Rivers Day celebration presents history of Columbia River fish, global water crisis and plight of the Sinixt

by Jan McMurray

BC Rivers Day was celebrated in the Slocan Valley with an educational community event and delicious salmon luncheon at Appledale Hall on September 25. The event was funded by CBT and the RDCK (Area H) and was organized by the Perry Ridge Water Users Association.

Speakers were Dr. Don McPhail, who gave a history of the fish of the Columbia River system, and Dr. Robert Sandford, who spoke about the global water crisis. There was also a video presentation about the Sinixt, done by an archeology student at Hamilton College.

Dr. McPhail’s history of the Columbia River, which is one of the oldest rivers in the world (at least 12 million years old), began with a description of two very important events: the capture of the Snake River and glaciation.

About two million years ago, the drainage changed so that the ancient Idaho Lake began draining into Snake River, which is a tributary of the Columbia. This gave the many fish in Idaho Lake the opportunity to travel into the Columbia system, and fish biologists believe that many new fish entered the system at this time.

About 20,000 years ago, two ice sheets pushed south and covered the Canadian portion of the Columbia, wiping it clean of fish. McPhail said knowledge of the fish in the Columbia before the ice sheets is limited, but some species still exist from the pre-glacial era. The white sturgeon, for example, has been here for 4.5 million years.

McPhail said that after the ice, 57% of the fish in the Columbia were native and 43% were alien. Most fish biologists believe that when there are more than 10% alien species present, the native species are “in trouble.” McPhail said the number of species that are found only in the Columbia system and nowhere else in the world is striking.

He said the coming of man had very little impact on the fish of the Columbia system until the Europeans arrived, and then things changed rapidly with the clearing of land, dredging, dams, pollution, agriculture and the introduction of non-native fish they brought with them. “The net result for the Columbia of the arrival of the Europeans was an erosion of the native fish population,” he said.

Chumook salmon, now extinct, used to bring a lot of phosphorous and nitrogen from the ocean, pumping a huge amount of fertilizer into the Columbia system. “When that was shut off by the Grand Coulee Dam, it had an enormous impact on fish,” said McPhail. “As far as I know, no one has studied the long-term effects of this.”

McPhail said it was inevitable that the white sturgeon will die out, as there is no evidence of reproduction in the Columbia system. “These guys easily live 100 years, so they can hang on a long time, but there is just no place for them to reproduce anymore,” he said.

He said even the salmon (kokanee) in the Columbia are not self-sustaining. “If you pull the plug and shut down the hatcheries, they will be gone quickly,” he said. “They are on life support.”

On a more optimistic note, he said that the Columbia River has more sculpins than anywhere in the world. These very small fish are important to biodiversity, he said. He believes that the slimy sculpin is found only above the falls at Koch Creek in Slocan River. McPhail feels it is important to keep an eye on the sculpins, as most government and other agencies are interested in big fish only, “but small fish are an important part of any aquatic system,” he said.

Next up was a talk by Dr. Robert Sandford, Chair of the UN Water for Life Decade (2005-2015). He reminded that earlier civilizations died out because they could not manage water and populations.

He said that today, three to six times the water that exists at any time in the world’s rivers is stored behind dams, and our demand for energy continues to grow. By 2050, he said the world population is likely to grow to 10 billion, and we will need the equivalent of 100 Colorado Rivers for agriculture. “So the picture is growing demand, matched up with shrinking supplies. The result is intensifying scarcity, urging us to respond now to this global trend.”

Contributing to the scarcity of water is widespread contamination that makes water unfit for human consumption, and deforestation, because forests generate, capture, purify and release water.

“We now understand that nature needs water in its own right so it can provide it to us. But 40% of humanity is competing directly with nature for water,” he said. “If you give nature the water it needs, that water will have to come from agriculture, so people may starve. If you give it to agriculture, nature can’t sustain the earth.”

On top of this, he said, we have climate change, and water plays a central role in the weather system.

“To achieve any meaningful level of sustainability, we have to deal with our relationship with water – this is key,” he said. “We can choose to carry on as we have or, while we still have time, act on a new narrative.”

We have barely a generation to make such a transition.

Sandford concluded with three things we can do to start turning this around. First, he said, we must see nature as our primary partner. “Sooner or later fish have to be at, not just on, the table. Everyone must have equal rights to water.”

Second, we must protect our forests. “Deforestation of the upper reaches of watersheds cause climate change over time. Deforestation can accelerate desertification. Forests create their own rain. When forests are cut down, rainfall declines. Forests absorb rain and allow rain to be soaked into the ground.”

Third, we must have political will and leadership. “It is not a crisis of supply, it is a crisis of governments. We lack policies to stop us from chipping away at our resources until they are depleted. We need to begin cultivating that leadership now.”

The final presentation of the day was the first public screening of A journey upstream; the past and present of an extinct people, a video about the Sinixt people. The video is the main part of a thesis project by a student of Dr. Nathan Goodale’s at Hamilton College. Dr. Goodale has been conducting an archaeological field school at the Slocan Narrows pithouse near Lemon Creek since 2009.

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The grand finale of BC Rivers Day was a chance to ride in a sturgeon-nosed canoe in Slocan River. Harry Wong, grandson of Alexander Christian, who was the last Sinixt man to live at the confluence of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers (now Brilliant), had the canoe commissioned by Paul Montgomery of Seattle. Wong, who lives in Seattle, takes the canoe all over as a “good will tool” to help with the recognition of the Sinixt as a band in Canada.
Slocan Park residents bring their concerns to open house on proposed gravel pit

by Jan McMurray

Slocan Park residents continue to have serious concerns about the proposed Kooybrat gravel pit in their neighborhood. Fifty people came out to the open house on the proposal, held September 27 at Slocan Park Hall. The proponent was required to hold the open house because many concerns about the proposal have already been brought forward by the public.

Quite a few people were there to answer questions: Lloyd Bell, Inspector of Mines, southeast region; Jennifer Sibbain and several others from Sitkum Consulting, hired by the proponent to prepare the application for the mining permit; and Meeri Durand, senior planner at the RDCK.

Residents are concerned about water, noise, dust, industrial traffic on residential roads, and the potential for landslides. Perhaps the biggest concern is around the monitoring of the operation. “Who will be making sure the proponent is following the rules?” asked one resident.

Bell, who will be making the decision on the application, told the Vaughan Voice that the decision on a particular permit is “huge.” He said he would “eventually get to the file and go through everything. There’s reams of stuff already, and more comments are coming in tonight.”

He said that based on everything in the file, his decision could be “no mining permit” or something in between. The permit can say an awful lot – we can put special conditions on it.”

Bell works out of Cranbrook, the nearest Ministry of Mines office, and has a very small staff. He said they try to get out on random inspections, and will come out to investigate in response to a complaint if necessary.

“Water is from Glade attended the meeting and shared his frustration with ongoing issues of non-compliance at a gravel pit in his community. Bell said he was aware of the situation and assured them that they were “moving forward on the Glade pit.”

One Slocan Park resident pointed out that if the damage is done, particularly if it’s environmental, it is not very comforting to know that complaints can be made and an inspector will come after the fact. “I hear you – that’s why things have to be sucked into the permit,” said Bell. He said that for example, he could include in the permit a requirement for the proponent to monitor certain things and report on this monitoring to the RDCK or Bell. This response did not satisfy the resident, who indicated he does not have much faith in industry monitoring itself.

”A resident from Glade attended the meeting and shared his frustration with ongoing issues of non-compliance at a gravel pit in his community. Bell said he was aware of the situation and assured them that they were “moving forward on the Glade pit.”

Another resident from Sitkum said that the permit is crucial, particularly if the mine goes through before the mining permit is issued for the Kooybrat Pit. The proponent will have to apply to the RDCK for a permit. He explained that the RDCK only has the power to impose the RDCK to address such community concerns as noise, dust, and hours of operation. Durand said that land use planning is the most powerful tool available to local governments when it comes to gravel pits. “For example, if Area H South had an OCP, we could deny the rezoning,” she said.

Water from a roadside ditch drains into the Radcliff Creek runs across the northern half of the property. A 15-metre buffer zone on either side of Radcliff Creek is required by the Kooybrat Higher Level Plan. Sibbain of Sitkum Consulting explained that the Kooybrat operation would mean a 30-metre buffer on the operating side, where no work would occur, and a 75-metre water management area.

Sibbain explained that if surface water runoff is encountered while excavating in the management area, the mine operator must ensure that natural drainage patterns are maintained. She said that typically done through the use of settling ponds, dry wells, retention basins, or ditches and trenches.

Because the 75-metre management area was described to the meeting as “not likely to be the no work area” that it should be added to the ‘no work’ zone.

Two men seriously injured in car crash north of Nakusp

by Timothy Schafer

Two men who were stopped earlier Saturday for suspected impaired driving north of Nakusp are now facing their lives in critical condition in Vancouver General Hospital.

A 38-year-old man from Trail and a 25-year-old Revelstoke man – the suspected driver of the vehicle – were being treated at the Ridge Meadows Royal Free Hospital by the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan. She said this is typically done through the use of settling ponds, dry wells, retention basins, or ditches and trenches.

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Dead fish found in dried creekbed in Sandon

by Jan McMurray

On Saturday, September 24, local citizens discovered that Sandon Creek had run dry, and they observed dead fish in the dry creekbed.

They contacted Craig Pettitt of the Valhalla Wilderness Society, who went up to Sandon to check it out. On Sunday, he went up to the dam on Sandon and White Creeks that divert water to the Silversmith hydroelectric plant. What he saw was 100% of the water from the creeks being diverted, and dry creekbeds below the dams.

Pettitt notified the provincial Ministry of Environment and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. On Thursday, September 29, a provincial government spokesperson replied to a query on this from the Valley Voice. “We can tell you at this stage that is staff from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations confirm the licensee has a permit to divert water from Sandon and White Creeks and that they were likely within their allowable limits. Staff continue to investigate the possible cause of the dry creek.”

Hal Wright, manager, Silversmith Power & Light Corporation, explained that the short section of Sandon Creek between the powerhouse bridge and the point where it drains into Carpenter Creek often dries up when we experience a dry autumn. “This occurs naturally,” he said. “This is the only part of Sandon Creek which is flat enough for fish to exist. Sadly, the odd fish does not return to Carpenter Creek when this section of creek dries up.”

However, some people who have lived in Sandon in the past said that they have never seen this section of Sandon Creek run dry.

Wright reported that following the recent complaints, authorities checked the water flows on the creeks and confirmed that the power plant is drawing less than half of its licenced allowance.

Wright said he hoped people would not choose to blame the historic power plant for this “normal occurrence.”

Questions about the flu? Call the flu line...

Nakusp & Area - 250-265-3608

Kaslo & Area - 353-2291

The flu (influenza) is highly contagious. Getting your flu shot protects you and those with the cost associated with you – at home, school and work.

