The Valley VOICE

Free!

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"Your independently-owned regional community newspaper serving the Arrow Lakes, Slocan & North Kootenay Lake Valleys."

Pedro logging protesters get off on legal technicality

by Jan McMurray

Five people protesting logging operations slated for the Pedro Creek area of the Winlaw watershed last fall were found not guilty of contempt of court on June 24.

However, after spending the week of June 20-24 in Supreme Court in Nelson and listening to Justice Robert Johnston's summary on the last day, "we thought we would be going to jail," related one of the arrested protesters, Randy Kenny. "The judge gave us a firm warning."

Johnston used a four-part test for determining whether or not the protesters were in criminal contempt of court. All four parts must be met for a finding of criminal contempt. He found that three of the four parts were met — there was a court order in effect, the defendants knew about the court order and they were publicly defiant. The fourth part that was not met was that they did not actually disobey the injunction, which ordered them to not physically prevent the crew and equipment from free passage in the area or from carrying out their work. Sunshine Logging's crew and equipment were not ready to work on the day the injunction was served, so the protesters technically did not impede them.

Jo-anna Cowen, legal counsel for defendant David Sefireth, and Ken Wyllie, legal counsel for Kenny, argued that proper procedure was not followed in the serving of the court order. The injunction and enforcement order were served at the same time, on September 28, 2004, whereas people usually have a right to challenge the injunction with 48 hours notice. Typically, an enforcement order is not issued until there has been a breach of the injunction. Issuing both the injunction and enforcement orders at the same time makes it very difficult to challenge the injunction. Also, the process server did not identify himself as such when he arrived at the blockade, and testified under cross-examination that nobody could hear him when he was reading the injunction. He did not post the injunction or give anyone a copy.

These arguments had little or no effect on Justice Johnston. Said Cowen, " The Justice wanted to make the point that if you disobey a court order, there is a good chance you will go to jail. It puts a heavy burden on protesters — if a court order is out there, they had better read it and understand it and obey it or else go to jail. In my mind, the onus should be on the person seeking to have the injunction enforced to make sure the order is properly served."

Kenny said the court process was an eye-opener for him. "It was all about whether or not we were in contempt of court. It doesn't matter why we were there. No one I know feels contemputous of court. Our point — to protect the watershed — was nullified."

The day before the judgment, defendant Eloise Charet, well known in the Slocan Valley as an environmental activist, smudged the courtroom with sage and made the final plea for the preservation of a "living legacy" of some of the last remaining intact watersheds on the planet. As evidence of the current "emergency conditions," Charet presented contaminated water samples gathered from her 1998 Waterwalk across Canada.

Chris Campbell was working at the Kootenay Sleds & Wheels display at the annual 'Toad Rock Rocks' event on Canada Day weekend. Nice work if you can get it.

Area transit system to be improved

submitted

Regularly scheduled transit service between Nelson, Castlegar and Trail could be in place as early as September 1 this year.

RDCK directors have voted to establish and help fund public transportation links to connect the regional hospital in Trail with all of RDCK's electoral areas and municipalities on the west side of Kootenay Lake.

"We're pleased to work with Interior Health, BC Transit and Kootenay Boundary Regional District to provide better transit to and from the regional hospital," said RDCK Director Al Dawson, chair of the select committee that has been struck to co-ordinate program details with project partners.

The new service is based on discussion papers prepared by BC Transit and Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services, and has been talked about for a number of years. The program could deliver an effective mix of conventional, paratransit and private service that would benefit students and work commuters as well as riders needing access to medical services.

In his review and recommendation to the board, RDCK Treasurer Barry McLean said, "Expansion to our transit service is made possible by a partnership with the Central Kootenay Regional District, Kootenay Boundary Regional District, Interior Health Authority and BC Transit to provide funding in order to facilitate patient movement in the Kootenays."

Based on preliminary discussions with the project partners, the direct tax cost to local ratepayers would be $65,000 a year, or $1.40 on each $100,000 of assessment (i.e. 1.4 cents/thousand).

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Slocan Motel survives devastating fire

by Jan McMurray

The Slocan Motel is open for business, despite an electrical fire that destroyed a building which housed the office, ten rooms and the owner's living quarters. The 5000-square-foot complex burned down in the early morning of June 21.

Motel owner Tamara Matthews said it looked like there were white fireworks arcing from the top of the building where the power line entered, lighting up at least a three-block radius for about a half hour.

The Slocan Volunteer Fire Department and a crew from the Winlaw department fought the fire, starting at about 12:30 am. "We had it out around 6 am, but we had to stay on it all day. We brought in an excavator to clean it up and it was still smouldering," said Slocan Fire Chief Tim Hill.

Saved were two motel buildings, each with three units, and two garages. The fire "didn't even blister the paint" on the buildings, Hill said, and owner Tamara Matthews said the firefighters did a "tremendous job."

Matthews and her spouse woke up at about midnight to the smoke alarm. "We opened the master bedroom door and smoke rushed into the room. We each grabbed a cat and had to crawl out," said Matthews. The smoke had come to within 2' of the floor, according to Hill.

"The smoke alarm and closed bedroom door saved them," he commented.

The couple is going to rebuild. Matthews said that the insurance company and the contractor were confident that it could be done in six months. Meanwhile, the couple has moved into one of the motel units and is setting up laundry facilities in one of the garages.

With five intact motel units available for guests, the couple will tough out the season. All office records were lost, including reservations made for the summer season. However, Matthews says she should be able to accommodate most of her customers.

Part of the complex was one of Slocan's original buildings, constructed in the late 1890s. The entire building was made of wood and had a metal roof, which made for "an extremely hot fire," according to Matthews.

The main building of the Slocan Motel burned down early in the morning of June 21.

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BC Hydro warns that the Arrow Lakes will be low this summer

by Jan McMurray

It will be a long walk down the beach to the lake in Nakusp again this summer. BC Hydro representatives delivered this unwelcome news at a meeting on June 23 at the Kuskanax Lodge.

The goal is to keep the elevation level at 1425-1444 feet from June to September, but levels this August are expected to be between 1405 and 1415 feet, or 15-20 feet below normal. Last year, the reservoir reached a peak level of 1431 feet on August 12. This year, the reservoir was expected to peak by early July, which is earlier than usual.

Manager of Integrated Operations Kelvin Ketchum explained that precipitation was just a little below normal this year on the Canadian side of the Columbia, but well below normal on the American side. He stressed that the system required participation from all reservoirs.

"We have this international Columbia River Treaty that we have to follow," he said. "I can assure you we will be doing what we can within the rights and obligations of the treaty."

He added that the big issue in the US was the fishery.

Nakusp Mayor Bill Cowan pointed out that the system was done "at our expense, at our ancestors' expense — it wasn't welcome at the time..." and that the Arrow Lakes was the hub of the system, providing water "for fish management and everything else both downstream and upstream." He said the lake level was very important to tourism and the economic stability of the area and that "it wouldn't be asking too much to get a reasonable level in the two months of the year."

BC Hydro representative Cam Matheson said that the company has seen more and more constraints put on its operations over the years. "The treaty constrains us in a hard way, but we have seen the Department of Fisheries and Oceans place larger and larger contraints on us regarding fish," he said.

He also said that BC Hydro is now a net importer of electricity, "so we don't have the ability from an overall energy standpoint." He said they would be trying to remedy this situation by finding new sources through the Independent Power Production program.

Ketchum said that it would not have been impossible to meet the 1425 feet level this year, but that BCH would have had to sell electricity below value to do it. "This is a provincial resource and we have to maximize it for the whole province," he said.

Other speakers brought better news. Jim Dixon from Field Services, which looks after wires, substations and transmission lines in the area, said that $70,000 was being spent on maintenance and pole replacements this year. Silverton will get 25 new poles and West Arrow Park will get 30 new ones by next spring. He said that there would be a lot of vegetation work during the summer, and that no herbicides would be used. He said there would be underground work coming up in Fauquier next year.

Angus Glass from the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program brought mostly good news about efforts to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife populations in the dam impact areas. The issue of low survival rates at the Hill Creek Spawning Channel last year is still being investigated.

Eva Schindler from the fertilization programs spoke about the success of adding liquid fertilizer to both Arrow and KootenayLakes to bring kokanee back. The fertilizer is dispensed into the lake from the Galena Bay ferry from April to September. Schindler said they had hired the Shelter Bay ferry this year to dispense fertilizer once a week over a larger area of the water.

Stay safe, and keep that garbage out of the river

by Moe Lyons

On the evening of June 29, more than 40 concerned citizens met to develop action plans in response to the huge increase in recreational use of the Slocan River. The meeting at Slocan Park Hall was instigated by Ben Legebokoff and Jim Berrill, and facilitated by Derek Murphy. Everyone present agreed that safety and garbage were the main concerns, and that something needed to be done right away. As Murphy remarked, "We need to get going next week!"

Legebokoff, a lifetime Valley resident, has been working on this issue for some time, and has approached stores and recreation providers in the Lower Valley about co-operating with initiatives agreed upon by the community at large. He says all the commercial outlets he spoke to have agreed to participate in an awareness campaign.

Garbage in the river was a huge concern, and the group agreed areas must be created where recyclables and garbage can be dropped off. Legebokoff pointed out that on a good weekend, local liquor outlets sell 500-700 cases of alcohol.

"Not all of this is going into the river, of course," he says, "but a lot of it is and we see the results all over the beaches and adjoining properties."

Don Munro, Area H Regional District Director, says the RDCK will pay for bear-proof containers for these extraction areas. The group agreed an arrangement would be made for local youth to collect and prepare the garbage and recyclables, either as paid work or to fund their projects. Munro says some money is available to support this and other initiatives.

Safety was also a major focus of the meeting. Many members of the region's fire departments were present to express their concerns about emergency preparedness and response. One member pointed out that while they do wind up doing search and rescue on the river, this is not part of their mandate. The meeting agreed signage needs to point out that parts of the river are dangerous, and that particularly people with kids need to realize not all areas of the river are safe for them. As one woman said, "People have no idea what's in that river – they just see the surface."

Other safety considerations were that few people wear lifejackets, and that many people on the river are intoxicated. "A lot of this," says Ray Kosiancic, "is just plain common sense."

Consensus of the meeting was that timing is crucial, as the river will soon fill up with tubers, floaters and the resulting detritus. As a result, a number of initiatives were agreed upon. Some results are expected in two weeks, and another meeting will be held on July 13.

By that time, the graphic design committee will come up with a logo and signage to be placed at access points along the river, and at stores throughout the valley. Eventually the hope is to have four large signs and six smaller signs at various access points, some perhaps in kiosks with accompanying maps.

Another committee has agreed to map the hazards in the river, and mark them on a large map, to be reproduced as soon as possible.

Other people have agreed to obtain kilometrage signs, like the ones on local logging roads, to be placed along the river, Mile 0 being the confluence of the Kootenay and Slocan Rivers. Legebokoff has agreed to co-ordinate the placement of these signs. Some discussion ensued about marking hazards in the river, but the meeting agreed that this could not be done this summer, and not until liability issues were clear.

The entire project will be co-ordinated by the Slocan Valley Recreation Commission, in conjunction with Ben Legebokoff and Don Munro. Everyone agreed that the main focus must be: "Education. Education. Education!"

To find out more, confirm the time and place of the July 13 meeting, and to become involved, contact the Rec Commission at 226-0008.

Green Door to open July 14

by Jan McMurray

NAKUSP—The Green Door has undergone an amazing transformation in the past year, and has become a model youth facility for other communities.

The Straight Arrow Youth Op Society (SAYOPS), the Arrow Lakes Young Entrepreneurs Society (ALYES) and Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services (ASLCS) are the three partners that have driven the project, which has taken over a year to complete. Grants came from the Vancouver Foundation, a CBT youth program and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada's job creation program.

The building now houses a pizza place with seating for 40, office space for youth to use to develop business ideas, as well as the bowling alley, youth drop-in centre and storefront. Green Door Pizza and Bowl opens July 14.

"Youth centres spring up and die, but we thought a model that would work would be a youth centre that was tied to a business," said Sheree Schiavon, who works at the drop-in centre.

The pizza and bowling business will help support the non-profit youth centre and youth business office. This makes it a 'social enterprise' for now, although the long-term goal is to bring it under a non-profit umbrella. Former Pizza Place owner Andy Cruden, who sold his restaurant equipment to the Green Door, will be interim manager. Jim Pike, a youth who has been involved with the project from the early planning stages, has been hired and will be trained to manage the building, pizzeria and bowling alley.

Pike says the business will hire mostly students. "We want to give the kids work experience. It's a good starting point — maybe they will stick around and start their own businesses."

Although the partners would ultimately like to see a youth business in the storefront (formerly a bakery), it will be leased for now for cash flow purposes.

The youth drop-in centre was not touched during this first phase of renovations, but will have its turn in the fall.

