The Valley VOICE

Free!

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

Westbank First Nation meets with opposition at New Denver meeting

by Jan McMurray

Emotions ran high during a meeting in New Denver on August 23 to discuss the Westbank First Nation's ongoing treaty negotiations. Band members met with some very passionate opposition to their claim that the Slocan Lake/ Arrow Lakes area is part of their traditional territory by Sinixt representatives and by several of the approximately 50 area residents who attended the meeting.

WFN has claimed its traditional territory boundary as going from the Okanagan Valley (Summerland to Lake Country) in the west, through the Arrow Lakes south of Nakusp and over to absorb Slocan Lake in the west. Several times throughout the meeting, Westbank Chief Robert Louie said that his band had proof of its occupation of this land, although none of this proof was presented. He also said they had shared the land with other bands, mentioning the Sinixt, Shuswap, Ktunaxa and Thompson peoples.

In his opening remarks, Chief Louie painted a picture of Westbank First Nation (WFN), which is one of very few that has successfully negotiated a self-government agreement with Canada. This gives them authority to make laws on their five reserves, all in the Okanagan. The population on their reserves numbers between 8,000 and 9,000 – about 650 are band members and about 8,000 are non-native. This high number of non-natives is "peculiar," Louie said. The band has a community forest licence with an annual allowable cut of 80,000 cubic metres that employs many people, and not just their own. He said construction was underway on WFN lands for a Home Depot and Canada's largest Wal-Mart. "We would like to be business associates of yours. By doing business together, it creates opportunities for you and for us," he said.

Following Chief Louie's opening remarks, two representatives of the Sinixt Nation, Laurie, wife of Chief Bob Campbell, and Alex Peacemaker, announced their late arrival to the meeting. They declared that their chief, Bob Campbell, had asked them to come and find out why the Westbank people had not followed protocol and arranged a meeting through the Sinixt – "the traditional people that were placed here by the Creator." Alex Peacemaker also highlighted some of the Sinixt people's history, claiming that a bounty was put on Sinixt heads in the 1800s and the mercenaries who came to take advantage of this opportunity had to deliver the scalp and genitals to collect their reward. The Sinixt Nation was declared extinct in 1956 and Peacemaker said his people's lawyer, David Aaron, was now negotiating with the government to have the order of extinction set aside.

Chief Louie thanked the pair for their presentation and their descendancy, assured them that Westbank Nation meant no disrespect to them, and said that this was the first time they had heard the name of the Sinixt Chief. "But please understand this – our peoples were here as well," he said.

Both objected to this statement. Peacemaker said the WFN peoples were on the other side of the Purcells. Laurie asked what proof they had of their occupation here, and the chief answered, "Much proof – living proof." Then Peacemaker gave the chief their lawyer's business card, saying, "Bob Campbell declares this meeting illegal." He headed for the door, and on his way out, shouted, "And we don't want any Wal-Marts on this land, either!"

Tim Raybould, Senior Treaty Negotiator for WFN, then took the floor to explain that no disrespect was intended by advancing this claim and that overlapping claims with other First Nations were part and parcel of the treaty negotiations. "What we have to do in the treaty process is recognize different perspectives and deal with them in a respectful way," he said. Also to address Peacemaker's Wal-Mart comment, Raybould said, "The way we support our community is by taking advantage of economic opportunities. Some members feel we have gone too far, but we need to create an economy."

Ken Warren, negotiator for the federal government, explained that it was the responsibility of the First Nations to resolve overlap issues. "We were witness to an exchange between two groups tonight," he said. "Alex and Laurie gave us a real and direct example of the complexity of this process. We have to find a way that is fair to all groups who come forward with an interest in treaty negotiations, and it's very difficult."

Warren also explained how it came to be that the Sinixt were declared extinct. He said that the government of Canada kept membership lists of the bands, like voters' lists. When the last registered member on the Arrow Lakes band's list passed away in the early 1950s, the Department of Indian Affairs considered that they had ceased to exist. "However, people like Laurie and Alex Peacemaker keep making their case, so they are invited to Indian Affairs. The door is open for them to come forward," he said.

Other First Nations that have an interest in our area include the Shuswap, Ktunaxa and Thompson bands.

A young woman said she could see from the map provided of the Westbank Nation's traditional territory that "this is access to resources, not a claim based on actual migrations of people. This is not the way lakes people travel. I think when you are asserting this as your territory, something is really wrong here. I see this as a huge land grab. This is a farce and should not be continued until the Sinixt are recognized."

In response, Chief Louie explained that WFN was not claiming all of the land shown on the map. "These lands fall within the territory we have occupied. We are looking at bits and pieces of what we think would be available to us. We are not trying to displace you or any other citizens of your land."

When pressed to tell what specific land the WFN was looking at, Micha Menczer, the band's lawyer, assured that only Crown land – no private land – was on the table. "None of you will lose your land," he said.

"Their settlement will be a sliver of what they occupied previously," he went on, pointing out that the Nishga'a got less than 10% of their traditional territory in their finalized treaty.

Roger Graham, provincial negotiator, said the group had looked at the old Arrow reserve site across the lake and south from Burton, and Hills. He said that WFN members indicated they'd be interested in any available Crown land in Hills.

One man said the local community's biggest fear was that our government would "sell us out," to which Raybould replied, "The biggest fear of the Westbank people is also that their government will sell them out."

Raybould gave a power point presentation, giving a profile of the WFN community, an idea of what life was like for Indians as wards of the State under the federal *Indian Act*, and an explanation of treaty process brought on by the *Canadian Constitution Act* of 1982, which recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and treaty rights. The presentation concluded with a slide entitled "Moving East..." which says that the Okanagan Valley is getting very busy, and many WFN members want to live in a more rural community, so the Arrow Lakes and Slocan Lake areas would suit them.

A member of the public pointed out that the Albertans, too, want to come here to get away from the rapid development of their homelands, and invited the band to check out the area in January and February to see how they liked it then.

When asked how they see themselves changing the face of this community if successful in their negotiations, Chief Louie said that some slivers of land they are looking at may be suitable for logging, which is one possibility. He said that at one time WFN was "the poorest of the poor" but had become adept at business and was now a very industrious community with contractors, infrastructure developers, and his people hope that they could move into business opportunities here. "We believe the community needs to prosper. The community here is getting smaller. There are not going to be any Wal Marts, that's for sure, without huge populations. All we're saying is we want to work with you because we work well with other communities. We are not here to pillage any of your lands."

Both Ken Warren and Roger Graham, who represent the people of Canada and BC at the negotiating table, apologized for not keeping our area's residents well informed and offered some assurances. Warren said, "We aren't going to sell you out. We will come and talk to you about details before they are made. There will be no secrets. Your lands are not for sale. Your interests in the land will not be ignored."

Graham re-iterated, "This isn't a land grab. Your rights and interests will be protected. We will not give away private land or land otherwise legally held by individuals. We are not here to change your community, but to come to a settlement with the Westbank First Nation."

A Search and Rescue training event for the southeast region was hosted by Castlegar August 25-27. About 60 people representing groups from as far away as Elkford participated in the event, which was set up with as much realism as possible. Participants were involved in a staged search and rescue of missing persons in the V alhallas as well as practising swift water rescue in Slocan River. A helicopter was also available so they could practise a helicopter rescue. Search and Rescue units are usually set up as non-profit societies and have to rely on fundraising and donations to cover costs of equipment and training. "This is the one training event of the year that the Provincial Emergency Program has funds set aside for," said Barb Ihlen, president of Castlegar Search and Rescue. She said the funding covered food for participants, but that there was no travel reimbursement for them.

PHOTO CREDIT: TREVOR HARROP

Conservation officers came to New Denver and shot five black bears on Sunday August 27. Isabel Reitmeier, operator of the municipal campground in Centennial Park, reported that she was woken up at 4:40 am. A sow and two cubs were on the picnic table at one of the sites, and when a camper's dog treed a cub, the sow sat in front of the tent and would not budge. The mother and two young teenage children in the tent had to cut their way out the back. These three bears were killed, as were another sow and cub in the Bellevue Street area. The conservation office had received several calls about these bears over the past couple of weeks, with reports of them raiding chicken coops and even one report of a bear taking some groceries. Officials would like to remind people to remove ripened fruit and other attractants from their properties. Call 1-877-952-7277 for the conservation office. For more information, visit www.bearaware.bc.ca or www.env.gov.bc.ca.

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Alien plants invade our backyards

by Art Joyce

It may come as a surprise to Slocan Valley residents that we're living with alien invaders in our back yards. Don't worry—they're not 'little green men'. These invaders are non-native plants that have been introduced to the valley from as far away as Eurasia and Japan.

It may seem an innocent gardener's fancy, planting an exotic species to bring variety and colour to a garden. But when these plants spread, they can choke out forest plants, grasslands and wetlands. Because they didn't evolve within local ecosystems, there are no predators to keep them under control.

"People say, 'But these plants are so beautiful', and they are, so it takes education to make people realize the impact they can have," says Juliet Craig, Coordinator with the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee. "Japanese knotweed is one invasive weed people are still planting as a garden ornamental."

And it's not just the classic jostling for productive agricultural land that's at stake. Invasive species are considered the second largest contributor to the loss of biodiversity (e.g. extinction of species), next to the loss of habitat. Craig says studies done in the U.S. show a marked decrease in wildlife in areas infested with invasive plants.

Insect and amphibian life and especially ungulate winter ranges are also negatively impacted. The western skink, a blue-listed (vulnerable) species, is rarely found in areas with spotted knapweed. This invader is prevalent throughout the Slocan Valley and the West Kootenay generally. Yellow flag iris migrates from garden ponds and is infesting Nancy Greene Lake, Arrow Lake, and the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, disturbing the natural balance of wetland habitats.

Once established, many of these invasive species can be extremely difficult to get rid of. Sulphur cinquefoil plants can live more than 20 years and produce over 1600 seeds per year. Most Kootenay residents are familiar with Scotch broom, which has become endemic in Nakusp, Riondel, and Nelson's north shore. One invader specific to the Slocan Valley is rush skeletonweed—a big concern for pasture and range land.

"We've even found it in ATV tracks, and spreading further up into the bush," says Craig.

What can the average householder do? Craig says learning to recognize the various species of concern is a good start. Avoid spreading invasive plants unknowingly by planting them in gardens. Plant certified seeds guaranteed not to contain these species. Remove and destroy isolated patches. Check the undercarriage of your vehicle and remove plant fragments to prevent exporting them to new areas. If you live on an acreage already infested with invasive plants, prevent them from spreading by cutting the tops before they bloom and go to seed.

Another technique used is known as biocontrol, the introduction of a predator species specific to the invader plant. This approach has been used in the Kootenays as far back as the 1950s, when St. John's Wort was first introduced here for its medicinal value. Its characteristic yellow blossoms could soon be seen everywhere, infesting fields and hillsides. The Chrysolina beetle was brought in to bring the invasion under control. A similar tactic has recently been used in Fauquier, where the Galerucella beetle was released to combat purple loosestrife. The Ministries of Agriculture and Lands, and Forests and Range have introduced biocontrol for hound's tongue, purple loosestrife, dalmation toadflax, spotted knapweed, and Canada thistle.

"There are always risks involved," says Craig, "but the beetles are screened for a specific type of plant. What isn't always known is what feeds on the beetle." However, she explains, a natural 'boom-bust' cycle tends to occur, when plants have a high growth cycle, providing more food for predators, followed by a rise in insects and then a crash in both plant supply and predators.

Columbia Power Corporation recently contributed $2,000 in funding to the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee for signage development. This signage has been placed along roadsides throughout the West Kootenays where these plants are growing, to assist the public in recognizing the invasive species.

