the festival. There were about six bands on each day, Saturday and Sunday. We had a good time.

What’s the history of the festival since then?

Jimi was both the Executive Director and Artistic Director. At a certain point it became apparent that he was the Executive Director would be, so Gini Courten, was the Artistic Director. We worked hand in hand for seven or eight years. Gini stayed until the early days of this year. He mentioned a new person who was there for two years, Aiden Farrelly, and then I did both jobs for a couple of years, and Paul Hinrichs was hired in as Artistic Director for this year. He will take over both roles as of this fall.

How has the festival changed over the years?

Attendance numbers and the amount we spend on entertainment peaked in 2008. Since then, those numbers steadily declined and then flattened out in 2014. This year, our free programming was extremely successful.

To what do you attribute the long life of the festival?

Sheer stubbornness and ignorance on my part. I’ve just stayed at it and made my way into the unknown. At that time, I had a construction company – but during the high construction season, I was volunteering full-time for the Jazz Festival! So in about 2010 I did call up the society board that I should not do it anymore. The board came back and offered to buy my debt and they created a non-profit organization and I just stepped down. I was just stunned. I just stepped for a few seconds, and then just kept playing. There was mayhem on the grounds. Paul Grant from CBC was there, and he got up on stage and said just a few words about the event. We’re only coming today. I didn’t know what would have happened if Paul hadn’t been there.

What was your favourite Jazz Fest moment?

Every full moon that has come up over the Floating stage while a band has been playing. It’s happened quite a few times, but the best one was Taj Mahal. They were playing ‘Zanzibar’ and with the last note of the full moon filled the stage. It happened this year with Dan Mangan, too. But the best was Taj Mahal. It gave everyone goosebumps.

Do you feel you are stepping back?

I’m really looking forward to a summer in the Kootenays! Next summer will be a summer for Jimi. I’ll attend the festival for sure—I’ll fulfill my dream of sailing into the bay and seeing some great music at the jazz festival. I’ll probably still print all the newspaper ads for the festival ad plan, or form, but I need a good break.

Kaslo council, August 11: Medical Care Society tax exemption turned down

by Jan McMurray

Council received a letter from the Kaslo and Area Medical Care Society requesting a permissive tax exemption, and the letter from the Kaslo and Area Medical Care Society says a decision cannot be made without “a signed lease or evidence of title indicating that the society is renting or owns a portion of the property in the Village and how much property in terms of land and improvements is involved in the property.” The council must also provide its registration information and constitution, and indicate the period of exemption desired.

Councillor Glanfield moved that the permissive tax exemption be granted subject to the conditions being met. Councillor Lang, Knoll and Holland all said they wanted more information before making a decision. Mayor Hewat pointed to the statement in the CAO’s letter that “if the conditions are met the municipality will sacrifice some revenue.” The opinion of the CAO was that permissive tax exemption was defeated, with Councillor Glanfield the only one in favour.

Letters from Mayor Hewat and Andy Shadrick, chair of the Health Care Select Committee to James Morris, president of the Kaslo and Area Medical Care Society, were presented to council. The mayor said that when trying to improve a relationship, it’s not a good idea to force your ideas. So, she disregards with the last paragraph of the letter, saying that the lack of information about why the Committee currently believes that the Village should not focus on fee-for-service contracts on contract doctors and clinics is a matter of why the Village should not focus on fee-for-service contracts on contract doctors and clinics. The council was not made aware of the request. Councillor Long expressed concern about the request and said that the Village should not focus on fee-for-service contracts on contract doctors and clinics. The council was not made aware of the request. Councillor Long expressed concern about the request and said that the Village should not focus on fee-for-service contracts on contract doctors and clinics. The council was not made aware of the request. Councillor Long expressed concern about the request and said that the Village should not focus on fee-for-service contracts on contract doctors and clinics. The council was not made aware of the request. Councillor Long expressed concern about the request and said that the Village should not focus on fee-for-service contracts on contract doctors and clinics. The council was not made aware of the request. Councillor Long expressed concern about the request and said that the Village should not focus on fee-for-service contracts on contract doctors and clinics. The council was not made aware of the request.
Studio Connexion features art by Desbois and Vahala
submitted
Who said landscape painting would die? It remains one of the most popular genres that continues to sell in galleries. Brigitte Desbois and Mira Vahala are staying faithful to the landscape tradition in their new exhibition at Studio Connexion Gallery from September 2-19. Both artists, Vahala from Revelstoke and Desbois from Nelson, will be in attendance to the opening reception Friday September 4, from 5-8 pm.
In this new show, you will find a compilation of landscape paintings created both from views of the West Kootenays and from the imagination. Desbois is known for her classic oil paintings and Vahala for her more modern style in acrylics.
Vahala has been a guest artist/instructor on Holland America’s cruise around South America and Antarctica. She was the only Canadian invited to Cannon Beach Plein Air Art Festival Invitational. She recently was in Italy to conduct a plein air workshop in Cinque Terre with a group of Canadian artists where they spent five days painting each of the five picturesque seaside towns.
Desbois grew up in London and Paris where she spent her time in the most prestigious galleries and museums in the world. She had a very successful solo show at Studio Connexion in 2012. Last year, she exhibited there with the Carlyle Group. This year, curator Anne Belliveau decided to invite both artists, knowing their beautiful work and their love of teaching. This led to the idea of a plein air class at Nakusp’s Selkirk College. ‘Paint Fresh & Bright in the Great Outdoors,’ on September 18-20 with Vahala leading instruction. With enough interest, there is the possibility of a second part to the course in spring 2016 with Desbois, who also has been teaching at her new artist retreat in Balfour. Both painters are members of the Federation of Canadian Artists.
In addition, Sharon Bamber’s wildlife exhibition continues until Sunday August 30. Make sure to see her beautiful soft pastel paintings.
Studio Connexion is located in the heart of Nakusp at 203 Fifth Avenue NW. Regular hours are 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday or by appointment. You can reach the gallery at 250-265-3586 or 250-265-8888.

