The Valley VOICE

Free!

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

PHOTO CREDIT: KOOTENAY VIRTUAL TOURS

Tammy Friedenberger and Jolisa Godmark from Nakusp won the women's division of the Build, Bail and Sail on Sunday, July 31 at the Nakusp public beach.

Fauquier asks for its money from the Fighting Back Fund

by Jan McMurray

Organizers of the Fighting Back Ferry Defense Fund (FBF) will soon be asked to reimburse what's left of Fauquier's $7,000 contribution.

This decision was made at the July 23 RDCK meeting, on a motion put forward by Area K Director Paul Peterson.

The fund was set up in 2002 by Bill Cowan of Nakusp, Bonnie Greensword of New Denver and Ron Volansky of Fauquier to pay for a court case against the Province. They launched a lawsuit to get the Province to make good on its 50-year-old promise to put in a bridge at Needles, and to restore full ferry service on the Arrow Lakes without tolls. FBF organizers do not want to withdraw the lawsuit and reimburse funds until the contract to build the bridge has been awarded.

Peterson says the community of Fauquier had now directed him twice to request its portion of the FBF back. "I have now done that and I have mixed feelings about it," he said. "In no way do I want to dishonour Bonnie, Bill and Ron's good intentions. However, with less than $50,000 left [in the FBF], I do not think the provincial government will be intimidated by a lawsuit for breaking a promise. If the provincial government ever let a precedent like that be set, they would be bankrupt in a minute, considering how many promises they have broken over the last 20 years."

Cowan says that out of all who contributed to the fund (Village of Nakusp, Defined Area K, New Denver, Fauquier and several private citizens), Fauquier is the only one reluctant to continue. He, Greensword and Volansky had not had a chance to meet about this before press time, but Cowan said he'd just as soon "wash his hands of Fauquier" if this was truly what the majority of Fauqier residents were asking for. "Partnerships and co-operation have to go both ways," he said.

Peterson first put forward the motion to ask for Fauquier's money back at an RDCK meeting last spring. In response, FBF organizers held a public meeting in Fauquier on September 16 last year to ask them to stick with it. They said it was important that the government see the communities standing together on the issue. They also pointed out that if the lawsuit were dropped, the community would have no legal recourse if the government decided to reneg on the bridge.

At that meeting, the community agreed to hold off until July of this year, because it was thought that the contract would have been awarded by then. It has not been. The project has been delayed while the government tries to bring the cost of building the bridge down. The project cost came in way over budget, at $64 million, due to the rising cost of steel.

At Fauquier's community meeting this past spring, the community voted again overwhelmingly in favour of asking for its money back, even though the contract had not been awarded.

Greensword said that the FBF group's position has always been that all contributors to the fund will be reimbursed once the contract to build the bridge has been awarded and payment has been made on that contract. She says that they will ask the government to forego the court costs, so that contributors will get all but the legal fees back. "The money will be pro-rated and the funds returned," she said.

"Premier Campbell has said publicly that he will build the bridge, so we feel assured that it's going to go forward. Everybody will be reimbursed. Now we would like to know from the Ministry the date that it will be tendered."

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

Subaru ploughs through the mud at Nakusp 's Mud Racing on the weekend.

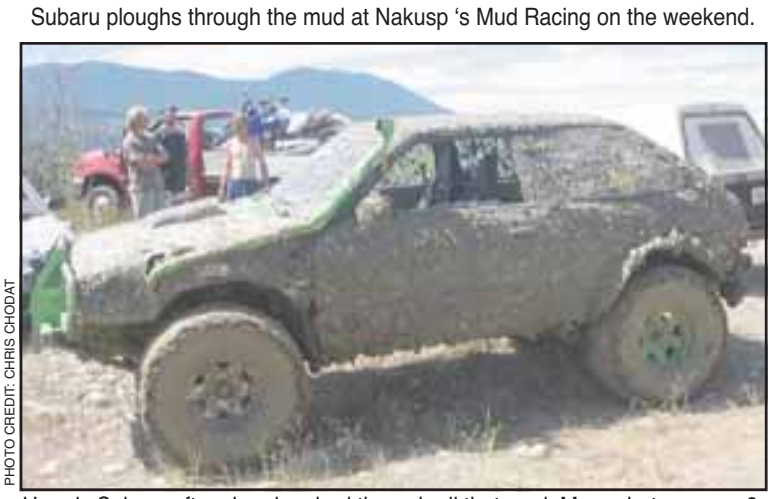

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

Here is Subaru after she ploughed through all that mud. More photos, page 8.

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

Jesse Cook headlined the Kaslo Jazz Fest this year. Details on page 9.

COUNTRY FURNITURE & HOME DECOR

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New Denver cyclists participate in Transalp competition again

For the second time, New Denverite Jorg Becker and Doug Nottebrock, a former Slocan Valley doctor now living in Kelowna, teamed up to represent Canada in the Jeantex-TOUR-Transalp Bicycle Road Race 2005. The start for this grueling seven-stage race was on June 26 in Oberammergau in southern Germany and led the field of 530 teams (of two) from 20 countries through Austria and Switzerland to the shores of Lake Garda in northern Italy.

The route was different this year but by no means less challenging. The 800-km race took the competitors over 18 of the toughest passes in the European Alps, for a total of 18,810 meters of climbing. The highest pass was the Passo di Stelvio in the Dolomites, which equals with its 2761 meters the elevation of the New Denver glacier.

To describe the race to us in the Kootenays, Becker said, "You have to imagine riding a bike from New Denver to Trail every day for seven days straight and climbing Idaho Peak and the glacier every time along the way. It is a serious challenge, physically and mentally."

The weather conditions this year added to the challenge. During the first three days the temperature rose to 39°C, making the long and steep climbs even more strenuous. Then a dramatic change saw the thermometer plummet to just 3°, with a light snowstorm on Passo Gavia, stage six.

"Coming down at high speed, only dressed in my light cycling outfit, made this the coldest day ever experienced on my bike," recalls Becker.

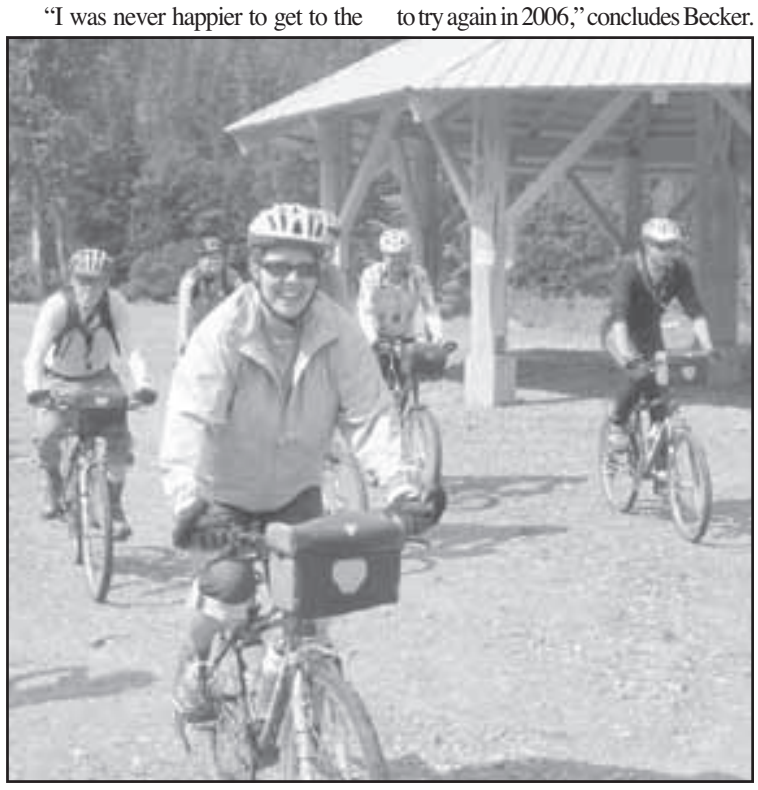
"I was never happier to get to the next big climb just to warm up,"adds Nottebrock with a smile.

But the beauty of the alps with their charming alpine villages, the professional race conditions and atmosphere, the enthusiastic crowds lining the roads, and the camaraderie among the international group of cyclists again made the week an unforgettable adventure.

To train for this event, Nottebrock and Becker followed a scientific training plan and had both spent 230 hours on their bikes this year before leaving for Europe. Both felt in great shape and were always riding in the first quarter of the big field. Only a considerable time loss for Becker, caused by three flat tires in one day, and the subsequent wait for the service car during stage three kept Team Maple Leaf from finishing the race within the top 100.

"Well, it means that we might have to try again in 2006," concludes Becker.

Doug Nottebrock and Jorg Becker cross the finish line of the Transalp bicycle race, a 800-km race through 20 countries from Germany to Italy, over 18 of Europe's most challenging mountain passes.



Klaus Gattner of West Canada Bike Tours brought the first commercial cycling tour to the Slocan Valley Rail Trail this summer on June 15. The group of 14 German visitors did a three-week 'rail trail tour' to Hope. On June 14, they cycled the Galena Trail from Summit Lake to Three Forks and on June 15, the Slocan Valley Rail Trail from the beautiful new gazebo at the trailhead at Slocan to Slocan Park. From there, they cycled the Columbia & Western from Castlegar to Midway and the Kettle Valley to Hope.

Hike in old growth rainforest

This summer, concerned citizens are organizing research hikes and camping trips in the Incomappleaux, Lardeau and Duncan valleys. The goal is to document some of the last intact stands of old growth interior rainforest that still exist in the many tributaries that make up these vast drainages.

The first expedition meets at the Beaton beach on the evening of July 22 on the northeast reach of Arrow Lake. The following morning, hikes will be organized for various levels of ability. Hikes are ongoing throughout the summer.

Creeks such as McDougle, Boyd, Mohawk, and Johnsonson in the Incomappleaux, and Mountain Goat Creek on the Lardeau are the last chance for old growth dependent species such as Mountain Caribou.

For more information on the hikes call the EcoSociety at 354-1909 or Tom Prior at 354-4482

Corky Evans opens office

Nelson-Creston MLA Corky Evans opened his constituency office on July 14. It is on the upper floor of the Kootenay Trading Company building on the corner of Stanley and Baker in Nelson.

The office is open 10 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday. He can also be contacted at 354-5944, corky.evans.mla@leg.bc.ca or #204-402 Baker Street, Nelson, BC V1L 4H8.

slocanlake.com

SLOCAN DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CORPORATE RETREATS
We will be having a working meeting in September for those interested in this project.

chamber@slocanlake.com

Valley Summer
While we are all having a busy summer season, let's keep a couple of things in mind:

- Check the Bulletin Board on slocanlake.com for local info.
- The Chamber wants to act as a co-ordinating body for local groups' efforts.
- Any ideas for a fall event to make the Garlic Festival part of a bigger valley splash?

Conservative Party of Canada

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

The Conservative Partyís B.C. Southern Interior riding association is looking for a candidate to replace retiring M.P. Jim Gouk.

Nominations are now open for potential candidates and will be closing on September 3, 2005 .

Candidates need not be current members of the Conservative party, but must hold conservative views and meet specific criteria as to ability, trustworthiness, and electability to become a Member of Parliament.
.
All persons selected will compete in an open meeting election before Southern Interior Party Members in September.

Interested persons or those wishing to propose potential candidates are invited to contact search committee member Reg Gabriel 498-6183

Gearing up for a federal election

by Jan McMurray

A federal election is in the air and the Southern Interior riding now has an NDP candidate and two people vying for the Conservative candidacy.

Alex Atamanenko will be the NDP candidate for the second time in a row. A retired Castlegar resident, he narrowly missed the race against incumbent MP Jim Gouk in the last election.

Since Gouk announced that he will not be seeking a fifth term as our Conservative Party MP, two men have stepped up to the plate. Derek Zeisman, newly appointed manager of communications for the Columbia Basin Trust, says he intends to build on Gouk's legacy by carrying on his tradition of people-driven politics, where local constituents and their needs and concerns always come first. Zeisman lives in Trail.