To learn more, check out the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee's website at: www.kootenayweeds.com.

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Your local office also has specific information about the contents of the negotiated agreement. Visit bctf.ca for more information.
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Nakusp Fall Fair coming

By all indications, this year's Nakusp Fall Fair which is set to take place Saturday, September 16 from 9.30-3.30 pm at Nakusp Auditorium, will once again prove to be a roaring success!

The theme 'Families Together' tells the story, for as organizers agree, this annual district-wide event which first began early in the 1900's, is just what the Fall Fair tradition is all about. It serves to proudly showcase the very best that our wonderful communities represent and which Arrow Lakes Arts Council, as sponsor, is pleased to present.

Be sure to pick up your free copy of the descriptive Fall Fair competition booklet, available from a variety of Nakusp downtown merchants and other prime locations. Get set to enter as many categories as you wish ranging from fresh garden produce, preserves, baking, through to hobby collections, arts and crafts and numerous other possibilities, for all age groups.

Entry registration takes place at the auditorium on Friday, September 15 between the hours of 4 and 7 p.m. following which the judging and awarding of prize ribbons takes place.

As to the Fair itself: a variety of special entertainment features including the Nakusp Community Foundation's "Mock Jail" and the 'World Famous' Nakusp Kids' Zucchini Races are special features not to be missed. In addition, a nice balance of display tables showcasing entries, a yummy food concession, variety of live demonstrations, handicrafts, fresh produce sales, community group and educational displays will all add up to making this an unforgettable event, marking the beginning of the Fall season.

A major fundraiser for the Arts Council, admission at the door is $2 (children under 12 years free). For more information call the Fall Fair coordinator (Marilyn) at 265-0075.

The Silvery Slocan Museum in New Denver was broken into on the night of August 25 and this artifact, a juicer from the 1940s, was stolen. The culprit(s) got in by breaking the lock on the side door. Jeremiah Wocknitz, who works at the Visitor Information Centre in the museum, said that without the alarm system, more could have been stolen.

Nakusp Councillor resigns

Nakusp Village Council accepted the resignation of Councillor Gord Roberts at a ten-minute special meeting, Friday, August 18. Councillor Roberts has left the village to pursue employment opportunities in the Quesnel area. A by-election has been scheduled for October 22. See the ad on page 10.

Mr. Toad's Wild Ride

by Leah Main

"It's all about power up to 130 mph – after that, it's aerodynamics." So says Silverton resident Ron Scroggins, who is about to attempt setting a land speed record at Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah on his motorcycle The Pioneer, a Special Construction Pushrod Gas Class 500 cc single cylinder bike he has spent the last year designing and constructing with help from Howard Turner.

Scroggins has been part of Team MacLeish, which races streamliners (motorcycles with full enclosures), for the last three years, but will now race his own bike, with the help of his trusty team leader and wife Nancy Guise Scroggins, Steve Klapecki from Sandon, Rob Farrell of New Denver, "and anyone else who shows up."

The bike has been constructed on a frame supplied by British Cycle Supply in Nova Scotia, a Westlake engine bought from Dave Brandt in Woodland Park, Calif., and has parts scavenged and customized from a 1952 Pioneer chainsaw, a 64 Honda Scrambler, and a 1950s Coleman stove, among other things. "When I'm looking for parts, I look at the lines – I go for the same angles as I have in the frame, then it has continuity." Scroggins, has dubbed his workspace Goofy's Garage, and as head mechanic he is called Bloody Eddy. He says, "If we can't fix it, it's hooped."

"It's our desire to chase the land speed record in our class," and the team thinks they can do it. "I took it out this morning, and I'm sure I had it up to 100 mph – and it was just pulling away. It was Mr. Toad's Wild Ride; absolutely outrageous!"

Ron and Nancy have been planning the trip all year, and will leave the morning of Sept. 2, to be in Bonneville for the session which runs Sept. 3-7. They have tried to plan for every contingency, but now that the bike has undergone initial trials they both realize the bike may very well exceed the speed rating of the tires – which are guaranteed only up to 175 mph.

At the meet, Scroggins will have one opportunity to best the class record over a 3 mile flat course. If he accomplishes this, he and the bike will then enter the impound area, where he will be supervised by certified technicians and can retune the bike, but cannot undertake any modifications from the specifications he registered with. After this 4 hour technical break, he gets one more run. The timed speeds of the runs are then averaged, and if his averaged speed exceeds 98 mph, he will have set a new official record for his class.

Based on a series of local, trial runs he expects to better the record, and then hopes to enter the bike at land speed meets in El Mirage, California; Maxton, North Carolina; at the Texas Mile and then at Lake Gardiner in Australia, where he could emerge the holder of a world record.

PHOTO CREDIT: LEAH MAIN

Ron Scroggins, of Silverton, will attempt to set a land speed record on his motorcycle, The Pioneer.

Columbia Basin Trust announces closure of Nakusp office

by Jan McMurray

After making the extremely unpopular decision to close down the Columbia Basin Trust office in Nakusp, Chief Executive Officer Neil Muth says he has agreed to meet with Nakusp Mayor Karen Hamling and Area K Director Paul Peterson on August 29 "to explore whether we can find an alternative acceptable to both parties."

When Muth met with Mayor Hamling before the Nakusp council meeting on August 24 to break the news to her, Hamling says her immediate response was, "This means war."

And war it was.

Muth attended the August 24 council meeting as a delegation. He explained that as a result of a recent review of CBT's internal structure, "we feel we need to make a change to better serve the residents throughout the Basin." He said the Trust could operate more efficiently with three Community Liaisons instead of four.

There has been one Community Liaison (CL) in each of the four CBT offices: Nakusp, Castlegar, Golden and Cranbrook. Doug Switzer, who held the position in Nakusp, resigned earlier this summer.

Muth explained that CLs would now be responsible only for working with their defined geographic communities, and would no longer be working with Basin-wide advisory committees and program management. Also, the CBT has created a new senior management position, Vice President of Community Partnerships, who will facilitate CBT involvement in communities. "Because of the reduction in the community liaison workload and because our new Vice President will also be very much involved in building community partnerships, we cannot rationalize having four community liaisons and that is why we have decided not to fill the currently vacant community liaison position in Nakusp," he states in his letter to council. He said that Wayne Lundberg out of Castlegar will take in the Arrow Lakes and Slocan Valley areas that used to be the responsibility of the Nakusp CL, and Revelstoke will go to the Golden CL.

"As there will no longer be a senior staff position located in Nakusp, we cannot justify expending the resources to maintain the office. Over the next 12 months, we are therefore going to close the office, and will be working with our remaining Nakusp staff [two people] to make their transition as easy as possible," the letter states. At the council meeting, Muth said the transition plan would engage the community.

"This was a difficult decision for us to make," he said to council. "I give you assurances that it took a lot of careful thought. I realize how it is likely to be received here. We need to convince you that we can still effectively serve Nakusp and area communities."

Mayor Hamling said she was "extremely angry. The original intent of the CBT was to look after the people to ease the pain and injustices, not to become a huge multi-million dollar organization at the cost of the residents. CBT has failed us miserably."

Hamling pointed out that Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes was the area most affected, with 2,500 people displaced. "It is apparent that the CBT has lost its way. Perhaps it's time to move the whole thing back to Nakusp so we can remember from whence we came and why we are here."

Councillor Dahlen said in a broken voice, "I'd like to echo everything Mayor Hamling just said."

Councillor Mueller asked if this was a board decision, and if it was a political, economic or operational decision. Muth answered that he was fully responsible for the decision, and that it was an operational issue. "But clearly, with as significant an issue as this one, I would have discussed it with the board," he said. Mueller wanted to know how Josh Smienk, the area's representative on the CBT board, felt about the issue. Muth answered that it would be unfair of him to speak for Smienk. Attempts by the Valley Voice to contact Smienk have been unsuccessful.

Tony Sandrin from Friends of the Arrow Lakes Society was at the meeting, and he commented that it seemed to him this was an economic decision.

Bob Parkinson, a Nakusp resident who said he used to be CEO of a multi-million dollar corporation, wanted to know how this move would give the community better representation. "We've found that when you take representation out of a community, it disappears," he said.

Two residents who were directly affected by the flooding spoke. Bea Anton said the Trust should have brought the issue to the public for consultation and encouraged everyone to write letters protesting the decision. "BC Hydro didn't come through and now we can't depend on you. I am ashamed for our people that you have done this," she said. Vivien Berry said that the community had no trust in the government after the many broken promises made since 1966. "We're very small and representation is essential to our future," she said. She pointed out that this was not good public relations for the Trust. "You are not building anymore trust within the CBT," she said. "This is a huge error and I think the backlash might surprise you. This can be a pretty feisty little community." She asked him to re-consider and come and talk to the community.

In a telephone interview after the meeting, Anton said she wrote to CBT some time ago, listing reasons to keep the Nakusp office open as well as all of BC Hydro's broken promises. She said that she received a phone call fro Smienk , who thanked her for her letter and assured her that the office would not be closed.

Hamling added that she was part of setting up the Trust, and spent time convincing people in the community that the organization would help cover some of the pain and loss. She said the first blow came when the funding formula was changed to be determined by population rather than by impact. The second was when the head office for the organization was moved from Nakusp to Castlegar. "And now, the little communities suffer yet again," she said. "You should be ashamed." She also pointed out that there is no representation for Nakusp and area on the CBT board.

Council decided to have staff write a letter to the CBT protesting the decision, and a letter to other local governments and agencies asking for letters of support for the Village's position.

Muth also attended the RDCK board meeting of August 26 to relay the same message, and by all accounts, was not received with much more enthusiasm than he was in Nakusp. RDCK Chair Gary Wright reported that Smienk, in response to a question from another director, said that the CBT board could over-ride the CEO's decision.

Area H Director Don Munro wanted to know if the decision was one of convenience, as Switzer had resigned. He asked Muth if the Community Liaison out of the Castlegar office, for example, had resigned, would the CBT be shutting down the Castlegar office. Muth replied that he would not answer that question, as it would be speculation.

The RDCK board decided to write CBT expressing concern over the closure and asking the Trust to review the decision with consideration to social impacts as well as economic impacts.

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• Do not overuse disinfectants such as laundry bleach or toilet bowl cleaner.

Other septic hints:

• Regulate the amount of water entering the system. Fix leaky faucets and running toilets. Spread laundry out over several days during the week. Establish a water conservation strategy for the house.

• Do not let any vehicles, including snowmobiles, drive or park on any part of the system.

• Do not plant large trees or shrubs near the system – roots may affect the disposal field.

• Do not water the grass over the leaching bed and ensure that all surface drainage (eave troughs) is directed away from the leaching bed.

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Voices from the Valleys

Bring the Trust home

The Columbia Basin Trust was created to bring lasting economic, social and educational benefits to the residents of the Columbia Basin. It was the vehicle created to compensate residents of the basin for the loss of land and livelihood caused by the massive reservoirs built on the Columbia River in the 1960s and 70s.

When it was first set up it had no assets. It was, as MLA Corky Evans puts it, "a bucket into which to pour money." Since then it has been built into a huge corporation with hundreds of millions of dollars in assets. The residents of the Basin have watched, and waited to see the benefits that were promised at the time of the Trust's inception.

By-and-large those benefits have not materialized. While we can all point to a handful of successful programs or projects in which in Trust has played a significant role, there is certainly nothing to justify the hundreds of millions of dollars of downstream benefit money that has been poured into the Trust's coffers over the years.

At the time that the Trust was set up, everyone in the basin felt that they had a stake in this venture. We felt a sense of pride and ownership. Finally, we were to be compensated. It's hard to find anyone who knows much about what the Trust is up to these days, let alone someone who feels a sense of genuine pride at having built this organization. The Trust has largely lost touch with the people that it was built to serve.