ASLCS has recently hired a youth co-ordinator, Brett Fee, to make youth programming relevant and sustainable in Nakusp He will work with Schiavon to help teenagers plan and carry out activities that are priorities for them.

Chris Jackins of ALYES has also been involved in the project from the beginning. He, Fee and Pike are the three youth with management roles at the Green Door.

Sixteen young people were hired through the job creation program to do the renovations. Schiavon said that some went on to other jobs and some "were picked up by contractors who worked here."

Jason Rogers of SAYOPS said he wanted youth to know that "they can come and express an idea and there is support for that. We encourage their ideas."

Schiavon said the biggest achievement so far is that "they feel that they belong somewhere. There is a sense of ownership."

Jackins added that the building used to be a target for vandalism, but that "we've seen a major decline in vandalism in my opinion. The youth feel something is happening in this community for them."

The original idea for the Green Door was that it would be financed and owned by the youth. Page explained that the funding they thought they could access "did not turn out to be available. Instead, youth will be mentored to manage it."

There was some concern in the community that the Green Door would be competition for other restaurants, so "we invited all the food service providers in Nakusp to a meeting so we could address their concerns in our planning," explained Laurie Page, project fundraising co-ordinator.

Rogers pointed out that the Green Door rolled three food businesses into one — the Pizza Place, and the bakery and the canteen that were located in the building before.

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BCTS logging in Winlaw Creek watershed found appropriate

The Forest Practices Board (FPB) has found that logging by BC Timber Sales (BCTS) in the Winlaw Creek watershed in the summer of 2003 was appropriate and that there is no evidence that it damaged the watershed.

Ricardo Hubbs of the Winlaw Watershed Committee (WWC), which filed the complaint in August 2004, commented, "This is evidence that we need stronger watershed protection in this province."

WWC's complaint alleges that BCTS broke a commitment to consult with them before logging in the watershed. WWC was also concerned about whether logging plans included adequate precautionary measures and whether the logging had a negative effect on water sources.

"There was no evidence of a past or present commitment to consult the complainant before beginning logging activities on the cutblock," said board chair Bruce Fraser. He said that there had been good initial communication between BCTS and WWC in this case, but that "the process broke down due to shifting priorities and program changes."

BCTS, an independent organization within the Ministry of Forests, replaced the former Small Business Forest Enterprise Program as of April 1, 2003.

The board determined that the harvesting plan was consistent with a 1999 watershed assessment, and that it adequately protected water sources. Following a site visit in September 2004, board staff found no evidence of any sediment or oil-based material in the stream, and no indication of negative impacts from burning waste lumber near the watershed.

"The board hopes that BCTS and the watershed committee can re-establish an effective public consultation process, and urges all parties to communicate proactively when activities are planned for their watersheds," said Fraser.

There was no rally or blockade at the time this cutblock was being harvested.

Winlaw School scores high on writing skills

submitted

Achievement scores have soared at Winlaw Elementary School since the school has been emphasizing reading and writing skills, using a framework developed in New Westminster called SMART Learning.

Reid Popoff, Grade 6 student, reads with Grade 3 student Dillon Hamling at Winlaw Elementary School.

In 2003, nearly 35 percent of the students either met or exceeded grade level writing expectations. That number increased to 88 percent in the May 2005 assessment.

Winlaw results are also impressive when compared with results for the entire Kootenay Lake School District. Assessments are done for all grades one, three and six students, and Winlaw Elementary had more students meeting or exceeding expectations at every grade level than the district average. All grade six students at Winlaw wrote at or above grade level.

The School Planning Council has again established literacy as a major school focus for the 2005/06 school year. Winlaw teachers and parents expect to see continued improvement in both reading and writing by the students. The planning council is also very excited about pursuing a new focus in Fine Arts this coming year, and is developing an action plan to strengthen students' awareness, skills and appreciation in all Fine Arts strands.

CBT final symposium agenda released

submitted

The Columbia Basin Trust has reformatted its draft symposium agenda to recognize feedback from residents of the Basin. The discussion about the future of CBT, including challenges and opportunities, has been moved to a prime time slot — the Saturday morning portion of the three-day CBT 10-year anniversary symposium.

"So far we have over 250 participants coming to the symposium and this shows a real passion and interest on the part of Basin residents about CBT," says Josh Smienk, chair of the board.

Basin residents identified key questions and issues to be addressed in symposium sessions on water management, investment programs and how CBT spends the income earned from its investments to deliver benefits to residents of the Columbia Basin. Presenters at the symposium will address the identified questions and issues, and there will be opportunities to pose additional questions throughout the event.

The reformatted agenda and the questions identified by symposium participants can be viewed at www.cbt.org. After the board has reviewed the input provided at the symposium, a summary of the symposium discussions and outcomes will be available on CBT's website.

CBT's Annual General Meeting will be held following the symposium, on July 10 from 1-3 pm at Cranbrook's College of the Rockies.

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Voices from the Valleys

Supports New Denver-Silverton trail

I wholeheartedly agree with Doc Spanner that there should be a trail between New Denver and Silverton for walking and biking, and along the water would be great.

I bike virtually everywhere in the neighbourhood, including to Silverton from time to time, so I am all for it. A wider shoulder on the highway would be useful too.

There is some private property to cross, so permission from the property owners would probably have to be obtained. Also, I don't think we could be wholly relying on volunteer labour, as there is more to a trail than meets the eye.

But the idea is great, and I have been thinking about such a trail for some time. I also kayak this stretch frequently during the summer, but this is not a feasible way to travel for someone who wants to go shopping or go to a job.

Julie Betschen
New Denver

Respect your community members

As reported, at least 80 members of the KDCFS thought it appropriate to seek Don Scarlett's removal as a member of the Society. After the June 15 AGM, during the special requisition meeting at which this petition was brought forward, Chair Gary Cockrell admitted embarrassment for having to deal with it. It was bad enough to see this mean-spirited effort find a public forum...but even more shameful was the way Don was villified in the petition published in Pennywise before the meeting, and circulated in writing to those attending the meeting as well...which basically described him as a long-standing community troublemaker.

Our experience of Don is quite the opposite. We know him as a person of clear, consistent and just convictions. In addition, he has the courage to speak and act on these convictions. People like Don (of whom there are very few) are both excellent "watchdogs" in the public forum for community good, and can be formidable opponents when occasions arise to require it.

We count Don Scarlett as a friend and are deeply grateful for his presence in, and long-demonstrated concern for, the community of Kaslo & North Kootenay Lake.

We also hope that those with responsibility on public boards in our community will avoid a repeat of such destructive treatment of one among us. It seems this board was so busy defending its "good works" that it lost sight of common decency.

Dirk and Karen Pidcock
Kaslo

What's Up Doc?

We here at the Burton Tunnel Consortium Offices read Doc Spanner's column regularly and find it interesting, but, with all due respect, we'd like to enlighten him as to what we feel are inaccuracies in his recent installment. First of all, we are not aware of a "Hills Burton Tunnel" which he refers to. Perhaps he could enlighten us. Our tunnel is and has always been called simply "The Burton Tunnel." We have no spur-line to Hills. Second, the Burton Tunnel Project is not "stalled" as he inaccurately reported. The Burton Tunnel, with its spur-lines to New Denver, Rosebery and Silverton has been open to motor vehicle and light rail traffic for nearly ten years. Thousands of people use it each day as recently reported in this newspaper. The history of the Burton Tunnel, from its inception through its construction to its completion, has been well documented in *Valley Voice* issues from 1993 to the present. We invite Doc Spanner to check these back issues so that he can be brought up to speed. All the best, Doc.

PS: The Burton Tunnel has always been a community-based project utilizing ideas and suggestions from those that live in this area, and we hope to keep serving the community in the years to come. For right now the exciting news is that a new spur-line to the Kerguelen Plateau is emerging as a distinct possibility.

Andrew Rhodes
Burton Tunnel Liaison Officer

Save taxpayers' dollars in Kaslo

As a very interested private citizen and one of *The Valley Voice* reporters for Kaslo, I attend every council and committee meeting held at the City Hall. There are many very important decisions being passed before council that will affect the citizens of this town for many years to come and I strongly encourage the public to attend some of these meetings. Dates/times/agendas are available at www.kaslo.ca or by phoning the village office at 353-2311.

During the June 14th regular council meeting, our mayor and councillors all authorized themselves to attend the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention in Vancouver from September 25-30.

Chief Administrative Officer Rae Sawyer estimated the cost at $2,500 per council member for all their expenses: rooms, meals, transportation, etc. Council passed a resolution "That the following council members be authorized to attend the 2005 UBCM convention with expenses paid pursuant to municipal policy and subject to funds being available: Mayor Douglas, Councillors Cormie, Leathwood, Holland." Councillor Hewat originally said yes, then declined.

Time and time again, we hear that "it's not in our budget," when citizens put forward requests such as tidying up the town, paving, or other matters that are very important to those who took the time to write to council. Citizens have the democratic right to object and comment as to how their taxpayers dollars are being spent.

In this particular instance, council should be ashamed at how they are anticipating spending our tax dollars: $2,500 x 4 council members = $10,000 or more!!

Let's get realistic here and send no more than two council members, who can report back to the rest of council during a subsequent meeting. (as is the case with other outside meetings). Also, we have a full election coming up in November of this year — I wonder if all current councillors are planning to run again. I am sure the mayor has been to one or more of these UBCM meetings in the past. I suggest sending Councillor Cormie (our longest serving councillor this term) and one other councillor. That's all. Kaslo's taxpayers don't need to be footing the bill for a five-day trip to Vancouver for four council members.

I for one am very much looking forward to the fall election and encourage the citizens of Kaslo to start thinking about this now, and step up to the plate and run as a councillor or as mayor. It was very encouraging to see six candidates running in the last by-election — all wanting to see definite changes for Kaslo! Let's get the energy running again for positive changes in our town for the next three years for Kaslo — after all folks, November is just around the corner.

Jill Braley
Kaslo

Timber supply analysis deceitful

The article entitled "Arrow Timber Supply Area harvest level unchanged," which appeared in your June 22 edition, says the Chief Forester has said the allowable annual cut can remain unchanged for the next 80 years, at which time it will increase! At last we have achieved "Forests Forever."

This conclusion was reportedly reached after considering "all forest values, including scenery, community watersheds and wildlife habitat." And public input was taken into consideration too. (I'm sure the Winlaw Watershed folks who have been in court on account of being arrested trying to protect their water will be thrilled to know all this.)

To what do we owe this tawdry display of unreality and untruth? The Liberal government that has turned forest management over to the logging companies, so we now have the Defined Forest Area Management (DFAM) program. DFAM is made up of logging companies, plus that other wholly-biased logging interest, BC Timber Sales. These companies collectively do the timber supply analysis upon which the Chief Forester determines the allowable annual cut.

The foxes now report how many hens are left in the hen house and — lo and behold — there are the same number of chickens as when they started eating them. Given another 80 years, there will be even more chickens!! This is because the companies expect to grow trees faster once they've turned all our forests into tree plantations. (Funny thing, some trees plantations haven't grown very much for decades, and scientists now say the global warming and increased forest fires and insect damage may heavily decimate our commercial forest.)

There was a time — when the government did the timber supply analysis — that it admitted that the allowable annual cut was unsustainable and would eventually result in a permanent and dramatic decline of the timber supply. This was called the "falldown effect." Where did the falldown effect go? Wiped away by corporate spin doctoring. But this swindle has all been aided and abetted by our government.

These companies profit from their deceit, but the public interest is robbed. They are cutting deeper and deeper into the forests that protect our water and the slope stability above our homes. They are returning year after year to already heavily logged areas like the Little Slocan River drainage, Wilson, Lemon, Shannon and other major drainages. They are stripping this region of a whole constellation of biodiversity associated with low-elevation, old-growth forest. They are clearcutting core caribou habitat in the low-elevation zone, in spite of the fact that these animals are going extinct and the remaining members are huddled together on islands of old-growth forest that are critical to their survival during certain seasons of the year.

Now we shall see what Corky Evans has in him. Like it or not, we have an ex-logger as an MLA. He's supposed to be a member of the "Official Opposition." Let's see if he and the NDP will oppose THIS scandal.

Anne Sherrod, Valhalla Wilderness Watch
New Denver

SD 8 adopts controversial drug and alcohol policy

The School District #8 Board of Trustees adopted a controversial policy on the use of illegal drugs and alcohol at a recent board meeting. They went ahead despite the objections of parents.

There has been much research that points to the ineffectiveness of suspensions as a form of discipline. The Ministry of Education's own document says that some of the unintended side-effects of suspensions are diminished self-esteem, diminished self-discipline, increased avoidance behaviours, decreased academic success, increased drop-out rate, increased stress level, increased anger levels, feelings of discouragement and increased risk of suicide.