Oliver area businessman Robert Zandee has also announced that he will be seeking the nomination for the Conservative Party in the Southern Interior. He says he will continue Gouk's tradition of openness, accessibility and accountability.

Nominations for the Conservative candidacy close September 3. Ballots will be cast at eight different meetings around the riding. Final results will be announced on September 25.

Mayor of Silverton Tim Wiseman presents Don Caissie with his retirement gift. Caissie retired May 1 after a 15-year career as Silverton's Public Works Foreman.

Young Rosebery man dies in logging accident

Eugene Huss, a 24-year-old male from Rosebery, died on July 28 as a result of injuries sustained in a logging accident.

The crew, from Reitmeier Logging, was working in the Rogers Creek area east of Nakusp. While Huss was retrieving logs on a mountain slope, a large boulder became dislodged, travelled down the slope and struck him as he was attempting to get out of the way.

BC Air Ambulance and Nakusp RCMP attended the scene. BC Coroner's Service and Workers Compensation Board continue to investigate the accident.

Silverton's Regional District representative disqualified

by Jan McMurray

The Village of Silverton is lacking representation at the regional table.

No Silverton representative has attended any RDCK board or committee meeting for the past four months. According to the Community Charter, an RDCK director who is absent from four regular meetings in a row is disqualified unless the absence is because of illness or injury, or unless the director applies for a leave of absence.

On July 19, Silverton's RDCK representative Roy Duncan applied for a leave to be absent from the July and August meetings, due to work commitments. He had already been absent from the April, May and June meetings. At the July 23 RDCK meeting, his leave was turned down. Because the July meeting was the fourth consecutive meeting he had missed, he was automatically disqualified as director.

In a letter to Silverton council dated July 25, RDCK Manager of Corporate Administration Dawn Attorp gives notification of the board's decision to not approve Duncan's leave and of his resulting disqualification as director. The letter states that the board's concern extends to the non-attendance of his designated alternate, Linda Laktin, as well. It also says that the Village is now required to appoint a new RDCK director.

At the Village of Silverton's regular meeting of July 26, Duncan told council that he wanted to step down as RDCK director, as his work did not allow him the time to attend meetings.

Following Duncan's announcement, Silverton Councillor Michael Dorsey, who was Silverton's RDCK director from December 2002 until May 25, 2004, made a motion that he return to that position. Mayor Wiseman said he wanted "more time to look into it" and that he was against the motion. It was defeated, with Dorsey and Duncan in favour and Laktin, Councillor Huether and Mayor Wiseman opposed.

Last year, at the Village's May 25 regular council meeting, Dorsey was stripped of all of his appointments and Duncan was given the RDCK appointment, with Linda Laktin as alternate. At that time, Mayor Wiseman said that the reasons for taking away Dorsey's appointments were *in camera*.

At that same May 25, 2004 meeting, Silverton Mayor Wiseman was appointed to the Economic Development Commission (EDC), the other regional body that requires municipal representation. Wiseman has attended only one EDC meeting, on June 18, 2004.

Comprehensive service directory for West Kootenay released

A comprehensive directory of community services for the entire West Kootenay Boundary region, produced by the Trail Family and Individual Resources (FAIR) Centre Society, is now available in print as well as online in a searchable database format.

The print version of the directory is almost 600 pages with over 1,000 entries organized according to the type of service offered. Online, the information is available at www.trailfair.ca/csd.

Contact information and program descriptions are included for organizations in communities from Bridesville to Grand Forks and Christina Lake, Greater Trail, Castlegar, Salmo, Nelson, Kaslo, the Slocan Valley, New Denver and the Nakusp areas. Where appropriate, information is also included about services and resources outside the region in larger centres such as Victoria or Vancouver.

Topics include: Emergency and Financial Assistance, Crisis Intervention, Counselling and Support, Family Life, Parenting and Childcare, Health Care, Mental Health, Addictions, Education and Literacy, Government, Legal, Advocacy and Human Rights, Housing and Residential Support, Employment and Business Resources, Arts, Culture, Libraries and Religious contacts, plus a whole lot more!

Gail Lavery, FAIR's Executive Director, hopes that "libraries, city and regional district offices, chambers of commerce, employment offices, health centres, community services groups, school counsellors and many others will purchase the directory and link their organization's website to the online database so that important local resources and services will become better known and more fully utilized by those who need the assistance."

Copies of the print version of the Directory can be obtained from the Trail FAIR Centre Society at a cost ranging from $65 to $85 depending on the size of the group or organization's annual budget.

Nakusp to Kaslo trail planning moves ahead

submitted

Three meetings held over the past year on securing the rail corridors and wagon roads between Kaslo and Nakusp as a public recreation facility have determined that there is public support for the initiative.

A steering committee has been established to co-ordinate the efforts of the local groups that will eventually manage sections of the trail. The committee has met twice and will meet again in the fall or sooner to keep the ball rolling.

As has happened in the past, discussions at the three public meetings, held in Nakusp and New Denver, soon turned to whether the trails would be restricted to non-motorized use or whether all users would have access. People spoke frankly about their hopes and concerns for the future of the project.

At the last meeting in New Denver, there was concern that the Galena Trail Commission was sponsoring the meetings and that perhaps the Commission's long-term agenda was to make the entire Nakusp to Kaslo trail non-motorized. Chair Jeff Bustard says he understands this concern. "We want everyone to understand that our purpose is to establish these corridors as public resources, before a section of the trail is sold or otherwise alienated from public use. Once a link is removed from a chain, it is no longer of much use," he said.

To address this concern, the Galena Trail Commission passed a resolution which reads: "That we resolve to pursue the feasibility of multiple use on the non-designated sections of rail corridors within Area H." This means that whatever sections are now designated as non-motorized are planned to stay that way. All other sections will be planned as multiple use where possible.

Anyone interested in making a donation of time or money to the project, contact Bustard at galena@slocanlake.com.

Columbia Basin Trust hires new communications manager

CASTLEGAR - The Columbia Basin Trust has hired Derek Zeisman as CBT's new manager of communications.

Zeisman has an extensive background in communications and public relations. A former editor of the Castlegar Sun, he has also worked as a communications assistant to Kootenay West-Revelstoke MP Jim Gouk, media relations officer at Agriculture Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, public affairs officer at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and director of communications at the Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers.

With the need to improve communications as the most pressing message from Basin residents at the recent CBT symposium, Zeisman has stepped into a very important position, but one he is more than willing to take on.

"I'm delighted to have an opportunity to contribute to the effective operation of the Trust," said Zeisman. "Communications is not rocket science, it's just a matter of constant interaction with your audience. I've always felt, with a background in journalism, that the more information you put out there for people, the better. We need to get it out there and ease people's concerns that the Trust is not communicating enough or effectively enough with its stakeholders throughout the Basin."

Zeisman will be based out of CBT's Castlegar office, but will be travelling frequently throughout the Basin, meeting with the general public, local governments, Chambers of Commerce, CBT staff, and local news media. He can be reached at 1-800-505-8998, or by email at dzeisman@cbt.org.

New sewage regulations in effect

A new Sewerage System Regulation came into effect May 31 and the RDCK board has asked the government to put the regulation on hold and to review it.

Under the new regulation, homeowners can no longer design, install or alter septic systems themselves, or do significant repairs. Only a "registered onsite wastewater practitioner" (ROWP) can do the work. Instead of homeowners getting a permit, the registered practitioner files the plans with Interior Health, followed by a "Letter of Certification" when the work has been completed. The ROWP will provide a maintenance plan and homeowners are obligated to maintain the sewage disposal system according to this plan, and keep records.

Area A Director Mayers-McKenzie put forward the resolution asking the Province to review the regulation at the July 23 board meeting. In his preamble, he says that both RDCK building department staff and people requiring sewage system work find the new process "very restrictive and cumbersome." Because there are not enough ROWPs in the area, he claims a monopoly situation is being created, and adds that costs have increased and "there is little room for flexibility in considering other forms of sewage disposal."

A list of ROWPs can be found at http://owrp.asttbc.org/. As of July 27, there were two on the list in Nakusp, one in South Slocan, one in Kaslo, one in Slocan, six in Nelson and three in Castlegar.

For information on the new regulation, contact a Public Health Inspector from the Nelson Health Unit: Paul Geisler, 505-7220; Phillip Jackson, 505-7209; Chasch Ray, 505-7210.

Annual AIDS walk to be held September 24

submitted

Join the Challenge! ANKORS' 11th annual AIDS Walk for Life is happening Saturday, September 24, in Nelson.

Create a team with colleagues and friends and qualify for fun and exciting incentive prizes. The walk will begin between Sidewinders and Gerrick's Cycle, and will end at Lakeside Park with a BBQ and live entertainment. This is a great way to honour loved ones who have been affected by, or infected with HIV. All money raised in this event stays in the West Kootenay Boundary area, to make the lives of persons with HIV/AIDS easier. So help in Canada's largest HIV and AIDS Awareness Campaign by challenging yourself and others in ANKORS' largest fundraising event of the year.

Registration and pledge forms can be delivered to your workplace, so call us at 1-800-421-2437 or 505-5506.

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Silverton needs representation at the RDCK

The Village of Silverton needs representation at the Regional District of Central Kootenay's regular board meetings. While I have criticized Michael Dorsey's long-winded RDCK reports in the past, I have to give him credit for at least attending the meetings. The village has had no representative at the last four regular meetings. Councillor Duncan, who is supposed to be doing the job, has found that his work conflicts with the meeting schedule. Councillor Laktin, who is the village's alternate, has been unable to attend, either.

When Duncan sent in an application for a leave of absence at the last meeting, his fellow directors rejected the application, and instead disqualified him from sitting on the board, as he had missed four consecutive meetings. This leaves Silverton without a representative at that important regional body.

While I have great respect for everything that Silverton Council is doing in terms of public works and the amalgamation of their Fire Department with that of New Denver, I have to question the wisdom of not having anyone at the table when regional concerns are being discussed.

I also find it strange that council is not dealing with this lack of representation as expeditiously as possible. At the last meeting, Councillor Dorsey once again put his name forward to represent the village. While he and Councillor Duncan supported the motion, Mayor Wiseman and Councillors Huether and Laktin voted it down. That would be fine if they had someone else willing to step into the position. However, it seems that no one else wants the job.

It would be unfortunate if the village continues to be unrepresented at the Regional District, and I hope that those councillors and the mayor have an alternative solution in mind. If it were my call, I'd give Dorsey the job, but make him turn in written reports.

Dan Nicholson, publisher

Throwing the CBT baby out with the bathwater.

The Columbia Basin Trust is a radical notion. It was set up to deliver economic and social benefits to the people of the region whose lives were impacted by the construction of the Columbia River dams. The provincial government of the day set up the trust as a vehicle to receive half the benefits paid to the province under the Columbia River Treaty. The board was to invest this money in ways that would be beneficial to all.

At a time when both public and private sector investment in the Kootenays has been falling, the Trust has been the bright light that has kept many communities, businesses and individuals going. In retrospect, while some of its investments have been disastrous, the Trust has done an awful lot of good work as well. There's projects throughout the basin that owe their genesis to a CBT grant. The Trust runs programs for businesses, the environment, heritage, arts and culture.

While some people decry the Trust for not spending more on some aspect of its work, very few residents of the Basin would say that it is an institution beyond redemption.

To succeed in its mission, the Trust must look at itself as more than just an agency that doles out annual grants. It needs to exercise its economic clout in a variety of ways that will improve the lives of those of us who live here.

Should we exercise the option agreement? I'm not sure, but if we don't, I'm going to need to see a really convincing plan for what we're going to do with the money instead. It would be a shame to see the legacy of the Trust as bunch of bankrupt casinos and unfinished hotels.

It needs to be independent of the provincial government, and less dependent on municipal government for the election of its board. We need to find ways to make the board accountable to the residents of this region and not to the provincial government in Victoria. That's not going to happen while Victoria makes the appointments.

