The Valley VOICE

Free!

Volume 15, Number 9 May 10, 2006 **Delivered to every home between Edgewood, Kaslo & South Slocan. Published bi-weekly.**
"Your independently-owned regional community newspaper serving the Arrow Lakes, Slocan & North Kootenay Lake Valleys."

At Winlaw's colourful Mayday Parade April 30, about 200 people wound their way down to the river. The Water Crystal (Angela Jones) started out leading the parade, but stopped at the fire truck for a rest. (see story, p. 9)

New Denver and Silverton join forces to provide area fire service

by Jan McMurray

An historic agreement was signed April 26 between the Villages of New Denver and Silverton. As of May 1, the two volunteer fire departments are officially working together as one to provide service from Rosebery to Red Mountain Road.

"This will save us money eventually," said New Denver Village Administrator Carol Gordon. "Instead of each of us putting out money for new trucks, we can pool our resources to service the whole area."

Vehicles now available to serve the area are Silverton's 1974 Ford mini pumper truck and 1986 Ford fire pumper truck, New Denver's rescue vehicle with jaws of life and the RDCK-owned tanker truck and pumper truck. All equipment can be moved from one hall to the other as needed.

New Denver administers the service, so has contracts with Silverton, the Rosebery portion of Area H and the Red Mountain Road portion of Area H. All parties pay into the fire department budget proportionately, based on property assessments. New Denver Administrator Carol Gordon assured that the amount Silverton will pay into the budget will be comparable to what it has always paid for its own department.

All costs for the service will come out of the budget, except that Silverton will continue to pay its existing leases for fire equipment and the 1986 truck on its own. Also, each Village will look after its own fire inspection costs, as well as the hydrants within its boundaries.

A committee with representatives from both Villages, the Area H director and the fire chief will hold a budget meeting in February every year.

Any party can terminate the contract by giving 18 months written notice. If Silverton withdrew, it would get its contribution to the fire reserve back, as well as all firefighting equipment it owns now. All new equipment, however, would remain with New Denver.

All of the communities of the upper Slocan Valley have now joined together to provide fire protection from Rosebery to Red Mountain Road. Silverton Mayor John Everett (right) and New Denver Mayor Gary Wright (left) have just signed a contract that has put the resources of the two departments under one fire service. Leonard Casley (centre) is fire chief.

Hills resident loses everything in April 26 house fire

by Art Joyce

On the evening of April 26, the home of Rose Naghtigal caught fire and burned to the ground despite the best efforts of the Hills volunteer fire brigade. Firefighters were able to prevent the blaze from spreading to the surrounding forest, garage and outbuildings, but Naghtigal lost everything in the fire.

It started about 6:15 pm. Naghtigal and Rick Owens had just finished barbecueing and had gone inside to eat dinner when they noticed a powerful glow coming from the front deck. The barbecue had been shut off only a minute or so earlier. Owens emptied a standard household fire extinguisher on the front of the building but it was of little use. The cedar siding was coated with varathane, which seemed to have liquified, providing high-octane fuel for the fire.

"I was wondering why the flames seemed to run first down the wall toward the foundation, before shooting back up the wall," Owens said.

Naghtigal drove to the Hills mailboxes and knocked on doors to get neighbours to call 911. Pat McCrory rushed to her aid, felling trees close to the house to help contain the blaze. Other Hills residents showed up quickly with shovels and fire extinguishers.

Wayne McCrory, who was driving to Nakusp to attend the memorial service for John Poznikoff, noticed the smoke and called for the volunteer brigade's fire truck.

"The house was already fully engulfed when we got there," says McCrory. "I don't think we could have saved it even if the fire truck had been right there."

Both hoses from the truck as well as a pump bringing water from a nearby creek were brought to bear on the flames. He says a fire hydrant on-site might have helped, and for the $200-300 investment, encourages rural homeowners to install them on their properties.

McCrory says the brigade relies on a three-pronged firefighting approach: use of the fire truck, a water pump and hoses, and available domestic water through on-site hydrants that can be used to refill the truck. He points out that this is the third fire in Hills in three years, demonstrating clearly the need for firefighting infrastructure. McCrory commends the volunteers for observing safety regulations and working well as a team. BC Hydro was contacted and sent a truck to deal with power line safety issues.

"The ferocity of the fire was so sudden, it's fortunate they weren't on the deck when it erupted. We're just glad nobody was hurt," he said.

McCrory contacted Emergency Co-ordinator Terry Warren in Nakusp and Naghtigal was able to benefit from a fund which provides money for the first 72 hours after an emergency.

The Nakusp thrift store generously offered Naghtigal free clothing, and donated items have been pouring in. A donation account has been set up at the New Denver Credit Union (acct.#3911-5 MAX 01).

According to friend Eloise Charet, "more tears have been cried over the touching gifts and concern of the community than for the fire."

Maggie Maloney has offered her New Denver cottage to Naghtigal, who hoped to move in the first weekend of May. When asked what she needs, she sounds understandably flustered. "Once I get into the house and reach for something that's not there, I'll have a better idea. I just want to thank everyone in the community for being so generous. If this kind of thing has to happen to anybody, I can't imagine a better community for it to happen in."

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CBT youth advisory committee members sought

submitted

The Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is looking for youth between the ages of 15 and 29 who are interested in joining the Youth Advisory Committee starting September 2006. The CBT Youth Advisory Committee provides youth perspectives to programs and issues in several areas including arts, culture and heritage, environment, economic development, social issues, employment, education and training.

"My involvement with the committee this year has been a life altering experience!"says Miranda Tedesco. "Not only have I had the opportunity to learn more about both myself and the Columbia Basin, I have also had the opportunity to turn it around and contribute all of my newfound knowledge and skills back to my community!"

CBT is looking for youth who live in the Basin, are able to commit to one year of volunteering, and have an enthusiasm for sharing information. Applications are available on CBT's youth website at: www.scratchonline.ca or at any CBT office. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2006.

"We are looking for young people from different walks of life, age ranges, different communities and all kinds of experiences," says Wayne Lundeberg, CBT Community Liaison. "The Youth Advisory Committee provides a youth perspective to CBT, and oversees CBT's youth program such as Scratch Magazine, www.scratchon line.ca and the Columbia Basin Youth Grants."

Short listed applicants may be contacted for a brief interview. Those applicants invited to join the committee will be notified by Aug. 1, 2006. The first committee meeting with new members is scheduled for September 2006.

CBT is a regionally based Crown corporation created in 1995 to deliver economic, social and environmental benefits to the residents of the Columbia Basin. For more information on how to apply, contact CBT at 1-800-505-8998 or visit www.scratchonline.ca to download an application and backgrounder.

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All Parents Belong! Parent Conference a Big Hit

submitted

Over thirty devoted parents hailing from all over our district spent a sunny Saturday at LV Rogers discussing options for their secondary school students. The day began with LVR Principal Mike McIndoe giving an enlightening, and often humorous, talk on the adolescent mind and how it affects students' course selections. Dan Dalgaard, Principal of Central Education Centre, then spoke to some alternate paths to graduation that the CEC offers. During lunch, Shannon Isaac of Safe Spaces presented information in game-show style on sexual health topics. The final presenter in the afternoon was Andy Leathwood who is the Principal of JV Humphries in Kaslo. Using his vast experience, he spoke about the new Portfolio Program required for graduation.

Parent feedback from the conference has indicated that parents appreciated the time and obvious energies of all the speakers. Parents also indicated that they want more parenting conferences of this nature as it allows them to be more involved and current about their children's educational path. In response to this feedback, the Kootenay Lake DPAC plans to offer this conference annually for parents.

To see the Power Point presentations from the 2006 conference and for more information about the Kootenay Lake DPAC please visit: www.dpac.kics.bc.ca

The Kootenay Lake DPAC would like to thank the Kootenay Lake School District 8 and the Columbia Power Corporation for its generous support of this conference.

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Buy mom a ticket for the SLUGS Mother's Day draw

submitted

It's back again! The Mother's Day Draw is the spring fundraiser for the Slocan Lake Garden Society. The donated prizes this year are: 'Spring Path: Kohan Garden' photograph by Moonbow , 'Snowdrops' watercolour by Donna Hicks, 'Safe Sex' (in the garden!) photograph by Walter Wells, and a basket made from Kohan Garden willow by Eloise Charet. You can see the prizes on display in the window of the Horsefeathers store in Silverton. Tickets are on sale at the Appletree, Silverton Building Supplies, Horsefeathers and from SLUGS too.

There are only 200 tickets printed and the proceeds go directly to maintenance and projects of the SLUGS volunteers for the Kohan Reflection Garden.

The draw will be held in the teahouse at the Kohan Reflection Garden at 12 pm on Sunday May 14, Mother's Day. Come and pick out your prize!

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Refundable bin for the Crescent Valley Youth Centre!

submitted

Thanks to a generous donation from BC Hydro, the Crescent Valley Youth Centre has purchased a refundable bottle/can bin. The community is asked to donate any of their refundable beverage containers (pop, juice, water, beer, wine) to the bin which is located between the two recycling containers in Crescent Valley.

The Youth Centre kids will empty the bin and bring the containers to the depot for the deposit. This will bring much needed revenue to the Youth Centre and the kids themselves will have the opportunity to take home some of the profit. So please support this worthy cause and bring in your empties. Call the Youth Centre @ 359-8288 for info.

Thanks to a generous donation from BC Hydro, the Crescent Valley Youth Centre has purchased a refundable bottle/can bin.

Local film to be shown in Castlegar

submitted

The Kootenay Gallery is offering a bonus movie in its Monday Night at the Movies series. In response to many requests, we're showing *A Simple Curve*, a film set in our own West Kootenay back yard, on Monday May 15th at 7pm in the Kootenay Centre Cinema Complex.

First time film director, Aubrey Nealon, grew up with hippie parents in the Slocan Valley, and unlike most teens, didn't have much to rebel against in his laidback upbringing. He's brought this experience to life in his portrayal of Caleb, now 27, and his father, Jim, with whom Caleb has had an easygoing connection. They run a small carpentry shop together and relate more as friends than as father and son.

However, Caleb feels a growing disatisfaction with his life as his relationship with his father deteriorates. Jim's perfectionist craftmanship cannot compete with mass produced furniture and they find it harder and harder to eke out a living. A project to build a high-end fishing lodge is opposed by Jim but Caleb secretly supports it as a way to save the family business.

This refreshing take on a father-son conflict is a delightful and assured film, both funny and touching, and one which shows why so many people thought they had found Nirvana in the Slocan Valley.

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Burton School to close?

by Jan McMurray

The School District #10 school board passed a motion of intent to close Burton School at its April 20 meeting. As per board policy, the 60-day consultation period with parents, staff and the community was initiated. A meeting will be held May 16 at 7 pm at the school.

Superintendent Walter Posnikoff said the closure was being considered because of demographics and enrollment. The current projection for next year's enrollment is 7 students, with no Kindergarten children.

Burton School is the newest school in the district and was built for about 90 students. Nakusp Elementary, where Burton School students would probably go if the school closed, was built for about 300, and there are about 260 students.

Enrollment is dropping at all SD #10 schools, with estimated numbers from this year to next year as: LESS: 128 to 122.5; NES: 252.5 to 231; BES: 11.5 to 7; EES: 35 to 33. Total enrollment is dropping from 646 to 602.5, according to projections.

The good news is that funding levels won't change much next year. The district will not lose more than 1% of last year's budget because of the government commitment to assuring funding security for one year.

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Public meeting gives direction for community planning in Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

It was very clear from a public meeting held May 4 in Nakusp that the community wants to be in control of its growth and development.

As a start to its Official Community Plan (OCP) review, council called the meeting to get public input on last year's hot springs charrette and the 2004 bootstrap process, and on its recently announced three-year plan. Bob Toews and Corinne Tessier, who co-ordinated the charrette, facilitated this meeting.

Toews gave a Power Point presentation on the charrette, where developers visited Nakusp and the hot springs for a day and a half and gave their ideas about development in the area.

"Their core message was that as a community, you have to plan for your future and be passionate about what Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes stand for," Toews said.

Although the developers were impressed with the area, they indicated they would not be interested in investing in Nakusp until there were significant infrastructure improvements (to the tune of about $2 million) and a more comprehensive package of attractions and activities.

The visiting developers considered three options: big resort development at the existing hot springs site; a resort in the village with piped-in hot springs water in addition to the existing facility; and a 'mountain living community,' with clusters of resort style accommodation surrounding the village.

Later in the meeting, people were asked to show which of the above options was their favourite. Most preferred the mountain living community, followed by the in-village resort. No one wanted full-scale development of the existing site, but some supported small-scale development with local investors.

There was also a list of activities that would support resort development, and everyone was asked to show which three of these they preferred. Most liked the idea of a wellness, health and spa centre best. Many supported the idea of a golf centre, and the marina was also a favourite. A suggestion by a community member to have lake levels stabilized was shown overwhelming support.

Tessier asked the approximately 75 people present a series of questions to help them communicate their thoughts to council.

"I have always thought of 'developer' as a dirty word," was a comment that summed up the feelings of many people there.

Someone expressed concern about becoming another Banff.

"Are we not in danger of losing what we love around here?" another asked.

People were surprised at the high cost of making the area attractive to developers and that the developers expected the Village, the Province and CBT to bear those costs.

Village Chief Administrative Officer Bob Lafleur explained that there was no research done on the return on investment for the Village if it spent $2 million on developing infrastructure, but that the developers had indicated that there would be economic development in general.