Parents are also concerned that by using suspensions, the example set for other students is that the consequence for using illegal drugs and alcohol in school is a holiday from school in front of the TV or Nintendo, or a chance to hang out downtown. Students contemplating use need to see a consequence that forces them to address their issues and to take responsibility for their actions. What kind of an example is a consequence that doesn't work? The students that would be worried about being suspended probably aren't the ones that need the example anyway.

The school board should be developing a policy that encourages effective discipline and support for our most vulnerable students. This policy does not do that.

It did not pass without dissent, though. Two trustees expressed concerns that this policy conflicts with the Student Conduct and Discipline Policy. One trustee was concerned that the board has not done research on whether the use of suspensions in this district has been effective. She asked if students have learned their lesson after one suspension or are we getting repeat offenders. Both of these trustees voted against the adoption of this policy.

On Thursday, June 23 at the last DPAC meeting of the year, parents encouraged the DPAC executive to continue to lobby for a policy that focuses on alternatives to suspensions. Parents have made it very clear that suspensions should only be used as a last resort.

Lenora Trenaman, DPAC chair
Balfour

The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor on any topic of interest to our readers. All letters must be signed and have a daytime phone number.

We will not publish anonymous letters, nor may you use a pseudonym, except in extraordinary circumstances. We will not knowingly publish any letter which is defamatory or libellous.

Please type your letter, and e-mail it if possible. Many handwritten letters are impossible to read. Any letter may be edited for brevity.

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

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Voices from the Valleys

Letter misleading

Twice now Lorna Obermayr has written misleading letters on Sandon affairs. Her letters are self-congratulatory and draw attention away from the real issues. They harm all efforts to bring about any resolution to the problems. To anyone who knows nothing of the background, Lorna's generalized comments might sound credible but in reality they only mask the truth. Lorna's agenda appears to be a collaborative effort to change the history of Sandon, to malign and take away the accomplishments of myself and my family and to seek control of Sandon for personal gratification.

Lorna does not want to acknowledge the money, the labours and the dedication that our family has put out in building the museum, restoring the old buildings of Sandon, rebuilding the generating plant, steam train, etc., etc., etc. over the past 35 years.

The Sandon Historical Society (SHS) would not exist had it not been for the support of our family. It is sad that the historical society of our creation is now being used as a weapon against us.

The unsuspecting public needs the facts, and here they are:

•In past years the records of the SHS were meticulously kept. All files were kept in triplicate. Every accession to the museum was documented. What happened to these files in recent years? How convenient that they have apparently gone missing! How convenient that my family and permanent residents of Sandon are prevented from being members of the SHS!

•Lorna and her colleagues made no effort whatsoever to return our family's possessions when requested to do so.

•Lorna paints a picture of cruel acts by myself and my family cutting off access to the museum. She doesn't mention that we have tried since 1998 to address several outstanding issues to do with the SHS using our land. She forgets to mention the biggest issue — liability insurance. The SHS made no effort to communicate or negotiate. They even ignored registered mail. After being strung along for at least six years, we finally issued a deadline to the SHS which they ignored. We had no choice but to block off our land until such time as the SHS learns that the use of our land is a privilege, not a right. In view of the impasse, our best option is to use the land for storage as it was in the past. Perhaps if the SHS does not like this, they might eventually see the value in being polite and respectful and approaching us with a reasonable proposal. Contrary to Lorna's assertion, the SHS has never approached us with any reasonable offer for the land.

•Lorna suggests that there is money owing by me to the SHS. It is exactly the opposite. The SHS has refused to deal with its outstanding debts that amount to several thousand dollars. The SHS elected to breach the contract, not vice versa. If this issue ever goes to litigation, it will probably force the SHS into insolvency.

Yes Lorna, we can't speak to ourselves. We also can't deal with people who speak with forked tongues. Perhaps you should focus your attention in your own community where there are obviously far too many people with idle time and personal problems that need attention.

Hal Wright
Sandon

My Responsibility As A Canadian

(Winning essay in Centennial Contest, 1967, by 15-year-old Teena Aasen)

Oh, Canada! Our Home and Native Land!

Yes, who are Canadians? So often I ask myself this very question. Am I patriotic? Do I care enough for my country that I would fight for my fellow citizens? Somehow, deep inside, I do have a love for my country and fellow citizens; yet at this time, I cannot correctly define this feeling. However, I do have very definite ideas about our actions and characteristics.

Canadians are people, as are Americans and Mexicans, Italians and Germans. We all have a love for our country, each of us feels that ours is the best. In doing this, we must show our responsibility in our actions. There are many characteristics — honesty, friendliness, charity, love and ambitions. Each must have its beginning.

Take, for example, honesty. The home would be the natural beginning. An honest nature does not come naturally as a gift, to some and not to others. No, honesty is a result of discipline, kindness and joy. The honesty learned at home will be reflected into an individual's school and social life. If we, the youth of today are mainly honest people, later, when we rule our country, it will sparkle this honesty — and will be something more for us to take pride in.

Was honesty the only characteristic I mentioned? No — I did mention friendliness also. Friendliness be called merely the nod, smile, or friendly association with our "gang." We need to show many more people the generosity and kindness of our friendship. We should be willing to spend a few more minutes of the precious time of our youth in deeds of love for the weak, the poor, and the aged. Why are we so often known to be lazy and delinquent? Maybe it is because, as we rush through life, squandering our moments of leisure, we forget to show our gratefulness to these very people whose ancestors have made it possible for us to live in a free and healthy country. Maybe the poor boy, whose mother must work until her bones ache, maybe his grandfather, or even father, fought for our beloved country. Let us stop just for a few moments each day to help those who are not quite so fortunate as us.

We now have friendliness and honesty. We must, as Canadians be ambitious for our country. How can we perform the gigantic task of supporting and governing our great responsibilities if we are without ambition for Canada? The ambitions of today's youth are the basis for tomorrow's nurses, doctors, teachers, journalists, politicians, mailmen, and yes, even the garbagemen, who may be last, but in no way least. Each individual's ambition is an asset to our country and will help to build a love — love for our country — these are the characteristics we need for a stronger nation.

My friends, and to all citizens of our country, and the neighbouring nations, love adds fuel to our ambitions and sets them afire! Love makes the little things we do come out with a song! "Love makes the world go round!" The smallest deed of love, charity and kindness is going to help build Canada spiritually and physically to an even prouder home than she is already to we who love her.

"True patriot love, in all thy sons command!"

Teena Aasen
Kaslo

NEXT DEADLINE:

Friday, July 15

Burning Restrictions

Effective 8:00 a.m., Wednesday July 6th, 2005
and until further notice, backyard burning and industrial pile burning (Categories 2 and 3) are banned in the entire Southeast Fire Centre.

This open fire ban is in effect to protect public safety and to limit the risk of person-caused wildfires. This ban affects back-yard burning and industrial burning of piles over two meters high and three meters wide.

Further pursuant to Section 12(1) of the Wildfire Act, the use of "burning barrels" and fireworks are prohibited within the area as described above.

Bans on backyard burning and industrial pile burning and the prohibition of on burning barrels and fireworks applies to all lands outside of municipal boundaries and Regional Districts that have open fire bylaws. Please check with your local authorities before lighting a fire or using fireworks within municipal boundaries.

The Southeast Fire Centre covers the area extending from the US Border in the south to Mica Dam in the north and from the Okanagan Highlands/Monashee Mountains in the west to the B.C./Alberta Border in the east.

For more information, contact the Southeast Fire Centre at (250) 365-4040 or visit our web site at www.for.gov.bc.ca/protect. To report a fire call 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on your cell phone.

BRITISH COLUMBIA
www.gov.bc.ca

Interior Health

HEALTH SERVICES IN NELSON

Please join us for an

Open House & Health Fair

Interior Health staff will be available in the afternoon to answer your questions about current and future health care services in Nelson and area.

Tuesday, July 19, 2005
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Nelson & District Community Complex
305 Hall Street, Nelson, BC

IH Board members and CEO will be available to answer your questions, as well as staff from IH responsible for key areas of health care delivery including:

- Mental Health
- Public Health
- Home/Community Care
- Acute Care
- Patient Representative
- BC Ambulance Service
- Foundation/Auxiliaries

Everyone is welcome.

Interior Health's Board of Directors will hold its next regular business meeting in Nelson on Wednesday, July 20, 2005. Interested parties are welcome to attend the regular portion of this meeting beginning at 8 a.m. Prestige Lakeside Resort & Convention Centre Robson-Monashee Rooms, Nelson, BC

Silverton council: fire department amalgamation going smoothly

by Katrine Campbell

•Mayor Tim Wiseman reported the fire department amalgamation meetings are going well and all parties are working "extremely well" together. A public meeting on the issue is planned for the near future.

•Brian Mills attended as a delegation to tell council the village has lost the turnaround at the end of Victoria St., due to home construction. Tourists wander up the road hauling large trailers, he said, and use his property to turn around, endangering his children and their toys. He asked for a minimum of 'No Through Road' signs to stop traffic getting that far, and ideally for a new turnaround to be built.

Wiseman directed Public Works Foreman Chris Fox to look into it, get some signs up, and ask the fire chief for his input.

•Fox gave the Public Works report: water samples have been taken and show no problems, he is still drafting the water system emergency response plan, and Interior Health okayed disinfecting the tank later in the summer; an 'overflow camping' sign has been put up at the curling rink and a 'dogs on leash' sign at the day park; a loading ramp has been started at the maintenance yard; three cement pads for benches have been poured, and the steel work has been done for three; the re-manufacture of the Cooper's beach raft has begun.

In answer to a question on potholes, Fox said sealing cracks before they develop into holes is much cheaper than fixing the holes. Wiseman directed him to inspect the streets and identify cracks that need sealing.

•Fire Chief Ron Provan reported the department is ready for July 1st celebrations, and thanked Wiseman for a donation he made which will double the size of the fireworks display.

•Councillor Michael Dorsey said he was worried about the lack of attendance of the village delegate and alternate at RDCK meetings. He noted Silverton needed a presence at the meetings, and also at emergency planning, UBCM, CMON and Chamber of Commerce meetings, because "it's important to have representation."

He has received complaints about residents burning trash, and asked if the village had a policy.

•Administrator Junko Ida has been accepted to a municipal administration training course in August; the cost is $1,605, offset by a $500 travel allowance and a possible $250 scholarship. Council approved her attendance at the course.

•In response to complaints there aren't enough places to sit down and rest as you walk around town, Fox and Ida have been costing park benches. These will be offered to citizens to sponsor as memorial benches. Council carried a motion from Wiseman that "a village memorial bench program be initiated by which residents and businesses may sponsor the initial cost of the construction and placement in key locations in the village as determined by maintenance and administration."

•Columbia Basin Trust grant applications and the Valhalla Summer School of Fine Arts Society's request for a grant-in-aid were put forward to the next meeting. Wiseman and Councillor Heather Huether would have to excuse themselves for potential conflict of interest, and without Councillor Roy Duncan present, there would be no quorum. Councillor Linda Laktin suggested council call a special meeting for a time when Duncan was available, as these two items have been delayed four times already.

•Richard Allin's letter re: motorized or non-motorized use of the rail trail from Rosebery to Nakusp was received. Wiseman said he is not prepared to support either side because he doesn't have the background, and "we need more information before sticking our necks out. Let the public process work its way through." Council will thank Allin for his information.

•Robin Sherrod's report on danger trees was accepted, and Public Works will be instructed to carry out his recommendations to the best of its ability.

•The government-mandated Statement of Financial Information was received, and will be signed and sent to government.

•The 2004 audited financial statement, which had been presented at a 6:15 pm special open meeting by an auditor from BDO Dunwoody, was accepted as presented.

Katrina and the class of 2004 - 2005 grade 4/5/6 would like to thank everyone who helped with the Canoe Trip.

Community members who loaned their canoes, Doug at Petro Can for loaning his power boat, Colin Magnuson and Gary Donaldson for driving power boats, Barb Mark who organized all the food to be sent over, all the parents who participated on the trip, all the people on shore who thought about us and watched our progress. Erica Mallem from Valahalla Wilderness who taught us about bears, and School District #10 for supporting outdoor adventures for our students. We are all so fortunate to live in such a beautiful spot.

This group of 42 braved Lucerne teacher Katrina Sumrall's canoe trip from Hills to Slocan, June 21-24.

Group of 42 braves Slocan Lake canoe trip

submitted

Teacher Katrina Sumrall has once again provided her students and other community members with an unforgettable experience on her annual Slocan Lake canoe trip.

This year, there were 42 participants: Sumrall's grade 4/5/6 class, three homeschoolers, twelve adults — and one dog. There were 13 canoes, one kayak and two safety boats. The group experienced just about every condition there can be on the lake during their June 21-24 trip.

Record temperatures on the first day gave participants a chance to learn about sunburn. Good thing Sumrall has learned the importance of skookum camp set-up, because the thunder showers and lightning storms that night were quite awesome. Everyone was impressed to see the wind blow up, creating that worrisome black line on the horizon.

