The Village of Slocan hosts 110th anniversary celebration, September 4

by Art Joyce

The Village of Slocan is 110 years young this year and is planning to celebrate in style on September 4. The Village was officially incorporated in 1901, although settlement began about 1896. Prior to that, prospectors had mostly passed through on their search for lucrative claims. The establishment of the railway link in 1897 helped establish permanent settlement.

To kick off the day’s festivities, Royal Canadian Legion branch 276 will host a pancake breakfast at 8 am, followed by a parade at 11 am featuring floats from throughout the valley. A special birthday float will feature the oldest and youngest Slocan residents – the youngest is nine months old and the oldest about 90.

A cake cutting will be held after the parade about noon at the tennis courts. The Slocan History Project video presentation will be shown at the Legion Hall and historical artifacts will be on display at the WE Graham Library, open from 12 noon to 5 pm. There will be music all day at the tennis courts and Bavarian gardens at the curling rink. A spaghetti dinner will be held from 5 to 7 pm at the tennis courts, weather permitting. If it rains, the dinner will be held at the Legion.

The West Kootenay girls’ roller derby team will be doing demonstrations in the WE Graham school gym and there will be skateboard demos at the skatepark. Youth and children’s programming will be held at Slocan’s Community Services adjacent to the skatepark. To wrap up the day’s festivities there will be a dance held at the tennis courts starting at 8 pm – again, weather permitting. From 10 am on there will also be vendors’ booths, including massage for those needing to loosen sore muscles.

A local committee of Slocan residents is doing the hard work of putting together the event, including Madeleine Perriere, Mabel Bone, Brian Waller, Joyce Johnson and Peggy Ingram. Johnson is a more recent resident of the community but has a strong interest in local history. She says there is a movement to create a local historical society and an archives. The Village has committed to providing space for the archives at the municipal office in a newly renovated upstairs room.

“Although we’re a committee of five, there’s way more people involved and we couldn’t have done it without their participation,” says Johnson. “Come on out and celebrate with us, come on out and have some fun.”

To volunteer or for more information, contact David Mills at the Village office at 250-355-2277 or info@villageofslocan.ca. To view the Slocan History Project online visit www.slocanhistoryproject.ca.

Village of Slocan hosts 110th anniversary Unity Music Festival, August 26

The Village of Slocan is 110 years young this year and is planning to celebrate in style on September 4. The Village was officially incorporated in 1901, although settlement began about 1896. Prior to that, prospectors had mostly passed through on their search for lucrative claims. The establishment of the railway link in 1897 helped establish permanent settlement.

To kick off the day’s festivities, Royal Canadian Legion branch 276 will host a pancake breakfast at 8 am, followed by a parade at 11 am featuring floats from throughout the valley. A special birthday float will feature the oldest and youngest Slocan residents – the youngest is nine months old and the oldest about 90.

A cake cutting will be held after the parade about noon at the tennis courts. The Slocan History Project video presentation will be shown at the Legion Hall and historical artifacts will be on display at the WE Graham Library, open from 12 noon to 5 pm. There will be music all day at the tennis courts and Bavarian gardens at the curling rink. A spaghetti dinner will be held from 5 to 7 pm at the tennis courts, weather permitting. If it rains, the dinner will be held at the Legion.

The West Kootenay girls’ roller derby team will be doing demonstrations in the WE Graham school gym and there will be skateboard demos at the skatepark. Youth and children’s programming will be held at Slocan’s Community Services adjacent to the skatepark. To wrap up the day’s festivities there will be a dance held at the tennis courts starting at 8 pm – again, weather permitting. From 10 am on there will also be vendors’ booths, including massage for those needing to loosen sore muscles.

A local committee of Slocan residents is doing the hard work of putting together the event, including Madeleine Perriere, Mabel Bone, Brian Waller, Joyce Johnson and Peggy Ingram. Johnson is a more recent resident of the community but has a strong interest in local history. She says there is a movement to create a local historical society and an archives. The Village has committed to providing space for the archives at the municipal office in a newly renovated upstairs room.

“Although we’re a committee of five, there’s way more people involved and we couldn’t have done it without their participation,” says Johnson. “Come on out and celebrate with us, come on out and have some fun.”

To volunteer or for more information, contact David Mills at the Village office at 250-355-2277 or info@villageofslocan.ca. To view the Slocan History Project online visit www.slocanhistoryproject.ca.
Locavores’ Feast heart of Vallican Whole 40th birthday celebration

Sunday is a family day, with games and activities, a kids’ concert with Bing Jenson and Jeannett Spagheti, and a great big birthday cake. The day and the event winds up with the beautiful harmonies of Toijnja (Fominitof) Sammartino and Netta Zebennof.

This event is a fundraiser for the Vallican Whole. Admission is mostly by donation. Weekend passes and dance tickets are on sale at Otter Books, Jennie’s Gardens, and online at www.VallicanWhole.com, where you can find out a whole lot more about what is going on during this fabulous weekend and recreational opportunities.

New Arrow Lakes boat ramps celebrated

The question of winter access was clarified by the provincial Comptroller of Water Rights in June 2009 – BC Hydro is only committed to providing public access to the Arrow Lakes Reservoir for the summer boating season, from May to October. “BC Hydro does not believe that we can provide safe winter access and we do not maintain winter access at any boat ramp in the province,” said Walker-Larsen. “It is important to keep in mind that with the exception of the new ramp near Burton, BC Hydro does not own or operate the Arrow Lakes ramps and the owners are free to operate their ramps in winter.”

BC Hydro will fund ongoing maintenance of the three ramps. The new ramp at Burton is owned and operated by BC Hydro. The upgraded ramps at Faquier and McDonald Creek Park continue to be owned and operated by BC Parks. Improving summer boat recreation on Arrow Lakes Reservoir was recommended by the Columbia River Water Use Plan. Boat ramp improvement projects are also planned at a number of other sites on Arrow Lakes Reservoir including the Village of Nakusp, Edgewood, and Anderson Point. In addition, BC Hydro continues work on other Columbia River Water Use Plan programs to improve Arrow Lakes Reservoir recreation, including floating woody debris management and a 10-year recreation demand study.

Suspicious blaze in Sandon stumps

The old cedar stumps behind the historic Molly Brown brood in Sandon were ablaze mid-day on August 8.

A tourist discovered the fire and notified Catherine Wright, who was working at the Prospectors’ Pick gift shop. She and Gordon Butt from the Sandon Historical Society went to the Klenkade Silver offices and enlisted the help of Jody Cliff and BA Belton. A pump and hose, stored at the Silversmith Powerhouse, were set up in the creek and they were able to get the fire out. Ministry of Forests Compliance and Enforcement Officers attended and inspected the site; their report is expected this week.

Sandon Historical Society went to the fire site and notified Catherine Wright, who was able to get the fire out. Ministry of Forests Compliance and Enforcement Officers attended and inspected the site; their report is expected this week.

This event is a fundraiser for the Vallican Whole. Admission is mostly by donation. Weekend passes and dance tickets are on sale at Otter Books, Jennie’s Gardens, and online at www.VallicanWhole.com, where you can find out a whole lot more about what is going on during this fabulous weekend and recreational opportunities.

New Arrow Lakes boat ramps celebrated

The question of winter access was clarified by the provincial Comptroller of Water Rights in June 2009 – BC Hydro is only committed to providing public access to the Arrow Lakes Reservoir for the summer boating season, from May to October. “BC Hydro does not believe that we can provide safe winter access and we do not maintain winter access at any boat ramp in the province,” said Walker-Larsen. “It is important to keep in mind that with the exception of the new ramp near Burton, BC Hydro does not own or operate the Arrow Lakes ramps and the owners are free to operate their ramps in winter.”

BC Hydro will fund ongoing maintenance of the three ramps. The new ramp at Burton is owned and operated by BC Hydro. The upgraded ramps at Faquier and McDonald Creek Park continue to be owned and operated by BC Parks. Improving summer boat recreation on Arrow Lakes Reservoir was recommended by the Columbia River Water Use Plan. Boat ramp improvement projects are also planned at a number of other sites on Arrow Lakes Reservoir including the Village of Nakusp, Edgewood, and Anderson Point. In addition, BC Hydro continues work on other Columbia River Water Use Plan programs to improve Arrow Lakes Reservoir recreation, including floating woody debris management and a 10-year recreation demand study.

Suspicious blaze in Sandon stumps

The old cedar stumps behind the historic Molly Brown brood in Sandon were ablaze mid-day on August 8.

A tourist discovered the fire and notified Catherine Wright, who was working at the Prospectors’ Pick gift shop. She and Gordon Butt from the Sandon Historical Society went to the Klenkade Silver offices and enlisted the help of Jody Cliff and BA Belton. A pump and hose, stored at the Silversmith Powerhouse, were set up in the creek and they were able to get the fire out. Ministry of Forests Compliance and Enforcement Officers attended and inspected the site; their report is expected this week.
Bears shot in New Denver raise ‘bear smart’ issues
by Art Joyce

The shooting of three bears in New Denver this month has raised issues of how the community balance both residents’ and visitors’ needs. Of critical importance in minimizing the number of bears that have to be killed is being ‘bear smart’.

All three bears were associated with property damage, according to Conservation Officer Blair Thin. Two of the three entered into peoples’ homes looking for food in kitchens.

“This is not behaviour associated with a wild bear,” says Thin. “They’d obviously become habituated to coming into town looking for food. That’s why we deemed these bears to be a threat to property.”

Visitors are warned not to chase bears, as they are unpredictable and potentially dangerous. Keep barbecue clean and inside campers, and use the bear-proof garbage containers. CO Thin adds that even pet food left out on the back porch, barbecues and bird feeders can be bear attractants.

One bear got into coolers at the campground. At the time of the incident, garbage had been left out overnight, says Bear Smart Coordinator Daniel Sherrod. There are also five open garbage cans around the park and beach for visitor convenience, which Sherrod suggests the Village should consider removing.

“I think people will be good enough not to leave their garbage on the beach. We can’t expect that our visitors all know what to do, so they need to be informed. If you go to a provincial park there are signs up everywhere,” says Sherrod.

Village Administrator Carol Brownie McGhee duo. The harmonica was “a tasty reminder of our mess.”

There are also five open garbage cans around the park and beach for visitor convenience, which Sherrod suggests the Village should consider removing.

“We live in bear country, so as long as there are fruit trees in the community, bears will be attracted. Bears are large animals that need a lot of food; if they make a couple of passes through town and there’s no food, then they have to move on in order to survive. Make sure fruit is picked as soon as possible. Electric fencing is also an effective deterrent.

“People understandably want to keep their fruit trees and we also have fruit on the wild trees in the interface between the bush and the town,” says Sherrod. “And we have fruit trees on the boulevards and various vacant lots around town. This is the problem that the people of New Denver need to wrestle with because there’s no end to the problem as long as it’s that way. I have suggested that a partial solution might be to top or prune the wild trees so they’re at least pickable.”

