A full complement of public relations representatives, engineers and planning staff were present at BC Hydro’s open house in Castlegar the evening of March 30. They were there to answer questions and take public feedback about the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) currently under development. An earlier afternoon meeting was held for stakeholders, including municipalities, labour and conservation groups.

The IRP is BC Hydro’s ‘long-term plan for acquiring the resources to meet customers’ needs for the next 20 years.’ The plan must meet goals outlined in BC’s Clean Energy Act, which requires that BC Hydro achieve electricity self-sufficiency by 2016. Contained within the Act is the target of generating 93 percent of all electricity in the province from “clean or renewable sources and build the infrastructure necessary to transmit that electricity.” With BC’s population expected to grow from 4.6 to 5.8 million over the next 20 years, the Act stipulates that “at least 66 percent of any increase in demand” be met through conservation and efficiency measures.

While these are admirable goals, for some of the public at the open house, the devil is certainly in the details. Cam Matheson, director of energy planning, was asked if BC Hydro had considered the examples of other jurisdictions – such as California, Connecticut and Ontario – that have tried smart meters and found serious problems such as hugely increased monthly bills and various health issues related to the wireless meters would never pay for themselves. Matheson said that at present the IRP is still in its formative stage so no one can accurately predict whether the Duncan site could be developed, just as the sites at Mica and Revelstoke had their generating capacity increased recently. The IRP consultation process is seeking public comment on whether to develop Site C.

Information was provided on the three types of portfolios BC Hydro could pursue in its IRP, each with a different mix of energy sources and priorities. Matheson said a second round of consultation will occur in the fall, after which the plan will move into its final stage by December.

To comment on the IRP go to www.bchydro.com/planning_regulatory/irp/get_involved/spring2011.html. The deadline for feedback is April 30.
Residents living in the RDCK areas who attended a series of workshops on the development of an agricultural plan can now see the initial results of that consultation. Consultant Abra Brynne, who hosted the workshops, has produced a set of recommendations that set regional agricultural priorities.

“Once we hear back from the community we’ll take that and use it to give direction to what goes into the actual agricultural plan,” says Brynne.

Among the top concerns reflected consistently in feedback so far, she adds, is a strong desire not to lose any more of the region’s agriculturally productive land, and to protect water quality. Another issue that found wide agreement amongst farmers – whether novice or professional or already farming – is the need for direct, on-farm marketing and other support for established and start-up farmers.

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In an era when texting seems to have supplanted most forms of communication, Brynne observes, “We think what stands out for me more and more these days about kids not caring about reading and writing anymore,” festival coordinator Terry Taylor. “I think what stands out for me more than anything else is that the festival has become such a rich part of the culture in our school.”

A songwriting workshop will be taught by Dominique Fraissard, a rosebery resident who first attracted widespread attention for his music while still a student. Fraissard has opened for Jack Johnson, John Butler Trio, the Waifs, and Bing Jensen of the Euphorics, and has sold-out houses. Fraissard will spend time with senior students at the Nelson Castlegar Library as their ‘home library’ and with a BC festival.

In past years, songwriting has been taught by Helen Davis and Bing Jensen of the Euphorics, currently touring the Kootenays to sold-out houses.

Land Act & Mines Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for Amendment of Crown Land & Notice of Work & Reclamation Program Amendment

FrontCounter BC Cranbrook has accepted applications made by Arrow Lakes Ready Mix Ltd. of Nakusp, BC, on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resource Operations (MNRO). Crown Land and Mining Division, Kootenay Region, for amendments to Licence of Occupation for aggregate purpose and Notice of Work and Reclamation (NoW) Permit for Sand and Gravel situated on Provincial Crown land near Nakusp, BC (reached by travelling from the intersection of Highway 23 and the truck route in Nakusp, north 1.3 km to Hot Springs Road then 2.9 km to the pit access road) and containing 4.6 hectares more or less.

The MNRO File Number that has been established for this application is 4403481 (Lands) 0502162 (Mines). Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Natural Resource Officer at FrontCounter BC, 1920 Theatre Road, Cranbrook, B.C., V1G 7G1 or email to: AuthorizingAgency.Cranbrook@gov.bc.ca.

Comments will be received by FrontCounter BC until 30 days for the date of publication.

FrontCounter BC may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please refer to our website to view the Land Act application http://www.arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp→Search→Search by File Number: 4403481 for more information. The Notice of Work and Reclamation Program can be viewed at: FrontCounter BC in Cranbrook or the Service BC in Nakusp, 204 – 6th Avenue.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at MNRO regional office.

Regional agricultural plan issues initial recommendations

by Art Joyce

Residents living in the RDCK areas who attended a series of workshops on the development of an agricultural plan can now see the initial results of that consultation. Consultant Abra Brynne, who hosted the workshops, has produced a set of recommendations that set regional agricultural priorities.

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Contradicting the notion that poetry in the digital age is dead, slam poet queen Sheri-D Wilson will offer senior students workshops on slam/spoken word performance. Known as the ‘Mama of Dada,’ she has almost single-handedly lent legitimacy to slam poetry. Dada was an early 20th century art movement that included disallowing the building of objects in odd juxtapositions and was the forerunner of the Surrealist movement probably best known through the works of Salvador Dali. children for public. Andrea Spalding will spend time with elementary students on Wednesday and read at the evening coffeehouse. There’s a full program for the younger kids at this year’s festival, with clay, felt and puppet workshops.

“The participation level at the festival is astonishing – it’s almost 90 percent at the elementary level and it’s very high at the secondary school level,” says Taylor.

This year’s festival is supported by the Nelson Basin Alliance for Literacy, Canada Council for the Arts, and the League of Canadian Poets.

One Card, they can access all libraries in BC.

Residents interested in making Nelson their home library may want to participate in upcoming discussions about special services that will be offered to Valley residents.

“During the community consultation process prior to the referendum, we heard that rural residents sometimes find it difficult to get to the library in Nelson,” explained June Stockdale, chief librarian for the Nelson Library. “We were asked to explore outreach services such as delivery of library materials. This is an opportunity to order books online and have them delivered to one or more locations in the valley, a drop-off service, and to continue training and programs in the rural communities. There’s a full program for the younger kids at this year’s festival, with clay, felt and puppet workshops.

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BC NDP leadership convention hits Nelson

by Dan Spring

The provincial New Democratic Party leadership convention met at the Best Western Hotel in Nelson on March 24. The room was packed wall to wall, and MLAs from all over the province were in attendance, along with five candidates who hope to lead the BC NDP into the next election.

Pre-election jitters rode their way through the crowd on a herd of horses and smiles. Yet it didn’t lack authenticity. The members in attendance were the party faithful, and a genuine feeling of excitement was palpable, for although the April 17 leadership vote may not be more important than the election itself, every individual in the room had more reason to vote one way than another—likely, this one will become premier than the average voter. Such is the privilege of membership in any party with half a chance of winning.

All five candidates have impressive histories relevant to their leadership strategies. John Horgan helped establish the Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Power Corporation. He sees the flow of public wealth to the powerful as an agenda that needs to stop. Dana Larsen, best known as a drug-reform activist, founded the Vancouver Medicinal Cannabis Dispensary. His strategy focuses on drug law reform, the reversal of privatization, and opposition to Harper-style prison growth. Adrian Dix helped save East Vancouver Schools from tax cuts, and has repeatedly championed children’s and senior’s care. He focused on remedying poverty and fostering more equality in the province. Mike Farnworth has been involved in creating meaningful Agricultural Land Reserves (ALRs) in BC, but was upset that there hasn’t been solid support for small-scale and urban farmers since then. Especially the five, who want to see a strong focus on regional food security. Simons received applause after recounting his recent fight against laws preventing neighbours from selling locally raised chicken to each other. Horgan deplored Liberal mega-dam flooding projects, and advocated more equality in the province. Larsen added that it is important to make the ALRs ride free for British Columbians.

All five candidates are largely agreed on what needs to be done for the agricultural industry. Most were happy that the NDP had previously been involved in creating meaningful Agricultural Land Reserves (ALRs) in BC, but were upset that there hadn’t been solid support for small-scale and urban farmers since then. Especially the five, who want to see a strong focus on regional food security. Simons received applause after recounting his recent fight against laws preventing neighbours from selling locally raised chicken to each other. Horgan deplored Liberal mega-dam flooding projects that would turn farmland into lakes. Larsen and Dix wanted to see less ALR land being used for private estates, or lying fallow. Farnworth called for a comprehensive strategy of sustainable agriculture.

Among the five, there was a general frustration with Liberal government cuts to early childhood education and seniors’ care. Such cuts, they said, only drove seniors out of their homes and into more expensive and less amenable care options, like hospitals.

Donations to the fund will be disbursed to assist with the provision of relief and emergency services to victims of the earthquake and tsunami. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the relief fund may do so at the New Denver Kootenay Savings Credit Union, Masterplan Account No. 2478-6. Tax receipts are available upon request to the New Denver Kootenai Society.

Terasen Gas and FortisBC now share one name – FortisBC. Watch for your natural gas bill from FortisBC. Visit us at fortisbc.com.

April 6, 2011  The Valley Voice

NEWS

For the May 2 federal election

SILVERTON MEMORIAL HALL
APRIL 13
7.90 pm

Come meet your candidates for the BC Southern Interior riding:

Liberal

Bryan Hunt

NDP

Ulrike Zobel, Lawyer

Nelson

Green

Stephan Hill

Conservative

Alex Atamanenko, MP

Shan Lavell

NDP would fund expansions to social programs and banks. Everyone consented that it would be essential to roll back tax cuts to big corporations. Horgan wanted a “Fair Tax commission” to make sure that voters can prioritize health care over a new roof for BC Place and a new casino next door. Larsen wanted to add 11 percent to income tax for people making over a quarter million dollars. Simons and Farnworth both expressed support for getting the most from BC resources, in terms of value-added products, rather than shipping raw resources out of the province for manufacture. Dix pointed out that in 2008, the Liberals promised more banking jobs if we cut taxes on banking institutions, but in fact the opposite happened and we lost banking jobs to Ontario.