He explained that the OCP was a very important document because developers' plans would have to fit with the community plan and vision instead of the other way around.

When Tessier asked the crowd what they found exciting, answers included the prospect of jobs, young people coming in, the school staying open, Nakusp council and area residents becoming interested in the community's future, the co-operative spirit of the process. A show of hands showed unanimous support for the OCP review.

Mayor Hamling responded to a request to define the community that would be involved in the OCP planning process. She said the community included Nakusp, Burton, Fauquier and she wasn't sure about how Edgewood felt. She also said she considered New Denver and Silverton to be part of the community, and she reported that she had received a call of support from Revelstoke "because it [hot springs closure] affects them, too."

Mayor Hamling confirmed that developers involved in the charrette provided their services on a volunteer basis, and were not "waiting in the wings" to develop Nakusp.

"We want your input and we are not going to go ahead and do something you don't want. We all recognize that in order for Nakusp to survive, we need to grow — and it will happen whether we want it or not — so let's be the people in charge of what happens. That's why we're having this meeting, and there will be more down the road," assured Hamling.

Nakusp Ambulance Unit holds open house

by Jan McMurray

The message at the Nakusp Ambulance Unit's open house May 6 was: the BC Ambulance Service needs you!

The service is actively recruiting volunteer paramedics throughout the area. Anyone interested should call local stations in Nakusp, New Denver, Winlaw and Kaslo, or call the regional office in Kamloops at 828-5840.

One of the job's perks is that "people are always glad to see you," said Nakusp volunteer paramedic John Janzen. He is retired and enjoying the opportunity to give back to his community.

Norm Bickel, regional superintendent, encourages interested people to contact the service, even if they don't have all the pre-requisites. "I'm happy to get together with people, look at what they've got and see if we can make it fit, or if there is a way to help them get qualified," he said.

BC Ambulance Service had an open house in Nakusp May 6. L to R: Donna Murray, Edgewood Unit Chief and Acting Chief for Nakusp, John Janzen and Randy MacKenzie, volunteer paramedics at the Nakusp station, and Norm Bickel, superintendent of the region

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK

Message from Terry Warren, Emergency Co-ordinator

It is very important that all individuals and families familiarize themselves with the hazards that could threaten them, and to develop personal/family emergency plans.

All persons should be prepared for the first 72 hours of a disaster, with personal/family emergency grab & go bags ready. These bags should contain clothing, personal hygiene products, a first aid kit, identification, contact lists, food and water, tools and equipment, medical aids, and extras for the 72 hours if needed.

Our local Emergency Preparedness Committee members started off Emergency Preparedness Week with Emergency Operations Centre training on May 6 and 7 at the Nakusp Fire Hall. These people are the key support group for any disaster in our areas of the Regional District of Central Kootenay.

There is a lot of information available to the public to help with emergency preparedness. For any information, contact Emergency Program Co-ordinator Terry Warren at (250) 265-0230 or email trwarren@telus.net. The Provincial Emergency Programs website is at www.pep.bc.ca and the federal site is at www.epweek.ca. Information on outdoor safety can be found at www.adventuresmart.ca.

Terry Warren, Emergency Co-ordinator

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Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct and Operate the Big White Supply Project

Notice of Oral Public Hearing Process

The FortisBC Application

On March 9, 2006, FortisBC applied to the Commission for approval to construct and operate a 138 kV transmission line from the Joe Rich Substation in Kelowna to a new Substation at the Big White Village at an estimated cost of $20.3 million.

The Regulatory Process

The Commission has established that an Oral Public Hearing Process for the review of the Application is required.

Public Inspection of the Documents

The FortisBC CPCN Application and supporting material will be made available for inspection at the Utility's Head Office in Kelowna at the Landmark IV, 5th Floor, 1628 Dickson Avenue, Kelowna, B.C., its Trail Office at 1290 Esplanade, Trail, B.C., at the Public Library in Grand Forks, B.C., and the British Columbia Utilities Commission, Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6Z 2N3.

Registering to Participate

Unless they have already registered, persons who expect to actively participate in the FortisBC proceeding should register as **Intervenors** with the Commission, in writing, by **Friday, May 5, 2006**. Requests for Participant funding should also be submitted by May 5, 2006. Intervenors will receive copies of the Application, all correspondence and filed documentation.

Persons not expecting to actively participate, but who have an interest in the FortisBC proceeding should register as **Interested Parties** with the Commission, in writing, by the same date. Interested Parties will receive a copy of the Application's Executive Summary and all Orders issued.

Location and proceeding details of the Oral Public Hearing will be published by June 16, 2006.

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date
■ Registration of Intervenors and submission of participant funding budgets	May 5, 2006
■ Commission Information Request No. 1 to FortisBC	May 12, 2006
■ FortisBC Responses to Commission Information Request No. 1	May 26, 2006
■ Intervenor and Commission Information Request No. 2 to FortisBC	June 9, 2006
■ FortisBC Responses to Intervenor and Commission Information Request No. 2	June 23, 2006
■ Oral Public Hearing (location to be determined)	July 5, 2006
■ FortisBC Final Arguments	July 14, 2006
■ Intervenor Arguments	July 21, 2006
■ FortisBC Rebuttal Argument	July 28, 2006

Further Information

For further information, please contact Mr. Robert J. Pellatt, Commission Secretary and Mr. Robert Rerie, Senior Electrical Engineer as follows:

Telephone: (604) 660-4700
Facsimile: (604) 660-1102
Email: Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com
Telephone (B.C. Toll Free): 1-800-663-1385

Voices from the Valleys

Rethink meat inspection regulations

I'm not sure why the federal government is trying to end the long-standing practice of allowing farmers to raise a few animals to slaughter and sell to their neighbours. These farm-gate sales make the difference between profit and loss for many farm families.

I try try to purchase as much locally raised meat as I can. Not only does it help a local farmer, but it's generally tastier than what I can buy at a large chain supermarket. Lots of people raise a few extra animals to sell to their friends and neighbours. Starting in September 2007, this will be a thing of the past. All animals will have to be killed in licensed slaughterhouses.

It is a real inconvenience for small farmers to have to ship their animals to federally regulated slaughterhouses to be killed, inspected, and then shipped back to a local meatcutter, before he can sell them to his neighbours. It's particularly annoying if one is a farmer in the West Kootenays. The nearest licensed slaughterhouse for most of our readers is in the Okanagan. The one exception to this rule, is that the farmer is allowed to kill and process animals for use by his own family.

Many local farmers will stop raising as many animals. Those of us who live in the towns near by will eat less locally raised meat, and more from the feedlots of Alberta. I'm not sure that's a good thing.

What does that mean for local control of our food supply? What does it mean for our health? What does it mean for our local economy and our farm families?

Sometimes regulations are just silly. I agree with the federal government that meat destined for export should be slaughtered and inspected in a federally licensed facility. I also think that I ought to be able to buy a pig or a side of beef from my neighbour, without having to wade through a mountain of paperwork and pay shipping costs to the Okanagan and back.

Dan Nicholson, publisher

Softwood deal a sham

Just when we had the tank on the ropes on softwood, this putz Harper caves in to what was an obvious bluff, a ploy, a gambit! The Yank is a sharp trader, others, not so sharp! Maybe Canada deserves to be run from Washington and Zurich.

g.turner
Edgewood

Danger area on Hwy 31 needs work

One of the most dangerous stretches of highway in this area is just south of Kaslo on Highway 31. Right at Mirror Lake there is a steep drop-off with no guard rail because there is no shoulder! No room for error here! The danger to bicyclists and pedestrians is extreme. I live in the Mirror Lake community so must drive this frequently...but anyone coming to Kaslo from the south must drive here.

In 2003 we were told this had high priority for funding to improve this situation. Obviously nothing has been done — nor will it be unless more people complain about this situation.

What do others think of this need?

Nancy Hansell
Mirror Lake

Composting project unsustainable

This is a rebuttal to both letters in the April 26 *Valley Voice* since they were basically the same letter. It is very commendable that Marlaina Blanche ("Do homework before public criticism") would defend her own son, Jamie Whitney ("Kaslo community composter responds") but I believe that the Earthworkers' project is poorly organized and unsustainable. I stand on what I stated in my letter "Politically incorrect on composting" (April 12 *Valley Voice*) and wish to expand on it.

I do not understand people who believe that society owes them a living and that they have no obligation to provide fair value for that income.

It seems very irresponsible to drop everything just because funding has been consumed, and wait for the next dollar before doing any more, leaving a mess that Village council has to act on.

Mentioned in the letters are the many connections throughout the community such as sharing enthusiasm and knowledge with students, presenting a composting workshop which was attended by "several participants," and raking leaves for some senior citizens. Commendable acts, I'm sure, but do we really have to pay you for this? When there are so many other non-profit organizations that do so much for the community and never get any remuneration at all?

Once again I propose that volunteers who want a composting program put forth a plan to the Village to set aside an area for a community organic pile that gets turned occasionally with a front-end loader. Another plan is for all the excess fruit and kitchen waste to go to a pig farming operation that truly does the most efficient composting. Perhaps there might be some kind of income produced from this that would compensate the effort.

My understanding is that pressure is being placed on the KDCFS to reconsider the Earthworkers' request for funding in order to qualify with Canada Eco-action Program of $32,000. I am very opposed to this.Why don't we just compost the money to streamline the process?!

Rick Foster
Lardeau

Time to rally together for Kaslo community forest

Kaslo and District Community Forest (KDCFS) has been offered an opportunity to apply for a long-term community forest agreement. Though there has been much conflict in the past surrounding this organization, now is the time for the community to come together to make the most of this very valuable opportunity.

Community forests are more than a bulk fibre supply — more than just a small contributor to the commodity fibre focus of the larger industries of the province. They are watersheds, wildlife habitat, recreation areas, educational assets, tourism assets, visual backdrops, sources of non-timber products and so on.

Community forests should be managed for multiple purposes and the value of the connection of people to their local landscape should be valued along with the commercial products. Timber from community forests should go to enterprises which create local employment or sustain value-added local industries that contribute to the community tax base for infrastructure and amenities.

The community forest movement is about local engagement of people in their surroundings and about active stewardship of community values. Community forests are unique and enable the broadest possible trial of alternative uses that an inventive community can create.

Let's get the community involved in creating an application and long-term plan that everyone can live with. Let the KDCFS board know that you support their efforts to secure the long-term tenure and let them know your priorities for management of this area. This is not an opportunity to pass up.

Frank Benlin
Kaslo Area D

Kaslo crew inefficient

If the Village of Kaslo crew knew how to multi-task, the benefits to the taxpayer would be enormous. As this is not the case, perhaps they could take some lessons from the private sector.

Take the recent street sweeping where the village loader swept up the winter's gravel into its bucket and drove past endless potholes at every intersection to dump it who knows where.

Following that the crew hauled in hundreds of yards of gravel in its dump truck and proceeded to re-gravel the streets in an effort to fill in various pot-holes.

As it stands, most of the potholes are still at the intersections, where they have been for the last ten years.

Unfortunately, what will really cost the taxpayer is the cost of repairing the pavement, which is breaking away on the edges. It will inevitably turn into a great big paving project; that is, unless the crew decides to get out of the pickup truck.

A private contractor cannot afford to operate in this fashion. He would have multi-tasked by using the gravel in the bucket from the street sweeping to fill in the potholes. He may even have made a little extra money.

Another multi-task job could have been done last year when the topsoil/clay from C Avenue was hauled to the peninsula across from the public works yard. Some of that fill could have been dumped above the hill on the north side of the school to beautify that gravel sloping that was done ten years ago. As it is, it is still an eyesore.

Finally I would like to point out that the yard litter being picked up by the Village crew and Earthworkers composting team used to be done a couple of years ago by private contractors who bought business licenses.

Now the work is being subsidized by tax dollars, with the Village crew dumping the yard waste in the gravel pit to be composted or burnt at a later date, and grant funding by the Earthworkers team who abandonded their compost site as soon as the grant funding ran out.

When the private sector was doing the job, there was an end use for the product and it wasn't going to be burnt, which defeats the purpose of collecting the yard waste, and we weren't taking any jobs away from anyone.

As it stands, the Village crew will have to go in and handle the pile of yard waste at the gravel pit a second time once they decide what to do with it. Hardly efficient is it?

Patrick Mackle
Kaslo

Hospital bed or motel room?

On the morning of March 14th, I entered the Trail Regional Hospital for a hernia operation. I had been previously advised by the surgeon to be prepared to stay overnight in the hospital if an extended procedure had to be performed. The extended procedure was performed. The operation took place in the afternoon of March 14th.

I was treated with excellent professional care up to the time of discharge, which was around 6 pm that same evening. I was rudely awakened by the discharge nurse in the recovery room and told to get up and get dressed because I was being discharged. I felt paralyzed and could scarcely move. I begged her to let me stay overnight, but she refused to let me stay. I also asked her to phone the surgeon who performed the surgery but was again refused. I was advised to get a motel room for the night if I wished to stay. (Since when did motels replace hospitals?)

Realizing that it was a losing battle, I decided to leave for home. My son, who was there to witness the whole episode, asked for a wheelchair to get me out to the parking lot. (This is where I should have had a video camera.) The wheelchair had no step on which to put my feet. I am over six feet tall and I had to be wheeled out backwards with my feet and legs dragging behind me.