When CEO Neil Muth announced the closure of the Nakusp Community Liason office, last week, it showed the depths to which the current management of the Trust has sunk.

The primary beneficiaries of the Trust over the past several years have been the senior administration of the Trust, whose numbers and salaries seem to grow even as community services are cut.

If the primary benefit of the Trust is to be the salaries of its administrators, it's time to bring the head office back to Nakusp. It was here that the Trust had its original head office, so that its employees could watch the fluctuating lake levels and remember who they were working for. Cranbrook, where the head office apparently is now, isn't even in the Columbia drainage.

None of the communities of the Columbia Basin have suffered like the Arrow Lakes. 2500 people were relocated, often forcibly. Generations of work, embodied in farms and townsites, were submerged to make way for the reservoirs.

The people of Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes deserve better.

Dan Nicholson, publisher

Re-think Lodge and Resort Strategy

I received a letter from Sara McIntyre of the BC Taxpayer's Federation last week. In it, she made the specious argument that people who oppose the government's lodge and resort strategy are opposed to equal access to our parks by the elderly and the disabled. As far as I can tell, she doesn't live around here, so you will be spared reading this piece of drivel.

The lodge and resort strategy isn't about creating boardwalks and seniors' discounts for parks passes. It's about creating high-end lodging for rich people in our world-class wilderness parks.

I don't have anything against rich people. I just oppose giving them better access to our parks than the rest of us.

There are many operators of tourism-based lodging surrounding these wonderful gems of wilderness. They bought into a system whereby there would be no expansion of lodging inside of our wilderness parks. They've invested millions of dollars in their facilities. It hardly seems fair to change the rules at this point.

Dan Nicholson, publisher

LETTERS POLICY

The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. Please mark your letter "LETTER TO THE EDITOR." Include your address and daytime phone number.

Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Letters may be edited. Please email your letter if possible.

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

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

Still no bridge

Recently I took a trip to Kelowna. When I arrived at the Needles ferry landing, I was looking for the bridge over the lake. I looked everywhere but no bridge. Before Mr. Corky Evans was elected he told us that he would take care of our region. After all the care-taking that he has done, still no bridge. I don't think I will see a bridge in my lifetime (I am still young). Certainly not as long as Mr. Evans is in office.

Albert Boers
Hills

Lobbying for quiet Sundays

I am appealing to all my industrious neighbours, who insist on mowing, weed-whacking, and using power tools on Sunday. It would be nice to have at least one day out of the week with silence in the neighbourhood.

Normal noise is OK, but the incessant racket of any and all power tools becomes a bit much. This urge to mow, cut, slice and dice any and all vegetation, begins in April, when there is very little to decimate and continues until November, when only frost or snow seems to shut the noise down. Now, you may think that I am a crabby old woman (you are entitled to your opinion, even though I may not agree with you.) But, I have heard and seen similar complaints about said noise. And 7:30 in the morning, what is that all about?

So, think about it, there are six other days of the week to continue the beautification. Why not one of those days?

Kathryn Le Messurier
New Denver

Hezbollah should be included in talks

I would like to go on record as criticizing the interim leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, Bill Graham, for his condemnation of a Liberal MP, Mr. Boris Wrzesnewskij, (Etobicoke Centre), one of three MPs on a fact-finding tour of the Middle East. Wrzesnewskij had the gall, in Graham's eyes, to dare to suggest that Hezbollah should be included in any talks aimed at attempting to solve the appalling situation in Lebanon.

As background information, the Special Branch of New Scotland Yard in which I had the honour to serve for several years, known as the Special Irish Branch until just before WWI, was formed in March 1883. It was formed in response to Irish terrorists, the Fenians (fore-runners of the Irish Republican Army), rolling a dray loaded with gunpowder down Pentonville Hill in London and blowing a large hole in the wall of Pentonville Prison, thus enabling several Fenians to escape. Irish terrorism continued unabated until quite recently, when the UK government wisely decided that it had no choice but to invite the IRA to the negotiations, with the result that the IRA felt heard and a tentative and at times fragile peace ensued.

Hezbollah is basically no different from the IRA. Both are terrorist organizations with religious agendas; both have political aspirations and social service components; and both have territorial ambitions.

I think that Bill Graham has been spooked by the optics of losing high profile Jewish votes, since Jews are traditionally liberal. It is a great pity that Graham has been so myopic.

John Perkins
Nakusp

Critical of New Denver council

I find it utterly amazing (and no end of ironic) that the Village of New Denver is all-of-a-sudden concerned about the creation of affordable housing.

Just two years ago, when I was home in New Denver, I wanted to buy a building that seemed to me was ideally suitable as a structure in which to create co-operative housing. I had my bank totally behind me, contacts in the world of co-op housing in BC, local people enthusiastic about the idea, and excellent rapprochement with architects prepared to turn this terrific once-public office building into eco-friendly, affordable private housing. All I needed was for the Village of New Denver to agree to a change in zoning, from commercial to residential.

The Village's response to my request (the granting of which would have made possible additional immediate and wonderfully favourable financing from the Province itself) was that I should come back and ask again after I had actually purchased the building. In other words, tie myself into high-interest rate commercial mortgage financing, buy the building and absorb the commercial mortgage payments single-handedly for however long it might take New Denver's Village Council to agree to my proposal – that creating affordable housing in New Denver was a reasonable thing to want to do.

I was irritated when this dereliction of insight happened and I'm not much less frustrated now. It's been obvious to me for a number of years that New Denver suffers from a lack of planning. I've said so before and I daresay it's OK to be tedious and repeat it again.

I might hope my experience with the thoughtlessness of the Village Council was a unique one, but my best guess is that it was not. Too bad.

Ruth-Claire Weintraub
Bisbee, Arizona

Don't accommodate bears

I completely reject the notion from the Bear Smart people that we should accommodate bear activities in our villages and adjacent settlements. The suggestion that dry weather and few berry crops cause these bears to come into town to fatten up indicates that the wild bear population is too large for their territory. We attempt to keep our towns free of criminal intruders and bears are no different.

For the past weeks there have been bear incidents all over town with bear droppings and damage clearly widespread. I read the Bear Smart pamphlet and am amazed at how many restrictions we are expected to endure during the weeks that these animals wander the streets and alleys.

Where did this notion that we need to accept bears begin? Must we fall back and let these brutes have their way? The idea that bears only pass through innocently and graze on some fruit that we residents don't bother to harvest is absurd. If you read the pamphlet you'll see how many ways they intrude into daily life.

We live here and they should live well out there. Even if they were here first, the reality is that now we human beings are, and there's room enough out there for these mobile and very adaptable creatures. Bear control and extermination are being portrayed as somehow not correct, and it puts the efforts of any RCMP or Conservation officers into some uncertainty.

I think it's time to be less noble and more realistic. Bears will become more of a nuisance, and tolerating them in our midst serves no good purpose at all. Don't simply lament to your friend or neighbour about how a bear wrecked your tree, window, car or your mere right to enjoy an evening walk. Call and report these problem animals to either the RCMP (358-2222) or Conservation officer (1-877-952-7277) and clearly state your concerns. These animals will only cause more trouble in more ways if we keep playing this charade.

Peter Roulston
New Denver

An open letter to Kevin Falcon, Minister of Transportation

Dear sir: The methods used to prioritize rehab on the highways and roads in the West Kootenay are puzzling to say the least.

The side road leading to our house has just been re-paved. This is beyond comprehension, given the condition of the highways. I would compare this to a doctor concentrating on your blood vessels when your arteries are collapsing. Where's the common sense?

Our North Kootenay Lake highway is an embarrassment. Highway 31 is a roller coaster on the paved section, with potholes, washboard, dust and mud on the gravel section. How can we invite Olympic visitors to travel on highways that are inferior to those of Third World countries?

continued on page 5

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Voices from the Valleys

The North Kootenay Lake area has a long history of local transportation ministry officials trying to make a case for funding based on traffic volumes. The old chicken-or-the-egg dilemma. In a fair world our local highway people should not have to beg for money to rehabilitate our roads. This area supplies enough resource money to the province to pave our highways with real gold. Twenty five million a year from the water storage at Duncan Dam alone.

I urge our government to re-invent the wheel and insure a fair return of revenue to the rural areas supplying the resources so we can be proud of a healthy advanced highway system for our world visitors to use. We also need to educate the local West Kootenay government officials to start including the north-south routes. The West Kootenay economy depends totally on our highways, specifically the connectors between Revelstoke and Castlegar-Nelson. We need a lot more vision and a lot less chicken-and-the-egg.

L.E. Greenlaw,
Meadow Creek

Open letter to the Federal, Provincial and Westbank Treaty Negotiators

I would like to take this opportunity to make my voice heard on the matter of treaty negotiations being carried out over the territory encompassed on the east by the Purcell mountains, on the west by the Monashee mountains, on the north by Revelstoke and on the south by the Canadian/USA border. This land has been proven, by historical and archeological evidence, to have been occupied by the Sinixt or Arrow Lakes people for over 9,000 years.

I am accusing the federal and provincial government negotiators of bargaining in bad faith in that they do not represent my interests, as a Canadian citizen, nor that of any other Canadian citizen I know of, in these treaty negotiations. Their actions are a continuation of nearly a century and a half of genocide that has been committed against the Sinixt people by these two government bodies.

To add insult to injury, these two governmental bodies are now engaged in negotiations with two different and unrelated parties – the Ktunaxa (or Kootenay) of the Creston area and the Westbank First Nations of the Okanagan – over Sinixt territory. This is not only a divide and conquer tactic that none of these parties will ultimately benefit from, but it also conveniently avoids dealing with the rightful claimants. The Canadian government declared the Sinixt people extinct in 1956 because it did not want to deal with them when they were negotiating the flooding of the Arrow Lakes Valley in the 1960s.

The genocide of the Sinixt people by the Canadian and British Columbia governments is a long and sordid tale that these negotiations are just a continuance of. While the Sinixt people negotiate with the federal government to have their extinction rescinded, the government is busy trying to give away their territory to anybody who is willing to put forth a claim.

As a Canadian citizen I am appalled by my governments' actions in the past and in the present concerning the Sinixt people. I denounce their actions as illegal, immoral and unjust. I appeal to the Ktunaxa and the Westbank First Nations to cease negotiations over the Sinixt territory and support the Sinixt in their struggle to undo the gross injustices that these government bodies have perpetrated on them for so long.

Cliff Woffenden
Nakusp

Sacrificing parks for seniors

Minister of Environment Barry Penner is using seniors to justify sacrificing provincial parks to commercial development. He says the population is aging, and that "people are looking for more options because many people can't sleep in a tent anymore either due to physical ailments or simply because they're getting older."

I am 74 years old. I worked for ten years of my life to protect Valhalla Park. A great deal of the support for that campaign came from people over 60. Together we sought to provide a refuge for animals and plants that are being destroyed by the relentless spread of people and their profiteering destruction of the environment. Contact with wilderness has been a hugely important factor in my life. I wanted such experiences to always be available for future generations.

Many people my age have an increased concern, not about whether they shall sleep on the ground or in a bed, but about the kind of world we are leaving behind for the generations to come. At all times the highest principle of parks has been to leave them "unimpaired for future generations," not to turn them into amusement parks and tourist traps.

To honour that principle, people my age have been camping and sleeping comfortably on foam pads, cots, or in campers and vans for a long time. Those who want or need a roof over their heads, hot showers, flush toilets, swimming pools and tennis courts have legitimate desires and needs. But they also have 87% of the province and an infinite number of lodges to choose from, many just outside park boundaries.