The end of the convention felt a bit like the conclusion to a horse race. The tour is a grueling stampede around the province, and already some of the candidates showed the strain. Still, it is probably the best way to figure out which person is best suited to lead the NDP, since an election will demand at least as much energy from a premier hopeful.
Damage done on back road in Vallican

After the weekend of March 25-27, I’m left wondering about the sense of decency and personal responsibility of some people who travel the back road in Vallican.

On this weekend, someone who was driving way too fast left the Slocan River Road and crashed through the deer fence on our property, destroying about 70 feet of fence and nine fence posts, three young Douglas fir trees, plus the sturdy Highways sign that indicates that the road goes from pavement to gravel. The driver had to cut the wire and extricate the vehicle from the fence. They then were careful to pick up any evidence that would link their vehicle to the damage. They took with them a section of fence wire and the Highways sign.

We are left with the cost of repairing the damage caused by a thoughtless driver. But this time it was property damage, not a human life. Drivers need to SLOW DOWN and obey the posted speed limit. There are many drivers who travel way above the speed limit on the back road.

If you know anything about this incident, please contact the RCMP in New Denver, or me directly (250-226-7376).

Susan Hammond

Vallican

We too must revolt

We Canadians need to stand up and act! Citizens in other countries are revolting in response to their leaders’ lack of ethics.

We must refuse to vote for the political parties that perpetuate the sell-out of our freedom and rights to corporations that don’t care if you live or die as long as they profit. Those parties survive primarily through corporate support.

Economy is simply good management of your domain – the point being that good management can come in many ways, and we must always be aware of different ways to manage our needs, just as each household does. Neither the Conservatives nor Liberals have any sacred answers to the economy.

Vote for a party that wants to represent our interests rather than those of amoral corporations. Parties wanting proportional representation provide this! Conservatives refuse to consider this, and Liberals take no action either. This leaves us free to vote for a party that we feel in our hearts that we can trust.

A coalition could stipulate a condition for proportional representation.

Recently, Don Drummond, former Deputy Minister of Finance, gave a B+ to the Green Party for its ‘Vision Green’ policy document, with a failing grade to the other parties because of their lack of detailed exposure of their economic platforms. How can anyone manage economies without a budget? How can you trust someone who won’t state how much they will tax?

I suggest that we would vote for a coalition if we vote for anyone but the two main parties. This would be a very Canadian answer to the political status quo. If this idea appeals to you, hit ‘send all’ on your address list and give others the confidence that you have a chance to ‘revolt’ that does not include the two big corporate buddies.

Minority governments and coalitions of some provided our best governance, so we can only win by voting for a coalition, and there is nothing to lose except corporate control.

Eric Faulks

Hills

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

Letters and articles should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material. Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your name and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

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

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

Goodell says goodbye

As I prepare to retire as Librarian of Nakusp Public Library, I would appreciate the opportunity to offer a deeply felt “Thank you” to the people of the community.

I have loved being the librarian at this wonderful library. It’s been my dream job. My sister and I used to play library, and I’ve been able to play for real since 1979. I did take off nearly four years when I coordinated and facilitated literacy programs for Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy in New Denver, but when Marilyn Misutka was going to retire as librarian in Nakusp, I decided that I had a chance to return. Luckily, I was able to and was fortunate to participate in the long-awaited and long-needed expansion and re-model.

Libraries are cornerstones of democracy and celebrate diversity every day. Everyone is welcome at public libraries, no matter what income, dress, age, or interest. It’s been my dream job.

The Nakusp Public Library’s board of trustees has been an exceptionally harmonious and hard-working team. Our monthly board meeting always includes a lot of laughter; it’s one meeting I shall miss.

The staff of the library works as a team and each person is dedicated, and, again, fun to work with.

The Nakusp Public Library has always relied on volunteers, and the only way to describe my feeling for them is “I love them.” I am very happy to become dear friends to me, and we share our joys and sorrows.

I look forward to retirement, but adjusted to missed feelings. I shall definitely miss the library folk. However, leaving is made easier since our new librarian, Sabha belli-Otto, is a jewel and is going to fit in very well.

Over a year ago, I sent out a notice to all BC public libraries to advertise my job and I included the fact that I was “one of the happiest librarians ever anywhere.”

So, I say “Thank you, thank you, thank you kindly” to our community and leave with deep gratitude for having had a job that I have treasured and that has helped me grow and learn and feel fulfilled.

Evelyn Goodell

Hills

Response to Stoney Creek and area IPP proposals

Several years ago Burton residents, and for that matter, the West Kootenay, sent a strong message to the decision-makers under the Campbell government that we oppose Independent Power Projects simply because they, and the Energy Plan, are not green as claimed.

The same goes for the pristine Capula, Ventego and Alder Creeks near Golden; the Glacier Howar proposal; Burton’s Caribou, Snow, Trout, and Goat Creeks; the more recent Stoney Creek proposal just north of Fataques; as well as the other 135 run-of-the-river proposals throughout the West Kootenays. Here’s why.

First, IPPs have no long-term mission or plan. Under the guise of ‘minimal environmental impact,’ developers generally tend to keep their proposals under 50 MW in order to avoid environmental assessments.

Colossal amounts of water, water that could allow a dry environment for project construction lasting for several years, upset the fragile ecological balance. Each dam or weir forever blocks the natural flow of nutrients essential to all aquatic life.

The construction of a headpond behind each dam, to be dug out with heavy machinery, has the potential to leak oils in the creek bed, creating toxicity for all aquatic life.

Construction activity removes creekside riparian grown habitat, thereby increasing downstream water temperatures – a critical factor for all fish-bearing waterways.

The removal of forests for roads and transmission corridors incrementally increases greenhouse gas emissions – a contributing factor to increased since and global warming.

Construction of penstocks (pipes) has the potential to lead to acid rock drainage, which is toxic to all aquatic life.

Creek diversions and penstocks leave only 10 percent of the water in the original creek bed, which has detrimental impacts on Blue Listed wildlife species that have a history of not being able to replenish themselves – their chances of becoming extinct is ever increasing.

Once approved, IPPs are not held accountable for unforeseen environmental impacts as a result of their actions or inactions.

Let’s sum this up. For every action there is a reaction. Every megawatt of power produced by ruin-of-the-river projects for human consumption, the ecosystem suffers losses – in some cases forever. Every kilowatt of power produced will not save life-fetching pilgrimage. Why is the debate over dismantling existing run-of-the-river generators south of the border such a hot topic?

Second, we don’t need this kind of power. Simple math will tell that if half of the 800 provincial IPP applications were to be approved at a rate of just under 50 MW per each, 15 million trees could be saved – ten-fold in today’s value. Provincially, 134 IPPs already have signed contracts while BC Hydro has yet to power up all existing dams and solve issues of ungenerationed spillage.

Typically, the bulk of power produced from creeks is generated during spring run-off. During winter months when power demand is highest, available flow is lowest. Export market? California already has a history of not paying BC’s hard-earned money on imported power and should be considered for new retrofit housing developments. It also increases home equity. On a broader scale, solar and wind power have considerably less impact on the environment.

England’s Thames River is a prime example of Tidal Current Generation producing more on a flow of energy below the water’s surface. A partnership in knowledge could be applied to BC’s coastal regions.

The goal is individual power conservation. A plan to conserve electrical consumption by 10 percent can have a two-fold effect – a provincial impact, and savings on your power bill.

The Arrow Lakes Environment Stewardship Society, in collaboration with West Kootenay Ecosociety, Wildlife, and the Council of Canadians, have formed a Regional IPP Committee in a united stand to say NO to all Independent Power Projects and YES to a moratorium of all IPPs in BC until they are regionally planned, environmentally appropriate, acceptable to First Nations without attachment, and publicly owned.

Join us, keep BC beautiful!

Ham Dummerauf, ALESS chair

Burton
It’s not about reducing crime

In his most recent flyer, MP Alex Atamanenko states that the Conservatives’ “touch on crime” agenda makes no sense since it was tried and seen to fail in the US, and the Canadian crime rate is going down anyway. I would suggest that the Conservatives are currently launching their sentences, mandatory prison terms, and prison sentences for more crimes than nothing to do with reducing crime.

The US has an economically important incarceration industry that corporate interests want duplicated in Canada. Patiently, step by step, the Conservative machine creating the conditions for this – billions of dollars to build more prisons, and ‘touch on crime’ legislation to ensure a huge increase in the Canadian prison population. In the US, private prison corporations have their own trade fairs to attract businesses that use sweatshops abroad. Gone are the days where small, humble, newinnates have been hired at very low cost to do dangerous jobs, like cleaning up the toxic BP oil spill, highly technical tasks like assembling cell phones, and propaganda to make us self-righteously angry at criminals, see them as less than you would have believed possible.

Also, the Conservatives are an authoritarian sect which wants the private prisons, the transfer of resources and a small but well-educated and the pay of their staff. In other words, this is state corporate business at its ugliest – trafficking in human misery. Of course the taxpayers will be paying the private prisons, the transfer of money from the taxpayer to corporations being the goal of all serious Liberal and Conservative administrations.

There will be a great deal of fear-mongering in this election, especially from Herr Harper and his Conservatives, but if you vote your conscience and vote for the party that has a clear and sustainable vision of our country in this troubled world, in the end, when all the votes are counted, you will have some peace of mind. You will be able to say you voted, not just for what matters to you now, but for what will matter to your children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. An intact life-support system on a livable planet.

Keith Newberry
Slocan

Vote your conscience

Once again Canadians are engaged in a federal election. Will we hope they are engaged. I hope that more than the 59 percent of the electorate show up to the polls on May 2.