The trip home took two hours and upon arrival at home I had no balance, was very weak and was vomiting violently to the point that my whole system ached.(Not a good thing to be happening when you have a fresh seven-inch incision.)

The next morning I took one of the pain relief pills that were prescribed by the doctor, (three a day for five days). One hour after taking the pill, I experienced a severe reaction which affected my kidneys and bladder. I telephoned the emergency ward at the Kaslo Hospital and was advised by the nurse in charge to stop taking the pills immediately (which I did) thanks to her wise judgment.

I do not wish to place blame on the medical staff at the Trail Regional Hospital. It definitely is not their fault. The fault lies squarely in the hands of the IHA who have created this mess in the health care system, with their ridiculous cutbacks (and the list goes on) causing a lot of extra stress on the hospital workers. It's no wonder that we are losing so many great doctors and nurses.

I would suggest to the IHA committee to back off and let the doctors and nurses do their jobs as they were trained to do. Then and only then will we be able to put the whole health care system back on track where it should be — and no one should have to use a motel as a hospital bed.

Cliff Hartland
Ainsworth Hotsprings

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

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

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

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

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At the Hidden Garden Gallery

Tread water at the Hidden Garden Gallery on Friday May 19 (7 pm). Nelson author Anne DeGrace will read from her highly successful novel *Treading Water* about a fictional community, based on Renata, BC, as it deals with its impending flooding from a hydroelectric dam. Follow the lives of a trapper, a pacifist, a suffragette and other well-wrought characters.

Artwork made by kids will be proudly hung on the gallery walls on May 20 from 11 am to 3 pm. See the happy results of Morgan Bardati's art classes and come support tomorrow's burgeoning crop of artists. Suzuki music students will make joyful noises in the garden as you wander outside among the spring flowers and inside among the mixed media, textiles, sculptures and paintings by 8- to 11-year-olds. Watch for posters with times these young musicians will perform.

Diana Hartog will launch her new book of poetry, *Ink Monkey*, at the gallery on May 24 at 7:30 pm, accompanied by music from the Hidden Trio. Come sip on the libation of your choice and enjoy an evening of literary magic.

The 17 people who took the 8-week Drawing and Sculpting class at the Silverton Gallery from January through March displayed the results of their efforts at the gallery from April 27-30. Boukje Elzinga (left) taught four drawing classes, followed by four sculpting classes by Elly Scheepens (right). This sculpture was done by New Denver class participant Donna-Jean Wright.

Otis found his new style as Cat in the Hat at the Success by Six barbecue, book give-away and fundraiser outside the New Denver KSCU on April 28. Success by Six is focusing on fundraising, and supporting and establishing programs in the area for children under six.

Legendary Meats celebrates 20 years in business! Dave and Karolyn Anderson have been in business in Slocan Park since 1985. Although the new meat regulation has prompted them to discontinue their slaughtering service, they continue to cut, wrap and freeze meat, make sausage, and smoke hams and bacon. They will also continue to sell government inspected meat from the Okanagan.

Locally raised meat soon to be scarce

by Jan McMurray

The new Meat Inspection Regulation is killing our local farmers' ability to raise animals for meat.

As of September 2007, all animals destined to be sold as food for human consumption have to be slaughtered at a licenced slaughterhouse. They will also have to be inspected before and after slaughter.

The regulation was supposed to come into effect in September this year, but the industry was concerned about the cost of complying with the regulation within that timeline. The government responded by extending the deadline, and offering funding on a 50/50 cost-shared basis of up to $50,000 to upgrade or build new slaughterhouses. There is also funding available to help communities identify local solutions and develop projects that will create regional slaughter capacity.

Dave Anderson of Legendary Meats Ltd. in Slocan Park has stopped slaughtering animals because of the regulation. He is very well informed about the legislation and its impacts, as he has attended many meetings with government officials and other farmers over the years leading up to the change.

He says that the cost to build a licenced slaughterhouse for a small farmer like himself is prohibitive, even with the $50,000 grant. He also says that a slaughterhouse business would hardly be feasible, giving the example of a slaughterhouse in the Okanagan that started up through a co-operative effort of 500 ranchers. They could not find a large enough supply of beef to make a go of the business. "If they can't make it with 500 ranchers, why would someone think they could make it here?"

The cost of transporting animals to a licenced slaughterhouse is also prohibitive. With the closest ones located in the Okanagan, our local farmers would never be able to recover their costs.

Anderson used to go to people's farms and slaughter their animals for them, and charge for the service. He also used to go to Salmon Arm every year, load up with piglets, and drop them off at farms on his way home. When they were ready for butchering, he would go back to get them, slaughter them and sell the meat. Anderson no longer does these things because they are illegal under the new regulation.

Anderson points out that the negative economic impacts do not stop with the farmers. Local farmers will not be raising animals anymore, because they will not be allowed to sell the meat, so stores will not be selling feed, either. He said he used to employ two full-time meat cutters during the season, and now he'll probably just hire one.

A solution, he suggests, would be for the Columbia Basin Trust to fund the construction of a slaughterhouse in Slocan, to serve the area from Nakusp to the US border. "The construction would have to be paid for to be financially feasible," he said. "I would love to see one built because I would use it extensively." He figures a slaughterhouse in Creston might "scrape by" if it could handle beef, pork, and lamb in season, and turkeys and chickens in the off-season.

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Silverton welcomes new hotel owners

by Jan McMurray

Ken and Jean Wilde are the new owners of the Silverton Inn.

The couple moved here from Kelowna, after visiting the area over the last ten years.

Ken tells the story of how they came to buy the hotel. "We would always see this place, looking right over the lake. A couple of years ago, we came through with our son-in-law and daughter. [Former owner] Larry was fixing things up and Jean said as a joke, 'When he fixes it up, we're buying it.'"

It wasn't a joke after all. The couple kept thinking about the hotel, and then one day their son-in-law, from Australia, called them and told them the hotel was for sale. He had been following it on the internet.

Jean says it was just the right time for a change, saying they needed a retirement job.

"We both like to be busy and we have always loved the building, the area, the village, the people," said Jean.

The couple plans to work on the exterior of the building, to make it look like it used to in the old days, and to paint it a bit brighter colour.

The hotel business is quite a change for them, but a welcome one. Ken worked as a helicopter pilot for a heli-skiing company for 21 years, and for a firefighting service for five years. Jean worked with teens with at-risk behaviour for the school district.

Ken and Jean Wilde are the new owners of the Silverton Inn.

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Mid-valley arena project gears up again

by Art Joyce

The concept of a mid-Slocan Valley ice arena isn't dead, although perhaps a bit unclear. The Slocan Valley Community Complex Society, which had considered disbanding as recently as March, is sending out questionnaires to guage valley residents' current level of interest.

Formed in 2001, the society has $96,000 in assets, including land, and is building log homes to raise more funds. Board member Jamie Ingram says the society got its "wake-up call" when the Village of Slocan discussed the idea of closing in its tennis courts for use as a hockey rink. The society decided then to resurrect itself and restart the planning process for an arena.

Ingram said society members sensed indifference on council's part until recently. "In fairness to this council, before last fall it wasn't really put to them, mostly just talked about on the street. But we feel with the election of Mayor Van Bynen there's been renewed interest. They're sitting at the planning table with us now."

Councillor John Gates said the Village's plan to adapt the tennis courts was proposed when it seemed the society had become inactive. The courts are only a few feet short of NHL size. The curling rink has an ice plant that could be increased in capacity to cover the courts.

Gates says no firm commitment has been made yet by council. He expressed concern that the society seemed to be pressing for "the full meal deal"— a regulation-sized rink complete with change rooms that would be difficult for a community of Slocan's size to support financially. "As far as the Village goes, for the moment we're at a wait-and-see stage."

Ingram insists that an arena large enough to attract tournaments will pay for itself, with no need for tax subsidies. But he acknowledges that work remains to be done on a financial plan for the arena. He says the society will scale down the project if public response suggests it's not affordable. "We don't want to build something we can't afford, but we also don't want something nobody will use."

And then there's the recently formed Minors' Sport and Culture Association, headed by Winlaw resident and hockey coach Paul Hughes. Frustrated by what he sees as 30 years of foot-dragging on the issue, he has an alternative vision for a scaled-down rink that could have kids skating by winter. Hughes met with Councillor Carol Bell of Silverton, Councillor John Gates of Slocan, RDCK Area H Director Don Munro, and New Denver Mayor Gary Wright to present his plan. The plan calls for a one-quarter NHL-sized rink, utilizing new fabric technology for roofing that comes with a 20-year guarantee and can be built for as little as $200,000. With matching funds from the Olympics 2010 fund, he says, both Slocan and New Denver/Silverton could build such an arena.

Hughes sees the facility as a multi-use venue that could also attract festivals, market gardens, and other events in the non-hockey season.

"The feedback I'm getting from people is that they're demoralized. It shouldn't take 30 years to build a facility. It's a cliché, but it's true: if you build it, they'll come," he said.

Mayor Wright says he and the other councillors liked Hughes' plan, but two things must be made clear: first, a single, co-ordinated plan for an arena; and second, the consent of taxpayers to pay for such a facility. Consent could come either through a referendum or by less than 10% opposition expressed in public input hearings.

Wright, Gates and Ingram agree that Hughes' dream of having kids on the ice by this winter is unrealistic. "This is not something that can happen overnight," says Wright. "There's a lot of coordination required to get the public behind it."

A spring day on the Slocan Valley trail

by Craig Lawrence

Celebrate spring by joining members of the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society (SVHTS) for a community bike ride on the Slocan Valley Rail Trail. All ages are welcome to come out and explore the trail as spring brings out its own special magic. The ride takes place Saturday, May 13 between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Come discover the section of trail between Passmore and Perry's Siding, about 18 km one-way. This self-directed event allows everyone to pick the ride that works for them and start and stop when they wish. Start and return to the end of your choice (or from any point in between), ride just the trail or ride a section of the trail and a portion of the Slocan River Back Road (always a scenic option). A round trip bike ride could take up to four hours to complete, depending on how leisurely a pace cyclists wish to take.

Society members will host refreshment stations at the Passmore parking area and near the Threads Guild Building in Perry's Siding. Why not drop by and catch up on the latest trail news or share your thoughts on how the trail is looking? It would be a great way to show your support for the project which saw the 50 km length of trail re-surfaced last year and three new bridges installed. A grand opening celebration is being planned for later in the summer.

Event organizers also wants participants in the ride to know that they have partnered with the Heart and Stroke Foundation for the event and you can show your support by making a donation at either station. When you donate, you'll enter a draw for some great prizes that will be awarded at the end of the event. It's a great way to celebrate spring, enjoy the trail and do something to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Slocan Valley Recreation is a member of the Active Communities Inititative, which is a part of a larger provincial initiative called ActNowBC, which is aimed at promoting healthy lifestyle choices and environments.

Visit the SVHTS website at www.svrt.ca or call 226-0008 if you require more information.

Alysia Garmulewicz honoured for organizing YC3 conference

by Jan McMurray

Lucerne graduate Alysia Garmulewicz is up for a prestigious award once again. This time, she is being recognized for organizing the very successful Canadian Youth Climate Change Conference (YC3) in Victoria last year. She is one of three finalists for a prestigious Canadian Environment Community Award in the Climate Change category.

Currently in Carleton University's Environmental Studies Honours BA program, Garmulewicz graduated from Lucerne in 2004. She was one of 15 in Canada to receive the $5000 Toyota Earth Day Scholarship Award. She was also one of six youth chosen to be on the Canadian youth delegation to the UN Climate Change Conference in Montreal last year.

The Community Awards is the flagship program of the Canadian Environment Awards. Now in its fifth year, this program celebrates 18 individuals and grassroots groups that have been chosen by a panel of environmental luminaries from nominations submitted by the Canadian public.

"Our dedicated finalists are defining a new era," says managing director Paula Prociuk Blacklock. "Environmental remediation may always be necessary, but these Canadians are emblematic of the growing momentum for systemic environmental change. They are setting the parameters of sustainability."

The Awards Gala, which launches Canadian Environment Week, will take place on Monday, June 5, at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver. The Junior and Senior winners of The Green Team Challenge, which is the Canadian Environment Award's youth initiative, will be announced on this occasion, and the Gold and Silver Community Awards winners will be recognized with a cash prize of $5,000 or $2,500, respectively, to donate to an environmental cause.

The Slocan Valley takes care of its own

WE Graham Community Services Society has been operating the Slocan Food Bank for just over a year now.

The society is overwhelmed with the generosity of Valley folk, and the ways people have found to help others in the community.

The Covenant Church, with a congregation at the junction, donates the proceeds of their sales of used Christian books. Also, they collect non-perishable food items in donation bins. Most recently, they donated ten beautifully assembled Easter baskets to be handed out by the food bank.

Local stores like Evergreen Natural foods, Maple Leaf store, Slocan Park Service, the co-op, the Winlaw Mini-Mart and the Eldorado have donation bins and sometimes donate when they are changing product lines or have an overstock.

Crazy Craig always encourages people to bring a donation for the food bank whenever he organizes an event through the Rec Commission.

RDCK has contributed and Springer Creek Forest Products made it possible to put turkey vouchers in all Foods Hampers last year.

Then there are the private donors — the woman who got a warning instead of a speeding ticket by promising to come immediately here to make a donation to the food bank for the value of the ticket; the little girl who asked all her friends to bring things for the food bank instead of presents for her 7th birthday party; the man who unfailingly donates $100 every month.