The Regional District has provided some funding for the Bear Smart program in the rural areas; however, most of the efforts have had to be directed to problems within the municipalities, says Sherrod. His position is not full-time and relies on volunteers, who are monitoring the situation in the Orchard in New Denver. Conservation Officer Thin was recently transferred from the north coast region to assist CO Ben Beetlestone in the West Kootenay zone, which covers from the US border to Nakusp, west to Christina Lake and Nelson on the east.

“When a bear comes into town and is shot, that bear’s territory is open for other bears to come into, so it’s an endless situation,” adds Sherrod. “I don’t want to think that killing bears is inevitable until we’ve done everything possible to clean up our mess.”

“We don’t just drive around

the campground. At the time of the incident, garbage had been left out overnight, says Bear Smart Coordinator Daniel Sherrod. There are also five open garbage cans around the park and beach for visitor convenience, which Sherrod suggests the Village should consider removing.

“I think people will be good enough not to leave their garbage on the beach. We can’t expect that our visitors all know what to do, so they need to be informed. If you go to a provincial park there are signs up everywhere,” says Sherrod.

Village Administrator Carol Brownie McGhee duo. The harmonica was “a tasty reminder of our mess.”

There are also five open garbage cans around the park and beach for visitor convenience, which Sherrod suggests the Village should consider removing.

“We live in bear country, so as long as there are fruit trees in the community, bears will be attracted. Bears are large animals that need a lot of food; if they make a couple of passes through town and there’s no food, then they have to move on in order to survive. Make sure fruit is picked as soon as possible. Electric fencing is also an effective deterrent.

“People understandably want to keep their fruit trees and we also have fruit on the wild trees in the interface between the bush and the town,” says Sherrod. “And we have fruit trees on the boulevards and various vacant lots around town. This is the problem that the people of New Denver need to wrestle with because there’s no end to the problem as long as it’s that way. I have suggested that a partial solution might be to top or prune the wild trees so they’re at least pickable.”

The Regional District has provided some funding for the Bear Smart program in the rural areas; however, most of the efforts have had to be directed to problems within the municipalities, says Sherrod. His position is not full-time and relies on volunteers, who are monitoring the situation in the Orchard in New Denver. Conservation Officer Thin was recently transferred from the north coast region to assist CO Ben Beetlestone in the West Kootenay zone, which covers from the US border to Nakusp, west to Christina Lake and Nelson on the east.

“When a bear comes into town and is shot, that bear’s territory is open for other bears to come into, so it’s an endless situation,” adds Sherrod. “I don’t want to think that killing bears is inevitable until we’ve done everything possible to clean up our mess.”

“We don’t just drive around

the campground. At the time of the incident, garbage had been left out overnight, says Bear Smart Coordinator Daniel Sherrod. There are also five open garbage cans around the park and beach for visitor convenience, which Sherrod suggests the Village should consider removing.

“I think people will be good enough not to leave their garbage on the beach. We can’t expect that our visitors all know what to do, so they need to be informed. If you go to a provincial park there are signs up everywhere,” says Sherrod.

Village Administrator Carol Brownie McGhee duo. The harmonica was “a tasty reminder of our mess.”

There are also five open garbage cans around the park and beach for visitor convenience, which Sherrod suggests the Village should consider removing.

“We live in bear country, so as long as there are fruit trees in the community, bears will be attracted. Bears are large animals that need a lot of food; if they make a couple of passes through town and there’s no food, then they have to move on in order to survive. Make sure fruit is picked as soon as possible. Electric fencing is also an effective deterrent.

“People understandably want to keep their fruit trees and we also have fruit on the wild trees in the interface between the bush and the town,” says Sherrod. “And we have fruit trees on the boulevards and various vacant lots around town. This is the problem that the people of New Denver need to wrestle with because there’s no end to the problem as long as it’s that way. I have suggested that a partial solution might be to top or prune the wild trees so they’re at least pickable.”

The Regional District has provided some funding for the Bear Smart program in the rural areas; however, most of the efforts have had to be directed to problems within the municipalities, says Sherrod. His position is not full-time and relies on volunteers, who are monitoring the situation in the Orchard in New Denver. Conservation Officer Thin was recently transferred from the north coast region to assist CO Ben Beetlestone in the West Kootenay zone, which covers from the US border to Nakusp, west to Christina Lake and Nelson on the east.

“When a bear comes into town and is shot, that bear’s territory is open for other bears to come into, so it’s an endless situation,” adds Sherrod. “I don’t want to think that killing bears is inevitable until we’ve done everything possible to clean up our mess.”

“We don’t just drive around
Jack Layton’s final message

Tens of thousands of Canadians have written to me in recent weeks to wish me well. I want to thank each and every one of you for your thoughtful, inspiring and often beautiful notes, cards and gifts. Your spirit and love have lit up my home, my spirit, and my determination.

Unfortunately my treatment has not worked out as I hoped. So I am giving this letter to my partner Olivia Chow to share with you in the circumstance in which I cannot continue. I recommend that Hull-Aylmer MP Nicola Beřeta continue her work as our interim leader until a permanent successor is elected. I recommend the party hold a leadership vote as early as possible in the New Year, on approximately the same timelines as in 2003, so that our new leader has ample time to recommit our team, renew our party and our program, and move forward towards the next election.

A few additional thoughts.

To other Canadians who are on journeys to defeat cancer and to live their lives, I say this: please don’t be discouraged. My own journey hasn’t gone as well as I had hoped. You must not lose your own hope. Treatments and therapies have never been better in the face of this disease. You have every reason to be optimistic, determined, and focused on the future. My only other advice is to cherish every moment with those you love at every stage of your journey, as I have done this summer.

To the members of my party: we’ve done remarkable things together in the past eight years. It has been a privilege to lead the New Democratic Party and I am most grateful for your confidence, your support, and the endless hours of volunteer commitment you have devoted to our cause. There will be those who will try to persuade you to give up our cause. But that cause is much tougher than any one leader. Answer them by recommitting with energy and determination to our work. Remember

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Plumbery Junction to Edgewater and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake. Circulation is 7,600 papers, providing the most complete news and advertising coverage of any single newspaper serving this area.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $58.24, USA $89.60, OVERSEAS $134.40, E-mail Subscription $22.40 (Prices include HST)

Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021919

New Burton boat launch – budgetary restraint

I attended the official opening of the new Burton boat launch on August 16 and like most people in attendance, I was impressed with the marvelous job that BC Hydro has accomplished. What an improvement over the campsite launch – a non-slip ramp void of the rust-ravaged dock complete with composite decking attached to steel pilings, a beefy breakwater system, landscaping, parking space, and an outhouse.

I also attended the first public meeting wherein the public clearly stated to BC Hydro their desire to have year-round access to the launch. Sadly however, that will not be the case. Access will not be paved and snow removal will not materialize. According to Hydro officials, it’s not within their budget. On the other hand, BC Hydro has found the budgetary means to purchase a very expensive meter in the province with the controversial ‘smart’ meter whether you like it or not. The bottom line is that the new boat launch will not serve Burtonite boaters and fisher enthusiasts as requested – democracy in action, eh?

Furthermore, the lack of highway signage is cause for concern. With respect to public safety. Highway motorists travelling northbound over the crest in close proximity to the logging road on one side with the boat launch access on the opposite side have no warning of this potential dangerous predicament due to restricted visibility. I would pray to God upon leaving the launch site that no speeding motorist is about to crest northbound. Perhaps God will send a message to Highways and BC Hydro that signage may save a life for another day and give me the voice to say “recent and proposed boat launch increases are not within my budget.”

Just my opinion.

Hans Dummerauf
Burton

Not impressed with CBT record in the Lardeau

I read MLA Bill Bennett’s ad in the Fernie Free Press about the Columbia Basin Trust helping the region. We were the victims of the flooding of the Duncan Dam. We lost our home and a business on Duncan Lake. I believe the benefits from the Columbia Basin Trust are not put back into the affected areas. In the Lardeau, our road was upgraded to accommodate the building of the Duncan Dam. The power line was also put in to accommodate the building of the Duncan Dam.

Since that time we have been given the short end of the stick and in my opinion other places have got the cream. The Columbia Basin Trust was formed to bring economic growth to the communities that were flooded. To date this has not happened. In fact, we have slipped backwards over the years. Grants go to the people who are looking for a chance to study something to death. They wander around looking for ideas on how to get a grant so they do not have to get a real job.

The people who would like a job in the forest or mining industry are out of luck. Our young people have to move away to get employment in the oil sands or the coal mines.

Corinne Greenlaw
Meadow Creek

Whitecaps on Water Street

There is a storm brewing on Water Street in Kaslo!

The article in the July 13 Valley Voice states that the plans were presented “mainly to people with businesses adjacent to Water Street.” This is definitely not the case!

In August 2010, the businesses circulated a petition regarding Water Street. On March 31, 2011, a petition with 17 signatures of adjacent businesses to Water Street was submitted to council. Council referred the petition to the Development Services Committee, who in turn advised council that there are opportunities for public input at the committee level during the Water Street planning process. This would seem reasonable, except that the concerned citizens have openly been called “squeakers.” This does not make for an environment which encourages input from those most directly affected.

The biggest concern about the moving of the barriers (as an experiment) on Water Street. It has proven to impede and block traffic, which causes unnecessary delays and dangerous conditions. There is a great potential for liability to the Village. There has been at least one life-threatening close call and there has been a fender bender on the street. This experiment has gone on long enough!

If you have concerns with parking on Water Street, there are a number of businesses with a petition sheet that you can sign to have the barriers moved back to the edge of the bank. Please step forward for safety! Thank you.

Teresa May
Kaslo

Voice from the Valleys

The Valley Voice August 24, 2011

Publisher - DAN NICHOLSON • Editor - JAN MCMURRAY • Food Editor - ANDREW ROHDE

Arts & Culture Editor - ART JOYCE • Contributing writers - MICHAEL DORSEY, DAN SPRING

Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada

The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Plumbery Junction to Edgewater and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake.

Phone: 250-358-7218 Fax: 250-358-7793 E-Mail: valleyvoice@netidea.com Website: www.valleyvoice.ca

4
Honouring the Whole School
I read the announcement for the 40th anniversary of the Vallencay Whole School, and was shocked, then angrier, and finally sadness. It seems incomprehensible that there is no mention of all the years that the Vallencay Whole School has been in existence.

This would be a very lengthy letter if I were to pay tribute in full to all who served and took part in what was and continues to be an integral part of our community by honouring childhood and giving a voice to children in a free and natural way. The Whole School provided this; and the design of the building surrounded by forest and the Little Slocan River was an ideal setting for this living and learning process.

Summertown was a free school in England where the voice of the five-year-olds had as much say as the adults. The school flourished and many North American free schools took the model of Summertown. The children who went through their school years there became truly creative individuals with great social consciousness. This is what I’ve observed in the Whole School children, my own included. I have two daughters who attended the Whole School for their primary schooling and I as a parent participated fully in their programs. I can only say that it was a very wonderful time and the school felt like home.

A.S. Neal founded Summertown and in his book about the years he taught he ends by saying he knew their school was successful, that no one Summertown student went into the Armed Forces!

I wish to offer much gratitude to the Whole School and present and I will continue to support all their work and space be respected.