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Casual Employees Required
The Village of Nakusp is currently seeking Casual Employees for all departments (Village Office, Public Works, Arena/Parks, and Hot Springs/Chalets).
If you are interested in working for the Village of Nakusp, please forward your resume to the Village of Nakusp – Box 280, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1R0. E-mail: tljay@nakusp.com
For more information, please contact the Village office at 250-265-3689.
We thank all who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Shon’s Bike & Ski
250-265-3332
86-4th Ave. SW Nakusp
www.shons.ca

Kootenay Sufferfest
Sufferfest Sept 5-7th, Biking and Running Races in Kaslo, New Denver & Nakusp. For more info to volunteer or register go to www.kootenaysufferfest.com

Nakusp Youth Centre
For more info nays.ca 250-265-2201
August Events: 27th Nerd Night, 28th BBQ Fundraiser 6-8 pm & Tie Dye 8-11 pm, 31st Nacho Night 6-9 pm. September Events: 1st Harry Potter 5:30-10 pm, 2nd Ping Pong Tournament 7-9 pm, 3rd Gaming Night 6-10 pm, 4th Drop In 7-10 pm, 9th Lisa’s Music Jam 3:15-5:30 pm, 9th Billiard Lessons 7-9 pm.
Kaslo Minor Hockey registration night September 9th 5-7 pm at the Kaslo Arena
Become a member of the North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council for grant support, promotion and more! www.nksc.ca

North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council
nkscouncil@gmail.com

WANTED
BOARD MEMBERS FOR ASLCS AND HALS
ARROW AND SLUCS COMMUNITY SERVICES (ASLCS) AND HALCYON ASSISTED LIVING SOCIETY (HALS) are both Not-For-Profit Societies that are recruiting Board Members. These Board Member positions are unique in that they will be equally responsible for each Society, with the focus of their involvement centering on governance.

The Board consists of a maximum of (9) members and meets approximately (15) times per year. Board members will be expected to sit on ad hoc committees that cover the following areas: Executive, Policy, Finance, Labor Relations, and Nominations. Please note that all Board Member positions are on a volunteer basis and members are allowed to serve three (3) two-year consecutive terms.

If you are over 21 yrs. of age, have expertise in financial management, health and wellness, or a solid background in organizational management: please consider applying for a position in this dynamic Board.

Interested parties can request a Board package and application by stopping by the front desk at ASLCS, 205- 6th Ave NW, Nakusp, BC or by emailing: tim.payne@aslcs.com

ATTENTION CRAFTERs!
P.A.L.S. IS HOSTING THE CREATIVE HANDS FAIR ONCE AGAIN! IF YOU HAVE SOME HOMEMADE WARES YOU WISH TO SELL, HERE’S YOUR CHANCE TO DO So! TABLES ARE $25 EACH AND HAVE TO BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE.
PLEASE CALL KATHY SMITH AT 250-265-4950 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.

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North Kootenay Sport & Recreation Report

Kootenay Sufferfest
Sufferfest Sept 5-7th, Biking and Running Races in Kaslo, New Denver & Nakusp. For more info to volunteer or register go to www.kootenaysufferfest.com

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North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council
nkscouncil@gmail.com

Your local information source for sport and recreation in the Kootenays
Bill Green receives conservation award for fish ladders submitted

Will salmon return to the Slocan and Arrow Lakes? Bill Green was in Portland, Oregon, August 17 to receive a conservation award from the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Society. He is the Kootenay-Columbia Green Party candidate in the upcoming federal election. The work for which he was awarded is on behalf of the Ktunska and Sekwepemc (Shuswap) Nations, joint recipients with the Okanagan Nation Alliance and 15 American Tribes in the Columbia Fish Ladder Program.