For more information contact your local public health office, call flu line 250-265-3608 or visit www.interiorhealth.ca
Animal control and property taxation

To have property taxation for animal control is unfair. The costs of animal control should be paid fully by those that create the problems.

Property taxes were originally brought in for the purposes of protection of property such as fire protection and police protection. Because one owns property does not mean that they can afford services, unrelated to property, that other residents want.

It may very well become a tyranny when some people that never wanted these kinds of expenditures will find their homes or farms in a tax sale because they won’t be able to afford the desires of others.

Vote No for property taxation to fund animal control in the Slocan Valley.

Ed Noon
Perry Siding

Bears

Why do we live where all the benefits of nature are at our door? Is it a better choice for us than the city? Do we expect that we can maintain our beautiful village environments, so attractive to tourists and many residents alike, by killing every bear that comes to town? I dare say that most of us find this unacceptable. I find it sadistic because it amounts to premeditated murder.

Knowledgeable bylaws (like a fully implemented Bear Smart Program), enacted by our politicians, are required for our safety. It will cost us some money but for our safety, unrelated to property, does not mean that they can afford services, unrelated to property, that other residents want.

Barbie Horton
Slocan City

Area H Director has not changed his position on Sandon

I believe Sandon is a historical treasure and I have been working towards preserving this treasure by trying to develop a Heritage Conservation Plan for Sandon. I was able to get RDKC staff support, our MLA’s support, and the support from the Ministry responsible for Heritage.

What I was unable to achieve was to keep the local stakeholders focused on preserving Sandon’s heritage. The current history of Sandon kept resurfacing to the point where it was no longer possible to continue the process. There are many issues that have to be addressed and resolved or set aside before we can continue the process. To achieve this I need the cooperation of all stakeholders and am working towards that end. I have not given up on Sandon and the development of a Heritage Conservation Plan for Sandon is on the RDKC Development Services schedule for 2012.

Walter Popoff
RDKC Area H Director

Peter’s bear survey results

On Monday, September 19 I spent four hours in front of the New Denver Police Station and a total of 100 hours over the summer to see the large bear presence in the village.

It gives participants a choice of two solutions for dealing with bear activities. Despite my own strong sentiments, I believe that it is timely to recount for you and your readers, a tale of intimidation and threatened retribution to those so bold as to run for elected positions in Kaslo.

Over the weekend of August 14, I had occasion to happen upon a young Kaslo resident (businessperson, whom I would consider bright, a caring resident and a valuable asset to this village. The political nature of a T-shirt I was wearing came up in the conversation, and we launched into a discussion about local politics and the completely dysfunctional nature of the current council (a point upon which we heartily agreed!).

I made the suggestion that this individual would make a fine and electable candidate at the November polys. His response was (which I paraphrase in the interests of good taste) “I couldn’t, it would ruin my business.”

The conversation was quickly interrupted, but the same point came up over and over again. Clearly, thinking individuals with any good business sense, who take public positions on publicly sensitive issues, have been intimidated as individuals, have felt the wrath of retribution in their businesses, and have backed away from any activism in local politics. There are examples of it, and I know of it personally.

Shame on those members of the vocal minority, who have intimidation and retribution down to a polished art.

It starts here,” the front of my T-shirt reads, and it features a large “x” below. The back side reads “November 19, vote for change in Kaslo”.

It is expected at least three of the five incumbent council members will seek re-election. Assuredly, a wave of change is coming, and it includes standing up to the vocal minority November 19. Stand up for Kaslo, and stand up with your candidacy.

Jim Yount
Kaslo

Belleve view should be permanently ensured

I am writing in regards to the article on page 11 of the September 21 issue: “Belleve restoration work in New Denver set for this fall.”

All the Village needs to do is clean up the mess and maybe throw some “reclamation mix” on the slope, or let it reclaim or revegetate itself. It is nonsensical for the Village to make this big a deal out of it, as far as I can tell the amount of weeds is a decent and permanent wide open view of the lake and mountains. The view should instead be permanently ensured by the Village, with volunteer help if offered by the residents. I do not know who vandalized the trees but I know there was an open view there in the 1980s and the Village has allowed the patch of weedy trees to block this portion of it. There are other such patches on Bellevue. When we have visitors new to New Denver they usually ask why “people can’t see the view” (except from the shore itself or from a short stretch of bank above it on Bellevue).

The Village has in my opinion opportunely talked this “reclamation” on to an unrelated project bordering the Kohn Reflection Garden (KRG) so as to legitimize it using the fancy stuff appearing in the Ecosystem Restoration Plan (ERP). It is not a “Secure the Shore” issue – the KRG project has better claim to that designation, but it’s another clue as to the thought behind the Bellevue inclusion. The slope is not unstable, it is above the HWL, it doesn’t need a precise ecosystem designation and minutely-planned restoration to claim it. (To say entirely in the context of 100 plus years of human settlement activity, etc.) “Tree” restoration would see such above HWL gravelly/bouldery banks ecosystem(s) resembling those of unsettled lake edges elsewhere (along with the vast quantity of fuel awaiting ignition) and with minimal to no regret.

I wrote a detailed letter to the Village September 8 on this issue with a series of notes critiquing the ERP (including its mention of “social utility,” in which I also pointed out that the Mori Trail – an amenity and attraction for residents and visitors alike – situated at the base of the slope is urgently in need of repair and upgrade there as well as elsewhere. The closure of a section of the Mori Trail for months last year during the height of the tourist season and into the beginning of the season due to the “vandalism” was uncharacteristic and silly particularly in the context of its then overall condition and its now current worse one in several sections. The Village in its reply wrote: “Thank you for taking the time to voice your concerns and bring them to our attention.”

Stephen L. Phillips
New Denver
by Dan Nicholson

**Counil received communication from Peter Roulston, superintendent of the Village Parks Department, re: concerns about bears in the village.** Mr. Roulston cited a recent invasion of the village by numerous bears and noted damage to both private and public property. He was of the opinion that emergency measures need to be undertaken.

Councillor Campbell mentioned that Bears were a provincial responsibility. Councillor Murphy suggested that, in light of the unusually high bear presence in the village this year, a letter be sent to the provincial government, expressing council’s concern. He also asked that staff communicate council’s action to Mr. Roulston.

A petition was received to “Save the View on Bellevue.” The petition advocates stopping planting party to take place in New Denver, October 7 & 8 submitted

Have you ever been to a Planting Party? You are invited to join the Slocan Valley Paradise and the basin in planting native species below Bellevue Avenue. Secure the Shore is a project of the Columbia Basin Trust, in partnership with the Village of New Denver, with planting materials funded by the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP).

The planting dates are October 7 and 8, Friday at noon and Saturday at 11 am.

Mr. Roulston, project manager, and community volunteers will help in amending the soil, digging, planting and seeding.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about the native plants that grow in our beautiful lake ecosystem. You may even be tempted to try them in your own gardens.

CBT launches effort to raise awareness of Columbia River Treaty submitted

A Basin-wide effort to raise awareness and understanding of the Columbia River Treaty (CRT) is being launched by the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT), in partnership with the CRT Local Governments’ Committee.

Starting this month, CBT and local government partners will host a series of information sessions to help Basin residents learn about the past and think about the future.

Councillor Murphy felt that Mr. Greenan had a point, since he had examined the trees in question and felt that some of them did not fit into Greenan’s viewscape. In view of the fact that Mr. Greenan offered to pay for the work, Murphy asked that the council be directed to make a recommendation.

A request from Dougall Greenan to limit some trees on village property was received. The village policy is to limit trees to the 15-foot mark, but no higher.

While we can’t always prevent areas from being degraded or damaged, we can work together to help restore them. Indeed, working with the natural landscape and using native plants is one way to ensure that pollinators and birds will stay and help us in our gardens, farms and kitchens.

Even if gardening and native plants are not your passion, you are most welcome to join the fun. Wild Land Restoration could just be the next spectator sport! There will be refreshments and information on-site; child care can be arranged with advance notice. Everyone will have an opportunity (no planting required) to adopt a plant and dedicate it to someone special.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Caitlin 358-7107, info@cbt.net.

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It’s the end of an era in Slocan Valley recreation...

The public is invited to come to thank Craig Lawrence, the retiring Rec Guy at the Slocan Park Hall on Friday, October 21 between 3:30 and 7 pm.

Presentations and open mic at 4:00 Snacks and Music

COMMUNITY

New Denver council, September 27: Bears and Bellevue Street

**by Jan McMurray**

Work to stabilize the slope on Highway 31A near Retallack, where the washout last on May 23 this year, is now complete.

On May 23, the road washed out after a landslide blocked the Kaslo River, causing the river to flow along Highway 31A. Damage to the highway was repaired earlier this year, and the shoulders were given a temporary repair job.

The road was washed out of place when the water turns wet and cool, some of the bank was recently removed to prevent future slides.

A Ministry of Transportation spokesperson explained that this proactive work was undertaken with the cooperation of the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the provincial Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. She said an environmental concern was on-going through the duration of the major works.

“Last week, the final steps were taken to conclude this project; the temporary shoulder repairs were permanently repaired with appropriate gravel and pavement,” she reported.

The petition advocates stopping planting party to take place in New Denver, October 7 & 8 submitted

Have you ever been to a Planting Party? You are invited to join the Secure the Shore, in partnership with the federal government, to plant native species below Bellevue Avenue.

Secure the Shore is a project of the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT), in partnership with the Columbia River Treaty (CRT). Consultation on the CRT is a provincial responsibility.

Abstracts for the upcoming local government information sessions meetings will be submitted.

The Valley of the Village of Slocan

PO Box 50, 503 Slocan St.,
Slocan, BC V0G 2C0
P: (250) 355-2277
F: (250) 355-2666
info@villageofslocan.ca

The Village of Slocan and the 110th Birthday Organizing Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers, vendors and participants for your time and hard work that made our celebration possible!!!

And an especially big thank you to everyone who came out to have fun and made it such a GREAT DAY!!!
Silvertown council, September 20: Interface fire protection project in the works

By Jan McMurray

• Acting Mayor Leah Main reported on a meeting with SIFCo (Slocan Integral Forestry Co-op) reps Stephen Martineau and Lisa Farr regarding interface fire preparedness around Silverton. SIFCo was awarded a contract to do the planning for fuel reduction work and around Silverton through the RDCK project managed by BA Blackwell and Associates. Now, the Village, Area H and SIFCo will partner to try to get funding for the work that needs to be done on the ground. Council will review the application before it is submitted – the deadline is October 14.

• Acting Mayor Main reported that she and Councillor Barber had met with Ralf Waters of WSA Engineering regarding the geothermal study and the report on the structural condition of the Silverton Gallery.