Lodges instantly destroy natural and wilderness values in parks. Great natural landscapes aren't natural anymore, they have man-made structures in them. The lodges draw crowds of people that drive out wildlife, trample sensitive plant communities and make it impossible to find places to be alone. They bring helicopters with their loud noise that travels for miles. And they are notorious for expanding and including other kinds of development such as restaurants, tennis courts and swimming pools that hugely accelerate the impacts.

I fought for parks in my lifetime because I recognized that anything of such great importance to life on the planet belonged to all people for all time. It could only be held in trust by the government and kept safe from private exploitation. Park lodges bring control of our parks by vested interests, who gain heavy influence over park management to serve their own private profits. If we ever wanted to regain public control, the taxpayers would have to buy back the facilities at huge cost.

Parks are meant to be preserved from commercial exploitation, to provide places where animals can live out their cycles unendangered by development. This is what the present government, which only understands business, doesn't know or care about. Penner is a good example of this aim to sell out our parks to private businesses, destroying the very reason why parks were created and why people come to visit them. If he doesn't understand this, he should resign.

Richard Caniell
New Denver

Let us be completely clear

Several points of confusion seem to have arisen around the proposed Jumbo Regional Recreation Area (JRRA) that a local delegation made to the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) board at its June 24, 2006 board meeting.

The first point I'd like to clarify is the notion that the JRRA proponents expect to influence in some mysterious way the pending decision to either allow, or not allow, the proposed Jumbo Glacier Resort to be developed. That notion is very peculiar, because as everyone knows, the proposed resort is in the jurisdiction of the Regional District of East Kootenay on the east side of the height of land in the Jumbo Creek Valley area.

The delegation of proponents for the Jumbo Regional Recreation Area made very clear with written and spoken words and maps that we are talking about the west side of the height of land in the Glacier Creek Valley area – call it West Jumbo Regional Recreation Area if you wish. The proposal not only includes the famous West Jumbo Pass trail and area, but also the marvelous Monica Meadows trail and area, and the magnificent MacBeth Icefields trails and area, to name only three of the outstandingly awesome attractions included in the JRRA. The proposal also goes right down the Glacier Creek corridor to meet the Glacier Creek Regional District Park at the shore of the Duncan Lake reservoir.

At this time the supporters of the JRRA are working diligently on a public handout that will explain the concept clearly in words, pictures and maps.

Let me repeat here, however, that the purpose of the JRRA is to preserve the natural ecosystems for the conservation of wildlife, the maintenance of biological diversity, and to provide ongoing recreation based upon the enjoyment of the natural environment. All present uses would be grandfathered in. All future industrial and commercial uses would be written out.

There have been some public remarks about the JRRA proposal excluding the proposed Glacier/Howser independent power project. This would put a run-of-the-river diversion up Glacier Creek, where the bull trout spawn. Poles for the power lines would march up the valley, tunnel through the mountain upon which both the west and east Jumbo Pass trails exist and down the Jumbo Valley to the BC Hydro substation in Invermere. Not to mention the powerhouse that could obliterate the Kokanee spawning grounds.

Let us remember that the Columbia River Treaty constructed the Duncan Dam for the benefit of flood control for the USA. That dam does not even generate electricity, yet behind it, under water, lies over 7000 acres of prime low elevation habitat. Most people at the north end of Kootenay Lake reservoir are not willing to accept more habitat loss to satisfy increasingly over-consumptive electrical users. Area D people are vividly aware that our economy is rapidly changing from resource exploitation to recreation-oriented users who pump money into our local businesses while experiencing our globally significant, relatively unspoiled natural environment.

As Olympic gold medalist Becky Scott says, "The one thing we have that is so rare in the world is wilderness and wildlife." And as Scott Niedermayer of the NHL says, "I have travelled around the world playing hockey and I love the Kootenays the most. Our wildlife and wilderness are unmatched assets."

Rowena Eloise
Argenta

Come on out to
the Rosebery Regatta
LABOUR DAY MONDAY
Sept. 4 – 11 am
in Rosebery Bay
BRING YOUR BOATS!

ROSEBERY PARKLANDS DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday, September 3, 2006
12:00 Noon
537 Rosebery Loop Road
(Leyland's Blue Cabin on the Point)

The Wild Rose Restaurant

Hola!

Happy Garlic Fest!

Fall Hours
Open Fri, Sept. 8
Sat, Sept. 9
Sun, Sept. 10

For reservations, please call 358-7744

THE SLOCAN COMMUNITY FOREST INITIATIVE

Invites you to attend an informational community meeting in your neighbourhood. Come and learn more about this project before we submit our final application. Ask questions, share your thoughts —

Silverton Gallery, Tuesday, September 12, 7 pm
Winlaw Hall, Wednesday, September 13, 7 pm
Slocan Legion Hall, Thursday, September 14, 7 pm

The Slocan Community Forest Initiative gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Columbia Basin Trust and the Regional District of Central Kootenay.

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST

Central Kootenay Regional District

Local Speed Watch group gets new equipment through ICBC donation

Local volunteers are optimistic that new additions to their Slocan Lake Speed Watch group will make New Denver and area streets safer. ICBC recently donated a new speed reader board, radar heads, signage, uniforms and pylons to the group.

The Slocan Lake program also has a new coordinator, Glen Jorde, who hopes to recruit more volunteers. Speed Watch, a partnership involving community, police, and ICBC, is designed to raise driver awareness of the actual speeds they are travelling. Volunteers use portable radar equipment and an electronic board to monitor speeds in neighborhoods – particularly school and playground zones. Drivers see their speed displayed on the reader-board as they pass.

"Research has shown that more than 70 per cent of drivers who are travelling 10 km/h over the speed limit slow down when they see a speed-reader board," says RCMP Constable Stephan Drouin.

Volunteers with the program also contribute valuable data to the RCMP and ICBC by identifying seatbelt usage and speeding hot-spots. The information is useful in developing public education and enforcement campaigns.

"ICBC invests in community initiatives like Speed Watch to help prevent crashes," explains Michelle Hargrave, ICBC's loss prevention coordinator for the region. "That reduces claims costs and helps to keep insurance rates low and stable."

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact the New Denver RCMP detachment at (250) 358-2222 between 8-12 am weekdays.

West coast artist comes to Hidden Garden

submitted

Tara Ireland's art will be on display at the Hidden Garden Gallery September 6-11. At the opening September 9 from 7-9 pm, there will be refreshments and music by visiting folk musician Trevor Caswell in the garden.

Ireland has spent her life living and working in and around Vancouver. She studied painting and printmaking at the Vancouver School of Art in the late 1970s. After 20 years working as a scenic artist in the busy Vancouver film industry, she has returned to pursuing her career as a painter of landscapes and still-lifes.

Clatterbaugh speaks in Silverton

Ken Clatterbaugh, professor of Philosophy at the University of Washington, will give a talk entitled, *The Good, the Bad and the Divine: Is Religion Foundational to Morality?* at the Silverton Gallery on September 6, at 7:30.

"Many religions, especially those of Abraham, treat religion as foundational to morality," says Clatterbaugh. "God, after all is good, and God clearly issues moral commands that are to be obeyed. This talk is a philosophical examination of the adequacy of this account of morality. How does one justify the claim that God is good in a world that contains horrendous evils? Does God command things because they are morally right or are they morally right because God commands them? These and other questions will be explored with arguments presented from all sides."

This event is co-sponsored by the Hidden Garden Gallery and the Silverton Gallery and is part of our *Food for Thought* series. Admission is by donation.

Lucerne gets new septic system

by Jan McMurray

Work underway at Lucerne School to replace the septic system that serves the original wing of the school, housing the Kindergarten, playschool and gym, will be sufficiently completed by the time school opens, Maintenance Supervisor Gary Grout reported.

"The engineers, permits and materials are to arrive on Monday [August 28]," said Grout. He reported that a 2,000-gallon septic tank, a 1,000-gallon tank for the gray and black water, a pumping station and a new septic field will be installed on the lower soccer field. Eric Waterfield of Crescent Bay Construction has designed and will install the new system.

Although the job will not be 100% complete by the first day of school, "we won't have to worry about flushing toilets," assured Grout.

Important to note is that the newer wing of the school has its own fully functioning septic system.

Grout said a small area of the lower soccer field would be off limits right at the beginning of the school year, and then the whole lower field will be out of commission for quite a while – perhaps for the school year. Because the field will be dug up, the irrigation system will have to be re-done and the field will have to be re-seeded. "It will be quite a process, for sure," commented Grout.

He says the project has taken so long to get going mainly because it posed some engineering challenges. "A lot of consulting had to go on before we could begin," he said.

The New Denver/Silverton fire department is lined up to wash off the tennis court during its practise this week. The new pipe that has been laid underneath the tennis court from the indoor plumbing to the field still needs some settling time before it can be paved over. The plan is then to re-surface the entire tennis court.

A garden area with seating is planned for the southwest corner of the tennis court where the asphalt has been removed.

The tennis court resurfacing and garden projects are initiatives of the Slocan Lake Early Learning Society, which runs the New Denver Nursery School.

Celebrating B.C. Workers

There is much to celebrate in British Columbia this Labour Day – a thriving economy, record employment levels, and a wealth of opportunities.

Our public sector has been energized by creative, fair and affordable labour agreements that support long-term economic stability. There's a new spirit of optimism in our province – reinforced by our strong economy and the contribution of all working British Columbians.

There has never been a better time to look ahead to our bright future, or to recognize those who laid a strong foundation for workers today. Have a safe and enjoyable Labour Day.

BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Village of New Denver is seeking a person to fill the employment opportunity shortly available due to the pending retirement of the employee in the classification of:

CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

Accounting/Clerical

The Confidential Secretary reports to and is responsible to the Administrator. The regular rate of pay is $15.98 per hour, with a rate of $19.50 per hour when acting in the capacity of Acting-Administrator. Benefits provided are Medical, Dental and Extended Health. Municipal Superannuation deductions are compulsory upon completion of a three month probationary period. Normal hours of work are 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. 24 hours per week.

The successful candidate for this position should meet the following requirements and possess the following skills:

- Have good public relation skills and be able to deal with the general public under a widely varied set of circumstances.
- Have working experience in a front office/clerical position.
- Knowledge of accounting with the ability to complete Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Payroll and Bank Reconciliations. Also to accept payments from the general public and deposit funds.
- Ability to maintain filing systems.
- Must have basic computer skills including Word Perfect, Microsoft Office and preferably the MAIS accounting program.
- Ability to answer inquiries from the general public and direct inquiries to the appropriate department.
- Ability to issue and accept applications for various permits and licences. Also to issue work orders to the public works department.
- Ability to act on behalf of the Administrator during her/his absence. Including but not limited to agenda preparation, attending Council meetings and taking minutes.
- Must be bondable.

The position deals with items of a confidential nature and requires that some items not be discussed with or divulged to unauthorized persons. An Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Office are required. A preferred candidate would be interested in a career in Local Government Administration with the possibility of employment advancement at the time senior staff retire.

Applicants should apply to: Mayor and Council
Village of New Denver
P.O. Box 40
New Denver, BC V0G 1S0

Closing date for applications is 4:00 p.m. Friday, September 15, 2006. Council would like to thank all those who submit resumes, however only applicants who are short listed will be contacted.