One afternoon, the group had to go ashore and wait the better part of two hours for the wind to stop and whitecaps to die out. At another time, they had light rain and brilliant sun while paddling on calm waters. They hiked to Emerald Lake and ate huckleberries. They saw lookouts, old cabins and most of the Native pictographs.

Coming into the beach at Slocan, they were paddling on high rolling waves with the wind at their backs. Everyone screamed and cheered as each boat made it to shore.

Hats off to Katrina Sumrall for giving our kids this opportunity to experience the magic of Slocan Lake.

Fabric and paintings featured at Hidden Garden Gallery

submitted

Calgary artist Bev Landry will return this summer to exhibit her weavings, dyed fabric and paintings from July 6-11. Opening reception on July 6, 7-9 pm. Local painter Tsuneko Kokuko (Koko) will present her new works at the gallery from July 13-18. Visit with the artist at a celebration in the garden on July 17, 7-9 pm.

SILVERTON HERITAGE
Country Inn
NOTICE:
The Silverton Heritage Country Inn is now serving lunch & dinner in the dining room as well as the pub.
11 am to 9 pm
7 days a week
Sunday Brunch - 10 am - 1 pm
Saturday Dinner Buffet - 5 pm - 9 pm

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Annual Fundraiser for the Valhalla Summer School of Music
Featuring:
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Works by:
Mozart, Faure, Honegger, Schubert, Beethoven and more
• Come out and join us for an evening of Classical Music with the Garland Trio & friends.
• Be prepared to purchase treats from some of the Valley's best Pastry Chefs!!
(Wonderful Music, Great Friends & Specialty German Deserts!)
Friday July 8, 2005
Silverton Gallery
Admission by Donation
7:00pm

New Denver council: annual report presented

•Council presented its legally required 2004 Annual Report. Among other things, the report states that there are $209,426 in capital reserve funds; there are $251,790 in water capital reserve funds; non-residential assessment rose from 10% to 11% towards a long-term goal of 20%; seven of its eight community objectives for the year were met (Bosun Hall re-opening, street paving referendum, Hwy 6 sidewalk construction, new Centennial. Park swim float, new garbage truck, new agreement with IHA over community use of Health Centre gym, continued Centennial Park development). The eighth objective, the repair of the Knox Hall fire escape, is behind schedule. Engineered plans have been received, so work can proceed.

•Council authorized the mayor and CAO to conclude a street paving contract in the amount of $310,000 with Selkirk Paving. The original quote from Selkirk was for $350,000, which was $50,000 over budget. To bring the cost down, the 24-foot width of several of the streets was changed to 20 or 22 feet. Arrangements are also being made with Selkirk Paving to provide a paved path to Bigelow Bay (paid for by the Regional District sub-regional parks reserve) and an outdoor basketball court in Centennial Park (paid for by Recreation Commission #6).

•Council resolved to replant lilacs near 5th and Kildare after the street is paved to replace those that had to be removed during paving preparation.

•Council and staff are preparing a municipal burning bylaw for consideration. This follows changes to provincial legislation which redefine an "open fire" as anything that "does not include a fire vented through a structure that has a flue and is incorporated into a building." Also, in general, provincial legislation to control open burning no longer applies to a municipality. A UBCM press release recommends that, "...if a municipality is concerned with a certain activity taking place during critical fire danger, then the municipality must regulate that activity."

•Facade improvement grants of up to $500 each were authorized for buildings owned by Robert Ochsendorf and John Powers. The village budgets $1000 a year to "spiff up" commercial and non-single-residential buildings in its Development Permit area.

•Provincial Voters List Adoption Bylaw #589 and Election Procedure Bylaw #590 were adopted. The new bylaws will make the voting process faster for election officials and residents.

•An offer by Norman Bradshaw to purchase a part of a lane in Block 18 for $1000 was declined. Under its decade-old Fair Market Price policy, council reaffirmed its price of about $6600.

•Permission was given to the Slocan Valley Cycling Club to hold its August bike race downtown.

•Craig Pettitt sent in pictures and an analysis of new landslide hazards near Sandon.

Silverton Gallery shows The Crawford Collection

submitted

The Crawford Collection will be on exhibit at the Silverton Gallery from July 1 to August 6.

Paul Crawford, director/curator of the Grand Forks Art Gallery, has amassed a collection of over 1500 pieces of fine art so far, and the collection is still growing. In order to show as much of the collection as possible, Crawford will change the show part-way through.

From July 1-17, the works of William Newcombe (1906-1969) and Ronald Bladen (1918-1988) are featured. The pieces show the evolution of these two artists' work over 30 years, from the 1930s to the 1960s. On July 17, the show will become "more eclectic," according to Crawford, featuring BC artists Jack Shadbolt, Toni Onley and many others.

People interested in art collecting at any level will want to attend a Sunday brunch on July 17 at 10 am at the Silverton Heritage Country Inn, followed by a lecture at the Gallery by Crawford on collecting art. The cost of the brunch/lecture is $20. Call John at 358-2760 to book ahead.

Visit gardens from New Denver to Summit Lake, July 10

Make a date with a friend on Sunday, July 10 to do the Slocan Lake Garden Tour.

The first stop, and this year's highlight, will be the Kohan Reflection Garden in New Denver's Centennial Park. Landscape designer Ray Nikkel will lead interpretive strolls through the garden at 10 am, 1 pm and 3 pm, and Gail Powell will give a demonstration of Bonzai techniques at 11 am and 2 pm.

From there, head north to the edge of town where you can visit Peter Roulston's garden, and then Lane Haywood's. Make one stop at the head of the lake to see four small gardens at the old Valhalla Resort on Bonanza Road. Bay Hermann's garden is next on Laktin Road and further along in Hills, don't miss Patrizia Menton's place on Reibin Road. Venture north about 10 more minutes for a visit to two working farms in Summit Lake.

Before you start, pick up a brochure, complete with maps and details about the gardens, from just about any local business, and watch for signs on Highway 6. Your generous donations are most welcome. Net proceeds from this event go towards enhancing the Kohan Reflection Garden.

With donations from local businesses through the Tree Canada Foundation, Slocan has been able to add some colour throughout the village. On June 30, Mayor Van Bynen planted a Silver Leaf Weeping Willow at the beach with representatives from the donor organizations. L to R: Christian Walli of the Tree Canada Foundation, Mayor Van Bynen, Darren McCoy of Slocan Home Hardware and Ralph Tomlin, representing Canfor. The FortisBC respresentative was unable to attend.

Recreate this summer in the Slocan Valley

submitted

This summer, Slocan Valley Recreation will be offering several incredible programs for kids and the family to enjoy.

Bonnington Park will be the site for some of the magic this July. Safire Jones leads "Cirque Du Play" from July 18-22, a week where kids perfect circus skills through creative games and play. Local soccer star Jenica Giesler will lead a multi-age week of fun from July 11-15. From July 25-29, Andre Derias hosts an outdoor week of "Summer Fun in French" — where sports, co-operative games, orienteering, music and more are pursued — and only French is spoken!

Further along the road in Crescent Valley there'll be a week of Kayaking for Youth (in the morning) and Women (in the afternoon) from July 11-15. Dean Seminoff will be hosting a Tae Kwon-Do Summer Program for all ages from August 2-5 at the Crescent Valley Hall.

At the Slocan Park Hall, Sara Mulvey will be hosting a Kindermusik Day Camp the week of July 11-15 for ages 4 to 7 years. Sign up quick as the class is filling up. Evelyn Kirkaldy will intrigue kids with "And They Call It Art?" with monster self portraits, river eco-art, body painting and much more. The new dates for this class are August 8-12.

At the Winlaw School the week of July 11-15, Casey Cupello will host a Soccer Camp for kids to hone their skills. In the north end of the valley, Safire Jones will also be hosting her "Cirque Du Play" program at the WE Graham Community Centre the week of July 25-29.

For the family there's Travels in Bear Country with Erica Mallam on July 9 or 13. Visit grizzly habitat with this well-known biologist. And finally circle Sunday, August 7 on your calendar when the 11th Annual Slocan Valley Poker Float takes place. Float from Perry's Siding to the Winlaw Regional & Nature Park.

To register for any of these programs or for more information, contact Slocan Valley Recreation at 226-0008.

Museum open house features photo exhibit

NEW DENVER— "Lives Lived," a photo exhibition immortalizing local seniors, is the centrepiece of the Silvery Slocan Museum's open house July 9.

This is New Denver resident Trevor Harrop's second such exhibition. The first, in 1999, was his project to mark the International Year of Older Persons. He photographed about 40 long-time residents and recorded their biographies. Many of this first group were Japanese-Canadians who were relocated from the coast and interned in New Denver in 1942, and who decided to stay and make New Denver their home.

This year's effort features 38 people, four of whom have died since Harrop started working on the project.

"This occurrence is the strongest reason, I believe, for undertaking this exhibition," Harrop says. "Their records and histories are not lost.

"Preservation of the 'Lives Lived' in our area offers future generations a small but essential window into the histories of their ancestors. My efforts are intended to record their stories in portraits and oral biographies."

The Silvery Slocan Museum, located on the village's Main St., will hold its open house July 9 at 2 pm. Admission is free, and refreshments will be served. 'Lives Lived' runs until the museum closes for the season in September.

Don't miss the grand opening of the Silvery Slocan Museum in New Denver on July 9. Trevor Harrop's photographs of seniors in the area will be on display. This one is of Webb Cummings, current president of the Silvery Slocan Historical Society.

Safire Jones hosts "Cirque du Play" in Slocan, the Bonnington Regional Park and Nelson this summer. The program is one week long and includes dance, marital arts, movement, acrobatic balancing, role play, improv, face paint and more. When she returns to her homeland, New Zealand, in the fall, she will be a featured performer on an interactive children's show.

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Patio Dining
The Wild Rose Restaurant
Hola!
Open 7 Nights a Week from Canada Day until Labour Day. 5-9 pm
For reservations, please call 358-7744

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Kaslo's Class of 2005 graduates from J. V. Humphries June 30

Back row, L to R: Neil Johnson, Nathon Begg, Matt Brenton, Jason Turner, Aaron Settle, Travis Pangburn, Mark Lafortune, Dana Abey, Elisha Sutherland, Adjala Thomson-Kurz, Kayla Dixon, Savanna Funk, Kyla-Mae Dunn. Middle row: Candice Krebs Sheridan, Danielle Vetrov, Emily Rempel, Simone Bueler, Silvi Anderson, Breanne Bens, Andrea Reimer, Leanne Bogs, Amy Gagon -Blackburn, Asha Begg, Julia Axenroth, Meghan Valouche, Michelle Tuma, Delrae Fawcett, Kayda McCuaig, Shawna Weaver. Front row: Luke Vetrov, Shawn McConnell, Bob Tim, Sean Graham, Joe Chomitz, Brent Settle, Nyle Mulkey-Chose, Ryan Whitney. Missing: Paul Neufeld.

Julia Axenroth and Travis Pangburn deliver memorable Valedictorian speech

In the beginning there was Kindergarten. I was so scared I cried in the corner. Luckily Meghan Valouche came to my rescue. This upbeat, bouncy gal would go on to cause happiness wherever she went and become and eveyone's party buddy.

There were 16 of us there that year that are now sitting up here. Two of them were the Begg twins. We all came to realize that Asha, the sweet little blonde, was no softy on the ice, field or court. Asha became the gorgeous girl with the motto, "girls rule and boys drool."

Nathon, the puttering little boy from Magic in the Water would not only excel at sports but become the "brain" of some of the toughest courses.

We remember the playground stick wars where I would fight the shy guy Aaron. But, once Aaron found his passion in cars, his shyness burned as fast as his tires.

Then there was our peanut, Andrea Reimer. She was the one we usually had to calm after she had laughed herself to tears and I swear almost to death sometimes.

Our first graduation — from grade one, was one into Leprechaun Hunting. We were all pretty scared when little Jason Turner got bit by one of the beasts. Jason is the sweet football player we would always see working on his Chevy. Another one of the "original 16" was the traveller Adjala Thomson-Kurz. Though we had to share this creative lady with Alberta, we are all glad she came back for grad. She demonstrated to us her guitar and sewing talents, and she even made her own grad dress for tonight.

Of course there was grade three. I think all the grads know what we mean when we say...

(Travis sings Kokomo)

Though we all loved the Beach Boys, Emily and Leanne and some of us girls would make up little dances to Kokomo. Emily is the sugar and spice of the class. She surprised us all with her outstanding goalie skills in her high school years. Leanne is the happy, fun basketball and volleyball girl, living life to the fullest.

During a trip to the high school science lab in grade four Amy, the bouncy little girl with curly hair looked at the big sinks and said, "Wow they have hot tubs!" Amy, we wish you hot tubs wherever you go.

Grade 5 was another memorable year. It would be a lie to say that all of us — even the guys — didn't love the Spice Girls. We often made up lip syncs in Mr. Milner's room. Kayda loved to join in and she turned out to be a penguin loving, hockey playing jazz cat.

