submitted

The Slocan Valley now has a community fund of over $180,000, and community members are invited to come out and find out what it’s all about and how to get involved. Meetings will be held at Slocan Park Hall on November 29, and at Knox Hall in New Denver on December 1. Both meetings begin at 7 pm.

A community fund is an endowment fund, where money is invested and the interest on those investments is distributed via a granting process to local community projects and activities in an effort to sustain and increase community vitality.

The Kootenay Savings Community Foundation initiated the process of establishing the fund in November 2009, when they set aside endowment funds for all 13 communities where Kootenay Savings has a branch, including South Slocan and New Denver.

After an information meeting, a number of local people stepped forward and began the task of forming the Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society – Heather Burns, Deb Corbett, Wendy Harlock, Craig Stowell and Lorna Visser. The Heritage Credit Union in Slocan Park also stepped in at the beginning to get the ball rolling, putting $1,000 toward initial administration fees.

The Kootenay Savings Community Foundation has donated over $130,000 to the fund. The SVCLS is also eligible for the ‘Endowment Support Program’ of the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT). Under the program, donations from the community are matched by CBT for up to $50,000.

“The benefits of the Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society are real,” said board member Heather Burns. “There is now a need to attract dynamic, enthusiastic people to serve and create a reputable, transparent board that will act as stewards of the funds and oversee the annual granting process.”

The SVCLS is an affiliate of the Osprey Community Foundation, which is based in Nelson (www.ospreycommunityfoundation.ca). Norm Carruthers, former chair of the Osprey Foundation and advisor to the SVCLS, assisted the current board with setting up the society. The existing board wishes to express their gratitude to Norm for all of his volunteer hours in this process and his professional guidance.

Current chair, Deb Corbett, said the initial board has completed the legwork and the society is now looking for community members to join the board and move forward with the society’s mandate: to encourage and promote philanthropy and provide a means for receiving and managing gifts and bequests into a permanent endowment fund that benefits the Slocan Valley and its residents. “We are also very excited about actually receiving proposals from the community this winter and beginning our annual granting process,” said Corbett. “The fun part of all this is about to happen. It is an exciting opportunity. It will help strengthen and enrich our already resilient, resourceful and vital community.”

The current board would like to attract new members to form a larger board of approximately nine directors. They are also looking to attract other professionals to form an advisory council. This council would not be a part of the board, instead just be available for professional advice.

The SVCLS serves the valley from Hills to South Slocan.

To find out more, please attend the information meetings, which will be held November 29 at Slocan Park Hall, and December 1 at Knox Hall in New Denver, both starting at 7 pm. There will be speakers at the meetings who will provide more detailed information regarding what the SVCLS is about and how you may get involved. Refreshments will be served. Please attend and get involved in this rare and wonderful opportunity.
Mountain goat shot in Valhalla Park camping area

by Jan McMurray

It was not an all that they expected from their weekend trip to Valhalla Park. They returned to their campsite in the Mt. Gimli area after a day of climbing to see blood and guts just 20 metres from their tent site. A mountain goat had been shot – probably one of the mountain goats that they had photographed the day before.

“I was shocked and upset,” said one of the climbers. “I am not against hunting by any means, and I know hunting is legal in the park, but why would anyone hunt in a heavily used area with so many risks to human life? That campground is very well known and very well used. It would be very surprising to me to see blood and guts just 20 metres from the Mt. Gimli area after a day of climbing by Jan McMurray

A mountain goat, such as the one in this picture, was shot in the Mt. Gimli area of Valhalla Park. Last September. (File photo)

**Hunting zone**

The area around the campground is a no hunting zone, as proposed by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations. “The risk of any hunting zone in areas that are very accessible to the public and where animals are habituated to wildlife viewing. Society supports subsistence hunting, but not at the expense of wildlife viewing,” he said. “Incidents like these will continue to cause a backlash against types of hunting, which is sad because a lot of people depend on hunting to feed their families. We have lots of areas outside of parks in the Kootenays and in BC where hunting activities can go on without conflict with wildlife viewing. We need to make better rules and regulations so this doesn’t occur.”

McCorry suggests that people write to the BC Premier, the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations to ask for a no hunting zone in the Mt. Gimli area of Valhalla Park, and in all camping and wildlife viewing areas in provincial parks.

Premier Christy Clark can be reached at premier.gov.bc.ca; fax: 250-387-6539; 1-877-376-6539.

**NDP’s BC caucus**

Members of the federal NDP BC caucus are calling for stronger action by the federal government to protect Canadian citizens affected by a series of measures undertaken by the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS). According to US law, anyone who was born in the US is required to file US tax returns even though they have worked and paid taxes in Canada and have no US income.

This affects Canadian citizens holding dual citizenship as well as US residents who have permanent resident status in Canada.

The US law states that failure to file US tax returns even though they have worked and paid taxes in Canada and have no US income.

These products are economically viable, healthy and require little electricity for storage. The dehydrated food also helped educate the public on food preservation.

“Food preservation skills were once absolutely necessary in order to ensure food was available all year long,” said Rose Soneff, Community Nutritionist with Interior Health’s Food Security and Community Nutrition program. “CFAI funds are helping resurrect these lost and forgotten skills.”

**Kokanee**

A Kokanee was reported missing Friday after she was overdue from returning to Nakusp from an eye appointment in Revelstoke.

Kay Mansour was scheduled to attend a medical appointment in Revelstoke on October 24, however she never arrived for it.

“Friends in Nakusp believed Mansour was visiting in Revelstoke but when she did not keep in contact they became concerned,” said Revelstoke RCMP Staff Sgt. Jacquie Osen.

“The vehicle was located in the water by an RCMP helicopter Saturday about 25 kilometres south of Revelstoke on Highway 23.

Her body was recovered the next day by members of the Southeast District dive team and Revelstoke Search and Rescue.

A preliminary investigation indicates the vehicle went off the road, rolled down the embankment and came to rest in about four metres of water.

The woman was not able to escape and is believed to have succumbed to the cold water. The investigation is continuing with the assistance of traffic analysts and the BC Coroners Service.

**Resident**

As of 2013, Canadian financial institutions will be required by US law to report to the IRS all accounts held by US citizens in Canada.

**Missing Nakusp woman**

In addition to a number of letters available to residents of the region for a small fee of $8 per day.

“The Kaslo Fish Hub used these dehydrators to produce value added products and raise funds for their programs,” said Nettie Lack, administrator, Kootenay Local Agricultural Society. “Produce donations provided over the summer from a local distributor were used to make products such as garlic zucchini chips and apple rings which were then sold as a fundraiser.

**Progress**

The Kaslo Fish Hub used these dehydrators to produce value added products and raise funds for their programs.

**Programs support eating local year-round**

Four commercial-sized food dehydrators are now available to residents of the Nakusp, New Denver, Kaslo, Nelson and Castlegar areas.

The Kootenay Lake Agricultural Society (KLAS) purchased the dehydrators with assistance from Interior Health’s Community Food Action Initiative.

The dehydrators will be included in the society’s tool library, and are available to residents of the region for a small fee of $8 per day.

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**British Columbia**

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**VQA support**

The Valley Voice November 16, 2011

Buildings Victoria, BC V8Y 1XR

Minister of FLNRO Steve Thomson can be reached at: PO Box 9049 Sn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9E2; phone: 250-387-0240; fax: 250-387-1040.

2 NEWS

24 hr Recorded Information (250) 265-3700

For general information (250) 265-3703
Global water crisis calls for a new water ethic: Bob Sandford

by Jan McMurray

With “peak water” fast approaching, we need to deal with our water problems now, “while time and prosperity are on our side.”

Bob Sandford made this case at an event at Passmore Hall November 5, hosted by the Perry Ridge Water Users Association and supported by the Columbia Basin Trust. This event was part of his speaking tour across Canada to promote his latest book, Ethical Water: Learning to Value what Matters Most.

The key to solving the water crisis is “a new water ethic,” he says. “Prosperous countries in future will be those that have enough water for food, for cities, for industry and for nature—and that know how to ensure that each gets what it needs. This will require a change of thinking.”

Sandford spoke about the pressures on the world’s water supply. The most obvious one is the growing demand on the world’s water supply. The most obvious one is the growing demand on the world’s water supply. The biggest threat to water quality and public health. And Canada is not the only country with this problem. Agricultural water use is becoming an issue globally because today’s big agriculture industry is expected to increase from 6.5 billion in 2000 to 8 billion in 2025 and to 10 billion by 2050. To feed the people, it is estimated that an additional 5,200 cubic kilometres of water will be needed annually for agriculture by 2050. “That – I should point out – is close to all the remaining surface water readily available to us on earth,” said Sandford.

He said that if we give agriculture the water it will need to keep our growing populations in food, then there will not be enough left for nature “to sustain fundamental, long-term planetary life-support function and self-regulation.”

Sandford predicts that within five years, agricultural practices are going to be identified in Canada as the country’s biggest threat to water quality and public health. And Canada is not the only country with this problem. Agricultural water use is becoming an issue globally because today’s big agriculture industry results in poor quality water and less of it going back to nature.

“The country that figures out how to solve this problem without losing critical productivity gains will go a long way to assure its own sustainability and will have much to share with the world.”

He said.

Other pressures on our water supply include serious groundwater overdraft, accelerating soil loss in many of the world’s most important food producing areas, widespread contamination, rapidly expanding desertification globally, and to top it all off, climate change.

Sandford explained that because water plays such an important part in the weather and climate system of the planet, climate change has a huge impact on water and vice versa. “What is happening now is that increased temperatures are altering the patterns of movement of water through the global hydrological cycle…we have created a hydro-climatic time bomb and very quickly, we need to figure out how to carefully defuse it.”

In Canada, “we don’t have as much water as we think we do,” said Sandford. Our water supply is shrinking, with melting glaciers and decreasing snowpacks. Research shows that we may lose 300 glaciers in the Canadian Rockies between 1920 and 2005 (half of those in the 20 years between 1985 and 2005) and that the rate of decline of snowpack and snowcover of the mountains of the American West in the past three decades is unprecedented in the last 800 years. Sandford predicts that within five years, agricultural practices are going to be identified in Canada as the country’s biggest threat to water quality and public health. And Canada is not the only country with this problem. Agricultural water use is becoming an issue globally because today’s big agriculture industry results in poor quality water and less of it going back to nature.

He proposed five principles for the new water ethic: recognize nature’s need for water; recognize water as a human right integral to human health; the new water ethic: recognize nature’s need for water; recognize water as a human right integral to human health; resolve the water crisis in First Nations communities throughout Canada and gain respect for First Nations values and rights; harmonize the regulations and regulators of water; and finally, government has to send the appropriate economic signals. “We lack a set of principles, laws, policies and guidelines that stop us from chipping away at natural systems until there is nothing left of their life-sustaining functions, which the marketplace fails to value adequately if they are valued at all,” he said.

He encouraged us to conserve water, avoid water contamination at all cost, and above all, to cultivate political leadership that will press for a wholesale change in our water ethic. He stressed the crucial role of political leadership. “We are not going to solve our water problems in the Canadian West without it,” he said.

Burton resident dies in head-on collision

submitted by RCMP

A 52-year-old Burton resident, Rita Jane Sundstrom, succumbed to her injuries after a tragic car accident on Highway 6 between Burton and Nakusp on November 10 at about 2:50 pm. Alcohol was found to be one of the factors.

Sundstrom was traveling south towards Burton when a vehicle travelling north towards Nakusp moved into the southbound lane to pass another vehicle. The northbound vehicle crashed head on into Sundstrom’s vehicle.

The driver of the northbound vehicle was taken to the hospital in Nakusp to be treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

Highway 6 was closed to one-lane traffic for approximately six hours. The investigation is ongoing.

New Denver Mayor’s Message

To everyone in New Denver: It has been the honour of my life to have served as your mayor. Thanks.

Gary Wright

Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society

Information Meetings

Nov. 29, Tuesday
Slocan Park Hall
7:00 pm

Dec. 1, Thursday
Knox Hall, New Denver
7:00 pm

See Press Release for information.