The ambitious long-term plan calls for re-introduction of chinook salmon initially, followed by sockeye and steelhead. The target is to bring salmon back across the Arrow Lakes by 2040. The unbuilt section was restored in 1940 and 1941.

Salmon runs were cut off from the Upper Columbia in the 1940s when the Grand Coulee dam was built in Washington state. Subsequent dams installed in later decades added further barriers to traditional salmon migration in the Columbia watershed. Led by Green, the Canadian Columbia River Inter-tribal Fisheries Commission has negotiated agreements with the Columbia Power Corporation to provide fish bypasses at their hydroelectric dams.

“Our target is to have salmon running at Trail and Castlegar within five years, then soon after into the Arrow Lakes and the Slocan,” Green said. “First Nations are working to have salmon as far upstream as the headwaters at Castlegar by 2040.”

The ambitious long-term plan calls for re-introduction of chinook salmon initially, followed by sockeye and steelhead. The target is to bring salmon back across the Arrow Lakes by 2040. The unbuilt section was restored in 1940 and 1941.

Kootenay-Columbia Green Party candidate Bill Green, second from right, with fellow recipients of the American Fishery Society’s 2015 William E. Ricker Resource Conservation Award, presented August 17 in Portland, Oregon.

Green accepts the Columbia River Treaty Resource Conservation Award which recognizes singular accomplishments or long-term contributions that advance aquatic resource conservation at a national or international level. He is the founding executive director of the Canadian Columbia River Inter-tribal Fisheries Commission, established by the Ktunska and Sekwepemc Nations to protect and restore aquatic ecosystems and return salmon to their historic range in the Columbia and Kootenay river systems.

The cross-border coalition of First Nations and Tribes is being honoured for its significant leadership and vision in restoring ecosystem function and resiliency to the Columbia River watershed, the American Fishery Society said in making the award. The coalition’s active engagement in renewal of the Columbia River Treaty will help integrate ecosystem function as a co-equal treaty objective, the society noted.

“It has been an incredible honour and learning experience over the past 20 years to work with the Ktunska and Sekwepemc communities,” Green, a fisheries biologist, said. “Bringing back the salmon is of profound cultural importance to them, and will produce ecological and economic benefits for all people.”

Forest Practices Board releases critical review of stewardship plans submitted

An investigation of forest stewardship plans, the primary plans, governing forest activities on public land, concludes that most of these plans do not meet the public’s needs, are not enforced by the government and provide little in the way of innovative forest management.

“The board previously looked at forest stewardship plans in 2006 and found numerous problems, so we wanted to see if they had improved since then,” said board chair Tim Ryan. “Unfortunately, we found there has been no improvement in that time.”

The investigation looked at a sample of 43 forest stewardship plans from all regions of the province, prepared by a variety of resource holders from major corporations to small communities. Forest practices on the ground were not examined.

In order to gain government approval, the plans are supposed to contain measurable and verifiable results and strategies and be consistent with legally established government objectives for forest values. The investigation found that most of the plans contain results or strategies that do not demonstrate consistency with objectives, and that all have significant problems with the measurability or verifiability. Many of the plans cover vast and overlapping areas of the province, and were written using legal language that makes them very difficult for public understanding or review.

“We are recommending that government not renew or approve any forest stewardship plans that don’t meet the standards set out in the Forest and Range Practices Act,” said Ryan.

“We also recommend that the public consultation groups be improved and that professionals prepare forest stewardship plans, and officials who approve them, are apprised of their responsibilities regarding these standards.”

Forest stewardship plans are the only operational plans that must be made available for public review and approved by government. Once approved, a plan is in place for five years, but that time period can be extended indefinitely without any further public consultation. Many of these plans have been extended once already, and a large number of the plans are due for extension or renewal in the next year.

The Forest Practices Board is BC’s independent watchdog for sound forest and range practices, reporting its findings and recommendations directly to the public and government. The board can investigate and report on current and range issues and make recommendations for improvement to practitioners and legislation.

For more information visit www. bpclb.ca or contact Darlene Oman, BPCLB Communications at 250-231-4705 or 1-800-994-5889.

Confluence art exhibition features 9 regional artists submitted

The Hidden Garden Gallery is proud to present Confluence, a gathering of nine regional artists September 7-19. Curator Tirti Freeman scoured the area for artists whose work is not often seen in New Denver. All are invited to attend the opening reception on Labour Day, September 7, from 4-7 pm. Live entertainment in the garden will be provided by Freya, consisting of Martine deBel, violin and Noel Fudge, guitar. Refreshments will be served.

“This delightful and exciting show displays a wide range of media, content and styles and represents, as well, both established and emerging artists,” says Freeman.