I've heard it said that direct election of the board by basin residents was rejected in the beginning because it would tend to produce boards motivated by parochial concerns, rather than the broad-minded vision necessary to see the basin holistically. I disagree. If the trust is to achieve its goals, the residents of the basin need to feel a sense of ownership and participation in its workings.

Dan Nicholson, publisher

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*.

Voices from the Valleys

Visitors impressed with Galena Trail

We are the Penticton Adventurers' Hiking Group. The 15 of us would like to express our compliments and appreciation to all of the volunteers who have been and who are responsible for the terrific upkeep of the entire Galena Trail! We found all aspects of this historic and scenic trail to be in exemplary condition.

Also, the Chamber of commerce can know that we will recommend not only the trail but also all of the facilities and attractions of this area of the Kootenay region to our families and friends.

Thank you all from the Adventurers.

Penticton Adventurers' Hiking Group

Telus Jobs to the Philippines???

I am sure that by now most of you are aware that the Telecommunication Workers Union (TWU) has been locked out by Telus. The reason for the lockout is that the TWU will not accept the conditions of a contract that was forced upon them by Telus. This contract was written by Telus and was not in any way negotiated with the bargaining committee of the TWU. The TWU will not vote on a non-negotiated contract because it would only serve to give the contract some credibility. That is just not going to happen.

So now what? On numerous occasions Telus has said that they have a contingency plan in place to maintain service to their subscribers. How are they going to do that? They plan on using managers and ex-managers to do the jobs of almost 14,000 employees who are now on the picket line. There is also some talk of Telus hiring replacement workers to do the work as well. The word "SCAB" is used to describe a person that is doing the job of another person who is on strike or is locked out by their employer. It may be considered derogatory but it is not profane unless it is used in conjunction with other words that are profane.

When you hear that a "scab" has been dispatched to restore phone service, it is a statement of fact, and not a case of someone being abusive to another. It is also true that "scab" is not a proud title to wear if you are the person being referred to, but that is something that that person will have to live with, probably for the rest of his life.

Telus has purchased a controlling interest in a call center in the Philippines. If Telus does manage to get the contracting out language that it wants into its agreement with the TWU then many jobs will be moved to the Philippines. These people are not "scabs." They are not doing another person's job because the people that are being replaced are not on strike or locked out. In this case their jobs are moved out of the country and being performed by others at a fraction of the cost. Those workers can hold their heads high. Big difference.

Bob Varaleau
Local 4 - TWU
Silverton

Be Bear Smart

Many of the 1700 people who attended the Kaslo Jazz Fest that fateful day last year witnessed a sight that they may never forget — the sight of a mortally wounded bear franticly running down the hillside, into the lake, entrails hanging out and dying just a few feet from the main stage. People were filled with various forms of strong emotion, some leaving in disgust. Children carried flowers down to the shoreline so that at least one misunderstood bear could rest in peace. A bear that was minding his own business and died simply for doing what bears naturally do — eat.

This story was the talk of the Kootenays for many weeks and was covered by media nationwide. It made one believe that this poor creature did not die in vain. It brought to us in technicolour what happens on an average of six times a day in this province. There was much talk about change.

This year the carnage is once again taking its toll. Far too many bears are being shot in the Kootenays and we haven't even approached the height of the season. Although many of us agree that officials could and should have handled the Kaslo situation differently we also need to take personal responsibility in order to affect change.

The worst common human criminal is afforded the right to a fair trial. Not so for bears. The sad reality in the Kootenays is that most "nuisance" bears are still killed not for anything they have done, but for what misinformed people with an exaggerated sense of fear perceive bears might do.

Bears are being shot because too many folks are either unaware of, or are careless with attractants around their homes. When you decide how much time and effort you are willing to spend bearproofing your property, please remember the Kaslo bear. Potentially, anyone who is irresponsible with attractants is responsible for the merciless and needless destruction of bears.

You can phone the Bear Smart hotline at 359-6611 for information on how to bearproof your property as well as for tips on how to act safely when hiking in bear country.

Evelyn Kirkaldy
Chair, Kootenay Chapter, Get Bear Smart Society

Conservative candidate lauds NDP rival

As a candidate for the Conservative Party nomination in BC Southern Interior, I'd like to congratulate Alex Atamanenko on his recent acclamation as NDP candidate in the next federal election.

Although the Conservatives are still some time away from choosing their own candidate, I do not think it out of place for me to send along my best wishes to Alex. He has a reputation as an intelligent and thoughtful man; I think we need more people in politics with his level-headed disposition.

Alex and I even agree on some of the major issues facing our nation, such as the need for a strong and independent Canada, the need to provide secure and accessible health care to young and old alike, and the need to promote technological access and innovation in our rural communities — communities that have been badly neglected by the Chretien-Martin governments, as I think Alex would agree.

It is good to see that the Conservatives and NDP occupy a certain amount of common ground politically. If anything, it is a reminder that no party enjoys a monopoly on common sense and good intentions.

Having said that, Alex and I obviously disagree on many other vitally important issues facing the Canadian people. Alex remains stubbornly opposed to the idea that free trade has brought any good to Canada, despite 15 years of clear evidence that points to an explosion of Canadian exports, and a wealth of new jobs, since Canada made the decision to become a full player in the world economic community.

Alex is an ardent supporter of the United Nations, without acknowledging the urgent need for major UN reforms to root out corruption, reduce rash bureaucracy, and prevent wholesale genocide in places where the UN is woefully unprepared to fulfill its peacekeeping mandate.

And he praises the NDP's recent backroom budget deal with the Liberals, which made for great political theatre, but contains so little content, so few details, and so many loopholes as to be virtually worthless.

Clearly, what separates our two parties ideologically is far greater than what unites us under a common cause. Nevertheless, Alex is a worthy opponent. Should I emerge successful in my bid for the Conservative nomination, I will look forward to an election campaign filled with interesting ideas and thoughtful debate — a campaign in which exaggeration and half-truths

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Voices from the Valleys

are kept to a bare minimum by all candidates, regardless of party affiliation. I think the citizens of BC Southern Interior deserve nothing less.

Derek Zeisman
Trail

Ways that we impact nature

This was written combining frequently found attitudes to the world around us. Do you recognize anybody? Can we bring about change by increasing our awareness of our impacts?

Ain't life grand? This summer we can all go to the McRegional District campground at Glacier Creek on the Duncan Lake reservoir and enjoy full pool a month early. That means it's not so far to pull our boats and jet skis into the water. Yahoo! We won't be bothered by any pesky shore birds either. All the nests built in stumps and grasses from 5-55 km are now under water a month early, but we can enjoy full pool, so who cares? They're just birds like flickers and sandpipers. They have no monetary value, so they really don't count. We work hard and don't want to walk too far to the water when we want to have a good time.

We can enjoy Canada Day in Kaslo Bay, letting off fireworks that panic the local bird populations. The herons were seen in town the next morning perched next to the town hall and baby ducks were terrified when their mother left their nest in fear. They tried to find solace near a mid-bay local canoe during the fireworks. Were they reunited with their parents or were they collateral damage? Who cares? We had a blast!

We love nature. We encase ourselves in plastic and line up in our ATVs, which are family sized to fit our tots, and zoom off into the alpine. We can experience the scenery like virtual reality and never touch the earth. We can stay clean that way. No nasty sweating like those hikers. Neat, eh?

We're here to have a good time. Tomorrow may never come so we live for the moment. He who has the most toys wins. Forests are there to be used. They make our payments so we take what we can. Trees grow back. Turning decadent forest into toilet paper is a good thing — after all, the trees are just fibre and stems, not oxygen producers and water holders and shelter for game.

Taking out 1800-year-old trees and trees that are 30' in circumference, the last of the temperate rainforest, home to the last of the few mountain caribou in the area, trees that had many elk beds underneath them as well as many bear denning grounds up the Westfall River, is okay too, since the Ministry of Forests has said it is fine for us to do. All we have to do to the protesters is try to run them down with our trucks and nothing happens to us since the powers that be are on the side of the money makers! Animals have no vote or voice and they can move somewhere else anyway. Clearcuts are the way we do things. Then we go to play at the McRegional District campground. We want full pool for as long as we can get it. We don't care how many nests it floods by filling a month early or how many spawning channels are

The man behind the curtain

WHY DIDN'T I SUSPECT that something was wrong? Why didn't I hear my inner voice shout, "WATCH OUT!" when I first heard the words, "This trader's a real wiz kid"? "WIZ KID." The words haunt me like a nightmare that won't go away.

About a year and a half ago I became involved in a commodity pool investment. The profits I saw on the monthly statements were impressive, 8% or more per month. Trust in the "facts" lured me in. Seeing is believing, right? Many of my neighbours and friends in the area of New Denver and beyond also became convinced that we'd found a very special trader. He had a system. It didn't matter if the market went up or down, he knew how to make a profit on it.

So my husband and I mortgaged our home and invested. We believed the numbers shown on the statements. That was our big mistake. We never doubted the truth of what we were seeing. Over 200 other investors made the same mistake. Deposits into the trader's account totalled over $7 million. Our collective delusion was finally shattered on the 2005 Victoria Day weekend.

All it took was a phone call. One of the investors contacted the brokerage firm and questioned his financial records. The news that he shared with us was shocking. Our statements were all false, the trader had lost millions of dollars and the rest of the money was missing. Oh my God! Over and over again I asked myself, "Why did I do this?"

My husband and I have had financial problems for many years. When we heard that others were becoming wealthy we dared to dream of a better life. We chose this investment because of peer pressure, belief pressure and yes, out of desperation. I've heard that the greater the number of people who believe in something, the more believable it becomes. Now I know this is true. Oh, what joy and satisfaction I used to feel each time a statement arrived in the mail. What an illusion. It makes me sick to think about it now.

I decided to research the term, "wiz kid." I looked in Webster's dictionary and found the word "wiz" described as, "an extremely clever or capable person." A related word, "wizard" means, "one endowed with exceptional skill or able to achieve the impossible." The slang meaning for kid is "to hoax" or "to make fun.by deceptive talk." If only I had noticed these clues earlier. Next I searched through my video collection and found a movie called "The Wizard of Oz" starring Judy Garland.

I imagined myself curtseying before the Great and Powerful Oz, "If you please sir, I want to become a millionaire and live happily ever after." I imagined his reply, "I will grant your wishes but first, you must give me all of your money." The story was an eerie echo of my investment experience. It was all about believing in appearances.

In the movie, Dorothy tells her friends that "the wizard'll fix everything!" When they finally arrive at the Emerald City, the wizard intimidates Dorothy and her three friends with insults, then promises to grant their wishes if they bring him the broomstick of the wicked witch of the west. They risk their lives to fulfill the wizard's request but when they return they make an awful discovery. Dorothy's little dog Toto pulled open a curtain. "Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain!" the wizard shouts. "The Great Oz has spoken!" What he really meant was, "Don't see what you're seeing."

But it was too late. The deception was uncovered. Supreme power was exposed as fraud and omnipotent wisdom was revealed as incompetence. The connection was clear. My former commodities trader was a Wizard of Oz behind a curtain. I'd never seen him, but I'd heard his magical words and they were all lies. I believed and obeyed him because the awesome, holographic, wiz kid image I imagined I saw promised me rich rewards. I thought I was going to be a millionaire.

I didn't smell a rat, and that was my downfall. Did you know the word Oz comes from the Greek word ozein which means "a bad smell"? Have you ever pretended not to smell something offensive because you wanted to be polite?

I learned long ago not to smell what I was smelling, not to see what I was seeing and not to feel what I was feeling. I'm 50 years old now and I've lost a hell of a lot of money in an investment fraud. It's time to start listening to my quiet inner voice and it's time to start appreciating my own inner resources. I will no longer be afraid to smell, see and feel what's really there. And I will never again make a decision without first taking a good look behind the curtain.

"Please Auntie Em, wake me up and tell me that I just had a bad dream."