With support from CBT’s Summer Works program, we were able to create a job for a student, allowing us to revamp our manufacturing environment and increase production by 17 per cent, helping pave the way for continued success in the future.

Anders Malpass, President, Drop Designs, South Slocan

Columbia Basin Trust

make the most of us www.cbt.org 1.800.505.8998

CET supports efforts by the people of the basin to create a legacy of social, economic, and environmental well-being and to achieve greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations.
Thank you, Dona! Thanks to the Valley Voice for a fantastic Hallween fireworks display. It was such fun to gather around the bonfires with kids in costume and all the rest of us. Heartwarming community event. Appreciative in Winlaw, Ruth Porter Winlaw

Councillor Hepner withdraws

It is with regret that I'm withdrawing from the upcoming election on November 19, 2011.

I feel very privileged to have been given the opportunity by the people of Nakusp to serve four terms on council. I want to thank you for your past support.

I support Karen Hamling for mayor. She has worked hard on behalf of the community of Nakusp. She has always kept council informed on every issue and has always asked for council's input and thoughts on all issues. She's been a credit to our community as mayor.

I wish all of the candidates good luck.

Len Hepner Nakusp

No sad lack in the New Denver area

It's good to read letters from people who recognize that libraries and literacy are important to a community. Like the letter writer who states 'New Denver needs an ESL college in the September 21 issue.'

New Denver does have a library, formally known as the New Denver Reading Centre. In "Our Library" there are approximately 9,500 items available for borrowing by all local residents. We have books for all ages: books in print form, books on cassette tape, and books on CDs. A small selection of music and movies is also available. In addition, through the provincial interlibrary loan system, patrons of the library have access to almost every library throughout the province.

Located in Knox Hall, the Reading Centre – Our Library is easily accessible for all with a ramped entrance and wide aisles. Two computer stations are available for internet access. Regular postings of new arrivals at the library are listed on our blog: http://readingcentre.blogspot.com.

All of these local resources are here at a bargain price – $5 per year per person, or a maximum of $15 per family.

The volunteers of the Reading Centre – Our Library invite anyone who has not yet discovered us to visit during our open hours: Monday and Wednesday evenings, 7-9 pm or Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2-4 pm.

Judi Gardiner, Chair, New Denver Reading Centre

New Denver

Peace must include a military dimension

I am writing in reference to Leon Pendleton's excellent and thoughtful letter in the November 2 issue. Mr. Pendleton evidently believes that the best way to eliminate war is to ignore it. If we don't plan for it, don't prepare for it, don't train for it, it probably won't happen. It's not a new idea. In 1929, most of the nations of the world, including all the so-called Great Powers, signed the Kellogg-Briand pact, essentially outlawing war. It amounted to a solemn pledge to never again use war as a tool of national policy. As a result, many nations, including France, Britain and the United States, started to dismantle their military establishments. This process culminated in 1939 when the United States had the 19th largest army in the world. Portugal had more men than the Americans did. Did this state of affairs lead to universal peace? History can answer that question far better than I can.

The point is that peace does not come about as a result of wishful thinking and abdication of responsibility. It requires hard work, cooperation, and success. No group of people has a more vested interest in peace than the military. Let's not forget that it was a wise old soldier (Dwight Eisenhower) who coined the term "millenial-industrial" complex and warned against its influence. Any kind of durable peace must include a military dimension. On the surface, this appears counter-intuitive to many people, understandably. Logically, if you remove the military dimension, you remove the capacity to wage war and therefore war becomes impossible. In a perfect world, that's the way it would work. But we don't live in a perfect world. To quote Lester Pearson, "Peace is much more than simply the absence of war." I am a passionate social democrat. I firmly believe that the only sustainable future for mankind lies in a realm considerably to the 'left' of where we currently find ourselves. However, I have been able to find nothing in social democratic theory that would prevent me from having an equally passionate belief in the wisdom of military preparedness.

John Ranta Faqquier

Remembrance Day

Listening to CBC on the car radio on this very dark day. Rain turning to snow. November 11. The topic on CBC Almanac is: "Who are you thinking of on this day?" I'm thinking of two parents, both of them. Since I am driving, I cannot call in but I find myself composing my story in my head. I stop the car and make some notes.

When I was younger, I barely remember the war and therefore war becomes impossible. In a perfect world, that's the way it would work. But we don't live in a perfect world. To quote Lester Pearson, "Peace is much more than simply the absence of war." I am a passionate social democrat. I firmly believe that the only sustainable future for mankind lies in a realm considerably to the 'left' of where we currently find ourselves. However, I have been able to find nothing in social democratic theory that would prevent me from having an equally passionate belief in the wisdom of military preparedness.

Remembrance Day

John Ranta Faqquier

Ambulance service in dire need of upgrade

Can someone please tell me just when British Columbia became a 'Live and Let Die' society?

Les Fisher, chief operating officer of the BC Ambulance Service just last month told Kamloops NL radio that "...we here in BC have no reason to be so fearful of..." I beg to differ, and it's not the fault of the rank and file ambulance service attendants – it's the fault of the Liberal government.

The following paragraphs came from a 2007 report entitled 'First Responders, Fire Services and Pre-Hospital Emergency Care in British Columbia,' prepared by Peter Cameron for the Emergency Health Services Commission. Cameron took it from a previously published BC Coroner's report. I am sure that Cameron felt the numbers were still current enough to include in his report.

"Trauma deaths were examined using hospital and coroner records. When evaluated by region, we discovered the expected discrepancy, with pre-hospital deaths much greater the further the distances to definitive care. Twelve percent of all trauma deaths in the lower mainland were treated by pre-hospital personnel. In a more sparsely populated area on Vancouver Island 45% of trauma deaths occurred before admission to hospital. In the interior of the province, the percentage was 60%...."

Please note that the indicated percentages refer only to 'death from trauma' and do not include deaths from time-sensitive conditions like heart attack, strokes, etc. I am sure those percentages would be as high or even higher and would add to the total number of treatable deaths in the province.

I fear these numbers are still valid today, four years after his report was presented, as I have not been able to find any data to the contrary. I contend that the BC Ambulance Service has made any dramatic changes in their response capabilities in the regions of concern. To the best of my knowledge, roughly the same capabilities exist there today (in terms of ambulance stations and attendant numbers), as did when the original BC Coroner’s report was presented well prior to the 2007 Cameron report.

Logical deduction indicates that if BCAS response capabilities have not continued on page 5

The Valley Voice

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continued on page 5

not improved, then the indicated extremely high pre-hospital death rates in the indicated regions persist today. If that is indeed the case, this situation is beyond unacceptable — it is hardly an ambulance service to be proud of but rather an ambulance service in dire need of upgrade.

The Canada Health Act clearly states every person has the legal right to reasonable access to our provincially provided health care system. This is being threatened due to lengthy ambulance response times clearly indicates that these persons were NOT being provided with ‘reasonable’ system access.

Hans Dysursz
Vancouver

To local Catholics

Any local Catholics disturbed by the current idioxy of what is being named “Occupy Wall Street” can see the rector of the Nelson cathedral should avail themselves of the recent rulings of Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, Archbishop of Vancouver and therefore Metropolitan of our Nelson diocese.

Ken Lamb
Nelson

Re-focussing on the issues

Gandhi is often credited with saying: “First they ignore you; then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win.” As I write, the official response to the Occupy movement seems to be mostly in transition between stages 2 and 3 of Gandhi’s description. The mainstream media’s tactic is to divert attention away from the grievances of the Occupy movement by focusing instead on the practical difficulties of its chosen strategy of protest. Coupled with this, the 1% are trying to rewrite history by denying that fraud by major companies based in Wall Street was the direct cause of the troubles.

New message being put out is that criticism of Wall Street billonaries is just jealousy, and the laziness of “less gifted” people is the cause of the problems.

Lest we forget, it went something like this. Financial companies in the US deliberately sold mortgages to people who obviously would not be able to keep up the payments. They then bundled these ‘sub-prime’ mortgages with other credit defaults and sold them to unsuspecting clients as investments. The famous rating agencies, conduits who gave this financial trash, which was very deliberately designed to fail, a triple A rating. Without telling their investors any of this, which is where the fraud comes in, financial corporations then took out insurance on these doomed investments to the tune of billions of dollars.

When the crash came, hedge fund managers made phenomenal profits – one individual made $3,700,000,000 in one year. This earned him the praise and adulation of financial columnists, who apparently do not consider it matters that this whole exercise put millions of people out of work and/or out of their homes. And though you may not have been in court who if we stole a few items from a store, not one perpetrator of the biggest swindle in history has been charged with anything. On the contrary, the corporations were bailed out by taxpayer money and no significant changes were subsequently made to the laws that made possible all of the wreckage done to the economy.

Out-of-court settlements are being made in which the corporations do not have to admit guilt and get off with minimal fines. These fines will be paid by their shareholders – that some of them they ripped off in the first place.

This did not inspire Occupy Wall Street. More generally, the protest is about the legal system being thoroughly rigged to favour the ultra-rich at the expense of the other 99% of us. It is no answer that we all have the opportunity to be rich if we want, because rich people are like the old people who count. We all deserve fairness, dignity and respect, and currently the system is only giving this to the 1%.

Thousands die and suffer because of wars and financial trickery at the expense of the enriches the already uber-rich. It has to change, and the Occupy movement is currently our biggest hope that it will.

Keith Newberry
Slocan

Medical equipment swap

A good senior friend of mine who is on OAS has apnea and needs a CPAP machine for sleeping. She, like many others, simply can’t afford it. Other seniors need medical devices they are unable to afford, so they go without, suffer, and die off before they should.

Another friend of mine’s wife spent the last of her time and energy going all over the province for tests and consultations. On one occasion, she and her husband travelled to Vancouver (involving the usual overnight hotel expenses) for a short office visit and returned home to New Denver to be messaged asking them to return to Vancouver immediately. My friend is convinced this severely shortened her wife’s life. It was good that he could afford the expense of all that travel and the breathing machine (not a CPAP unfortunately) his wife needed.

I have undergone similar expenses for my own condition, which now constitute a portion of my personal debt with no end in sight, and to whom I owe OAS for my income. Soon I will be financially unable to continue all this travel and accommodation expense, most of which will involve trips to Vancouver. Part of my costs of 2010 were for an alpine cervical collar which I no longer need, but some poor person out there does and really can’t afford it, but has to have it, so it will likely come out of their food budget.

We can’t do much about the travel and accommodation expenses inflicted upon us by our “improved” medical system (yet), but we can do something about the cost of medical devices and equipment. My widower friend still has his wife’s breathing machine sitting in a closet; I still have my perfectly good collar and a full set of extra liners in my closet; and someone out there has an unused

CPAP machine sitting in theirs. How many medical devices and machines are sitting on shelves or languishing in local closets while our poor and elderly neighbours who need them have to sacrifice to greatly buy them or all too often simply have to go without?

We need a place to drop off our unused medical devices and equipment so those who need them but can’t afford them can have access to them. The clinic in New Denver comes to mind. If you have such things at your house please let me know so we can begin to build an inventory. Email me at molloyandwhite@yahoo.ca if you can, if not phone me at 250-358-2760 and let me know what you have and how to reach you. Due to a worsening neurological condition, I often have difficulty speaking, holding a phone to my ear, writing things down, or punching numbers (dialing), but with a little help from my friends we will get this done together. My friend Frances can speak and write and dial much better than I can and her number is 250-358-2187. She is happy to help, and she, by the way, is the one who needs the CPAP machine.

Thanks folks.

John White
New Denver

Teachers’ job action begins to have effects in school district: Jones

submitted

Now in the third month of teacher strike activity, the impact of this strike for students is beginning to be seen.

At a time of the year when report cards and student-teacher interviews are typically held, there could be nothing more frustrating in School District No. 8, said superintendent of schools, Jeff Jones.

He said progress was slow at the provincial bargaining table between the BC Teachers’ Federation and the British Columbia School Employers’ Association (BCSPEA).