Ty Klassen

Nakusp

Dreaming of a quiet Front Street
Throughout the years, I have wondered what possesses people to leave their noisy dogs in the car on Front Street of our little village of Kaslo? Do they ever think of other people having to listen to the eternal yapping for the entire time the dog’s owners are away from the vehicle? Our village is normally a quiet one but not so in the summer, when at any given time you can hear at least three different dogs barking at the windows of the vehicle they are in. Of course some dogs are in motor homes and technically in their own ‘house’ so to speak, but in politeness I would not suggest the dogs be kennelled. At the very least could the owners not instil some training so their animals would not bark when left alone? And why must the dogs come up town with you anyway? They certainly don’t enjoy it if they spend the entire time barking all the time down Kaslo Street. It is very annoying. At the very least these people could park elsewhere, say in the alley.

At one time Kaslo attempted to ban dogs from Front Street. I thought this would have been a good idea but in no time people in the tourist industry were complaining their clients were not happy about it. Do the business owners and tourists (and local dog owners) ever think that others are fed up with having to listen to or step around their dogs? Of course there are ‘good dogs’ and ‘bad dogs’ each with their owners think their dog is a ‘good’ one.

I realize people nowadays like to travel with their dogs but I do fail to understand why anyone would want to have to listen to their dogs. Surely we should be able to have one street left to the people. I don’t feel dogs should be tied on the street either. It can’t be a fun thing to wait hours for their owners to return. If your dog is well behaved and it isn’t a hot day, and if your dog is quiet, by all means take it downtown with you, but please think about how you are disturbing the peace and quiet of others for no reason other than you wanted to take your dog downtown to town. Could we not all work toward a quiet Front Street? Is it too much to ask?

Joyce Davidson

Kaslo

Give JK Rowling a break...
I must take issue with Charles Jea...
Autobiography of John Norris released posthumously

by Art Joyce

Much-loved local author John Norris, author of favourites like John’s Garden, Wo Lee Stories, Slocan Valley, and Old Silverton, among others, has left readers an eloquent and wide-ranging legacy. With the recent release of his autobiography Learning: Teaching we now get a much more personal insight into his character.

As Cole Harris explains in the foreword to the book, “in the spring of 2009 after a long battle with prostate cancer, John Norris was given only a few days to live. His friends were urged to pay their last visits. But John himself was not ready to die. He had not written the memoir about himself that he wanted to be his last statement. And so he held off death for almost two years, and in that time wrote most of the account that follows.”

Far from merely an exercise in ego gratification, Norris wanted to share his experience of growing up during a time when his homosexuality was severely repressed. With the current resurgence of fundamentalist values — particularly in the US — it’s a much-needed survey of a life spent struggling to come to grips with an innate at odds with societal mores. In many respects things have improved greatly since the 1930s when Norris was reaching maturity and even heterosexual activity was spoken of in hushed tones, if at all. And despite its historical prevalence, homosexuality was still seen as an ‘evil’ to be ‘cured’, often brutally.

“We can be amused at the repression of sex by omission or euphemism but its repression by the incalculation of shame is another matter,” he writes. That shame can “grow in some people to become a hatred of the flesh strong enough to turn them into…suicides, sadists and mass killers…”

Indeed that sense of shame created a schism and a self-loathing in his personality that took nearly until middle age for Norris to resolve. Always a deeply thoughtful person, his intellectual interests brought to his attention the wisdom of Socrates and the idea that “the unexamined life is not worth living.” This, combined with the ancient Greek Stoic philosophy — with its emphasis on forging an individual moral integrity — helped Norris resolve his inner crisis. If nothing else, the public school system’s emphasis on classical learning and the liberal arts during his formative years gave us an idea how intellectually and ethically impoverished our culture has since become.

“Society cannot be changed by theories of politics and religion but by basic education directed toward making stoicism a way of life in pursuit of the good,” he concludes. “We cannot ‘save’ the world but we can make it a more pleasant place by sowing peace.”

Naturally being a teacher entrusted to the care of boys as well as girls presented a challenge for Norris, one he met well-equipped with this classical approach to morality. “Awareness gave me charge of the situation: I could continue teaching teenagers and control my desire or I could become.”

Our grand opening on July 2 was a huge success! Thanks to the support of all that attended, the local Fire Department was able to raise enough money to purchase the FLIR (around $1500). Thanks to Shane Ferraro from Direct Plus for the generous donation of smokies and European wieners.

The winners of the door prizes were:
- $50 gift certificates from New Market Foods - Chris Warren, Gayle Swanson, Ray Lahner, Ken Parisotto
- $40 gift certificates from Healing Den - Wade Roberts, Ryan Willman
- Pepsi Cap & T-shirt - Jim George, Brian Marsh, Phyllis George
- Corkscrew in case (KSCU) - Andrea Edmonds
- Donation of smokies and European wieners.

The winner of the Barbecue from June 26 - Barst Weir

We now carry Kasilo Sourdough Bread delivered fresh every Monday and Friday, and Sappho's bakery delivered daily (except Sunday). Fresh local produce from Valhalla Farms and fresh eggs from Whitetail Farms, Rocky Mountain cheeses and Jerseyland Organics cheese and yogurts.

BC Freestone Peaches will be available from August 29 - September 3 for $20.98/20 lb. case, while supplies last.

New Market Foods
6th Avenue • New Denver, BC
250-358-2270

Don't forget - We have Roasted Chickens after 3:30 pm on Thursday, Friday Saturday & Sunday.
Call the CHICKEN HOTLINE to reserve one – 250-358-2270.

Learning: Teaching was spoken of in hushed tones, if at all. And despite its historical prevalence, homosexuality was still seen as an ‘evil’ to be ‘cured’, often brutally.

“Society cannot be changed by theories of politics and religion but by basic education directed toward making stoicism a way of life in pursuit of the good,” he concludes. “We cannot ‘save’ the world but we can make it a more pleasant place by sowing peace.”

Naturally being a teacher entrusted to the care of boys as well as girls presented a challenge for Norris, one he met well-equipped with this classical approach to morality. “Awareness gave me charge of the situation: I could continue teaching teenagers and control my desire or I could completely avoid teaching that age group,” he writes. “Seen in the context of my whole life it provided me with an overwhelming sense of empowerment regarding my ability to deal with whatever life could bring me.”

That was successful in holding to a strict sense of not crossing the line with students is testified to by his great popularity as a teacher. The last section of the book deals with his stint as a teacher at the New Denver school for ‘delinquent’ boys, at a time in the ‘70s when a more liberal approach to education was being pioneered. Norris’s mentor at that school made it clear that the punitive approach simply was not effective in helping boys already deeply scarred by abusive social and family situations. This resonated well with his own convictions. Indeed, after strapped a boy just once early in his teaching career and seeing the trauma it induced, Norris had resolved “never to compromise a student’s physical integrity again.”

Instead he challenged them to rise to their potential and gave them the intellectual nurturing to develop it.

There is much to learn from this humble, brilliant man, now so sorely missed. His sense of the Earth as a sacred place, his determination to persist in self-examination in order to develop and improve his character, his love of gardening, fine music, art and poetry…Anyone with a teacher like this in their lives can count themselves very, very lucky.

Learning: Teaching is available for $20 from Hawkeye Press of New Denver, Box 53 VOI 180 (250-358-2514). Call or write to order a copy. Please add $5 for postage.

The Valley Voice August 24, 2011

John Norris's Last Book Learning: Teaching His Autobiography

Readers say:
“Wonderful.” “Delightful.”
“I didn't want it to end.”
“Send me six, please!”

Available from Will: 358-2514 or from Donna Jean at Garden Graces in New Denver

$20

We will also be seen as an ‘evil’ to be ‘cured,’ often brutally.

“Society cannot be changed by theories of politics and religion but by basic education directed toward making stoicism a way of life in pursuit of the good,” he concludes. “We cannot ‘save’ the world but we can make it a more pleasant place by sowing peace.”

Naturally being a teacher entrusted to the care of boys as well as girls presented a challenge for Norris, one he met well-equipped with this classical approach to morality. “Awareness gave me charge of the situation: I could continue teaching teenagers and control my desire or I could completely avoid teaching that age group,” he writes. “Seen in the context of my whole life it provided me with an overwhelming sense of empowerment regarding my ability to deal with whatever life could bring me.”

That was successful in holding to a strict sense of not crossing the line with students is testified to by his great popularity as a teacher. The last section of the book deals with his stint as a teacher at the New Denver school for ‘delinquent’ boys, at a time in the ‘70s when a more liberal approach to education was being pioneered. Norris’s mentor at that school made it clear that the punitive approach simply was not effective in helping boys already deeply scarred by abusive social and family situations. This resonated well with his own convictions. Indeed, after strapped a boy just once early in his teaching career and seeing the trauma it induced, Norris had resolved “never to compromise a student’s physical integrity again.”

Instead he challenged them to rise to their potential and gave them the intellectual nurturing to develop it.

There is much to learn from this humble, brilliant man, now so sorely missed. His sense of the Earth as a sacred place, his determination to persist in self-examination in order to develop and improve his character, his love of gardening, fine music, art and poetry…Anyone with a teacher like this in their lives can count themselves very, very lucky.

Learning: Teaching is available for $20 from Hawkeye Press of New Denver, Box 53 VOI 180 (250-358-2514). Call or write to order a copy. Please add $5 for postage.

The Valley Voice August 24, 2011

John Norris's Last Book Learning: Teaching His Autobiography

Readers say:
“Wonderful.” “Delightful.”
“I didn't want it to end.”
“Send me six, please!”

Available from Will: 358-2514 or from Donna Jean at Garden Graces in New Denver

$20

We will also be

Available from Will: 358-2514 or from Donna Jean at Garden Graces in New Denver

$20

Our grand opening on July 2 was a huge success! Thanks to the support of all that attended, the local Fire Department was able to raise enough money to purchase the FLIR (around $1500). Thanks to Shane Ferraro from Direct Plus for the generous donation of smokies and European wieners.

The winners of the door prizes were:
- $50 gift certificates from New Market Foods - Chris Warren, Gayle Swanson, Ray Lahner, Ken Parisotto
- $40 gift certificates from Healing Den - Wade Roberts, Ryan Willman
- Pepsi Cap & T-shirt - Jim George, Brian Marsh, Phyllis George
- Corkscrew in case (KSCU) - Andrea Edmonds
- Donation of smokies and European wieners.

The winner of the Barbecue from June 26 - Barst Weir

We now carry Kasilo Sourdough Bread delivered fresh every Monday and Friday, and Sappho's bakery delivered daily (except Sunday).

Fresh local produce from Valhalla Farms and fresh eggs from Whitetail Farms, Rocky Mountain cheeses and Jerseyland Organics cheese and yogurts.

BC Freestone Peaches will be available from August 29 - September 3 for $20.98/20 lb. case, while supplies last.

Don't forget - We have Roasted Chickens after 3:30 pm on Thursday, Friday Saturday & Sunday.
Call the CHICKEN HOTLINE to reserve one – 250-358-2270.
Bonnington Youth Green Team makes a difference

"I have learned there are lots of issues in my community," explained Tyler Lacroche, age 13 years. "But there are lots of solutions and ways we can work together to make our community greener."