The ways and reasons people give are sometimes heart-warming, sometimes humorous, sometimes even sad — like when a pet owner loses a long time friend and donates the pet food. Whatever the reasons, all donations are appreciated, and welcomed.

The Food Bank is located in the Community Services building at WE Graham School in Slocan City and is open on Mondays from 10 am to 2 pm. For more information or to have your donations of non-perishable food picked up call 355-2484.

Spring market not to be missed

submitted

Spring is here and the Vallican Whole School celebrates by inviting everyone to enjoy a day at the school.

The school's 7th annual spring market fundraiser will be held on May 20 at the Vallican Whole, 3762 Little Slocan River Road, from 10 am until 3 pm. $2/adult at the door gets you in and a chance at the door prizes.

There will be a giant plant sale with flower and vegetable starts donated by local nurseries and greenhouses, seedlings and perennials from parents and some plants started by the school children. There will be craft vendors as usual and some raffle tables so the adults and the children can enjoy an old bazaar favorite. Outside, for the children there will be llama rides, games organized throughout the day, clowns, face-painting, bubble-mania, an art table for children to let their creativity flow, and a puppet show of *The Three Bears* by Sheila Lane at 11:30. There will be great food available from start to finish with treats baked by the parents and kids as well.

An exciting extra this year is a fantastic raffle. Tickets will be available out in the community and at the school. The main prize is a deluxe room at the Prestige Inn, a $50 gift certificate from Mountain Waters spa and two day passes at Ainsworth Hot Springs. Second and third prizes are a large mosaic pot filled with garden theme gifts and four day passes to Halcyon Hot Springs. Tickets are only $3 each or 2/$5.

For more information or to book a table, contact Rachel at 226-6732.

Mt. Sentinel students plant 500 trees

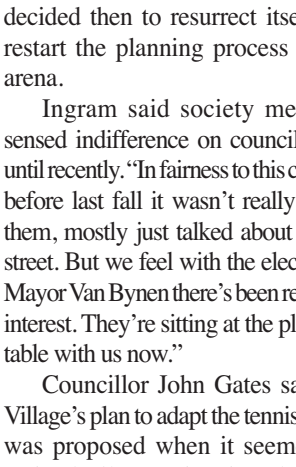
by Jan McMurray

This year's Mt. Sentinel grad class has planted 500 trees at three Slocan Valley locations as a way to give back to the community and to leave a legacy.

Paris Voykin, parent on the grad committee, came up with the idea and got a great response from the students. "While I was fundraising for grad, it occurred to me that it would be nice to give back to the community that always supports these kids in getting to where they want to go," she said.

Another grad committee parent, Darlene Burell, got behind the project and arranged for a donation of 500 trees from Harrop Nursery and shovels from Selkirk College. She also successfully applied for a $200 grant under the Slocan River Riparian Restoration Program.

About 22 students and four parents all showed up on the afternoon of May 4 for the tree planting. They split up into three groups and planted trees at Passmore Slide and along the Slocan Valley Rail Trail.



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New Denver amends OCP to allow for temporary commercial use

by Jan McMurray

New Denver council has decided to amend the Official Community Plan (OCP) to allow for temporary commercial and industrial use permits on a case by case basis. It has also drafted an amendment to the procedures bylaw, which outlines the guidelines for issuing such permits.

At the public hearing on the issue April 24, Mayor Wright explained that when the OCP was being drawn up in 1993, people were against temporary permits. He said this was being considered now because of an application submitted by Tracy and Francie Oldham. One way to allow them to proceed with their project to provide tourism accommodation in a residential zone is through a temporary permit.

Wright also said that in a 1993 survey to facilitate the OCP process, people commented that the kind of economic development they'd like to see included tourist oriented development, tourist accommodation and home-based business. On the survey, tourist accommodation was ranked as the most needed improvement.

Wright also mentioned that most communities' OCPs allow for temporary permits, giving them greater flexibility. He said the RDCK charges $1000 for a temporary permit application, which controls spurious applications.

Administrator Carol Gordon informed that New Denver's fee for an amendment to the OCP was $150, and $50 for a Development Variance Permit.

Most of the eight members of the public who attended the hearing were not totally comfortable with council having sole discretion on the decision to grant the permits.

One pointed out that council members change, and their good intentions cannot be guaranteed. Another said he would like to see a process for public input for each application. Another said she wanted council to come up with guidelines on how they would make decisions on applications for temporary permits.

Two residents were against the amendment. One felt that allowing temporary exceptions would lead to an "incremental creep towards the OCP being meaningless. You end up eventually with a Kelowna." Another resident suggested that a committee be struck to deal with the OCP as a whole, rather than making piecemeal changes.

In a telephone interview, Wright said council agreed that it was not wise to start reviewing portions of the OCP without looking at the whole thing. "With spot re-zoning and spot changes to the document, you run the risk of losing sight of what you are doing. We decided that when we look at any formal land use changes that are permanent, we'd do it as part of a full review. The reason we looked at temporary permit change first was to allow us to decide one way or another on the Oldham situation in the short term without compromising the community's ability to give us guidance during a full-scale review."

Scholarship fund needs donations to provide recognition and financial support for students

submitted

Each year the Lucerne Scholarship Society provides recognition and financial support to graduating students of Lucerne School who plan to continue their education at a post-secondary institution. Since 1985, more than 150 of our local graduates have received awards and bursaries acknowledging their academic excellence, school and community service, or citizenship.

The ability of the Scholarship Society to provide financial assistance is dependent on the generosity of the community. Bank interest rates are currently too low to maintain our awards at their traditional levels without additional yearly contributions. Donations to existing scholarship funds, to the long term trust, or to awards for recipients identified by the donor are the main source of funding. The Scholarship Society has also been fortunate to receive contributions through bequests from individuals who wish to provide a lasting legacy for the youth in our community.

This year, Kezia Deacur, Chad Hicks, Michael Hicks, Mark McLeod, Owain Peach-Nicholson, Geordie Rice, Zoel Thibault, and Jonathan White will graduate from Lucerne School.

A new scholarship in memory of John Greenan is being awarded for the first time this year. It will recognize commitment to environmental issues and to the community. Donations are welcome to enable us to continue this award in future years.

We urge you to consider making a donation to one of the following bursaries: the Cinta Batik Arts Scholarship (recognizes students who are involved in the visual or performing arts), the Sandy Harris Memorial (awarded to an all-around student with a variety of interests), the Andrea Mengler Memorial (awarded to a hard worker who has contributed to the school and community), the Fujiko Matsushita Scholarship (awarded to the student with the highest grade point average), the Long Term Trust (maintained to generate interest for general academic awards), or the Current Fund (academic awards distributed to this year's graduation class)

Anyone can create a scholarship with specific criteria or which names a specific recipient. Donors remain anonymous and all donations are tax deductible. Donations can be left at the school office or mailed to Box 130, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0. For more information, please contact Ellen Kinsel, 250.358.2459.

Local choirs come together for *A Spring Sing*

submitted

If you love music, you won't want to miss the Valhalla Community Choir's annual spring concert, *A Spring Sing*, on May 13 at the Silverton Hall at 7 pm. Three choirs from Nelson have been invited to perform as well.

Cottonwood, directed by Bruce Hunter, is a Nelson-based a cappella mixed choir of 16, which loves singing music written 500 years ago and all the years in between. The choir's styles range from motets to Motown, Classical to Jazz, and Kootenay Music to World Music. Begun in 1999, Cottonwood has delighted West Kootenay audiences with a richly varied repertoire and enthusiastic performing style.

Shenango is an a cappella women's ensemble dedicated to singing and laughter. Over the last several years Shenango's eclectic repertoire and obvious love of singing together have become their hallmark. The group's members live in a wide variety of local communities, and they acknowledge and encourage this diversity by implementing a rotating rehearsal schedule in Salmo, Ymir and Nelson. Among the most wonderful performance opportunities for Shenango was being invited by local Doukhobor choirs to perform at the Brilliant Culture Centre for their annual May gathering. They were honoured to be the first non-Doukhobor choir ever asked to perform. Shenango hosts an annual cabaret evening which features music and food, thus allowing the singers to indulge in two of their greatest loves simultaneously. Shenango's debut CD was released in September 2004 and sold out within six months. Encouraged by the success of this recording, the group will return to the studio this summer to begin their second a cappella effort.

The Nelson Choral Society is a non-audition community choir that has been in existence for so long that no current member knows when it started up. In the past it has been directed by David Stewart, Vic Neufeld and Bruce Hunter. It is currently directed by Kathleen Neudorf.

It's the season for community soccer. Margaret Barker runs for the ball.

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Get lost in paradise at New Denver May Days

by Jan McMurray

The theme of New Denver's 99th May Days celebration is a natural — Lost in Paradise.

This should make for a colourful parade. Everyone is welcome to join in, so get to work on your float and be at Lucerne school at 9 am on Monday. Parade begins at 10 am.

New events this year are the 3-on-3 basketball tourney with Alan DeChezet, the 50/50 Free Throw contest with Zoel Thibault and a pig roast on Sunday at 5 pm at the park. Call Ross at 358-7153 right away to get your ticket for the roast.

There are cash prizes this year for canoe jousting first prize winners. The winning over 18 pair will receive $200 and the winning pair in the 13-18 category will get $100.

Hit the main street on Saturday for the bike rodeo and soap box derby. The $8 entry fee for the derby will include a barbecue lunch. Check out the children's art show at the Hidden Garden Gallery, with Suzuki students performing. The dance on Saturday night at the Bosun with the Young Uns features a surprise dance novelty. You'll have to attend the dance to find out what it is.

Sunday morning starts with the pancake breakfast and the 22nd Summit Lake Bike Race, organized by Jorg Becker. Centennial Park is the place to be on Saturday and Sunday for Bocce, canoe jousting, remote control relay races, the Maypole dance, the May day market and much more. Don't miss the crowning of Miss New Denver, the honouring of the Citizens of the Year and the May Days 2005 Awards Salute at 10:30 on Sunday in the park.

The May Day committee is extremely thankful to all sponsors and volunteers. It hopes to purchase a bandstand for the park for next year's centennial celebration, so please participate in the group's fundraising efforts.

Panina Ironi and Sawako Yoshida are candidates for the Miss New Denver title this year. Amber Brown-Dahl, current May Queen, Izack Miller, Page Boy and Destiny Mengler, Flower Girl joined them at the May Queen's Tea May 7 at the Bosun.

ENJOY YOUR
MAY DAYS WEEKEND
IN BEAUTIFUL NEW DENVER!
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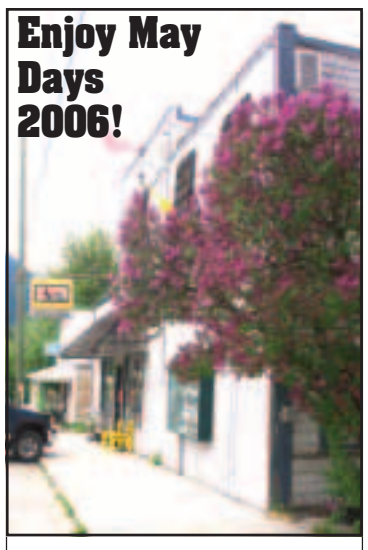

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006

7:00 pm
Queen's Pageant - *Bosun Hall*

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2006

7:00 pm
Naming of the Queen - *Bosun Hall*

9:00 pm - 1:00 am
The Teens' Dance - *Bosun Hall*
Music by Good Times Entertainment
Tickets are $10 per person.
Includes a Pop & Buffet

Transportation Info:
1:00 am departs from Bosun Hall

The ONLY dogs allowed in Centennial Park over the weekend are Hot Dogs!!

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2006

Dawn
Fish Derby
Register with the Centennial Park Attendant, Mountainberry or Home Hardware. For more info: Ross McMillan @ 358-7153

9:30 am - 10:30 am Tee off
SLGC Golf Tournament
Slocan Lake Golf Course
For more info: 358-2408
(Sponsor- Reitmeier Logging)

9:30 am
Bike Rodeo
Main Street - Biking basics & road etiquette for young bikers. Must have a bike and helmet to participate. Info: Jodi Grierson @ 358-2452

"The Valley's Biggest Chess Game"
Main Street – free for anyone to play

10:30 am
Silent Auction – *Main Street*

For Complete and updated schedule of events see www.slocanlake.com. Click on Bulletin Board, events, May Days 2006 Events Schedule

10:30 am
Soap Box Derby
Registration - Main Street
Info: Richard Friedenberger @ 358-2580 - $8/entry
Stock Category:
11:00 am Ages 5, 6 & 7
12:00 noon Ages 8, 9 & 10
1:00 pm Ages 11 & 12
Open Category:
2:00 pm All Ages

11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Children's Art Show
Hidden Garden Gallery
Suzuki Students performing
Info: Morgan Bardati @ 358-7733

9:00 pm - 1:00 am
The Adult Dance
Bosun Hall
Music by "The Young 'Uns"
Tickets are $16.00 per person.
Live Music, Buffet & Dance Novelty. Bar costs extra.
(Dance tickets will be available at: Mountainberry, Eldorado Market & Silverton Building Supplies)

Transportation Info:
12:00 & 1:00 am
Departs from Bosun Hall

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2006

Fish Derby & Silent Auction continues.