“I am afraid that we will not be seeing an end to the strike action any time soon,” Jones said in a recent news release.

Early dismissal days

Early dismissal days scheduled for Nov. 22-24 were cast in doubt during the strike action being taken by members of the BCCTF. Teachers are required neither to complete nor distribute formal report cards for students as these services are considered by the Labour Relations Board to be “non-essential.” Teachers are not required to provide any student assessment data to administrators or the school office, except Grade 12 marks required for graduation, post-secondary applications, and scholarship purposes.

Therefore, in order to ensure that school districts are acting within the parameters of the relative laws, each student will be issued a formal report card from the district that includes attendance information, the names of the student’s teacher(s), the signature of the principal, and information regarding student achievement in classes that are taught by administrators, who are not members of the BCCTF, said Jones.

“Teachers have been encouraged by their local union presidents to communicate with parents regarding student achievement,” he said.

Jones said some teachers are choosing to phone, email or send notes and informal reports home with students to parents. Parents are advised that contact by teachers will vary and that there will be very limited consistency within the same school and throughout the district.
Silverton’s mayoral candidates face off at All Candidates meeting

by Jan McMurray

Silverton’s All Candidates meeting on November 2 started off with all six candidates introducing themselves, followed by questions for the two mayoral candidates. The four councillor candidates have been elected by acclamation: incumbents Ross Johnson and Leah Main, and Jason (Jay) Clarke and Christopher Love.

Residents have a choice between Carol Bell and Kathy Provan as their mayor.

Carol Bell said she is running because she believes she is the best person for the job. “I am open, reliable and I see the bigger picture,” she said. She has sat on council for two terms and “knows the protocols.” She says the key is keeping positive relationships for frank and open discussion of issues. Bell said she is proud of council’s work over the past two terms. “We have held the line on taxation and have gotten grants for infrastructure.” She has been Silverton’s RDCK director for six years. She has also been trustee for School District 10 for three years and has been re-elected to that position by acclamation for the next three years. “An effective mayor must think of the past and what is happening in the present creatively look after the future. I want to see Silverton prosper and grow,” she said.

Kathy Provan said she believes in efficiency, effectiveness and above all, accountability, as well as collaboration, cooperation and a team approach. She described herself as a hard worker who respects common-sense values, and who has a great respect for those who serve and volunteer in the communities. She said she has campaigned door-to-door and the most-voiced concerns include financial accountability, ensuring the safety of the water supply, more effective maintenance policies, improving streets, sidewalks and lanes, exploring garbage pick-up options, improving water/brackwater, exploring new ways to control, exploring senior services, enhancing signage. “I will represent the citizens of Silverton with honesty, integrity and dedication,” she said.

Asked why she resigned last term, Provan said there were two reasons. First, she couldn’t get along with the mayor’s leadership style, and second, there was a death in the family and a family member needed 24-hour care.

Vision for Silverton three years from now

Provan said she’d like Silverton to be a place where people driving through want to stop. She would like to see people taking pride in the community and working together, a balanced budget, and money going into the community rather than paying off a deficit.

Bell said she would like to see more flowers and trees on the main street, upgrades to the gallery, and Silverton’s achievements posted on the Village website. She would also like to see more children in town.

Unsightly premises bylaw

Bell said Silverton has an unsightly premises bylaw, which is enforced when someone complains, as the Village does not have a bylaw enforcement officer. When there is a complaint, Village staff contacts the property owners to ask them to clean up their property. If the Village has to do the clean-up, the cost is added to the property owner’s tax bill.

Provan said she is not in favour of the bylaw because of the lack of enforcement, and she feels a policy would be better. When asked how a policy would be better, she said it bothers her that the Village can’t enforce its bylaws and she would work with council to come up with strategies around that. She indicated that she felt unsightly premises are not a big issue in Silverton.

Activities for children

Provan said it would be wonderful to have the curling/skating rink open again, and she would like to see a bicycling area for kids. She said the Columbia Basin Trust has a new funding program for youth projects. Bell said she will be the school board representative on the task force for the CBT youth program, and said the arena will be up and running this year. She also said there had been a recent announcement about provincial money for recreation in small communities, “and we will be using it to upgrade facilities in Silverton.”

Amalgamation with New Denver

Bell said the provincial government gives small communities grants of $262,000, so Silverton would lose that funding if the two Villages amalgamated. She does not know if the benefits of amalgamation would offset the loss of the grant. She said if residents are concerned about this, it’s time to have the dialogue, and suggested a town hall meeting with New Denver.

Provan feels New Denver and Silverton should work together a bit more than they already do, and would like to hear more from residents on this. She also is in favour of exploring the idea further with New Denver.

Boat launch upgrades and tourism

Bell said she has been working with the Slocan Solutions Society to get a boat washing station. “I don’t know if we want more boats because of invasive plants,” she said, “but said there are other strategies to bring tourists to the area.”

Provan said damage to the breakwater was done in a storm, so that must be repaired. She said improving the launching area would be good, and she can see a boat washing station would be beneficial, “but it all has to be explored to see what’s best for that particular area.”

Budget concerns

Provan said that since 2009, Silverton has had two tax increases of five percent each, and water and garbage fee increases. In 2010, there were two projects that needed to be done, but there were cost overruns of $25,000. This year, with the termination of the administrator, there will be a cost to the taxpayers. “So that’s one of the reasons I am running,” she said.

Bell pointed out that cost overruns are quite common with renovation projects, and there were overruns with the Memorial Hall project as well, but “you have to complete the project.”

I think we have been very conscientious about how we have spent the money. I have no problem about how we have handled the budget for the last six years,” said Bell.

ELECTION

NEW — JUST ARRIVED — 3 “KANGA HYDE” CARPETS — 3 GREAT COLOURS — HIGHLOW PILE REG. $15/50 SQ YD SALE $12/50 SQ YD ENGINEERED HARDWOOD FLOOR — 3/8” (3-5/7” WIDTHS) — OLD WEST PLANK — SALOON OAK REG. $5.49/ SQ FT SUPER SALE $ 3.99/ SQ FT CERAMIC FLOOR TILE — 12 ⅞” X 12 ⅞” — MOUNTAIN CRIMSON DARK REG. $3.99/ EA SUPER SALE $1.99/ EA WALL TILE 4” X 4” METRO SATIN WHITE REG. $2.89/EA SUPER SALE $.99 EA 1 X 6 PINE BEVEL SIDING STILL ONLY $0.39/ LIN FT ALL GILMOUR SPRINKLERS, HOSE NOZZLES — 50% OFF MISC. PHILLIPS LIGHT BULBS — 50% OFF EURORITE CABINETS AND VANITIES ON SALE 25% OFF SILVERTON BUILDING SUPPLIES 216 Lake Avenue, Silverton Phone: 358-2293 Toll-free: 1-800-332-0588 sbs@silvertonbuilding.ca
New Denver councillor candidates on green industry, bears and food security

by Jan McMurray

All seven of New Denver’s councillor candidates came out to Bosun Hall to answer questions from the public on November 10. The following is a paraphrasing of their responses to three of the questions asked.

What would you do to ensure that whatever industry we attract is green and sustainable?

David Hodsall: Mostly, people in New Denver are doing a lot – bearproof garbage and stuff. The most important thing is to put that right into our bylaws and planning process. Write it in there. We want businesses and we should make it as easy as possible for business to come, but we cannot put aside our values, and we need that in writing.

Dennis Butler: It’s hard to assess an industry or business, and what they tell us isn’t necessarily the truth, so I would support doing lots of research projects and informed council to help them make good decisions. I have lots to learn about the food industry, too. We have the OCP. We put lots of time and effort into it, so we should make sure things agree with our OCP and Sustainable New Denver.

Henning von Krogh: We need industry here. This isn’t a new issue, but there’s been no answer yet. We want to look at the bigger picture of the industry. Businesses would have to comply with the OCP. We would have to change the plan if we want industry here.

What would you do to increase bear awareness?

David Hodsall: We need to get conservation officers to get electric fences. We need to get traps and get the bears moved away so they won’t come back. I feel for the bears but also for the people who depend on their fruit trees and gardens for their livelihood.

Heather Fox: This issue has come up at council. There is not much we can do because it’s a provincial government issue. We can do education, and we can look at Whistler and see what they have done there.

David Hodsall: We don’t have enough conservation officers. We should institute a policy of live capture and release. Right now we destroy all animals the conservation officers capture. The bears don’t want to visit us – they want the food. We have to get rid of the food source. We have a program where people will help us pick the fruit from our trees. I believe we have to deal with this with a carrot and a stick. If someone just wouldn’t deal with their fruit trees, the Village would tell them they have 15 days to have them picked and if not, the Village will do it for them and that will cost them.

Wanda Palmer: We all live here so we can have gardens and fruit trees. I spent most of my summer watching my grandchild so the bear wouldn’t eat him. Everybody looks after their yards and fruit trees and kids, so we have to push the conservation officer issue.

Nadine Raynolds: I think it was a real tragedy to have 11 bears killed and have a number of us feel not safe in our community. I think it’s a community problem. We are all part of the problem and we can all be part of the solution. Most of us do a good job. We picked 4,000 lbs of fruit with volunteers this season. We’re doing a lot but obviously not enough. We should look at electric fencing of fruit trees and the possible removal of fruit trees. We need bear-proof garbage cans everywhere, not just some places. Bear avoidance is also very important and perhaps something we can do, especially through spring. We can support local groups who are working on this. We might have to spend some money, but it’s a small cost to help protect this icon of the wilderness to keep them out in the wild and protect everyone in the community.

What would you do about food security and promoting local agriculture?

Dennis Butler: There are a lot of big gardens in New Denver. We could perhaps have a community garden on Village property and fence it. The cost would be there but it could be done. I will look into it and see what we can do if I am elected.

Anita Duminas: We don’t have a lot of agricultural land. We can support others outside the Village but not within. People grow enough on their own properties.

Heather Fox: This is a problem I really want to solve. Local food security is an issue that is bigger than New Denver. I love the idea of farmland trusts. There is no reusable land in New Denver but I would support and lobby the Province wherever possible on this issue.

David Hodsall: This issue is close to my heart. I want to see an allotment system here on Village land. Some people have land and others don’t. Something we need to look at is localization – doing what we can as close to home as possible. We can work with the RDCK and other councils on this. We can push for the idea of localization and keep it at the forefront of our minds. We can establish more knowledge-sharing between generations. Through UBCM, we can push the Province to make land reforms. Land is too expensive so we can do our part to push that agenda forward.

Wanda Palmer: The Friday Market is wonderful and it would be good to expand that. We could look into that.

Nadine Raynolds: This is a real question for us, and more and more so as time passes. I have been inspired by New Denver, by all the gardening and farming already happening here. I am curious about what policies the Village can put in place to support and foster this. There are also some neat models to learn from. Jon Steinman from Nelson, host of the Deconstructing Dinner radio show, was hired to start a West Kootenay Regional Food Alliance, and I am on the committee. We found communities in the US that work together through a regional alliance, so there is some research to be done and we can learn through other communities.

Henning von Krogh: We have a large garden. The OCP says to promote local food security, so it’s already an objective. The Village supports Harvest Share and that’s certainly appropriate. A group that shares ideas on gardening would be good. I would have to look at the land issue. It’s a challenge and something we need to work on.
Village of Kaslo candidates speak out at All Candidates meeting
by Jan McMurray

Affordability and jobs were two of the top-of-mind issues for people attending the All Candidates meeting in Kaslo November 7. Here is how the candidates running for Kaslo council responded to questions on those issues, plus a bit from their introductory statements.

Greg Lay (mayoral candidate) complimented the Kaslo Housing Society and said they will move Kaslo ahead on affordable housing. He also said there has been a reliance on people from away on the affordable housing issue, and “I think there is a homogenous Kaslo solution.”

Lay said his key idea for the airport lands has to do with the community forest. “We have a community forest that keeps exporting logs out of Kaslo because there is no value added industry.” He wants to hear more about a community forest that keeps the local industry. “We need to keep the transfer station and the general public.”