The youth organized a number of community events, including pulling invasive weeds from the local park on August 20, which was followed by an ice cream sundae making party. Everyone was welcome to participate.

The Green Team will also be creating a movie about where the community’s water comes from and how the water system operates. The movie will be shown at an upcoming community event on August 27 at Bonnington Regional Park where the Green Team will have information tables set up so they can answer questions.

"Lots of people want to do the right thing, but they may not know how," said 13-year-old Micah May. "We are trying to provide our neighbours with the information they need to make a difference."

Parents of each youth are volunteering their time to mentor the Green Team so they learn what is expected from employees and build their skills. The youth are also being supported by community organizations – such as Bear Aware, the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee, Nelson Car Share Co-op, and Earth Matters – local professionals and industries, including Columbia Power Corporation and Fortis BC.

The next step is for the Green Team to share their new knowledge with local residents by going door-to-door and through a website they have made. Bonnington residents who use the website to learn about the issues and answer some simple questions will be entered into a draw for prizes. There will also be some major prizes given out in late September to Bonnington residents who take up the challenge of using the information to decrease their impacts on the local environment.

Parents and community organizations are being supported by community leaders who will be sharing their knowledge with local residents by going door-to-door and through a website they have made. Bonnington residents who use the website to learn about the issues and answer some simple questions will be entered into a draw for prizes. There will also be some major prizes given out in late September to Bonnington residents who take up the challenge of using the information to decrease their impacts on the local environment.

The program is sponsored by the Bonnington Regional Park Society, which is providing funding for the prizes. On completion of the program, the youth will receive a letter of recommendation plus a cash honorarium, courtesy of Regional District Area F Director Ron Mickel, who administers Columbia Basin Trust funding for community projects in his area.

For more information visit www.bonningtonyouthgreenteam.volasite.com.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT CALENDAR “2012”

It’s that time of year again! Canvassers will soon be around to take, or renew your order for the Community Birthday Calendar. If no one has called on you by September 15, please call Vern Hartman at 250-358-7283.

CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST: Once again we will be awarding $50.00 for the selected colour landscape photo. Please send your photo to Vern Hartman at Box 83, Silverton, or drop off at 518 Turner Street. Please have your photo in before September 15.

This summer could be a scorcher.

Nearly half of wildfires in British Columbia are caused by human carelessness. Please prevent and report wildfires. To report a wildfire, call *5555 on your cell.

For more information, visit www.BCforestfireinfo.gov.bc.ca

Slocan Valley Legion Branch 276, with the help of a Community Gaming Grant, was able to present $2,000 to the local food bank. This amount could double, as Kraft Canada will match donations made to community food banks across Canada between May 31 and June 10. Pictured with Slocan Legion President Pat Ashton is Deb Corbett, Office Manager of the Slocan Valley Food Cupboard.

While we often think of leaders as wise elders, in Bonnington it is the youth who are leading the community to become greener. The Bonnington Youth Green Team is a first summer work experience for 11 youth ages 12-14 years. They have researched local environmental issues, including forest fire interface, invasive plants, water use, human/wildlife conflicts, composting and public transportation.
Greenhouse sprouts up at Lucerne School over summer

by Jan McMurray

The list of new things in New Denver just got a little longer.

A greenhouse now sits on the east side of the Lucerne School property near Columbia Street.

Funded through a provincial “Neighbourhood Learning Centre” grant, the greenhouse is meant to be a place where all members of the community can learn about food production.

“School districts are encouraged by the provincial government to find unique ways, in consultation with the community, to design learning places with community use in mind,” says Lucerne Principal Natasha Miles.

“When food security, the 100 Mile Diet and climate change become top-of-mind issues in the Kootenays, the greenhouse is a good fit for the program in our community.”

Kevin Murphy, New Denver Councilor and retired teacher, championed the project. He sends out a huge thank you to everyone involved in setting up the greenhouse this summer. He says School District 10’s maintenance staff and Village Public Works staff were a big help with the foundation, and Willie Malloy and Hugh Hopkins are “geniuses” for building the end walls to fit the frame. Principal Natasha Miles sends particular thanks to Murphy and Art Olson, school maintenance foreman, for collaborating over the summer to have the greenhouse up for the new school year.

The greenhouse is 30 feet by 32 feet, with two layers of plastic covering a steel frame. An electric blower forces air between the two layers to provide insulation, and an exhaust fan has also been installed. The greenhouse will not be heated and will be shut down during the winter months.

Planning for community use of the greenhouse will take place this fall and winter, with activities starting up in the spring. Horticulture 11 will be offered to Lucerne secondary students in the second semester, which starts in early spring, with a view to offering Horticulture 12 in the 2012/13 year.

Murphy explains that as a learning centre, the greenhouse will be a place for community members to attend demonstrations and workshops. It will not be the kind of community greenhouse where people have their own plots.

Lucerne Principal Natasha Miles said, “I would like to see members of the community coming forward and offering their skills and knowledge about growing food in this area to our students and also to adults after school. It would be great if children and adults learned alongside each other.”

The horticulture courses will be taught by Lucerne’s science teacher, Rie Bardati. Elementary teachers have also been asked to look at how the greenhouse can be used in their lessons.

Miles invites all community members with an interest in getting involved in the management of the greenhouse to contact her at Natasha.miles@sd10.bc.ca. Watch the school website (www.lessweb.bcelearning.ca) for notices about greenhouse meetings and events.

Check out two area gallery/museums free through your library

The more we get together the happier we’ll be, goes the song – and the Nelson Public Library agrees. The library has partnered with Touchstones Nelson Museum of Art and History in Nelson, and Kootenay Gallery of Art in Castlegar, to give library members a taste of these great places – and all it takes is a library card.

Touchstones Nelson and Kootenay Gallery have provided the library with trial passes good for three weeks that may be checked out just like a book. The pass allows the holder free access to the institutions to see art shows and historical displays.

“We’re delighted with this partnership,” says Chief Librarian June Stockdale. “It’s in line with our draft strategic plan, and it opens wonderful new doors for our members.”

Touchstones Nelson, at the corner of Ward and Vernon Streets, resides in a beautiful 1902 building that served as a customs house, post office, museum, and Nelson City Hall before its final transformation in 2006. It now houses a state-of-the-art permanent interpretive historic exhibition, two professional gallery spaces, and a local archives collection. Gallery A is showing two exhibitions, Night and Day; Clothes vs Evening Wear and Ideas for Change beginning September 3. Gallery B features an exhibition entitled Heartlab Presents Re-surfaces beginning August 27.

Kootenay Gallery features two exhibition spaces for contemporary art and hosts professional touring exhibitions by artists working in all disciplines and regional exhibitions by noted artists working in all disciplines. The gallery is situated across from the Castlegar airport, adjacent to the Doukhobor Discovery Centre. Current exhibitions are Message from the Beetle by Wells artist Claire Kujundzik, an artist’s response to forestry concerns; and Building the Building: Building Community, a photographic story by Marcia Braundy, curated by Helen Schelhas, a celebration of the Vallican Whole.

The gallery giftshop features the work of local artists and craftspeople.

The new passes may be checked out like any library item, and if on loan they may be placed on reserve.

Edgewood Art Walk in the Park

The Edgewood Internet Society is hosting the second annual Art Walk In The Park on September 4 starting at 11 am at the Edgewood Centaph Park. The Art Walk provides a great chance to get outdoors and experience firsthand some of the talent our communities have to offer.

Many genres of art will be on display at the Art Walk, from watercolours to wood carvings to clay pottery, and everything in between. There will be art for sale.

Local musicians will keep the atmosphere lively with their talent, and there will be a concession stand this year.

The Art Walk provides a wonderful opportunity for artists of our communities to have their work seen and appreciated, and for everyone else to see what gifted communities we live in. It’s a great wholesome fun for the family; bring your kids!

People with artwork to display can feel free to call the Edge at 250-269-7590. Artwork does not have to be for sale – it can be just for display and discussion. This is an opportunity for artists to discuss and explain their work with those who appreciate it.

See you there!”
Nakusp artist Barbara Maye to premiere new exhibit

submitted

Prolific Nakusp artist Barbara Maye isn’t gathering any moss. Even as her recent show Luunito exhibits in New Denver, her new show Asanas will exhibit at Studio Connexion from September 1 to 24. The show has three openings; September 2 with refreshments, and the artist will be in attendance.

Upon completion of Luunito last summer, Maye made a life-altering journey. “I found myself using yoga as a way to body, to accept the subtle body, to accept the inner wisdom and the inner beauty that awaits all of us.”

“Special thanks to Anne Béliveau – once again seeing in me that I had yet to discover; to my students who let me create with you – truly my peers; and the amazing local people who were willing to be my models – your aura colours and beautiful bodies shine here today so all can see you as I do,” says Maye.

Studio Connexion is open from 12 to 4 pm Wednesday to Sunday but those who wish to arrange a private showing can contact studio owner Anne Béliveau at 250-265-8888.

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription Only $10-50

Nakusp CAP site now offers faster internet service

submitted

The internet at the Nakusp CAP site is faster than ever, thanks to a partnership with YourLink Cable, the site’s new internet service provider.

The CAP site offers internet and computer access by donation, as well as low-cost printing, faxing, and photocopying. Starting up once again in fall are free beginner computer classes for adults. New courses for this year include Working with Digital Photos, Skype, Shopping Online and Facebook.

Rock Island Resort Concert Series to feature jazz icon Karl Roth

submitted

Calgary jazz icon Karl Roth – a violinist, songwriter and singer – will be featured at Rock Island Resort’s fifth annual Singer/Songwriter Concert Series. The concert will be from 7 pm to 9 pm on Friday, September 2. This is the fifth in a series of concerts held annually at Rock Island Resort, 3774 Rock Island Road, East Arrow Park. Past performers include the Wyrd Sisters, Gary Fjellgaard and Ginny Mitchell.

Roth’s charismatic performances feature his dark, rich voice, distinctive R&B, blues and jazz favourites with Barry White. “Blending a mixture of my dark, rich voice, distinctive

They are painted over, yet still reveal abstract underpaintings and are intended to reveal the light and shadow selves (the gross and subtle bodies) in perfect harmony and necessary to form the most beautiful whole. It’s a journey that questions cultural and inherited fabrications of the physical self to celebrate self-acceptance and the inner wisdom that awaits all of us.

The Best Lumberyard in the Kootenays

We deliver!
Passmore artist Frantisek Strouhal accepted into American juried art show

Frantisek Strouhal has won acceptance into the prestigious American Juried Art Salon’s 2011 summer/fall International Fine Arts and Decorative Arts shows. The accepted works’ titles are The Peace Maker and Nostalgic Moment. He uses the Bromoil and oil printing techniques in the creation of his works. His pieces reminisce on the romance of yesteryear but there is an essence of newness that fosters the crucial link between past and present.

Strouhal says that his work is a reflection of his own personal renaissance – in an age where everything is driven by technology, he resorts to antiquated methods that give more feeling and depth to his work. His work has been viewed all over the US as well as abroad. The American Juried Art Salon competitions attracts entries from around the world.