Our trip to Fort Steele was a great one. The boys peeing off the lookout tower, taking orders from the Mountie in the pouring rain. This is where we learned about one of the most hyper people to ever be in our class. Dana would become the guy in class who always shouted out random things and was extremely talented in many forms of music and Tae Kwon Do. That year Breanne became part of our class and we discovered that you can't win an argument with Breanne. This girl has got sass and class and she enjoys a good party with her friends.

In grade six we would often meet at the school to play "basketball" — which was really just truth or dare. And then there were Delrae's parties where if you weren't kissing someone you were crying and if you weren't crying you were kissing someone.

With grade seven came our classes second set of twins — Danielle and Luke Vetrov. Luke, the quiet reader, became quite the actor, writer and dictionary. Danielle sure has changed since grade seven. This May Queen - artist loosened up this year to become quite the partier. Grade seven was the year where we all listened to the CD player in our classroom — Dolphin's Cry, Will2K and sometimes Village people.

Grade 8 was a big step. This is when we got all the "up the lakers." We were terrified. We came to realize these people were just like bears — probably more afraid of us then we were of them. What great additions they were though. Matthew Brenton was always the cool but still nice guy. We all know he has got mad wisdom that he rarely reveals. We also met the beat boxing, tae kwon do master Mark Lafortune. We were all amazed at this guy's talents over the years. Nyle has always been a great competitor. Whether it be in sports or for the girls, he's usually victorious. Then there was another up the lakie — the funny, charming Ryan Whitney. One of the funniest theatre sports people ever — this guy's got potential. Elisha Sutherland, though quiet, is a very helpful friendly person.

The funky one, our Savanna Funk, came in grade nine. Who would have guessed that shy little girl would turn into this gorgeous model. You never know what to expect with Savanna — except that you will have too much fun.

In grade 10 we got Shawn McConnel, who loves mechanics so much he is in the Tech room everyday.

Brent's real passion is revealed by the oil all over him. This "grease monkey" says he lives for the nights he can't remember and the friends he'll never forget.

Paul is the only person I have met who hates all fruit except bananas. (Travis throws Paul a banana). But, Paul does love hockey, football and the Calgary Flames. Under that red hair is quite the brain.

There is a group of people that we don't see every day but are still an important part of the grad class. This is the lakeside crew. Shawna and Kyla and the best of friends. Shawna's little boy and Kyla's two little girls are lucky to have such loving, hard working moms. Candice is a hard worker and great part of JVH. Bob Tim left in Kindergarten. While we don't know what he's been up to all this time we are glad he came back to grad with us.

This last year we have really been able to see the great stuff our class is made of. Athletes, actors, mechanics and plenty of talent.

Even though they say absolute power corrupts absolutely we think Sean Graham was corrupt before he became our prime minister. This quick witted guy returned in high school as Sean — but we knew all along he was the Gaylen we knew back in Kindergarten.

And we were so lucky to get Kayla Dixon in our grad year. Kayla fit in perfectly with the JVH crew. If she who laughs lasts then we will be seeing Kayla for a very long time.

Aristotle tells us "The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet." Joseph Chomitz, or rather Jud, figured that rather than be bitter he'd just sleep in. Our whole tag had to go down and get him out of bed one day. There was no water involved — I promise. Joe loves cars and assures to us all, "its all right to be a redneck."

This year whenever music was in the air — we knew Neil Johnson was around. Neil's Reflections are always in the current and his music never disappoints.

Our girls soccer team qualified for provincials in Surrey. One of these athletes — Delrae Fawcett has some pretty nice moves out on the field but, they are nothing compared to what she can do on the dance floor. This smart lady might just be seen travelling the world.

The drama department brought forth many shows including A Midsummer Night's Dream. Simone's acting skills shone during this performance and this classy gal is sure to be on the big screen.

Speaking of acting we could never forget Travis Pangburn — my Maypole and now Valedictorian buddy. To Travis all the world's a stage, or sometimes a rink or a piano. Trav's got the talent and the will to be anything.

Julia Axenroth, with her love of animals, gave us Roots n Shoots and many reasons why everyone should be a vegan. This positive girl will surely do great things.

Let us not forget Silvi, who often says what everyone else is thinking. Silvi is not only the funnest — but probably the funniest person in our class.

To our fellow graduates...never ever underestimate yourself. Reality is an illusion. Your dreams are for real. So get out there and do what you want.

Congratulations and best of luck in your future endeavours!
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We wish the Graduating Class of 2005 every success in their future endeavours
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We are proud of the entire Graduating Class of 2004
from the Village Office, Mayor, Councillors and Staff
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Congratulations to the J.V. Humphries graduating class of 2005!
The Kaslo & District Chamber of Commerce

Canada Day celebrated in many West Kootenay Communities

Heather Huether, sporting her Canada Day sweater, played hard for the Village of Silverton Bocci tea.

Jim Simkins & Jamie Barber demonstrated blacksmithing at Silverton's historic Fingland Cabin.

PHOTO CREDIT: MAGGIE STAPLES

Kaslo Royalty cut the Canada Day Cake, donated by Rudolph's Bakery. Left to right: Princesses Amanda Dyck and Heike Lettrari, and Queen Alex Zilkie.

PHOTO CREDIT: KAREN HAMLING

Nakusp's Good Citizen of the Year, Brenda Mayson and her granddaughter, Tori Mayson, rode in the parade in a rickshaw pulled by Walter Pasieka.

PHOTO CREDIT: KAREN HAMLING

Nakusp firemen were up rousing people out of bed at 6:30 am for their pancake breakfast.

Katie Welch won the Canada Day Youth Award in Silverton. Asaly Skrenes & RoseAnne Sopow were also finalists.

The kids had a blast at the races in Silverton

PHOTO CREDIT: MAGGIE STAPLES

Kaslo RCMP officer Lorne Anderson gets a big hug from Jacqueline Zilkie at the concession. Must be that good lookin' hat!

PHOTO CREDIT: KAREN HAMLING

Nakusp Royalty & RCMP officers did their official duties of having lots of fun on Canada Day. L to R:Constable Thomsen, Queen Kara Egli, Princess Kristy Homis & Constable Pask.

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BC Ambulance Service
1257 Dalhousie Drive
Kamloops, BC V2C 5Z5

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Nakusp council, June 24: Concession lease not yet finalized

by Jan McMurray

•CAO Richard Mahoney reported that the Village was still in negotiation with Monty Paul on the concession lease, and confirmed that arrangements had been made for the Rotary Club and the United Church to use the concession on certain dates. Mayor Cowan brought up a concern of some local businesses that the concession would keep people in the beach area and leave less incentive for them to wander through town. Councillor Dahlen pointed out that the menu at the concession would be fairly limited. Councillor Curran agreed, saying that the concession would probably not impact the restaurants in town, and that he felt competition was a good thing in a free and open marketplace. Council agreed to move forward with the lease with Paul.

The June 27 assembly at Nakusp Elementary was principal Tom Paterson's last one at the school, as he is off to a new opportunity in Prince George. The NES PAC presented him with a booklet made by the school's students and a beautiful photograph of Nakusp done by Kootenay Virtual Tours. The PAC also bought a book that will stay in the library, with a dedication to Paterson inside. Paterson has been with School District No. 10 since 1990, serving as principal of Nakusp, Glenbank and all three southern zone schools over the 15 years.

•Council received letters from two residents opposed to moving the recycling bins, as well as a letter from the RDCK on the issue. Council is in favour of keeping the bins where they are, but would like the area to be tidier. The decision was to send the RDCK a letter asking them to pave the area around the bins and to fix the fence, with the Village taking responsibility for the ongoing maintenance.

•Gwen Papov and John and Margaret Green attended as a delegation to ask the Village to fix a drainage problem at First Avenue and Fourth Street, where they live. Water from Fourth Street flows over the two properties after a heavy rainfall or snow melt and water often gets into their basements. Papov said she had brought this problem to the attention of the Village many times with no result. After receiving a letter from Papov in February, Public Works Superintendent Scott Klassen ran a drain into the Green's driveway, but this has not helped. Klassen said he thought some landscaping work would direct the water into the existing drain. Papov said she doubted this would work and suggested that a storm drain like the one recently installed in front of the Kindom Hall would solve the problem. The estimated cost of landscaping is $500 and of installing a storm drain is $3500. Mayor Cowan directed Public Works to deal with this, and Councillor Curran asked to have the item brought forward as unfinished business on the agenda. Later in the meeting, council voted in favour of the landscaping option.

•Council voted to send a "strong letter of concern" to BC Hydro, asking them to do something about impacts of low water levels on local fishery. At the June 23 BC Hydro update meeting, a Nakusp Conservation Club representative said that with the low water levels, fish were not able to get to the creeks to spawn.

•Klassen reported that the water and sewer duct work would be done at Kuskanax Bridge, allowing for pipes to be installed in the future.

•On the subject of water conservation, a staff report found that low flow toilets were not effective enough to mandate at this time. Council decided to look at this again when reviewing the building bylaw. Also, Klassen will check into the costs of water metering.

•Bylaw 436-47 was given third reading and final adoption. This bylaw creates a new zoning classification: C1M, Core Commercial (Mixed), allowing for commercial and residential uses in the same building.

•Council gave first and second readings to Bylaws 433-17 and 436-48. This amends the OCP and zoning to give preliminary approval of a new subdivision on Marshall Road. Two property owners would like to each create eight new 1/4-acre lots, for a total of 16. This will go to a public meeting.

•A request for a fireworks display at about midnight on the Sunday night of the Nakusp Music Fest was granted, with conditions.

•The Bee Cee Beemers Motorcycle Club wrote to council to say its annual rally will be held August 18-21, in Nakusp for the fourth successive year. They enclosed an article from "BMW Owners News" featuring Halcyon Home residents riding in the Beemers' sidecars. The Village will send the club a letter to welcome them.

Whatshan kids' coarse fish derby

submitted

This year's event was called the first annual John Maloff Memorial Derby, in memory of the man who suggested the idea and did the initial gathering of donations for prizes. John passed away this spring and the Lower Arrow Lakes Conservation Association purchased a trophy to be engraved with the names of the winners in each category each year.

There were 78 children registered this year in five age categories. Registration fee was 25 cents, for which the entrant received a free hot dog and juice box. Those under 5 registered for free.

A total of 1708 coarse fish (suckers, northern pikeminnow (squawfish) and other whitefish) were counted. The largest fish weighed 2.4 kg and was caught by Lauren Manson. Any fish under 6 inches was not counted this year.

Winners were as follows: Ages 0-4 -1st prize, Liam Coates (18 fish), 2nd prize, Alysa Mighton (5 fish); Ages 5/6 - 1st prize, Isaiah Zarr (259 fish), 2nd prize, Emery Warren (14 fish); Ages 7-9 - 1st prize, Zoey Dryden (51 fish), 2nd prize, Daniel Hockman (7 fish); Ages 10-12 - 1st prize, James Nikasoka (235 fish), 2nd prize, Chloe Hurn (160 fish); Ages 13-15 - 1st prize, Sam Howell (128 fish), 2nd prize, Kyle Larue (95 fish). The winners of the draws for kids' bikes were Dylan Jurick and Chloe Hurn.

A big thank you to all the kids who entered, their parents/guardians for their support, and the various sponsors who donated cash and/or prizes.

Community Futures offers local service

by Jan McMurray

Nakusp and New Denver now have a local person to go to for information about Community Futures programs.

Farhana Alam of Nakusp is available every Thursday to provide information about the self-employment and business loan programs, and to offer business counselling. People can call 265-3674, ext. 311 or email nakusp@futures.bc.ca to make an appointment for this free service. She comes to New Denver on the last Thursday of every month.

Community Futures helps people start their own businesses through the self-employment program and can provide loans from $500-500,000. Now in its 20th year, the organization has helped over 1,675 Kootenay residents start their businesses and has helped to create over 1800 jobs. 75% of businesses assisted by Community Futures remain operational after five years.

Carrie Horachek comes to Edgewood, July 13

Singer/songwriter Carrie Horachek is stopping in at Carol's Garden Cafe in Edgewood on July 13 during her Western Canada tour this summer.

Originally from Saskatoon and now living in Victoria, Horachek will break from the windowless Vancouver recording studio where she is working on her second album and take her "Prairie Girl Needs Air tour."

Horachek's first record "Out the Car Window" was recorded in Edmonton while she was living in Saskatoon. Her imagery and lyrics evoke the prairie road trips involved in the recording. SEE Magazine says of the album, which was recently featured on two episodes of Joan of Arcadia: "Most of the songs — which cover topics from the romantic to the quirky — are painted like little scenes flickering by from track to track."

In Carrie's live performance, her sharp wit and electric guitar transform pedestrian events into poetic songs that audiences relate and respond to.

Carrie Horachek will be appearing at Carol's Garden Cafe in Edgewood.