The nine artists are: Barbara Bolleschey (Hills), Jeremy Down (Rosseau), Shawn Gray and Peter Velisek (Vallanc), Rielle Oswald (Kaslo), Natasha Smith (Keewatin), Richard Taylor (Johnson’s Landing), Wendy Toopd and Kate Tipper (Nakusp). The works on view include sculptures, paintings, prints and a textile construction.

This exhibit, the first non-regional event sponsored by the Hidden Garden Gallery and the Slocan Lake Gallery Society and supported by the British Columbia Arts Council and the Regional District of the Central Kootenay, is open daily from 10-3 including Sunday, September 13, the day of the Hills Glastic Festival when we will stay open until 5 pm.

Featured artists will be present to chat with visitors about their work. For more information call Freeman at 250-358-2297. The Hidden Garden Gallery is located at 803 Kildare St, New Denver.

RCMP Notes: Shambhala, firearm and property crimes submitted by the RCMP

The RCMP’s West Kootenay Traffic Services and Nelson Integrated Road Safety Unit say they are happy to report that there were no major crashes involving Shambhala in their patrol area. The unit worked long hours to ensure the motoring public arrived at their destinations safely.

It’s unfortunate that some did not heed the warnings in the media,” states Sgt John Ferguson of the WKTS. “In the week of Shambhala we impounded 61 vehicles for travelling well in excess of 40 km/h over the speed limit. We’re very happy that everyone arrived home safely this year.”

The WKTS and IRSU unit made 104 drug seizures, including cannabis, MDMA, ketamine, LSD, magic mushrooms, hash oil, cocaine, Shatter, steroids, and crystal meth. Approximately 25 people were charged with possession of a controlled substances, two were charged with trafficking, one for Proceeds of Crime, and one was arrested and charged with possession of a traditional sentence and is in custody.

On August 11 the Nakusp RCMP executed a search warrant stemming from a thumbs/fingers investigation. As a result of the warrant, 42-year-old Nakusp resident Thomas Troy Dill was charged with numerous offenses including unauthorized possession of a firearm, pointing a firearm, possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking, and possession of property obtained by crime.

Over the past two months the Trail & Greater District RCMP have responded to a number of reports of thefts of motor vehicle, thefts from motor vehicles and theft of licence plates off vehicles. The RCMP wish to remind the public to be diligent with security measures. Make sure your vehicle is locked at all times, do not leave anything of value in your vehicle, and never leave the keys to your vehicle in a location that is easily accessible to thieves.

Most of the incidents that have been investigated involve vehicles that were left unlocked, which is an open invitation for criminals.
Amenity migration studies: What future for mountain communities?

by Art Joyce

As more and more people are attracted to the recreational and esthetic values of mountain towns across North America, social scientists are witnessing the emergence of these small, isolated communities. For most such communities it’s a double-edged sword – while they welcome the additional tourism and business that this influx of traffic often seems to benefit their infrastructure and local businesses.

The continued influx of such seasonal residents has created huge challenges for city planners everywhere in Europe as well as North America. Fortunately we have two resident planning experts living in Kasilo, Lorraine Mousseau and Romelle Glimore, who were speaking at the 2016 conference of the American Planning Association.

Can you briefly explain what the term ‘amenity migration’ means for our readers?

Amenity migration means that the more people live in the mountains, the more money is generated for nearby communities. This is a win-win situation for all involved.

Beware of Canada Revenue telephone scams

Phone scammers have switched from Nigerian princes to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). If you receive a call from someone claiming to be from the CRA, don’t fall for it. You are not the victim and possibly your identity. The scammers using aggressive and forceful language or threats to scare victims into paying a fictitious debt to the CRA. The caller requests immediate payment by credit card orconvincesthe victims to provide personal information like your Social Insurance Number.

As you get such a call, hang up and report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre online at www.canada.ca/fraud-centre or call toll free at 1-888-952-5555.

When the real CRA calls you, it has established procedures to make sure your personal information is safe. If you want to confirm the authenticity of a call, phone the CRA at 1-800-959-5555 for business-related calls or 1-800-959-2812 for personal concerns. Some of the scammers are able to show numbers on your call display – don’t take this as proof the caller is legitimate. The CRA never requests pre-paid credit cards, never asks for information about your passport, health card or driver’s licence, never pays taxes for you or tells you the CRA already has on file.
submitted
Larry Elford, former investment broker and 20-year industry insider, is on a mission to protect investors from mistakes that he says are designed to harm their retirement investments. Up to half of investor’s future retirement savings over a lifetime of investing can be diverted to the ‘adviser’ and their sponsoring dealer, by skimming just two percent from investment returns each year through unnecessary fees. Elford is a former CFP, CIM, FC4 and Associate in how this is done without the knowledge or informed consent of many investors. Beginning with a simple (yet chillingly hidden) fact that approximately 150,000 ‘advisers’ in Canada, and 600,000 in the USA, do not carry the license or the ‘duy of care’ to the client that they advertise. Simply ‘advising’ clients, dealers and regulators can thus often be forced to working too closely together, while protecting themselves and transparency for clients.