The art can be seen online at www.artjury.com and www.frantisekstrouhal.com.

Local actor plays in Victoria theatre production

Local actor (and Valley Voice food columnist) Andrew Rhodes performed in a theatre production in Victoria this summer that received standing ovations every night. He played the part of a preacher in Fire, which showed at the McPherson Theatre August 2-14.

“It was an honour to be in such a great show. Everyone involved was very professional, and both the director and the musical director are brilliant. My role was both a challenge and a lot of fun,” the veteran actor commented.

Rhodes’ acting career started in New Denver 40 years ago with the Vullhallalujah Rangers, who he says were “a collection of crazed hippies doing music and theatre.” An acting group from Vancouver came through the area, saw the Rangers in action, and offered Rhodes a job. He spent the next 20 years in Vancouver with a very busy and award-winning acting career before he was given doctor’s orders to stop because of a back injury. He moved back to New Denver, and has performed in about one show per year since.

Fire explores the relationship between Pentecostal Christianity and early rock and roll. The program for the play says that “…early rock stars such as Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Little Richard stole the religions fire found in their churches and turned it into a secular phenomenon that shook the world.” The play was inspired by the life of rock star Jerry Lee Lewis and his cousin, Pentecostal pastor and televangelist Jimmy Lee Swaggart.

In Fire, the rock star’s name is Cale Blackwell and the televangelist is his brother, Herchel. The role of this unlikely pair’s father, Rev. JD Blackwell, was played by New Denver’s own Andrew Rhodes. Rhodes also played saxophone and sang harmonies in the back-up band.

Rhodes played Cale Blackwell, the rock star, in this same play 23 years ago in Kamloops. He says it was interesting to see a younger actor play the part he had played years ago. “I was definitely the old man of the cast,” he says, “and it was great to appear on stage with those younger actors, all of whom have huge careers ahead of them.”

Indeed, the acting was excellent. Rev. Blackwell (Rhodes) opened the play with a stirring sermon, setting the stage for the high energy performances to come – Cale (Zachary Stevenson) playing piano with Jerry Lee Lewis moves, and Herchel (Jacob Richmond) working his evangelical television audience up into a religious fervour. Rhodes did a great job as a devout religious man with high expectations of his sons, only to be disappointed by both of them in the end.

Keen to continue acting in at least one production per year, Rhodes will no doubt have another gig next summer that he is looking forward to going to see. Meanwhile, you can be entertained by this multi-talented man by reading his ‘Cool Eaters of the West Kootenays’ column in the Valley Voice.

Kaslo’s third annual Edible Garden Tour was another success, with gardens ranging from intensively planted raised beds to large rural acreages. Visitors saw all kinds of fruit, vegetables, flowers, livestock, and irrigation and fencing methods.

Local actor (and Valley Voice food columnist) Andrew Rhodes performed in a theatre production in Victoria this summer. He played the part of a preacher in Fire, which showed at the McPherson Theatre August 2-14.

“It was an honour to be in such a great show. Everyone involved was very professional, and both the director and the musical director are brilliant. My role was both a challenge and a lot of fun,” the veteran actor commented.

Rhodes’ acting career started in New Denver 40 years ago with the Vullhallalujah Rangers, who he says were “a collection of crazed hippies doing music and theatre.” An acting group from Vancouver came through the area, saw the Rangers in action, and offered Rhodes a job. He spent the next 20 years in Vancouver with a very busy and award-winning acting career before he was given doctor’s orders to stop because of a back injury. He moved back to New Denver, and has performed in about one show per year since.

Fire explores the relationship between Pentecostal Christianity and early rock and roll. The program for the play says that “…early rock stars such as Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Little Richard stole the religions fire found in their churches and turned it into a secular phenomenon that shook the world.” The play was inspired by the life of rock star Jerry Lee Lewis and his cousin, Pentecostal pastor and televangelist Jimmy Lee Swaggart.

In Fire, the rock star’s name is Cale Blackwell and the televangelist is his brother, Herchel. The role of this unlikely pair’s father, Rev. JD Blackwell, was played by New Denver’s own Andrew Rhodes. Rhodes also played saxophone and sang harmonies in the back-up band.

Rhodes played Cale Blackwell, the rock star, in this same play 23 years ago in Kamloops. He says it was interesting to see a younger actor play the part he had played years ago. “I was definitely the old man of the cast,” he says, “and it was great to appear on stage with those younger actors, all of whom have huge careers ahead of them.”

Indeed, the acting was excellent. Rev. Blackwell (Rhodes) opened the play with a stirring sermon, setting the stage for the high energy performances to come – Cale (Zachary Stevenson) playing piano with Jerry Lee Lewis moves, and Herchel (Jacob Richmond) working his evangelical television audience up into a religious fervour. Rhodes did a great job as a devout religious man with high expectations of his sons, only to be disappointed by both of them in the end.

Keen to continue acting in at least one production per year, Rhodes will no doubt have another gig next summer that he is looking forward to going to see. Meanwhile, you can be entertained by this multi-talented man by reading his ‘Cool Eaters of the West Kootenays’ column in the Valley Voice.

Kaslo’s third annual Edible Garden Tour was another success, with gardens ranging from intensively planted raised beds to large rural acreages. Visitors saw all kinds of fruit, vegetables, flowers, livestock, and irrigation and fencing methods.

Local actor (and Valley Voice food columnist) Andrew Rhodes performed in a theatre production in Victoria this summer. He played the part of a preacher in Fire, which showed at the McPherson Theatre August 2-14.

“It was an honour to be in such a great show. Everyone involved was very professional, and both the director and the musical director are brilliant. My role was both a challenge and a lot of fun,” the veteran actor commented.

Rhodes’ acting career started in New Denver 40 years ago with the Vullhallalujah Rangers, who he says were “a collection of crazed hippies doing music and theatre.” An acting group from Vancouver came through the area, saw the Rangers in action, and offered Rhodes a job. He spent the next 20 years in Vancouver with a very busy and award-winning acting career before he was given doctor’s orders to stop because of a back injury. He moved back to New Denver, and has performed in about one show per year since.

Fire explores the relationship between Pentecostal Christianity and early rock and roll. The program for the play says that “…early rock stars such as Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Little Richard stole the religions fire found in their churches and turned it into a secular phenomenon that shook the world.” The play was inspired by the life of rock star Jerry Lee Lewis and his cousin, Pentecostal pastor and televangelist Jimmy Lee Swaggart.

In Fire, the rock star’s name is Cale Blackwell and the televangelist is his brother, Herchel. The role of this unlikely pair’s father, Rev. JD Blackwell, was played by New Denver’s own Andrew Rhodes. Rhodes also played saxophone and sang harmonies in the back-up band.

Rhodes played Cale Blackwell, the rock star, in this same play 23 years ago in Kamloops. He says it was interesting to see a younger actor play the part he had played years ago. “I was definitely the old man of the cast,” he says, “and it was great to appear on stage with those younger actors, all of whom have huge careers ahead of them.”

Indeed, the acting was excellent. Rev. Blackwell (Rhodes) opened the play with a stirring sermon, setting the stage for the high energy performances to come – Cale (Zachary Stevenson) playing piano with Jerry Lee Lewis moves, and Herchel (Jacob Richmond) working his evangelical television audience up into a religious fervour. Rhodes did a great job as a devout religious man with high expectations of his sons, only to be disappointed by both of them in the end.

Keen to continue acting in at least one production per year, Rhodes will no doubt have another gig next summer that he is looking forward to going to see. Meanwhile, you can be entertained by this multi-talented man by reading his ‘Cool Eaters of the West Kootenays’ column in the Valley Voice.

Kaslo’s third annual Edible Garden Tour was another success, with gardens ranging from intensively planted raised beds to large rural acreages. Visitors saw all kinds of fruit, vegetables, flowers, livestock, and irrigation and fencing methods.

Local actor (and Valley Voice food columnist) Andrew Rhodes performed in a theatre production in Victoria this summer. He played the part of a preacher in Fire, which showed at the McPherson Theatre August 2-14.

“It was an honour to be in such a great show. Everyone involved was very professional, and both the director and the musical director are brilliant. My role was both a challenge and a lot of fun,” the veteran actor commented.

Rhodes’ acting career started in New Denver 40 years ago with the Vullhallalujah Rangers, who he says were “a collection of crazed hippies doing music and theatre.” An acting group from Vancouver came through the area, saw the Rangers in action, and offered Rhodes a job. He spent the next 20 years in Vancouver with a very busy and award-winning acting career before he was given doctor’s orders to stop because of a back injury. He moved back to New Denver, and has performed in about one show per year since.

Fire explores the relationship between Pentecostal Christianity and early rock and roll. The program for the play says that “…early rock stars such as Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Little Richard stole the religions fire found in their churches and turned it into a secular phenomenon that shook the world.” The play was inspired by the life of rock star Jerry Lee Lewis and his cousin, Pentecostal pastor and televangelist Jimmy Lee Swaggart.

In Fire, the rock star’s name is Cale Blackwell and the televangelist is his brother, Herchel. The role of this unlikely pair’s father, Rev. JD Blackwell, was played by New Denver’s own Andrew Rhodes. Rhodes also played saxophone and sang harmonies in the back-up band.

Rhodes played Cale Blackwell, the rock star, in this same play 23 years ago in Kamloops. He says it was interesting to see a younger actor play the part he had played years ago. “I was definitely the old man of the cast,” he says, “and it was great to appear on stage with those younger actors, all of whom have huge careers ahead of them.”

Indeed, the acting was excellent. Rev. Blackwell (Rhodes) opened the play with a stirring sermon, setting the stage for the high energy performances to come – Cale (Zachary Stevenson) playing piano with Jerry Lee Lewis moves, and Herchel (Jacob Richmond) working his evangelical television audience up into a religious fervour. Rhodes did a great job as a devout religious man with high expectations of his sons, only to be disappointed by both of them in the end.

Keen to continue acting in at least one production per year, Rhodes will no doubt have another gig next summer that he is looking forward to going to see. Meanwhile, you can be entertained by this multi-talented man by reading his ‘Cool Eaters of the West Kootenays’ column in the Valley Voice.
Valhalla Fine Arts summer programs were a great success again

by Jan McMurray

The Valhalla Fine Arts Society’s summer programs were a great success again this year, and offered opportunities to attend concerts and theatre productions locally.

Katrina Sumrall, board president, says she is very pleased. “It was very successful, thanks to our wonderful board members and excellent administration. When I’m watching the theatre performance and music concerts, I know that all the work to organize the programs was well worth it!”

The season got underway with the theatre program for 7-14 year-olds in Silverton, July 11-16 and in Nakusp, July 18-22. There were 27 participants in Silverton and 15 in Nakusp. Under the direction of Mat Maitland once again, the theme was ‘rock stars,’ a big hit with the kids.

While the theatre program was in session in Silverton, ten children 3-6 years old took the Music Explorers program with Lila Strand and Julia Greenlaw. They learned about musical instruments, and had a great time making their own instruments, as well.

The Suzuki violin program took place the first week of August, starting with a weekend for 11 advanced students, followed by the regular program for 93 students.