I hope – I hope – I hope – I could for a lot of the things regarding this election – but I have feeling those hopes would be in vain.

Until we re-form our electoral system and adopt a form of proportional representation, it is unlikely things will change much. We will continue to elect minority governments which are not actually best under the circumstances. Because the Bloc in Quebec has more power than they should otherwise have due to the “first past the post” system, we will continue to be mired in the political games we currently witness. Of course, this will result in the ongoing bad management of our country and the ever-increasing frustration of Canadian voters.

If Herr Harper and his Conservatives actually gain a majority, it is likely it will be for what matters to their parties, not for what will matter to your life. They will do by the time we get a chance to vote again, four or five years from now. Harper is a trained economist and therefore stuck in the capitalist notion that economics determines everything and all our problems. Just keeping the rich richer and every rich and the money will trickle down to everyone below. I’m 64 years old and I’ve heard this mantra all my life. It simply doesn’t work. There just as many poor citizens in Canada now as there has ever been, if not more. How is it that a country as rich as Canada, with an incredible storehouse of natural resources and a small but well-educated population, could be over 500 billion dollars in debt? The general answer is very simple. Bad management.

The general answer is very simple. Bad management. Management not based on the common good, but management based on keeping the rich richer, and powerful very powerful people getting richer and more powerful.

For those of you who somehow think this election is an unnecessary waste of time and money, I suggest you ask yourself if you’d rather be in one of the Middle East countries where people are lighting and dying for a chance to vote.

I have one more suggestion. Vote your conscience and not yours. There will be a great deal of fear-mongering in this election, especially from Herr Harper and his Conservatives, but if you vote your conscience and vote for the party that has a clear and sustainable vision of our country in this troubled world, in the end, when all the votes are counted, you will have some peace of mind. You will be able to say you voted, not just for what matters to you now, but for what will matter to your children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. An intact life-support system on a livable planet.

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Jumbo Wild vs. Jumbo Development

The following is an open letter to Daphne Bramham, in response to her opinion piece in the Vancouver Sun titled “After 21 years, it’s time for a Jumbo decision.”

Ah, the Jumbo Wild vs. the Jumbo Development issue has made it to the land of concrete and high rises where the occasional accidents dandelion and the big tree mural offer wild Nature to the human milieu. And you, in a few more than 150 words, have opined the long and convoluted history of this evil and always contentious issue. So be it.

In calling for a decision, your 10- word declaration “choosing grizzlies over cell towers over the environment” rests only on static legislated process. It fails, as the long outdated processes fail, to consider the ongoing organic and unpollutanted world that have taken place in the last two plus decades, some of which are: global glacier abatement (easily seen in the photo you used of the ever diminishing ice cap), the many local small farmers, large and small (BC has declared grizzly bears an incredible storehouse of natural resources and a small but well-educated population, could be over 500 billion dollars in debt? The general answer is very simple. Bad management.

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Keith Newberry
Slocan

Follow-up on Rogers cell tower

First of all, we wish to thank everyone who is supporting the Zaks Road and Jumbo area in low impact ways and for having the vision to keep Jumbo wild forever.” And we thank you for another kick at the can.

Rogers then allowed an extension for comments to January 31, 2011.

Please note that because there is nothing in the RDCG Area K or Village of Nakusp OCPs concerning telecommunications equipment, and Canada Canada guidelines do not require Rogers to hold a public forum. Rogers only has to contact residents near the tower. This is why I believe that it is not clear what was happening. I believe both the Village and RDCG are now in the process of advancing to their OCPs to address this matter. During the comment time, the residents of Zaks Road, the Village of the Nakusp, the RDCG and concerned Nakusp citizens went to work. letters were written, Industry Canada was notified of all the activities through e-mails, and a petition was started which said that Rogers has not yet completed its review of Safety Code 6.

Another email from Sean Galbraith, in response to her letter on March 15, said that Rogers was going to send an email notifying us that it would probably be “a couple months” before we heard anything more. A resident of Zaks Road received a reply to her letter on March 18. It said that Rogers does “not anticipate going forward with the tower location as proposed.” It says that Rogers is “looking at the existing Telus tower to see that it might work, and at a new site southwest of the road currently proposing re-locating the tower as far back on the currently proposed property as possible.” It said that when a new location was selected, likely in a couple months, a new notification package would be sent to neighbouring property owners.

We would like to point out that we have been less than satisfied with ProLiferate Group. Many letters written by citizens of Nakusp were returned to senders, many emails were not acknowledged, and we were unable to find much information on the ProLiferate Group. Their website is a splash page with a contact email only. It is less than helpful when we are in charge of handling customers’ concerns on behalf of Rogers. It is important to continue sending emails to ProLiferate Group to address everyone’s concerns. You can write to Sean Galbraith at sgalbraith@proliferategroup.com, subject: FEEDBACK W2175.

Be aware that if your main concerns are about the proposed tower location and the fees or Rogers will refer you back to Health Canada’s Safety Code 6, which stipulates cell towers pose no threat to health, safety and the environment. Health Canada with Canada is not prepared to make any changes, even though they have received thousands of letters from citizens who have gotten sick from living close to cell towers. Health Canada remains with the status quo although countries around the world are re-visiting the danger and effectiveness of cell towers on birds, bees and animals. Your concerns about your health should be addressed to The Honourable Leona A. Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, Brooke Claxton Building, Timmy’s Pavilion, 375 Lisgar Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K0. It is important to apply as much pressure as possible on Health Canada to open dialogue and revise Safety Code 6.

We’d also like those who still think that this is ‘no big deal’, to think again: once Industry Canada puts its stamp of approval on a site, like the proposed one on Zaks Road, the towers are there for life. You can never take them down. Furthermore, there are no limits on how many towers can be erected after the first one. Potentially, Nakusp could be starling at 10, 12 towers on the horizon, and then, by it, would be too late to do anything about them.

Again, thank you to everyone who is helping to find a more suitable location for Rogers cell tower. We have never been against the service. We know cell towers are here to stay. We feel that due to the geographic aspect of our regions, surrounded by peaks and mountains, there has to be a location away from the resorts, and someone, and in a location where it will be an eyesore for all to see.

Maria Wrede
Nakusp
New Denver council, March 22: BC Hydro invited to April 26 meeting

by Michael Dorney

• Staff informed council of the response from BC Hydro’s Mary Anne Coles regarding the January 7 power outage. While Hydro’s incident report “does not indicate any fault on BC Hydro’s part,” they have nevertheless offered some compensation. Customers with homeowner insurance can get their insurance deductible covered, and customers without insurance will receive an amount equal to the amount advanced to insured customers. “To maintain consistency with the treatment of insured and uninsured customers, the amount of funding available to customers is limited to a maximum of $1,000.”

Council directed staff to invite BC Hydro to the regular meeting on April 26, which is open to the public.

• Wright reported on a meeting with campground attendants Mel and Gail Swanson to discuss the boat rental proposal. He stated that the Swansons were “excited” and noted that the revenues would be a 50/50 split with the Village. The Swansons suggested the Village purchase one paddle boat and one solid rowboat with electric motor, and two kayaks — a single-seater and a double-seater. The Swansons also suggested a ‘Summer Games’ that families (community and visitors) could participate in, and informed council that John Leyer had donated a large bar for use as a bulletin board on the washrooms, and supported the idea of open stage events. Mayor Wright, staff and the Swansons will work on these ideas.

• Councillor Banka reported that she would be working with Co-op Radio to produce radio spots covering council and Village meetings. Her last interview was Thursday, March 24. Banka also commented the Valley Voice on its council coverage.

• Mayor Wright reported he would be meeting with RCMP Staff Sergeant Dan Seibol to discuss annual policing priorities. Wright stated that Village priorities are the same as last year’s, with emphasis on drinking and driving, a visible community police presence, and enforcement of local bylaws.

• Councillor Murphy reported on Recreation Commission #6 news, noting the spring grant-in-aid session would be held Wednesday, April 20, with application deadline of Friday, April 15. Application forms are available at Lucerne School, and New Denver and Silverton Village offices. The appropriate form must be used or the application will not be considered.

• Council addressed a request for permission to operate two rooms of the new residence of Ulli and Jorg Becker as a Bed & Breakfast May 1-Sept 30. The Beckers’ daughter, Tisha, will reside in the residence and would like to run the operation as her summer job. It was noted by staff and council that under the present zoning bylaw, this cannot be done. The Beckers will be informed of their options, including applying for a change of zoning or an overlay.

• Mayor Wright reported on three items of RDCK news.

The Village of New Denver is holding an Arbor Day on Thursday, April 28, 2011. We will pick up all yard and pruning waste that is placed at the curb by 8 am. Please ensure that all branches are bundled and tied and all garden refuse (leaves, etc.) is bagged. Absolutely no household garbage or construction material will be picked up. Thank you for your cooperation.

LAND ACT & MINES ACT
Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

FrontCounter BC Cranbrook has accepted an application made by Silvertown Transport Ltd. of Silvertown BC (Box 70, VOG 2BO, Attention Stuart Nelson, Ph. (250) 358-2360), on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resource Operations (MNR), Kootenay Region, for a Licence of Occupation and Notice of Work and Reclamation Program for the purpose of sand and gravel extraction situated on Provincial Crown land approx. 11 km. South of Silvertown BC (within mapsheet 82F083 in DL 8428, KD accessed from Highway 6, point of reference 470226.61E 5524095.30N, zone 11).

The MNRO File Number that has been established for this application is 4405124 (lands) and 1630554 (mines). Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Natural Resource Officer at FrontCounter BC, 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook, BC, V1C 7G1 or email to: Authorizing Agency.Cranbrook@gov.bc.ca.