New dental program offered

by Jan McMurray

NAKUSP—Frances Ure, registered dental hygienist, has found that there is a need for affordable dental services for families that do not have a dental plan and do not qualify for the Healthy Kids program. She has decided to do something about it.

Ure will take bookings for check-ups, which will include cleaning, visual inspection and x-rays for $25 per child. She will provide the service once every two months out of local dentist Dr. DeSandoli's office, using his equipment and supplies. DeSandoli will also review the x-rays and reports generated from the check-up, if needed.

Appointments under this program can be booked by calling Dr. DeSandoli's office at 265-9993.

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The Board of Directors of the Nakusp Public Library invite building contractors interested in doing structural upgrades and renovations to the Nakusp Public Library to submit a letter of interest to :

Ulli Mueller,
Building Planning & Design Inc.
Box 747
Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0
Phone/Fax: 250-265-3210

Letters to be received no later than July 15, 2005.

Construction to take place in the Fall of 2005. Contractor will be expected to work with employees placed through the HRSDC job creation program.

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Even small ads get noticed - in the Valley Voice

Kaslo council: Offer to purchase courthouse building on hold

by Jill Braley

•Greg Yaholnitsky of the BC Building Corporation sent an email regarding the Village's offer to purchase the provincial courthouse building, subject to a referendum. He attached an Offer to Purchase form, to be signed and sent back to him. Mayor Douglas made a motion to hold the referendum in conjunction with the municipal election in November. The motion was defeated. Councillor Cormie voted against, as she would like the referendum to be held sooner. CAO Sawyer estimated the cost of a referendum at $3000.

•Council received an email from Dawn Attorp, Manager of Corporate Administration, RDCK regarding the tax proposal for restoration of village-owned heritage resources. Attorp advised that Larry Greenlaw, Director of Area D, would like to see the heritage service be for the purpose of renovating the Village Hall only. Attorp had also received a couple of calls from people in the area saying the same thing. Council voted to advise the RDCK that funding raised by taxation would be used for the restoration of the City Hall and A Avenue fire hall only.

•Council received a fax from the BC Ministry of Environment regarding its upcoming pilot woodstove changeout program. Kaslo is being considered for the program, which would give incentive to residents to replace old woodstoves with newer, lower emission stoves or other alternatives. The Ministry requires an in-kind or financial commitment from participating communities. Council voted to support the program and directed staff to work with the Ministry to find appropriate in-kind contributions which could be made by the municipality.

•A report from Clearwater Environmental Services regarding damage to the water and wastewater treatment plants during a power event on June 13 was received. Transient voltage surge suppressors will be installed at both plants for an estimated cost of $1,650.

•The municipality will express support for Clearwater Environmental Services' proposal regarding economical Water Treatment Plant expansion, and will forward the proposal to the RDCK.

•Council received correspondence from Jamie Whitney of the Earthworkers Community Organization, asking to use a 20' x 20' plot of land for the Kaslo "Back to Earth" Community Composting project. Council agreed that a representative from this organization be invited to speak as a delegation to the Public Works Committee.

•Council received correspondence from Enrico Lettrari, owner of Mountain King Services, inquiring about an official response to his May 4 letter regarding the Crooked Cafe. Lettrari will be advised that a delegation from the Crooked Cafe has been invited to attend the next Administration & Finance Committee meeting, and any official response would follow subsequent recommendation to Council.

•Council received correspondence from Gusti Callis, Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society President, asking council to reconsider its decision to not make a cash donation to the 2005 Kaslo Jazz Festival. Callis explains that local government support is important in securing other funding. Council will ask the Society whether free exclusive use of Kaslo Bay Park could be seen as a substantial contribution by the Village, demonstrating solid local government support.

•Council will ask Gillian Sanders of the Kaslo Bear Smart program for an income statement before authorizing payment of the $2500 municipal grant.

Sanders wrote to council, saying that Public Works Foreman Rob Lang had mentioned that four of five bearproof dumpsters had been installed. She suggested that the fifth one be installed at the community garden site. Council will inform her that they are waiting for a Public Works recommendation regarding the dumpster.

•Council received a draft report from "Success by 6," which was referred to the Planning & Development Committee for recommendation to council.

•Archie and Maxine Gray, regular visitors to Kaslo, wrote to council with some suggested improvements for the Village campground. Their letter was referred to the Public Works Committee.

•The following recommendations from the Public Works Committee were approved:

-No infrastructure funding for a water reservoir liner will be pursued at this time.

-Fisheries and Oceans will be asked to approve appropriate signage to control motorized vessels in the area of the swimming raft at the Moyie beach.

-C Avenue between 6th Street and and the school parking lot will be paved this year within the allotted budget after C Avenue from 8th to Brennand Streets is complete.

•Sara Cush will be thanked for her generous donation of an oil painting of Kaslo City Hall. The painting will be hung in the municipal offices.

•Accounts payable were approved in the amount of $45,568.51.

Until they were told to stop because they were doing the work of a union employee, this group of volunteers recently tackled the front and side flower beds at Kaslo's Victorian Community Health Centre, and the weeds growing along the roadside boulevard. L to R: Yvonne Weintz, Carol Koenig, Clarice Caywood, Lucia del Santo, Barb Metcalfe, Hana Sobota and Hazel Calder. Missing: Val Koenig.

Kaslo experiences water system problems

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo has been on a boil water advisory since June 26, but water system operator Allan Law of Clearwater Environmental Services expects things to be back to normal soon.

The pressure sensor, which controls the operation of the filters, began malfunctioning on June 25 at about 11 pm. This was the same evening that a lightning strike affected the irrigation system at Kaslo's golf course, which is connected to the Village water lines, but Law says it is unknown if the two events are related.

"The pressure sensor was asking the filter to start and stop, causing a water hammer in the line. This would have caused catastrophic damage to the system if we had kept it going," explained Law.

The water is being chlorinated, he said, but is not being filtered. He has ordered a replacement pressure sensor, which he hopes will have arrived on July 2. "Once the part is in, the system should be up and running within eight hours, but then we'll have to go through three consecutive days of water sampling to satisfy Interior Health. It's up to them to lift the boil water order," he said.

The system had just experienced another emergency on June 13, when an electrical surge resulted in an estimated $8190 damage to the sewer and water treatment plants. Because of the damage, the filters were not able to be backwashed.

"We stepped up water conservation to Level 3 [no outdoor watering], reducing the demand on the system, which gave time for the part to come in and get the system back on line," said Law. That took four days.

"It takes time because these parts have to be freighted in. They are not off the shelf items," he explained.

At the June 24 council meeting, Law's recommendation to purchase and install transient voltage surge suppressors at each plant for an average cost of $1650 was approved. These will protect the plants from power surges in the future.

The power surge took out the computers used to monitor the plants, so Law had to diagnose the subsequent problem of the pressure sensor without the benefit of the computers. He hopes the new computers will have arrived by July 4.

The Village has contacted FortisBC to see if the company is accepting claims related to the June 13 surge, but had not received an answer as of June 30. Law said that the surge caused a lot of damage in the Kaslo area.

Kaslo Golf Course struck by lightning

by Maggie Staples

KASLO—A thunder and lightning storm that moved over Kaslo and the North Kootenay Lake area on Friday night, June 24, caused quite a disturbance at the Kaslo Golf Club. Trees were scarred in a spiral fashion, branches littered the greens, and control boxes that regulate the timing of the irrigation system had their covers ripped off from the force of a massive lightning strike.

"It's very difficult to estimate the extent of the damage or what the repair costs will be, since so much is underground," said Earl Zilkie, vice president of the club. "The maintenance shop will need to be completely rewired, and the force of the strike blew one of the electrical panels off the office wall. We were extremely fortunate we did not have a fire. Every receptacle and outlet is scorched, and the walls behind panels are black from the smoke."

The clubhouse and other facilities were unscathed, and a fifty-person tournament went ahead the morning after the storm without any problems.

Insurance will cover the cost of some of the damage, and the golf club executive is hopeful that this unexpected expense will not deplete financial reserves.

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CAMPGROUNDS

• Kaslo Municipal Campground (250) 353-7315 or rbdlang@netidea.com
May 1-Sept 30. Serviced ($19) Unserviced sites ($14) Water and power hook-ups, fire pits, picnic tables, restrooms and hot showers. Downtown location, close to park, beach, playgrgound, SS Moyie infocentre and great shopping! Pets on leash welcome.

• Centennial Campground
On the lake in New Denver, 44 sites, 8 with electricity & water hook-up, sani-dump, showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

• Silverton Municipal Campground (250) 358-7914
A wooded, lakeside campground in the village, open May 15 to Oct. 15, washrooms (no shower), fire pits, picnic tables, 15 unserviced sites, firewood available. Convenient access to swimming , day park, tennis court, ball field, grocery store.

• Three Island Resort Campground (250) 265-3023
65 sites, full/semi hook-ups, tenting, boat launch, paddle boats & canoes, pets welcome, children's playground, firewood, fishing, confectionery, sani-station, showers, laundry facilities, large gazebo with BBQ pits.

• Springer Creek RV Park & Campground (250) 355-2266
Open mid-May to Sept. 30. Located at 1020 Giffin Rd., Slocan. Turn right immediately off of Highway 6 entrance to Village of Slocan. Full hook-ups, partial hook-ups, tenting sites, sani-dump, pets on leash and seasonal Tourist/Information Booth.

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www.halcyon-hotsprings.com e-mail: info@halcyon-hotsprings.com Halcyon Spa opens June 2005. Always fresh, natural, mineral hot springs with own lake shore comfortable chalets, cabins, full RV hook-up, camping, Bistro-Restaurant, historical chapel, bodywork, horseback riding, tours and much more... Have some happy Halcyon days!!! Big swimming pool now open!

• Nakusp Hot Springs (250) 483-7591
We're open year round. Summer hours: 9:30 am - 10 pm daily. Powered campsites. Snack bar. Water replenished daily. *"We always have a warm spot here for you."*

ACCOMMODATIONS & RESTAURANTS

• William Hunter Cabins (250) 358-2844 www.williamhuntercabins.com
Three hand-crafted log cabins in the heart of Silverton. Each cabin contains two self-contained suites with pine furniture. Views of the Valhallas, close to lake, beautiful gardens and wonderful berry picking. 303 Lake Ave.

• Silverton Heritage Country Inn (250) 358-7929
Visit the world-famous Silverton Heritage Country Inn, located on Slocan Lake since 1897. Offering three lakeview patios, complimentary continental breakfast, a fully-licensed pub with eight beers on tap and a gourmet dining room. We feature a Saturday night and a Sunday morning buffet, and a 2-for-1 Steak Dinner every Friday evening. Open 7 days a week.

• Selkirk Inn Ph: 1-800-661-8007 / (250) 265-3666 Fax: (250) 265-4799
210-6th Ave. West, Nakusp, BC www.selkirkinn-nakusp.com email: selkinn@columbiacable.net
Located in the heart of Nakusp, we are close to the Nakusp Hot Springs, Halcyon Hot Springs, the Nakusp Golf Course, and only a short walk from the shores of Upper Arrow Lake. All 39 deluxe rooms have a TV, phone and fridge. 30 units with air conditioning, some units with kitchenettes, wheelchair accessible unit available, small pets allowed.

• Valhalla Inn (250) 258-2228 www.valhallainn.biz
Clean, comfortable, spacious rooms, suites and kitchen units with phone, TV and private bath. Motorcycler and ATV packages. Group rates. Outdoor dining, great food and neighbourhood pub.

• Lakefront Cottages Ph: (250) 358-2415 oldhamslakefrontcottages.com
Weekly rentals: 2 or 3 bedroom fully furnished cottages by the lake in a quiet corner of New Denver. Great for friends or relatives staying a week or more.

ADVENTURE TOURS

• Columbia Kayaking (250) 358-2211 1-888KAYAK10
eco@kootenays.com website: www.eco.kootenays.com
Tours, Sales & Rentals. Hourly, full or half-day rates. "An Authorized Seaward Kayak Dealer."

• Rocky Tour Adventures (250) 358-2228 www.rockytour.com
Experience the fabulous Kootenay back country on a guided ATV Tour. Explore old ghost towns and enjoy spectacular scenery. Full and half-day rides. All-inclusive packages including tour, room and meals are available. Call to reserve, 358-2228.

BED & BREAKFASTS

• Mistaya Country Inn Ph/Fax (250) 358-7787
A secluded lodge on 90 acres with five guestrooms, comfortable lounge with fireplace, beautiful views, home cooking, outside firepits, walking trails, 10 k south of Silverton.

• Sweet Dreams Guesthouse & Licenced Dining Phone (250) 358-2415 Fax 358-2556 www.newdenverbc.com / sweetdreams@newdenverbc.com
B&B in historic building by the lake. Licenced dining & patio by reservation. Ethnic style meals.