“The geothermal study lets us know what is possible,” said Main. “It will be referred to as grant money becomes available. It’s a starter document, but answered lots of questions for us – what can be heated by geothermal and some sense of the costs, which are huge, so we will need grants.”

WSA has submitted the final report, but council members had not had time to look at it. It will be brought back to the next meeting.

• Main reported that Mayor Everett said the geothermal study leaves him with being an acting mayor until the end of September, and Councillor Johnson will be acting mayor for October and November.

• Councillor Barber reported that UBC students came to Silverton this past summer to look at a community septic system for the village as part of their course work. Barber said the council was very open to doing it for everyone in Silverton, but might be appropriate for some – for example, some lots in Silverton are not big enough for a septic system. The idea for the study was Public Works Foreman Leonard Casey’s. Barber reported that the students engaged doing the study and enjoyed the summer in Silverton. They finished their report last week.

Barber also reported that the gallery has a grant to re-do the floor, and the project will be done after the Christmas by the Lake event.

• Main reported that discussions are ongoing between the RDCK and the six small municipalities, including Silverton, that are part of the RDCK building inspection service. The RDCK would like to see all six municipalities building bylaws referred to a regional bylaw. The issue is expected to be resolved in the new year.

• Councillor Johnson reported that the Ministry of Transportation Manager Bruce Lintott, who “went out of his way to do a lot for Silverton.” There are no shoulders on the highway between New Denver and Silverton.

That morning, Johnson had attended a meeting at MLA Katrine Conroy’s office with Director Popoff and Slocan Lake Power Improvement Association reps to discuss extending hydro service between Silverton and Slocan. Johnson said it was a very good meeting and “it looks like it’s feasible.” Councillor Bell and Director Popoff will be discussing this with the concept of the Minister of Energy and Mines at the UBCM convention.

• Council voted to amend the Council Remuneration Bylaw to increase councillors’ stipends from $1,200 to $1,600 per year, starting next year with the new council. Councillor Barber was opposed.

This figure was arrived at by taking the average cost per resident of councilors’ stipends of nine other municipalities with populations of less than 1,000 and multiplying it by Silverton’s population of 185. The average cost per resident in the other small municipalities was $8.55.

Councillor Barber said he has a problem with councillors voting for a 30% increase for other councils, and that most people in the workforce receive a 1-2% increase per year. Councillor Bell pointed out that workers’ salaries are reviewed on a more regular basis than are Silverton councillors’ stipends. Acting Mayor Main noted that councillors vote on this issue because that’s the way the law is written.

The amended bylaw will be drafted for next meeting.

• Council agreed to campground contractor Maureen Thompson’s request to renew her contract for next year. This is usually done in the spring, but Thompson wanted to know now so that she can better plan for it.

• Councillor Bell reported that new Ministry of Environment regulations mean that Silverton needs to provide improved waste service to its residents. The amended bylaw will be drafted for next meeting.

• Council received several pieces of correspondence from provincial organizations expressing opposition to smart meters. Council will write a letter asking for a moratorium on the installation of the meters.

• During public time, Ron Provan said Silverton had very high taxation per capita, and yet council voted to increase the stipend for councillors. He also said he feels the Village has a large workforce. Councillor Main responded, saying Silverton is the smallest municipality in the province, but it is still required to provide the same services as any other municipality, and staff is needed to provide these services. She also pointed out that the cost of these services to the taxpayer is offset by the provincial Small Communities Grant, which makes up the bulk of the budget.

Council also expressed support for people who think council is “not doing a great job” may want to run in the upcoming election.

Taking a step into China

Where did you go on your first trip abroad?

On Thursday, October 20 beginning at 7 pm at the Slocan Park Hall, join Noam Ash as he shares his first great adventure at A Step Into China. This local studio potter recently spent four months in the northeast section of China. One of his goals was to experience their rich and ancient ceramic history.

Instead, he discovered an aesthetically wondrous, if troubling landscape characterized by rubble, demolition and over-exploitation of resources, as far as the eye can see.

While visually fascinating, he discovered that the landscape and culture was largely unapproachable to him.

Join Noam as he shares his experiences and pictures from his adventure.

Admission to this evening talk is a donation to the Slocan Food Bank.

If planning to attend please give Silverton Valley Rec & Culture a call at 250-226-0008 so they can put a chair out for you.
Men & Women and Tools – Bridging the Divide

Elaine Ryan & Melissa Bandura showcase indie songwriting

Elaine Ryan and Melissa Bandura hit the Kootenays this October. They will be playing October 13th, 2011 at the BlueBelle Bistro in Kaslo. October 14th at 8 pm at the Red Room in Rossland and October 15th at 8 pm at the Silverton Gallery.

These two indie songsmiths from Vancouver toured Canada as a duo in June 2010, solidifying beautiful vocal harmonies and complimenting each other’s performances on violin and guitar, and are now touring the West Kootenay.

United, Melissa and Elaine spread delicious harmonies over tasty and delicious treats and violin riffs for a sonic treat that will satiate your soul. Their songs combine both hard-fought and whimsical lyrics, with bluegrass, folk and pop melodies. Think Will and Jesse on Jenny’s, Iron & Wine and Ani DiFranco stirred together with a humble Canadian twist. This duo is garnering attention at a rapid clip. Elaine has been turning heads in Vancouver, since entering the Lilith

Seniors Health Fair in the Slocan Valley

Area seniors are invited to the Passmore Lodge for the Seniors Information Health Fair on Friday, October 14 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Organized by the Slocan Valley Seniors Housing Society, the free event promises to be a day devoted to connecting seniors with the wide range of services available to them – and all with a local connection.

“There are always new seniors moving into the area,” said John Shantz, event organizer. “We want to show them that we can care for them as they enjoy our wonderful community.”

A wide range of resource people, service providers and health practitioners will be on site to answer questions, lead demonstrations and more.

Seniors will learn about valuable tools such as Lifeline and Medichair, and what help the Alzheimer’s Society and Red Cross have to offer, and more.

Health practitioners will offer information centres about massage, foot care, chiropractic, acupuncture and yoga for seniors and more have yet to confirm.

Why not drop in for a coffee and treats and socialize with others while discovering what the community has to offer? The program is being made possible through the volunteer efforts of the SVSWS with the hope this can become an annual tradition.

The Passmore Lodge can be found on the Passmore Frontage Road off Highway 6 in Passmore. For more information you can call the Lodge at 250-226-7136.

Challenges emerge as the underlying themes of resistance are named: sexuality in all its manifestations; the need to be essential, to be in control, to be competent, and to be the breadwinner; understanding what it means to have been socialized; and the deep fear of change, particularly on a personal level.

It becomes clear that the meaning of tools in their lives is similar for women and for men, and it puts them in conflict. The book poses the question: Is there a willingness to find a resolution?

Marcia Braundy’s new book, Men & Women and Tools – Bridging the Divide, one of the founders of the Men and Masculinities movement in the United States and author of The Gendered Society, has said: “We know that class is gendered, and that often upper class professionals and blue collar working men set the highest barriers to women’s entry. In her careful and erudite book, Marcia Braundy brings together the tools of the trade and the hands that hold them. By exploring men’s resistance to equality, this book explores the myths on which that resistance is based.”

Carl Leggo, dearly loved poet and arts-based research advocate at the University of British Columbia noted: “This is a singular book – academic and accessible, critical and creative, political and passionate. With a lifelong commitment to feminism, social activism, and education, Marcia evokes and provokes transformative possibilities for living with imagination, intellect, and heart.”

Men & Women and Tools – Bridging the Divide

Elaine Ryan & Melissa Bandura

Folk Soul Duo - Violin, Guitar, Harmonies

Oct 13 - BlueBelle Bistro, Kaslo, 8 pm
Oct 15 - Silverton Gallery, 8 pm


Elaine Ryan & Melissa Bandura will be playing in Kaslo and Silverton this month.
A school on the road and a class on the lake…

submitted

Lucerne Elementary Secondary School started its school year as it means to go on, with enriched learning experiences for students. A road trip into Alberta took the whole secondary school through ‘Time and Change,’ the theme of the curriculum activities planned for the trip, while the grades 5-7 class went on a canoe adventure around Slocan Lake, developing their leadership skills for use in the elementary school.

This is the second year the secondary school has boarded one school bus to take part in learning from the science, socials, English, art and aboriginal education curricula. Thirty-one students, four teachers, the principal and the District Principal of Learning visited Banff, Horsehoe Canyon, Drumheller, Head-Smashed-in-Buffalo Jump, Frank Slide and St. Eugene’s Mission. The accommodation that the group stayed in ranged from hotels to the floor of a bowling alley to tipis, giving the students accommodation that the group stayed in.

Both field trips introduced students to the majesty of Western Canada. The school thanks parents and employers in the community who gave them the opportunity to get to know each other better, develop leadership skills needed as the oldest students in the elementary school, and learned skills both in independence and team work.

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Drumheller field trip gave students new knowledge but also experiences that will give them confidence as members of our community.”

The previous week, Katrina Sumrall, the teacher of the intermediate class at Lucerne, led a canoe trip around the shore of Slocan Lake. A stormy Thursday night led to a change in plan to get to Slocan on Friday, but plans for a safer return were already laid out. During the trip, the class had the opportunity to get to know each other better, develop leadership skills needed as the oldest students in the elementary school, and learned skills both in independence and team work.

Maralysa Vanzyl, a Grade 5 student, said of her experience, “The lake is really not scary once you get out there – if you get across the lake you see so much that is different from our side like the emerald green water, the reeds and the fish.”

Don’t miss screenings of films by local students

submitted

Mark your calendars now for two evenings of watching films by local students: October 18 and October 27 at 7 pm at Bosun Hall.

Starting at the beginning of October and continuing through the month, Lucerne joins other two district schools to explore the ‘Values of Doukhobour Community: Then and Now.’

In conjunction with Edgewood and Nakusp Elementary, this place-based education project involves the grades 5/6/7 and secondary students interviewing Doukhobour elders, visiting the Doukhobour Village Museum in Castlegar, learning frameworks of historical thinking and connecting online with the two other schools to share their thinking and ideas in a collaborative WordPress blog.

The project integrates Social Studies, Language Arts, Media Arts, Information Technology and Personal Planning curriculum.

Filmmakers Moira Simpson and William Fritzberg will mentor the grades 8-12s as they create short documentary films and digital media on Thursday, October 27 at the Bosun Hall.

Telling the Stories of the Nikkei website launch and premiere screening

Telling the Stories of the Nikkei is finally complete and the launch of the project films on four national websites and a premiere screening of all the films takes place at the Bosun Hall on Tuesday, October 18 at 7 pm.

Ten short and powerful films created in May 2010 by Lucerne Grade 10-12 students with mentor filmmakers, Moira Simpson and Catrina Longmuir, will be screened.