Slocan council, August 16: MLA Corky Evans pushes for slaughterhouse in Slocan Valley

by Don Currie

•Corky Evans, NDP MLA for Nelson-Creston, appearing as a delegation, appealed to council to contact other communities in the Slocan Valley to apply for provincial government funding to establish a slaughterhouse and inspection facility for small meat and poultry producers. Evans explained that due to pressure from the US government during the BSE outbreak, the Canadian federal government requested all provinces to adopt federal inspection standards. The Province has funding available to help communities comply with its new meat inspection regulation that will come into effect September 2007, and Evans urged local communities to act quickly to apply. The deadline is September 30. He reported that Cranbrook farmers were already lobbying the Province for $1 million and the Columbia Basin Trust for an additional $800,000 to establish a facility in their area. He said a facility in Cranbrook would be out of reach for local producers and advised councils in the Slocan Valley to work for a local facility. He urged council to get the RDCK representatives on side and to write to the provincial administrator of the fund, to contact all Valley councils and to begin to contact interested local entrepreneurs who might be interested in operating such a facility. Council accepted the MLA's advice and agreed to act on his suggestions.

•Evans also urged council to continue to work hard for the success of the Community Forest project, commenting that it was the best thing he had seen happen in his 30 years in the Slocan Valley. Evans said the position of all stakeholders was coming closer together and appealed for minimizing ideological differences and avoiding over-politicizing the issue. He said that under the terms of the agreement "every log with a stamp on it would be of benefit to the community."

•Evans, who attended the official opening of the Wellness Centre, re-iterated his pledge to continue to work with council to secure doctors and a nurse practitioner to provide health care services at the new facility. Council agreed to send a letter to doctors practicing in the Slocan Valley, the IHA and educational institutions graduating nurse practitioners, to attend a joint meeting with Evans and council to get action on staffing the centre.

•Administrator Ludlow reported that the Wellness Centre was completed at a cost of $75,000, which was over budget partially because of a government requirement for an air exchange unit, not included in the original budget. The boat ramp is complete and the breakwater is in the final stages of completion. The project, estimated at $140,000, actually came in at $108,993.69 for the ramp and $51,939.08 for the breakwater. Canfor donated $100,000 towards this project.

•Ludlow advised council that discussions on proposed Village boundary extensions should be completed before decisions are made on a new Official Community Plan (OCP). She reported that there is no longer money available from the Ministry to fund OCPs. Under new business, Councillor Perriere returned to the OCP issue and cautioned council to estimate all costs of expansion carefully before proceeding. She commented that the Village could end up taking in a "few houses" but assume big administrative costs. Marc Septav said council should find someone to provide professional advice on the steps to boundary expansion including all "pluses and minuses."

•Councillor Gates inquired about capital for a new front end loader, estimated at $140,000-$180,000. Ludlow said council had to decide on whether to lease or buy. Councillor Septav said council should meet on the issue before its next meeting. Ludlow said there will be another Fall Clean-up and work is planned on retrieving cemetery records and a start on the library. Ludlow said the Village is still waiting for the 2005 Financial Statements to be presented by Village auditors which should be available by next council meeting. She reported that no further capital expenditures were planned for this year.

•Works Foreman Gerry Simmons reported that benches and a railing were being installed at the gazebo. The breakwater would be extended another 15 feet and decking was ready for installation. An electrician would be installing a beacon. Water from Springer to the ballpark was operational and would be extended to the cemetery when a pumping problem is solved. Looping of water mains and extending the sidewalk project would commence in the fall. Council received unverified reports that the Ministry responsible for municipalities had raised objections to the Village snowplowing Brandon streets. Under the current arrangement, the Village receives sand and salt from YRB in exchange for providing snow removal services for Brandon. The arrangement provides a cost saving to the Village and a benefit to Brandon residents. Council directed staff to verify the source and reasons for the objection to the current arrangement.

•Simmons and Ludlow reported that meetings had been held with representatives of Agriculture and Lands regarding resolving land ownership issues related to the location of the Village's water plant, some issues of land use at the beach, and to assess risk and responsibility for rock climbers on the rock face on the east side of Slocan Lake. The meetings went well and land use problems are in the process of being resolved.

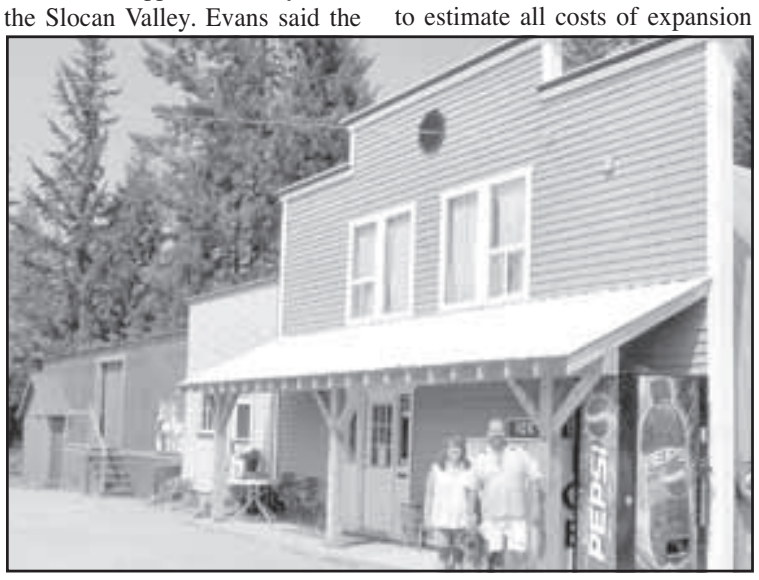
•Council considered a letter from Bob Stokes concerning an oil tank removal and property taxes at the Slocan Inn. The details of the letter were not made public, but the debate in council revealed that the tank is on Village property under an arrangement with a previous council and Stokes believes council has an obligation to incur costs, estimated at $5,000. Councillor Septav proposed the matter be tabled until the terms of the original agreements can be determined.

•Council instructed staff to request the bylaw control officer to act on a complaint from John and Doris Sergeant about aggressive behaviour of off-leash dogs in their neighbourhood. Council agreed to ask the bylaw control officer to speak to the dog owners.

•Council gave third reading to a motion to establish a Board of Variance. The next step in the process is a public meeting to approve the board and its members.

•Council authorized the mayor to negotiate a fee for the use of the Women's Institute Hall by an acupuncturist.

PHOTO CREDIT: KEITH CUMMING



Pat and Peggy Ashton, owners of Mountain Valley Station at 'Arlington Corner' in Slocan, have just finished putting a false front on the building. With a new coffee shop, Fullabeans, beside the store/gas station and the Home Hardware across the street, this part of the village is a going concern.

Winlaw Nature Park gets a facelift

The Winlaw Regional and Nature Park is about to get another facelift. This fall, it is the back boardwalk that will be replaced. Visitors to the park during the past few years have appreciated the transformation of the front boardwalk (connecting parking lot to beach) from rickety and rustic to solid and beautiful, featuring handrails and benches. Now the back boardwalk, through the wetland area, is slated for similar treatment. Construction of approximately 100 meters of elevated boardwalk with railings is up for bid. (See ad in Aug. 16 edition.)

The Park board is asking the public if they might be able to donate few items towards the boardwalk's construction. The park commission is seeking any donations of 8" sonotube, #4 rebar, 4X4s, 2X8s, or 2X6s, and wood preservative. Monetary donations are more than welcome. To date, the project has received grants from the RDCK, Columbia Basin Trust, and most recently, Columbia Power Corporation.

Volunteers are needed to brush out the new route (close to the existing old boardwalk) using hand shears before October 15. Volunteers would also be appreciated during the construction which is expected to take place between October 15 and November 15.

If you wish to donate time or materials, please call Tom Bradley at 226-7792 before September 5 or Lois Lawrence 226-7312 after that.

This page of Slocan Valley News has been brought to you by the civic-minded merchants of Arlington Corner in Slocan City!

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RDCK board, August 26: Rosebery dock disallowed

by Jan McMurray

•The permit for the dock placed in Rosebery Bay this spring has not been granted. Kathy Bisset, Land Officer, Integrated Land Management Bureau, wrote to advise the board of this. The reason given by the bureau is that policy does not provide for private moorage for properties that are separated from a waterbody by private land. The property in question is separated from Slocan Lake by Rosebery Parklands Development Society land.

•High speed internet service to the Winlaw area is getting closer. Leah Main, Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission (SVEDC) Recording Secretary, reported in a telephone interview that the final engineering report on the Winlaw broadband build was expected on September 28. Soon after, public meetings will be held. In preparation for an Alternate Approval Process or referendum regarding raising tax money to pay for the build, the SVEDC asked the RDCK to determine the number of properties and voters from Crescent Valley to the south boundary of the Village of Slocan. The RDCK board directed staff to do this.

•WE Graham Community Service Society has found a piece of land for a skateboard park in Slocan. RDCK staff was authorized to negotiate a lease agreement with the Slocan Community Complex Society for a parcel of land for the facility. The plan is for the Slocan and Valley South Regional Parks & Recreation Commission to provide liability insurance provided through the Municipal Insurance Authority of BC.

•Lorna Obermayr, President of the Sandon Historical Society, wrote to the board explaining that the society would like to put a bridge across Sandon Creek in front of the museum for easier public access. The society needs a licence of occupancy from the Crown for this. As this could create a conflict with the Regional District's request for a moratorium on land sales in Sandon (still under government review), the board agreed to make an addendum to its request that would allow for the society's bridge project. Also, the board passed a motion that the licence of occupancy, if granted, would be tranferable to the RDCK if a regional park were established in Sandon.

•The 1979 Chevrolet fire tanker formerly located at the Village of Slocan fire hall will be relocated to Silverton for use in the New Denver/Area H/ Silverton fire protection area. Area H Director Munro will advise RDCK staff of financial arrangements.

•The board received confirmation of attendance from two invitees to the October 21 board meeting in Nelson: Neil Murphy, President, Glacier Power BC Ltd., regarding Canada – Glacier/ Howser run-of-river hydro project and Oberto Oberti, Pheidias Project Managment Corporation regarding Jumbo Glacier Resort project.

•Director Andy Shadrack was appointed to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee for a term ending March 31, 2007. A letter of appreciation will be sent to Larry Greenlaw for his previous service on the committee.

Plan to be at Edgewood's Legion Hall on Saturday, September 2 for a benefit dance for Ja Pace (left), a talented young Latin dancer with a potentially fatal blood disease. The dance is hosted by Carol's Garden Cafe and all proceeds go into Ja's bone-marrow transplant fund. Her parents, Pancho and Sal (also pictured here) will perform, as will Quinn De Courcey, the Lofi Cowboys and the Tribal Funk.

Froggy Fest an unqualified success

The Sinixt Nation hosted Froggy Fest for children of all ages on August 19 at the Sinixt Barter Fair grounds in Vallican. This child found fun in an inner tube.

Jack Grunsky, multiple Juno Award winner, performed at Froggy Fest.

PHOTO CREDIT: TAEGAN BAJER STANLEY

Sinixt story teepee was one of many fun activities at Froggy Fest.

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) CASUAL CALL-OUT EMPLOYEES

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) is accepting applications for casual employees throughout the district in the following job classifications:

- Bus Drivers
- Custodians
- School Secretaries
- Noon Hour Supervisors
- Special Education Assistants
- Library Clerks
- Program Assistants

Successful candidates will have their names placed on the C.U.P.E. Casual Call-Out List and are needed to replace full and part-time employees on an as required basis. A resume outlining grade 12 completion, qualifications, and experience should be attached to your application.

Employees currently on the Casual Call-Out list must reapply by September 7, 2006.

For further information please contact the School Board office in Nakusp, 265-3638 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. prior to 1:30 p.m. on September 10, 2006.

Please Note: that prior to being placed on the casual call-out list, applicants must submit to a criminal record search and must have a minimum grade 12 education.