May wants to streamline the council committee system and make Kaslo affordable. She is committed to honesty, accountability and respect, and would work as a team with council. “We need Village spending and concentration on working for the community,” she said.

Maclellan said his key idea for the airport lands has to do with the community forest. “We have a community forest that keeps exporting logs out of Kaslo because there is no value added industry.” He wants to hear more about a community forest that keeps the local industry. “We need to keep the transfer station and the general public.”

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John Gates, candidate for mayor

Why did you decide to run for council?

I ran for council on two terms and was defeated in my bid for mayor in the last election. Many residents of Slocan asked me to run again this time because they are not satisfied with the results achieved by the present council. My main focus is the economic well-being of this village. I have lived here for 24 and a half years and I care what happens to the village.

What do you think bring to the municipal table as a politician? I was a village councillor from November 2002 to November 2008 and the municipal director for the village on the RDCK board from July 2004 to November 2008. During that period I attended every Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments meeting, every Union of British Columbia Municipalities meeting, every Federation of Canadian Municipalities meeting, making many contacts and gaining political knowledge and experience. Prior to running to the Slocan Valley in 1987, I spent 25 years in the Canadian military gaining leadership skills and also learning to be disciplined and tolerant.

Why do you think people should vote for you?

As you know, Slocan has been a one-industry town from the beginning. Over the years there have been periods where the industries have been closed — whether it opens again or not is a business decision of the owner. We must diversify if we expect to survive. We live in a beautiful area and have lots of amenities and we also have many talented residents who could help with diversification.

I decided to run for council because the group of people I have worked with for the last three years have no personal agenda – just like all the other current councillors.

Hillary Elliott, incumbent councillor

Why did you decide to run for council?

I wanted to offer new working community and utilize what I have learnt in the past, for the benefit of the village for another term.

What do you think you bring to the municipal table as a politician?

I believe in teamwork, both from a Village perspective and a regional perspective. I have an understanding of how the RDCK and different levels of government work and try to find ways for the village to continue to be a great place to live now and in the future.

Why do you think people should vote for you?

I believe that everyone should vote for the candidate(s) that they believe can best represent the community and their values.

Jessica Lunn, incumbent councillor

Why did you decide to run for council?

When faced with the possibility of moving in August of this year, my husband and I decided that life in Slocan is not something that either of us could possibly give up at this point in our lives. We value raising our children in a family surrounded by the magnificent Valhalla, where the pristine waters of Slocan Lake meet the Slocan River, and amongst family, friends, and a beautiful village of eclectic and caring people. When we chose to stay, it's with utmost certainty that I would run for council. It would be an honour to serve this community for another three-year term.

What do you think you bring to the municipal table as a politician?

I still have a hard time labelling myself as a politician. Rather, I am a caring, compassionate, and creative individual, with a passion for human potential and community development who has just had more success upon politics as a way to serve my community. With that being said, the last three years have been a steep learning curve and my work on council has resulted in a strong understanding of municipal politics, our capacity as a Village and how we fit into a larger political context. I am committed to expanding and applying this knowledge in order to best serve the community of Slocan.

Why do you think people should vote for you?

I believe we need to work together as individuals, council members and as a community within the larger Slocan Valley. I believe that we need to support individuals with ideas, organizations with initiative, and local business supplying our community with goods and services. I believe that council should be a leader in the development philosophy that models sustainable economic, social and healthy rural living. I am committed to open and transparent communications and encourage you to visit www.jessicallunn.com to participate in the forum, subscribe to my blog and to learn more about my experience on council. Thank you for your support.

Patricia McGreal, incumbent councillor

Why did you decide to run for council?

This would be my second term on council if I am elected. I first decided to run for council because I’d lived here for many years as a ‘spectator’ – in other words, enjoying the benefits of the work of past councils, and hoped I could take a more active part in shaping the town’s future. I’d like to continue.

What do you think you bring to the municipal table as a politician?

I’m not much of a politician. ‘Politics’ has a pretty abstract sound to it. I’m a more concrete sort of person, so what I bring is a fairly down-to-earth sort of approach. I like to see things get done.

Why do you think people should vote for you?

People should vote for me because I am honest, hardworking, fair, open-minded, and have no personal agenda – just like all the other current councillors.

Jean Patterson, incumbent councillor

Why did you decide to run for council?

Council has started some projects and I want to be there when we finish them. We’ve worked well so I’d like to keep on helping to make decisions where we have all provided our best information. I want to help search for ways to bring new business to our town that fit in with our Official Community Plan ideas and our bylaws.

What do you think you bring to the municipal table as a politician?

I’m a good listener. When all the facts have been presented, I can then make a better decision. It helps that I’ve lived here longer than most of our councillors. I can usually fill in the background information on issues. The governments in Ottawa and Victoria make a lot of decisions that must follow. It takes a while to get familiar with these.

Why do you think people should vote for you?

I’m interested in getting the correct answers to villagers’ questions. I listen to villagers’ problems and concerns and try to find a way to solve them. I will be a Town Councillor for a town where people want to live; to make that happen we must all work together.

Nick Verigin, candidate for councillor

Why did you decide to run for council?

For another three-year term. I ran for council because I’d lived in Slocan a nice place to live, and I thought people know what I have done, I’ve lived here longer than our mayor in the last election. Many of our members and as a community hope I could take a more active part in shaping the town’s future. I’d like to continue with that.

Why do you think people should vote for you?

I am for business and development. I try to work with people if there is a possibility of development, or if someone wants to get a business going. I like to get input from people in the village and make sure they are onside with something. Right now there are a lot of developers who want to come in and they are getting shot down. I also want to be the voice of seniors in the village. There are lots of them here but nobody is a leader for them, nobody is sticking up for them. We need someone to do that.

What do you think people should vote for you?

I’m a community-minded person. I’ve got the experience on many clubs, organizations and boards, having been involved with development in the village and the surrounding area for many years. I have a proven record of working with people, making sure we get their input. When you work with people you’ll get support from them, but you have to have the will of the people at heart – and I do.

Glenda Zwer, candidate for councillor

Why did you decide to run for council?

I am running for councillor because I truly care what happens in Slocan. I have been living and operating a business here for 20 years. Times are changing and the town needs to change, too. Logging no longer sustains this village and the loggers have found new jobs elsewhere. If Slocan has a hope of sustaining the services it does provide, we need to provide some new services, council will have to explore new avenues.

What do you think bring to the municipal table as a politician? People should vote for me because I have been always up front with people. I don’t make promises I can’t keep, but I will try my best for the village as a whole, not just a select few. I am a good listener and realize not everyone has the same ideas or lifestyles. We are all different. That’s what makes the world we live in so interesting. It would be pretty boring if we were all the same. I am a team player and will do my utmost to be fair minded and honest. I am not a negative person. Too much energy is expended to always fight and argue when compromises could be made by all parties. I choose my arguments, My grandmother taught me that if you voice an opinion you should be prepared to listen to another’s.

Why do you think people should vote for you?

I have lived in small towns and some big cities too, all across Canada. I graduated from college with a degree in accounting. From there I worked in several different offices in the Alberta government. I bring to the table my experience and knowledge. Maybe a different perspective, too. The only guarantee that I can truly promise is my honesty, fair-mindedness, and willingness to listen and work to the best of my ability. Please vote.

Village of Slocan candidates have diverse backgrounds

November 16, 2011 The Valley Voice
Incumbent Area D Director still has a long list of projects

by Timothy Schafer

For those who have a ‘to do’ list longer than their arm, they can relate to incumbent Area D Director Andy Shadrack.

In letting his name stand for the third time in the largest Regional District rural area in Central Kootenay, Shadrack is hoping to make more headway on the mountain of projects he has on his shoulders.

Shadrack, who goes up against Ron Greenlaw on November 19 for the area’s directorship, said the last six years of work were enjoyable, but not complete.

“And just I feel I can devote another three years to working on local issues,” he said.

He pointed to the Kootenay Lake Stewardship Partnership as something he still wants to fulfill, as well as continued work in the Leardale Valley to help rebuild the economy up there — and across the area.

In fact, he claims the Leardale as a small victory in that job creation regard, with three new full-time jobs sprouting in the area helped subsidize the start-up.

Meadow Creek at a greenhouse business with three new full-time jobs sprouting in that regard, one that he plans to address getting longer and it is hurting the area.

“People mention housing and affordability around land as one of the major roadblocks to establishing community in the area. Although not something he has jurisdiction over, Shadrack feels some work could still be done.

“A Regional District director can play a role in bringing the right federal and provincial agencies and organizations together to work with people to create change,” he said.

Shadrack first came to the Kootenays in 1973 as a student at Notre Dame University in Nelson, having immigrated from England as an agricultural labourer in 1970. He went on to obtain an MA in Political Science at the University of Regina, returning to Kaslo with his partner Gail Bauman and daughter Erin in 1987.

After working as a consultant to Saskatchewan Power, Medicine Hat College, and a low income housing organization, and as a trade union organizer, he taught first and second year political science at Selkirk College in Castlegar (1989 to 2002) and then at Okanagan University College until he retired in 2005.

Politics has long been part of Shadrack’s life. He became politically active in 1963. He was first elected as the director for Area D in November 2005, and serves on the Central Waste Affairs standing committee. He is also vice-president of the Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments.

Within the broader scope of the area’s issues, Shadrack juggles countless region-specific situations. “In and needs that all parts of Area D share. Strong communities need solid basic services, he said, like health care, education, clean drinking water, waste management, safe roads and a respect for the environment.

“One of which these are met. We need to keep favourable regulations and laws to a minimum, he said. “We have to trust our neighbours to decide the direction of their communities. And it is the fostering of neighbours in Area D that is suffering,” said Greenlaw. The list of people who have to leave their homes in order to find work is getting longer and it is hurting the area.

He pointed to the area’s struggling economy as one of the major issues of concern, one that he plans to address by creating an environment where entrepreneurs have the support to start a new business.

“We need to work together to find innovative ways to create local opportunities for local residents,” he said. “By creating local jobs, more of our residents would have the opportunity to be employed locally.”

The spinoff of a healthier economy would boost the area’s tax base, ensuring schools, hospitals, recreational facilities and local businesses would thrive, he said.

Greenlaw also raised ethics and transparency as hallmarks of his directorship. Should he be the office. He vowed to keep people informed regularly with a quarterly newsletter, through social media, email updates and information posted on his website.

In addition, Greenlaw feels the Regional District needs to minimize and make regulations simple and realistic, thereby making housing affordable. Accountability in the spending of RDCK tax dollars and a say in any increases was also paramount for Greenlaw.

He said Greenlaw has never held political office, the skills he has gained by owning and operating two small businesses, working in the tourism industry, and growing up in the area, now allow him to understand the diverse nature of the area.

“I decided to run for Area D director because we need someone who can help residents create a positive change, and I would like to help achieve that,” he said.

Greenlaw has owned and operated a snow cat skiing operation as well as a small excavating company and currently works for BC Hydro at the Duncan Dam.

Re-Elect Andy Shadrack for a Third Term as Regional District Director, Area D

Kate O’Keefe, Johnson’s Landing:

“I’ve worked alongside Andy for 6 years, and I’m continually impressed with his knowledge of legislation and bylaws; memory for numbers, facts and details; williness to help others; and integrity in finding the best solutions to meet the needs of the people of Area D. Thank you, Andy, for your dedication to our community.”

Roy and Jane Lake, Meadow Creek:

“We very much appreciate Andy’s efforts to listen to and to work with his constituents and their organizations.”

Jim Jennings and Marge Buchanan (Mrs. Jennings), Allen Division (rural Kaslo):

“We believe that Andy has done a good job, and has done it in such a manner that anyone can actually read and see what he’s been doing. We’ve talked, and he has a lovely, nice, but he certainly has our vote. If you agree, please be sure to vote on November 19.”

Patrick Hartnett and Corol McLean, Ainsworth:

“We would like to state that Andy is approachable, open and honest and we will go to bat for you if Andy is a good RDCK director, he listens.”