Research provided at InvestorAdvocates ca shows how this is done without the knowledge or informed consent of many investors. Beginning with a simple (yet chillingly hidden) fact that approximately 150,000 ‘advisers’ in Canada, and 600,000 in the USA, do not carry the license or the ‘duy of care’ to the client that they advertise. Simply ‘advising’ clients, dealers and regulators can thus often be forced to working too closely together, while protecting themselves and transparency for clients.

According to Investor Advocates, the steps used to achieve this include:

- concealing the nature of their brokerage license using non-regulated, unofficial titles;
- concealing their legal duty to clients by hiding the best investment advice and ‘up selling’ products with higher service fees;
- concealing conflicts of interest from the client; and
- concealing from clients the difference between a Securities Commission registered ‘adviser’ (fiduciary professional) and a self- titled, non-regulated ‘adviser’ (unregulated professional).

"Deception of the consumer goes contrary to rules, codes and policies of the investment industry, yet the industry seems able to get away with completely policing itself," says Elford.

The criminal code is rarely, if ever, applied, even when it is violated. We are talking about an industry which has elevated itself to be above the law."

He’s not the only person speaking out. President Obama recently spoke to the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) about the cost of such abuses to the American public, stating that White House put the harm to Americans at about $17 billion per year. Elford says it’s actually worse in Canada, where University of Toronto pension studies suggest the harm to Canadians could be $1 billion per year just from mutual fund products. He explains that it’s analogous to going to a doctor for professional advice, only to find that’s now a new class of ‘doctor’ that has dropped the Hippocratic Oath to “do no harm.” Recent testimony on the matter to the US Congress concurs with Elford’s assessment.

For more information visit investoradvocates.ca or contact Elford at VisualInvestigations@ shaw.ca or lelford@shaw.ca.

Unarmed civilians: a fresh look at peacekeeping at the Mir Centre

Selkirk College is helping broaden the scope of peacekeeping, by offering a unique program to equip individuals with the proper background to make a positive impact in areas of violent conflict. The first of its kind in Canada, the program has been developed in partnership with Nonviolent Peaceforce with a goal of strengthening the effort to deploy professionally trained unarmed peacekeepers to areas of violent conflict.

"Unarmed Civilian Peacekeeping (UCP) is important because violence between conflicting groups continues to be a major issue globally," says Randy Janzen, the Selkirk College Peace and Conflict Studies Program instructor who helped develop the program and will be the primary instructor. "More research is demonstrated that trained unarmed peacekeepers are much more effective in creating peace, both in the short-term and long-term."

UCP has been practiced by at least 35 different non-governmental organizations since 1995. In the past several years, the United Nations has become more interested in the UCP model. "UCP is proving to be a need to improve training and education has developed. Nonviolent Peaceforce – an international organization that is leading the way in UCP operations around the world – developed a curriculum to train its employees. Selkirk College’s Peace and Conflict Studies instruction team is currently in the review process for this new curriculum and asked if the curriculum could be used to offer a post-secondary citation in UCP."

"This program is geared towards anyone who is interested in working to reduce violence in the world," says Janzen, who has been a Peace Studies Program instructor for eight years and has travelled to most of the conflict zones in the planet to work and build on his experience. "UCP organizations work in situations of civil war and also around the world in large cities, reducing violence in marginalized neighbourhoods."

One element of the program will include several workshops focused on the following:

- "Are you planning a project that will help social well-being, the environment or youth? Columbia Basin Trust may be able to help – apply now for grants. Intakes for three grants programs are now open and you can find forms and guidelines online."
- "Every year we’re impressed with the quality and breadth of projects brought forward to us. Thank you to everyone who develops ideas to support our residents, communities and environment," said senior manager Lisa Kilpatrick. "We look forward to seeing what results come from this fall’s investments."
- "The Social Grants program funds community or regional projects that positively impact social well-being and address priority social issues in communities. "The Environment Grants program funds projects that advance environmental well-being in the areas of ecosystems, climate, water or environmental education."
- "The Youth Grants program funds projects that directly benefit Basin youth aged 12 to 29 and develop youth leadership, support youth engagement, or enhance employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for youth."
- "Residents with expertise in each of the sectors volunteer for grant evaluation committees to evaluate applications and provide funding recommendations to Trust staff and provide advice in relation to the programs."
- "Columbia Basin Trust supports efforts to build social, economic and environmental benefits to the residents of the Columbia Basin. To learn more about the Trust’s programs and initiatives, visit cbr.org or call 1-800-505-8989."

Application deadlines are:
- Social Grants: Monday, October 5: cbr.org/appsocial.
- Environment Grants: Monday, Tuesday, September 18: cbr.org/appenvironment.
- Youth Grants: Monday, November 2: cbr.org/appyouth.

Submitted by cbr.org.