Karen Turner
New Denver

Come out and walk to honour Slocan Valley hero Joan Warner

Reykjavik in the Valley, a very special event in honour of Slocan Valley resident and diabetic Joan Warner, starts at Passmore Lodge at 7 am on August 20. Come join the crowd that will walk to Evans Road and back.

Warner was planning to be a member of Team Diabetes Canada in the Reykjavik Marathon for Diabetes in Iceland this month, but could not make the trip because of health issues.

Warner's friend and supporter from the beginning of this adventure, Donna Ratcliffe, will be making the journey to Iceland on her behalf. "I'm doing the international flights and the 10-km walk in Reykjavik but this is Joan's journey," said Ratcliffe. "She has done the training, raised the awareness of diabetes, rallied the community, subsidized any fundraising shortfalls and can walk the 10 kms. I'm thrilled to be going but just wish that she was able to go."

The Canadian Diabetic Association's Team Diabetes Marathon Manager Kelly Webb had to break the devastating news to Warner that she would not be able to participate. She admits that the whole thing was a very unfortunate miscommunication.

The Association's BC contact evaluated Warner as able to do the walk because of her ability to train at the gym three times a week and to do regular treadmill workouts at home. The red flag came up when Joan inquired about oxygen availability as advised by her doctor. When the call came to Webb's attention she made inquiries with the airlines, which just said "no."

Webb was very apologetic, knowing how hard Joan had worked towards it and how disappointing it was for her. In Webb's four years of organizing over 20 marathons, she has never had anyone with such serious health issues apply to participate. A new policy to ensure applicants are able to be accepted was put in place immediately to prevent future disappointment for other would-be candidates.

To help recognize and reward Warner's efforts, the 220-person Canadian team will dedicate their effort at the 2005 Reykjavik Marathon to Joan Warner. Stand-in walker Donna Ratcliffe will be wearing a T-shirt with a picture of Joan and her granddaughter Jordan Tack. The 8-hour time difference will mean that Warner will get a phone call from Iceland from the Victory Party.

The national office of Team Diabetes sent T-shirts, bandannas, hats, posters and banners to help celebrate Joan's efforts and success. The annual Diabetes Conference is being held in Edmonton in October this year and Joan's name is on the guest list.

So on August 20 come out and walk the 10-km Reykjavik in the Valley with Joan. If Joan can't make it to Iceland — we'll do Iceland here!

For more information call Joan at 226-6977.

Slocan Valley resident Joan Warner raised $5900 for the Canadian Diabetes Association over the months that she has been training for the diabetes marathon. Pictured here is lucky first-prize winner of the raffle, Patricia Bontan, with quilt creator and Joan's daughter, Timmy-Jeanne Tack.

More garlic grows for the Garlic Fest

by Jan McMurray

ROSEBERY—Tracy Brown has transformed a piece of rocky raw land in Rosebery into a beautiful garden plot, where she is carrying out her dream of growing garlic.

"Rocky Top Garlic" will be available at the Hills Garlic Fest this year, as well as at Ann's Natural Foods in New Denver.

Since Brown bought the Rosebery property four years ago, she has been creating and improving her garden beds. A member of Kootenay Organic Growers, she is working towards organic certification for her garlic. She uses strictly organic gardening methods and plans to rotate the beds in order to avoid disease, such as mould, that garlic is susceptible to.

Brown bought the seed eight years ago from Valley Landscape Nursery in Hills. The strain is called "Porcelain" and is a medium keeper. Brown says it will keep for six to eight months.

She and her three children are now in the midst of harvesting the crop. Amber, Meagan and Nolan have helped a lot, Tracy says, from the planting through the weeding and now during harvest. No doubt we'll see them helping their mom to sell the garlic at the "Rocky Top" booth, to the direct left of the main gate at the Garlic Fest.

Tracy Brown and her helpers Meagan and Nolan (Amber missing) begin the harvest. Watch for the Rocky Top Garlic booth at this year's Garlic Fest.

Silverton council, July 26: 2010 committee will apply for funding for Memorial Hall

by Jan McMurray

•Councillor Duncan reported that the Village's 2010 committee had received a preliminary floor plan of the Silverton Memorial Hall, done by a Vernon engineering firm. The new design would enlarge the kitchen to take in the washrooms, and would put washrooms in the back of the building. There was also discussion about adding a storage area on the NE side. The committee also intends to look at lighting, sound, chairs and tables. Council passed a motion that the committee proceed with the application for funding from the Spirit of 2010 program for the Memorial Hall upgrade project. The committee can spend up to $2000, already in the budget for the hall, to proceed.

•Councillor Duncan announced that he would like to step down as the Village's RDCK representative. He said that his work schedule did not allow him the time required. Councillor Dorsey made a motion to be re-instated as the RDCK representative. Mayor Wiseman said he was not in favour of this motion and wanted more time to look into the matter. The motion was defeated, with Dorsey and Duncan voting in favour and Councillors Laktin and Huether and Wiseman voting against.

•"Creekside campsite" appeared on the agenda under Unfinished Business. Wiseman made a motion to table the item and to address requests for block bookings of the creekside campsite on an individual basis. The motion passed.

•The August 9 regular meeting was cancelled. There will be a special meeting on that date at a time to accommodate Larry Lavan, who will make a presentation to council about high speed internet.

•Public Works Foreman Chris Fox presented the reservoir flushing and disinfection procedures, to be done once a year. He also reported that the Village has applied for permission to install a buried power line from BC Hydro's main line at the end of Silver Street to the reservoir. Power is needed there for the pump to receive signals to turn on or off according to the reservoir level. The solar panels currently in place for the job will be kept there as a back-up system. •Councillor Dorsey reported that he ran into Premier Gordon Campbell twice in Silverton on July 16. Campbell was here to attend a wedding.

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New Denver mayor's message

As many of you know from following The Valley Voice reports, our council is taking an in-depth look at ways to protect and improve air quality in New Denver. One means of doing this is through the establishment of a municipal burning bylaw. Ours has received three readings, and will be considered for adoption at the August 9 council meeting.

What's in it? Here's an overview. Copies of the complete bylaw are available from Carol and Carol (i.e. Administrator Carol Gordon or Secretary Carol Weiss) at the Village office.

•You *won't* need a permit to use a manufactured outdoor grill, or a barbecue or fire pit less than 4 sq. feet for cooking purposes.

•You *will* need a (free) permit to burn small piles of garden waste, including grass clippings, leaves and branches. You can only burn this stuff between April 1 and May 15 or September 30 and November 15. The fire must be supervised by someone over 19; have water and a shovel at hand; don't burn within 30 feet of a building, or underneath wires or cables; double-check to make sure it's out when you're finished.

•You *will* need a ($20) permit to burn bigger piles (up to 2m high by 3m wide) of combustibles; same age, supervision, water, shovel and date restrictions as for the little yard and garden waste fires. However, you *can't* have one of these with 100m of a neighbour's house or business, or within 500m (that's about 5 blocks) from "schools in session, (or) a hospital and facilities used for continuing care as defined under the Continuing Care Act."

•*Nobody* can burn building construction or demolition waste, noxious, explosive, corrosive or toxic materials, pesticides or herbicides in an outdoor fire.

•Some of the conditions of either permit are that the permit holder is liable for all damages and costs of fire suppression caused by the permitted fire(s); that no oil, tar, plastics, tires or anything which produces "heavy black smoke" can be burned.

There is a fine for non-compliance, but I won't insult anyone by suggesting that it will ever have to be imposed. Council hopes that residents find — behind the usual legalistic working — a pretty commonsense and neighbourly approach to the issues of backyard burning.

GALENA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
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Silverton, BC
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galena-environmental@telus.net
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Volunteers wanted for speed watch

Anyone wishing to become a "speed watch" volunteer is invited to attend a training session at Knox Hall in New Denver on August 11 from 6:30-9 pm.

Volunteers in the speed watch program monitor a radar speed board keeping statistics of the vehicles that pass through the beam. The speed board is available from Lemon Creek to Summit Lake. Volunteers would be expected to commit four hours or less each month, working closely with RCMP. The program's success will depend on the number of volunteers that attend.

For more information, contact Constable Oster at the Slocan Lake detachment, 358-2222.

Advertising feeds our family!
Phone 358-7218 to support the Valley Voice.

Wasn't That A Party!!

The Silverton July 1st Committee wants to thank all the volunteers, citizens and businesses for a successful Canada Day Celebration.

Thank you to those who met our challenge:

- Silverton Dental Clinic
- Walter and Esther Eich
- Village of Silverton
- Junko Ida
- Frances Harding
- Bonanza Creek
- Valley Voice
- Lynn-a-Teck
- James Ahasay
- Silverton Transport
- Ty Capelle & Cynthia Stotz-Capelle

Special Thank You to:

Jerry Simons
Dick Hambly
Silverton Heritage Country Inn
Silverton Volunteer Fire Department
Silent Auction Participants

VSSM 2005 Concert Schedule

* Friday, August 5th - VSI Student Concert, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00 & 8:00 pm, Free Admission

* Monday, August 8th - Faculty Concert, 7:00 pm - Adults $12 Student/Senior $7

* Tuesday, August 9th - Jazz Concert, 7:00 pm, Admission by Donation

** Thursday, August 11th - Student Solo Recitals, 7:00 pm. Admission by Donation

* Friday, August 12th

Student Chamber Music Concert, 1:00 & 3:30 pm. Admission by Donation

Student Orchestra & Choir Concert, 7:00 pm. Admission by Donation

* Friday, August 19th

VIP Final Recital, 1:30 pm, Lucerne School, New Denver Admission by Donation

*All concerts at the Silverton Memorial Hall, Silverton

**Various Locations in Silverton & New Denver

Slocan council, July 13: Wellness Centre contract awarded

by Don Currie

•Council offered to award a contract to local builder Roger Thickett to convert a room in the old elementary school to a Wellness Centre, contingent on all details of the proposal being finalized. Thickett's proposal estimated the project to be $69,550 (tax in). The builder cautioned that costs could be affected by further approvals from RDCK for handicap washrooms and ramps, special soundproofing and the high standard workmanship required by the design. Thickett proposed to start the project on July 25 and finish it within 90 days.

•Council is considering options for new street lighting to all areas of the village. Corey Sinclair, Fortis Manager of Stakeholder Relations and Customer Service recommended replacement of higher cost Mercury Vapour (MV) lamps with lower-wattage High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lamps. The Fortis plan detailed key light routes such as Harold Street for 150 watt HPS lighting and 100 watt HPS lighting for residential streets. A 250-watt MV lamp is recommended for the intersection of Slocan and Arlington. Sinclair offered Council three options for lighting: customer owned and maintained, customer owned and Fortis maintained, or Fortis owned and installed and maintained. A cost advantage was shown with customer owned but a safety advantage was evident in company maintained. Sinclair also reported that a Fortis audit revealed a monthly overcharge of $115 that would be rectified. Administrator Eunice Ludlow also queried about the status of poles labelled "unsafe." Council and Sinclair agreed to move ahead with the selection of a street lighting option and to remove any poles posing a danger.

•Slocan Fire Chief Tim Hill reported that the Slocan Volunteer Fire Department has been in the new RDCK Fire Hall for two and a half months. Seventeen volunteer fire department members including four first responders are on the roster. Since moving to the new facility, the department has attended two major structural fires. First responders are getting about two calls per month. The department is recruiting more volunteers and is aiming to increase the number of first responders to eight. Mayor Van Bynen reported that the vintage fire truck is also stored in the new facility.

•Shemmaho Jephi Sioux of Green Wisdom Herbs appeared before council to propose a native plants garden around the gazebo at the Slocan Valley Rail Trail trailhead. Sioux volunteered to design, manage and fundraise for the project and suggested council consider a budget to maintain the facility and garden as an interpretive centre. Mayor Van Bynen thanked Sioux for a good presentation, but pointed out that the proposal should be directed to Tourism BC, which owns the property. Council gave approval in principal to Sioux's proposal and volunteered to assist her to contact Tourism BC.