School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes)
P.O. Box 340
Nakusp, B.C.
V0G 1R0

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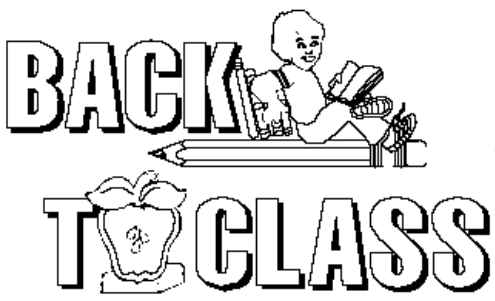
School District No. 10
(Arrow Lakes)

SCHOOL OPENING 2006/07

September 5, 2006 - all district schools will be in session 1/2 day only

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS ATTENDING LUCERNE ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY SCHOOL AND NAKUSP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL will be contacted by the teacher prior to attendance.

First day of attendance for BURTON ELEMENTARY AND EDGEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS is Wednesday, September 6, 2006.



STUDENTS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES MUST BE AT THEIR STOP 5 MINUTES PRIOR TO POSTED BUS ARRIVAL TIME.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

School Hours & Bus Routes for this year are significantly different from last year. Please check the schedules carefully. Should you have any questions, please call 250-265-3688, ext. #0.

EDGEWOOD to NAKUSP ROUTE 2005/06

Driver - Dave Buhrman • Bus #6100

AM RUN		PM RUN	
7:13	Leave Base	3:00	Leave Base
7:14	YRB Yard	3:05	NES
7:17	Zerrath	3:08	NSS
7:24	Fenton	3:38	BES
7:30	Hwy 6 Junction	3:41	Silver Queen Rd.
7:35	Hockman	3:51	Wolstenholme
7:45	Ferry	3:54	Royko
7:55	J & S Snacks	3:55	Stewart Road
7:58	McGinnis	3:56	McGinnis
7:59	Stewart Road	3:58	J & S Snacks
8:00	Royko	4:00	Ferry
8:03	Wolstenholme	4:15	Hockman
8:13	Silver Queen Rd.	4:21	Hwy 6 Junction
8:16	BES	4:25	Fenton
8:45	NSS	4:31	Zerrath
8:48	NES	4:34	YRB Yard
8:50	Base	4:35	Base

EDGEWOOD ROUTE 2006/07

Driver - Laura Latter • Bus #4101

7:57	Leave Base	2:40	Leave EES
8:12	Hockman	2:46	Giffen
8:14	Frederick	2:50	Galloway
8:15	Helmer Rd.	2:55	Burgin
8:17	Highway 6 Junction	2:59	Shuler
8:19	Shuler	3:03	Highway 6 Junction
8:23	Burgin	3:06	Helmer Rd
8:27	Galloway	3:08	Frederick
8:31	Giffen	3:10	Hockman
8:37	EES	3:25	Base

SUMMIT LAKE/GLENBANK/HWY 23 ROUTE 2006/07

Driver – Andy Cruden • Bus #7100

AM RUN		PM RUN	
7:35	Leave Base	3:00	Leave Base
7:56	Summit Lake Rd.	3:05	NES
8:01	Kingfisher Rd	3:10	NSS
8:02	Allshouse Rd	3:15	Paul
8:07	Wilson Lake Rd.	3:16	Hot Springs Rd.
8:13	Command	3:17	McDonald
8:17	Alexander Rd. Turnaround	3:18	Homis
8:19	Southin	3:23	Home Ranch
8:20	Beingessner	3:24	Churchill Rd./Shakespeare
8:22	Sones	3:27	Lindgren
8:23	Wanstall	3:28	Herridge
8:24	Bateman	3:30	Matchett Subdivision
8:27	Matchett Subdivision	3:35	Bateman
8:29	Herridge	3:36	Wanstall
8:31	Lindgren	3:37	Sones
8:33	Churchill Rd./Shakespeare	3:40	Beingessner
8:34	Home Ranch	3:41	Southin
8:36	Homis	3:42	Alexander Rd Turnaround
8:41	McDonald	3:44	Command
8:42	Hot Springs Rd.	3:52	Wilson Lake Rd.
8:45	Paul	3:58	Allshouse Rd.
8:47	NSS	3:59	Kingfisher Rd.
8:50	NES	4:04	Summit Lake Rd.
8:55	Base	4:25	Base

Where Bus service is not available, Transportation Assistance may be provided to eligible parents who apply for assistance. Remember to apply in September as Transportation Assistance is paid starting at the beginning of the month when submitted and not retroactive to the beginning of the school year.

REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS

(effective September 5, 2006)

September 5, 2006 - all district schools will be in session 1/2 day only.

SOUTHERN ZONE SCHOOLS - George Harding, Principal; Sally McLean, Vice-Principal

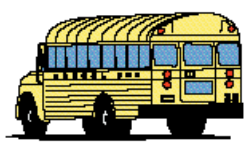
Edgewood Elementary School - Phone 269-7212 Hours: 8:42 - 11:50 and 12:35 - 2:35
Kindergarten: 12:20 - 2:35 Monday to Friday

Burton Elementary School - Phone 265-3253 Hours: 8:20 - 12:05 and 12:50 - 3:26
Kindergarten: 12:35 - 3:26 Monday - Thursday

NAKUSP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - George Harding, Principal; Sally McLean, Vice-Principal
Phone 265-3731 Hours: 9:00 - 12:00 and 12:45 - 2:56
Kindergarten: 9:00 - 11:15 and 12:41 - 2:56 Monday to Friday

NAKUSP SECONDARY SCHOOL - Kees van der Pol, Principal; Susan Paterson, Vice-Principal
Phone 265-3668 Hours: 8:49 - 12:14 and 12:54 - 3:05

LUCERNE ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY SCHOOL - Trish Hawkins, Principal
Phone 358-7222 Regular Hours: Grades 1-7 9:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 3:05
Grades 8-12 8:54 - 12:14 and 12:59 - 3:05 Kindergarten: 9:00-12:15 Tuesday to Friday



HILLS ROUTE 2006/07

Driver – Dan Wilson • Bus #2611

AM RUN		PM RUN	
7:57	Leave LESS	3:15	LESS
8:17	Purdy Road	3:21	Golf Course
8:21	Crown Road	3:22	Maxinuk
8:25	Sopow	3:24	Log Dump
8:26	Hills Mail Boxes	3:25	Rosebery Loop South
8:27	Laktin Road	3:26	Rosebery Loop North
8:28	Bonanza Rd.	3:33	Bonanza Rd.
8:36	Rosebery Loop	3:34	Laktin Road
8:38	Log Dump	3:35	Hills Mail Boxes
8:40	Maxinuk	3:37	Sopow
8:41	Golf Course	3:40	Purdy Road
8:46	LESS	3:44	Crown Road
		4:10	YRB Yard

NAKUSP-BURTON-NAKUSP ROUTE 2006/07

Driver – Raynelle Posnikoff • Bus #2734

AM RUN		PM RUN	
7:35	School Board Office	3:05	Lv. NES
7:40	Cann	3:10	Lv NSS
7:55	Adshead Rd.	3:15	Cann
8:05	Buerge	3:16	Brinker
8:06	Clark Drive	3:17	OíBrien
8:07	McCormack Rd/Crossroads	3:20	Bayview Estates
8:08	Burton Loop Rd	3:28	McKnight
8:10	BES	3:29	Lancaster
8:12	Rupp	3:31	Arrow Park Ferry Rd.
8:13	Reimer	3:33	Cenotaph
8:15	Orr	3:34	Adshead Rd.
8:16	Robins	3:35	Burnett
8:18	Kuhnle	3:36	Kuhnle
8:19	Burnett	3:38	Robins
8:21	Adshead Rd.	3:39	Orr
8:22	Cenotaph	3:41	Reimer
8:24	Arrow Park Ferry Rd	3:42	Rupp
8:25	Lancaster	3:43	Burton Store
8:26	McKnight	3:45	BES
8:33	Bayview Estates	3:47	Burton Loop Rd.
8:36	OíBrien	3:48	McCormack/Crossroads
8:37	Brinker	3:50	Clark Drive
8:39	Cann	4:00	Adshead Rd.
8:44	NSS	4:16	Cann
8:47	NES	4:20	School Board Office

SILVERTON ROUTE 2006/07

Driver – Craig Besinque • Bus #4100

AM RUN		PM RUN	
8:05	Leave YRB Yard	3:15	LESS
8:30	Red Mountain Road South	3:16	Orchard
8:37	Red Mountain Road North	3:19	Hicks Road
8:39	Silverton Bigway	3:20	Silverton Ball Park
8:42	Silverton Ball Park	3:23	Silverton Bigway
8:43	Hicks Road	3:25	Red Mountain Road North
8:46	Orchard	3:32	Red Mountain Road South
8:47	LESS	4:05	YRB Yard

ARROW PARK/CRESCENT BAY ROUTE 2006/07

Driver – Don Mahon • Bus #2457

AM RUN		PM RUN	
8:07	Leave Bus Shop	2:55	Leave Bus Shop
8:11	Hwy 6 / Crescent Bay Rd.	3:05	NES
8:13	Brooks	3:10	NSS
8:15	Madden	3:15	Hwy 6/Crescent Bay Rd.
8:17	Beech Rd.	3:17	Brooks
8:18	Bartley Rd.	3:19	Madden
8:20	Yoshida	3:21	Beech Rd.
8:22	Billings Rd./Brouse Loop Rd.	3:22	Bartley Rd.
8:25	McKee	3:24	Yoshida
8:26	Neftin	3:26	Billings Rd./Brouse Loop
8:28	Zeleznik	3:27	Christie
8:30	Christie	3:28	Brouse Loop/Hwy 6
8:32	Brouse Loop Rd./Hwy 6	3:29	McKee
8:35	Carson's Corner	3:30	Neftin
8:37	McQuair	3:32	Zeleznik
8:41	NSS	3:36	Brouse Loop/Hwy 6
8:44	NES	3:39	Carson's Corner
8:47	Base	3:41	McQuair
		3:45	Base

VEHICLE OPERATORS: September 5, 2006 will be the official opening of school for School District No. 10 (Arrow Lakes) 2006/07 session. We like to remind motorists to watch out for children walking to school or waiting for school buses.

ALTERNATE FLASHING LIGHTS: School buses are equipped with alternate flashing red lamps and when they are flashing, ***traffic in both directions must stop and remain stopped until the red flashing lamps are turned off.*** The flashing lights are to indicate the school bus is loading or unloading school children. ***It is an offence under the Motor Vehicle Act to pass a school bus with its overhead red lights flashing.***

SCHOOL ZONES: **Motorists driving through School Zones between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. must use caution and restrict speed to 30 km/hr.**

Nakusp council, August 24: Village supports Friends of the Arrow Lakes

by Jan McMurray

•Tony Sandrin from the Friends of the Arrow Lakes Society attended as a delegation. He said the society had sent correspondence to the Province regarding errors and omissions in the draft Columbia River Water Use Plan, which is in the referral process – the final stage of the plan's acceptance. He says the plan must better address problems created by fluctuating reservoir levels, such as kokanee spawning channels, and suggested that the community insist on a consistent water level of 1435'. He asked the Village for a letter of support, which was granted. Councillor Dahlen, Village of Nakusp representative on the consultative committee for the Water Use Plan, will bring forward other related issues with the CAO when the letter is being drafted.

Sandrin said the Friends of the Arrow Lakes Society was formed in October 2005 to create a united voice for advocates of water management, has 200 members, and has seven directors. Ken Nishida is Nakusp's representative on the board.

•Sharon Montgomery of the Nakusp and District Museum attended as a delegation to describe plans to display an old buckboard wagon in the yard outside the museum, which is Village property. Montgomery said the society had raised $3,572 to date to build a shelter for the wagon, donated to the museum by Arnie and Audrey Jansen.