9:00 am
22nd Summit Lake Bike Race/Ride
Start at Summit Lake Day Park
Info: Jorg Becker @ 358-7966

11:00 am
3 on 3 Basketball Tourney
Lucerne School
Info: Alan Dechezet @ 358-2240

Events at Centennial Park:

8:00 am - 10:00 am
Pancake Breakfast
Centennial Park
Host - Chamber of Commerce

10:00 am - 8:00 pm
5th Thomlinson Bocce Tourney
Register with Debbie @ 358-2749 by Friday, May 20. $25/team

Grease Pole - $100 cash on top

11:00 am
Hot & Cold Booth opens

Remote Control Relay Races
$5/entry Info: June @ 358-2372

12:00 pm
Bavarian Gardens opens

1:00 pm
Canoe Jousting Competition
Info: Loren Oldham @ 358-2232
(Sponsors – Valhalla Inn & Silverton Resort)
Big $$$ prizes for winners

3:00 pm
Canto del Viento Trio
Classical & Jazz. Silverton Memorial Hall – Admission by Donation

5:00 pm
Pig Roast Luau
Roasted Pork Dinner - $12.50/person
Ross @ 358-7153 for tickets

7:00 pm
Bingo
Silverton Hall- host SLAS

MONDAY, MAY 22, 2006

Fish Derby, Bocce Tournament & Grease Pole continues.

Events at Centennial Park:

9:00 am
Hot & Cold Booths open

9:00 am
Parade Line-up - *Lucerne School*

10:00 am
The Parade begins

10:30 am
Miss New Denver Crowning
Citizens of the Year honored
May Days 2006 Awards Salute
Silent Auction (bids end 3:00 pm)

11:30 pm
Maypole Dance

Noon-4:00
May Day Market - $15/table
Info: Anita Dumins @358-7731

Noon-6:00
Bavarian Gardens

Noon - 1:30 pm
50:50 Free Throw Contest
$5/entry *Info: Zoel @ 358-7104*

Noon
Kid's Races
Prizes of $$$, toys and refreshments
(Sponsor- KSCU, Community Club & C&D Enterprises)
Dunk Tank
Bingo-mania *(Host: Hospital Aux.)*
Fish Pond & Games of Chance
Helium Balloons - *Glacier View Service*

1:00 pm
Treasures in the Haystack
(Sponsor- Canadian Logging Group)
Cribbage Tournament
Register with Sean Butler
Canoe Jousting Playoffs

2:00 pm
Baking Contest
Breads/Buns & Cookies
Info: Anita Dumins @ 358-7731

4:00 pm - Duck Race Finale

Kaslo celebrates 114th May Days

submitted

Kaslo is celebrating its 114th May Day Celebration this year from May 19-22. This year's events include the longest running May Pole Dance in Canadian history, the May Day parade, Show-n-Shine, Slo-pitch tournament, Logger Sports, craft and food vendors, fun and exciting workshops, horse show demonstrations and pony rides, the Kaslo Artwalk, helicopter rides and much, much more. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this fun, family oriented community celebration located in picturesque downtown Kaslo.

The weekend kicks off with the May Queen Pageant on Friday night. The Slo-pitch tourney starts on Saturday, along with helicopter rides, workshops, Kaslo Artwalk, and events in Vimy Park. Sunday's highlights include Logger Sports, Show-n-Shine, a family dance, and Spinnin-n-Grinnin-exciting car show action. Celebrations on Monday wrap up the weekend with a pancake breakfast, May Day Parade, community activities in Vimy Park, May Days Tea, May Pole Dance, the Rubber Ducky Race, and live music.

For the full schedule go to: www.kaslo.ca or call the Kaslo Visitor's Centre at (250) 353-2525. Kaslo May Days is brought to you by the Kaslo & District Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by The Village of Kaslo.

Momentous Mayday inspires community!

submitted

Mayday in Winlaw has been declared a huge success! Over 300 people attended the event, which took place under brilliant sunny skies in Winlaw on April 30. The parade consisted of more than 200 people with masks, costumes, signs and banners, while the Samba Band from Nelson kept the procession going at a rhythmic pace.

The Valley Lama and her aides, the Goddess of Winlaw Creek and Messenger Raven, conducted a water blessing ceremony. They also unveiled water crystal photographs taken by Dr. Emoto's laboratory in Tokyo, revealing the beauty of Winlaw Creek's water. Most residents of Winlaw, along with the downtown businesses, draw their water from Winlaw Creek watershed, making it the lifeblood of the community.

Ricardo the Wizard speaks to the dragon at the Winlaw Mayday parade.

Diana Paterson, Vice President of the Winlaw Watershed Committee, welcomes the crowd to the Mayday celebration.

Michelle Cole and Laverne Booth of the Habondia Lending Circle were among the around 200 that participated in the parade.

The Mayday event raised over $4000. The funds will go toward a number of Community Stewardship initiatives, including the Winlaw Creek Water Monitoring Fund, now in its 9th year. This year, accumulated streamflow, temperature, turbidity, and weather data will be analyzed by a professional hydrologist.

Money raised will also help pay for watershed point of entry signs, the first phase of a Watershed Interpretive Centre to be launched in concert with a park & ride bus shelter, as well as support for the Slocan Valley Community Forest Initiative, and the development of a website to archive Winlaw watershed projects and events.

The new stage at the Cedar Creek Café will remain there for summer events, but will eventually be re-situated to a spot in front of the Winlaw 'micro-mall' after the marketplace there is further developed.

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Have a wonderful May Days weekend!
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Nakusp Adult Basic Education celebrates achievements

submitted

Selkirk College's Nakusp Adult Basic Education (ABE) classroom was filled to overflowing on Thursday, April 20, as about 40 students and guests gathered for lunch to celebrate the year's achievements.

Fifty-nine adults, from teens to seniors, enrolled in Nakusp ABE this year for help in achieving a wide range of goals. Some signed up to improve math, language, and computer skills, while others completed Grade 11 and 12 science courses for entry into college-level programs. Still others enrolled in ABE for assistance with university-level distance education courses or to prepare for high-school equivalency and college entrance exams.

ABE instructors Allison Alder and Richard Allin congratulated students on their achievements and spoke of their inspiring perseverance and dedication. Many adults who enroll in ABE already have busy, complex lives but take advantage of the low-cost, flexible ABE program to improve their skills, knowledge, and work opportunities.

Among guests at Thursday's luncheon were two former Nakusp ABE graduates both of whom carried on to higher level programs at Selkirk College. Kate Tupper completed the welding program at Selkirk's Nelson campus and is now working as a welder in Nakusp. Doug Fraser completed upgrading in Nakusp ABE, graduated from Selkirk's Castlegar campus forest technician's program, and is now employed with a local contractor. Both spoke highly of the ABE program and had encouraging words for current students.

ABE will re-open in September at Selkirk's Adult Learning Centre on Broadway which is slated to undergo renovations this summer. Those interested in the program can call 265-3640, leave their name and number.

Passport photo service opens in Nakusp

submitted

Need a passport photo? Nakusp now has a passport photo service. No more having to travel to Nelson or Vernon/Kelowna to have your photos taken. Local photographer, Dave McMillan, is setting up shop upstairs in the Selkirk College building on Broadway. Once a month (or more if necessary), McMillan will be there to take passport photos as well as visa and ID photos.

Nakusp's new constable, Tim MacDonald, says he is looking forward to getting to know Nakusp and its people.

As regulations stand now, all Canadians traveling to the U.S. will be required to have a valid passport by January 2008. That date could change, but at present, 2008 is the U.S. deadline. Gone are the days of crossing the border with a friendly wave of the hand and a driver's license.

Passport applications can be picked up at the Post Office free of charge. The cost of a Canadian passport is $87.00 and is valid for 5 years. For the nominal fee of $15.00 (couples and families will get a price break) McMillan supplies you with two regulation passport photos, including the proper information stamped on the back. There is usually a 1-2 day waiting period for the photos to be processed and printed.

Call 265-3086 for an appointment and come get your passport photos taken.

Nakusp councillor Janis Dahlen has been acclaimed President of the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments (AKBLG). Dahlen has sat on the board for three years, and served as Vice President last year.

Local Library Trustee, Beth McLeod, wins award

submitted

At the annual awards reception for the British Columbia Library Trustees' Association held on April 21st in Burnaby, Beth McLeod of Nakusp was recognized for her outstanding contribution to public library service in the community with a Super Trustee Award "for outstanding service towards the development of Nakusp Public Library".

Ms. McLeod has served on the Nakusp Library Board since 1999 and has made a particularly significant contribution in the area of fundraising. She was instrumental in developing the annual silent auction which has raised thousands of dollars towards the library's expansion plans since 2000. At this year's silent auction on April 22nd, Ms. McLeod was presented with the Super Trustee award that had been announced the night before in Burnaby.

Ms. McLeod has also served the Board through a number of other roles including board secretary and treasurer. She was nominated for this award by her peers on the Nakusp Library Board.

The award was presented by the British Columbia Library Trustees' Association, an organization that represents library boards and trustees across British Columbia.

At the Nakusp Public Library Silent Auction April 22, Beth McLeod (centre) was honoured with a Super Trustee award for her outstanding service towards the development of the Nakusp Public Library. Here she is with library board chair Cynthia Lidstone (left) and secretary Cedra Eichenauer (right).

Nakusp Fall Fair set for September

submitted

The Nakusp Fall Fair is happening on September 16, 2006 at the Nakusp Arena Auditorium. The Fair showcases the finest examples of home arts, produce, florals, handicrafts, foods, art, and demonstrations of various kinds as well as children's zucchini races, community information and displays. There will be competitions for prizes, a concession, family fun and entertainment, so begin planning your entries now. A limited number of commercial table rentals are available for $25. The Fair runs from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm Admission is $2. Short-term volunteer help is always appreciated to judge entries, set up and help in the kitchen.

This event is sponsored by the Arrow Lakes Arts Council. Call Marilyn at 265-0075 for details.

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86 4th Ave. Nakusp Mon-Sat 10-5:30 265-3717

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
STATE OF THE BASIN INITIATIVE

The Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is seeking proposals from qualified contractors to assist in the further development of the CBT's "State of the Basin Initiative". This work will build on existing practices and knowledge and will help to further efforts towards environmental, social, and economic planning in the Columbia River Basin.

There are two separate Requests for Proposals and proponent[s] may bid on either one or both. Although the requests are treated separately, collaboration between the two will be required in order to achieve a holistic approach to planning in the Basin.

1) State of the Basin—Environment Sector Quote RFP #CBTENVSOB06
This work will include the development of a prototype "State of the Basin Report" using environmental, economic, and social indicators and will ensure effective collaboration with interested groups, organizations, and Basin residents.

2) State of the Basin—Social Sector Quote RFP #CBTSOCSOB06
This work will include best practices research in the field of community planning, development of a "State of the Basin" website, community consultation in the form of focus groups and coordination of two pilot planning projects (communities to be determined).

Closing date for both Requests is May 26th, 2006. Full proposal information packages may be obtained by contacting:

Rina Gresiuk
Columbia Basin Trust
Box 220
Nakusp, BC
V0G 1R0
Phone: 1-800-505-8998
Email: rgresiuk@cbt.org

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Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

TERRA PONDERA Mental Health Consumers Club House

Working with a consumer operations committee to coordinate psychosocial rehabilitation activities for the benefit of mental health and addictions consumers and their families.

Selected candidate will have demonstrated ability to deliver services successfully to mental health and addictions clients and will have experience with group facilitation, research and reporting, strong computer skills.

Candidate must have Certificate, Diploma or Degree in social services field and/or previous related experience. Drivers Licence and Current First Aid Certificate. Applicant will be subject to Criminal Record Check and References.

7 hours per week with the possibility of more hours. Flexible hours to meet operational requirements.

Closing Date: May 19, 2006

Please respond in writing with resume and cover letter to: Farhana Alam, Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services by mail: Box 100, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1R0, fax: 265-3378 or email: falam@aslcs.com

Supporting the Early Years Research Project

We are looking for parents who would be interested in providing feedback on our programs. In exchange for a spring interview we will provide a monthly newsletter, free workshops, child and travel subsidies to programs and workshops, and notification of current programming. If you are interested in giving us your feedback, please call either Nancy or Julia at 265-3674. The following are programs that are offered:

Mondays
- Edgewood Elementary, 11:45 am - 2:00 pm, *Ready, Set, Learn* (for 3-5 year olds and parents)
- New Denver Lucerne School, 11:00 am - Noon, *Mother Goose* (Call 358-7768 to register - 10 weeks)

Tuesdays
- Edgewood Elementary School, Noon - 1:00 pm, *Mother Goose* (call 269-7260 to register - 10 weeks)

Wednesdays
- Nakusp Public Library, 10:30 am, *Story Time*
- New Denver Lucerne School, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, *Learning Adventures for Families (LAFF)* (call 358-7222 to register)

Thursdays
- Fauquier Communication Ctr., 10 am - Noon, *Parents and Tots*
- Arrow/Slocan Lks. Comm. Services, Nakusp, 1:00 - 2:00 pm *Mother Goose,* (call 265-3674 to register - 10 weeks)

Friday
- Nakusp Halcyon Home, 10:00 - 11:30 am, *Gym Playgroup*
- Fauquier Community Hall, 6:30 pm, *Family Movie Night* (last Friday of every month)

Saturday
- Nakusp Stepping Stones Children's Ctr., *Learning Adventures for Families (LAFF)* (alternating dates call 265-3674)

HALCYON HOT SPRINGS

SUMMER STAFF:
Full-time and weekends summer staff wanted.
Housekeeping staff.
Student summer employment.Outdoor resort.
Fax resumes to:
Halcyon Hot Springs
265-3887.
Attn: Ulf or Sabine.
Phone: 265-3554.