The Valley Voice | August 26, 2015

CBT offering more than $2 million in grants

To apply for a wage subsidy: hire a student

Businesses and organizations can once again get support to hire students through Columbia Basin Trust’s School Work Program. The program provides a wage subsidy of $500 to encourage employers to provide part-time employment to full-time high school and post-secondary students for a portion or all of the school year. It also helps ensure students gain work experience in the region.

Small businesses, non-profit and First Nations organizations and public bodies in the Basin may apply to hire up to 10 part-time employees for full-time high school and post-secondary students for a portion or all of the school year. It also helps ensure students gain work experience in the region.

For the first time, the program will also provide an 18-hour wage subsidy for first-level apprenticeship positions in the construction electrician, carpentry, heavy duty mechanic and automotive service technician programs.

"Through this subsidy, employers will be able to hire first-level apprentices and the apprentices will gain access to local training," said Trust senior manager Lisa Kilpatrick. "If this year works well, we hope to continue to provide this support for apprenticeships for the future."

"We are very pleased to be working with the Trust to deliver the School Works Program again this year – our third year in a row," said College of the Rockies’ Tracey Whiting, manager of Continuing Education and Contract Training. "It is exciting to see so many businesses accessing this funding opportunity."

For more information on School Works and to download the application form, visit cbr.org/schoolworks2015, email schoolworks@cbr.org or call 1-877-489-2687 ext. 3584. Applications are available by August 15, 2015.

Things to do

CHOCOLATE SHOPS

Jennifer Chocolates 1026 5th Ave (250) 355-7783 www.jenniferchocolates.com

Sweet Caroline’s 1001-10th Avenue (250) 384-0000 www.sweetcarolineschocolates.com

Lido Chocolates 100-6th Avenue (250) 384-0000 www.lidochocolates.com

Houseboat Rentals

The Kiso Shipyard Company – Kiso (250) 384-0000 www.landacme.co.jp

SPORTS/OUTDOOR SHOPS

Vallarta Pure Outfitters 1028 1st Avenue (250) 384-0000 www.vallartapure.com

The School Works program benefitted Mike and Lornna Casler, owners of Kootenay Flies Kamloops with having the opportunity to employ others.

The School Works program benefitted Mike and Lornna Casler, owners of Kootenay Flies Kamloops with having the opportunity to employ others.
THE VOLUME VALUE  
August 26, 2015
Silverton and Warhorn offices. Contact www.handbooksbo.co or 358-0177.

The Healthy Community Society is seeking an experienced cook for a part-time position in the Lacrosse School hot lunch program. Applicants should have an interest in and experience working with children, youth, and volunteers as well as preparing and serving nutritious, seasonal and local foods. Please direct applications and/or inquiries to the Healthy Community Society, c/o johndelaware@bassett.com.

CARE AIDE NEEDED with certificate or equivalent, part-time: Will train. Reply with brief resume to Care Aide, Box 433, New Denver, BC V0G 1Z0.

50S in Silverton
THE VILLAGE OF NAKUSP is currently seeking Casual Employees for all departments (Village Office, Public Works, Arena/Pool, and Hot Springs/Chaldea). If you are interested in working for the Village of Nakusp, please forward your resume to the Village of Nakusp – Box 290, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1S0. E-mail Laylay@nakusp.com. For more information, please contact the Village office at 250-265-5680. We thank all who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

WE GRABAM Community Service Society in Sicamous is looking for an Office Manager 25 hours per week. This is an essential role in the daily operation of a multi-faceted community service organization. The office manager serves as the first contact to the outside world and must be able to project a confident, professional image. Successful candidate must be able to efficiently screen and handle calls, taking effective messages, dealing with difficult callers and difficult situations while remaining calm and confident. Essential skills include the ability to work with clients, volunteers and co-workers in a team environment. In addition, basic bookkeeping, solid skill in using social media for marketing and awareness, proficiency in platforms such as, Word, Excel. Publisher and the ability to meet deadlines with high completion are required skills for this position. Interested individuals can submit resume including cover letter and references via email, please email to coordinator@wegrabam.org. Deadline for submission is August 28. Only those shortlisted for interviews will be contacted.

Nelson & Area Elder Abuse Prevention Society: Contact: 358-6088; prevent.abuse@telus.net. www.nelsonelderabuseprevention.org. Group counseling 10:30 a.m. every second Thursday of the month, Nelson and District Seniors Coordinating Society.

SAVE MONEY ON PET'S WINDOWS & DOORS with energy efficient windows, doors and siding by Genent. We are the exclusive dealer of long lasting, high performance windows by Genent. We also have lots of wood and metal doors in stock. Now selling Genent siding. 1-250-399-0797

Gerry Conway - Journeyman carpenter/builder, 250-265-3183. Sue MISTRETTA, M.A. offers Counselling and Counselling sessions in Silverton.