•Mabel Bone, treasurer of the Slocan Valley Legion Housing Project, appeared before Council to report that all liabilities from the dissolved Slocan Valley Legion Housing Society were in the process of being paid and that an audit would be completed by September. Columbia Basin Trust funds and all membership fees were being returned.

•Councillor John Gates reported on the June RDCK board meeting. He said that a new transit service would be created to include all electoral areas and municipalities on the west side of Kootenay Lake, including Slocan, at a cost of $65,000 annually, shared among the eight participating communities. Slocan's share is estimated at $1,600.

•Council gave tentative approval for the installation of a Gravity Adventures Climbing Wall at the beach area pending approval of maintenance staff to ensure a safe location for the equipment.

•Council dealt with several residents' concerns regarding property and traffic. Sabine Wolters requested that council clear and re-open a segment of Ward Ave. bordering her property that is also being used to store Village materials. Wolters also requested that three trees damaged in the recent windstorm be examined and removed if unsafe. Council also considered a request from Pat Ashton, owner of Mountain Valley Service, to clarify lot boundaries compromised by Village road and lane building adjacent to his business. A letter from John and Doris Sargeant asked council to deal with damage to their fence and shrubs by soccer players retreiving soccer balls from the nearby soccer pitch. Two citizen complaints about logging trucks driving through school and playground zones were considered. Council considered all of the complaints valid and pledged to take all reasonable action to rectify the problems.

New bike shop in Slocan Park

by Dan Nicholson

Valley Spokes is a new business in Slocan Park, co-owned by the father and son team of Randy and Eric Shaak. In addition to the bike shop, the premises boasts an antiques & collectibles showroom. The enterprising pair also rent inner tubes for those who would enjoy a float down the Slocan River.

According the the 20-year-old "Spokes'man, Eric Shaak, "I'm mostly doing repairs right now. I have a full line of parts and accessories, so I can get your bike back on the road quickly."

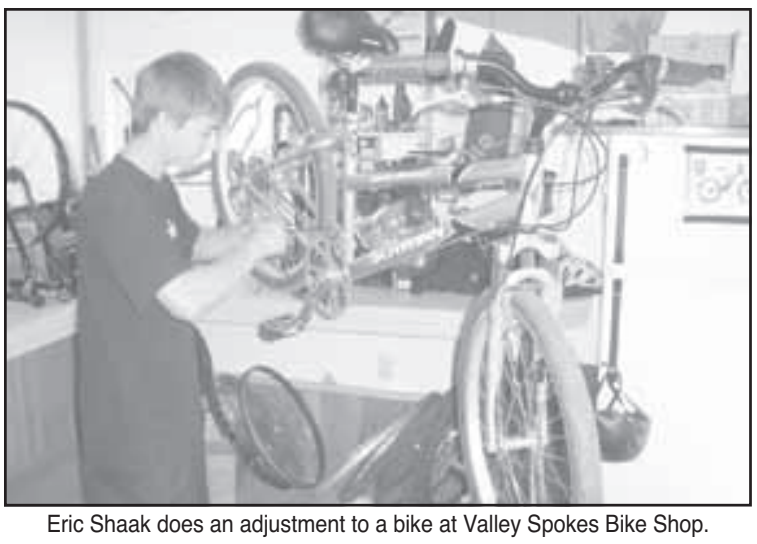
The partners also buy, restore and sell quality used bikes. Says Eric, "If someone brings in a used bike that they no longer need, I'll buy it, fix it up and resell it."

They both acknowledge the tremendous support they've received from the local community. Says Eric, "We've been open for about a month. Most of our customers have been locals stopping by with broken components, or bikes that haven't been ridden in a few years and are in need of a tune-up."

The collectibles side of the business features a wide range of items, most of which date back to the first half of the 20th century. Randy jokingly refers to it as his 'junktique' collection, but even a casual tour will excite the most jaded collector of this kind of memorabilia.

Says Eric, "We have great service, good prices and your satisfaction is guaranteed."

Eric & Randy Shaak, with Sapphire, in the collectible showroom of Valley Spokes.



Eric Shaak does an adjustment to a bike at Valley Spokes Bike Shop.

Slocan Valley Community Complex Society Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, September 7, 7:00 pm
WE Graham School.
Everyone encouraged to attend.

Slocan Lake Dance Camp
Aug. 19- 22, 2005
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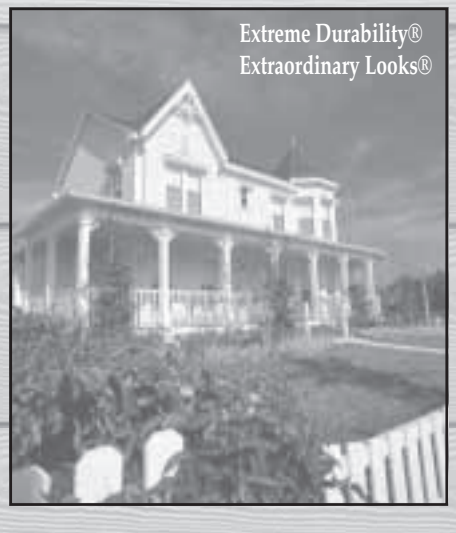

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Nine teams participate in Build, Bail and Sail competition

Nine teams entered Loma Lumber's Build, Bail and Sail in Nakusp over the long weekend. Four were women's teams and five were men's. Both of the placing women's teams had never entered before and one member of the 2nd place team is 86 years old.

Results were: 1st place women: Argonettes, with Tammy Friedenberger and Jolisa Godmark from Nakusp. 2nd place women: The Bongos, with Terry Irving and her 86-year-old father Tyrone Irving from Nakusp.

1st place men: Lloyd's Return, with Roger Waterfield and Lloyd Coates of Nakusp, who have won several competitions in the past. 2nd place men: Bye Bye, with Forest Williamson and Kally Toole from Nelson.

Other women's entries were The Blonde Bombers, with Dyan Mundt of Nakusp and Debra Muldbakken of Chicago, Illinois.; the GirlFins, with Rebecca Brown of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Sam McGovern of Grand Junction, Colorado. Other men's entries were The Olympus Roosters, with Earl Frerichs and Ray Giroux of Nakusp; Pontoon Piranhas, with Warren Fullmore and Hans Suhr from Nakusp; Team Bosh, with Ken Ford and Jeff Allen.

PHOTO CREDIT: KOOTENAY VIRTUAL TOURS

Lloyd's Return, crewed by Roger Waterfield and Lloyd Coates, won first place in the men's division of the Build, Bail & Sail Event at Nakusp's BC Day celebrations.

Mud Bog action a tradition for BC Day weekend in Nakusp

PHOTO CREDIT: KAREN HAMLING

The Nakusp Young Uns took home the SloPitch championship this year in a close game against the Kamloops ReMax team. The Kelowna Browns came in third and the Spokane Eagles came fourth.
First team wins $1500, second $1,000, and third and fourth each win $500.

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

For the second year in a row, spectators were able to enjoy side-by-side racing action at the Nakusp Mud Bogs.

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

Mud flies in all directions as this driver makes his way out of the slurry pits.

Bee Cee Beemers
Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, August 20
8:30 am
Nakusp Secondary School
Motorcycle Display

Big Mountains • Small Village • Floating Stage

Violinist Chris Church helps Jesse stoke the crowd for another encore.

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

Nelson resident Flora Ware sang jazz standards on the up stage on Sunday.

PHOTO CREDIT: ART JOYCE

Local Dixieland jazz group Playmor Dixie livens up Sunday lunch with its big brass sounds at the Kaslo Jazz Fest.

14th annual Kaslo Jazz Fest wows the crowd

by Art Joyce

"You guys actually get to live here?" Jesse Cook's comment from the stage summed it up–a pristine setting that infuses world-class musicians and jazz fans with equal passion. Although Sunday's headline bill seemed to attract a sparse crowd at first, by late afternoon some 2000 people had packed the bay. Early estimates of festival attendance for the weekend put the number of visitors at about 3500.

People wafted in Sunday at noon to the strains of dixieland jazz courtesy of Playmor Dixie, setting a cheery tone to the day. Sekoya took the main stage early, blending sampled synth riffs with more traditional jazz stylings. Even to the untrained ear, Ernie Watts' saxophone has an intensity of skill and feeling that justifies his reputation as a jazzman of the first order. Colin Linden's Chicago blues sound tinged with searing slide guitar was a breath of fresh air to those less inclined to be jazz purists.

Ellen McIlwaine was the sleeper hit of the festival, newly teamed up with virtuoso Indian tabla player Cassius Khan. As McIlwaine explained, her East-West fusion is nothing new. To illustrate, she performed a blistering version of her raga-influenced We the People, written in the early '70s. No one else can make an acoustic guitar sound so eerily like a sitar and a dobro–all at the same time. Her vocal pyrotechnics were no less awe-inspiring in an acapella version of John Lee Hooker's blues classic Crawling Kingsnake.

But the bring-the-house-down event of the day was headliner Jesse Cook and his band. Violinist Chris Church–the breakout talent of the day–added a haunting Eastern edge to Cook's nouveau flamenco sound. The rhythm section's percussive fireworks ripped through instrumental breaks with a distinctly Latin intensity. Jesse Cook has a well-deserved international reputation for his guitar finesse–arpeggios flew from his fingertips like plucked lightning and his simpler melodic lines were crisp and resonant. The crowd was on its feet dancing throughout and Cook responded to the standing ovation with not one but two extended encores. Given the ecstatic connection between the performers and crowd, it's not hard to imagine Cook returning to this festival in future.

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

Colin Linden belts out the blues.

The Sandon Historical Society Museum Open House was held August 1, with music from The Golden Oldies, refreshments served by volunteers (pictured here, Sue Mistretta), a Guess the Weight of the Galena Nugget contest, won by Scott Curley, who guessed the exact weight of 45 lbs. A few successfully completed the Fire Hydrant Hunt: Richard Hwang from Vancouver and local youngsters Ivan and Tera Nicholson and Owen Graham.

PHOTO CREDIT: CHRIS CHODAT

A rare moment when Jesse Cook's fingers were visible.

Boat ramps for everyone but Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

ARROW LAKES—People in the Arrow Lakes have been trying to get BC Hydro to fix or replace their boat ramps for 15 years now. With the completion of BC Hydro's draft Columbia River Water Use Plan, things are looking good for Burton, Fauquier and Edgewood, but not for Nakusp.

Because ramps in the southern zone communities do not provide boat access at all water levels, the water use plan recommends that BCH fix them so that they do. When the Water Comptroller reviewed the proposal for a new ramp at Nakusp, he concluded that the current ramp provides boat access at all water levels, and thus deemed that it was not BCH's responsibility to build a new one.

At the July 23 RDCK board meeting, Area K Director Paul Peterson put forward a resolution that the board ask the Water Comptroller and BCH to re-evaluate that decision. It passed unanimously.

The resolution points out that "the people of Nakusp and the surrounding area were promised by BC Hydro reliable and safe access to the Arrow Reservoir upon flooding of the lake."

Nakusp's wooden ramp is in such poor condition that it is bordering on unsafe, according to both the former and current Area K directors, Helmut Klughammer and Paul Peterson. Both men blame this on BCH operations.

"As long as the water level fluctuates, wooden ramps are going to deteriorate," said Klughammer.

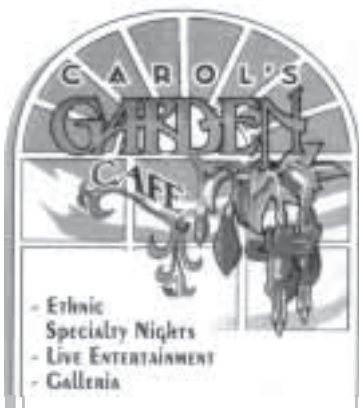
"It's rotten, and it's BCH operations that's making it rotten," said Peterson. "It's Hydro's responsibility."