The second week of August saw 90 young musicians take part in the Valhalla Summer School of Music (VSSM) under the direction of John Kadz and Bill Vandersloot. There was instruction in violin, viola, cello, piano, flute and clarinet.

The Hands on for the Arts silent auction raised about $3,000 for the school. A big thanks goes out to local artists, businesses and individuals who donated items to the auction, and to the bidders for participating.

This year’s VSSM program culminated in a first-class display of classical music talent at the Silverton Memorial Hall the evening of August 12. Here cellists Katie Finch and Christina Bakanec perform Bach’s Chaconne.

Dear Kootenays photo exhibition explores love of local lifestyle

submitted

What is it about a place that seduces one into living there for most of their lives? How do you describe those elements of comfort or fascination that have a life-defining impact? Photographers Tom Bradley and Jo Brown of Winlaw are presenting their photographic answers to those questions in their exhibition Dear Kootenays: A Photographic Exploration of a 30 Year Seduction. The show runs from August 22 to September 30 at Selkirk Eyecare, 543 Baker Street, Nelson.

Tom Bradley and Jo Brown, both award-winning photographers, own and operate Wallshots Prints and Printery in Winlaw. They have lived in the same community and in the same house for 30-plus years. The ‘30’ is a kind of landmark that intrigues and compels them to look for answers to those questions. Dear Kootenays is an exploration of their abiding ties to this place.

“Through these images, we have found insights into what makes the Kootenays home for us and what is important about how we experience life here,” Brown says. “The images speak of contrasts and so we chose two presentation styles to represent those contrasts – metallic and canvas. Metallic with its edgy glow, and canvas textured and soft.”

When asked about their process, Bradley comments, “…for us it is essential that we have complete artistic control over the end product. That means we do it all – from image capture and development to printing and presentation.”

For more information contact Jo Brown at jbrown@wallshots.ca.

The Valley Voice has a new email address:

valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca

The old email address, valleyvoice@netidea.com, will continue to function until further notice.
COMMUNITY

New Denver council, August 9: New chair for New Denver Reading Centre

by Michael Dorney

• Agnes Emery of the New Denver Reading Centre wrote to council to thank them for their financial support, and informed council that at the 2011 AGM, Judy Gardner of Silverton, a long-time Reading Centre volunteer, was named the new chair. Council unanimously approved sending a letter of thanks to Agnes Emery for her years of service as chair of the organization. Emery remains on the board of the Reading Centre as a director.

• Mayor Gary Wright reported meeting with Ellen Kinsel of the Garlic Festival and the campground contractors regarding the washroom issue. Festival reps will assume responsibility for the washroom and its clean-up. They will also speak with the RCMP regarding parking congestion on the highway.

• A letter from Kay Cosley-White, New Denver Hospice, requests improvements to the power supply for the Garlic Festival. Hospice runs a booth selling coffee and muffins at the event, and cannot maintain a supply of hot coffee due to problems with the power supply. The letter was referred to Garlic Festival representative Ellen Kinsel.

• Mayor Wright noted that signage clarifying that Becker Lane is public is not yet in place, and that the Village would find it difficult to enforce the exact width of the lane, as it is currently one-way traffic with no turnaround.

• Councillor Banka reported on the July 21 RDCK board meeting. Discussion continues about the building bylaw. The RDCK wants all municipalities that are provided with building inspection services by the RDCK to have the same building bylaw as the RDCK, due to concerns with municipal liability and responsibility.

• Councillor Banka noted that painting at the Silvery Slocan Museum is progressing well, and the Nikkei Centre fence project is starting up.

• Councillor Murphy reported that the greenhouse construction was progressing well. He said he feels the project will come in under budget.

• Councillor Greenwood reported that Thomran Drilling, the company selected to drill test wells, had found water just over 136’ deep. This is the lower aquifer. The fragments are painted over the smart meter program.

Music therapist offers workshops with emphasis on fun

Miller prefers to call them ‘playshops’ because the emphasis is on having fun and helping aspiring musicians overcome anxiety about their abilities. She is on staff of an international organization called Music for People, a humanitarian approach to learning music. The organization is dedicated to helping people access their inner musician, discover their own unique style of playing or singing, learning to be comfortable with improvisation and learning to listen more deeply as we make music with others.

Mills has extensive experience in working with people and helping them to break free of creative blocks with their instruments and voice. She is also available for private sessions. Her repertoire intermingles familiar tunes in jazz, folk and gospel traditions. She breathes into her heart, exhaling melodies and rhythms with flavours of world music on the Indian shruti and Native American flutes.

To register for either or both workshops, contact Sue Mistretta at 250-358-2177. Please bring the instrument(s) that you play. If you are unable to bring your own instruments please bring them. The piano at the gallery will be available for pianists and keyboards are also welcome. Music will be played with entire group as well as smaller ensembles. The workshops are $45 each or you can sign up for both for $75.

For more information visit www.musicforpeople.org.

John Elzinga and Tsuneko Kokubo Miller have extensive knowledge of First Nations traditions. They are fluent in Ojibwe and Michif.

LUMBERJACK MUSEUM

www.sandontourism.com

2011 Hills Garlic Festival

September 11, 10 am-5 pm
Centennial Park – New Denver

Garlic – Produce – Foods – Crafts – Food

Live entertainment by Craig Korth & Friends, Heavy Shteti, Flydini, Visions Alive Puppets

** Enter the Garlic Poetry Contest **

Admission: $4.00
No charge for children 12 & under
Advance tickets: $3.00 at Friday Market starting August 26

• The Shuttle Bus from the Valhalla Inn
• Vehicles with 5 or more passengers get 1 free entry at the gate

Remember: No dogs please!

www.hillsgarlicfest.ca

Music therapist offers workshops with emphasis on fun

Miller prefers to call them ‘playshops’ because the emphasis is on having fun and helping aspiring musicians overcome anxiety about their abilities. She is on staff of an international organization called Music for People, a humanitarian approach to learning music. The organization is dedicated to helping people access their inner musician, discover their own unique style of playing or singing, learning to be comfortable with improvisation and learning to listen more deeply as we make music with others.

Mills has extensive experience in working with people and helping them to break free of creative blocks with their instruments and voice. She is also available for private sessions. Her repertoire intermingles familiar tunes in jazz, folk and gospel traditions. She breathes into her heart, exhaling melodies and rhythms with flavours of world music on the Indian shruti and Native American flutes.

To register for either or both workshops, contact Sue Mistretta at 250-358-2177. Please bring the instrument(s) that you play. If you are unable to bring your own instruments please bring them. The piano at the gallery will be available for pianists and keyboards are also welcome. Music will be played with entire group as well as smaller ensembles. The workshops are $45 each or you can sign up for both for $75.

For more information visit www.musicforpeople.org.
The Valley Voice

VISITOR INFORMATION

Nakusp Golf Course - Nakusp
Phone/Fax: (250) 688-4511  www.nakusp.com  ngs@nakusp.net
9-HOLE PUBLIC COURSE. RATES EFFECT 7 Days a Week
GREEN FEES: Adults $25.00/9 holes, $34.20/18 holes, Senior rates 10% off
Junior fees 14-18 $17.10 and 9-13 $10.50 holes 10-game punch card available
General Manager: Jim Draper
Rental carts, club carts, driving range
PUTTERS ON THE GREENS - Fully licensed restaurant; Phone: (250) 263-2185
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
Ladies' nights: Tuesdays 4:00-6:00 Guests welcome
Men's nights: Thursdays 4:00-6:00 Guests welcome

Valley View Golf Course - Winlaw
Phone/Fax: (250) 228-7612/7671  www.valleyviewgolf.com
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE AND RESTAURANT. OPEN 8 AM－8 PM
GREEN FEES: $23.00 18 holes, $15.00 9 holes 10-game punch cards available
RENTAL: cart rental, club rental, driving range
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
Ladies' Season Mornings 25% off non-members with club and parents golf free
Junior Nights: 5-10 includes golf, frites & pop, prices and parents golf free
Tues. - half price golf ALL DAY
Fri., 2 for 1 golf after 2 pm, Monday golf free 9:30-11:30 am
Sun. - Egg Benedict 9 am-1 pm
Valley view welcomes new clubhouse manager, Louella Chambers

Kaslo Golf Course - Kaslo
Phone: (250) 353-2552  www.KasloGolf.org
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE - NO TEES TIMES NECESSARY
GREEN FEES: $21.50 18 holes, $14.50 9 holes
RENTAL: cart rental, club rental available
NEW RESTAURANT. OPEN 8 AM－5 PM
Please join us for any of the following: regular events and get to know the members:
Fundraiser: Thursdays 4:30 pm
Ladies' Day: Tuesdays 4:30 pm
Senior Men - Wednesdays 9:00 am

You are a helpful assistant. How can I assist you further?
Kaslo council, August 9: Input sought on downtown parking plan

by Jan McMurray

• Acting on a recommendation of the Water Street Committee, council is asking for input on a downtown parking plan. Letters will be sent to all Front Street businesses and the Chamber of Commerce, and an invitation for public input into the plan will be posted on the Village of Kaslo website and probably the Chamber of Commerce website as well.

• The RDCK will be advised the Village of Kaslo does not intend to renew the existing fire coverage agreement to the expanded service area of Ainsworth and Woodbury in 2012.

• In an email, Fire Chief Larry Badry advises the Village not to renew the agreement because the fire department cannot provide coverage without a satellite hall and trained firefighters in the Ainsworth/ Woodbury area. Instead, Badry recommends a mutual aid agreement with the Balfour Fire Department, where each department would provide protection to the other in case of an emergency. He recommends pursuing the agreement as soon as Kaslo becomes a regional fire service in 2012.

• The original plan was to build a satellite hall in the Ainsworth/ Woodbury area, but the Firewise Consulting study recommended against this because there are not enough taxpayers and volunteers to make it sustainable at this time. The study recommends that the Kaslo department become a regional fire department, and that the RDCK and Kaslo build a new Emergency Services facility for the area.

• Council received a copy of an email exchange between John Addison and Danyta Welch of the RDCK regarding the proposed satellite boundaries to include the airport property. The RDCK asked for more time to prepare its comments for council on the proposal, which is to stop down the road that the airport property goes to the transfer station, which is managed by the RDCK, the use and maintenance of the road is important to the Regional District. The RDCK has referred the issue to the Central Waste Committee and the Area D Planning Commission. Council granted the RDCK a time extension to September 15 for its comments.

• The Area D Advisory Planning Commission asked if a councillor would attend its meeting on August 16 to discuss the proposal. Councillor Cormie was authorized to attend.

• Neighbouring property owners Sue and John Gruis stated they were not in support of the boundary expansion or of industrial use at the airport until more information is available. Their concerns include increased traffic on Kaslo South Road, which borders their property, potential noise and environmental pollution generated by industrial activities, possible future plans to take their property into the Village boundaries, further degradation of the land and surrounding heathland, and negative effects on their property value. Their letter was referred to the Development Services Committee, which will meet to address any concerns about the proposed boundary expansion.