The Notice of Work and Reclamation Program can be viewed at Service BC in Kaslo, Nelson and Trail. Comments will be received by FrontCounter BC until May 20, 2011. FrontCounter BC may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please refer to our website: http://www.arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp Search by File Number: (insert lands file number) for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Natural Resource Operations regional office.

New Denver ambulance out of service

by Jan McMurray

The New Denver ambulance station has been unable to provide service since early February. The station has two ambulance workers, but neither has been able to take any shifts since early February. Joe Matthews is on medical leave, and Sara Rainford is home with her baby while her husband is away working.

“We are frustrated because we have a sense of obligation to the community, and we feel we have very little support from BC Ambulance Service,” said Matthews.

“We haven’t heard from them at all as to why we’re out of service.”

Recruitment and retention of ambulance workers has been a constant challenge in rural and remote BC communities for quite some time. Matthews and Rainford said that the number of workers in the Kootenay region has decreased dramatically in the last few years. They believe this is because there is no incentive for people to join the service.

Before applying to be an ambulance worker, a person must have paid for and taken a $1,600-$1,800 EMR course. The course will probably not be offered in the person’s home community, so there will be travel expenses as well. The hiring process is onerous, taking about six months. When finally hired, in remote communities like New Denver, workers are paid $2 per hour to carry the pager, and a union wage when on a call.

Matthews and Rainford agree that in order to be paid at a living wage, recruitment and retention would no longer be an issue.

In 2006, the lack of ambulance workers in both Nakusp and New Denver caused local politicians to get involved and organize meetings with BC Ambulance Service and Interior Health. At a meeting in September 2006, BCAS and IH committed to beginning a formal discussion on “integration opportunities,” where ambulance workers could make a living by spending their standby time working at health facilities.

Over four years later, it does not sound like the model integration is very close to implementation. Rainford indicated that a “priority for BC Ambulance Service,” reported BCAS spokesman Krisy Anderson.

“BC Ambulance Service has established working groups with individual Health Authorities to examine regional opportunities that may exist.”

She said the working groups are examining all the details that need to be carefully looked at, such as funding, matching roles to skill sets, enhancing skill levels, medical oversight, and labour relations and human resources.

She indicated that the working groups still need time to work through all this, and added that implementation timelines would probably vary from region to region. Matthews and Rainford encourage anyone interested in joining the New Denver station to contact either of them for information: Joe Matthews 358-2511 and Sara Rainford 358-7277. They also encourage community members to write to MLA Katrine Conroy (katrine.conroy.mla@leg.bc.ca) and the BC Ambulance Service (PO Box 9000, Cranbrook, BC. V1C 9P1) with their concerns.
Nakusp and Arrow Lakes literary programs celebrated
submitted by Liz Gillis, CBAL

This week, April 2-9, is International Adult Learners Week. UNESCO started this movement in 2000 as a way to celebrate adult learners and lifelong learning. Here in the Arrow Lakes there is a lot to celebrate.

Did you know that the Nakusp CAP site receives over 4,000 visits per year? The Nakusp CAP site is open six days a week and offers free access to the internet. “Visit our site for all kinds of reasons,” says Liz Gillis, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literary (CBAL), Adult Literacy Program Coordinator. “Locals and tourists come to the site for work and education purposes as well as to make personal, business and social connections.” The CAP site also provides printing, copying, faxing and scanning services at a reasonable cost.

If you are just learning about computers, the CAP site is a great place to visit. Staff and volunteers can help you on an individual basis or you can sign up for Beginner Computer class. Ingrid Fehler, CBAL’s computer instructor, says, “We have designed our classes for all types of learners.” Beginner Computer classes are starting again in April and the CAP site will soon be offering new computer workshops on topics such as digital photography, social networking, shopping and banking online.

Recently, CBAL received a generous donation of used computer equipment from the Computer for School’s program. Staff member, Jocelyn Schmidt, showed the used equipment and prepared the equipment for donation. If you or someone you know could use a recycled computer, please drop by the CAP site and sign up. Since September 2009, CBAL has donated more than 50 refurbished computers to individuals and families in the Arrow Lakes area.

The CAP site is more than a place to use computers; it is a place of learning. There are weekly English as a Second Language classes and one-to-one tutoring sessions for youth and adults at the CAP site. If you are looking for help with upgrading, test preparation, reading, writing, math or other learning needs, the CAP site is a great place to get assistance and information.

Have you read a good book lately? The Books Everywhere program provides free library materials to small and rural communities by the book on demand or by drop off at the closest location. They also provide book lists to help determine which books to order. There are more than 100,000 titles available to request.

BC Hydro seeks input on Arrow Lakes boat ramp use
submitted by BC Hydro

BC Hydro has recently posted an improved online survey as part of studies to understand water and shore-based recreational use of Arrow Lakes Reservoir and boat ramp use at Kinbasket Reservoir.

The online survey asks questions about reservoir recreation including boat ramp use, frequency of recreational activity, location, infrastructure requirements, user demographics, and level of familiarity with Arrow and Kinbasket Lakes reservoirs. Alan Chan-McLeod, BC Hydro’s Columbia River Water Use Plan Physical Works Lead, said the information will help guide future decision-making on recreational improvements.

Data on recreational use is being collected at established recreation sites on Arrow Lakes Reservoir through traffic counters, face-to-face surveys with reservoir users, and online surveys. Kinbasket boat ramp use data is being collected through face-to-face surveys, online surveys and traffic counters installed at the ramps.

“Last year, traffic counters installed at established boat launch locations recorded close to 24,000 boat launches at percent of the food consumed in the Arrow Lakes area was produced in the valley; now it is around 20 percent. The Food-Farms-Community survey will give us a picture of where we are today and which farms-Community group strongly believes that small farms and community gardens, not corporate farming, is the answer to our local food security concerns, oil reserves, climate change issues and domestic food security concerns,” says the group.

Community group seeks input on local food security
submitted by Food-Farms-Community group

The Food-Farms-Community group of the Arrow Lakes Valley is distributing a survey to every mailbox from Edgewood to Trout Lake and invites every resident to take a couple of minutes to complete the survey and reflect on food.

Food is a basic need. With declining oil reserves, climate change issues and domestic food security concerns, the Food-Farms-Community group feels it is imperative to support and encourage sustainable agriculture in all forms. Sustainable agriculture produces abundant food without depleting the earth’s resources or polluting its environment. The Food-Farms-Community group strongly believes that small farms and community gardens, not corporate farming, is the answer to our local food security concerns, oil reserves, climate change issues and domestic food security concerns. Food supply must be addressed as a Second Language classes and one-to-one tutoring sessions for youth and adults at the CAP site. If you are looking for help with upgrading, test preparation, reading, writing, math or other learning needs, the CAP site is a great place to get assistance and information.

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Nakusp council, March 22: Council honours Librarian Evelyn Goodell for service

by Art Jaya

Nakusp Library’s annual report. The report stated that, due to differences in reporting, the Province is showing higher circulation for 2010 than her figures—38,568 versus 44,000. There were a record-breaking number of programs last year, with an attendance of 777 and 3,957 children’s programs. Current membership is 2,267. Accessibility will finally be improved if the historical society approves its addition. “Every category showed an increase in 2010,” she said. “The figures show the community needs and wants this library more than ever.”

Mayor Hamling thanked Goodell on behalf of council for her years of service. “Evelyn has consistently made the library one of the smallest communities that have taken out more books than any other community.” The mayor presented Goodell with complimentary hot springs passes as a token of appreciation.

Public Works Manager Mike Pedersen was present to answer questions of council and to seek an answer regarding danger trees on the beach. At present, BC Hydro prunes these trees every four years to avoid interference with transmission lines. The options available were to remove the trees and replant elsewhere with funds from BC Hydro or to have staff maintain the trees. Mayor Hamling asked if public works felt this would be expensive. Pedersen said the trees provide valuable shade for the beach and also help neighboring businesses and staff workload. Council voted to have public works maintain the tree pruning.

Councillor Hughes tabled a motion of Nakusp & area, site supervisors and, between us all, we have a passionate community. The Nakusp Music Fest is very close to our hearts and we have a volunteer board of directors that oversees the Music Fest in general. The board, in turn, hires Octopus Productions (Will Jahneke, President) to produce the festival within the guidelines of the board. Octopus runs the day-to-day business of the festival and employs 4.2 full time employees.

Our production year starts immediately after the weekend of the festival and is a year-round endeavor by everyone involved. In addition to the board, we have a volunteer group of area supervisors and, between us all, we put in many hours to ensure a smooth weekend of quality entertainment that everyone can enjoy. The Nakusp Music Fest is very close to our hearts and we have a passionate commitment to presenting the best show we can.

The annual budget is approximately $1,000,000 and some of our larger expenses are entertainment, security, advertising (which includes promotion of Nakusp & area), site rental and the rental of tents, tables, chairs, fencing, stages, porta-potties. Due to the economic downturn in the last couple of years, we have failed to break even in 2009 and 2010, despite reducing our costs accordingly. In addition, in July we will lose the rental income from the Ambulance, which is a part of the office building we purchased a few years ago. This year will be a significant year as to whether we will be able to continue with the festival in 2012 and beyond.

We believe the festival is a huge economic boost to our area. In a recent casual survey of Nakusp downtown merchants, we were told that most merchants experienced an increase in sales of up to 200% over other summer weekends. Some said the impact of the Music Fest was “huge” and “made their summer.” Many have found that tourists are staying longer periods of time (ie: 7-10 days) and return to Nakusp after discovering the area from attending the festival. Some tourists may visit from hearing about the area from friends attending the festival. The majority of merchants stated that, since the Mud Bogs no longer happen, slo-pitch isn’t as large as it used to be, the loss of Music Fest would have a serious negative impact on their business.