Council was supportive of the project and voted to allow it as long as it does not interfere with the Village's efforts to fix drainage problems at the museum.

•The Cultural Conference Centre Committee has stepped forward to apply for a 2010 grant to upgrade the arena auditorium. The proposed upgrades include the purchase and installment of a PA system with video-conferencing capacity, new lighting equipment, improved acoustics, new removable seats and a storage space for them. The Village granted the committee's request for a letter of support in principle for the project.

•Councillor Heppner volunteered to act as interim Village liaison to the fire department. Gord Roberts held this position previously.

•Fire Chief Warren met with the treasurer and CAO to review the recommendations made in the fire department audit. Resulting from that meeting was a prioritized list, starting with a new fire hall and a new water tanker. Staff was directed to discuss cost sharing of these items with the RDCK.

•The Village received a written complaint from people who stayed in the Nakusp campground for two weeks and were moved to other campsites four times during their stay. Council decided to send them a letter of apology and include free hot springs and camping passes. CAO Lafleur also proposed several amendments to the contract the Chamber has with the Village to manage the campground. Staff was directed to have a discussion with the Chamber on these issues.

•To attempt to cut down on the number of garbage bags for pick-up at the Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store, council decided to provide the store with Village of Nakusp garbage bags free of charge. Public Works has reported more than once that there have been 30-40 bags for pick-up on garbage day at the store, and crew members have discovered that some of the bags belong to residents, not the thrift store.

•Council discussed the issue of rezoning Crossley Coates' property from M-2 Heavy Industrial to R-1 Urban Residential. The bylaw has been given two readings and the Public Hearing took place July 13. At council's regular meeting July 13, council decided to defer third reading and adoption. At this August meeting, council decided to let the bylaw sit at second reading until the OCP review is completed. The Village will send Coates a letter saying council approves the rezoning to residential in principle, but not necessarily to R-1, and would like to wait for the outcome of the OCP process to look at the different types of residential zones.

•Council gave two readings to Bylaw 437-1, a bylaw to amend the subdivision servicing bylaw. The amending bylaw requires curb, gutter, sidewalk and underground wiring only where the subdivision abuts a subdivision with the same services, and in stand alone subdivisions. The current bylaw requires that developers provide water, sewer, curb, gutter, sidewalks and underground power and storm sewer to new subdivisions. The CAO pointed out that this was not reasonable where abutting subdivisions do not have this level of service. For example, there could end up being 100 feet of sidewalk, curb and gutter in the middle of a block where the rest of the area does not have them.

•Council decided to allow Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services to continue using the curling rink lounge until the club reopens for curling.

•Council decided to leave the two policies and one bylaw pertaining to trees and tree removal as is, but to include the relevant sections in the MTI Ticketing Bylaw. These policies were referred to Public Works and Parks for review and comment some time ago, when it came to council's attention that some homeowners were cutting down municipal trees.

•Council received notification from the Province that the Village's grant applications for the Liquid Waste Management Plan ($10,000) and the Water Master Plan ($10,000) were successful.

•The Ministry of Community Services sent correspondence explaining the new formula for the small community grant. Nakusp will receive $44,850 more than it expected for 2006. Mayor Hamling commented that this additional grant was the one "they were giving out with one hand and taking away with the other" as communities will be paying for their policing costs in the near future.

•At the request of the Vancouver Island Regional Library, the Village will send a letter to the Province asking for an increase to the Library Operating Grant.

•Councillor Dahlen will attend a Mountain Pine Beetle workshop on September 30.

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318 Broadway St. Nakusp, BC 265-3288

Adults return to Selkirk College ABE in Nakusp

Children and teens won't be the only people returning to school next week. Local adults will also be hitting the books as Selkirk College's Adult Basic Education (ABE) program resumes in Nakusp.

With a wide range of certified credit courses and individual learning packages, ABE has a lot to offer. Many adults enroll in order to work toward completing Grade 12 or to take courses needed for post-secondary or job-training programs. Others come to improve job prospects by brushing up on computer, math, or communication skills. Some, who are taking courses from other places, are here to take advantage of tutoring, computer, and other support services. Still other adults sign up for ABE simply for the satisfaction of keeping their minds active or to be good role models for their children.

The ABE classroom on Broadway in Nakusp will re-open on Tuesday, September 5, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. Costs are minimal with fees of less than $60 for the year and all books and learning materials provided. Once you get started, instructors will help you keep going. You work at your own speed and on your own schedule with one-on-one help or in small group classes. You can also enroll later in the school year, although it is best to get things set up in September.

The first step in enrolling is to call 265-3640 to set up a meeting with instructors Allison Alder or Richard Allin. They will discuss your plans, goals, and previous experience with you and help you establish a plan of action.

Arrow Lakes ferry workers reject tentative deal

by Jan McMurray

The Arrow Lakes ferry workers voted down a tentative agreement on August 14 that would have given them an 11.75% pay increase over four years. The deal was negotiated between their union, the BCGEU, and their employer, Western Pacific Marine Ltd.

"It was strongly rejected – 93% of our members voted against it, so it's pretty clear that the tentative agreement didn't meet their expectations on key money issues," said Stephen Howard, BCGEU Communications Officer.

He said the two main issues yet to be resolved were an adequate general wage increase, and issues specific to improving pay rates for deck hands. "We are trying to increase pay rates for deck hands because the nature of what they do has changed over time," he added.

Howard said negotiations were scheduled to resume September 26-29. He also said the union was now in a legal position to take a strike vote and was "mulling over options to see what best would put pressure on the employer to achieve a fair settlement."

There are about 65 Arrow Lakes ferry workers.

VILLAGE OF NAKUSP 2006 BY ELECTION

NOTICE OF NOMINATION

PUBLIC NOTICE is given to the electors of the Village of Nakusp that nominations for the office of:

1 Councillor

for a term ending in December, 2008, will be received by the Chief Election Officer or a designated person, as follows:

Village Office – 91 1st Street NW
from 9:00 am, September 12, 2006
to 4:00 pm, September 22, 2006
Excluding statutory holidays and weekends

Nomination documents are available at the Village Office during regular office hours.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

A person is qualified to be nominated, elected and to hold office as a member of local government if they meet the following criteria:

- Canadian citizen,
- 18 years of age or older,
- resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed, and
- not disqualified by the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election in British Columbia or from being nominated for, being elected to, or holding office.

FURTHER INFORMATION on the foregoing may be obtained by contracting:

Richard Mahoney
Chief Election Officer
265-3689

Open letter from Mayor Hamling and Nakusp Village Council to residents of Nakusp and area re: CBT

The original intent of the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) was to look after the people of the Basin; to help ease some of the pain and the injustices that happened to the affected communities.

It was set up to invest in the people of the Basin, not to become a huge multimillion dollar corporation that's only interested in making more and more money at the cost of our people.

The CBT has failed the Basin miserably, particularly the affected communities of which there were many. I have heard all the stories of all the areas. However, without a doubt, Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes were affected the most. - 2500 people were displaced.

Although a few people did well with the hydro project and the flooding, the majority were devastated. A lot of these people are still around today. Their families are here.

CBT's communication plan and their promise of presence in the community is a complete sham! There are two offices in the East Kootenays – Golden and Cranbrook – and one office in the West – Castlegar.

It is apparent that the Columbia Basin Trust directors and senior staff have lost their way. They have lost the vision of what they were originally set up for.

Perhaps it is time for CBT to move everything back to Nakusp and have the directors and senior staff have their eyes opened and remember from whence we came and why we are here.

Nakusp and area has lost so much through the flooding and the CBT has only added to that loss.

Mayor and Council assures its citizens that we will not take this laying down. We will be initiating meetings with appropriate stakeholders, including our Premier, and make every effort to ensure our 'trust' is restored.

Mayor Karen Hamling
Nakusp

Carol's Garden Cafe
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- Galleria
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August hours: Wed-Fri 10 am-2 pm, 5-8 pm
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Hills Garlic Festival

New Denver's Centennial Park is home to the 14th annual Hills Garlic Festival on Sunday, September 10 from 10 am to 4 pm. Located in the Orchard area, amid the big shade trees on the shores of Slocan lake, the site offers a perfect place to spend the day with the family.

Kids can spend time at the beach or playground, or be entertained by Sheila Lane of Moving Lines Marionettes or Saffire Jones with her homemade renaissance toys. Her stilt-walking antics will also entertain the entire crowd.

Older folks will enjoy a variety of great food and get to listen to the toe-tapping tunes of fiddler Brie Faulks and the Kootenay Grass Company as well as other Hills musical talent. Always an amusing interlude, the best garlic themed poems will be performed by their authors – local wordsmiths take note.

New this year will be awards for the best booth and heaviest clove, along with recognition for the best braid and largest bulb.

Last but not least, there will be an abundance of the beneficent bulb, fresh produce and storage crops as well as quality hand-made jewelery, toiletry products and winter woolies – the work of the region's finest artisans.

Always scheduled for the second Sunday in September, the Hills Garlic Festival is not to be missed. The festival's beginnings go back to 1993, when New Denver resident Andrew Rhodes came up with the idea as a way to show off the excellent garlic grown by two Hills residents – Colleen Bowman and Bay Herrmann. The first one was a potluck dinner. Rhodes also organized the second annual festival in 1994, this time held at the community centre grounds in Hills.

"It was a smashing success," reminisces Rhodes. "The people of Hills deserve a lot of credit for keeping it going. I'm delighted, amazed and very satisfied with what has happened to the event. It is the most largely attended one-day event that I know of in this valley, rivalled only by the Nakusp Mud Bogs."

The Hills Garlic Festival was moved from Hills to Centennial Park in New Denver in 2003 because of the fire hazard that year. As the park has proven to be an excellent venue, the festival has remained there ever since.

GOLF COURSES

•Slocan Lake Golf Course,
New Denver **Phone: (250) 358-2408**
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Power cart: **$15.00**/9-holes **$25.00**/18-holes. *All prices include tax*
RESTAURANT: 8 AM TO 8 PM (LICENSED)
2006 TOURNAMENTS:
• Bushwackers, Sat. Sept. 9: $20.00/couple
• Club Closing, Sat. Sept. 24: $15.00.
(* fee includes dinner)

• Valley View Golf Club
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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!

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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.

• Nakusp Village Campground (250) 265-1061
Open May to October. 35 shady sites, hot showers, flush toilets, sani station, fire pits; close to sandy beach, tennis courts, play area, downtown shopping. Pets on leash, reservations. $18 per night, $21 full service.

• Silverton Municipal Campground (250) 358-2472
Situated on Slocan Lake at Leadville & Turner Streets. Lakeshore and Creekside Tent and Trailer Sites. Fire pits and firewood.

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• William Hunter Cabins (250) 358-2844 www.williamhuntercabins.com
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• 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
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• Villa Dome Quixote: Award-winning Lodge & Cottages (250) 358-7242
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• 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 favourite 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
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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.

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Kaslo council, August 22: Onslaught of public concern over 2006 Jazz Festival

by Jill Braley

•Two delegations appeared before council with concerns about this year's Kaslo Jazz Festival.

Ann Malik spoke from her and her husband's experience as owners of the Silver Spoon Bakery. She acknowledged the event's economic contribution to the community and tremendous volunteer effort, and stated the festival was well organized and orderly in the past. However, she feels a strategic error was made this year by having the Spearhead concert Friday night, as many people who came for that concert but not the rest of the festival, stayed for the weekend. The much larger number of people in town over the weekend taxed the village's infrastructure beyond capacity. She also stated that amplified music and crowd dispersal noise in downtown Kaslo disturbed their sleep for three nights in a row. She asked that council pass a motion to conduct a public meeting to gather input to be used to set terms and conditions for the use of Kaslo's public parks.