The following week, the filmmakers will assist the intermediate students with editing media content for their project blog. Student-created podcasts, digital stories, poetry, images and art on the blog will help students co-create meaning and build a greater understanding of the values that underlie the heritage of the Doukhobour community and their contribution to our community and Canada.

Students from Lucerne Secondary School spent a night in tipis in Drumheller as part of a September field trip with Harvest Fest on the morning of Thursday, October 6. Already there are several members of the community volunteering their time to lead students in a variety of harvest time activities such as fruit picking, apple pressing, soup making, composting, being bear aware and greenhouse cultivation. Also during the morning, thanks to a grant of $3,000 from Tree Canada, a number of trees will be dug up from the school grounds to allow them to take root, as one day they will replace some of the older trees on the school grounds at these age.
Slocan Valley Rec Guy on his way to retirement

by Jan McMurray

Believe it or not, the Rec Guy is retiring at the end of the month.

Craig Lawrence has been the Slocan Valley Recreation Coordinator since January 6, 1992, and as we all know, he has loved his job.

“With me, every day really is an adventure,” he says. “After bringing a program together with the hundred little details, you reach that point where you just have to let go and see what happens. Either I’m whipping myself off the floor afterwards or pinching myself and saying ‘I can’t believe I get paid to do this!’

The most satisfying part of the job for Craig has been the community building aspect. “I have always found that recreation is a community builder, a uniting force, a socializing agent,” he said. “The reward is seeing people connect with people. So many friendships have started at a Rec program.”

Another aspect of the job that he has found really interesting is how recreation reflects the community. “The community is always changing, so the programs are always evolving, too.”

Craig came into the job with no recreation background, and he says he thinks this made it more of a community-based function. “We have a very unique flavour compared to other communities because we are not facility-based – we don’t have a facility, so we use all the community’s facilities. We’re really community-based.”

Although he is an employee of the RDCK, Craig says that working with the Slocan Valley Recreation Commission is where the real connections begin. “There’s been some really interesting commissioners along the way. The one I want to pay special tribute to is Walter Ouachoff, who has been on the commission about as long as I’ve been the Rec Guy. Besides giving his own unique positions on recreation at the table, he’s volunteered so much energy to get things done. You can’t look at Winlaw Regional and Nature Park without seeing Walter. When the boards on the boardwalk rotted, he’d show up with a truckload of new ones; when we needed an access road put in, Walter pulled it all together. When we needed to replace the boardwalk, Walter pulled a bunch of high school kids out to tear down the old one. He was the guy at the other end of the radio at all those Poker Floats.”

Craig says he feels fortunate to have been able to help many of the fascinating people of this valley get noticed and share their talents.

He and his family went through some hard times when his son Jesse died of leukemia in 1995 and then when the RDCK Area H Director of the day decided to “fire” the Slocan Valley Recreation Commission members and then to contract out Craig’s job in 1997 and 1998.

“The community carried us through our public hard times and our family hard times. It’s hard not to give back,” he said.

Everyone is invited to Craig’s retirement party at Slocan Park Hall on Friday, October 21 between 3:30 and 7 pm, with presentations and open mic at 4 pm.

LSM Re-Grassroots]

Another Slocan grow operation busted

submitted by the RCMP

Air services and the RCMP auxiliary constable combined forces to bust a marijuana grow operation in Slocan Wednesday, September 21.

Slocan Lake RCMP said an auxiliary constable had flown the area in the RCMP helicopter from the Southeast District Air Services Program several months ago, spotting and recording the GPS coordinates of a number of outdoor marijuana grow operations.

That information was used when RCMP officers in camouflage entered a large, rural vacant parcel of land off Springer Creek Road in Slocan.

“Officers had set up a surveillance point in an attempt to apprehend anyone who may come in to tend the crop. After a period of time, officers observed a single adult male arrive who then allegedly tended to the plants. The suspect, a 22-year-old male from Slocan, was arrested without incident,” said Constable Shaun Foley of the Slocan Lake RCMP.

Using GPS coordinates they were able to locate the site of the “sophisticated” outdoor grow operation that contained about 120 healthy marihuana plants, some weighing scales and pre-packaged marijuana bud that was ready for street-level distribution.

The suspect was held in custody, but later released on a promise to appear for the alleged offences of production of marijuana and possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking.

The suspect’s first appearance will be in Nakusp Provincial Court on December 21.

YRB requires winter equipment operators for the upcoming season in the Nakusp, Edgewood and New Denver areas. Minimum qualifications include Class 3 license with air endorsement, previous driving experience, ability to carry out duties in an outdoor, all weather environment on both day and night shifts. Must be physically fit. Please email/ fax your resume along with a recent BC driver’s abstract to the YRB operations office.

FAX 1-250-352-2172 or EMAIL kootenay@yrb.ca
RDCK board, September 22: RDCK takes on three more water systems

by Timothy Schafer

• Woodbury Village, Rosebery
• Highlands and Grandview Properties all had service area bylaws established by the Regional District of Central Kootenay board, as the regional government prepares to acquire their water systems.

In Grandview, 70 percent of those who voted on the service September 9 were in favour of establishing the water service, with 78 percent in favor of establishing the service in Woodbury.

Each system had undergone extensive evaluation under the RDCK’s Water and Sewer Acquisition Policy.

“Staff are of the opinion that these systems have met assessment criteria and have low financial or liability risk,” read a staff report from the Environmental Services department.

The board decided the Regional District had the capacity to manage the systems, with four being admitted to range from medium to high (Grandview, Rosebery) to medium-high (Area B).

Once they are acquired, the new water systems are expected to be financially self-sustaining.

The fee structure to finance the administrative portion of the water services will see every user connection contribute $100 annually to the environmental services department.

The final overall budget and cost for the water services have yet to be determined.

• North Vancouver’s Ba’ Blackwell and Associates defended its 2010 wildland urban interface fire hazard reduction contract, saying it was not undermining local capacity.

In a letter received August 29 by the RDCK board of directors, Colin Mahony of Blackwell said they did five things last year to engage local capacity in the short term in managing the program, including partnering with Kaslo’s John Cathro on managing the project.

In addition, Mahony said they gave Cathro signing authority on three to four prescriptions, as well as layout and data collection by Tyson Ehlers of Tysys Ecological of Winlaw.

The North Vancouver company also subcontracted one prescription ($10,000) in Nakusp to True North Consulting, and another $10,000 prescription in Silverton to Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative in Winlaw.

• The fire departments of Winlaw and Passmore have another tool in their arsenal.

The Regional District’s regional fire chief, Terry Swan, had recommended two departments — part of the Slocan Valley Fire Service — receive $5,000 to fund the installation of a 3,000-gallon gravity feed water tank.

The board of directors approved, creating a tank that will now allow approximately two loads of water to be quickly loaded onto the department’s fire trucks without pumping or tank set up.

The operation was deemed critical in the area of the valley because there were no water sources that were considered accessible. Currently, the two departments must go to the Passmore bridge or Winlaw bridge to refill with water.

• Six energy efficiency deficiencies on the 52-year-old Winlaw Community Hall will be remedied after the Regional District board of directors approved an $81,868.37 Community Works Fund application from Area H.

The Winlaw Hall Society had identified six deficiencies inherent in the hall, including single-pane windows, heating system, window coverings, exterior cladding, lack of insulation and sections of the roof that were inhibiting extending the life of the building.

A new heat source pump will now be installed, as well as energy-efficient, double pane window and new insulated doors.

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Winlaw Regional is an area that wishes to allow natural process to dominate on the majority of the park area. With large-scale disturbances (cattle grazing, farming, logging) eliminated, small-scale disturbances (trails, signage, infrastructure maintenance) are continuing.

Sections of the park have been converted to lawn, roads, parking areas, trails and boardwalks.

Managing the park for safety and protecting key natural and recreational areas are some of the components of the plan.

A POS is developed as an initial stage in the development of future comprehensive park management plans.

Priority management direction and an overall cost analysis is contained in the POS. RDCK board approval of the POS will trigger RDCK staff to seek mechanisms to address the priorities, as well as engage the public.

Area K

• The Edgewood Community School will see $40,000 in energy improvements as the Regional District strives to make the School District 10 building more energy efficient.

Contracting engineers identified high efficiency air to water heat transfer system as a suitable heating, ventilation and air conditioning alternative for the school.

The propane-fired radiant heat sources will be replaced, reducing propane consumption by an estimated 87.5 percent, resulting in an annual average saving of $9,760. There will be an annual increase in BC Hydro consumption of an estimated 25 percent, increasing electricity costs by an estimated $1,950.

The net cost benefit to the school district is estimated to be $7,800 per year, significantly reducing greenhouse gas emission totals for the site.

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Trot Lake Mine to suspend operations submitted

Roca’s MAX molybdenum mine in Trot Lake will see another shut-down at the end of October. “While management remains enthusiastic about the molybdenum resource contained at the MAX Mine, the operation is not sustainable under current economic conditions and available grades. As a result, the mine development programs will immediately cease and mine production will be suspended after the remaining 725 tonne material has been processed through October 2011,” states a press release issued by Roca.

The release says that head grades observed at the mine for July, August and September are effectively at the current break-even level for the operation at 500 tonnes per day (tpd) throughput and current oxide prices in the US$14 range. These grades are below target based on previous sampling and resource estimates, but management now considers they represent the best available grades in the area under current development. Other zones within the deposit may provide better grades, but these lie outside the reach of the existing mining operation and current development.

The MAX Mine was initially conceived as a small high-grade mine that would expand production over time and from cash flow, ultimately lowering unit costs. While a significant amount of work and investment has been completed towards the permitted Phase II, 1,000tpd operation, these throughput rates have yet to be achieved.

Roca management and consultants continue to evaluate various project alternatives towards reaching the Phase II expansion targets of the operation. The evaluation includes updating capital cost estimates for additional mining equipment, installation of a bulkfill system, additional underground development and completing expansion of the existing mill complex. A capital plan to resume production at higher throughput levels and lower unit costs will be completed shortly.

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Lucerne School principal, Natasha Miles, has just had her first novel published. She invites one and all to the launch of A Place to Play at Rory’s on Main in New Denver on October 10.

The novel is set in the future, taking place in England at the end of this century. The country is made up of four cities, void of green spaces. However, three young friends discover two secrets: a playing field at a school in one of the cities, and

Columbian River Treaty Learn about our past. Think about our future.

Learn About the Columbia River Treaty

Columbia Basin Trust, in partnership with the City of Castlegar and the Regional District of Central Kootenay is hosting an information session to build awareness about the 1964 Columbia River Treaty between Canada and the United States. Learn more about how this international agreement relates to the Arrow Lakes Reservoir and why it’s important to your community, the entire Columbia Basin and all of BC.