A consultative committee, made up of 39 stakeholders from local governments and agencies from Trail to Revelstoke, sat at the table for four years to come up with recommendations for BCH to incorporate into the water use plan. The committee "repeatedly and overwhelmingly supported addressing the Nakusp boat ramp issues linked to Hydro operations" according to Peterson's resolution.

After the Water Comptroller made the decision, BCH said it would discuss partnerships with the Village of Nakusp, CBT and others to pay for a new ramp at Nakusp. The estimated cost of the new ramp is $1.4 million, with annual maintenance costs of about $12,500.

Other issues addressed in the water use plan are protection of archaeological sites, fish and aquatic resources, and wildlife and vegetation in the Columbia River system.

BCH's Columbia River Water Use Plan has been submitted to the Water Comptroller, who is expected to make a decision by December this year. He can issue an order to implement the plan as is, or he can make changes to it.



Cajun Night - Aug 5
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Quinn Decourcey - Aug 12
Greek dinner. Show starts at 7 pm. $5 at the door.

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Wed-Mon: 10 am - 2 pm & 5 pm - 8 pm
(closed Tuesday)
Jam sessions 2nd and last Friday
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carolsgardencafe@yahoo.com

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation
will be held at
7 pm on Monday, Aug 29, 2005 in the Hospital Cafeteria.
Elections will be held to fill Director positions: 3 for 3 years, 1 for 2 years & 1 for 1 year.
In order to vote at the Annual General Meeting, new members need to obtain their $1 card from a director or at the hospital desk before July 29, 2005
For further information, write to Box 284, Nakusp or call 265-3515.

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CBT funding helps sense of community return to Arrow Park

by Penelope Dewar

Until this year, the community of Arrow Park, along the Narrows of the Arrow reservoir between Nakusp and Burton, was lumped in with Nakusp for the annual vote on projects going for CBT Affected Area funding. Now, on a suggestion from Area K Director Paul Peterson, Arrow Park has seceded.

"I felt that Arrow Park was a distinct community. It didn't belong to Nakusp or Burton," Peterson says, explaining that its residents account for $4100 of CBT funding that he thought should go directly to them.

Before the flooding, there were 10 communities along this stretch of the Columbia connecting the two Arrow Lakes. Then, 40 years ago, government authority thought of a "better" use for the long stretch of lakes and river that fell below Revelstoke and rose above Castlegar. They forced the shore-dwellers to leave, and all but one of the Narrows communities were displaced.

Burton, the one that survived, endured years of salvage and relocation. Personal loss was huge, and bitterness couldn't help but interfere with rebuilding community. As for Arrow Park, there was little interest in resettlement, and even less sense of community. Over the years, new settlers have moved in, but there has been little thought of community — until it was once again threatened with destruction, this time by fire.

During the hot dry August of 2003 the west-side mountain, named Ingersol, almost completely burned. Depending on who you talk to, the fire became big enough to wipe out a mountain of forest, to kill wildlife and to threaten homes on both sides of the Narrows because of government decision, indecision or incompetence. Whichever you choose, residents of the Narrows, especially those in the loose assemblage that is Arrow Park, had no say in the matter and little control over the outcome.

Regional District Director Paul Peterson suggested that a portable firefighting system might help alleviate some of the community's justifiable fear of fire. Peterson approached Arrow Park resident Ron Ansell, who, with several other concerned residents, formed a steering committee and proceeded with applying for funding for a fire caddy.

The effort was successful, and now Arrow Park has a fire caddy, which includes a tank, pump, hose, nozzle and foam attachment, all on a tough trailer and designed to be pulled by any vehicle, even a quad. If stored near the Arrow Park ferry's east-side landing, it would be available for use on both sides of the reservoir. Peterson is looking into the possibility of the community acquiring a small lot for that purpose. There is interest in using next year's project money for construction of an insulated storage shed so that, regardless of the season, the fire caddy is ready for immediate use.

At an early summer meeting of Arrow Park residents, attended by about 20 people or half the community, Bill Mitchell described what the committee had done and suggested that it was time to form the Arrow Park Community Association.

For the first time in over four decades in this part of the Narrows, there was a gathering together of more than a few residents for the purpose of helping one another. It is this kind of organization and spirit that will make this community more difficult to destroy in the future.

Residents of Arrow Park celebrate their acquisition of a fire caddy.

Find out about identity theft

NAKUSP—Nelson residents Gerry MacKinnon and Joel Cutler are on a mission to raise awareness about identity theft and what we can do to protect ourselves from this crime. They have given seminars in Nelson, Vancouver, Vernon, Sechelt and Kamloops and are scheduled to come to Nakusp on August 11 from 6:30-9 pm at the Seniors Hall.

Although many of us associate identity theft only with credit cards, MacKinnon says there are actually five types of identity that are commonly stolen: drivers license, Social Insurance Number, medical (MSP), character and credit .

He tells the story of a single mother with four children who ended up in jail for four months until she found a lawyer who would listen to her. She was charged with 15 counts of prostitution, actually committed by someone who stole her identity.

There is also the story of a middle-aged man who went to renew his life insurance and was told he was uninsurable because he had AIDS. Someone had stolen his medical identity and tested positive for HIV.

MacKinnon is a retired RCMP officer, now an Independent Associate for Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. Cutler owns a computer repair business and informs people about how to protect their identity as much as possible on the internet. Local RCMP and financial institution representatives have also been invited to speak at the seminar.

Plan to attend the Identity Theft Solutions Seminar at the Seniors Hall in Nakusp on August 11, 6:30-9 pm.

PEOPLES PHARMACY

Sigvaris Medical & Compression Fitting Service Now Available!

Nakusp Peoples Pharmacy is pleased to provide fitting sessions for Sigvaris stockings (RX) and (Samson & Delilah) Medical Support stockings.

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Water Conservation
WATER RESTRICTIONS

The Village of Nakusp would like to remind people on its water system that we have water restrictions on a year round basis. These restrictions are as follows:

EVEN numbered houses may water their lawns and gardens on the EVEN days of the month and ODD numbered houses may water their lawns and gardens on ODD days of the month.

CURRENTLY OUR WATER DEMAND IS NEAR CAPACITY. TO AVOID A TOTAL LAWN WATERING BAN, PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE NOTICE.

Thank you,
Village of Nakusp

Kaslo Council, July 26: Offer to purchase Provincial building to be submitted

by Jill Braley

•Greg Yaholnitsky of the BC Building Corporation (BCBC) informed council by email that BCBC was preparing its research locally to list the Kaslo Courthouse for sale and asked when the Village would be making its offer. Because there had been inquiries from other prospective purchasers, they wanted to receive specific word about the intent of the Village. Council, after much discussion, voted to complete and return the purchase document for the building, indicating the purchase amount of $120,000 with no downpayment and subject to the outcome of the November 2005 referendum. Mayor Douglas and Councillor Holland were both opposed.

•Council received word that FortisBC will not assist with costs incurred as a result of the June 13 power surge. After investigating the incident, Fortis determined that all necessary protective equipment was in place and functioning normally, so the incident was outside of their control. The surge caused an estimated $8190 in damage to the water and sewer treatment plants. Council will refer the matter to Willis Canada insurance company for comment.

•Jim Craven of the Municipal Finance Authority will be asked to conduct a workshop in Kaslo on community bonds and development corporations formed by local governments during the week of September 12. The Kaslo & District Chamber of Commerce will be invited to attend.

•The Village of Kaslo was successful in its Seniors in Communities Dialogue grant application for $1500. Program planning with the Kaslo & District Senior Citizens Association will begin soon.

•Council voted to release grant funding of $2500 to the Bear Smart Program. Mayor Douglas was opposed. Council had asked for financial information about the organization before it would release the funds. Some information was received, but council also voted to request a more detailed and comprehensive financial statement to be included on the August 23 council agenda.

•Kaslo Bay Resort (formerly Beachcomber's) asked for a temporary change to its liquor licence for The Fisherman's Tale Pub, to be open till 2 am on Friday, Saturday and Sunday on the long weekend. Council agreed to the request. Councillor Holland declared a potential conflict of interest and excused himself for this item.

•Owners of The Crooked Cafe asked for permission to have live music outside on the patio during Jazz Fest, Thursday-Sunday, until midnight or 1 am. They ensured that activities on the deck would be carefully monitored, and that no alcohol would be allowed to leave the premises. Council granted the request until midnight.

•Herman Van Reenen wrote to council regarding the dusty and poor condition of Balfour Avenue (road to the transfer station). He asked if the road could be paved. Council agreed to refer the matter to the Public Works Committee for recommendation to council.

•Administration will investigate the feasibility of applying for funding under the Dike Crest Gauge Project. The project's objective is to improve local flood response capability. Applications are being handled by the Fraser Basin Council, with funding from the BC Ministry of Environment.

•Council received correspondence from the RDCK regarding additional water service connections within the McDonald Creek service area. An existing residential property on Victoria Avenue would like connection to service up to four tourist cabins. The matter was referred to a meeting to be held with RDCK staff and the municipality.

•Bonnie Schwark wrote to council regarding the unsightly condition of the public beach by the Moyie because of dogs. It was referred to the Animal Control Officer, who will be invited as a delegation to the next regular Community Services Committee to discuss animal control.

•Public Works Foreman Rob Lang will investigate accommodating a 20'x20' space in the public works yard for community composting.

•Parking stalls will be painted on the 400 block of Front Street by McLaren's Bobcat Service Ltd for a total cost of $350

•The lease of the A Avenue fire hall to the Victorian Hospital of Kaslo Auxiliary Society for a period of one year for a fee of $1 will be advertised.

•Council approved the purchase of a piece of equipment for the Water Treatment Plant that will assist in backwashing. The cost is $2600 US, plus shipping.

•Council approved the construction of a new "Welcome to Kaslo" sign as presented by Lang, subject to location approval by the Ministry of Highways.

•Councillor Molly Leathwood asked that Councillor Suzan Hewat be considered to attend UBCM in her place. So far, only Councillor Cormie has registered to attend.

•Accounts Payable in the amount of $29,902.59 was approved.

Blazing the Kaslo River Trail

by Jill Braley

The Kaslo Trailblazer Society has been very hard at work this summer, extending the Kaslo River Trail. Work is still in progress, but stay tuned for a Grand Opening announcement.

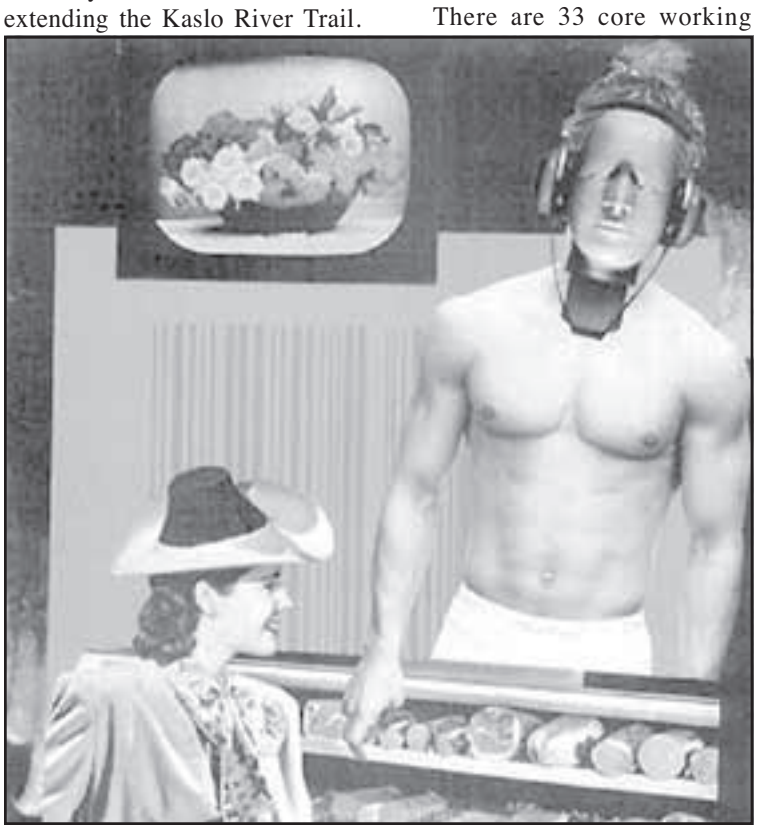
There are 33 core working members of the total membership of 217, and by the middle of July they had put in 347 hours clearing trees and hand digging a 150'-long steep portion of the trail from the Kaslo Welcome sign on Hwy 31A to the old water pipeline.