• Council received an email from Bruce Porter, who is the RDCK director regarding the “road standard that we would be looking at for improvement to the Kaslo South Road.” The email states: “Because it would ultimately be industrial traffic we would need to build to the Local/Collector spec ... that it would have to be two full lanes but would not have to be paved.” He asks council about road builders in Kaslo who can provide an estimate for developing the road to this spec. Council agreed to provide the RDCK with contacts for local road building contractors.

• John Eickland spoke to council about plans for his 2012 Canada Day celebrations. He requested use of Front Street Park for live music during the two-day festival, and proposed moving the Saturday Market to his property on Front Street across from the hotel during the festival. He said he would be meeting with Saturday Market organizer David Stewart.

• Council received a letter from Jim Yount criticizing council for referring all comments received about Water Street to the Development Services Committee until the Water Street Committee’s terms of references have been met. He sees this as a way for council to disregard all public input. Council will respond to Yount, clarifying that all the comments will be considered by council at the time recommendations are received from the Water Street Committee. Also, it will be suggested to Yount that he is welcome to attend Water Street Committee meetings, which are open to the public.

Poet Phil Gruis to launch new book

by Art Joyce

Journalism has a long tradition of published works turning to the ancient and modern language of poetry. Gruis began working in journalism in the 1960s and worked as a newspaper manager, editor and writer for 25 years, mostly in Boulder, Colorado and Golden, Colorado. He has been looking “late to the party,” poet. His poems have appeared in many literary journals in the US, UK and Canada. His latest collection, On the Road to Limbo, will be released by Finishing Line Press September 9. He lives in Spokane and Johnson’s Landing.

Are there certain poetic influences or mentors that play a significant part in your poetry? No mentors. I took up poetry way late in life at 60. I have read and followed many other poets, newspaper journalists, and had to just get on with it. Journalism is the pursuit of literal truths; poetry is the quest for figurative truths, indiff erent to the theatrics have generated new enthusiasm for poetry, especially once a romantic and a cynic. I think those traits are quite compatible, and both have always driven my poems. But they’ve also driven me into the woods. I’m an outrider. I like money well enough. And power would make things easier. But I’m moved more by peace and beauty — which, as an American, I find in startling abundance in the Kootenays. In this book I get a bit more precise, more defensive and ornerily about unconventional choices I and some others have made.

In our techno-obsessed world, how do you see poetry fitting in? It’s debatable whether most kids now even really know what poetry is, or how to read it. Far easier to reach for the iPod... I think poetry has long been one of the cornerstones of dreams and other eccentrics. Certainly since the advent of television, and maybe forever. I don’t do poetry slams, but I’m appreciative of them because the theatrics have generated new enthusiasm for poetry, especially and best of all, among young people. I hope they are moving to seek out good poems in the deluge of mostly worthless jibber. As long as there are some romantics who resist loading their brains with celebrity worship and materialistic and political drivel, and a few accommodating publishers, I won’t be too troubled.

Tell me something about Finishing Line Press. My small collections survived Finishing Line’s annual competition each of the three years I’ve entered. As you would imagine, it’s very difficult to get a book — even a chapbook of 12 to 40 pages — published without paying for it yourself, or having crazy university connections. Finishing Line offers small but genuine book deals, and they do nice work. I’m placing an increasing number of poems in online journals now, but still love to have a book in my hand.

BC Rivers Day Celebration on the Slocan River September 25

Perry Ridge Water Users Association invites you to celebrate the beautiful Slocan and Little Slocan Rivers and to engage in free presentations and activities at the Slocan Valley Rivers Day Celebration on Sunday, September 25. Rivers Day has been celebrated annually in BC for over 30 years, and for over six years across the rest of the world. This year’s event is inspired by the success of the BC event.

Come celebrate the many values that these local rivers provide, including clean water, fish, travel routes, Sinixt cultural sites, and recreational opportunities. Learn more about where the river water comes from, where it goes, threats to the river, and how to protect it. Find out more about the experiences of people who have learned permaculture for the earth, for each other and sharing their knowledge.

According to Griswold, about five years after Diane Pelletier found the drawing, she told Pelletier she knew Griswold and would keep it for her. A few weeks later when Griswold went to the Enderby Museum, she was surprised to see the tube with her name on it.

"Now after 29 years I have the tube and the drawing," says Griswold. "I find this to be a real mystery! How did it get out of the mail system? How did it get from the Kootenays to the Okanagan after all, and how did it come to be turned into a mystery package?"

Griswold traveled to Kaslo on August 9 this year and delivered the tube and drawing to Elizabeth Scarlett, director of the Kootenay Lake Historical Society. After 30 years, the mystery package has completed its journey at last and another historical treasure is preserved.

Mystery of undelivered package solved after twenty-nine years

by Art Joyce

Everyone loves a mystery, and history is replete with examples of letters and packages ‘vanishing’ and then mysteriously turning up years or even decades later. In 1982, a drawing glazed in a tube was mailed to Mrs. June Griswold of Kootenay Lake Historical Society, while she was living near Kaslo.

Unfortunately, she did not receive this drawing until this year. The drawing – a pen and ink sketch of the Kaslo and Slocan (K&S) Railway circa 1896 by Gerry Doeksen – was mailed by the artist to Griswold from Montana, where she had lived. The tube and drawing to Elizabeth Scarlett, director of the Kootenay Lake Historical Society.

According to Griswold, about five years after Diane Pelletier found the drawing, she told Pelletier she knew Griswold and would keep it for her. A few weeks later when Griswold went to the Enderby Museum, she was surprised to see the tube with her name on it.

"Now after 29 years I have the tube and the drawing," says Griswold. "I find this to be a real mystery! How did it get out of the mail system? How did it get from the Kootenays to the Okanagan after all, and how did it come to be turned into a mystery package?"

Griswold traveled to Kaslo on August 9 this year and delivered the tube and drawing to Elizabeth Scarlett, director of the Kootenay Lake Historical Society. After 30 years, the mystery package has completed its journey at last and another historical treasure is preserved.
GREENSONG SANCTUARY for the Arts presents two days of Raw with Kai Hicks of Intuitive Path Superfoods. Learn the ancient Peruvian art of raw chocolate making with the highest quality superfoods ingredients in the world. You will leave with 100 grams of Premium Arriba Raw Chocolate to take home. Sunday September 4th at 12 pm. Join us next day for a Raw Superfood Integration Class that will see the creation and integration of superfoods into shakes. Enjoy the shakes while you are here and leave with a clear focused energy that will last for hours.

Sunday September 4th at 12 pm. Classes are $50 each or both for $80. Visit www.greensongsanctuary.com for more details and RSVP to spinachlovelove@gmail.com or call Jim Berrill 250-359-5922 for more details.

YOGA AT THE HOMES - Rejuvenate your spirit! Drop in classes – Monday and Thursday evenings 9:30.

ALTERNATE DIRECTOR AREA D: anyone interested in applying for this volunteer position has 2 weeks to submit their name to Alternate Director Kate O’Keith by August 31. The responsibilities of the Alternate Director are to stand in for the Director in his/her absence. If you would like more details, contact Kate at 250-366-4452.

SLOCAN VALLEY SENIORS HOUSING SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Tues., Sept. 20 at the Passmore Lodge, Doors Open 6:30. Meeting – 7 pm. Refreshments and entertainment. New members welcome (please sign up between 6:30 and 7:00 pm). For more information contact Val Mayes at 250-226-6979.

SLOCAN VALLEY COMMUNITY Complex Society AGM - Wed., Sept. 21 at 7 pm at WE Graham Library, Slocan. All welcome!

RICHARDINE R. GEEL of Intuitive Path Superfoods. Arts presents two days of Raw with Kai Hicks of Intuitive Path Superfoods. Learn the ancient Peruvian art of raw chocolate making with the highest quality superfoods ingredients in the world. You will leave with 100 grams of Premium Arriba Raw Chocolate to take home. Sunday September 4th at 12 pm. Join us next day for a Raw Superfood Integration Class that will see the creation and integration of superfoods into shakes. Enjoy the shakes while you are here and leave with a clear focused energy that will last for hours. Sunday September 4th at 12 pm. Classes are $50 each or both for $80. Visit www.greensongsanctuary.com for more details and RSVP to spinachlovelove@gmail.com or call Jim Berrill 250-359-5922 for more details.

YOGA AT THE HOMES - Rejuvenate your spirit! Drop in classes – Monday and Thursday evenings 9:30.

ALTERNATE DIRECTOR AREA D: anyone interested in applying for this volunteer position has 2 weeks to submit their name to Alternate Director Kate O’Keith by August 31. The responsibilities of the Alternate Director are to stand in for the Director in his/her absence. If you would like more details, contact Kate at 250-366-4452.

SLOCAN VALLEY SENIORS HOUSING SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Tues., Sept. 20 at the Passmore Lodge, Doors Open 6:30. Meeting – 7 pm. Refreshments and entertainment. New members welcome (please sign up between 6:30 and 7:00 pm). For more information contact Val Mayes at 250-226-6979.
SLOCAN VALLEY RECREATION
REEF ROCK WALL CLIMBING DAY
with Bear Rock Climbing. Slocan Park Hall. Thurs., Sept. 8 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. First come, first climbing! GETTING OFF THE GRID - They've been there and done that, now you get to find out what works. Sun., Sept. 18. POSSESSION AND ACQUISITION LICENSE - Sept. 17 & 18 at Winlaw School. CORE HUNTER TRAINING - Sept. 24 & 25 (Sat., Sun.) at Winlaw School. NATIVE EDIBLES HARVEST WALK Sat., Sept. 24 with Shannon Bennett. FALL LEISURE GUIDE - will be in valley mailboxes the last week of August. FACEBOOK - Join us on Facebook and be kept up-to-date on everything that's happening.

RV PARKING
year round or house or one-bedroom suite in New Denver. 250-376-7210 Stein.

In defense of Harry Potter continued from page 5 to another.

Also, because she had started getting a lot of flack from certain Christians who were under the impression that she might be training their children to be witches, including for a brief unguarded moment, the Catholic Conference of Polish bishops, I realized that the purely theologic principle of me had a wee job to do. Where you have an overwhelming mass of young people very happy with a book on the one hand, and special groups of adult authorities disapproving on the other hand, any mind that knows the Bible can easily suspect the looming figure of Christ raising cautions about scandalizing the little ones. And as I had spent years by then advising John Paul on the half-wit positions of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, I could hardly be expected to ignore his own episcopal countrymen.

But that meant, of course, that I had to become familiar with Harry myself. Which, to my subsequent pleasure and success, was not at all difficult to see why the children had been so engaged, and what I found in Harry’s ‘headaches’ was an analogous comparison with certain predicaments of the mystic’s dark night that have left me thinking that in that area, Joanne Rowling is wiser than any of the other authors I have named above. Far from thinking as little as I can of Potter fans, like Mr. Jeanes, I expect to find among them, eventually, some fairly well prepared appreciators of my own work.