For a ride to the polls on November 19th: 250-353-1364

To volunteer: 250-353-2090. To donate: 250-353-7604

On November 19 Vote Ron Greenlaw

RDCK Area D Director

— we need more ‘living wage’ jobs for young families to be able to live and prosper here.

— we need to broaden our businesses and residential tax base to help cover the cost of important services, such as health care and schools.

— we need to minimize and simplify building regulations so they become more realistic and housing becomes more affordable.

— we need transparency in decision making in the RDCK.

— we need accountability for the spending of our tax dollars and to have a say in all increases.

I want to help.

I am a life long resident that cares deeply for this area and the people that live here. It hurts me to see the area so economically dephrased. If you would like to see change and a progressive attitude in Area D please Vote Ron Greenlaw on November 19th

Area D Challenger wants the area to prosper

by Timothy Schafer

For four generations, Ron Greenlaw’s family has resided in Regional District Area D’s Leardale Valley.

It is that sense of place and connection to the people who live in the valley and the rest of Area D — that enthused Greenlaw into the public arena as he makes his bid for the directorship of the Regional District Area on November 19.

Running against incumbent Andy Shadrack in a two-horse race, Greenlaw’s name may be familiar to voters across the area — his father Larry previously ran and won the seat.

But it isn’t so much following in his father’s footsteps than wanting something he has jurisdiction over, he said.

“A Regional District director can play a role in bringing the right federal and provincial agencies and organizations together to work with people to create change,” he said.

Shadrack first came to the Kootenays in 1973 as a student at Notre Dame University in Nelson, having immigrated from England as an agricultural labourer in 1970. He went on to obtain an MA in Political Science at the University of Regina, returning to Kaslo with his partner Gail Bauman and daughter Erin in 1987.

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Hepper withdraws from Nakusp race, but will be on the ballot

by Jan McMurtry

Nakusp’s All Candidates meeting began with Councillor Hepper announcing his withdrawal from the race. “I’ve had lots of interest in running times representing the folks of Nakusp and I regret to announce my withdrawal,” he said.

Hepper, who has served four terms (12 years) in a row, gave his reasons for withdrawing in an interview after the meeting. He said he has some serious but non-life-threatening health issues that he needs to focus on. Also, it looks like he’ll have to take a job out of town again. Hepper attended several council meetings via teleconference in this last term because he was working away. “It’s just not the same,” he said. “I feel that to represent the people properly, it’s best to be there.”

Hepper has since found out that he cannot officially withdraw, and his name will be on the ballot.

“If people still want to vote for me, knowing that I might have to leave to look for another job and be away from Nakusp part-time, they still can,” he said. “If I’m re-elected, I’ll represent Nakusp residents to the best of my ability, as I have in the past.”

ELECTION

The Valley Voice November 16, 2011
Nakusp candidates share their views on economic development

by Jan McMurray

The hottest topics at Nakusp’s All candidates meeting were economic development and the hot springs. Here is a summary of each candidate’s responses on those two issues.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Hans Suhr (mayoral candidate) did not attend any of the economic forums held by the Chamber of Commerce in 2011 because of his commitments to BC Hockey. However, he has reviewed the information from the forums and feels that now is the time for action.

He said that the Village council is to govern and look after infrastructure, but also to go after business. “We need to market the business side of Nakusp and attract new business. We need to work on transportation. Let’s get behind the fixed link. That will be right at the point where I’m elected, as mayor. We can also support local businesses by actually hiring them. The Village website is run out of a computer at Selkirk. We should be our own best supplier of businesses,” he said.

Karen Hamling (mayoral candidate) attended all the forums except tourism and forestry.

She was happy to see so much interest from the public, and the collaboration between the NADB and the Chamber, “Council can’t do it alone,” she said.

She said the municipality’s responsibility is to provide infrastructure, and that’s what the council has been doing for the last three years. “With the infrastructure in place, we can now attract business. If we had attracted a developer before, then things have been able to proceed. We need to take action from the information the Chamber and NADB have gathered.”

Hamling said she would like to see “a nice, clean industry” such as Nelson’s Pacific Insight, which employs 200 people.

She said council has had meetings with the Ministry of Transportation regarding the ferry and the fixed link. “The fixed link will take a while, so we need to be proactive while we look at the longer-term plan.”

Tom Zeleznik (councillor candidate) attended three of the forums and feels it is time to move on agriculture. “I was amazed at the interest and the facilities available here to promote organic farming,” he said.

Parkinson believes the Village must make Nakusp an attractive place for people to want to come. “If we don’t get after that, we will fall apart.”

Zeleznik feels council’s main task is to be business friendly, “to work with the Chamber and the Development Board on job creation, and with the Ministry of Transportation on the transportation issue.”

Bob Parkinson (councillor candidate) attended three of the forums and feels it is time to move on on agriculture. “We need to talk to the people about the Ministry of Transportation.”

Ulli Mueller (councillor candidate) went to all of the forums. “We really need to work together – the Chamber, the Nakusp and Area Development Board, the Village, the RDCK. We need to investigate having a paid position [to move economic development forward],” she said.

She said the role of council is to provide infrastructure and to make sure zoning is in place to accommodate development. Mueller believes in supporting existing local businesses before bringing in other business. In the short term, she sees tourism as the main industry and sees potential for more jobs being provided at the hot springs “if something happens there.” In the longer term, she would like to see “a nice, clean industry” such as having small manufacturing, with jobs paying at least $20 per hour.

Suhr firmly supports a fixed link. “I am willing to work towards it and I will do whatever I can.”

Guy Duchaine (councillor candidate) attended three of the forums. “We have made the plans so now it’s time to work as a team and get it done,” he said.

Duchaine said now that Nakusp’s infrastructure is just about ready, it is time to go find big businesses. “A pellet plant up north closed down and is looking for a place to re-establish. We need to talk to them right now.”

Duchaine aims to create 100 well paying jobs in manufacturing in Nakusp. He said 850 homes are needed for First Nations just north of Winnipeg, and he feels Nakusp would be a good place to build pre-fab homes, as we have the raw material here.

Duchaine thinks the fixed link is “the way to go” and believes it will be in place in 8-10 years.

Hot springs a hot topic at Nakusp All Candidates meeting

Discussion of the Nakusp Hot Springs was another hot topic at the Nakusp all-candidates meeting. Here’s what they had to say.

Hamling said she believes the hot springs are one of Nakusp’s best assets, “but we can’t afford to develop them and attract new business. We need to work on transportation. Let’s get behind the fixed link. That will be right at the point where I’m elected, as mayor. We can also support local businesses by actually hiring them. The Village website is run out of a computer at Selkirk. We should be our own best supplier of businesses,” she said.

Karen Hamling (mayoral candidate) attended all the forums except tourism and forestry.

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Suhr said the mandate of council is to see that the Nakusp all-candidates meeting. Here’s what they had to say.

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On November 11th we thank surviving veterans and we remember the soldiers who lost their lives defending our country.

Katrine would like to send her support to all of our veterans and their families for their part in preserving all that we now have.

Katrine Conroy, MLA
Kootenay West
1-888-738-0730
Katrine.conroy@mla.gov.bc.ca
www.katrinconcroy.ca

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REMEMBRANCE DAY
The Valley Voice November 16, 2011

Members of the 408 Helicopter Squadron were in attendance at the Nakusp Remembrance Day ceremonies. In this photo, they stand at attention with Nakusp veteran and dignitaries, observing a moment of silence before the laying of wreaths.

Jack Kelly plays Last Post at the New Denver Remembrance Day ceremonies.

The New Denver colour party stands behind the cenotaph.

Two members of the colour party at Nakusp Remembrance Day ceremonies were from the 408 Helicopter Squadron.

In troubled times such as these we are reminded even more strongly of what we owe to our brave veterans and our current soldiers and peacekeepers. They are in our hearts.
Allowing creativity to flow

submitted

Creativity is all about opening doors to creative expression, and one way to do this is to relax your body, calm your mind and allow your natural artistic talents to flow. In a safe space and with some inspiring materials, blocks to creativity like fear, boredom, lack of opportunity or a personal negative critic can all be overcome. This is especially true where the natural surroundings are beautiful, and the safe space is next to natural hot springs pools.

‘Your Creative Spirit’ at Halcyon Hot Springs is a new artistic project created by Gillian Redwood, a visual artist from Nakusp. She was inspired by a successful community project in the UK, where women came together in a supported atmosphere to take part in relaxing, non-competitive sessions of bodywork and creative projects. “It seems that once our body is relaxed and in balance, creativity is a natural result. All you need are some inspiring materials, and the opportunity to relax into your creative space.”

Gillian has partnered with acoustic guitarist Caelen Starblanket LaRocque to present ‘Your Creative Spirit,’ and chose Halcyon Hot Springs Village & Spa as the facility to showcase the project. There is a large, bright workshop space there with views across the Upper Arrow Lakes, providing the perfect environment.

Last weekend, a group of women gathered for the day to experience a spectrum of activities. The day started with an early morning yoga session by instructor Terri McLeod, setting the tone of relaxation for the day. After breakfast an introduction to sketching and painting was accompanied by live acoustic guitar music. The day also included a guided nature walk and of course, a soak in the hot springs.

“My experience was beyond my expectations,” said Shori Smith, one of the participants. “The yoga class was a wonderful beginning... I was tentative about the art class thinking I was not going to be able to compose anything. Gillian dispelled this fear and instilled safety to be expressive... Before I knew it the time had passed, and I was a mess with charcoal, and conté, and acrylic paint deeply imbedded in my fingernails. I stepped back and smiled at my creations... I did not want it to end, the music and the art class.”

Smith described the workshop as “an all encompassing alignment of the mind, heart and soul.”

The next ‘Your Creative Spirit’ full day is planned for Saturday, January 7, 2012. Until then, you can experience an art workshop with music, lunch and a hot springs dip at one of the ongoing Art Workshop Wednesdays at Halcyon. To book a place for either of these events, call Gillian 250-265-6807. For further information visit www.creative-spirit.org.
**Nakusp Council, November 8: Ready for growth and in sound financial position**

by Jan McMurray

- Treasurer Don Willems presented the 2010 financial statements, which were prepared by the Village's new accounting firm, Berg, Nauy, Lehmann. Willems said the Village is well positioned for growth and development, and is moving ahead on a sound financial basis. He said the Village is carrying a very low debt ($641,391) and has a large capacity for borrowing. He said the extraordinary level of investment in infrastructure — upgrades to the arena and hot springs, and the construction of the EMS building — significantly enhances the capacity of the Village for economic growth. Also, he said it was remarkable that most of the investments were funded by grants and not the taxpayers.

- He said the Village will have over $51 million in reserves at the end of 2011. This year, the Village borrowed $810,000 over 20 years to pay back the reserve funds it used to do the hot springs repairs in 2006, and to cover the $100,000 needed to establish the Emergency Services Building.

- There was discussion about the financial position of the hot springs. Councillor Hughes said the goal was to have the facility breaking even by the end of the winter. “There’s a big push to get attendance up,” he said.

- Mayor Hamling congratulated staff and council “because you worked hard to get us into a good financial position."

- The 2010 Statement of Financial Information was approved. This statement shows that the councillor stipend in 2010 was $3,982.44 and the mayor’s stipend was $7,974.05. Additional expenses were claimed by Councillors Hughes ($2,239.43) and Mueller ($2,300.32) and by Mayor Hamling ($1,679).

- • Mayor Hamling reported on physician recruitment. She and Dr. Lea have been working on an application for $200,000 from the Rural Emergency Enhancement Program to help with recruitment efforts. The application is almost complete. An international medical graduate is interested in coming to Nakusp once he finishes up his qualifications for practicing in Canada. He visualizes the community, enjoyed it, and he may move to Nakusp July 1.

- Hamling also reported on the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Health Board meeting. The KBRH foundation is raising funds for digital mammography and would like the board to provide 40 percent of the cost ($380,000). No decision has been made yet. The board is looking at holding some public information sessions in the new year. Details have to be worked out.