WHAT: Castlegar

Open House Wednesday, December 15, 2010
Free BBQ 2:00 to 7:00 pm
Presentation 7:00 to 9:00 pm

WHERE: Castlegar Recreation Centre

1016th Avenue.

Book Launch Event

Natasha Miles’ new novel – ‘A Place to Play’

Rory’s on Main, New Denver

Saturday, October 15, 6 pm

Special event tickets $15 - $10 off book and voucher to dine value $10. Please book tickets in advance through Rory’s on Main 250-358-2449

English special and the regular menu available
Interim report released on Nakusp’s Economic Summit

by Timothy Schafroth

The idea of co-generation may be one of the pieces of the puzzle in the Nakusp region as several groups have been grappling with the idea of righting the village’s listing economic ship. Although still in a draft report form, information and feedback has been gathered and recently released by a panel of local groups – including the Nakusp and Area Development Board (NADB) and the Chamber of Commerce – from the Arrow Lakes Economic Summit (fall and winter of 2010/2011).

But what is needed is to turn around two years of economic decline in the community still isn’t clear.

Where have all the big fish in the Arrow Lakes gone?

by Dan Nicholson

The Nakup Rod & Gun Club held a meeting, Wednesday, September 28, with guest speaker Angus Glass, Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program and two biologists, Jeff Burrows, Sr. Fisheries Biologist/Min of Forest, Land and Natural Resource Operations, and Steve Arndt, Fisheries Biologist/FWCP, at the Senior’s Hall in Nakusp.

The biggest concern for residents of the Arrow Lakes was the declining number of fish being caught by anglers, particularly large rainbow trout. The biologists confirmed that the number of big fish being caught was down from previous years.

Burrows cautioned the audience not to jump to conclusions about the cause of the reduced catch. “We’ve had low years on the Arrow in the past. Be patient.”

He noted that under historical conditions, the Arrow Lakes were nutrient-poor. With the installation of the Revelstoke and Mica Dams, they have become very nutrient-poor. The nutrient program exists only to bring nutrient levels in the reservoir back to historic levels. Phosphorus and nitrogen are added to the lake from May to September, from the Galena-Shelter Bay ferry.

Businesses support continuation of Nakusp Music Festival

by Jan McMurray

Do the businesses of Nakusp want the Music Festival to continue? The answer was a resounding yes at a meeting September 26 at Nakusp’s Selkirk College.

Donna Rehman, president of the Nakusp Roots Music Society, chaired the meeting. When she asked if people thought it was worthwhile to continue the festival, everyone put their hands up.

The Nakusp Centennial building addition project to start this fall

The plan, budget and schedule for the Centennial building addition will be presented to Nakusp Village council on October 11 for formal approval of project commencement.

The group is meeting this week to narrow down the list of possibilities and partnerships – including co-generation – to a workable and feasible amount, said NADB’s Laurie Page. She said they will be using the knowledge of professional economic development practitioners, Victor Cumming, in that regard.

The Arrow Lakes Valley is greatly affected by shifting demographics, said Page, with the loss of higher paying industrial jobs (forestry), high government debt and movement of resources and investment away from rural areas.

Businesses were suffering; she noted in the report, people were moving away to find work, and a general feeling of helplessness gripped the region.

People were concerned economic activity in the Arrow Lakes Valley had already dropped to an unsustainable level, with amenities and services beginning to dwindle.

“In some respects we are at the mercy of external forces, we’re not trying to deny that. But, on the other hand, there are lots of things we haven’t even tried yet,” said Page.

The report came up during the forestry, tourism, and land development Summit meetings.

“Not only are public transportation options sorely lacking, but the bottleneck of the ferry at the north end of the valley is considered a serious detrimet to all forms of economic opportunity,” the report reads.

The need for better co-ordination of local efforts is – it’s incredibly was also a theme from the meetings, said Page, as was the need for organizations in the area to access planning and economic development expertise in other neighboring communities on some issues.

But Page said financial resources for paid staff to bring this all together in a small community is limited, and is proving an organizational challenge for the two groups. Four points are emerging from the Summit, said Page: invest in planning and organizational capacity as organizations; collaborate with other stakeholders, especially the Village of Nakusp and the RDCK; identify the most cost-effective projects with the best economic potential; raise money to pursue identified projects.

“And tourism marketing needs to be coordinated by a single organization and networked regionally so we don’t miss on promotions or duplicate efforts,” Page said in the report.

The interim report is available at www.nadb.ca under economic development. There will be a final report to the CBT after that.

If there are people who want to get involved with what is building, they can contact Laurie Page at NADB or talk to Kim Reich at the Chamber of Commerce.

The Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program has had a lot of successes with its Hill Creek Spawning Channel. Says Arndt, “We’ve learned that the channel is capable of producing more fry than anyone thought possible.”

Rebman noted that the evidence for benefit options, particularly for trout. Arndt said board members do not to jump to conclusions about the success of the nutrient program, noting that the biomass of kokanee in the lake was up 300% since the program’s introduction.

A number of audience members wanted to know about stocking options, particularly for trout. Arndt noted that the evidence for benefit options, particularly for trout. Arndt noted that the evidence for benefit options, particularly for trout.

When questioned about the failure of the stocking program, Burrows notes that most success are with the Hill Creek Spawning Channel.

The biologists are seeking local volunteers to help with surveys of kokanee numbers of kokanee at Hill Creek.

The angler survey continues. This is one of the best sources of data about fish populations in the arrow Reservoir. The nutrient program continues as well.

The biologists promised to look into some kind of stream-fishing when a member of the audience wanted some action to allow seniors that didn’t have access to a boat to fish.
25 years of the Bonnington Arts Centre celebrated, September 30
by Jan McMurray

The story behind the Bonnington Arts Centre, as told by some of the people who were involved in its creation, was the highlight of the centre’s silver anniversary celebration on September 30.

With great humour and many contagious fits of laughter, Rob Plaskett, Terry Taylor, Wendy Moser and Karen Hamling reminisced about their adventures 25 years ago.

“We built the theatre with no skills,” said Rob Plaskett, who spearheaded the project in the early 80s. “But I want you to know that the issues with the space are not our fault.”

Plaskett explained how the principal of Nakusp Elementary at the time was not keen on an arts space in the school, and thought the old gym would be better put to use as a lunch room and a science lab. So, in order to make the deal with School District 10, Plaskett and his fellow Arrow Lakes Arts Council members had to agree to make it a multi-purpose space. This resulted in some ‘funky’ features that are still known to people who use the arts centre today.

The centre was built on a $5,000 grant, plus a $2,000 loan. The project to renovate the old NES gym into a multi-use facility began in 1983, and the doors opened on September 30, 1986.

Back then, to join ALAC, you had to be comfortable with power tools and a hammer, said Terry Taylor, and you had to know how to cook. They were constantly fundraising because they had taken out the $2,000 loan for the project.

There were many, many bake sales, and they catered the Rotary Club dinner for several years.

Some of the performers they brought in at the beginning are big names today, such as Shari Ulrich and Connie Kaldor. They also brought in the Vancouver Opera, a dance troupe and children’s entertainers. They held a summer arts school and hosted the West Kootenay Regional Art Show three times.

Wendy Moser congratulated the present ALAC, “who keep the torch going, is an amazing compliment and just so great that the centre keeps going the way it was envisioned.” Current co-chairs of ALAC are Marilyn Massey and Janet Royko.

They remembered Mimi George, who “was the backbone of ALAC until she died in 1985,” said Moser. Mimi held the position of treasurer, and the thing they all remembered most fondly about her was her filing system – she kept all the paperwork in the bottom of her huge handbag. “Despite the search through her purse at every meeting, Mimi was amazing. There is an immense amount of paperwork that needs to be done in an arts council, and she was amazing at getting the grants,” said Moser.

Broadband delivery just got a little better in the Columbia Basin

CMON’s vision for the region requires additional resources that CBT can provide.

CMON and CBT have worked closely together in the past and the acquisition by CBT will ensure the existing assets are maintained by a local organization with the capacity to move forward with a regional broadband strategy.

Following the acquisition by CBT, CMON will be winding down its operations.

New flower shop fills the void in Kaslo

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo has a flower shop again, after a hiatus of seven months.

Louise DePape opened Kaslo Florists on July 30 in the shop on the corner of Fourth and A Avenue, across from the Mohawk.

Because Kaslo’s previous flower shop of about 20 years shut down at the end of December, DePape said she saw a need in the community.

“The opportunity was there, the timing was right, and I have a keen interest in floral design and an arts background – it’s a great fit for me,” she said. “Working with flowers for 12 months a year sounds good to me!”

“The nicest thing is that I’ve had Fern Van Horn, the florist here for 20 years, as a mentor,” she said. “When I finished my business plan, I met with her and went over it, so I had a good opportunity there to get a feeling for this business here in Kaslo.”

DePape says the response has been good. Many people dropped by while she and her husband were renovating the shop, and there was a steady stream of business in the summer with all the weddings and anniversaries. Right now, there is an ebb in business, which provides DePape with the opportunity to get ready for the Christmas season.

“I’ve always owned my own business, so I understand the cycles of highs and lows and I know how important it is to use the low periods for preparation for the busy times,” she says.

DePape will be creating wreaths, live and silk floral arrangements, and centerpiece featuring poinsettias for the Christmas season.

Just like Fern’s Flowers was, Kaslo Florists is more than just a flower shop. Gift items on offer include candles, Nudge Fudge, books, flower pots, and cards. DePape says she will be bringing in her brother’s glass art and her sister’s wonderful aprons. The store has gifts for babies and new parents, too.

On the flowers end of the business, DePape designs bouquets, corsages, boutonnieres, centerpieces, “and anything decorative.” She loves doing weddings, including bridal bouquets and complementary pieces for the bridal party, hair pieces for bridesmaids and flower girls, centerpieces for the tables, etc.

DePape also sees a need for a flower shop in New Denver and Nakusp, and has arranged to have her services available through June’s General Store in New Denver.
Kaslo junior golf benefits from Pro Cup’s record year

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo’s junior golf program just got a big boost, thanks to a $2,500 donation from the ‘Protective Cup’ golf tournament sponsored by Kaslo Building Supplies.

Jeff Davie, owner of Kaslo Building Supplies, says they decided to donate the proceeds of the tournament to the junior golf program “because of the efforts of Stephanie Leatherwood. Stephanie and her helpers have grown the junior program through a lot of donated time and hard work. It was a natural fit to give the proceeds to the junior golf program.”

In the 14 years that Kaslo Building Supplies has been running the tournament as a fundraiser for local children’s activities, this year was a record year. “We filled the tournament at 18 teams. And the winning team was very generous in giving their winnings back to junior golf!” said Davie. “It was a beautiful story.”

Stephanie Leathwood has been Kaslo’s junior golf coordinator for three years. “The program is free, and runs entirely on a volunteer basis, so it’s so exciting to get this money!” exclaimed Leathwood. She plans to purchase more junior golf clubs, pay for some professional lessons for the junior golfers, and take the older ones on some trips to neighbouring golf courses.