Lowry Olafson returns to the Langham May 11

submitted

Lowry Olafson, Canadian singer-songwriter, violin and guitar player, was last here about six years ago and it's high time we had him back. He will be at the Langham Theatre on Thursday, May 11 at 7:30 pm.

Solid Ground, Lowry's seventh CD has just been released on River Records. It contains 15 brand new songs, rich in the inspiring, reflective qualities that have become Lowry's trademark. This release includes the long-awaited audience favourite, *If You Are An Angel*, as well as *Annabelle* — a civil war tale of conscription, and *Pier 21*, the story of an immigrant orphan boy's arrival in Halifax. Eleven of the songs were co-written with noted songwriter, Lisa Aschmann (Art Garfunkel, Diamond Rio).

"...a brilliant recording, world class songwriting, lovingly recorded, and the performances are spectacular. Lowry's singing is honest, in the moment, and at the same time, absolutely skillful and beautiful," says Annie Gallup, a performing songwriter.

Tickets are $12 in advance or $15 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Sunnyside Naturals and Portobella Interiors in Kaslo or call 353 2122.

Sparkling multitasking senior hits the stage

submitted

Check out this 'exercise in irreverence' by a local hardcore communicator with a sharp tongue and matching mind...peddling truths and tantrums! Ready to activate her audience, Dagmar offers a critical look at our world...and us in it.

Nothing left but Laughter!

Well known to many Kootenayites, Dagmar may still come as a surprise to some, or a shock to others!

'AOA' Alive On Arrival is her first One-Woman Show, although she was a regular at the Sub-Pub years ago, under her then label 'The Rage Box.' Polished by life and experience this performer leaves few issues unexplored, exposing what needs to be — and doing a little tapdancing on the side!

"The art of being wise is learning what to overlook!!" Make sure you don't overlook this sparkling senior in action!

This show will be featured at the LVR Courtyard Theatre in Nelson on May 13, 20 and 27 (8 pm) and at the Langham Theatre in Kaslo on June 3 at 8 pm.

Tickets are $15. each, available at:Eddy Music in Nelson & Sunnyside Naturals in Kaslo.

Dagmar entertains, enlightens and examines. Alive On Arrival is her first One-Woman Show.

Computer Broken?
Call Ron at the Old Grey Barn
250-265-2163

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 7: $15.00
• May Day Open, Sat. May. 20: $15 members/$25.00 non-members
• VSA (Private) Sat. June 10 • $15.00
• Johnny Tier, Sat. June 18: $15.00
• Club Championship, June 24-25: $15.00
• Club Open, Sat. Aug. 13: $40.00 members / $50 non-members*
• Bushwackers, Sat. Sept. 9: $20.00/couple
• Club Closing, Sat. Sept. 24: $15.00.
(* fee includes dinner)

• Valley View Golf Club
***Winlaw* phone: 226-7241;**
toll-free: 1-877-324-GOLF
Discover golfing at its finest at Valley View. Licensed lounge & restaurant open 7 days a week. Catering and dinner meetings available on request. Everyone welcome.
GREEN FEES: $18 / 9 holes, $25 / 18 holes RENTALS: Power and pull-cars available
Juniors' Night Mondays at 4:00 • Seniors' Morning Mondays • Mens' Night Thursdays • Two-for-one golf Fridays after 2:00 pm plus WING NIGHT!
UPCOMING EVENTS
Mother's Day Brunch May 14 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

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New Denver Mall
The Valley Voice
Eldorado Market
Silvery Slocan Museum
Mountainberry Foods
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CAMPGROUNDS

• Kaslo Municipal Campground (250) 353-2662 kaslocampground@yahoo.ca
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, playgrground, 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.

• 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, hiking trail, 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!

ACCOMMODATIONS & RESTAURANTS

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

• Silverton Country Inn (250) 358-7929
Visit the world-famous Silverton 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 Sunday eggs benny brunch, 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
CAA & AAA approved 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, pets allowed in select units.

• 19th Hole Restaurant Ph: (250) 358-7108
Located at the Slocan Lake Golf Course. Enjoy good food and the best view in the valley. Hours: 8 am to 8 pm, 7 days aweek. Licensed dining & daily specials.

O'Brien's on the Lake, 1710 Hwy 6 Nakusp,
Ph: (250) 265-4575 www.obriens.kootenays.com
Beautifully hand-crafted log cabins with a million-dollar view. Full kitchen and bath. Satellite TV. Private phone and barbecue on lake-view deck. All units non-smoking. No pets please. World class fishing, golfing, hiking and much, much more just minutes away. **It's so much more than a place to sleep.**

THINGS TO DO

Chiaroscuro Photographic Gallery Tel: (250) 358-2569
Patrizia Menton's fine art photography includes black & white and colour, with particular focus on cibachrome. She values traditional darkroom skills and two of her favorite themes have been the natural world and Italian architecture. Visit her studio: 123 Reibin rd. Hills (north of New Denver) Open May till October

BED & BREAKFASTS

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

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

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, $4.00 •12-17 yrs. $3.00 • 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 alhs@netidea.com
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.

Doukhobor Discovery Centre
(250) 365-6622 www. Doukhobor-Museum.org
Doukhobor Culture of BC 1908 to 1937. Over 1000 artifacts represent the arts and crafts, customs and religion of the Doukhobors. Music, Films & Art Gallery. A.V. Gallery features documentaries, photo archive & new exhibits yearly. 112 Heritage Way, Castlegar – May-Sept 10-6 Daily

NOTICE TO VALLEY VISITORS:

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

Kaslo council, April 25: Composting project to get back on track

by Jill Braley

•Councillor Jones is to ensure that the Back to Earth Community Composting Project participants immediately resume maintenance of the composting area behind the Public Works yard. They are to come up with resolutions to address the issue of bagged stored leaves, matching funds, and turning of material in compost bins, as well as an outline for their plan to install electric fencing.

•The Kaslo Golf Club sent a letter about the recent logging at the golf course (Village-owned land), saying that communication between the club and council could have been better and will be in the future. During Q&A, council was asked if the Village had received the value of the second load of logs from Springer Creek Forest Products. Mayor Holland mentioned a logging contract needed to be signed. Councillor Hewat said that payment from the golf course for the second load of logs had not yet been decided.

•Council rescinded its January 24 resolution to renew its agreement with Clearwater Environmental Services (Allan Law) for a three-year term. Law was the certified operator for the Village's waterworks and sewage treatment plant until he left for Australia in November last year. The Ministry of Environment wrote to council in March stating Law had left his son, Nelson Law, in charge. Kaslo's permit for the sewage treatment plant requires daily inspection by a certified operator, and the ministry did not have an operator certification on file for him. Nelson Law's duties have since been discharged. Paul Kelly, a certified operator from Fruitvale, has been retained by the Village until Glen Walker, public works employee, becomes certified.

•Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society asked for permission to install one power pole (instead of the previously requested three) in Kaslo Bay Park. Council denied the request. Councillor Jones has been speaking with Patrick Gemmill, society president, and has determined that underground wiring and a junction box would be a favourable solution. The Public Works Committee will continue looking into this.

•Council received correspondence from Urban Systems regarding the Marina Ridge 10-lot subdivision proposal on the south side of Kaslo Bay. Marina Ridge will be asked to provide a response to each concern listed by Urban Systems. The severity of the slopes was the most evident concern. Urban Systems advised the Village to use extreme caution before issuing a letter of Preliminary Layout Review, and to engage the services of a qualified professional geotechnical engineer.

•Ernest and Jewel Schumacher wrote to express concern about the closure of D Avenue east from 2nd Street through Vimy Park. Schumacher said the closure had considerably increased traffic past their property. Although he agreed with closing this street during May Days, he understood that the attempt to permanently close this section with gates and concrete barricades was illegal. He also informed council that surrounding residents had signed a petition against any such closure last year. CAO Rae Sawyer advised council that D Avenue had been closed without due process, and if council wanted to keep it permanently closed to expand the baseball diamond, proper avenues must be followed. The matter was referred to the Planning & Development Committee for recommendation to council.

•A letter from Mountain King Food Services stated it was apparent that the Crooked Cafe was not making any attempt to comply with the noise bylaw, and gave council a list of seven late night/early morning loud music disturbances in the past two months. This was referred to the next Administration & Finance meeting on May 10 at 4 pm. All correspondence in the future regarding noise at the Crooked Cafe, including the above, will be forwarded to the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch.

•The following recreation grants were approved: Kaslo T-ball/Jr. Baseball $500; Kaslo Concert Society $200; Kaslo May Queen $300; Kaslo Library $300; Kaslo Tennis Club $350; Kaslo Jazz Etc. $250; Kaslo Area Youth Council $200; Kaslo Curling Club $500; NKLAHC $700; Kootenay Lake Housing Society $250; Langham $250.

•Information from the Ministry of Community Services about a grant of up to $10,000 to help improve or develop long-term comprehensive plans such as capital asset management plans, community energy plans, integrated stormwater management, water master plans/liquid waste plans, will be forwarded to Urban Systems. Application deadline is May 31.

•The dog control bylaw was amended to include mandatory pick-up of dog feces in public places by dog owners/handlers. A dog off-leash area was designated from the skatepark location to the mouth of the Kaslo River.

•Foreman Lang will investigate suppliers of a positive pressure system for installation in Village Hall to address the air quality in the library.

•The Seniors Hall connection to the sewer system will be completed by Jim Van Horn and paid for by the Village. Renovations to the hall, including the filling in of the septic tank, will proceed at the Seniors' Association's cost.

•Glen Walker will inspect the City Hall roof and provide Mayor Holland with a full written report by May 5.

•The Kaslo Curling Club was granted approval for its beer garden application for May 21 from 10 am - 6 pm, subject to RCMP agreement.

•The Chamber of Commerce will be granted an additional $900 for portable toilets for May Days.

•Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society was granted approval to construct a stage on Front Street at 4th Street, between the Crooked Cafe and Ramsbottom's Computers, on July 29 between 3 pm and 10:30 pm, provided all businesses potentially affected were informed in advance. During Q&A, it was mentioned that emergency personnel had complained in the past about not being informed.

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Community Bonds explained in Kaslo

by Jill Braley

On May 2, Jim Craven, a former 18-year employee of the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA), gave a presentation on Community Bonds to Kaslo council and members of the public.

A Community Bond, he explained, is one way to get a major project completed when funds are not readily available in municipal budgets. Such a project might be street paving, like New Denver did with a bond for $220,000, or refurbishing Village Hall.

Community Bonds are sold to members of the community rather than on the open bond market. The amount of Community Bonds sold is the amount the Village can then borrow.

They are a good deal for both residents and the Village, because the local government sets the rate of interest. This rate would ideally be lower than what the Village would pay on a regular bond issue and higher than what community members would normally get for Canada Savings Bonds.

Terms are usually 5-25 years, with 5 years being the norm.

MFA was formed in 1970 to promote the financial well-being of local governments throughout BC. It operates similarly to a credit union, pooling the borrowing needs of BC communities and providing a wide range of other low-cost flexible financial services. MFA is an independent organization, directed by its members, who are elected officials, representing every Regional District in BC.

Kaslo community forest calls for public input

by Jan McMurray

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society hosted a public meeting on May 3 to inform people about its opportunity to apply tor a probationary Community Forest Agreement (PCFA). This licence would allow the society "to harvest more timber over a longer period of time over a large area," according to society president Gary Cockrell.

Ministry of Forests officials Garry Beaudry and Dale Anderson, and Irene Strucel, RPF and woodlands manager for the society's current licence, were there to speak and answer questions.

The key differences between the current licence and the PCFA were outlined. Currently, the society has a non-replaceable 15-year licence with an annual allowable cut of 10,000 cubic metres. The PCFA is a replaceable licence, will have a term of 25-99 years and an annual allowable cut of 25,000 cubic metres. The current licence does not guarantee the society a geographic harvest area, so the society may not end up reaping the benefits of its silviculture work. The PCFA will delineate the boundaries of the society's operating area. Finally, the stumpage rate has been significantly reduced for community forests, to about 15% of what it is now.

The PCFA area boundaries will be negotiated by the end of this month. Strucel and the society have been considering several areas, and have come up with a preferred option, contiguous to its current operating area (Schroeder Creek to Kemp Creek) and including Keen, Schroeder, Blue Ridge, Bjerkness and Woodbury. However, some of these areas are allocated to other licences.

Anderson spoke about the tricky negotiation process involved in determining the operating areas for licencees since the government established the timber re-allocation system. "The amount of timber land base is fixed, so if you make KDCFS bigger, you're taking away from someone else," he said. "We're re-dividing the pie and we'd like as few people as possible unhappy in this process." He added, "Irene's analysis is one of the best I've seen."

Anderson also mentioned that First Nations consultations were a required part of the process, and that this could hold things up for Kaslo.

Members of the public were encouraged to offer their input. Luke Crawford said he was concerned about the change in legislation, requiring Forest Stewardship Plans (FSPs) rather than Forest Development Plans. FSPs do not need public input, he said, and "the licencee no longer has to tell us where roads are going to be built, and cutblocks can change." Strucel assured him that the society's intent is to seek public input.