The Rocky Mountain Realty Team - 265-5680

WANTED
RUSTY VOLKSWAGEN Bus/van with split front windshield. Any information please call 403-527-4051.


REAL ESTATE

Nick’s Place
SUMMER HOURS
9 AM WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY
PIZZA & BURGERS ANYTIME!
265-4880
Air Conditioned
93-5th Ave. Nakusp

GROCERY • HEALTH FOOD • MEAT

New Market Foods
714 6th Ave. New Denver
250-265-3772
info@newmarketfoods.com Store hours: Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 9am-3pm

Slocan Village Market
Groceries, fresh produce, fresh meat, Agency Liquor, organic meats, fresh bread, deli items, in-store bakery.

Cornucopia Health Food Store
422 Front Street - Kaslo, BC
1-250-355-2564

MUSIC LESSONS
PIANO LESSONS
in Silverton
Now booking for Fall 2015
kevin@heshehade.ca
kevin@heshehade.ca
kevin@heshehade.ca
kevin@heshehade.ca

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

The Village of Nakusp
17th Annual Community Meeting & Social
The Whole School is accepting resumes for an Educational Assistant. Four days a week starting in September. The ideal candidate has training and experience working with children with a variety of exceptionalities and great communication skills. Email resumes to wholeschool@kuskulana.com. Closing date Sept. 8, 2015 by 3 p.m. Interviewing Sept 11th.

IN MEMORIAM
Nothing can ever take away the love we hold dear to our hearts.
We will always remember you near.

483-2766

SEE AD IN BACK ISSUE

Design by Lisa Amoke
Printed by John Warr

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OBITUARIES

BROUGHTON: After a long illness, Frank Edward Broughton passed away at the age of 87 in the Pavilion at the New Denver hospital. Frank was preceeded by his son Terry and sister Margaret. He is survived by his wife Trudy and leaves behind his sister Norma, brother Roy and their families. Frank will be missed by his sons, Jeff, Doug(Ruth), and grandchildren Chantelle, Brian, Adam, Terry, Melissa and their families. Also left behind are Frank’s extended families of Albert van Goor and Annie Purne. Frank loved spending his time golfing at the New Denver Golf Course and sharing jokes with everyone. At Frank’s request there will be no funeral service. A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

STAMPS: Victor Lynn Stanis - Vic to his many friends. Lynn was his wife of almost 64 years - was born in Boulder, Colorado on April 29, 1925. His early ambition - one he never entirely lost track of, though the necessities of family life took him down other roads for many years - was to own a ranch, and he worked as a cowboy for Boulder area ranchers for several years before he joined the US Merchant Marine at 17. While in the Merchant Marine during WWII, Vic saw much of the world, from the Mediterranean to the coasts of North and South America to the Philippines, China, Hong Kong, and the South Pacific, and he always had an affinity for the world’s oceans as well as its mountains. The Korean War gave him the opportunity to enlist in the US Navy as a junior officer thanks to his naval experience, and he spent most of his active service as an admiral’s aide and later as an ensign and lieutenant(JG) on board the cruiser USS Rochester. Vic met the love of his life, Patricia Jean Patterson of Denver, in Boulder when she was 16; they were married in 1950, and she his oldest son, Michael (born 1953) followed him from one naval base to the next until his active service was completed. Vic and his young family moved to Hawaii in 1954, where he worked as an officer in the Air Force; his exposure to the military aviation industry - and two more sons, Randall (born 1956) and Christopher (born 1959) - followed. Clywer returned to his roots and moved back to Aurora, Illinois, at that point Vic, who had long since been consumed out of the curvature of the TV business that he had to him in the first place, decided it was time to do something else. With great courage and depending on blind luck, Vic and Pat decided to move (24/2) on the day they left the Chicagobased Aerion in December of 1979 to Oregon’s north coast. Vic had visited Astoria as a sailor years before, and it had stuck in his memory as the kind of place he might like to live. For the next 30 plus years, Vic did a number of things; convention center management, high school driving teacher, community college TV production instructor, and finally, with Pat, owner of a part of cabinetry and mail supply stores, which they operated until their retirement. Along the way they remedied an old dream to be something close to their dream home and lived life as fully as they ever did while traveling in Europe, China, and Japan in their later years; he was the constant explorer during a trip to Hawaii that stuck with a young, creative bride in 1996. In 2005 they sold their beach property - the small coast town they had owned since 1980. They then retired and ventured from the US to a new life in the Canadian Rockies just south of Silverthorn, British Columbia, where they built another dream house - hoping at one time to hike and raise horses, though that was not to be - and spent their gentle years there. Vic passed away in February, 2014; Vic lived for another 18

CLASSIFIED/COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY: George Alexander Vargcek, longtime resident of the Grande Prairie and Webster area, passed away peacefully in the arms of family on Friday, August 7, 2015, at the age of 90. He succumbed while residing at the family farm, after a long decline from dementia. George was born May 5th, 1925 on the original homestead in Webster to Nicholas Vargcek and Tivile (nee Vourychuk). In 1944 he married Jean Kozelowski and together they had seven children: Patricia, David (Vivian), Maureen (Ron Greenwood), Elizabeth (Dan Smith), Susan, and Darrel. With the exception of three years in Stony Plain/Creek British Columbia, he resided most of his married life in Webster. George was a farmer but also worked as a full-time and heavy equipment operator. After separating from his wife, he primarily resided in Grande Prairie. He later moved to Nanaimo for 17 years before his death in 2014. He loved to play pool, country dance and garden.