Arica Gardens B&B and Andino Artesania Gift Shop (250) 226-7688 www.aricagardens.com
A luxurious timberframe home in Winlaw in the Slocan Valley with two rooms with private balconies and beautiful views. The gift shop features a huge selection of ceramic dinnerware from Chile, South American arts & crafts.

MUSEUMS

• Sandon Museum & Visitors' Centre (250) 358-7920 www.slocanlake.com/sandon
Open 10:00 to 5:00. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy. 31A in historic silver mining ghost town. Collections of stunning photographs and fascinating artifacts including the famous "two story mousetrap." Admission: 18 & over, $3.00 •12-17 yrs. $2.00 • Under 12, free.

• Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre (250) 358-7288
The only historic site in Canada dedicated to telling the WWII internment story. Located in *The Orchard* in New Denver, open 7-days-a-week 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

• Arrow Lakes Historical Society Ph/Fax: (250) 265-0110 265-3323
e-mail: alhs@columbiacable.net Location: 92B - 7th Avenue NW (BC Hydro building). Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 - 3:00. Archives and publications. Best source for area history and family research.

• Silvery Slocan Museum (250) 358-2201
The old Bank of Montreal building at the foot of Main Street, restored to circa 1900. Opening May 25, 10 am to 4:30 pm Wednesday through Saturday until the end of August. Special tours welcome. Please call 358-2201, 358-2478 or 358-2656 for further information. **A MUST SEE MUSEUM WITH DAILY TREASURE HUNTS FOR CHILDREN!** Hope we see you there.

NOTICE TO VALLEY VISITORS:

Stop in at *The Valley Voice* office in New Denver (across from the Credit Union on Main St.) to pick up a copy of *THE SILVERY SLOCAN HERITAGE TOUR GUIDEBOOK*, or a *SANDON PAYSTREAK* newspaper, and maybe even some helpful advice and handy tips about things to do in the area!

Passmore Lodge showcases 11 women artists

The summer show is up at Passmore Lodge and is not to be missed. The show runs until September 18 and features 11 women artists.

Veronica Pellerine meticulously portrays local Castlegar scenes using fabric and machine embroidery. Sandra Donohue is showing three watercolours with local flavour, including a whimsical "Stinkbug, Kootenay Creeper." Christina Smith has brought along a dozen colorful prints, as well as "Gaia," using oil paints. Joanna Busch brings nature alive in acrylics. Naomi Lewis brings not only her stunning bronze work but also some provocative nudes done with acrylic and charcoal. Elly Scheepens is displaying her ceramic tiles of local sites, "Kootenay Historical Collectibles." Cynthia Sprout reveals another of her curious collages, "La Playa." Pippa Dean-Veerman offers a couple of her singular displays as well as "Ritual and Reflections," a photograph that takes one through the looking glass. Gay Caryn Saunders ingeniously mixes watercolours and iris dye to paint irises. A woven blanket by Dianne Carter entices fingers to touch. Cindy Collins captures nature's rich detail with a number of acrylics with twinned prints, and watercoloured flowers.

Sales go directly to artists and are offered at a variety of prices for any art connoisseur. Also on display are a new collection of batiks, donated to the Lodge by Vaki Studios.

Passmore Lodge is located at 3650 Old Passmore Road, north of Slocan Park.

For further information or to view call 226-7327 or 226-6860.

GOLF COURSES

•Slocan Lake Golf Course,
New Denver **Phone: (250) 358-2408**
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE , OPEN 7 AM TO DARK
GREEN FEES: **$16.00**/9-holes, **$25.00**/18-holes,
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Power cart: **$15.00**/9-holes **$25.00**/18-holes. *All prices include tax*
RESTAURANT: 8 AM TO 8 PM (LICENSED)
2004 TOURNAMENTS: Club Opening, Sun. May 1: $15.00
• May Day Open, Sat. May. 21: $15 members/$25.00 non-members
• YRB (private) Sat. June 11 • $15.00 • Legion Tournament, June 12
• Johnny Tier, Sat. June 18: $15.00 • Junior Two Ball, TBA
• Ladies' Fun, TBA • Club Championship, June 25-26: $15.00
• Cancer Research, Sat. July 9: $20.00
• Club Open, Sat. Aug. 14: $40.00 members / $50 non-members*
• Bushwackers, Sat. Sept. 10: $10.00
• Club Closing, Sat. Sept. 25: $15.00.
(* fee includes dinner)

• Valley View Golf Club,
Winlaw **Phone: (250) 226-7241;**
toll free: 1-877-324-GOLF
Discover golfing at its finest at Valley View. Licensed lounge & restaurant open April through October. Catering and dinner meetings available on request. Everyone welcome.
GREEN FEES: **$18**/9-holes, **$25**/18-holes RENTALS: Power and pull-carts available. Juniors' Night Monday at 4:00. Two-for-one golf Fridays after 2:00 pm followed by our famous WING NIGHT! Men's Night Thursdays, Seniors' Monday Mornings, Juniors' Monday Afternoons. For more information, call: (250) 226-7241.

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Get Outta Town!

with Peter Roulston

Keeping to the unstraight and narrow

Since moving to my place in New Denver, I've spent really no time at all recreating in the Naksup area as I used to when I was always there. One ride I liked to do from Nakusp was up the Hot springs Road to stop for a snack at the pool, then ride back down the historic horse trail on the south side of Kuskanax Creek. The paved ride up on a clunky mountain bike was a little tiresome, but then allowed for the trail ride home...

From my front porch in New Denver, I see a frequent flow of road cyclists streaming past on both ultra light speedy bikes and also numerous fully loaded bike tourists. I decided to try the ride to the Nakusp pool from downtown on my touring bike, which is old, reliable and has 18 speeds, low bars and sturdier tires. This rig gives nice road performance but can slam down gravelled roads or easy trails if the need arises or if I elect to take refuge on the road shoulder when things get tense.

From the marina parking lot in Nakusp, the ride up to the pool takes me a bit under an hour and I can duck into the bathroom there first if I need to and also grab snack food from one of the tempting outlets along Broadway Street. This ride does involve an amount of climbing right from the time that you pass the post office, but the hills are in stages with lots of less steeps to allow partial recovery at least! This tour is not straight and is narrow like most of our Kootenay roads, so wear high visibility clothing and ride reasonably.

I'd forgotten how smooth and consistent the pavement now finally is for the entire ride up to the pool, and the tour is sure way easy on smoother high pressure tires. Plenty of small changes to peer at during this ride, but for the most part the traffic is light and you can let your attention drift off. The aspect here is due south and I did this ride last week on that one good day with the temperature pushing 30 degrees.

I suppose as a tired rider you can go in the pool for a soak, which is the whole idea of having this nice paved road, but I felt perky enough after a coffee and snack and was already pretty warm and wet from the ride up from town. The springs are looking really fine with recent landscaping and the spacious campground, which we tend not to notice if only going to the pool in wintertime. Plenty of tourists haul bikes with them and could at least ride downtown from their campsite here and shuttle back up if they choose to.

The ride back to Nakusp is exhilarating and scenic with just the one adverse grade near the Gardiner Creek crossing. Everyone in Nakusp knows this road well already but may not have done it as a ride, and if you want to get visiting riders out of your hair for a while, this is an easy route to identify. If you do go for a soak in the pool before the return ride, be sure to drink a TON of water because you'll be so dehydrated and not well conditioned for the speedy ride back home.

After 20 years of dominance of the bicycle world by mountain style bikes, there is a refreshing return to road riding with its lack of damage to the earth and the pure steady demand on your stamina of long pavement outings. In my shop I see more old ten-speed bikes coming in for tune-ups, fresh tires and a new lease on life on the road. I also like the idea of taking that sweet older mountain bike you bought years ago and being set up with slicker tires and better bars and saddle for road use. There's lots of opportunity for changeovers and upgrades in the bicycle world, mechanically speaking.

Unlike many parts of the world where bicycles are really an essential part of the traffic mosaic, here in Canada and for sure in the Kootenays, most of us have cars and trucks dominant in our daily lives and the bike is for the fun times and fitness. It's July now and the summer holidays are here, so dig out that dear dusty bike you've always hung onto, hose it off, pump it up and get out there riding.

Peter Roulston lives in New Denver and has owned the Bicycle Hospital near Nakusp since 1992.

Hwy 31A unsafe for motorcycles

The sun has peaked through the ascending cloud layer for the first time in many days and my old Electro Glide sits idle in her garage with a fresh oil change. To add to the temptation, school has finished – my life is my own again, and one of the Kootenay's biggest biker bashes was happening this past weekend at Toad Rock.

There's a huge problem though – they've killed the best motorcycle road in British Columbia, if not the whole country, and unfortunately it is the only reasonable way that I could make my way over the hump from New Denver to Kaslo and down to the party.

I heard about the death of the road from some bikers from Calgary a few weeks ago, but I didn't believe the stories until I tried it myself. They are right – it's dead and a big sign should go up – ROAD UNSAFE FOR MOTORCYCLE TRAFFIC.

If one really wanted to discourage motorcyclists from using the Kaslo - New Denver road, a good method would be to leave in all the potholes, cracks and uneven surface, as has been the policy to date. The second best way would be to grease the road with tar and then cover that over with pea gravel the same colour as the road, so you can't see the danger. Better yet, put this slippery mess right around corners where nobody will expect it. This is what they did and this is what has killed the road.

I was prepared when I set off for Kaslo to check the validity of the rumours. I was lucky to come back in one piece. I even saw the road signs that indicated that there was gravel on the road. It didn't help much. I felt the back wheel spin out as I gingerly tried to maneuver around the corners. It took all my skill to keep things upright and not go crashing into the river below. The sun slanting through the trees made the gravel over the slippery tar impossible to see and two wheels are not enough to maintain stability on these types of traps.

On my return trip to New Denver, you might think it would be better because I would at least be prepared for the slime. I have to say that it didn't help much. I still found myself in back wheel slides and death defying antics. I was glad to make it to the lakes where the road became normal.

The New Denver - Kaslo road has been written up in many journals and magazines as one of the best mountain roads for bikers in the country. I personally know many people that take their holidays in this area to ride the Monashee and the Kaslo - New Denver highways. They come from all over North America to experience some of the best riding on the continent. To kill this road is not just shortsighted, it is inexcusable.

Those that are given the responsibility to maintain the roads in this area must be made aware of the fact that it is not just logging trucks and cars that ply these roads. Motorcyclists use them as well. Road conditions matter to us. Traction can be a matter of life and death, as we don't have those two extra wheels to rely on. If there are cracks and potholes in the road due to poor maintenance, fix them properly or don't fix them at all. The worst thing you can do is to cover them over with slime and pea gravel.

The road is dead – long live the road!

Notes from the RCMP

THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ARE BASED ON PRESS RELEASES AND MAY HAVE BEEN EDITED

Nakusp detachment

•A load of cedar logs spilled into the ditch about 11 kms north of Nakusp on Hwy 23 on June 29 at about 1 pm. The tires on the left side of the semi-tractor trailer unit left the road surface as the driver entered a curve. In attempting to right the trailer, the driver sideswiped the concrete embankment, causing the logs to spill. The driver was able to keep the vehicle on the road and sustained no injuries. The Nakusp Fire Department attended and cleaned up a diesel spill that came from the vehicle's gas tanks. Traffic was reduced to one lane until the vehicle was removed from the roadway. Speed was believed to be a factor.

Slocan Lake detachment

•The owner of a stolen ATV is offering a $1000 reward for information leading to the safe return of his vehicle. The man, an Alberta resident, was staying at the Valhalla Inn in New Denver. When he woke up on the morning of June 15, he discovered that his brand new ATV had been stolen off the back of his truck. The quad is a green 2005 Yamaha Kodiak 450 4x4. It has a winch, hand warmers, racks and a trailer hitch. Anyone with information is asked to call Slocan Lake RCMP at 358-2222.

Nelson rural detachment

•Two newer model ATVs were stolen from the 1000 block of Playmor Road between June 24 and 25. Thieves managed to cut the lock of a secure compound and take the two quads, one green and the other silver. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Nelson RCMP at 352-2156 or CrimeStoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

•Over 650 marihuana plants and several rifles, including an assault rifle, and a loaded 9 mm handgun were seized from a residence in the 3700 block of Upper Passmore Road on June 23 at about 3:30 pm when the Nelson RCMP executed a search warrant. The 36-year-old male occupant was taken into custody without incident. He was later released and will be appearing in Nelson court on August 16. Police will be recommending charges for the production of marihuana, possession of unregistered firearms and unsafe storage of firearms.

•A 2004 Yamaha motorcycle was stolen from the car port of a home in Crescent Valley on June 14. It is a blue 450 cc bike. It was taken during broad daylight and appears to have been ridden away from the scene. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Nelson RCMP or CrimeStoppers. The RCMP would like to remind people to secure their sporting and recreational equipment when not in use and to engrave items with their driver's license number.

Junior golf wraps up season

Junior golfer Mike Hicks of New Denver is an alternate on the Zone 1 West BC Junior Boys Team after placing fifth in the final standings on the junior circuit with 210 points for the season. The provincial team plays at Powell River July 5-8.