Susan Mulkey spoke in favour of the community forest providing local employment. "I'm willing to give up a lot of the give-aways [grants to community organizations] because I consider local employment to be the greatest dividend. I wouldn't support it if we didn't write that into our management plan," she said. She acknowledged that Strucel was on contract, but said she does not do log sales, and "I would like to see full-time management staff — a key contact person from our town to do that."

The society is keen to hear from the public as it goes through the application process. Another meeting or two are being planned. In the meantime, email your comments to kcfs@netidea.com; visit www.kaslocommunityforest.org; or send a letter to PO Box 1360, Kaslo V0G 1M0.

Mosquito control hot topic at Lardeau meeting

by Jan McMurray

Some discrepancies came to light at a public meeting held May 5 at Lardeau Valley Community Hall in Meadow Creek during discussion of the area's mosquito control program.

The mosquito program has been funded through the CBT Affected Areas funding since 2000, as well as through taxation.

The CBT Affected Area has been defined as being within a 10-km radius of Duncan Dam. It has recently been discovered that this does not include Johnson's Landing or Lardeau. People at the meeting voted to notify the RDCK and CBT that they would like to expand the affected area to include these two communities.

The taxation area for the mosquito program does not include Howser, Argenta and Johnson's Landing. Lardeau, however, which is not officially an 'affected area,' has been paying taxes into the program. Some people commented that the communities that were not contributing tax dollars to the program were benefiting from it.

With the mosquito fund currently sitting at about $93,000, and an estimated cost of $67,755 for the program this year, Area D Director Andy Shadrack saw the opportunity to fund other projects with this year's Affected Area funding.

Mary Hallam, who completed the original grant application for the CBT Affected Area funding for the mosquito program back in 1999, said she was not sure the money was "legally up for grabs" because it had been granted annually for the program. Shadrack assured that next year, the community would revisit the issue and put money back into the mosquito program.

Representatives from six community groups made presentations on their applications for the Affected Areas funding this year, and people at the meeting voted by ballot on these. It was decided that people from all six communities (Lardeau, Cooper Creek, Meadow Creek, Howser, Argenta and Johnson's Landing) could vote on these projects.

Victorian Hospital of Kaslo Hospital Auxiliary Does It Again!!!

The Victorian Hospital of Kaslo Auxiliary Society has outdone itself again!

The Kaslo Emergency Department has needed to upgrade its equipment for some years now.

And now they have, through the very generous donation of $30,000 from the Kaslo Hospital Auxiliary.

The new Lifepak 12 Defibrillator is used for cardiac arrest management.

This upgraded monitoring device will help emergency personnel save lives.

Thank you!!

To the Victorian Hospital of Kaslo Auxiliary Society from the hospital staff, residents and community.

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The only newspaper that tells us what is going on in the Kaslo area. The only newspaper that gives us a chance to say what we think about it, free of charge, in Voices from the Valleys.
Paid advertisement by Jane Lynch in support of the Valley Voice

Get Outta Town!

with Peter Roulston

Cruising Slocan Lake's southern shores

My new postion at the marina in New Denver has kept me busy for the past several weeks and much of my time has been around and on the waters of Slocan lake. Activity out on the lake becomes more widespread after the long May weekend, but for now only a few stalwart locals seem to be out there. Water temperatures are awful cold, around 10 degrees, but several folks and numerous pets have already been swimming.

I keep a small powerboat at the marina and decided to do a tour of the southern part of the lake last week. The cold morning later gave way to a fine warm day with odd breezes along with big calm stretches of open water. As I fussed over the boat, loading gear, I saw a little Northern Flicker perched on the dish of the radio tower here and when he loudly drummed on the dish, I figured he had the best broadcast in town!

Southwards from Silverton, the shoreline of Slocan Lake is far below the highway and lies deep in shade until mid-morning. Only a couple trails reach this rugged shoreline from above and a couple private roads, so from Silverton thru to Slocan City is about 23 Km of tough shoreline with little shelter if thngs get windy and rough. With the highway so far above and the wildness of Valhalla Park across the lake, it feels quite remote here.

I zoomed straight down to the south end of the lake, which took about an hour, and then tied up the boat and hiked up to the Harold Street Cafe for another one of their great breakfasts. The mill was busy making logs into lumber and the village crew was doing some gravel work around the sides of the new and growing boat ramp. There will also soon be the grand opening of the rail trail that comes up the valley to terminate at the Gazebo site.

I spent the day dawdling along northwards up the west side of the lake, stopping at many of the pocket beaches and points of land in Valhalla Park. The only other craft I saw was a tow boat from the mill, otherwise the huge lake was vacant. Once the water comes up another meter, most beaches will be submerged for several weeks, then will open up again as peak runoff passes and the river drains off some of the lake level. I stopped at Evans Creek and walked up to the falls, which are raging pretty good right now.

One small irony is that when you stop along the shores of Valhalla Park, you are fully exposed to all the traffic sounds on the hightway across the way, and if near to villages, you may even hear dogs barking and people sounds coming over the water at quiet moments.... Some folks feel that it would be nice to restrict powerboats from the Park or even from the lake in general, but human generated sounds carry over anyhow, and the legacy of power boats on Slocan Lake has been a fact of life since the turn of the century.

The historic Lancet at the New Denver museum is one of dozens of motor launches that once travelled the lake, and freight, barge, and tug boat operations have always been. Most sailboats have auxilary engines, any tour boat operators are powered, and search and rescue efforts must have capable powerboats. Slocan Lake is certainly big enough for both powered and paddled craft, and I enjoy doing both, but I also object to the odd maniacs and morons who operate unsafely and unconsiderately.

Just north of Nemo Creek is the old homestead that you can see from Silverton Lookout. Still privately owned, it is well-kept and used every summer by the current owners. There's a fine new breakwater there built by local Kim Roshinsky of Valla Ventures. Within the borders of the Park are several parcels of private land which predate the Park's establishment. Soon the seasonal rangers will be working over here but I don't know if there is a separate maintenance / fee collecting contractor as well.

Shade begins to fall in the nooks and crannies along the west side of the lake by mid-mornng, and camping can get cool in the evenings. The payoff of course is those great sunrises from the east shore and the sweeping views. Though the lake may be calm, there's often south-blowing winds near Slocan, likely some local onshore airflow to make to make up for the convection heating in the main valley farther south. As always, big winds and waves can appear amazingly fast and you must scan the sky and main lake north and south frequently.

The main reason I live in New Denver is to experience the features of this lake and its character. Make a point of getting out and enjoying Slocan Lake in some way or manner, even if it's a log raft! Be prepared, cell phones do nothing here, and the same serenity and lack of crowds mean you are in charge of how the day goes and your adventures as they may be.

Peter Roulston has owned the Bicycle Hospital since 1992 and now lives in New Denver - 358-2133

Out with the new and in with the old

I guess it's fair to say that spring has arrived. I can always tell because my extra hours are now taken up with keeping my old Indian and Harley Electroglide on the road. My commute of 100 miles per day puts lots of stress on the old girls and I wonder why I bother sometimes. It's weird when you look at it in an objective light. Both of them could be sold and a brand new Harley purchased for the same price, yet I struggle to keep them in fit enough condition to keep up with the miles I like to put on.

My friend Will brought up this point just the other day and after groping around for a proper reply, the only thing I could come up with was that I preferred the old stuff to the new. I knew that this wasn't an adequate response, but it was the best I could do at the time.

Actually, I don't really like old vehicles just because they are old. Most of the time old vehicles are just that – old tired, and as far as I am concerned, ready to be retired. If you truly like riding as I do, there is lots to be said for a motorcycle that isn't constantly leaving you on the side of the road – too old and worn out to get you any further. Some people might think that collecting and restoring vintage vehicles is somehow tied into reliving the golden age of youth – finally getting that car you couldn't afford when you were young. At least in my case, I can't say that. The old Indian Chief was well retired before I was even born, and I never aspired to ride a Harley Davidson when I was young – too slow and noisy for my tastes.

I guess when I really sit down and analyze the problem, it all boils down to the fact that I like this particular type of motorcycle. They have history; they have the authentic looks and sound. In other words, they are the real thing, not modern copies of past classics that are some people's cup of tea.

Along with driving the real thing comes all the other associated attributes – leaking oil, poor performance, and high maintenance. In a way, riding an old motorcycle or car makes the pursuit more authentic – more in keeping with the original spirit of the sport.

Any high bucks lawyer can afford a new Harley, but to keep an old one on the road requires dedication, and in a way, this is what I would have liked to reply to Will if I could have thought quickly enough on my feet.

There might be some lessons here that are of a more general nature. Why do some backcountry skiers continue to use their old skinny skis and leather boots when the rest of the world has switched to plastic? Why are double barreled shotguns still the choice for many serious duck hunters? Why do some writers stay with their old Remingtons when word processing on a computer seems so much more efficient?

We probably all have a vision of how our life should roll along, but perhaps some of us are more tied to the traditions and aspirations of the past than the present or the future.

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Ministry of Forests & Range

TIMBER SALE LICENCE A77733

Pursuant to section 20 of the Forest Act, a Timber Sale licence is being offered for sale.

Closing Date: May 19, 2006 @ 11:00 AM (LOCAL TIME), BC Timber Sales, Kootenay Business Area, Nelson, BC

Geographic Location: Bulldog Creek, located approximately 45 km West of Castlegar, within the Arrow Boundary Forest District

Estimated Volume: 57,310 cubic metres, more or less

Upset Stumpage Rate: $27.07 / cubic metre

The upset stumpage rate was determined in accordance with the Interior Appraisal Manual and is applicable to coniferous green sawlog grades.

Term: 2 (two) years

Estimated Species / Volume: Lodgepole pine 49,162 m^3, Larch 2,767 m^3, Balsam 2,621 m^3, Douglas-fir 1,079 m^3, Spruce 787 m^3, Cedar 723 m^3, Hemlock 132 m^3, White pine 39 m^3

Tenders will only be accepted from individuals or corporations registered as a BC Timber Sales Enterprise, Category 1, 2 or 3.

The successful applicant will be required to implement and conform to the Kootenay Business Area Environmental Management System.

This licence is subject to, among other things, new 'Take or Pay' Procedures for Waste Billings, new maximum term limits and extension fee and surrender provisions. Applicants are advised to carefully consider the impact of these changes when formulating their bids. Further information on these changes may be found in Advisory Bulletin 06/28/04.

Please ensure that you check the expiry date of your BCTS Enterprise registration before submitting a tender. You may check the status of your registration at the BC Timber Sales Website at: **http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/**

In respect to this proposed timber sale licence, there is additional material which the applicant must consider in their application. This material and application forms may be obtained from the above BC Timber Sales Office, telephone (250) 825-1100 or the ministry web site at: http://www5.for.gov.bc.ca/notices/init.do Specify Timber Sale Licence A77733.

All tender information provided for this timber sale is subject to change. Any changes will be posted on the above ".../notices/init.do" site before the closing date of the timber sale. It is the applicant's responsibility to revisit this site to stay abreast of any changes that may affect their bid. If you would like to automatically receive a copy of any changes, please send your completed *"Notification of Package Receipt"* form to Forests.KootenayTimberSalesOffice@gov.bc.ca

Cool Eateries of the West Kootenays

with Andrew Rhodes

Vietnamese soup in your own cool eatery

Bonjour all you food fans. As stated in my last column, I recently spent nine lovely days in Vancouver. It hardly rained at all. One of my 'programs' while I was there was to walk a mile every morning and then have an extra large bowl of Vietnamese soup, which is called 'Pho' (pronounced 'foe' or 'pfo' — your choice). Pho is a traditional Vietnamese soup that comes in many varieties, and in recent years I've seen 'Pho houses' spring up all over Vancouver and Calgary. It's no surprise, because the soup is tremendously delicious and satisfying. At a Pho house servings come in small, medium and large sizes, but at my fave place on West Broadway near Cambie they also feature extra large bowls the size of serving dishes. Yes indeed! Of late, my craving for Pho has become something akin to addiction. This has forced me to attempt making it at home. I've had varying degrees of success, but there seem to be 'secret ingredients' that are hard to pin down. My attempts at home have yielded a product that is tasty, but still a long shot from the real thing. Fortunately, my pal Gord Prop, who is also a Pho advocate, recently made a brilliant discovery. He was in a grocery store in Chinatown run by Vietnamese folks, and he was carefully sniffing at all their fresh herbs, one at a time, until he found one whose aroma evoked in his mind images and aromas of steaming bowls of Pho. The herb (and this is valuable information) was Vietnamese coriander — the leaves, not the ground seeds. Gord took me to the very store, I bought a bag, brought it home and immediately set to work making a batch of Pho. The result was wonderful. Now my homemade Pho is a little closer to the real thing. Hooray! I'll continue to search for other secret ingredients, but for now I'd like to share with all you food fans the recipe I have. It will make you too a Pho phan.

Start with lots of your best richest chicken stock in a big soup pot. Add: up to a teaspoon of lemon grass powder; several crunched up star aniseeds (anise etoile); 'several' cloves of crushed garlic; three or so chopped leaves of Vietnamese coriander.

Simmer till steaming. Strain.

Add, already cooked and still hot: rice vermicelli - as much as you want (lots).

Add chopped green onions and simmer some more.

Add lots of already cooked and still hot, small slices of chicken and keep simmering for a while.

Ladle broth into large (or extra-large) soup bowls.

Add a handful of fresh bean sprouts.