Last year, 48 children participated in the program. Leathwood explained that the kids are grouped according to age, ability and sex, and volunteer golfers take them out for an hour and a half per week for six weeks. “We really appreciate the volunteers and are always looking for more,” she said.

In 2012, the program will be open to kids aged 6 to 16. Kaslo Building Supplies would like to thank the volunteers that helped make the day another success, and all the golfers who continue to participate in the annual Pro Cup.

Fall Fairs in the North Kootenay Lake Valley

by Moe Lyons

The last two weekends in September saw two lovely harvest celebrations in the North Kootenay Lake Valley.

Gary Diers from Tipiland Organic Farm displayed a giant basket of gorgeous garlic, beautiful garlic braids intertwined with dried flowers, and this ever-fascinating offering, fractal broccoli (romanesco).

Kaslo Lifewriters Group publishes story collection

submitted

The newly refurbished Kaslo Library will host a free event October 11 at 7 pm to celebrate the launch of Kaslo Lifewriters Group’s first published story collection.

This project was funded by Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives and the Kaslo and District Community Forest Society. Come listen, share and get a signed copy for $10.

Kaslo gets top rating in Communities in Bloom submitted

Kaslo was given the highest rating of five blooms in this year’s Communities in Bloom program, with the edible gardens given a mention.

At the award ceremony held Saturday, September 24 in Sooke on Vancouver Island, Mayor Lay was presented with the Judge’s Evaluation Report and Bloom Rating Certificate, and street banners to promote Kaslo’s success.

Fellow West Kootenay community Fruitvale also received five blooms.

Castlegar and the City of Trail were named as national finalists, to be announced at the Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks & Grounds and Awards Ceremonies in Quebec City from October 26 to 29.

Kaslo Junior Golf Coordinator Stephanie Leatherwood, Kaslo Building Supplies owner Jeff Davie and Tournament Director Travis Hauk of Nelson participated in Kaslo’s Sufferfest again this year. He finished third in the 100-kilometre cross-country mountain bike race and then went on to immediately race the 40-kilometre cross-country mountain bike race as well, which he had already started 10 minutes ahead of him. He placed sixth in that race.

Jeff Davie hands over the $2,500 proceeds from the Protective Cup golf tournament to Stephanie Leatherwood for Kaslo’s junior golf program.

On September 17, the Argenta Fall Fair turned the field behind the Argenta Hall into a local gathering-place, offering food, music, crafts, lots and lots of used books from the Argenta Library, Terry’s honey and endless opportunities to visit with friends from near and far. Thanks to Rowena Eloise for pulling it all together.

The following weekend, the third annual Lardeau Valley Harvest Festival took place in Meadow Creek. Set up in a large field adjacent to Lakehead Market Gardens, it featured squashes grown by the local school kids, fresh cooked corn from right next door, Terry and his honey again, lots of scrumptious organic veggies, organic baked treats from Croissant Moon, and local seeds, as well as a few choice entries in the largest, most unusual, most perfect, etc. categories for local produce.

Thanks to the weather goddess for keeping the sun shining for both these great events, and to the lovely folks who live in that neck of the woods for celebrating the wonderful communities they are creating every day.

They will remain weekly free sessions soon and welcome new participants.

This project was funded by Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives and the Kaslo and District Community Forest Society. Come listen, share and get a signed copy for $10.

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250 265 3316
Handcut traditional joinery with local wood since 2006

Kaslo’s Sufferfest.
VISITOR INFORMATION

Nakusp Golf Course - Nakusp
Phone/Fax: (250) 647-4531 www.nakusp.golf.com ngc@nakusp.net
5ホール オープン カース、ナックス レギュラーゲージ 7 フェアアスト 7 パー 8 オーガニック・ナックス
総面積 256 フート、18 ホール、ジュニア 14-18 フィート、18 ホール、10 枚の ゴルフ カート

General Manager: Jim Draper
Rental cars, clubs, pull carts, Driving Range
PUTTERS ON THE GREENS: Fully licensed restaurant; Phone: (250) 265-3185
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
Ladies' nights: Tuesday 6:00-7:00 Guests welcome
Men's nights: Thursday 4:30-6:30 Welcome guests

Valley View Golf Course - Winlaw
Phone/Fax: (250) 724-7997
9-ホール オープン カース、ナックス レギュラーゲージ 8 アイ ポイント 8 パー 8 オーガニック・ナックス
総面積 398 フート、18 ホール、ジュニア 18-24 フィート、18 ホール、10 枚の ゴルフ カート
Rental cars, clubs, pull carts, rental clubs
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.
Ladies' nights: Monday 6:00-7:00, Tuesday 5:30-6:30

Kaslo Golf Course - Kaslo
Phone: (250) 353-2522 www.KasloGolf.ca
9-ホール オープン カース、ナックス レギュラーゲージ 7 アイ ポイント 7 パー 7 オーガニック・ナックス
総面積 357 フート、18 ホール、ジュニア 18-24 フィート、18 ホール、10 枚の ゴルフ カート
Rental cars, clubs, pull carts available for free (carts for rentals on motorcycles)

Kaslo's RESTAURANT (Open 8 am – 8 pm)
Please join us in any of the following regular events and get to know the members;
Men's Night – Thursdays 4:30 pm
Ladies' Day - Tuesdays 4:30 pm
Senior Men – Wednesdays 9:00 am

Golf Courses

Nakusp Municipal Campground

Camping Information

Nakusp Municipal Campground

250-265-1061
Camp@NakuspCampground.com
www.NakuspCampground.com

Conveniently located downtown, 3 blocks from public beach and adjacent to the Nakusp Business Park Community, which includes a tennis court, squash court, ball parks & soccer field.

Music in the Park every Wednesday in the warm months of Aug & Sep. All events, 10 pm power service & 8 1/2 overflow campsites. Hot showers and bath stations. Open May to Oct. Reservations accepted.

Silvertown Municipal Campground

250-353-2477
www.silverstown.ca
At Leavenworth and Turner Streets. 32 sites. Lakeshore sites $25; all other sites $18. Open May 15 to September 30. Tent and RV sites, firewood, picnic tables, boat launch, beach. Close to grocery store and cafe. New handicap washroom and shower building.

Springer Creek RV Park & Campground

250-353-2466
springs@telus.net
Open May 1 to Oct. 15. Located at 10289 Lake Road, Nakusp. Open year round. Pets allowed on a leash and seasonal Tourists Information Booth.

Kaslo Municipal Campground

250-353-2662
kaslo@kaslocampground.ca
April 1 - October 15, weather permitting. Serviced (32) Unserviced sites (52). Water and power hook-ups, fire pits, picnic tables, restrooms and hot showers.

Woodbury Resort and Marina

250-353-7717
Serviced sites - Tent sites - Motorcycle friendly - Marina - Heated pool - Boondocking area - Tent & RV Park - Restaurant & Motel - Chalets & Beach rentals starting at $360/night - Quad/Bike Trails - Salsa Dive the Acomba wreck, 4 km north of Finlayson Hot Springs on Hwy 31.

Schroeder Creek Resort

250-353-7383
www.schroedercreekrresort.com

13 km (8 miles) north of Kaslo, a quiet, serene, beach front, family campground and marina on Kootenay Lake.

amazing beach. Full hook ups, Shady, spacious tent sites. Sparkling clean washrooms and showers. Laundry, ice and freeze facilities. Also for rent: Trailers and 2-bedroom homes. Reasonable daily rates.

Hot Springs

Nakusp Hot Springs and Campground

250-265-4528 1-866-999-4528 info@nakusp.com
Relax, Refresh, Return. The natural hot soaking mineral pools, nestled in a lush mountain setting. Recreation in rejuvenating waters and fresh mountain air. Camp at the sereneiovine. Short drive to shops, restaurants, lake. Gift-terassen, refreshments, trails, fun! We invite you to Beauty, Pusone and Balance.

Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa

1-888-669-4669 (250) 265-3554 Fax (250) 265-3877
www.halcyonhotsprings.com info@halcyonhotspings.com
Halcyon Hot Springs, Summer Semi-Open Round. Ancient healing waters soothe mind, body & soul. Relax in our cabins, hot tubs, outdoor hot springs, private rooms, relaxation area, lake view, hot pool, gym, spa, fitness center.

Alainsburg Hot Springs Resort

1-800-668-1171 (250) 229-4212
www.hotspringsalainsburg.com

Alainsburg Hot Springs Resort is one of the most comfortable and relaxing hot springs in the Kootenay region. Experience the unique Alainsburg hot springs and pools. Enjoy fabulous food in our dining room and then enjoy the comfort of one of our 3 1/2 conditioned rooms. Wireless internet available.

Sculpture Park

Kaslo Art Gallery

311 Broadway, Kaslo (between College & Market Streets)
www.kasloartgallery.com

Tours Fridays through Sunday at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Guided tours of the gallery and the surroundings.

May - September
Mon - Sun: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Oct - April
Mon - Sat: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Alpine Art Gallery

311 Broadway, Kaslo (between College & Market Streets)
www.kasloartgallery.com

Tours Fridays through Sunday at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Guided tours of the gallery and the surroundings.

May - September
Mon - Sun: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Oct - April
Mon - Sat: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Studio Connexion Art Gallery

250-265-8888
202 Fifth Ave, NV, Nakusp

Art Exhibits Friday through Sunday at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Guided tours of the gallery.

May - September
Mon - Sun: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Oct - April
Mon - Sat: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Galleries

Valhalla Riverbuead Vacation Condos

250-353-7712 www.hellovalhalla.ca

Four lovely vacation condos on the Slocan River at Passmore, gateway to the Valhalla Provincial Park. With river out the front door and heritage trail put out by the Society, you can provide a perfect base for your vacation in the lovely, lush Slocan Valley. Well-equipped kitchens, delightful living and sleeping areas, saunas, decks, patios, BBQ, wi-fi, satellite tv, phone, hot tub. Wheelchair/elder access suite three.

William Hunter Cabins

250-353-2847 www.williamhuntercabins.ca

201 Lake Ave, Silverton - We have two lovely log cabins divided into a total of four suites.

Villa Deme Quixote: Award-winning Guesthouse & Cottages (250)

358-7242 www.domiquixote.com, 112th Avenue, New Denver

Comfy Interiors, boutique décor & quacky amenities. Ten bedrooms, three-dome cottages with patios, large outdoor spa, cedar sauna, full guest kitchen, spacious dome sitting-room with balconies, meeting room, gardens. Ideal for groups, celebrations, or individual stays.