Fundraising for the project is ongoing. Concrete picnic tables ($700) and benches ($500) will be offered for sale to the public for placement along the trail, with a name plaque attached. The society is selling wood, delivered (90% birch), at a cost of $120 for a half-ton truckload or $100 for society members.

The trail is designated for hiking and mountain biking and will be wheelchair accessible. It is not open to motorized vehicles or horses. For those wishing to use ATVs and/or dirtbikes, the Kaslo Rails to Trails committee has opened an approximately 20-km stretch on the old Kaslo to Sandon wagon road, leaving from the old gravel pit.

The many donations have been much appreciated. The Village of Kaslo has contributed gravel and a Calgary company has donated 200' of pipe. Dick Smith of Kaslo Shipbuilders has volunteered to weld it for guard rails.

The Society has received a super response from all volunteers, but help is always needed. Work parties meet in the mornings every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Call Val Koenig at 353-2168 if you wish to lend a hand.



The Langham Gallery hosts a reception celebrating the artwork of Ian Johnston and Judy Wapp on Friday, August 5 from 7-9 pm. The artists will be in attendance and refreshments will be served.

What's on at the Langham

The Langham Gallery has two shows on until August 14, with reception night for both on August 5 from 7-9 pm.

Tangible Shadows, Nelson artist Ian Johnston's exploration of form and technique in the ceramic medium, is at the main gallery.

Messing with Memes, at the lobby gallery, is long-time Kootenay resident Judy Wapp's show. Wapp works with images of mass media, the mental landscape of our industrialized world. She has shown her work on most continents of our shrinking planet.

Upcoming workshops include Watercolor Sketching for Fun! with Fern Van Horn, August 12, 7-9 pm and August 13 and 14, 9 am-5 pm; and East Meets West with Ellen McIlwaine, who is in Kaslo for a performance at the Jazz Fest and is offering a workshop together with her tabla player, Cassius Kahn. All ages and all levels are welcome. Come if you play guitar, sing or play percussion or just want to listen. Saturday, July 30, 11 am-1 pm. For information or registration, call Emily at 353-2600.

Luanne Armstrong's Writing Workshop will take place the last weekend in August. Info/ Registration: Arin 353-2528.

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POSITION AVAILABLE

Kaslo & District Community Forest Society

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society is looking for a forest technician/forester to manage our Licence. Duties will include administration and supervision of road building, harvesting and silvicultural activities in the Licence area, contract management, and liaison with the appropriate government ministries and the Board of Directors.

The successful candidate will have a minimum of 10 years experience in the forest industry and a good understanding of community forestry. He/She will report to the Board of Directors and will occasionally be required to participate in public meetings. Good communication skills are essential for this position.

The term of this position is three (3) years and it is a full-time salaried position. Contract proposals will be considered. Preference will be given to residents of Kaslo and Area D.

Please send your resume with three (3) references and salary expectations by **August 25, 2005** to:

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society
PO Box 1360
Kaslo, BC V0G 1M0
email: kcfs@netidea.com or fax: (250) 353-9678

For more details on this position and the Kaslo and District Community Forest Society please visit www.kaslocommunityforest.org

KDCFS would like to thank all candidates for their interest. However, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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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
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.

HOT SPRINGS

• Halcyon Hot Springs •(250) 265-3554 •1-888-689-4699 •Fax (250) 265-3887
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."*

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• 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.

• Blue Alpine Touring bluealpine@netidea.com (250) 358-2260
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• Sweet Dreams Guesthouse & Licenced Dining Phone (250) 358-2415 Fax 358-2556 www.newdenverbc.com / sweetdreams@newdenverbc.com
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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.

New Perspective Gallery show features Emily Carr grads

submitted

New Perspective Gallery is opening its doors to a collection of fourteen Emily Carr grads to host its latest show "Dem(ouse)graphics." This truly diverse and dynamic show includes sculpture, installation pieces, hand-painted hand drums, drawing, painting, collage, mixed media, photography and collaborated ceramic sculpture, featuring artists Wynne Palmer, Sonny Assu, Christine Hwang, Jake Hill, Rebecca Chaperone, Melanie Jones, Carinna and Colin Picionni, Megan McKay, Cameron Stuart, Amy Boswall, Lisa Oehler, Amanda Churc, and James Sturck.

The title of the of the show is a play on the word "demographic," which has to do with figures about how and why people live where they do — precisely what the show is about. The 14 artists participating in the show are all hanging pieces about location, and the effects it has on us. The "graphic" part of the word fits in with the art itself, since we will be interpreting the theme through visual language. The word "mouse" is in reference to a story of a city mouse and his country mouse cousin. It's a great little fable about the level of comfort we acquire in our regular surroundings, and what happens to us when we are removed from these.

The exhibition runs until August 27. New Perspective Gallery is located at 3598 Highway 6 in Passmore (25 minutes from Nelson or Castlegar up the Slocan Valley). The gallery hours are Wednesday to Saturday 12:00 - 4:30 pm. For more information, contact New Perspective Gallery at 226-7117 or at info@newperspectivegallery.com.

New perspective Gallery is featuring the work of Emily Carr grads.

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,
Day Pass: **$35.00,** Weekly Rate: **$160.00**
RENTALS: Clubs and Pull carts available.
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)

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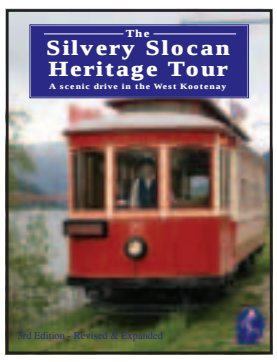

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with Peter Roulston

Valley rail trail continues to develop

This season I'm making a point of often mentioning the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail that extends 50 kms from Slocan City to the junction. There has been a huge amount of work devoted to this corridor over the last year and it's really worth a visit. From the big new gazebo at Slocan's beach and the new signs and bridges on the way down the valley, there's plenty to sample for riders and walkers of any ability.

I was down in Slocan City last week to buy a truck canopy from Pam Sims, who is both drywall installer and house painter. She also has an extraordinary selection of her own framed paintings and shrines that are unique and elegant. Anyhow, I bought the canopy then drove over to the Harold Street Cafe for one of their mammoth four star breakfasts.

As usual, I had a bicycle with me and had plans to ride south down the highway to maybe Appledale, then back along the rail trail for some relaxed, scenic bike time. By happy coincidence the local bus was parked by the shcool with those great bike racks on the front bumper, so I decided to take the easy choice and pay the two bucks. The bus can take two bicycles easily on the super handy front rack and has comfy air conditioned seats for I think up to 40 people. Or 30 at least, but make sure you've got the exact right fare!

So after a couple stops in Slocan, we headed south with several passengers, and I was impressed at how many more people boarded along the way. The bus turned off to take the Perry's Back Road through to Winlaw, then headed south on the highway again, getting fuller. I bailed out at Passmore, where the bus pulls off to stop at the lodge there, and began the nice one-way ride back to my truck at Slocan beach.

The day was already hot, and utterly cloudless, but the sun was behind me and the route is of course totally level. Level and pretty smooth, but not like gravel road smooth...and with the lack of hills or gear changing, I found that I'd need to gear way up from time to time and pedal standing up for a little relief from the ongoing rattling ride. I'll admit that I tend to ride with tires pumped harder than most people, and my full suspension bike would have been a smoother ride, but the fact is that this rail trail is somewhat rough in places and real rough in several others.

There is still a lot of the coarse ballast rock in places, especially between Winlaw and Appledale, and foot and bike traffic seems to pop more pebbles loose as dry conditions and little slips and skids take place. There are places where fine sand and pea gravel are being applied so I suspect the trailbed will be further groomed as time passes. I'd hesitate to send fully loaded touring cyclists along here at this point, and first-time travellers will enjoy the winding highway route anyhow. After a couple of hours on this trail I found the rattling had my wrists kinda tired, so I simply popped out onto the highway to complete the tour on asphalt.

Whether you choose to see this trail by doing various sections of it as a loop ride with some highway time, or if you use the bus as part of the trip, it is really a fine way to see parts of the valley and sections of the river not visible to the motorist. The trailbed will improve with further work and careful use and upkeep, but for now I really suggest it be ridden mainly on lightly loaded mountain bikes with reasonably fat tires. Choose sections of the trail that you want to visit in particular and get a feel for the experience. There's plenty of places to stop by the river and to watch wildlife. As for being an alternate trafficless route up the valley? For locals, maybe, but for tourists, there's the need for them to see our roadside shops and facilities and spend money.

The bus is great fun and real cheap, too. Get a copy of the Rider's Guide from many outlets in the valley. Check the schedule and routes for this and many other shuttle type trips. Most of these buses can take two bikes plus whatever carry-on stuff you have, but sadly no kayaks...Phone 1-877-THE BUSS for more info.

Many of us will remember the train and may have stories of it since the service to Slocan ended just a few years back, and this rail grade will go on making great new memories for us as in coming years.

Peter Roulston has owned the Bicycle Hospital near Nakusp since 1992. 265-4331. 358-2133.

Off-road exploring

I think the summer fun season has really arrived this time – sun is shining and the rain has degenerated into a sporadic affair. This is the time of the year that I like to trade in my road bike for the off-road variety and seek the high country.

We are blessed to be surrounded by so many interesting places to explore, and after 25 years of doing just that, I am always finding new and interesting places to visit in the local vicinity. This morning, I am struggling to get all the chores done so I can load up the off-road bikes into the back of the pickup and head into the hills.

There have been a few changes around here that might not be immediately discernible to those that don't hike the backcountry on a regular basis. Many of the logging/mining roads that we used to use for access have become overgrown with buck brush and are now difficult to navigate. The lack of use, combined with the downturn in the mining industry is partly to blame, but I suppose it is Mother Nature's way of preserving her charms.

On the other hand I notice an increase in other types of trails that have been constructed. The downhill bicycle trails have become popular and it is great to see some old trails reconstructed in this format. Be aware though that these are very specialized trails and I have seen places where daredevils dive over with their bikes that I wouldn't even attempt to walk down. I one time made the mistake of starting down one of these downhill trails on my motorbike only to realize that I was quickly getting myself into a situation of no return. It pays to know what you are in for in these cases and my advice is to leave these trails for those that built them and are capable of riding them.

The other change you may notice is the growth of quad trails — wide enough for one of these small four-wheel vehicles, but not nearly wide enough for a regular pickup. They make great walking trails though and are often ideal for the type of motorbiking that we like to do. I am starting to see more and more of these — many are reconstituted mining trails, but other sections illustrate the backbreaking labour of new side hill cuts and much brush clearing. They make wonderful multi-use trails and often go to the scenic spots that many of us seek out.

I have noticed some drawbacks to some of these quad trails. The one I was recently on from the Payne wagon road up to the saddle between Reco and Payne summits, ends in a swampy bit of the tail end of some pristine alpine. Most people just park here and walk the rest of the way to the summit, leaving the spongy layer of moss and lichen intact. However, you do see graphic evidence of some people trying to slipslide their way across this fragile area, with the result that new waterways are formed and much erosion occurs. It is good to remember that if we visit these places of beauty, we have a responsibility to keep them that way.

Summer is a great time to dust off your off-road vehicle or your hiking boots and get up there into the alpine. Enjoy the clear views — the magical panorama of alpine flowers and a refreshing plunge in the lake when you get back down.