Top with sprig of Thai basil.

Keep your favorite hot sauce handy.

THERE YOU HAVE IT! You'll be glad you took the time.

In restaurants Pho is served with a spoon and chopsticks.

Most ingredients can be found if you shop around, and you can substitute cilantro for the Vietnamese coriander. In fact using the basics you can improvise to your heart's content. In Pho houses they usually offer at least ten varieties — some with chicken, some with beef.

I heartily urge you to try this out, because as we all know, our own kitchens and dining rooms are indeed *Cool Eateries of the West Kootenays*. And remember this: It is your guests that make the meal great.

Meanwhile, in another world of food, I read in *The Post* that last week in Peace River a black bear entered an IGA, headed for the bakery, got into the display cases and ate 16 cakes. Witnesses said the bear looked happy as he ambled back into the bush.

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 1986 TOYOTA TERCEL, 4 cylinder, 5-speed standard, 4x4, new radiator, alternator, clutch and battery. Runs well. $2500 firm. 250-265-0168.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

WANT TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS? Community Futures offers business counselling and start-up information. Appointments available in Nakusp and New Denver. Contact Farhana at 265-3674 or email nakusp@futures.bc.ca

CALL FOR ENTRY

A call for entry for the **ALFA GUILD GALLERY** "Local Focus" show. The show will run from June 7 through the 25th, with an opening reception on June 9th, from 6 - 8 pm. All works, maximum 3 per artist, should be submitted to the Gallery, 619 Broadway, Nakusp B.C., between 9am and noon on June 5 /06.

CARD OF THANKS

The Lucerne School and Community Writers Festival would like to give thanks to sponsors and members of the community who made our fourth annual festival such a success. Our sponsors were Lucerne School, BC Ministry of Education, Community LINKS, BC Gaming Commission, The Village of Silverton, The Slocan Lake Gallery Society, The Canada Council for the Arts, the Writers' Union of Canada, Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance, KSCU Foundation and Barb Yeomans. Thanks to those who helped us with the Student coffeehouse at the Silverton Hall: Alex Besinque, Otis Davis, Howard Bearham, Chelsea Mellen, Jessica Pownall.

Special thanks to Trish Hawkins and Walter Posnikoff for their support.

The Writers Festival Committee is Morgen Bardati, Helen Davis, Lane Haywood, Paula Rogers and Terry Taylor.

Hope to see you all next year at the 5th Festival!!

The Poznikoff family would like to extend our sincerest thanks to the Doctors and the entire Pavilion staff for their part in taking care of our husband/father/grandfather, John Poznikoff.

We also wish to thank Cst. Steve Oster, and Cst. Terry Barter of the K-9 section, the New Denver Volunteer Fire Department and Slocan Lake Search and Rescue for their participation in the search.

To the family and friends who have shown us all their love and support, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

The Poznikoff family

COMING EVENTS

MAY DAY MARKET, Monday May 22. For info/space call Anita 358-7731.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT - Before the school year ends, come out to a PAC meeting! Next one: May 25, Lucerne Library, 7:00 pm. All Lucerne parents are warmly invited. Parents have a voice in their children's education through PAC.

SLOCAN VALLEY GARDENERS: Would you like to share your garden with interested visitors on Sunday June 25th? Slocan Valley Arts Council is seeking participants between Crescent Valley and Slocan City for our Garden tour. Call Pam at 359-7840 before May 20.

CALL FOR VENDORS! The Vallican Whole's Spring Market and Bazaar! Indoor/outdoor venue. May 20th. $10/table. more info - Jen 226-6791.

PASSMORE SENIORS Mother's Day pancake breakfast May 14, Passmore Hall, 9am-1pm.

GARDEN LOVERS!! Come on out to Lucerne School on Thursday, May 11 from 8:30 am to 11:00 am to help finish weeding the beds in front of the school. Please give us a hand in making our school beautiful!

SLOCAN PARK Improvement District AGM: May 17, 7 pm at Community Hall.

Business Classifieds start at $10

WHOLE SCHOOL SPRING MARKET BAZAAR: SATURDAY, MAY 20th at Vallican Whole 10 - 3 pm. Featuring plant sale, puppet show with Sheila (11:30), llama rides, gourmet treats and BBQ, face painting, clowns, craft vendors and raffle tables. $2/adult, many door prizes. More information/table rental call Rachel 226-7737.

W.E. GRAHAM COMMUNITY SERVICE SOCIETY AGM In the Library at W.E.Graham Community School, 915 Harold St. Slocan City, 3:15 PM, Thursday June 8, 2006.

SOCIAL BALLROOM DANCE, May 13, 2006, Playmor Hall, 7:30 mini-lesson: Cumbia; 8 - 11 dancing. Singles Welcome! $8 non-members. www.dancingbeat.org

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SWIM INSTRUCTOR WANTED - For swim lessons in Slocan Lake in Mid July. $20+/hr plus travel! Contact Slocan Valley Rec' at 226-0008.

SILVERY SLOCAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY is now accepting applications for a Curatorial Assistant for summer employment 2006. Eligible applicants must be a registered full-time student during the proceeding academic year and intending to return to full-time studies in the fall. Eligible applicants must be reliable, have good communication, public relations and organizational skills, have computer experience, and work independently with minimal supervision. Position subject to pending approval from HRDC.

Send resumes to Silvery Slocan Historical Society, PO Box 301, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0. All applications must be received by Friday, May 26, 2006.

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THE SLOCAN DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is now accepting applications for a Visitor Information Counsellor for summer employment for 2006. Eligible applicants must be registered full-time students during the preceding academic year and intending to return to full-time studies in the fall. Eligible applicants must be reliable, have good communication, public relations and organizational skills, have computer experience and work independently with minimal supervision. Applicants are invited to send cover letter and resume to Box 448, New Denver, B. C. V0G 1S0. All applications must be received by June 1st, 2006.

PART-TIME SALES COORDINATOR for Mountain Sky Soaps, Crescent Valley - Details at www.mountainskysoap.com/jobs.html.

COUNTER HELP for new business opening in early or mid-June, part-time to start. Must be energetic, cheerful, able to multi-task and have good customer service attitude. Will train the right person. Mail resume and cover letter to Box 245, New Denver V0G 1S0.

OFFICE ASSISTANT (Summer Student Position): Join our team to gain valuable experience in record keeping, reception and switchboard operation, computer use, office procedures and web design and research. Eligible candidates must have been a full-time student in the 2005/2006 school year and registered to attend post-secondary education in the fall of 2006. 30 hours a week at $12.50 an hour for 12 weeks. Please submit resume to Farhana Alam, Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services, Box 100, Nakusp, BC, fax 250 265 3378 or email falam@aslcs.com.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED! 2010 Legacies Now funding is available for sports and recreation, arts and culture, literacy and events. I would like to hear from community members who are interested in serving as volunteers on committees to access this funding for the communities of Slocan, New Denver, and Silverton as well as the surrounding areas.

If you are interested and would like to be part of a group of like-minded people to participate in bringing long-term benefit to our area, please call Bonnie Greensword, Chair for the Slocan Valley 2010 at 358-7235.

NOTICES

HOT LUNCH AT LUCERNE SCHOOL is extremely affordable. In fact, it costs nothing for families who take advantage of the subsidy that is available, thanks to PAC. Simply let the teacher know via the planner, hot lunch form, your child(ren) or otherwise. Lunches cost only $2 each, but Lucerne PAC does not want that to stop any student from enjoying these delicious lunches, available most Fridays. Many thanks to the Foods class, taught by Patti Sebben, which is doing an awesome job of planning and preparing the lunches! So remember to order your child(ren) a hot lunch on Fridays.

FOR INFORMATION ON AA MEETINGS in New Denver and adjacent towns, call Dave at 358-7265.

PET OWNERS: please be aware that it's the season for coyotes and other wild predators to come into our towns. If you have a cat or small dog, please make sure they're kept in at night, and pet doors locked. Message from someone who learned the hard way.

OBITUARY

John Poznikoff

John Poznikoff passed away in New Denver, BC on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at the age of 87 years. He lived for his family, his home and his desserts.

John was born to Alex and Florence Pozdnikoff on March 3, 1919. On January 17, 1937, John and Mary were married. The Pozdnikoff family built their homestead in Hills Siding, BC, where they raised their five children and have lived ever since. John's love for his community was unquestionable.

John is predeceased by his parents and all brothers and sisters. He is survived by his wife Mary Poznikoff, sons Carl (Donna) of Courtney BC, Johnnie (Franca) of Surrey BC, Lorne (Donna) of Kaslo BC and daughters Natalie Lloyd (Percy) of Summerland and Kathy Berekoff (Nick) of Hills BC. John is fondly known as Deda to 9 grandchildren and old Deda to 5 great grandchildren and numerous members of his extended family.

John was hard working. There was always snow to shovel, grass to mow or wood to be brought in for the fire. Until a few short years ago, an afternoon drive to New Denver to buy his newspaper and two packs of Halls was routine.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, April 26, 2006 and continued Thursday, April 27, 2006 at the Chapel of Valley Funeral Home, Nakusp. Internment followed at the Hills Cemetery.

As an expression of sympathy family and friends may make donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association.

Arrangements were under the direction of Robert Sylvester of Valley Funeral Home Ltd.

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Silverton council, April 25: Trial day park campsites discussed

by Jan McMurray

•Council discussed the Recreation and Facilities Committee's proposal to establish five tenting sites at the north end of the day park (wooded area closest to pathway and creek) on a trial basis this season. No decision was made; the issue will be brought forward to the next meeting.

Administrator Ida sent a letter to property owners adjoining the Day Park to ask for their input on the proposal. Responses were received back from everyone — three had no objection to the trial, and one did. All listed some concerns they wanted council to consider, such as ensuring dogs would be on leash and their excrement disposed of properly, as well as the adequacy of washroom facilities.

Councillor Provan said she did not think washrooms would be an issue, as the washrooms at the park were open 24/7 and Fran Wallis, campground contractor, would be monitoring them. She said there were bound to be problems to iron out during the trial, but that she felt the day park was underutilized and the proposed tenting sites would not take up a large area. She explained that the proposal was put forward as a way to create some revenue for the Village.

Councillor Bell asked if the day park would be used as overflow once the regular campground was full. Provan said she felt a strict overflow policy would be difficult to enforce, and said she felt the day park tenting sites would be perfect for cyclists and Valhalla Summer School of Music (VSSM) students. Councillor Griffiths said she objected to VSSM participants using the site because they stay longer, and this would affect local people who use the park.

During public/press time, Joan McKay, who has purchased a property adjacent to the day park in Silverton, said she purchased the house on the understanding the facility was a day park, not a campground, and this could affect the property value. She commented that it would be difficult to designate the proposed sites as campsites and then tell people they couldn't use them because they didn't come in on bicycles. She said it would be a shame to make the area a campground for two months just because of the two weeks in August that are so busy. She'd be more in favour of planned use of the site, i.e. VSSM, than of transient use.

Resident Joe Matthews voiced his concerns about losing the day park as a camper-free area for walking his dogs. He said he wondered how far the Village could go to accommodate specialty groups without affecting residents, and suggested the ball park as an alternative location. Provan said that washroom facilities were the problem there.

•A motion to accept the contract with New Denver for the provision of fire services was passed. Councillor Laktin said she was not against the contract, but would like the Village lawyer to have a look through it, as the fire department is a public asset.

•Fire Battalion Chief Ron Provan warned people to be careful now that we are in fire season. He reported that Silverton has had two chimney fires and one fence and grass fire in the last two months. He said there had already been three wildfires in the province.

•Mayor Everett reported that the Red Mountain Internet Society's wireless high speed internet project was moving forward.

He also reported that some old, broken water pipes had been left in the ground and that the Village was working with an engineer to determine if the pipes were necessary or not, and to identify any problems before winter.

•Administrator Junko Ida reported on the conference she attended in Kimberley. She learned that the gas tax rebate grant the Village will be receiving over the next five years could be used for an upgrade to the water system. She also attended a boundary expansion workshop at the conference, and was pleased to have made contacts there.

•Bylaw No. 436 - 2006, to close the portion of the public highway shown on maps as First Street and adjacent to the Silverton Inn, was given third reading.

•The procedure bylaw was amended to allow for a public/press time near the beginning of the meeting. The public/press time at the end of the meeting also stands.

Message from the Mayors of New Denver and Silverton

We recently had the great pleasure of jointly signing the first fire service agreement between New Denver and Silverton. It is a historic occasion between our two communities. After many months of hard work by the volunteers and department chiefs, the village councils, staff, Regional District and Don Munro, our fire service will soon cover residents from Red Mountain to Rosebery.

Our experienced volunteers will provide full-time fire protection operating from two halls. A unified budget will provide for many cost savings and better equipment utilization over the years. At the same time it will build reserves for future equipment purchases.

A new committee is being struck consisting of the Fire Department, Silverton and New Denver council representatives and the Area H Director, Don Munro. The committee will make policy and budget recommendations.

Our communities have found a typically unique solution to the century-old issue of how to help two of BC's smallest Villages work together in a meaningful way for the benefit of our communities. Our hats are off to the many people who have contributed so much to both volunteer fire departments over the years. We look forward to the expanded service their dedication will bring to the area.

-John Everett and Gary Wright

Mabel Matischek, Marilyn Massey & Rosemarie Parent promote the Nakusp Historical Society at Nakusp's Volunteer Fair.

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