Kaslo Hotel & Brew Pub

250-353-7714 kaslohotel.com
Front Street, Kaslo - New! Welcome. Enjoy luxurious suite rentals and vacation rentals, all with balconies. Relax in our pub, dining room or patio, all with spectacular lake and mountain views. Free high speed wifi internet. Walk to the 55 Maye, great shops, museums, galleries.

Kaslo Hotel & Brew Pub... where you want to be.

The Wild Rose Restaurant

www.wildroseinn.com, 421 Main Street, Kaslo

Locate in Kaslo, just north of New Denver. Come and enjoy our bistronomic atmosphere, exquisite desserts, and a unique Mexican cuisine made with our own exclusive recipes since 1981. Delicious dining. Open 4 nights a week, 5-9 pm: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

Fullablues Espresso Bar

250-353-2889 n1 4th Avenue, Kaslo

Coffeehouse, pastries, sandwiches, live or acoustic. Fresh baked blueberry pies, Famous Ham and Eggs or Veggie Eggs, sandwiches made fresh daily, gluten free options, almond, rice, soya and coconut milk always available. Open 7 am - 2 pm 7 days a week. Beside the gas station in Kaslo City. Gift Certificates available.

O'Brien's on the Lake

250-265-4575 www.oberiens.kootenays.ca

(106 Hwy & Nakusp; Beautiful handcrafted log cabin with a million dollar view. Full kitchen and bath. Satellite TV. Private phone and barbecue on lake-view deck. All units non-smoking. No pets please. No classy fishing, golfing. Ninging and much, much more just minutes away. It’s so much more than a place to sleep.

Sandon Mountain & Visitors’ Centre

250-353-7920 www.sandonmountain.com

Open 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy 15A in historic miner’s ghost town. Collections of stunning photographs and fascinating artifacts including the famous “two-storey moutzer.” Admission (Cash only): $8 & over $5.17-17 yrs. and Seniors $3.50, Children under 12 and Members Free. (Family $15.17)
Plan 1 leaves a six-foot corridor immediately adjacent to the buildings on Water Street, for the eventual undergrounding of the utility lines. The roadway is 20 feet wide, and then there is a 20-foot-wide area for 61 perilicular parking spaces. (Currently, there are 53 parking spaces.) This leaves about 15 feet for green space, which could include landscaping features and a path that would join with the existing path to the beach. Plan 2 leaves an eight-foot corridor adjacent to the buildings for undergrounding power and telephone lines, and places the walkway here, on top of the buried cables. The roadway is 22 feet wide, and the parking area is 20 feet wide, with 50 perilicular parking spaces. There is no trail continuously visible from Front Street, would attract people to Water Street. The refurbished gates will improve the reliability of the dam. It is critical for the flow requirements of the Duncan Dam. Spillway gates and low-level outlet gates are critical components and are holding and controlling the amount of water that can be discharged from the reservoir. These gates are one of the most important aspects of the dam, as they control the discharge rate of water. The new equipment on the spillway and low-level outlet gates will be a combination of replacement, refurbishment, and the addition of new equipment on the spillway and low-level outlet gates.

The Water Street Committee has recommended that the final plans, which will be submitted to council for consideration later this month.

Duncan Dam Spillway Gate project update

by Timothy Schafer

New jobs and an injection of $25,000 into the local economy came with the bottom line for the ongoing Duncan Dam Spillway Gate Reliability Upgrade project in the Meadow Creek region, according to a Hydro-Quebec spokesperson.

Mary Anne Coules said a September 20 BC Hydro operations update meeting at the Lardeau Valley Communities’ Centre in Meadow Creek held some interest in the ongoing gates reliability project – expected to be completed in June 2012.

But, although work on the 46-year-old spillway gates is needed to keep the dam at the north end of Kootenay Lake up to date, people were more invested in hearing about what the project could do for the local economy, said Coules.

"There are definitely opportunities for local employment on this project," she said, adding that it would be mainly tradespeople hired.

The Duncan Dam requires a combination of replacement, refurbishment, and the addition of new equipment on the spillway and low-level outlet gates. The scope of work includes rock stabilization above the powerhouse at the dam, replacement of the hoist tower and installation of backup power supplies for the spillway gates and low-level outlet gates. "There are definitely opportunities for local employment on this project," she said, adding that it would be mainly tradespeople hired.

The new equipment on the spillway and low-level outlet gates will be a combination of replacement, refurbishment, and the addition of new equipment on the spillway and low-level outlet gates.

"The refurbished gates will improve the reliability of the dam. It is critical for the flow requirements of the Duncan Dam. Spillway gates and low-level outlet gates are critical components and are holding and controlling the amount of water that can be discharged from the reservoir. These gates are one of the most important aspects of the dam, as they control the discharge rate of water. The new equipment on the spillway and low-level outlet gates will be a combination of replacement, refurbishment, and the addition of new equipment on the spillway and low-level outlet gates. There is no powerhouse at this facility. The spillway gates in the dam act as movable water barriers, holding and controlling the amount of water that can be discharged from the reservoir. These gates are critical components and are generally opened in times of flood when high inflows exceed the ability of generating units to use all of the water. This provides a vital safety function ensuring flood water is discharged safely to protect the reliability of the dam."
Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the volunteer firefighters in our communities!

New Market Foods
New Denver, BC
250-358-2270

Thank you to our volunteer firefighters!

RHC Insurance Brokers
250-358-2617
New Denver


A sincere thank you to the folks that serve in our volunteer fire departments

Volunteer firefighters are very cool.

Rory’s on Main
• Licensed Restaurant •
New Denver

Our volunteer firefighters are the best!

MOUNTAIN BERRY
(250) 358-7771
Highway 6, New Denver, BC

Thank you to our volunteer firefighters for protecting our community.

We appreciate it!

Slocan Lake Hardware
New Denver
358-2422

FLIR thermal imaging camera

New rescue truck, recently purchased by the New Denver Rescue Society.

A huge thank you from the New Denver Rescue Society!

We would like to thank the members of the public and the many organizations who supported this year’s fundraising efforts. Thanks to your generous support, we were able to purchase several pieces of equipment to help us perform rescues, including a FLIR thermal imaging camera and a new rescue truck with accessory items.

Special thanks to:

• Columbia Basin Trust
• Village of New Denver
• Village of Silverton
• Area H Director Walter Popoff
• Silverton Community Club
• Slocan Lake Arena Society
• New Market Foods
• The Valley Voice

And last but not least, we thank our local community members. Without your support, none of this would be possible.
Fire Safety for Kids Program offered in Nakusp

submitted

The Nakusp and District Volunteer Fire Department is offering local kindergarten to Grade 5 students the opportunity to participate in an educational fire safety program designed to prevent fire-related injuries and fatalities.

Produced by Gateway Community Safety Net, *Fire Safety for Kids* is a 116-page book that features information on how to avoid fire, plan an escape route, and what to do if fire breaks out.

It also offers health and first aid information, along with important safety tips for parents, teachers, and babysitters.

Also included is an educational DVD that features animated characters, interactive games, and quizzes. It connects to the Community Safety Net website, where kids can enter online contests and win great prizes.

The materials have been provided thanks to the generous support of local businesses and organizations.

House fires are the third leading cause of death among children – mostly as a result of smoke inhalation. Kids start 30 per cent of these fires. Such sobering statistics illustrate the need for fire safety education among young people.

Nakusp’s Fire Prevention Team would like to thank local businesses, organizations and families for their continued support of fire prevention education at Nakusp Elementary School, which has been ongoing for several years. Fire Prevention Week this year is October 9 - 15.
We wish to thank the members of our local volunteer fire departments for their dedication and courage!

KMC KOOTRAC • 359-5033

Hlokkoff Bulldozing & Excavating wishes to thank the men & women that volunteer in our local fire departments
Crescent Valley • 250-359-7460

Thanks to all the Valley firefighters!

We appreciate all you do to keep our communities safe!

Smokey Creek Salavage
359-7815; 1-877-376-6539
3453 YETATMAN RD, SOUTH SLOCAN

On behalf of the citizens of Area “H”, thank you for your time, energy and commitment for a safer community.
Walter Popoff
Director, Area “H”

Mountain Valley Station
We wish to salute the bravery and hard work of our local volunteer Fire Departments
Arlington Corner • Slocan City
359-3245

We honour the men and women of our volunteer fire departments

Congratulations and thank you to all the volunteer firefighters. Keep up the good work!

Your friends and neighbours salute your hard work and dedication
Lemon Creek Lodge
359-2403

We wish to thank the members of our local volunteer fire departments for keeping our communities safe.

Katrine Conroy, MLA, Kootenay West
2 - 1006 3rd St. Castlegar
250-304-2783

Thank you to the volunteers of our local fire departments for keeping our communities safe.

Alex Atamanenko, MP
337 Columbia Ave, Castlegar
250-365-2792

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
We salute our local heroes. Thanks for everything you do.

The Village of Kaslo

Thank you to both the Kaslo Volunteer Fire Department and to volunteer firefighters in the Ainsworth and Lardeau Valley portions of Area D for continuing to protect us and our communities. — Andy Shadrack, Director Area D

Kaslo Volunteer Firefighters are the best!

Real Estate in Kaslo and North Kootenay Lake
www.century21kaslo.com
kul@century21kaslo.com
250-505-4722
Century21 Mountainview Realty Ltd.

Volunteer Firefighters - What would we do without you?
Willow Home Gallery
Kitchen • Bed • Bath • Walls
Home decor Kootenay Style
408 Front Street, Kaslo (250) 353-2566

Volunteer firefighters - the bravest among us
Lucky us in Kaslo, we’ve got YOU!
A heartfelt thank you from Sunnyside Naturals

Volunteer firefighters save lives!

Kaslo AUTOMOTIVE
thanks our local volunteer firefighters for their dedication and commitment

Eric’s Meat Market
Doug & Denise & staff want to thank the local volunteer fire departments for keeping our communities safe!
425 Front Street • Kaslo

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 9 – 15, 2011

THE RDCK THANKS ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT!

Balfour/Harrop • Beasley • Blewett • Canyon/Lister
Crescent Valley • North Shore • Ootschiena •
Pass Creek • Passmore • Riendell • Robson
Slocan Valley • Tarry’s • Winlaw
Wynndel/Lakeview
Yahk/Kingsgate
Ymir

Volunteer Firefighters
Contact your local fire department or the Regional District of Central Kootenay:
1-800-268-RDCK(7325)

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.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOTS NEW AT WILLOW HOME
Gallery, Kaslo. Great kitchen gadgets!
Beautiful canvas prints at unbelievable
prices! 250-335-2257.

CORNUCOPIA – THE NATURAL
CHOICE Supports Local Farmers.
McIntyre Farm is now harvesting Potatoes,
Beans, Garlic, Cabbage and more to come.
Visit us at 422 Front Street, Kaslo. 250-353-

NEW DENVER STRONGEST
welcomes families with their children ages
0 - 5 years to our drop-in, play-based early
learning program at Luceum School. Our
new hours are: Monday 5 pm – 8 pm (gym
nights), Tues & Thurs: 2 pm–5 pm, Wed &
Fri: 9 am–12 pm. Please contact Charlotte
Alexander, BCE at 250 358 7768 for more
information.