Throughout the years, we have donated $10,000 to Chamber of Commerce to keep the info centre open; sponsored $1000 towards the upgrade of the PA system in the auditorium; purchased lawn sweeper & top dresser ($27,000) to be used jointly between the Village and School for field maintenance. In addition, we provide 2 annual school bursaries of $1,000 each and donate over $10,000 to local non-profits by way of Music Fest Tickets/ Merchandise for their fundraising activities. Our advertising budget (BC & Alberta) is in excess of $70,000 and focuses not only on the festival, but promotes Nakusp and area attractions. We feel the Village of Nakusp and surrounding areas benefit from Music Fest – not only during the festival weekend, but throughout the year.

This year, we are applying for the CBT Community Initiatives Fund. The majority of the funds will be used to purchase commercial tents for the festival, which will reduce our real costs. These tents would also be available for rent to the public, with discounted rates for non-profit societies. NRMS also advised that, since the Mud Bogs are gone, there may be preventative measures such as 107.1 FM The Arrow. A smaller portion of the funds would allow the radio to move to the former Ambulance building as the radio currently has no real home. The funds would cover the cost of an engineer to move and upgrade the transmission tower (which would provide for a greater broadcasting range), a small reno, and furnishings. The move would provide space to produce more local programming, documenting and talk shows concerning local issues and, in general, the opportunity for greater local participation in the programming.

We would like to thank everyone for your continued support throughout the years. Please vote for the festival in the upcoming Community Initiatives Vote.
Greenhouse feasibility study inspires local farm expansion

by Jan McMurray

Inspired by the Healthy Housing Society’s ‘Building a Healthy Economy in the North Slocan Valley’ forums and the findings of the North Slocan Community Greenhouse Feasibility Study, Lone Mule Farms in New Denver, operated by Mick Wilson and Ruth Tichener, is expanding.

Wilson has been farming on the Graupe property in Denver Siding for nine years, and has been growing potatoes on the Harris farm land for two years. He has decided to add a year-round greenhouse to his operations at the Graupe property, and to experiment with growing vegetables other than potatoes on the Harris farm. He is currently building a fence around one acre on the Harris property.

The greenhouse will not go into production until spring 2012. This season, he plans to build the greenhouse and apply to market research to determine what vegetables to grow. He has decided not to grow bedding plants, as he feels this market is already adequately covered.

Wilson was a volunteer member of the team that developed the North Slocan Community Greenhouse Feasibility Study, now available to the public at www.slocanlake.com and in hard copy at the Valley Voice newspaper office in New Denver.

“My involvement on that team definitely helped with my decision to add a greenhouse to my operations,” said Wilson.

Grassroots Grammas take root to assist African AIDS kids

submitted by Lois Lawrence

In sub-Saharan Africa, grandchildren are struggling to raise their orphaned grandchildren because so many of their own children’s generation have died of HIV/AIDS. Grassroots Grammas have taken root in the Slocan Valley to help these African grandmothers. On Wednesday, April 20 at 7 pm, everyone is invited to join the Grassroots Grammas at the Passmore Lodge for their first community event.

By registering with the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF), this local group now joins 240 groups of Canadian grandmothers helping the thousands of grandparents in 15 African countries with much needed community-level support, such as food, housing grants, school fees for their grandchildren and grief counselling.

Come out to meet the members in a social atmosphere. The highlight of the evening will be a slide show presentation by Cynthia Quinn-Young, a founding member of Nelson Grans to Grans, about her trip to South Africa in May of 2010. Cynthia was one of 42 delegates, representing the Canadian Grandmothers Campaign and the SLF, to witness the first-ever gathering of 1,500 African ‘Grannys’ and Grandmothers from African Grandmothers’ whose lives are affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The evening event also features refreshments, displays, and a new first sale items. Grassroots Grammas are proud to unveil the beautiful artwork generously donated to the group by Ann Swanson Gross.

There are plans to make various fabric sale items, clothing, and art for the purposes of operating a commercial vegetable, fruit, and bedding plant production facility specializing in extended season growing. The analysis assumes using approximately one-quarter acre of land in or around the villages of New Denver and Silverton.

According to the feasibility analysis, the projected capital costs total approximately $75,000. Large capital expenses include the two greenhouses; potting and equipment shed; market stand; wood furnace; ventilation system; lighting; electrical services; and irrigation equipment costs. The annual operating cost is expected to be around $45,500 which includes a salary for a greenhouse manager, utilities, transportation, and the lease of land.

The analysis affirms a community greenhouse would be a viable investment, especially if the initial infrastructure costs of $75,000 are paid off within the first three years with a substantial source of funding. In terms of financial feasibility, partial funding of 50 percent at $37,500 will reduce the overall payback time of 16 years to 8 years. Full funding of the infrastructure costs will eliminate this debt, and allow the community greenhouse to begin to utilize its reinvestment potential of an estimated $4,700 per year.

Read the study at www.slocanlake.com or the Valley Voice office.
Cup and Saucer hosts Big Bubba Cook and Ben Sures
by Art Joyce

To quote Monty Python, “and now for something completely different…” Musician and spoken word artist Troy ‘Big Bubba’ Cook and songwriter-guitarist Ben Sures will be featured at the Cup and Saucer in Silverton, April 13. Door opens at 7:30, show 8 pm. Admission is $10.

Big Bubba Cook is a fifth-generation Rocky Mountain coal miner who grew up in a household permeated by the sounds of Elvis and Charley Pride. He decided early to become a musician and established The Green Wynos as vocalist, guitarist and songwriter, crafting a sound that was quasi-Celtic, “sort of punk and always a bit quirky.”

Cook struck out as a solo artist in 1996, while simultaneously helping establish and coordinate The Gathering, a multi-cultural and wilderness festival. His debut effort, Evil Monkey Ice Cream Track, was a diverse collection of songs and spoken word – a unique blend of electronica and ‘hillbilly jazz.’ This was followed by The Vampire Tree, a concept album about a troupe of vampire circus performers travelling through the Kootenays. The Devil’s Rodeo Clown Son follows in the conceptual vein, working in gritty characters in the familiar yet alien landscape of the desert. A sequel picked up this theme for The Mosquito Rider, telling the story of the Devil’s second rodeo clown son. Big Bubba has performed his music and spoken word on CBC Radio Daybreak and North by Northwest programs. He has shared the stage with The Rhestistics, Stephen Fearing, Ken Hamm and many others. Bringing the audience back to Earth will be singer-songwriter Ben Sures, known for his work on the CBC Radio program The Irrelevant Show, as well as interviews on Vinyl Cafe, Morningside, Madly Off in All Directions and other shows. Sures is the winner of the 2005 John Lennon songwriting contest and the International songwriting contest. He says he “was raised at the Winnipeg Folk Festival, the West End Cultural Centre,”

Wednesday, April 20
Silverton Gallery
6:30 pm

Featuring Lucerne Elementary & Secondary Students, Dominique Fraisard, Sheri-D Wilson, Andrea Spalding & Murray Kimber

Admission by donation

COMMUNITY

Bosun Hall to be prettied up by May Days
by Jan McMurray

New Denver’s May Days celebration will be extra special this year with a beautiful new front façade on Bosun Hall. The Lucerne Association for Community Education (LACE) has hired Don Tilden of Barton Woodworks to manage the project, with Willy Malloy, Hugh Hopkins and Lloyd Coates on the team. The stucco has been removed from the façade, revealing the original cedar boards. These will be covered with cream-coloured HardiPlank siding, which looks like wood although it is made of both wood and cement, and is easy to maintain. Currently, there is one single door and one double door at the front. When the project is complete, there will be brand new double doors only. The double doors will be made of fiberglass, but will look like wood. This entranceway will be protected by a decorative balcony above the doors, jutting out eight feet to create a covered walkway into the building. The balcony will not be used as a balcony – its purpose is to create an esthetically pleasing and weather-protected entranceway.

The two large windows on the façade will be replaced with windows that can be opened, improving air flow in the building. With the front and back doors and windows open, Tilden says the effect will be like air conditioning.

A new double door will be installed on the wall between the stage and the kitchen. Trim on the windows and doors will be in grey-blue and cranberry.

Although work must stop when Bosun Hall becomes the area’s advanced polling station April 23-26 and polling station May 2 for the federal election, Tilden is hoping to have the job finished by the May long weekend.

The project is funded by Columbia Basin Trust, Donation Store, Recreation Commission #6, Kootenay Store, Recreation Commission #6, Columbia Basin Trust, Donation Store, Recreation Commission #6, May Days Committee, Kootenay Savings Community Foundation, Area H, Village of New Denver and Columbia Power Corporation.

By Jan McMurray

New Denver’s May Days celebration will be extra special this year with a beautiful new front façade on Bosun Hall. The Lucerne Association for Community Education (LACE) has hired Don Tilden of Barton Woodworks to manage the project, with Willy Malloy, Hugh Hopkins and Lloyd Coates on the team. The stucco has been removed from the façade, revealing the original cedar boards. These will be covered with cream-coloured HardiPlank siding, which looks like wood although it is made of both wood and cement, and is easy to maintain. Currently, there is one single door and one double door at the front. When the project is complete, there will be brand new double doors only. The double doors will be made of fiberglass, but will look like wood. This entranceway will be protected by a decorative balcony above the doors, jutting out eight feet to create a covered walkway into the building. The balcony will not be used as a balcony – its purpose is to create an esthetically pleasing and weather-protected entranceway.

The two large windows on the façade will be replaced with windows that can be opened, improving air flow in the building. With the front and back doors and windows open, Tilden says the effect will be like air conditioning.

A new double door will be installed on the wall between the stage and the kitchen. Trim on the windows and doors will be in grey-blue and cranberry.

Although work must stop when Bosun Hall becomes the area’s advanced polling station April 23-26 and polling station May 2 for the federal election, Tilden is hoping to have the job finished by the May long weekend.