NOTES FROM THE RCMP

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

•A 28-year-old male is presumed to have drowned in the Slocan River near Shoreacres on Sunday, July 31. Nelson RCMP and Nelson Search and Rescue were called about 4 pm. The Beasley Fire Department also attended.

Nelson RCMP received a report that a male had been floating down the river, bodysurfing in the current, and appeared to be having difficulty in the current. His friends lost sight of him and searched for him along the shoreline. When he failed to reappear, they contacted the RCMP. The body was recovered just west (upstream) from the Shoreacres bridge. No names are being released pending notification of kin. The investigation is ongoing.

•Nelson RCMP was called when a local man and his girlfriend from Vancouver had not returned from a day hike in Kokanee Glacier Park after dark on July 30. The couple was spotted on Sunday morning on the glacier, where they had headed to get their bearings, by a Kokanee Helicopter pilot providing a support service for Search and Rescue. They were returned to SAR base safe and sound. The couple had over extended themselves on the hike and were too far from their vehicle to return before nightfall. They descended to a lower elevation to find warmth and protection in the woods overnight.

A reunion of the Mt. Sentinel Grad Class of 1955, the second class to graduate from the high school, was held on June 4 at the Heritage Inn. Left to right are: John Stonoski, Helen (Savinkoff) Zeibin, Elsie (Woykin) Chernoff, Les Canty (principal), Ruby (Johnson) Lazar and Bill Osachoff. Missing is Noralee Marshall, deceased. The grads and their spouses travelled from Victoria, Abbotsford, Edmonton, Osoyoos, Nakusp and Castlegar to participate in this historic occasion.

New Denver/Silverton locals Marianne Vanish and Val Peterson ham it up at the annual antique show and sale on New Denver's Main Street, held July 17 this year.

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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

The Slocan Valley Community Complex Society would like to thank the following businesses for their support of our concession stand during Slocan Logger Sports: Springer Creek Forest Products, Eldorado Market, Fomi's Bakery, 4 Seasons Greenhouse & the Royal Canadian Legion.

COMING EVENTS

NAKUSP PUBLIC LIBRARY'S Annual Book, Bake and Rummage Sale on Saturday, August 13 from 10 am to 2 pm. Bargains galore! Book sale will continue the following week.

HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY - Rabi'a Aug 3 - 8. Batiks, watercolours, mosaics. Opening Aug. 3 (7-9 pm). Jacob plays flutes in the garden. Patrizia Menton's photos Aug. 10 - 15. Opening Aug. 12 (7-9 pm). Howard Bearham's Saxophone. All welcome!

SILVERTON SUNDAY MARKET - foods, crafts, arts, music, etc. 10 am-2 pm on the north lawn of Silverton Country Inn. Info 358-7704 or mainline@netidea.com New vendors always welcome.

SLOCAN CITY OUTDOOR MARKET every Sunday 10 am - 2 pm. Interested vendors & performers, call Carol at 355-2627.

new perspective gallery presents its latest show "dem(ouse)graphics" featuring fourteen emily carr grads, photography sculpture, ceramics, printmaking and more...show runs july 16 to august 27...wed - sat 12 - 4:30 226-7117 or info@new perspectivegallery.com.

R.A.R.T.S. AGM, Thursday August 11, 7 PM. Vallican Whole. Agenda includes a special resolution to update our bylaws. Info 226-0097

Le BIBLIOBUS sera de retour bientôt! La bibliothèque mobile de l'AFKO sera à Nakusp chez Bianca, le jeudi 11 août entre 17h et 19h (pot-luck). Info: Bianca, 265-2208.

Valley Voice Personal Classifieds start at $8.00

HANDS ON FOR THE ARTS 2005 Exposition & Silent Auction: Arts, Music, Adventure Experiences, Services, in support of VSSM Programs August 7 - 11, Villa Dome Quixote.

SILVERTON GALLERY presents the art of Sandra Donohue and Lynne Lalonde in a two-person exhibit. Opening Reception is 7 pm, Tuesday, August 16. Music by Larry Anderson.

SLOCAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COMPLEX Society Annual General Meeting Wednesday, September 7, 7:00 pm WE Graham School. Everyone encouraged to attend.

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.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MEN & WOMEN: Commissionaires BC is accepting applications at the Castlegar Airport for part-time security guards for the Slocan area from former members of the Canadian Armed Forces, HM Forces, RCMP & the Primary Reserve. Men & women applicants must be physically fit, meet Cdn. standards for security guards and be willing to work shifts. Send resumes to 123-100 St., Castlegar, BC V1N 3C7

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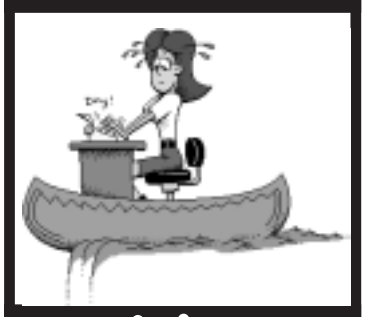

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Arts and heritage funding awarded to Arrow and Slocan Valleys

submitted

The Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance (CKCA), in partnership with the Columbia Basin Trust, has approved $220,000 in funding for artists, arts, culture and heritage projects throughout the Canadian Columbia Basin for the 2005-2006 funding year.

The communities of Nakusp and Arrow Lakes received a total of $6,000 in funding for artistic or heritage community projects, and capital funding support. Recipients are: Charlotte Cunningham (Reflections/Recycled); ALFA Guild (Artists Stipends); Arrow Lakes Arts Council (Kootenay Concert); Arrow Lakes Historical Society (Halcyon, The Captain's Paradise); Mirror Theatre (The Tempest); Music in the Park; Arrow Lakes Historical Society (computer for archive office).

The communities of Slocan Lake and Slocan Valley received a total of $11,450 in funding for artistic or heritage community projects, mentoring and touring project funding support. Recipients are: Trevor J. Harrop (Lives Lived); Hidden Garden Gallery (Arts Alive); Slocan Lake Social Dance Club (Summer Dance Camp); Angela S. Jones (Circus & Facilitation Training); Rabi'a (Garden Sculptures); Tara Shelley (Terra/Tara "Home" CD); Lucerne School Parent Advisory Council (Writers Festival); Rita Moir (Windshift Line Tour).

Two local women featured at the Hidden Garden Gallery

submitted

NEW DENVER—Rabi'a, an artist from down the valley, will present her batiks, watercolours and mosaics in the garden and gallery from August 3-8. Her show "Reflections" will also feature carved river rock and three-dimensional garden mosaics, as well as two-dimensional indoor pieces. She is looking forward to celebrating with old friends and new at her opening reception on Wednesday, August 3 from 7-9 pm. Jacob Trezevant will entertain with his world folk woodwinds.

Patrizia Menton, photographer from Hills, will exhibit her new works in a show entitled, "Fragments in Time" at the gallery from August 10-15. On her most recent visit to Italy, Patrizia was captivated by architectural details and says of this exhibition, "The photographs in this show reflect my ongoing love-affair with Italian architecture, its remarkable history and the way it reaches into present day life. I focus mostly on small details and call them 'fragments in time.'" Everyone is invited to meet Patrizia at her opening gala on Friday, August 12 from 7-9 pm. Howard Bearham will delight us with his jazz saxophone riffs. These events are supported, in part, by the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance.

Play poker on the river, August 20

submitted

On Sunday, August 7 the Slocan Valley Recreation Commission will be hosting the 11th running of its Poker Float. Inflatable craft of all sizes, shapes and decoration are expected to once again dot the meandering Slocan River along the 7-km float route from Perry's Siding to the Winlaw Regional and Nature Park. Last year a terrific head wind had people floating up the river for a brief period of time and it's hoped the weather will be warm and calm this time around. Floats in the past have ranged from pirate ships to floating bicycles to elephants, dragons and the occasional living room.

How the Poker Float works is participants stop at five stations along the way, collecting a playing card at each. The best poker hand wins at the end of the day. Participants and their crafts are part of the show and the on-river camaraderie turns the event into a big floating family-like festival.

This year the event organizers are reminding everyone that this is a family event and to refrain from bringing alcohol along. They're promising that "if you booze, you lose."

Because of the high water levels this spring, it's expected that the float should be relatively quick this year — somewhere around 3.5 to 4 hours. The float begins at the Perry's Siding Bridge and finishes at the Winlaw Regional and Nature Park with registration starting at 11 am. Prizes are awarded for Best Poker Hand, Best Float and Best Homemade Hat. As well, there's a variety of draw prizes available, but you must be present to win. A shuttle service runs from the finish to start area between 11:15 and 11:45 am. It's strongly recommended that floaters take advantage of this service.

This year the fee for the event has been set at $5 per person. That figure is reduced to the regular $3 per person if a Slocan food-bank donation item is brought along.

The launch gets underway to the stirring melody of David Hogg's bagpipes. At the end of the ride, floaters will be greeted with the music of Holly and Jon Burdon. The Winlaw Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting the concession at the park for those tired and hungry floaters to take advantage of. There'll be free hot chocolate for the floaters should they need a shot of warmth

A few float hints: floaters must have PFDs with them; children 12 & under require adult accompaniment; please leave no garbage in the river; sunscreen is a helpful item to bring along, as is a hat.

For more information, call Slocan Valley Recreation at 226-0008.

Winners of the Valley View Golf Club's annual Open Men's and Ladies' Tournament on July 17, sponsored by Castlegar Savings Credit Union, from L to R: Jim Sanders, Joanne Pelton, Linda Hicks and Willie Hicks. Results were: Overall Low Gross: Men - Willie Hicks 70; Ladies - Linda Hicks 90. Overall Low Net: Men - Jim Sanders 61; Ladies - Joanne Pelton 74. Long Drive: Men - Jim Sanders; Ladies - Karen Zaytsoff. Closest to Pin: Men - Brien Thomas; Ladies: Donna Sanders.

Sign up for the Slocan Lake Dance Camp

submitted

You may not be ready for TV's Dancing with the Stars but after the Slocan Lake Dance Camp in New Denver this summer you'll be a few steps closer to that dream. From Friday, August 19 to Monday the 22nd the Slocan Lake Dance Club is offering social/ballroom classes and dancing for grownups.

The smooth styles of Foxtrot and Waltz will be taught along with the popular Jive, East Coast and West Coast Swing as well as Country and Nightclub Two-Step and the Latin dances, Cha Cha and Rhumba — all at both beginner and intermediate levels.

Passmore residents Victor and Annilie Doerksen will instruct the beginners and Michael Wiebe of the University of Calgary Dance Club the Intermediate level.

So load up the cooler and canoe and come camping and dancing in New Denver. For registration details, watch for posters and brochures in local outlets, visit www.dancingbeat.org or call 1-250-358-2448.

Hands on for the Arts silent auction runs for third year

submitted

Have you ever watched two grown men in a bidding war over a truckload of manure? Or veteran auction teams of three women plotting to get that final bid on a gourmet dinner? Or teen musicians pooling their last allowance dollars for a hand-made Musician's Journal?

This is a slice of the action and fun to be had at Hands on for the Arts 2005, an exposition and silent auction of arts, outdoor adventures and services at Villa Dome Quixote, New Denver, in support of VSSM programs for young musicians.

Among the over 70 items in this year's intriguing collection, you will find colour prints from original work; handpainted clothing; color and black-white art photos; original watercolors; ceramic and knitted creations; music CDs and scores; glass, silver and Cook Islands Sea Jewel necklaces; photo gift card sets; certificates for lodging, dining, kayaking; stained glass; bike and outdoor gear, bird feeders; a fly tying table, metronome, herbals basket, and even Monique La Belle, a Rowena teddy bear.

The show and auction opens August 7 at 7:30 pm and continues through August 11, noon to 6 pm daily. All bidding closes at 6 pm Thursday.

Bring your friends to peruse the amazing variety of offerings by our generous entrepreneurial community. Who knows? You may even find yourself in a bidding frenzy over that sexy bamboo motif dress from Nuru Designs or 18-hole passes to the Slocan Lake Golf Course!

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