JOIN US in celebrating 30 years of
information.
Alexander, ECE at 250 358 7768 for more
details.

Slocan Auto &
Truck Repairs
24 hour towing
BCAA, Slocan, BC
355-2632

COMPUTER
Palmer
Computer
- Repairs
Consulting
Services
CFU
Certified
Systems Engineer
Phone: 355-2225
kensystems.palmercomputerservices.com

Computer Ailing?
Fix it!

Contact
Oldham’s Computer Services
New Denver 358-2344

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

UNEMPLOYED and thinking of starting
your own business? Community Futures
offers the Self Employment grant, business
loans, counselling and training in the Arrow
& Slocan Lakes area. For more info leave
a message at 250-356-674 ext 201 or email
Nakupak@futures.bc.ca.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Nakusp Art - ART IN THE PARK - 37th
Christmas Show, Unique, hand-made work.
Submission Deadline: October 25, More
info at artofascension.com or 250-352-2006.

FOOD AND DRINK

FAT PIG FRENCH RESTAURANT would like
to thank all of our patrons for supporting us
this season. We would also like to express
our gratitude to our family, staff and the Slocan
Lake Golf Club for all the help and support.

Fat Pig wishes you a great winter and will
re-open in mid- April.

THE BOARD of the New Denver Hospice
Society would like to thank everyone who
helped us at the Garlic Festival. Year after
year, Ron and Allan help set up our booth,
so special thanks to them and to the many,
many community BAKERS who donate
their wonderful goodies so that we have
something to sell. Again, we had a very
successful fundraiser! All monies raised
support the Hospice room and training for
volunteers allowing the society to provide
end of life comfort in our community.

THE KASLO CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE would like to belatedly
thank the Kaslo Hotel for their continuing
support of both the Economic Development
and village businesses this past summer with
the creation of the first ever Kaslo Folk Festival.
A great deal of time and energy went into bringing together many of
our gifted musicians and we hope that,
with the support of our village, this will become
a popular annual event. Amazing job John
and Susan and their organizer Leanne
Walters! We are also very thankful for organizing
and generously supporting the return of our Canada Day Fireworks.
It is efforts like these that make Kaslo a
wonderful place to live and visit!

WE WOULD like to take this opportunity to send out
a heartfelt thank you to all of our wonderful
community supporter that made this year’s 7th
Annual Slocan Butter Fair in Kaslo a huge
success! Thank you to our participants and
attendees for your enthusiasm and positivity.
The volunteer support was amazing (you
know who you are), this event would not be
possible without this great show of service.
Thank you to all of the local businesses that
provided food, gifts, materials and services.
Papa Room (Sound), Gai FireWhole Foods, Jerry the drum-maker,
Little Slocan Lodge, Village Wholesale Centre, Cedar Creek Cafe,
Winlaw Miniature, Jennie’s Garden, Kenyon McGee Legal Services,
EarthSpirit, Rosemary Massage, Lots More Massage, Collette Venier,
RMT, Ben Brown-Synergy Therapies, PowerEssentials, Lala Creations,
Safin, Dean Walluitive skills, Nadine Pluzak, Theresa Lewis, Tim Gorton,
BC Spirit Soup, Save On Foods, BeloCino Chocolates, Kaslo Food
Graces, Urban Legends, Oso Negro, Eillon’s Market,
Railway Meats, Fisher-Makem Market,
Safeway, Walmart, McIntyre Farm, Cedar Creek Farm, Mountain Seed Co. Farm,
BIGGEST Little Fruit Stand, White Crow
Farm, Gaia Rising, Dominion Cafe, Revived Was, The
Royal, Big Cramen Designs, Maplerose,
Urban Outfitters, Pablo and Sara, Preserved Seed, Royal Espresso, Booksmith, Cloud
Nine, Brandy, Still Eagles, Sacred Journey,
Ober Books, Full Circle, Cotton Clothing
Co, Global Underground, Snap Botanicals,
Grasshopper Juice Bar, Iris Essentials,
Our Glass, Sacred Ride, Tady’s Music, Tribute,
Valhalla Pure, Darwin’s, Max the Jeweller,
Hume Hotel, Perry Ridge Water Users
Association. With such an abundance of
support, we have included everyone who contributed. Thank you to the ones not
mentioned.

-Liam Lyon from the Slocan Family

COMING EVENTS

REGISTER NOW 2011 Kinder Rainbow
Dance. Remembrance Day weekend. Early
worth.com.

HALLOWEEN DANCE October 20
Hall, Slocan. BAND NO EXCUSE starting
at 8 pm Tickets $5 at Mountain Valley
Station, Slocan or phone 250-355-2672. Prizes
for costumes. Food available. No minors.

BOTTLE DRIVE, Valhalla Wilderness
Program. Saturday, October 9, 8 am to
1 pm. Between Pasmore and Slocan. Call
about 250-355-2212.

BALLROOM FOR BEGINNERS -
Wednesday 7:30 Health Centre Gym.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Spectrum Home and Family Care
(250) 265-3224

Counsellor/Expressive Arts
Mondays & Fridays - Silverton • Every other Wednesday in Winlaw or Nakusp
250-265-3224

Sturtz, M.A., CCC
• Massage Therapy
• Myofascial release • deep tissue massage • relaxation massage
• Sliding Scale - Mobile Service
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THE KASLO CRAFT CORNOCPIA – THE NATURAL
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October 9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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THE SLOCAN LAKE EARLY LARNING SOCIETY Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 7 a.m. at Lucerne School, New Denver.

PARENTS WITH CHILDREN ages 0-2 are invited to join the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program. Interactive rhymes, stories, songs. Thursdays, (starting Oct.13), 11-10

am, Knox Hall, New Denver.

SANDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY AGM – Saturday, October 29, 7:00 pm, Hidden Garden Gallery. New members welcome.

THE AGM FOR SLOCAN LAKE GALLERY will be held Saturday, October 23 at 2 pm at the Gallery. Please attend, enjoy refreshments, renew your membership.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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**BOMBARDIER**

**PLAYMOBIL**

**Pygmy**

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**PLAYMOBIL**

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Encompassing more than a century and covering the country from sea to sea, Nelson author Anne DeGrace’s new novel was an ambitious project. DeGrace launches Flying with Amelia (McArthur & Co) at the Nelson Public Library on Friday, October 7 at 7:30 pm.

“I love Canadian history, and I’m fascinated with how the events in the history books affected regular folks, just living their lives,” DeGrace says. “I’ve played with this idea before, but I wanted to cover a lot of territory, and to offer a fresh perspective of things as we view them through the window of history.”

In Flying with Amelia, the descendents of an Irish immigrant family scatter across the country. From St. John’s Newfoundland to BC and north to the Beaufort Sea, the story weaves the identity of a young Canada. The breadth and scope of the novel demanded authenticity in terms of voice and cultural nuance, a challenge DeGrace found engaging, and, if occasionally daunting, always exciting.

“Research can be pretty addictive, especially when it puts you in touch with interesting people and their stories. Closest to home were chapters that took place in Ontario during the FLQ-crisis – my hometown and New Denver, when the Sons of Freedom Doukhobor children were forced to attend school,” she says. “The famous pilot Amelia Earhart serves as a metaphor for courage and hope as she caught the imagination of the world – and the characters in the title chapter – in the 1930s.”

“Really, the book is part intergenerational tale, part six-degrees-of-separation, with small-world moments throughout. I hope readers will find a lot they can relate to.”

This is DeGrace’s fourth novel, following Treading Water (2005), last year’s One Book, One Kootenay winner, Wind Trails (2007), and Sounding Line, (2009). She has also authored several photographic books.

BC rolls out program to help smokers quit

Nicotine replacement therapies (gum and patches) are now available at no cost and smoking cessation prescription drugs (Champy and Zyban) are covered under PharmaCare.

By calling HealthLink, BC at 8-1-1 and registering for the smoking cessation program, BC residents who are covered by MSP and wish to quit will be able to receive free nicotine gum or patch, either by mail or at their local community pharmacy once they receive a reference number from Healthlink.

Eligible BC residents can receive a single continuous course of treatment lasting up to 12 consecutive weeks with either a prescription smoking cessation drug or an NRT product once every calendar year.

Smokers are encouraged to visit www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/stoptobesmoking and www.quitnow.ca.

DeGrace launches fourth novel

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Slocan Community Library to host area authors

Two new books have been launched by Slocan Valley authors in the past few months and the community is gathering to celebrate.

In the weeks ahead, the Slocan Community Library would like to invite everyone to readings by these authors – one a personal journey, while the other reveals the journey of the Slocan Valley – at the Harold Street location (Main Street).

On Saturday, October 15 at 1 pm, Margo Talbot will discuss and read from All That Glitters: A Climber’s Journey through Addiction and Depression (Sono Nis Press). Talbot is a world-renowned ice climber with a compelling story of healing and self-discovery.

Bill Phillips, New York Times best selling author of Body-for-LIFE, said Margo’s book was an inspirational real-life story that “shows us that our lives’ biggest challenges can also be our greatest opportunities for personal growth, transformation and enlightenment.”

The second event is scheduled for Sunday, November 6 at 1 pm, the day after we turn our clocks back for the annual time change. Rita Moir will talk about and read from The Third Crop (Sono Nis Press). This fascinating work of non-fiction is Moir’s fourth book, and is about life in the Slocan Valley from the late 1800s through the 1940s.

Both books, published by Sono Nis Press of Winlaw, will be available for purchase.

Admission to the readings is by donation. The library can be reached at 250-355-2355.

Rail trail fall colours bike ride

What better way to enjoy the changing of the seasons than going for a ride along the historic Slocan Valley Rail Trail?

On Sunday, October 16 beginning at noon, the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society (SVHTS) would like to invite cyclists of all ages to come join them on an enjoyable ride along a portion of the 52-kilometre long former CP Rail Trail.

Fall brings out that late flash of colour that can turn an enjoyable ride into an explosion of hues and textures.

The ride this year will begin and end at the new southernmost terminus of the Rail Trail on Highway 3A in South Slocan opposite the Dam Inn.

From there cyclists ride north for approximately eight kilometres to below the area know as Kosiancic’s Hill, where they’ll find volunteers of the SVHTS waiting with refreshments.

Catch up on the latest Rail Trail news, meet old friends and discover new ones – it’s sure to be a magical day. They will also bring the electric-assist bikes along for those who may wish to experience them.

Dress for the weather, bring a water bottle and donations for the SVHTS will always be gratefully accepted. For more information phone 355-2397 or 226-0008.