Ken Nelson

September 2, 2011

The Valley Voice August 24, 2011
Slocan Valley Seniors Housing Society holds Annual General Meeting

submitted
Want to be part of shaping the future for Slocan Valley seniors? On Tuesday, September 20 at the Passmore Lodge, the Slocan Valley Seniors Housing Society (SVSHS) will be holding their annual general meeting beginning at 7 p.m. with refreshments and entertainment. The doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The SVSHS has a mandate to provide housing and outreach services to seniors in the Slocan Valley. Because of extensive fundraising that began some years ago, the society has managed to achieve their first goal and now operates the 10-unit Passmore Lodge. They have provided a variety of outreach services, as well as support to seniors who are great success with their yoga and fitness programs, breakfasts, and educational programs. They are now focusing on developing more housing options for seniors in the future, as well as dealing with the ongoing fiscal challenges of operating the lodge.

At the AGM this year, there will be two special resolutions put forward for the membership to vote on. One resolution is to enable the board to conduct business electronically when needed. The other pertains to phasing out the practice of allowing Passmore Lodge residents to be elected board members. Both resolutions are designed to improve the board’s ability to focus on the business of the society. As well, there will be the usual voting for board directors.

Any member who wants to vote at the meeting must become a current member of the society. This can be done by filling in the membership form and paying the $5 fee. Ideally, memberships would be processed before the meeting, but memberships can be purchased between 6:30 and 7 p.m. on the evening of the AGM, September 20.

To get membership forms, agenda and text of special resolutions contact Val Mayes at 250-226-7136 or valleymayes@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY

Slocan Valley Recreation programs take you to new heights

submitted
This September, Slocan Valley Recreation has several interesting programs coming up, but they are going to start the season by having you climbing a wall – literally.

Jody and Wendy Knight operate Bear Rock Climbing and they have recently moved to Slocan Park. You may recognize them because they have an eight-metre-tall portable climbing wall. To help everyone get the opportunity to experience the wall, they’ll be offering a free afternoon of climbing instruction on Thursday, September 8 from 4 to 7 pm at Slocan Park Hall. All ages are welcome and it will be first come, first climb. There will also be lessons available throughout the rest of the month for those who wish.

Get insights into the trials and rewards of getting off the grid when Val Mayes and Gary Yakimchuk share their experiences on Sunday, September 18. Shannen Bennett returns on September 24 for the Native Edibles Harvest Walk, where she completes the cycle focusing on the roots, berries and fruit of a variety of beneficial native plants. The PAL and CORE Hunter Training Programs are also happening at Winlaw school in September, beginning the weekend of September 17.

Slocan council, August 8: Two projects postponed due to Springer Creek’s reduced taxes

by Jan McArthur

• CAO Jack Richardson provided council with a memo detailing Springer Creek Forest Products’ reduced taxes for the past two years and the negative financial implications this has on the Village. In order to save approximately $400,000 this year, the Village has decided to postpone two of the capital projects planned in the budget: the sustainability and transition planning and community signature projects.

The CAO’s memo explains that taxation from Springer Creek ($132,075) makes up 58 percent of that taxation from Springer Creek Forest Products and the Province for an extension on its liquor licence application, because the building inspector cannot approve the occupancy load until he is satisfied with the hall’s septic system. Michael Mills of Mills Bros. Construction inspected the system, and informs council in a letter that the septic tank is smaller than it should be according to current standards. He recommends pumping the tank three times per year if it is not upgraded. Also, the area available for a septic field on the property is very small. He suggests that perhaps another nearby property could be used for the facility. This matter was referred to staff.

• Council decided to apply for a $11,000 Community Development Grant from the RDC to put towards Slocan’s 100th anniversary celebration. Also, staff was asked to investigate closing the 100th Centennial Anniversary bank accounts and establishing a trust account to be used for future celebrations.

The Slocan Valley Historical Society was granted permission to use some Village documents and photographs in a historical display they will set up at the WE Graham School library during the 100th anniversary celebration. They will also sell Centennial medallions.

• Leonard and Sofia Antoniuk have made a request to reconfigure their property on Harold Street from four commercial parcels to five 60’ x 100’ residential lots.

In their letter to council, the Antoniaks say they feel that the town needs an increase in population, so five new homes would be of benefit. They point out that there is more commercial space available in town than there is demand for it.

Council decided to defer a decision on the request until after the adoption of the new OCP.

• An offer to sit on the Slocan Library Financial Committee was received from Joanne Ellis. Council agreed that all applications for membership on the committee will be sent to the committee for their consideration and final decision.

• Council received a letter from Marc Septv of Western Aircraft Supplies Ltd. outlining his value-added wood product operations and the steps taken to mitigate any negative impacts.

• Council will support the Old Age Pensioners’ Organization’s resolution for the elimination of MSP premiums for all BC seniors at the UBCM conference.

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes)

CASUAL CALL-OUT EMPLOYEES

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) is accepting applications for casual employees throughout the district in the following job classifications:

• Bus Drivers - Special Education Assistants - Custodians
• Library Clerks - School Secretaries - Program Assistants
• Noon Hour Supervisors

Successful candidates will have their names placed on the C.U.P.E. Casual Call-Out List and are needed to replace full and part-time employees on an as required basis. A resume outlining grade 12 completion, qualifications, and experience should be attached to your application.

Employees currently on the Casual Call-Out list must reapply by September 1, 2011.

For further information please contact the School Board office in Nakusp, 265-3638 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Please Note: that prior to being placed on the casual call-out list, applicants must submit to a criminal record search.

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) P.O. Box 340, Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0
**SCHOOL OPENING** 2011/12

**September 6, 2011 - all district schools will be in session 1/2 day only**

**EDGEOWOOD / NAKUSP ROUTE • 2011/12**

**REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS** (effective September 6, 2011)

**SOUTHERN ZONE SCHOOLS**

**NAKUSP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**NAKUSP SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**ARROW LAKES DISTRIBUTED LEARNING SCHOOL**

**HILLS, NEW DENVER, SILVERTON ROUTE • 2011/12**

**BARVIEW / CRESSENT BAY / BROUSE LOOP ROUTE • 2011/12**

**VEHICLE OPERATORS:** September 6, 2011 will be the official opening of school for School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) 2011/12 session. We like to remind motorists to watch out for children walking to school or waiting for school buses.

**ALTERNATE FLASHING LIGHTS:** School buses are equipped with alternate flashing red lamps and when they are flashing, **traffic in both directions must stop and remain stopped until the red flashing lamps are turned off.** The flashing lights are to indicate the school bus is loading or unloading school children. It is an offence under the Motor Vehicle Act to pass a school bus with its overhead red lights flashing.

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

Where Bus service is not available, Transportation Assistance may be provided to eligible parents who apply for assistance. Remember to apply in September as Transportation Assistance is paid starting at the beginning of the month when submitted and not retroactive to the beginning of the school year.

**SUMMIT LAKE/GLENBANK/HIGHWAY 23 ROUTE • 2011/12**

**AM RUN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>1/2 Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:55</td>
<td>Pre-Trip</td>
<td>2:58 Leave Base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:14</td>
<td>YRB Yard</td>
<td>3:00 Leave NES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:37</td>
<td>Jordan Rd</td>
<td>3:06 Leave NSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40</td>
<td>Galloway</td>
<td>3:25 Robberstad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:42</td>
<td>Robinson Rd/Malbous</td>
<td>3:26 Arrow Park Ferry Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Hwy 6 Junction</td>
<td>3:26 Cenotaph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:35</td>
<td>Gravel Pit</td>
<td>3:28 Ashcroft Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45</td>
<td>Ferry</td>
<td>3:31 Robins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:55</td>
<td>J &amp; S Snacks</td>
<td>3:33 Or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:58</td>
<td>McClaring</td>
<td>3:34 Remer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:59</td>
<td>Stewart Rd</td>
<td>3:38 Moroz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:12</td>
<td>Silver Queen Rd.</td>
<td>3:36 BES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:13</td>
<td>Clarke Drive</td>
<td>3:38 McCormack Rd/Crossroads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:14</td>
<td>McCormack Rd/Crossroads</td>
<td>3:39 Clarke Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:16</td>
<td>BES</td>
<td>3:40 Silver Queen Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:18</td>
<td>Moroz</td>
<td>3:51 Stewart Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:19</td>
<td>Remer</td>
<td>3:52 McGia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:21</td>
<td>Or</td>
<td>3:54 J &amp; S Snacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:23</td>
<td>Robins</td>
<td>4:00 Ferry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:26</td>
<td>Ashhead Rd</td>
<td>4:15 Gravel Pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:27</td>
<td>Cenotaph</td>
<td>4:21 Hwy 6 Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Arrow Park Ferry Rd</td>
<td>4:25 Robinson Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:31</td>
<td>Robberstad</td>
<td>4:29 Galloway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:34</td>
<td>Cairn</td>
<td>4:31 Jordan Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:36</td>
<td>NES</td>
<td>4:34 YRB Yard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:39</td>
<td>NES</td>
<td>4:36 Base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:46</td>
<td>Base</td>
<td>5:00 Base</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEDNESDAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>1/2 Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:55</td>
<td>Pre-Trip</td>
<td>2:58 Leave Base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:14</td>
<td>YRB Yard</td>
<td>3:00 Leave NES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:37</td>
<td>Jordan Rd</td>
<td>3:06 Leave NSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40</td>
<td>Galloway</td>
<td>3:25 Robberstad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:42</td>
<td>Robinson Rd/Malbous</td>
<td>3:26 Arrow Park Ferry Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Hwy 6 Junction</td>
<td>3:26 Cenotaph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:35</td>
<td>Gravel Pit</td>
<td>3:28 Ashcroft Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45</td>
<td>Ferry</td>
<td>3:31 Robins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:55</td>
<td>J &amp; S Snacks</td>
<td>3:33 Or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:58</td>
<td>McClaring</td>
<td>3:34 Remer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:59</td>
<td>Stewart Rd</td>
<td>3:38 Moroz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:12</td>
<td>Silver Queen Rd.</td>
<td>3:36 BES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:13</td>
<td>Clarke Drive</td>
<td>3:38 McCormack Rd/Crossroads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:14</td>
<td>McCormack Rd/Crossroads</td>
<td>3:39 Clarke Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:16</td>
<td>BES</td>
<td>3:40 Silver Queen Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:18</td>
<td>Moroz</td>
<td>3:51 Stewart Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:19</td>
<td>Remer</td>
<td>3:52 McGia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:21</td>
<td>Or</td>
<td>3:54 J &amp; S Snacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:23</td>
<td>Robins</td>
<td>4:00 Ferry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:26</td>
<td>Ashhead Rd</td>
<td>4:15 Gravel Pit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:27</td>
<td>Cenotaph</td>
<td>4:21 Hwy 6 Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Arrow Park Ferry Rd</td>
<td>4:25 Robinson Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:31</td>
<td>Robberstad</td>
<td>4:29 Galloway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:34</td>
<td>Cairn</td>
<td>4:31 Jordan Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:36</td>
<td>NES</td>
<td>4:34 YRB Yard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:39</td>
<td>NES</td>
<td>4:36 Base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:46</td>
<td>Base</td>
<td>5:00 Base</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gravel Pit**

**Hills, New Denver, Silverton Route • 2011/12**

**Driver – Craig Besinque • Bus #4100**