- The Southern Interior Development Initiatives Trust, which Hamling sits on as an RDCK representative, had its strategic planning meeting at the Emergency Services Building in Nakusp on October 12. Mayor Hamling reported that everyone was impressed with the building.

- The board is working on possible rubber speed bumps along the road from the Emergency Services building to the cemetery downtown will be considered during 2012 financial plan discussions.

- Councillor Hughes made a motion to ask staff to provide a report before then. He would like to see a policy outlining the circumstances in which council will consider speed bumps. He would also like to know the exact locations for the speed bumps and the exact cost. Staff has provided average costs of $6,000. The motion carried.

- Councillor Leitch reported on the November 7 Nakusp and Area Development Board meeting. He said the board is moving to form relationships with organizations in town in efforts to find people to champion projects identified in the economic forums held in late 2010 early 2011.

- Two readings were given to the Bylaw Amendment, prohibiting the discharge of nosicuous waste into the municipal sewer system, was read three times.

- • As recommended by the CAO, council decided not to purchase a block of tickets to the Chamber’s Christmas Gala for staff and volunteer emergency services personnel. The Staff Appreciation policy, which guides decision making for staff appreciation events, is currently under review and is expected to come to council in January. “Until the policy is renewed, it is not recommended to proceed with any new staff appreciation initiatives,” states the report from the CAO. Mayor Hamling will write to the Chamber to explain why council made this decision.

- • Council received a letter from the Nakusp Roots Music Society, looking for sponsorships and tax-free donations for the Nakusp Music Festival. Council declined, as the Village gives the society the charitable rate for rental of the grounds, donates lots of staff time, and purchases advertising.

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**The General Store**

**Meet “Rascal & Griz”**

- **Rascal** (EB43C) is a 6 year old neutered male Yorkie Shitsu Mix. Rascal is a housedog and was raised with cats and good around kids. **Griz** (EB33C) is a 9 year old neutered male Terrier Mix. Griz is a hound dog and was raised with cats and good around kids.

- Please call P.A.L.S. at 250-265-3792 or e-mail us at pals-online.ca

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**Consideration of the Recommendation to Postpone Processing of Applications for Zoning Bylaw Amendments to a Future Council Meeting**

- The Sewer Regulation Bylaw Amendment, prohibiting the discharge of nosicuous waste into the municipal sewer system, was read three times.

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**The Valley Voice - November 16, 2011**

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**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS GALA**

Saturday, December 3, 2011

Dinner & Dance

Nakusp Arena Complex

7:00 pm

Tickets in Advance

$25.00 per person

Dance to the Classic Rock Band

**“THE GENERAL STORE”**

Tickets available at:

Royal LePage Selkirk Realty

Nakusp Visitor Centre

**Designated Drivers by Donation to Graduates of 2012**

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**PALS AGM meeting on February 9th, 7pm at 950 Crescent Bay Rd**

Meet Minny

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I wish all the best to Colette Martens in her new venture.

Cheers,

Irene Beaupré-Martin

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Kaslo council, November 8: Regional fire service referendum options clarified

by Timothy Schafer

Although the Kaslo Fire Department is poised to become a regional district service, the community will have a say in how it gets there.

Terrance Young, a member of the Regional District of Central Kootenay's fire board, said the municipality has the opportunity to become part of the CRT.better with community input. Kaslo has submitted a letter of interest to become part of the CRT. The letter was supported by council and submitted to the Cranbrook Regional Fire Board, which is the CRT Board. The CRT has no official expiry date, and given the importance of the issues, and on the future of the current treaty, with the given importance of the issues, and the approaching date of 2014, both countries are now conducting studies and exploring future options for the CRT. The CRT is an international agreement between Canada and the United States to coordinate flood control and optimize hydroelectric power generation on both sides of the border. Under the 1964 treaty, three dams were constructed in Canada, including Mica, Duncan and Hugh Keenleyside. A fourth dam, Libby, was constructed in Montana. Its reservoir, the Kootenai, extends 67 kilometres into Canada.

The CRT has no official expiry date, but has a minimum length of 60 years, which is set in September 2024. Either Canada or the United States can terminate many of the provisions of the agreement effective any time after September 2024, provided written notice is given at least 10 years in advance (2014).

Working with the Regional District of Central Kootenay and the Village of Kaslo, CBT is bringing experts from the CRT and international water management from across Canada to Meadow Creek and Kaslo.

CBT co-hosts Columbia River Treaty information sessions in Meadow Creek and Kaslo

Submitted

Just what the Columbia River Treaty is, how it works and what considerations exist for the future will be explained to residents in Kaslo and Meadow Creek later this month.

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is hosting information sessions about the CRT in Meadow Creek (Larued Valley Community Centre, November 29) and in Kaslo (JVH School, November 30). A free dinner will be served at both events at 6 pm, followed by a presentation at 7 pm. People can also drop in earlier to learn about the treaty (4:30-7 pm in Meadow Creek and 11 am-4 pm in Kaslo).

These sessions are hosted in partnership with local governments and the CRT Local Governments’ Committee.

The magnificent Movember mustache masquerade

Submitted

For all gallant Movember participants who have either grown their facial hair or want to show off their pre-grown facial hair there will be a Magnificent Movember Mustache Masquerade at JHV (sponsored by the JHV Social Action Committee).

Set for Wednesday, November 30 at the JHV Lighthouse Theatre (12:15 pm), gentlemen will strut their stuff in front of a panel of judges, who will select the winner of the highly sought after Movember Award.

There are rumours that certain long-time staff will actually shave off their beards if enough money is raised.

During November each year, Movember is responsible for the spraying of moustaches on thousands of men’s faces, in Canada and around the world. With their ‘Mo’s’, these men raise vital funds and awareness for men’s health, specifically prostate cancer.

M Bros effectivly become walking, talking billboards for the 30 days of November. Through their actions and words, they raise awareness by prompting private and public conversation around the often ignored issue of men’s health.

All spectators to this exciting event are invited to donate to prostate cancer research.

For more information contact 357-7359 or 366-4623.

Kaslo Golf Club asks permission to amend liquor licence and remove trees

Submitted

The Kaslo Golf Club asks permission to amend liquor licence and remove trees from other businesses in the downtown provided when the application came through council.

The Kaslo Golf Course was tabled to the Council on the proposal to turn the clubhouse into a dance/night club.

In a letter sent to council before the meeting, the KGC executive said the KGC’s liquor licence for a live music premises is mired down in the rough of bureaucracy.

Purchasing the concession operator at the KGC asked to have a rider on the club’s liquor licence for a live music event — to be held during the Jazz and Fest — a prerequisite to the liquor board for a live music licence.

The KGC board also noted they were invited to donate to prostate cancer research.

Almost all council members were in support of the application and the KGC meeting, the KGC executive said the KGC’s liquor licence for a live music premises is mired down in the rough of bureaucracy.

A drive to bring live music and dancing on the Kaslo Golf Club premises is mired down in the rough of bureaucracy.

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A drive to bring live music and dancing on the Kaslo Golf Club premises is mired down in the rough of bureaucracy.
**NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING**

Given to the electors of the Village of New Denver that an election by voting is necessary to elect four Councillors, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Usual Names</th>
<th>Jurisdiction of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUTLER</td>
<td>Dennis</td>
<td>722 9th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMINS</td>
<td>Anita</td>
<td>713 Josephine Street, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOX</td>
<td>Heather</td>
<td>1219 Kootenay Street, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HODSALL</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>612 10th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PALMER</td>
<td>Wanda</td>
<td>518 8th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAYNOLDS</td>
<td>Nadine</td>
<td>310 Kildare Street, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VON KROGH</td>
<td>Henning</td>
<td>308 5th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VOTING DATES AND LOCATIONS**

**GENERAL VOTING** will be open to qualified electors of the Village of New Denver on **Saturday, November 19, 2011**, between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the following location:

**VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

115 SLOCAN AVENUE, NEW DENVER, BC

**ELECTOR REGISTRATION** (list of electors used)

If you are not on the list of electors, you may register at the time of voting by completing the required application form available at the voting place. To register you must meet the following qualifications:

- 18 years of age or older
- Canadian citizen
- resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding voting day
- resident of OR registered owner of real property in the Village of New Denver for at least 30 days immediately preceding voting day, and
- not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

Resident electors will also be required to produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature). Picture identification is not necessary. The identification must prove both residency and identity.

Non-resident property electors must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity, proof that they are entitled to register in relation to the property, and, if applicable, written consent from the other property owners.

**MAIL BALLOT VOTING**

As authorized by Section 100 of the Local Government Act, voting and registration may be done by mail for those, who being duly qualified electors, meet the following criteria:

- have a physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity, OR
- expect to be absent from the Village of New Denver on general voting day and at the times of all advance voting opportunities.

**REQUESTING A MAIL BALLOT PACKAGE:**

Before 4:00 pm on November 17, 2011 you must submit the following information in writing to the Village Office in New Denver, by mail (PO Box 40, New Denver, BC, V0G 1S0), by fax (250-358-7251), or by email (newdevnet@netidea.com), or in person (New Denver Municipal Office, 115 Slocan Avenue, New Denver, BC):

1. Full name,
2. Residential address,
3. Address of the property in relation to which you are voting (for non-resident property electors),
4. Method of delivery of your mail ballot package:
   (a) pick up at Village office, OR
   (b) regular letter mail through Canada Post to residential address, OR
   (c) regular letter mail through Canada Post to an alternate address that you provide when requesting the ballot package,
5. If you are not on the list of electors, to ensure you receive the correct registration application form in your package, you must indicate whether you are going to be registering as a resident or non-resident property elector.

The Village will send out mail ballot packages commencing on or about October 31, 2011. To be counted, your mail ballot must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 8:00 pm on Saturday, November 19, 2011.

Carol Gordon
Chief Election Officer
Village of New Denver

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**New Denver council, November 8: Grant application made for Mori Trail upgrades**

*by Michael Dorsey*

- Council asked staff to prepare an application to the provincial government’s Community Recreation Program for improvements to the Mori Trail. This program will provide $30 million province-wide for recreational infrastructure.
- Council received a memo from staff recommending a 10 percent increase in water rates and a 5 percent increase in garbage rates in 2012. Council agreed with the recommendation and gave three readings to the bylaws that will set these rate increases.
- Staff noted outstanding water and garbage fees, a likely increase in tipping fees at RDCK transfer facilities and water testing during the system upgrade as reasons for the increases. Mayor Wright commented that the water rates for one of the best systems in BC were still very low.
- Council welcomed a delegation led by Susan Yurychuk regarding a request by the residents of 8th Avenue to close the road off at Highway 31A. Yurychuk said that 8th Avenue is being used as a shortcut to the highway, and the increase in local, tourist and commercial traffic presents a danger to the children residing along the street.
- This request dates back to 2008, and Yurychuk stated that the traffic flow has tripled since then.
- Mayor Wright and CAO Gordon noted that Public Works was not in favour of the closure, due to the presence of water lines running under the highway, the difficulties of snow removal, and emergency services access.
- Council discussed options including ‘No Turn’ signs on the highway, speed bumps, and closing 8th Avenue a one-way street, and decided to meet with the RCMP and the Ministry of Transportation to discuss the issue. They invited residents to the next regular meeting for further discussion.
- CAO Gordon reported on the progress of the repairs to the Nikkie Centre fence, noting that some problems had been encountered with fenceposts and sprinklers being set in concrete very close to the fence line. Council will need to address additional costs caused by damage from the removal of the concrete and posts.
- In response to a letter from LACE regarding the condition of the Bosan Hall roof, council directed staff to get a qualified building assessor to examine the roof, and to get estimates for repair. Funding would be part of the 2012 Village Budget.
- Councillor Bunka reported on the Slocan Lake Power Improvement Association’s request for a letter of support regarding a proposed 3-phase power connection between Silverton and Slocan. Council decided to provide the letter, noting the line would benefit residents in the event of a power outage, and recommended residents write to Area H Director Walter Popoff showing support.

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**Falcons come up short against Rebels**

Just after they returned from a week-long provincial soccer tournament in Kamloops, 11 players on the Nakusp Falcons faced off against the Castlegar Rebels on Sunday, November 6.