The project is funded by Columbia Basin Trust, Donation Store, Recreation Commission #6, May Days Committee, Kootenay Savings Community Foundation, Area H, Village of New Denver and Columbia Power Corporation.
April 6, 2011  The Valley Voice

COMMUNITY

by Art Joyce

If your idea of a great evening out is an intimate setting with the smooth vocal stylings of a rising young jazz singer, then mark your calendar for April 7. That’s when Jaclyn Guillou will return with her jazz quintet on the launch tour for her debut album *To the City*. Showtime is 7:30 pm.

Guillou’s band has an international flavour, with New York vibraphonist Tom Beckham, Portland pianist Randy Porter, Vancouver bassist Michael Rush and Toronto/Vancouver drummer Joe Poole. BC born and raised Guillou (pronounced Ghee-you), is based in Vancouver.

*To the City* is comparable with crossover artists and female jazz singer-songwriters such as Melody Gardot and Madeleine Peyroux. Besides her own songs, Guillou is known for her original arrangements of classic jazz numbers by Peggy Lee, Sarah Vaughan and Nancy King. Her influences range from the queen of the blues Dinah Washington, passionate Diane Reeves, folk singer-songwriter Martin Sexton and Brazilian legend Elis Regina. Guillou strives to merge the sound of deep jazz roots and hip modern sounds to appeal to music lovers of all sorts.

Diana Krall, move over. Guillou is the recipient of a CBC Galaxie Rising Star Award from the 2009 Vancouver International Jazz Festival, and was chosen as one of top Canadian musicians, drummer Joe Poole has a style deeply rooted in jazz tradition, with the ability to experiment freely in modern grooves. Double bassist Michael Rush brings his virtuoso abilities to bear as composer/arranger and a musician versatile in jazz, blues, salsa, rock and folk.

Tickets are $15 at the door. For more information visit www.jaclynguillou.com.

As a Steinway artist, Randy Porter draws from a rich palette of sonorities found within his imagination and the depths of the piano. Vibraphonist Tom Beckham’s approach is “reminiscent of older band leaders like Paul Motian and Chico Hamilton, but Beckham’s work has a sound all its own – which is what jazz is really about,” writes rhapsody.com. A protégé of Oscar Peterson and many other...
Slocan Valley Easter bunny hop at Passmore Lodge invites kids of all ages

There will be a variety of Easter bunnies leading in games, Easter crafts, a bunny snack and of course, the Easter Egg hunt. The Mt. Sentinel students will be running all the activities during the afternoon with the help of a senior or two. Kids of all ages are welcome to come join in the fun, so parents bring the young ones and grandparents grab the grandkids, because we want you all there.

Submission for the event is $5 per child with proceeds going to the Grade 12 class from Mt. Sentinel School will be hosting the eighth annual Easter Bunny Hop at the Passmore Lodge on Sunday, April 17 starting at 1:30 pm.

Community

Peacock Collective offers eclectic array of services

by Jan McMurray

If you’re looking for an enthusiastic, energetic, multi-talented, multi-skilled, hard-working, reliable person to help with just about anything you could think of, Sondra Krajewski of Peacock Collective in Nakusp is the one to call.

Sondra does eco-friendly housekeeping, yard and garden maintenance, de-cluttering, general labour, carpentry, creative projects, home check-ins, personalized shopping and so much more. She can do all sorts of things, from cleaning to knitting. She is a hard-working, reliable & fully insured handywoman, skilled in many different aspects of home improvement and handyman work.

Sondra has many years of experience providing a wide range of services, from housekeeping to handyman work. She can help with a variety of projects, whether you need someone to clean your house, repair a window, or knit a scarf.

She has a passion for helping people with their home improvement needs and is always looking for new opportunities to use her skills. She is a hard-working, reliable & fully insured handywoman, skilled in many different aspects of home improvement and handyman work.

Sondra offers an array of services, including:

- Eco-friendly housekeeping
- Yard and garden maintenance
- General labour
- Carpentry
- Creative projects
- Home check-ins
- Personalized shopping

Sondra has been in business for many years and has developed a strong reputation for her hard work and reliability. She is always looking for new opportunities to use her skills and is always ready to help.

Sondra Krajewski of Peacock Collective has a wide range of skills.

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Come to the knitting and gnome-making workshop!
Date: May 1
Time: 10:00 am at Lucerne School in the Nursery School
Cost: $10 covers materials
Call to register: 250-358-7766 or 250-353-1214

Contact Information

Sondra Krajewski

250-265-3424

www.peacockcollective.ca

Let’s get creative!

Would you like to learn how to knit?
Come to the knitting and gnome-making workshop!
Date: May 1
Time: 10:00 am at Lucerne School in the Nursery School
Cost: $10 covers materials
Call to register: 250-358-7766 or 250-353-1214

Welcome to the Village of Silverton

NOTICE

The Village of Silverton is seeking applications for the permanent part-time position of Chief Administrative Officer. This position is estimated to be approximately 24 hours per week.

Reporting to Mayor and Council, the CAO is the senior appointed official and holds the statutory position of Corporate Officer. The CAO is responsible for the general management of all municipal operations and staff, and will work closely with the Chief Financial Officer. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record in providing solid information and advice to elected officials, staff and stakeholders, and will be required to rely heavily on their public relations and communications skills. A thorough knowledge of the Community and Local Government Act is essential. Strong computer skills are essential.

Duties will include preparing grant applications and project administration; attending meetings, recording minutes and doing follow-up for all meetings of Council and Council committees; providing long-range strategic planning guidance to Council; ensuring that municipal goals and values are maintained while stimulating the identification of innovative strategies to meet the needs of citizens and community partners.

The preferred candidate will have a diploma in Local Government Administration, or equivalent, and have at least 5 years’ experience in a Senior Management capacity. Salary and benefits will be commensurate with experience. Please indicate salary expectations with your submission. Closing date April 15th, 2011.

Interested candidates are invited to submit a letter of application and resume with references to:

CAO Selection Committee

The Village of Silverton

Box 34 - 421 Lake Avenue

Silverton, BC V0G 2B0

Phone 250-358-2472

Fax 250-358-2321

Email: cao@silverton.ca
Kootenay-Columbia candidates appeal for your votes

Betty Aitchison
Liberal

Betty Aitchison grew up in Trail/Rossland and has lived in Kimberley for many years — this is where she and her husband raised their family. Her background is in community work, particularly with developmentally delayed people. “I am interested in community development and have tried to serve my community as best I can,” she said.

Aitchison was the Kootenay-Columbia Liberal candidate in the 2008 federal election as well. She has followed local politics, even before she can remember, and has been a Liberal since high school. She has been involved with the Liberal Party’s constituency office in Kimberley for many years.

Education, starting with a well thought out and well funded national daycare program, is a key election issue for Aitchison, as is sustainable funding for Women’s Centres. She also wants to see programs for soldiers suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. “These programs should be in place before making the decision to take on such a responsible action on behalf of a country and their citizens,” she said.

William Green
Green

William Green was born in London, Ontario, spent his youth in Hamilton. He holds a Bachelor of Science in biology and geography from Carleton University.

In 1994, he moved with Helen and their four children to the East Kootenays to become the founding director of the Canadian Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission. This organization is focused on aquatic ecosystem and biodiversity conservation, and the long-term goal of restoring anadromous salmon throughout their former range in the Columbia River system.

Before moving to the Kootenays, he was a contractor with Vancouver Island based consulting company focused on community development and resource management. He has also held the position of Fisheries Program Manager with the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Green and his wife Helen spent four years in Papua New Guinea with CUSO (Canadian University Service Overseas), teaching and working with the federal Office of Environment and Conservation on guidelines for community-based environmental assessment.

A member of the Green Party and a supporter of the Green vision for a ‘smart’ economy, strong communities and true democracy for many years, Green is keen to discuss the Party’s comprehensive policies on the economy, health care, international relations, climate change, the environment, education, communities “and everything that people in this riding care about.”

Greens said: “We face a particular challenge in this riding in creating economic, educational and other conditions that will allow young people to support themselves in our communities. Many would like to live here can’t due to economic, educational or other reasons. We need to work together to find solutions.”

Brent Bush
Independent

Brent Bush was raised in Nelson and Kelowna, and graduated from Simon Fraser University with a BA in Political Science in 1987. He served in the Canadian Armed Forces 1989-1990.

Since 1992, he has been a letter carrier with Canada Post, and is a Health and Safety representative for the Canadian Union of Postal Workers.

Bush has been chair of the Kimberley Affordable Housing Committee since 2007 and volunteer for Kimberley Community Boxing Day Dinners. In the past, he was involved with the Search and Rescue society and the food bank in Kimberley.

He has been married to his wife, Grete, for 21 years. His hobbies include motorcycling, camping, fly fishing and martial arts.

Bill Green
Bill Green

Bill Green works at the Tembec mill in Canal Flats. He also owns a small business providing dust control services.

In 1993, at the age of 23, Smigelsky was elected to the District of Invermere council. He served two terms and then was elected Mayor of Invermere at the age of 29 in 1999. All nine years he was mayor, he also sat on the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) and the East Kootenay Regional Hospital District board. He is currently a director for the Invermere Housing Corporation.

Smigelsky has been a vocal supporter of a national childcare program. Having experienced long-term layoff after the closure of the Radium mill, Smigelsky understands the challenges that forest workers face, the inadequacy of our Employment Insurance system, and the need for better supports for retaining workers in struggling resource industries. Smigelsky has also been ahead of the curve on environmental issues. As mayor, he supported the Idle-free communities program, a cosmetic pesticide ban, and the development and protection of local greenways.

Smigelsky is 40 years old and is married with two young children.

David Wilks
Conservative

David Wilks lives in Sparwood, where he has been mayor since 2005. He and his wife have owned and operated Sparwood Bowl and Billiards Inc. since 1999.