Four other of our area's young golfers made the top 20 in the final standings. Tory Zaytsoff of Valley View placed 13th with 154 points; Nyle Mulkey-Chose of Kaslo placed 15th with 152 points; Dylan Tappin of Slocan Lake was 17th with 139 points; and Havill Leitch of Nakusp finished 20th with 120 points.

Mike Hicks and Nyle Mulkey-Chose both won the Barry Crispin Sportsmanship Award. Crispin was a young golfer from Balfour who passed away at 18 years of age from leukemia in 1997 while attending his first year of college. All juniors should aspire to have his dedication, etiquette and honesty towards all players. He will always be remembered and this award is a very special one to receive.

Calvin Reitmeier and Darren Hicks both earned the Keith McMillan Most Dedicated Award. McMillan still volunteers for the juniors, depite battling an illness. This award rewards juniors that just keep on working on their game in spite of some down days.

Havill Leitch of Nakusp received an Honourable Mention in the Most Improved category.

This was Nyle Mulkey-Chose's final season on the junior circuit.

Nyle Mulkey-Chose won the Barry Crispin Sportsmanship Award in his final season of junior golf.

The Slocan Valley Legion #275 held its West Kootenay Zone Fun Golf on June 12 at the Slocan Lake Golf Course. Winners of the Legion Zone Trophies, L to R: Men's Low Gross - Mike Waag (70); Women's Low Gross - Judy Gran (92); Women's Low Net - Lorelei Weinerth (77); Men's Low Net - William Mott (72). Other results were: Men's Longest Drive - Mike Waag; Women's longest Drive - Judy Gran; Men's Closest to the Pin - Ron McMillan; Women's Closest to the Pin - Anita Michiels.

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GOT A GREAT BUSINESS IDEA? Have you always dreamed of starting your own business but weren't too sure how to go about it? Community Futures is now offering appointments in Nakusp and New Denver on Thursdays (by appointment). Please contact Farhana at the Nakusp Outreach on 265-3674 x 311 or email nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to the Slocan Fire Department for their actions in preventing the spread of the fire that destroyed our main building & office. Many thanks to the volunteers and community groups that helped us in our time of trouble.

Tamara & Chris - The Slocan Motel

Thanks to Slocan First Response and Winlaw Ambulance. We wish to send great thanks and gratitude to the Slocan First Response Team and to the Winlaw Ambulance service. The response we, the Palmason family, received from you on June 9 was outstanding and just plain wonderful. Thank you from the depths of our hearts for your compassion and your help. You not only gave Grace help when she was in need, but you gave us, the family, a great calm with your presence. So again, sincere thanks and gratitude from the Palmason Family; you are a great asset to our community. Deb and Vera, thank you for your support and for your help when we needed you. Thank you dearly one and all.

The Palmason Family - Slocan

I'm not sure if aging gives one the privilege of being slow at doing things but I really want everyone who acknowledged my birthday to know how very much it meant to me — and my family with their surprises and love — it was so special to me. It was all a surprise, the first one being birthday cake and balloons at the golf course — thank you girls! Then waking up on the 1st of June with balloons on the trees out front. It prompted my long-time neighbour to phone over and sing Happy Birthday to me — special because I had been to his 97th birthday party. Then to answer a knock at the door — my son and family from Ladysmith standing there, and later a special cousin from Salt Spring Island. The following day, my other granddaughter Tracey from Vancouver. To have my three children, my six granddaughters and three great grandsons and also my brother Dan and wife Donna, some long-time friends here and out of town...Wonderful! Thank you to my family for making it such a wonderful time in my life.

I forget a lot of things, but never this special occasion! To those who don't know what year it was — I told you, I forget a lot of things!

Marguerite Thring

COMING EVENTS

The Slocan Lake Garden Tour – Sunday, July 10, 10 am– 4 pm Starts in New Denver and goes north to Hills and Summit Lake. Interpretative tours at the Kohan Reflection Garden at 10 am, 1 and 3 pm and a Bonzai Demonstration at 11 am and 2 pm. Watch for signs on Highway 6.

HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY - Bev Landry - weavings & dyed fabric, paintings. July 6-11. Reception - July 6, 7-9 pm. Koko's "A Touch of Blu" July 13-18. Celebrate with the artist July 17, 7-9 pm. Events funded, in part, by the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance.

PLAYMOR FLEA MARKET now featuring live entertainment! Enjoy the much talented singers and musicians, have a bite to eat, or find that "treasure" from our varied and creative vendors! A fun time for everyone. Open every Sunday until October 16, 9 am - 3 pm. Interested in renting a space? Call Naida at 359-7512 for more info.

Le BIBLIOBUS de l'AFKO visitera Nakusp pour fêter le 14 juillet! Il sera à l'auberge internationale le jeudi 14 juillet, 17h-19h. (Pot-luck) Info: Bianca, 265-2208. Venez célébrer avec nous!

ART COLLECTORS! On Sunday, July 17, Silverton Gallery presents a 10 am Sunday Brunch at the Silverton Heritage Country Inn followed by a lecture at Silverton Gallery by Paul Crawford, the owner of the Crawford Collection. The price for a ticket to the lecture is $20 and includes brunch. Tickets can be purchased at Silverton Gallery. Call John White at 358-2760 for information or to reserve tickets.

FRIDAY MARKET IN NEW DENVER. Happens every Friday downtown, 10 am to 2 pm. Featuring locally grown produce, herbs, flowers, artisan's wares and homegrown valley culture. Info: 358-7733 or fridaymarket@netidea.com.

NOTICE!!! The next regular Bingo will be held on Thursday, July 14th, 2005 at the Silverton Memorial Hall at 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by Slocan Lake Arena Society.

WALK/RUN FOR FUN around Summit Lake, hosted by Three Island Resort. Come out and walk, run or cycle the 10 kms around beautiful Summit Lake on Sunday, July 10. Walk begins at 9 am sharp; registration ($5) begins at 8 am. After the walk, gather at the resort for refreshments and prizes. This is the 9th annual, and is a fundraising event for the Arrow Lakes Hospital. So come on out and participate for your own and others' health!

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HELP WANTED

Training, Degree in social work, psychology, education, child and youth care or closely related field, Current Driver's License with liability Insurance, Must have capability to send and receive e-mails DAILY. Please fax resumes atten: Administrator WKVRS by Friday July 15th (250) 265-0176 or e-mail wkvrs@columbiacable.net. Thanks in advance to all applicants, however only those considered will be notified.

SUMMER STUDENT JOB - Sandon Museum. Must be continuing education in the fall. 30 hours/week for the summer months. Help bring history to life, meet people from around the world. E-mail resumé to: shs@slocanlake.com or phone 358-7965.

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NOTICES

GET YOURSELF ON THE COMMUNITY SERVICES MAP! If you offer a service (however small) to the Slocan Valley community in the areas of Food, Housing, Health, Business, Finance, Transportation, Education, Culture, Recreation or Arts

NOTICES

Services, please send name, contact information and brief description to Asset Mapping, Box 41, Winlaw, BC. V0G 2J0 or email laverne@net idea.com by JULY 15, 2005.

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In a fast world, the small church has remained stable;
In an expensive world, the small church has remained plain;
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FOR INFORMATION ON AA MEETINGS in New Denver and adjacent towns, call Dave at 358-7265.

PLAYSCHOOL PRE-REGISTRATION for children aged 30 months to 5 years for New Denver Nursery School's awesome playschool program for the 2005/06 school year: 358-7218. Space is limited.

OBITUARY

NORMAN: On July 1, 2005 The Lord called Peter home to join his wife after 34 years. Together they have left to cherish their memories six children; Nancy (Darcy), Charlene, Debbie, Linda, Peter (Rhonda) and Pam; grandchildren Theresa, Owen, April, Randi, Kari, Jordan, Aleaha, Eric, Courtney, Danny, Kayla, Peter III, Ben, Joshua, Anthony, Robert, and Michael; great grandchildren Cori, Ryan, Krissy, Cass, Bailey, Baby X-Man, and Hunter; two brothers Carl and Johnny Norman; numerous brothers in law, sisters in law, nieces and nephews. Peter was predeceased by his parents Lilja and Gisli Norman; one brother Chris Norman; two sisters Inga McMaster and Laura Hiebert; one daughter Cheryl, and his beloved wife Marie Theresa Norman (nee Morin). Peter came into this world at Arborg, MB on August 3, 1930. Peter was raised in the Northern parts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and married Marie Theresa on August 15, 1959, together raising seven children. After being a hard worker in the mines, Peter's biggest joy in life while retired, was farming. He liked watching Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune, and always commented while watching the weather channel that being the weather man was the only job where you could be wrong and still keep your job. He watched them all faithfully for years. Peter loved to teach his grandchildren how to fish, play cribbage, snowmobiling, and learn the adventures of life. All the grandchildren enjoyed their summers with Grampa Pete. Pete and Theresa over the years finally settled in New Denver, B.C. to raise their family. They loved the mountains and the beauty of British Columbia, so it was truly fitting following Theresa's death May 24, 1971, that the children honour their father's deepest wish that he be laid to rest with the truest love of his life, our mother. We will always miss the love, support and strength he gave to us, his children. It would be greatly appreciated that any memorial donations be made to the Canadian Cancer Society, as we lost both of our parents to cancer.

Love, the Norman children.

Visitation will be held at Thompson Funeral Service on Wednesday, July 6, 2005 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in Nakusp, BC. The Graveside Service will be held on Thursday, July 7, 2005 at 2:00 pm at the New Denver Cemetery, New Denver, B.C. A Memorial Service will then be held in Flin Flon, MB on Monday, July 11, 2005 at the Lutheran Church on 2nd Avenue at 2:00 pm. Email condolences may be sent to mail@saskatoonfuneralhome.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Saskatoon Funeral Home (306) 244-5577 and Thompson's Funeral Service (250) 352-1745.

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SOCCER CAMP FOR KIDS - July 11-15th at Bonnington Park, July 11-15th at Winlaw School

CIRQUE DU PLAY - With Safire Jones. Perfect your circus skills! July 18th to 22nd at Bonnington Park, July 25th-29th. at WE Graham School

YOUTH KAYAKING WEEK - Ages 14 & older. Crescent Valley.July 11th-15th 9:00-noon. Fee:$160/5 sessions (inc. everything).

SUMMER FUN IN FRENCH - A week of nothing but fun in French. With Andre Derias. July 25th to 29th.

AND THEY CALL IT ART? - Monster self portraits, river eco-art, body painting. With Evelyn Kirkaldy. July 25-29th. Slocan Park Hall.

WOMEN'S KAYAKING WEEK - Crescent Valley.July 11th-15th. 1:00-4:00 p.m. Fee:$199/5 sessions (inc. everything).

CALL 226-0008

Slocan River Streambank Restoration applications approved

Nine applications for funding through the Slocan River Riparian Restoration Program have been approved.

This is the first year of the program, which offers funding to private landowners and community-based groups to protect and rehabilitate riparian areas along the Slocan River. The goal of the program is to improve long-term fish habitat in the Slocan River through streambank restoration.

Thirteen applications were received, and nine were recommended for funding by a steering committee with members from Columbia Power Corporation, the Slocan River Streamkeepers, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Ministry of Environment, and the Canadian Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission.

"We were happy with the large response from the community in spite of the short time frame, and impressed by the thought and effort that went into the submissions," said Audrey Repin, Manager of Community Relations for Columbia Power Corporation. "We would especially like to thank the Slocan River Streamkeepers for their dedication to the Slocan River Riparian Restoration Program. The calibre of this year's applications was due largely to their efforts. They encouraged people to apply, met with most of the applicants, and acted as community liaisons."

Most of the approved projects involve planting trees and shrubs to stabilize banks and to provide shade for fish. The projects are scattered along the length of the river, from the Slocan City area down to Slocan Park. Funding amounts varied from $650 to $6000. Most of the money will go towards purchasing trees.

Each of the approved projects will be monitored at regular intervals. A detailed evaluation of the entire program will be completed in 2010 to assess whether there have been clearly demonstrated improvements in riparian function.

Tom Bradley, President of the Slocan River Streamkeepers, said this first run of the project proposal process was very successful. "Our Restoration Committee members did a great job with limited resources. We learned a lot about how to do this program, about the enthusiasm for riparian restoration in the community, and about the huge potential for restoration along the Slocan River. We're looking forward to seeing the projects completed, and then to 2006 and beyond," he said.

Although the call for applications has not yet been issued for 2006 funding, prospective applicants are encouraged to start thinking about projects and meet with the Streamkeepers to discuss ideas.

Columbia Power Corporation and Columbia Basin Trust, through their subsidiary Brilliant Expansion Power Corporation, have committed to provide $20,000 per year to the Slocan River Riparian Restoration Program. For more information, visit www.columbiapower.org or call 250-365-8585.

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