Castlegar opened the scoring just two minutes into the first but Nakusp battled back and Jacob Balske found the back of the net to tie the game near the end of the first. After. Mayor Wright and CAO Gordon noted that Public Works was not in favour of the closure, due to the presence of water lines running under the highway, the increases. Mayor Wright commented that the water rates for one of the best systems in BC were still very low.

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Falcons opened the scoring just two minutes into the first but Nakusp battled back and Jacob Balske found the back of the net to tie the game near the end of the first. After.
The second I walked into the place I was enveloped in a flurry of activity and aroma and what I can only describe as music to cook by.

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It is obvious why chicken balls are a Rice Paddy fave. They are light and crisp, not overly fried. The taste is delicate, and the sweet & sour sauce gives them a nice nudge. The sweet & sour pork is robust and succulent with an inviting aroma. Sound good? The beef & broccoli was not a mish mash. Instead, the taste of the crisp broccoli jumped right out at you and made the perfectly cooked beef a good companion. What can I say about the pineapple chicken? Better yet, what can YOU say about it? Go there and try it and drop me a line! Ok, ok, it’s astonishing. Moving on to the chicken chow mein. I could have eaten a whole lot more. Last but not least, the chicken fried rice is a Rice Paddy fave. They are a Rice Paddy fave. They are a Rice Paddy fave. They are a Rice Paddy fave...on a big platter. And what, exactly, was that food?

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Dog control bylaw voted down in Slocan Valley
by Timothy Schafer

Tails are wagging in the Regional District’s Area H. The majority of respondents in a recent opinion poll in the RDCK rural area of the Slocan Valley said they were not in favour of implementing a dog control service. Of the 37.5 percent of the opinion poll surveys returned, 69.2 percent of the residents who returned the survey were not in favour of implementing a dog control service.

“This gives me clear direction,” said Area H Director Walter Popoff. “With 69 percent saying no, it’s quite obvious we won’t pursue the bylaw.”

However, the result of the poll doesn’t mean dog conflict issues go away, said Area H Director Walter Popoff. “It’s still there, so I will be taking some action,” he said.

Popoff will be talking to Recreation Commissions 6 and 8 to see if they can possibly hold classes in spring about responsible dog ownership.

As well, Popoff is approaching School District 8 and 10 trustees to see if they would consider running educational programs in elementary schools on dog ownership.

Let it snow – Hills Nordic Ski Club to offer sanctioned kids programs

submitted

Hills Cross Country Ski Club is gearing up for the 2011 snow season, and preparations are well underway for the children’s winter ski programs. Professional quality ski tracks will be laid on local trails, as local grant funding has enabled an upgrade to the grooming hardware. At the club’s annual general meeting, a new board was elected and this year’s ski training and events program planned – which will cater to 4-10 year olds.

Scott Kipkie, elected treasurer, said “A huge thank you to everyone who helped raise the needed funds. The coaching program, the quality grooming equipment and the active Kado cross country ski club to work with will ensure active ski season ahead for us all.”

New Denver power outage caused by person cutting firewood

by Timothy Schafer

Nearly 3,000 people in New Denver and Nakusp were without power for up to four hours after a person cutting firewood felled a tree into a power line last week.

Around 11:08 am, the tree hit the line, extinguishing the power for 2,801 people on Monday, November 7. Thirty minutes later it was back on in Nakusp, but took nearly four hours for the situation to be rectified in New Denver.

Power was restored by sectionalizing the line, said BC Hydro spokesperson Mary Anne Coules, which returned service to the Nakusp substation. The Nakusp-based crew then worked to get power restored to New Denver.

Coules said there was no damage to the line; however, the line had to be de-energized before the crew could clear the felled tree.

When asked about the unreliability in the line to New Denver, Coules defended BC Hydro’s performance. “BC Hydro has undertaken a lot of work in this area over the past year to ensure that system is more resilient to storms and outages caused by trees,” she said. “It is important for the public to know that they also play a part in ensuring reliability by not conducting potentially dangerous activities near the power system – not only for their safety but also to prevent outages such as this one.”

She said people causing power outages can be charged and billed for the cost of repairs. COules would not confirm if the person who caused the outage was fined.

New Hospice Coordinator for New Denver

submitted

Sue Davies passes the reins to Tanya Thompson.

Sue is retiring after 17 years as coordinator of the New Denver Hospice Society. She says her time working with hospice has been “extremely rewarding” and she is looking forward to continuing her involvement with hospice as a volunteer. “I have had the privilege of working with some very special people as they go through a difficult journey,” said Sue. “I feel supported by my board members, volunteers, and staff members of the Slocan Community Health Centre for their support over the years.”

Tanya Thompson is gearing up for the new position with a degree in social work, extensive training in counseling and nine years’ experience in family counseling. Tanya also has a background in massage and different disciplines of bodywork, including Polarity Therapy, which she taught in Kamloops. Tanya and her partner, Bür, moved to the Kootenays from Kamloops four years ago and haven’t looked back. “I’m enjoying the position of coordinator for the New Denver Hospice Society,” said Tanya. “I feel supported by my board members, volunteers and community. I look forward to being of service to the community and sharing in the lives of families during a very special time.”

For information on New Denver Hospice Society services or future training sessions, contact Tanya at 250-538-7288 or milspice@netlink.com.

The Village of Silverton would like to thank YRB and the Ministry of Transportation for all the upgrades in and around Silverton during 2011!

Sue Davies and Tanya Thompson

Local talent performs radio play in New Denver and Vallican

submitted

It’s a Wonderful Life – many people know this Christmas classic as a movie, but now you can see this perennial favourite as a radio play adapted for the stage by Philip Grecian and directed by Judith Ceroli.

The radio play will be performed November 25-7:30 pm at the Bosun Hall in New Denver, and November 27 2 at 2 pm at the Vallican Whole Community Centre.

The eight-member cast of Al Amet, Barry Barker, Matthew Fry, Hank Hastings, Jeff Peterson, Shelley Thring, Ruby Truly and Judy Wagg provide the voices for the inhabitants of small town Bedford Falls. George Bailey doesn’t realize how much of an effect he has on people’s lives until an angel shows him what would happen if he had never existed. He discovers that his life is indeed wonderful.

Join us for this heartwarming tale, complete with sound effects supplied by David Everett and Susie O’Donnell, and Aiko Jackson on piano. Admission is by donation, with a minimum $10 adults and $5 for kids under 12. Doors open a half hour before each show starts.

Proceeds from the New Denver show go towards paying for the recent façade renovation at Bosun Hall; proceeds from the Vallican show go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation/Grasroots Grammas to support African grandmothers who are raising their orphaned grandchildren because of HIV/AIDS.

The Hill Nordic Ski Club is wholly volunteer and is driven by its membership. Contributions, and volunteer time are all welcomed.

For information on New Denver Hospice Society services or future training sessions, contact Tanya at 250-358-2721.
COMMUNITY

Local handmade chocolates now available out of Nakusp

by Timothy Schafer

Jennifer Cross has launched a chocolate-making business in Nakusp.

“...”

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription

Only $10-$30

When it comes to family, you can never be too safe

Carbon monoxide (CO) can be highly dangerous, partly because it’s odourless and invisible. Yet with a few extra precautions, you can help keep your family safe. Have your natural gas appliances inspected regularly and install a carbon monoxide detector in your home.

For more information, visit fortisbc.com/CO.

Passmore substation upgrades will improve reliability

by Timothy Schafer

The new circuit breaker will provide more reliability as it will sectionalize the transmission line (line 19), which will reduce unnecessary outages to the Passmore customers in the event of a fault on the line anywhere north of Passmore. “FortisBC is also expanding the space around the substation so, if in the future should we need to park a mobile substation, we would have the ability to do so,” said Pobran.

The project is expected to cost approximately $2 million, he said, part of the 2009/2010 capital plan that had already received approval from the BC Utilities Commission.

“...”

Slocan Valley Christmas Tea for Seniors

Submitted

Seniors from around the area are invited to kick off the holiday season at the traditional Slocan Valley Recreation Commission’s annual Christmas Tea for Seniors on Saturday, December 3.

This relaxing fun-filled afternoon event runs from 1-3 pm at the Slocan Park Hall and is offered at no cost.

During the afternoon there will be refreshments, entertainment, draw prizes, and the company of friends past and present. Entertainment acts include events with her new creations. So when she began to make chocolate in earnest with the intention of creating a full-time business three months ago, she thought about where her market could be to create the revenue she would need.

That led her back to the world online, to a much larger market than the Nakusp area could provide. It meant employing the online skills she had so wanted to distance herself from. With her website (www.jenniferchristocolates.com) now launched, Cross has married her former occupation with her new love.

“I realized that if I combine the chocolate making with the internet marketing then my ideal was somewhere in between that,” she said.

Her focus won’t solely be on the world wide market, but within the borders of BC and the West Kootenay region. She has been catering many local events, and has already developed some customers in the region.

It is the focus on the customers she already has that will grow her business, she said.

“I want to have the best chocolate truffles around... before I add in other products and the business expands. I want this to be a decent treat,” she said. “And what I do will spread through word of mouth.”

With a higher cocoa content than most chocolates, Cross’s truffles pack a powerful punch. It makes her truffles less sugary and waxy tasting, and makes you want more once you eat one, she said.

But with such a sensual treat that must be appreciated in person, her online marketing skills will surely be tested to the limit. Cross said the online chocolate market is well established, so she felt part of her battle was already won.

“...”

Cross sells signature boxes of 16 truffles in an array of flavours for $25, including Moca Java Mambo, Anarretta Amore, Grand Marnier Sunset, Fresh Garden Peppermint, Myan Chilli Elixir and Golden Butter Rum, to name a few.

The boxes are marketed as a gift idea for the hard to buy for people. She also does catering trays for parties. To order boxes or catering trays, phone 265-1799 or email jennifer@jenniferchristocolates.com.

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription

Only $10-$30

Jennifer Cross has launched a chocolate-making business in Nakusp.
COZY, QUALITY flannel sheets at Willow Home Gallery, Kaslo. Limited quantities! 250-837-2287.

MESSAGE FROM LUCIA MANN: The mystery of the awful mistakes in my book, ‘A rested Silence,’ has been solved. A ‘read only’ file with no access to the edits was printed by mistake. The revised, reprinted version is available at Bookworks on November 18. Once more, my apologies to those who have purchased the ‘bad’ copy and my offer still stands.

BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENT
HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY, BILL EVDOKIMOFF! Wishing you a special day on November 25 and every day for many more years to come, from your whole family.

CLASSIFIED ADS
for this free, fun and informative event. Book early for the individual sessions, as space is limited. Phone Penny 250-226-7665 for appointment or info. Sponsored by the Slocan Valley Early Childhood Community Advisory Council.

BROOK CAY CLAWS - Mondays - 1:30-4:30 pm at Ardat Studios, New Denver. Everyone is welcome to explore their own creativity and become an artist at school. Call Elle 250-358-2689.

ST ANTHONY’S 28TH CHRISTMAS FLEA MARKET, Brook Cay, New Denver. Saturday, November 26, 8 am - 1 pm. To rent a table, call 358-7771 or 358-2987.

“CHRISTMAS IN THE VALLEY” CRAFT FAIRE-Sunday, November 20 from 10 am to 3 pm, Legion Hall, 502 Harold St., Slocan. Admission Donation. Santa will visit 11-12 pm, Everyone Welcome.

CARS/HOME COMMUNITY POTLUCK in Kaslo. Saturday, November 19, 12-2 pm, 607 Kane Street. Come and learn how the carshare can save you money, reduce stress in your life and build community. Call 250-352-3033 for details.

25th KANIKSBORO CHRISTMAS LIGHT UP – Saturday, December 3, Kaslo Christmas Craft Faire at the Legion 10 am-4 pm. Create some Crafts, Santa’s Scavenger Hunt 5 pm, carolling, Bentley, holiday themed chestnuts, parade 5 pm, Santa’s workshop at Selkirk College after, and much, much more. This year’s theme is ‘light up’, so bring along your flashlights, headlamps, Christmas lights. After hours shopping. Info: eagle.janice@gmail.com.