Born in Lethbridge, Alberta, Wilks is a retired RCMP officer. He served from 1980 to 2000 and was posted in Terrace, New Aiyansh, Golden, Penticton and Sparwood.

Wilks has been a board member of the Regional District of East Kootenay since 2005, and chaired the board from January to June 2010. He also sits on the board of the Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust Fund. From 2004 to 2006, he was board member of the Kootenay Columbia Conservative Party.

Important issues for Wilks include a strong economy — ensuring jobs are available for Canadians into the future; low taxes and fiscal responsibility; tough on crime legislation; a well-supported and well-funded military; and accessible health care.

Wilks has been married since 1982 and has three children. His son is currently serving in Afghanistan.
Alex Atamanenko
NDP

Alex Atamanenko has been the MP for BC Southern Interior since 2006. He is currently the Agriculture, Agri-Food and Rural Affairs Critic, and was past critic responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. He lives in Castlegar with his wife, Ann.

Atamanenko was educated at UBC and University of Toronto, with a BA in Physical Education, a teaching diploma, and an MA in Russian. He is a former teacher and instructor of Russian, French and English at a number of schools across Canada and the United States. He also served as an advisor in the world.

Atamanenko is a former teacher and instructor of local, small and local procurement. He wants better support for rural small businesses to help provide local jobs and employment options for our youth. He also wants faster access to Employment Insurance.

Protection of public sector jobs, specifically to reverse recent cutbacks to Canada Post employees, is on his agenda.

To address the environment and climate change, Atamanenko believes in funding expanded public transportation and fire infrastructure programs. By cutting subsidies to big oil, funding could be made available for energy saving retrofit programs and development of alternative energy sources.

Working towards food security, Atamanenko wants to see support for local agricultural initiatives, training and infrastructure (e.g. storage). He feels the federally imposed meat regulations must change to support safe and local meat production. Also, he feels strongly that the introduction of genetically modified foods and seeds into our food systems must stop.

Atamanenko believes in funding affordable housing alternatives, especially for families and seniors. He also would like to ensure that families have access to affordable, publicly funded childcare.

His final two issues include working to change regulations so that municipalities have a say in decisions around cell tower locations, and working for proportional representation, so government better reflects the vote.

Stephen Hill
Conservative

Stephen Hill was born and educated in Ontario. He holds a degree in political science, and an honours degree in business administration from the University of Western Ontario. Hill has been the owner-manager of Septen Financial Ltd. and Septen Marketing since 1998. The small business operates out of Trail and Grand Forks, and employs 12 people in the riding.

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Bryan Paul Hunt
Green

Currently living in Calgary, Bryan Hunt grew up in the Southern Interior. He says that growing up here inspired him in a lifetime of wonder and awe for the natural environment and a commitment to protecting it.

Hunt owns a software development consulting firm in Calgary, producing CDs, children’s books and screenplays. He spends his free time hiking, camping, teaching wilderness awareness, and learning about nature and protecting it.

The most important issue in this riding is jobs, he says, “BC Southern Interior has the highest unemployment rate in the province. We need to fix that. I am confident that I can help correct this issue swiftly and in a manner that will uphold the beautiful environment that surrounds us here. An example of this would be mandating corporations to utilize a certain percentage of telecommute jobs. That way these jobs are open to people in the riding where normally they would only be available to those people living in larger centres like Vancouver or Toronto.”

Hunt is married with four children.

Shan Lavell
Liberal

Shan Lavell is a Registered Nurse with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Masters in Counselling Psychology from the University of Victoria.

She grew up in the Okanagan Valley and currently lives in Kelowna.

Lavell was asked to be the Liberal candidate in the BC Southern Interior riding after she tried unsuccessfully for the candidacy in the Kelowna-Lake Country riding and then in the Okanagan-Coquihalla riding.

Lavell says she is best known for her collaborative work with multidisciplinary teams on complex issues that often involve crisis and conflict, such as the needs of cancer patients and families from all over the BC Southern Interior, and providing support for rural youth and families.

Her particular areas of interest in national policy include Aboriginal relations, the economic case for affordable housing, a national early childhood development and child care strategy, and the ways we can create the conditions for growth in agriculture in Canada and the BC Southern Interior riding communities.

“I am committed to the federal Liberal Party of Canada’s responsible, compassionate and progressive government that cares for our families, invests in our economic future, and demonstrates fiscal responsibility,” she said.

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FEDERAL ELECTION

British Columbia Southern Interior candidates speak out
Tom Wayman launches Woodstock-era novel at Selkirk College

by Art Joyce

As the classic Buffalo Springfield song goes, “there’s something happening here / and it’s not exactly clear.” For local author and poet Tom Wayman, his latest book, the novel Woodstock Rising, is partly an attempt to glean the lessons of a storied era. Wayman, an Appledale resident, read from the novel at the Selkirk College Library in Castlegar March 25, introduced to creative writing students by instructor Altdorfer Miller.

“Woodstock Rising is an interesting reflection of the man that Tom is, and the urgency of the time they were living in,” said Miller. “His book is an important reflection of a generation. We get thinking we can’t change the world, but he always reminds me we can make a difference.”

Wayman began by saying that until recently on his book tour, the audiences had been composed of a sea of grey hair. It’s a sight that reminded him how many people from that era continue to carry the light of its progressive values in their eyes even as they age. But he clearly relished the opportunity to speak to the upcoming generation, given that his novel draws heavily on his own experiences as a student at the University of California Irvine in the late 1960s.

“We’ve seen how young people like yourselves have sparked major political change in countries like Libya and Tunisia,” said Wayman. “My goal was to write a book that talked about how all the changes we’ve come to think of associated with the 60s was also part of a simultaneous movement.”

The novel is set in the fall of 1969, beginning just a month or so after the famous Woodstock music and arts festival. Wayman’s campus had a chapter of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) who – among other causes – were pressuring the US government to get out of Vietnam. Historical events are accurately woven into the fictional aspects of the narrative. The passages Wayman read of a protest at Century City in California have the crisp clarity of actual events vividly recalled.

Reminding us that the fickle nature of the global media has changed little in the years since, he pointed out how the movement’s students from the SDS decide they need a means of refocusing the world’s attention on the values and agendas of the movement. China had recently launched a satellite that circumnavigated the globe broadcasting Communist Party songs and quotations of Chairman Mao. This inspires the students to commandeer a Minuteman missile from a mothballed silo, remove its nuclear warhead and use it to broadcast songs from the Woodstock festival.

When asked if he’d written the novel to redress the current tendency toward historical revisionism regarding the ‘60s, Wayman’s answer was yes and no. He said it was important to him to create a portrait of how democracy actually works in movements dedicated to change. By late 1969, he said, the movement was already beginning to fracture, due in part to frustration that protests weren’t achieving the changes students had hoped for. Internal pressures in the SDS led to dedicated Maoists insisting on strict adherence to the Communist leader’s ideology, causing the movement to splinter. Other SDS members had begun to feel that violence was the only way to change American policy and split off to become the Weathermen. For Wayman the significance of the Woodstock festival was in its music than its socio-political implications.

“I wanted the novel to show too that it’s a tiny minority that’s making changes; that minority has a huge impact on society. But if you held those views you were considered an outcast, an outsider. Woodstock was the first time so many people shared the same views were all in the same place; they began to see the potential for change.”

Wayman explained that the extreme repression of the McCarthy era had left a deep impression – he only learned of the social and unionist activism of the 1930s late in the ‘60s. Even Wayman’s parents, who had been activists, had purged their home library of political books. The political status quo seldom wishes for change. So it’s no surprise that mainstream media today tend to disparage the Woodstock era.

“It was a minority, I can’t stress that enough. That’s why I always laugh when people say, ‘Oh, the boomers sold out.’ Most of my friends that had alternative views then have them now.” Addressing the students, he added, “You’re aware now because of when you were born that the form of self-government we have now doesn’t work very well at all.”

This is not the only way of organizing a self-governing society, so what other possible ways are there? That was some of the stuff young people were grappling with back then just as they are now in Egypt and Tunisia.”

For more information visit www.dundam.com/authors/tom-wayman.

Managing your money with the VanderBoom Team

Sustainability – is your pension enough for all your years?

We hear a lot about sustainability these days. Sustainability is said to consist of three pillars: ecological, social and economic. If you’re nearing or already enjoying retirement, the economic aspect of sustainability is very important to you. As in, will your retirement income be sufficient to sustain you for 10 years, 20 years or even start your own business, decide to continue working full-time, or even start your own business, design, costs could escalate. If you travel is part of your retirement costs, the costs could be lower. If regular retirement, the economic aspect of your retirement will dictate its sustainability.

1) Make a date. Decide when you want to retire. If you chose to retire in 2021 it means you’ll have fewer years to save for retirement and more to finance. If you choose to retire after 65, you can opt to enjoy that extra year or two. Before making the decision, take a look at the advantages of your RRSP until the end of the year in which you turn 71 – and you can even extend those benefits after 71 by continuing to pay into an RRSP if your spouse is younger than 71.

2) Design a lifestyle. The shape of your retirement will dictate its cost. If you intend to be a homebody, the costs could be lower. If regular travel is part of your retirement design, costs could escalate. If you decide to continue working full-time, part-time on or on a contract basis, or even start your own business, even a modest amount of additional employment income can make a difference. Retirement does not mean you stop working, it means that you can do what you want.

3) Add up your income from all sources. Your retirement income may come from personal savings, company pensions, RRSPs, TFSAs and/or non-registered investments, as well as government programs including Canada Pension Plan (CPP), Old Age Security (OAS) or Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

4) Add up all the costs. Estimate your retirement spending requirements in three categories: essential expenses that you can control, and the additional costs, such as healthcare, that typically come along with aging. Calculate the income you’ll need to cover your essential and discretionary retirement costs as well as the additional income (or income protection strategies) you’ll need to cover the ‘extra’ expenses of aging.