VOURYCHUK: George Alexander Vargcek, longtime resident of the Grande Prairie and Webster area, passed away peacefully in the arms of family on Friday, August 7, 2015, at the age of 90. He passed away on July 26th after a short illness caused by a brain tumour. He was born April 21, 1931 in Collafirth, Washington and moved to northern Alberta when he was 17. In 1953 he met Barbara Curry. After a two week romance, they started living together. They moved to Victoria and Vancouver where they married in 1975. Their first son Danny was born in 1980. Their other son, Mike, was born in 1985. They moved back to Collafirth in 2012 and here Mike spent much time sailing.

Mike had an independent, practical, philosophical, and artistic nature. He loved working with wood. He built his own homes, kayaks, canoes, and sailboats. He made furniture and turned bowls and tags for himself and others. He was also a humble, compassionate man, devoted to those he loved. He began meditating when he was a teenager and he said he continued because he noticed that daily practice made him easier to live with.

He leaves behind his wife Barbara; sons Danny (Jasmyn), Tom (Pang Ngermsnapulak), and Paul; granddaughter Sarah; brother Rich; sister Manly Larsson; stepfather Russ Turner; stepbrothers Donald (Pat Mica) and Carl; and brother Gary Jones (Carlson); sister Nancy Turner (Lloyd Brownhill) and Judy Barlow; sister-in-law Paula Curry (Charles Kather); brother-in-law Chris Curry; close relatives Peggy, Jerry, Susan, Greg, Arne, Shannon, Blair, Adabu and Hauna, and many friends.

Mike was predeceased by his mother Armina Greg Turner, father Jeremiah Mulcahy, stepmother Kit Mulcahy, niece Carson Larson, brother-in-law John Larson, and uncle and aunt Dick and Katie Greg.

A memorial will be held at the gazebo on the beach in Slocan at 11 am on Sept. 26. All are welcome. Afterward a light lunch with potluck dessert will be served at the Legion. Those who wish may donate in Mike’s memory to the Slocan Fire Department, the Slocan Community Library, or the Slocan Valley Rail Trail Society.
**SD 10 BUS SCHEDULE**

**SCHOOL OPENING**

School District No. 10 Arrow Lakes 2015/2016

**REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS Effective September 8, 2015**

*September 8, 2015 - all district schools will be in session 1/2 day only.*

**KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS:** Each school will be providing information on transition plans to full-day kindergarten. Call the school for details.

**EDGEOONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Sue Patterson, Principal
Ph: 250-265-3644, ext. 5

**NAKUSP SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Sue Patterson, Principal
Ph: 250-265-3644, ext. 5

**LUCERNE ELEMENTARY SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Nicol Suhr, Principal Ph: 250-265-3644, ext. 5

**ARROW LAKES DISTRIBUTED LEARNING SCHOOL**

Nicol Suhr, Principal Ph: 250-265-3644, ext. 5

**BUS ROUTES & TIMES**

Please contact your school directly, between Aug 31 & Sept 4, to arrange for bus pickup and to register for bus transportation through the year if you have not already done so. Please note that bus routes are subject to review during the school year and may be revised to best meet the needs of our students.

**HILLS/NEW DENVER/SILVERTON ROUTE**

**EDGEOONE ELEMENTARY ROUTE**

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**WHERE SERVICE IS NOT AVAILABLE, TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE MAY BE PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE PARENTS WHO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE. REMEMBER TO APPLY IN SEPTEMBER AS TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE IS PAID STARTING AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH WHEN SUBMITTED AND NOT RETROACTIVE TO THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

**VEHICLE OPERATORS:** September 8, 2015 will be the official opening of school for School District No. 10/Arrow Lakes 2015-2016 school year.

We like to remind motorists to watch out for children walking to school or waiting for school buses.

**ALTERNATE FLASHING LIGHTS:** School buses are equipped with alternate flashing red lamps and when they are flashing, traffic in both directions must stop and remain stopped until the red flashing lights are turned off. The flashing lights are to indicate the school bus is loading or unloading school children.

**IT IS AN OFFENCE UNDER THE MOTOR VEHICLE ACT TO PASS A SCHOOL BUS WITH ITS OVERHEAD RED LIGHTS FLASHING**

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