THE THIRD RIC: Now it’s Better! Rita Moir will sign this Slocan Valley picture history book and her other books at the Wine’s Craft Fair December 10.

THE SILVERTON GALLERY presents DECK, a theatre production by Lucas Myers, on Friday, November 18 at 7:30. $10 tickets at Creake & Saucer door. Come and see this hilarious show! December 24 Christmas by the Lake event at ornament making for kids of all ages in gallery workshop on Saturday and Sunday.

CALL FOR MUSICIANS and performers to be a part of the Whole School’s 13th Annual Blue Moon Coffee House Dec. 3 at the Winlaw Hall. Sensational live entertainment, a delicious indian dinner, decadent desserts, kids area, and a huge holiday auction filled with beautifully locally made gifts and more! 5-11 pm. Space is limited. To reserve your table, call Selva at 250-226-7991 to book a spot.

COFFEE HOUSE: The Whole School presents the 13th Annual Blue Moon Coffee House Dec. 3 at the Winlaw Hall. Sensational live entertainment, a delicious indian dinner, decadent desserts, kids area, and a huge holiday auction filled with beautifully locally made gifts and more! 5-11 pm. Space is limited. To reserve your table, call Selva at 250-226-7991 to book a spot.

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FOR RENT IN NEW DENVER - Single wide 3 bedroom trailer. Addition with workshop, carport, E/S, 3500 square feet and hydro and heat. 250-919-7814 or 250-919-7034.

SPACIOUS 2 BDRM APT in Silverton available for rent, available Dec 1. $750/ mo. W & D, dishwasher, a/c. Seeking quiet, responsible, non-smoking tenants. 358-2177.


FURNISHED LAKESIDE COTTAGE in Rosebery for winter/spring. $350-$450 per month depending on terms. 250-382-9456.

3 BDR HOUSE in Nakusp available mid-November or December 1. In town in quiet neighborhood. $750 plus utilities. 250-326-4592.

2-BEDROOM BUNGALOW, partially furnished, for rent in Nakusp. Recently renovated and suitable for responsible single or couple to rent immediately. $650/ month plus utilities. Sunny, no smoking or pets allowed. Call Lyn in Calgary 1-403-281-2227.


With Christopher & Anastasia. Sundays 10 am. Humboldt & Soul, Silverton. lovingpilates@rockemail.com 358-7737.


IN LOVING MEMORY OF RITA JANE SANDSTROM - Rita was born June 10, 1959 in Nakusp and passed away November 10, 2011.

Rita was survived by her partner, Steven Atherton, Mother Helen Sandstrom, brothers Tom and Ned, sister Judy, nephews Brandon, Adrian, Ryan, nieces Suzie (Stuart), Jess, Nicole, great nephew Colton, great niece Sonja, and her dog Jenny.

Rita will always be remembered for her whistling and humming. She had the biggest heart imaginable and was the most generous and caring person around. Rita was a fabulous cook and grew beautiful garden. She will be missed forever.

Memorial Service will be held at the Alliance Church in Nakusp, BC on November 17, 2011 at 1:30 pm. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Memorial contributions may be made at $800. Call 250-358-7218 for details.

This space could be yours for $110.00 + GST per issue. Call 358-7218 or email: valleyvoice@netidea.com for details.

November 16, 2011 The Valley Voice
Community Connect Day 2011: a unique community approach to well-being

Submitted
In and around our city, just behind the hospital’s recent emergency room expansion and the addition of the CT scanner. But another key piece of the health services at KLH is made up of the many surgeons that are performed in Nelson by local and visiting specialists. These services include a variety of laparoscopic procedures, hysterectomies, cataract surgeries, caesarean sections, tubal ligations, carpal tunnel releases, hernia repairs, and so much more.

The goal of KLH’s Light Up the Hospital campaign is to raise funds for equipment to support the continuation of these surgeries at KLH. These surgical services benefit not only the citizens of Nelson, but a wider population of 33,000 including Kaslo, Slocan and the Slocan Valley.

COMING UP
This year will mark the fourth annual offering of the event in Nelson. Given the community support that is building, it is sure to be a great day.

Community Connect Day is an inclusive event that provides free and easy access to a wide range of services and supports, all in one roof.

The array of activities on-site have included dentist appointments, haircuts, organic foods, new age cards & books, health products, healing sessions, sensual products, in-store deli, in-store bakery, mobile BBQ services & hog roast rentals, 100% organic sourdough bread baked in a traditional wood-fired bread oven available at Rutabaga’s, New Denver, Mobile BBQ services & Hog Roast Rentals, 100% organic sourdough bread baked in a traditional wood-fired bread oven available at Rutabaga’s, New Denver.

In keeping with the foundation’s goal of supporting operating room procedures, the focus of this year’s Light Up the Hospital campaign is funding the purchase of an Insufflator with camera system and three high definition monitors. This is state-of-the-art, high definition equipment used in all laparoscopic procedures.

Patients undergoing these procedures, which involve much smaller incisions than traditional surgeries, experience less post-operative pain, reduced hospital stays and shorter recovery time.

“Our continued commitment to spearhead efforts to purchase needed equipment bodes well for the continued growth of services at Kootenay Lake Hospital,” said Foundation chair Pat Daborn.

Those wishing to donate to the Insufflator fund can do so online at www.klh.org or call Bryna Idler at the Foundation office at 250-354-2334 for more information.

Barb Longfellow, Chair, Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation

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The Valley Voice November 16, 2011

COMMUNITY

FOOD

• Organic Sourdough Bread

BAKERY

• 100% organic sourdough bread baked in a traditional wood-fired bread oven available at Rutabaga’s, New Denver • Slocan Village Market, Slocan • Gaia Tree, Winlaw

Connect Day 2011: get ready to Light Up the Hospital

Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation is getting ready to Light Up the Hospital Connect Day 2011.

In and around our city, just behind the hospital’s recent emergency room expansion and the addition of the CT scanner.

But another key piece of the health services at KLH is made up of the many surgeons that are performed in Nelson by local and visiting specialists. These services include a variety of laparoscopic procedures, hysterectomies, cataract surgeries, caesarean sections, tubal ligations, carpal tunnel releases, hernia repairs, and so much more.

The goal of KLH’s Light Up the Hospital campaign is to raise funds for equipment to support the continuation of these surgeries at KLH. These surgical services benefit not only the citizens of Nelson, but a wider population of 33,000 including Kaslo, Slocan and the Slocan Valley.

The event takes place Saturday, November 26, 10 am to 2 pm at Central School Gymnasium, 811 Main St.
Join the ever successful Christmas by the Lake in Silverton

submitted by Penelope Stuart

The famous writer and poet Peter Rosegger stated: “Never mind what big and dangerous deeds you have experienced so far; to give your fellow men joy is the best that you can do in the world.”

So is the joy that Christmas by the Lake in Silverton brings. With its beautiful lights, captivating ambiance and Christmas market, Christmas by the Lake holds a special charm for us all.

Come and enjoy this magical event, where all the enchantment and delight of a traditional European Christmas can be experienced in the Slocan Valley. Silverton, December 2-4 on Friday (4-8 pm), Saturday (10 am-6 pm) and Sunday (11 am-3 pm).

This will be the fifth of this wonderful event in Silverton, that will offer many attractions for the young and old alike.

As in previous years, the Christmas Village, with its sparkling, festive lights and busy booths, is set before the historic Silverton Gallery where visitors will be fascinated to watch demonstrations of various traditional skills such as glass blowing and blacksmithing.

Once again the celebrated sculptors, Peter Vogelaar and David Ducharme of W limite, will be bringing new and precious ice sculptures and the legendary, exciting ice slide – so popular and enchanting for children.

Luc Yeux will also be returning to carve in wood the opportunity to win his eagle sculpture in the raffle (so make sure you buy a ticket).

Along with bannock and roasted chestnuts, there will be many delicious to traditional culinary delights on sale including glühwein, brats with sauerkraut, soup, crépes and more.

Within the gallery there will be over 50 craft stalls with artisans from away as far as Revelstoke, Sicamous, Rossland and Boswell selling quality, handcrafted gifts and antiques.

The atmosphere of the four-way test is a superabundance of good, quality entertainment offered on all three days of the event.

The extensive program includes a fire extinguished by Illuminadis, choirs such as theLucerne School Choir, Village Voices and Matthew Fry’s Company and a number of visiting bands and choirs. This year’s headliners are Heavy Steel, Caen Stelanblanket LalRouque, Leah Main and Michael Dorsey, Slocan Valley Community Band and Slocan Arrow Cowboy Band.

Children’s events include a Christmas card and decorating workshop and a kid’s contest. Father Christmas and the Grinch will also be joining in to all the fun of the fair.

I am delighted with the development of this traditional Christmas market that has grown significantly in popularity over the past years. It is a tribute to the tremendous hard work and dedication of the Silvertown Community Club and the support of the local population,” said Armand Lunge, Manager of the Silverton Community Club.

Energy was positive and the enthusiasm was high among the group.

“I learned a lot about how to plan, design and build good trails,” said Walter Osachoff and sister Teresa Kanigan who passed away before him. Walter is survived by his children, - Jodi (Kelowna), Armand Lange, whose vision initiated Christmas by the Lake.

Walter grew up in a loving family in Vallican BC. Being brought up in a small community with all the love and care that a small town can offer, he learned from a young age to be responsible, dependable and hardworking.

He had a passion for driving and had many years of experience in the transportation industry. Walter started his career in the transportation industry, working as a truck driver for various companies.

In later years, Walter started his own company, Walter Osachoff and Teresa Milne) Kanigan) Milne, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and many wonderful friends.

The family greatly appreciates the kindness and support given to Walter throughout his journey. They welcome the visitors to the Growing Girls Softball Association, the Special Olympics and the Castlegar Realtors.

Walter was a well-respected member of the community, known for his kindness and generosity.

Walter was a generous and kind person, always willing to help others. He was always there for his family and friends, and he never hesitated to offer a helping hand.

Walter was a very active member of the community, actively participating in various events and organizations. He was a member of the Slocan Valley Council and the Slocan Valley Rodeo Society, and he was an active participant in many local initiatives.

Walter’s passing has been a great loss to his family and the community, but his memory and legacy will live on for many years to come.}

James Osachoff, 1958 – 2011

Walter Osachoff was born on May 7, 1958 in Vancouver BC and was adopted by Nick and Nelle Osachoff. Three years later they adopted Teresa May (Eve), a sister for Walter.

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Third edition of Deck the Walls at Studio Connexion

It’s Christmas shopping time, and Studio Connexion Gallery in Nakusp is offering a variety of artwork at its third Deck the Walls event. From November 23 to December 23, residents and visitors can fulfill their Christmas gifts list at the gallery.

This year, the gallery has many artists from the area who are participating in this promotional event. Sharon Bamber from Burton is showing some of her beautiful wildlife pastels. She is an award-winning artist and is being recognized for her work by wildlife associations.

Now residing in Whitehorse, artist Jan Burks brings back her well-known fabric art to the gallery, as does Linda Dixon with her amazing hand-dyed and printed cushions. There will be three acrylic works by Nakusp painter Kim Izairovich. Susan Janzen returns with her fabulous pottery, and Kathleen Jones will be contributing some stained glass work. Prints and cards from the Llunio and Asanas series by Barbara Maye will also be available.

Hills photographer Patrizia Menton, who is already booked for a show at Studio Connexion next summer, is contributing three exquisite photographs.

The talented Lee Orr from Nakusp will be bringing some of his photo-montages and the very busy Kate Tupper will also be part of Deck the Walls.

The opening reception is on Wednesday, November 23 from 4 to 8 pm. Come sample some chocolate truffles by Jennifer Cross.

Gallery hours are 11 am to 4 pm from Tuesday to Saturday. Studio Connexion is located at 203 Fifth Ave. downtown Nakusp. No tax this Christmas: Joyeux Noël!

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