5) Find the gap. Calculate the shortfall between your expenses and your income to your personal retirement savings.

6) Bridge the gap. Establish the level and frequency of income you will need via withdrawals from your registered and other income-producing investments, keeping in mind that your retirement could span 40 years or more.

7) Reset your strategy. If your expected withdrawal rate is not sustainable based on projected returns from your current savings and investment portfolio, get your income from either reset your registered and non-registered portfolio with the aim of improving returns or reset the scope of your retirement spending.

Talk to your professional advisor about these and other sustainability strategies that will keep your retirement income coming for all your retirement years.

This column, written and published by Investors Group Financial Services – Investment Products Consumer, presents general information only, and is not a solicitation to buy or sell any investments. Contact a financial advisor for specific advice about your circumstances.

For more information on this topic please contact your Investors Group Consultant.
Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival in its 20th year

Named one of the “10 great places to get in tune, to get outdoors!” by USA Today in 2007, this intimate, world-class, friendly festival has been held to host big names and newly discovered gems of the entertainment world since 1991.

Every year since 1991, Kaslo Jazz Etc. has been host to big names and newly discovered gems of the entertainment world since 1991.

Friday July 29 features Dan Mangan, followed by Delhi 2 Dublin – a great night for only $35. Saturday, July 30 and Sunday, July 31 will be headlined by Pepe Romero, a Spanish classical guitarist, for a musical experience like none – a natural amphitheatre set against the magnificent Kootenay Lake. Great music and an intimate beautiful setting is the Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival’s trademark.

For more information contact www.century21kaslo.com or sjdks@kaslo.org.

Kaslo Concert Society presents classical guitarist McGrath

sensitive music lover with his love of Spanish literature in a unique performance of Castelnuovo-Teodoro’s Platero y yo in which he lovingly relates the story of the little brown goat.

According to Soundboard Magazine “...she took the expressive qualities of this piece to a new level with her masterful storytelling.” Other popular works for guitar are also included in the program.

Tickets are available at Figments in Kaslo or the door for $22. School-age children admitted free when accompanied by an adult patron.

For more information contact 535-5306 or sjdks@kaslo.org.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE INVITE FRIENDS to join our family in sharing the memories of our father, Frank Pfo, at the Royal Canadian Legion in Nelson, BC on May 7 at 1:30 pm. Thank you to the ladies of the Legion who will serve a lunch.

REAL, FRESH, HOME-MADE. Hot Cross Buns available at Sophie’s Bakery starting April 19. Sophie’s makes them from scratch – not a mix, not frozen, not par-baked. Order yours now! $4.50 per half dozen, $6 for six. 365-219.


GARDEN SeEDS: 1000 seeds of a variety of vegetables, flowers, and herbs. $1/bag. 358-2119.

SLOCAN VALLEY GRASSROOTS GRAMMAS present their first event to support African grandmothers through the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Wednesday, April 20, 7 pm. Passmore Lodge. See a presentation on the African grandmothers, enjoy refreshments and meet the group. By donation. For info call 250-226-7512.

KAOKAWE & WINGS Slocan Legion Hall, Slocan. April 30, 8 pm. Door: by donation. No motors please.

SLOCAN LEGION CENTRE’S Open Stage is back Thursday, April 7 at 7:30 pm and continues on the first Thursday of the month. Hosted by Tom Smith and friends and free by donation. The Whole Open Stage is for all ages and types of performers, and is intended to give performers the opportunity to practice their art, dance, music, presentation or performance in front of a live audience. The stage is acoustic, but power is available for performers who wish to bring their own equipment. There is a piano. For more information contact Tom at 250-226-7769 or email The Whole info@VallicanWhole.com. “Where all the children play, is a small space, behind the curtain. The mind is pure!”

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PERFORMED BY MICHAEL GRAHAM. $15. THEN APRIL 7 AT 7:30 PM, $15. ON SATURDAY, FOR MORE INFO. OUT www.bigbubbacook.com AND www.

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SOCIAL DANCE CLASSES BEGIN IN APRIL ON NEW DENVER AND NELSON, LATIN, BALLOON & SWING. BEGINNER AND INTERMEDIATE LEVELS. SIMPLY WELCOME. PRIVATE LESSONS & WEDDING PACKAGES ALSO AVAILABLE. CALL OR EMAIL FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. REFERENCES. 358-2283.

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SARAH AND MARK JEFFREYS are looking for a furnished home to rent this summer, ideally for three-plus months, from mid-May until mid-late August, but at least for six to eight weeks in the June-Aug timeframe. We have an infant daughter, no pets. We hope to rent a house that is especially quiet and private in the Silverton-New Denver area, anywhere from Red Mountain Rd. up to Hils. We don’t have particular size or name.

NOTICE! SLOCAN LAKE REcreation COMMISSION #6 will be holding its Spring Grant-in-Aid session on Wednesday, April 20, 2011. Any non-profit organization wanting to apply for a grant-in-aid should submit the proper application to Box 293, New Denver, B.C. V0G 1AD. Application forms are available from the Village of Silverton, the Village of Silverton and Larchano school. Please note that the appropriate form must be used or the application will not be considered. The deadline for the proper application to be submitted is Friday, April 15, 2011. Any application received after that date will not be accepted.

NOTICE! BINGO IS CANCELLED on Friday, April 8, 2011 due to renovations happening at the Bous Hall. See you next month.

NELSON AND AREA Elder Abuse Prevention Resource Centre - Open Wednesdays from 12 to 2 pm at 719 Vernon Street. Phone 250-352-6008 or visit elderabuseprevention.org.

SLOCAN LAKE REcreation COMMISSION #6 NOTICE! RECREATION COMMISSION #6 NOTICE! Spring Grant-in-Aid

Application deadline Friday, April 29, 2011 due to renovations happening at the Bous Hall. See you next month. The deadline for the application to be submitted is Friday, April 15, 2011. Any application received after that date will not be accepted.

NOTICE! THE VALLEY VOICE OF MAY 19, 2011 DUE TO RENOVATIONS: THE VALLEY VOICE WILL BE HOLDING ITS SPRING GRANT-IN-AID SESSION ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2011. ANY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WANTING TO APPLY FOR A GRANT-IN-AID SHOULD SUBMIT THE PROPER APPLICATION TO BOX 293, NEW DENVER, B.C. V0G 1AD. APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE VILLAGE OF SILVERTON, THE VILLAGE OF SILVERTON AND LARCHANO SCHOOL. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE APPROPRIATE FORM MUST BE USED OR THE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. THE DEADLINE FOR THE PROPER APPLICATION TO BE SUBMITTED IS FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2011. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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In Loving Memory of Frances Desrochers

Frances Anna Urban was born on December 26, 1936, the third child of Joseph and Anna Urban. She passed away peacefully on March 14, 2011, surrounded by her loving family. Frances is survived by her husband of 52 years, Fred Desrochers, six children; David(Leslie), John(Judy), Leslie(Cameron), Denise(John), Pierre(Bobbie) and Sue(Dan), and 14 grandchildren. She is also survived by 4 siblings; Agnes, Jules, David and Claire. Frances spent many joyful hours volunteering her time to many community organizations. Some that were special to her were the Arrow Lakes Hospital Auxiliary, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish, and Halcyon Home Society. They will miss her smile, energy and enthusiasm. She had many hobbies throughout her years - curling, fishing, golfing, quilting, gardening and reading. However, nothing made her happier than spending a day on the side of a mountain with Fred, hunting for mushrooms. Those were her best days! Frances loved to be social and have fun. On any given day you could find her sitting at her kitchen table playing cards and laughing with her friends, baking up a storm for an altar society, gathering or telling anyone next to her about her grandchildren, and how proud she was of them. It will be easy to remember her, the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of almond roca at Christmas, walking past the smell of a homemade pie, the taste of
Little Shop of Horrors production a community effort

by Art Joyce

It takes a village – to raise a child, to support a family – and in the case of New Denver, to produce a musical with the emphasis on fun. The perennial favourite Little Shop of Horrors will be performed by a community cast at Lucerne school Thursday and Friday April 14 and 15.

Doors open at 7 pm, show at 7:30 pm.

For those not familiar with the play, the story revolves around a skid row flower shop in New York owned by cranky Mr. Mushnik. Things aren’t going too well until a strange plant obtained by shop worker Seymour Krelborn undergoes a strange metamorphosis after a solar eclipse. Seymour, whose prospects in life are dim, names the plant Audrey II after a girl of the same name he secretly adores. However, it soon becomes apparent that the plant requires human blood to thrive. Seymour feeds it with his own blood and it grows larger and larger, transforming him from zero to hero in short order. But there’s a dark side to his newfound fame.

Since the original film by Roger Corman in 1960 and the off-Broadway play it inspired, Little Shop of Horrors has been a popular choice for schools and amateur theatrical productions. The play uses an updated version of the classical Greek chorus to narrate the story, using doo-wop songs instead of spoken lines.

Director Hank Hastings says the musical has many relevant themes that are instructive for students.

“It’s a spoof on many levels,” says Hastings. “It spoofs the monster movies of the ‘60s, B-movies, and the whole alien theme. There’s even a basis in it of the Faustian myth, selling your soul to the devil and the consequences of greed.”

It takes a village – to raise a child, to support a family – and in the case of New Denver, to produce a community effort Little Shop of Horrors will be performed by a community cast at Lucerne school Thursday and Friday April 14 and 15.

The script doesn’t call for any children but they showed up at the first meeting and wanted to be a part of it, so we worked them in,” says Hastings. The play’s musical director is Kevin Heshedahl, who will also be performing in the band. The four-piece band plays rock n’ roll and larger, transforming him from zero to hero in short order. But there’s a dark side to his newfound fame.

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