Helen Woolgar spoke about her concerns regarding public safety, excessive noise from people arriving and leaving the festival in the early morning hours and inadequate infrastructure.

Later in the meeting, council received eight letters regarding the Jazz Fest weekend. These were referred to the Planning & Development committee for recommendation to council.

Issues raised in the letters included the inadequate number of public washrooms, campsites, parking spots and garbage cans; unlicenced vendors at the Cenotaph; the duration and volume of amplified music; and inadequate numbers of RCMP and security officers.

The president of the Kootenay Lake Historical Society wrote in to inform council that the SS Moyie was broken into at approximately 12:30 am on the Saturday (August 5). "Only the timely arrival of the RCMP stopped the insult to our National Historic Site," she wrote.

Incidents of vandalism, violence, and drinking in the street were recounted in the letters. Many referred to broken bottles and garbage strewn around town.

Visitors from Spokane camping in Kaslo's campground lodged a complaint, reporting that their coolers were stolen by party goers on the beachfront, and saying they would never come back.

Trish Bennett, campground contractor, wrote to say she had to patrol the ring road at night to try and curtail parties. She requested a meeting well in advance of the festival next year with council and festival representatives.

•Council received three letters regarding the Crooked Cafe's violation of Kaslo's noise bylaw. All will be forwarded to Jim Booth, Liquor Control & Licencing Branch, and a reply requested from Booth on the Crooked Cafe's continued non-compliance with liquor laws and Village bylaws. Booth will be advised that the Village of Kaslo no longer supports patron participation endorsement on a liquor licence issued at 302 - 4th Street.

Also, the owner of the Crooked Cafe building will be requested to comply with heritage area standards and remove the graffiti that has recently appeared on the outside wall.

Mayor Holland informed council members that the Crooked Cafe was closed due to an eviction notice.

•The Ministry of Community Services has approved an infrastructure planning grant of $7,100 for the main reservoir. Urban Systems will be contacted to proceed with the study.

•To address concerns about the alternate skatepark borrow pit because it is below the flood level of Kootenay Lake, Don Page of the skatepark committee provided CAO Rae Sawyer with details on how the pit had been filled in to date. This was forwarded to a Habitat Biologist at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, who replied that there should be no problem as long as the pit is filled in to original contour and re-habilitated and re-vegetated with native trees and shrubs. She says that once re-vegetated, the site should be left alone and no works should occur in this area or any other which is below flood level in future.

•North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society put forward a proposal to partner with the Village in applying for Community Health Promotion funding. This funding is available only to groups that partner with a local government. NKLCSS would like to hire a food project co-ordinator with the grant money if the application is successful. Council voted to support the idea in principle.

•The SS Moyie will receive a municipal grant of $350 to assist with the Land Conservancy reception and luncheon in celebration of its entering into an Associated Site Agreement with The Land Conservancy of BC to be held on Friday, September 22. The event will be hosted by the Kootenay Lake Historical Society, starting with an official ceremony on the SS Moyie with live musicians, a boat regatta, and a catered luncheon on board the ship for invited dignitaries, as well as sweets and beverages served in the downstairs gallery for the public. Later in the evening Robert Turner will be presenting a slide show that will also include a wine/cheese event with live jazz performers in the Langham.

•The IHA sent in an email to notify the Village that West Nile Virus may appear in the area soon and to provide information on things the Village could do to prepare. This was referrred to 2007 budget deliberations for consideration of a larvicide program.

•The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) wrote to council regarding fire protection area expansion options. RDCK staff is looking into fire protection service for the Thompson Road to Coffee Creek area and Village of Kaslo/Coffee Creek to Schroeder Creek area. The RDCK asked the Village for some of its fire protection budget information, inventory of equipment, etc. as well as for a response as to whether or not the Village would be interested in providing fire protection service to the Fletcher Creek area.

•Village staff will contact FortisBC regarding possible aesthetic and environmental upgrades on Water Street. The Village intends to make application to a program which allows local governments to ask FortisBC to share one third of the costs to upgrade FortisBC distribution facilities, beyond the company's usual distribution standards for improvements.

•A local couple expressed concerns about the Scout Hall to council. They rented the hall for a family reunion and found it filled with a horrible stench of packrats. Also, the fridge was not working properly. Council voted to give the couple a 50% refund in consideration of the inconvenience. Staff will get pest control estimates for the hall.

•The Kaslo May Days Logging Sports Committee proposed improvements to the logger sports site, including raising the site's elevation to avoid flooding and constructing a permanent, concrete block, multi-use building to house the commentator's booth, concession stand, beer garden sales area and possibly public washrooms. Planning & Development will review the proposal for recommendation to council.

•The Village will complete the Bid to Purchase agreement for the Provincial Building as follows: $120,000 purchase; no deposit; subject to a successful referendum with a closing date of March 2007. This motion was opposed by Mayor Holland and Councillor Jones.

•Additional Small Community Protection grant funds of $48,367 will be set aside in a Reserve for Future Expenditure fund.

•Bylaw 1033, Subdivision Amendment Bylaw 2006, was read three times. The bylaw sets both the inspection and administration fees at a minimum of $500 each.

•Accounts payable of $70,355.90 were approved.

Meadow Creek residents can order high-speed internet

submitted

Meadow Creek area residents can sign up to receive wireless high-speed internet service from Kaslo InfoNet Society (KiN) on Wednesday September 13 at 7 pm at the Lardeau Valley Community Hall in Meadow Creek. KiN will begin providing the internet service as soon as testing is complete, by early October.

KiN will also celebrate its 10th anniversary in October. "Our mandate since the beginning has been to create a community access network in the Kaslo area, so launching the first leg of our high-speed internet service is a fitting celebration," says current KiN Chairman, Tyler Dobie.

The most recent project milestone is the installation of the communications tower at Lardeau Valley Community Hall.

A huge thank you goes out to the small core of dedicated volunteers who have invested hundreds of volunteer hours in bringing high-speed internet service to Meadow Creek residents. Subsequent service areas include Woodbury to Schroeder Creek, Cooper Creek, Lardeau, Argenta, and Howser.

Kaslo InfoNet is a non-profit society founded in 1996 with a mandate to create a community access network in the Kaslo area. Successes to date include: establishing free Community Access Program (CAP) sites at the Kaslo Library and JV Humphries School; creating summer employment for many students and youths to enable them to gain valuable experience in the high-growth information technology (IT) industry; launching www.Kaslo.org as a community portal for the Kaslo area; and providing web-hosting services to non-profit societies. Today KiN members are focused on bringing the benefits of high speed Internet to North Kootenay Lake communities in order to overcome the urban/rural digital divide. KiN memberships are just $5 annually.

Left: Helicopter pilot Vic Corrie (Thunderbird Helicopters) - who raised the tower with his chopper. Middle: Don Edwards who assembled the tower and made the form for the concrete foundation (volunteer extrordinaire from the Lardeau Valley Internet Committee) Right: Rob McLennan, Treasurer of KiN.

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Get Outta Town!

with Peter Roulston

Getting into the Slocan River flow

With only one month of official summer remaining, Slocan Lake is already getting low and the lakeshores and beaches stretch farther out than just a few weeks ago. The New Denver glacier across the lake at the head of Sharp Creek is almost snow free now and the bluish-gray coloured old ice shines in the hot afternoon sun, melting back more each year.

With my rather basic kayaking skills and modest equipment, I feel this is the time of year when I can safely attempt the Slocan River rapids and log jams, with warm waters and slower mellow flow rates of late summer. With the record high runoff back in the spring of this year there are some new sweepers, jams and gravel bars to contend with. Also the Slocan River Streamkeepers have installed a few log obstructions to enhance fish habitat, and I was curious to see how they had held up to highway water.

After securing my little nine-foot kayak at the dock in Slocan City, I drove south 18 killometres to leave my car at the Perrys Backroad bridge where I planned to end my tour. I easily caught a ride back to Slocan with a fellow named Don, who recently bought the Eldorado store there and who like me originally moved out west from Toronto. After a late breakfast I walked to the dock with my paddle and pack to start the three-hour trip downstream.

Setting off from the beach I passed the new dock and breakwater adjacent to the rail trail gazebo and then got into the pull of the south-flowing river. At this stage the river is shallow but wide, with lots of lines to choose past odd rocks and pilings. soon after the two bridges the river widens further and slows down as you approach the Walter Clough Island and bird sanctuary. Plenty of herons, osprey, eagles and smaller waterfowl keep things interesting here. After some odd cabins and pocket beaches, the river speeds up and the first set of rapids appear at Lemon Creek.

There's a sign warning of changing log jams and there are odd boulders and shallow bars to grind over, but the next several kilometres of the river are great fun and minor challenges as the route winds left and right around clumps of forest and hillocks with brisk rapids and placid pools eddies and surges. The actual speed is sort of a jogging pace, but there's places where the shore zips by real fast. I think this is rated as a generally safe and non-technical tour which makes it a good blend of sightseeing and leisure time.

Numerous cows and a few horses milled along the riverbank around Larson Ranch with odd houses and barns set farther back and above the main river course. Lots of the riverbank is rich soil with heavy sod and shrubby growth to give a lush, green backdrop which shields the paddler or floater from some of the outside world. Unlike travelling on a highway where you look out and over most scenery, while on the river you tend to be lowdown, and the sights along the way can often be just up and over the bank out of sight.

Going south down the river means that you'll be facing into the sun most of the time so you need to consider exposure to that, besides the obvious risks of the river itself. The log jams and jackpots along the way on tight corners present the biggest risk with the strong pull of water churning underneath them. Assertive and steady paddling seems to easily get the kayak into the right position, and the rapids themselves seem to be best done right down the middle. I was surprised how shallow some spots were yet I didn't drag bottom. The current remains consistent and progress went well right to the Bailey bridge at Perrys Backroad by the Threads Guild. From here down to Winlaw the river is much slower and perfectly safe for the coming Poker Float event on Sunday. The final couple kilometres of my trip passed some really fine sandy sections with a few locals out picnicking and developing complete body tans.

After a refreshing dip in the river at the bridge I loaded up the kayak on the car and made the drive up the valley back home. You can gaze down to the river at several places as you drive along, but the real beauty can only be taken in when you're out on the water. The rail trail parallels the route as well, however it too pulls away at times. Before you attempt this river trip you could contact Jim at The Smiling Otter in Slocan or download some details off the internet.

Peter Roulston owns the Bicycle Hospital and provides service to the Slocan and Arrow Lakes communities. 358-2133

I love the summer and all the activities that are available during this season. We had a great motorcycle trip through the northern environs of Montana a few weeks ago with friends from the coast and the old Indian Chief has been getting local exercise. For once, it seems to be in good mechanical 'nick', so I get more riding out of it than I spend on fixing.

One of the spin-offs of motorcycle trips is that you get to meet a greater range of riders than you normally run into in your local area. It might be my imagination, but I seem to run into more and more 'returning bikers'. I define these as people that owned a motorcycle many years ago in their youth and now have got back into the sport in their dotage. They are often more enthusiastic than canny on the road and I have witnessed some remarkably poor riding skills. Modern bikes are a more powerful than their predecessors and the roads are more crowded than these people may remember.

The motorcycle fatality that occurred last week in New Denver didn't sit easily with me, as all of us motorcyclists are so very vulnerable on the road. You just can't come out of a collision with a car in good shape, and a head-on collision with a chip truck puts an end to the game. It helps to develop good riding skills and practice these until they become your normal riding habits. Mountain roads are dangerous places for motorcycles and defensive driving is necessary if you are going to keep yourself alive around here. I understand that last week's fatality was caused when the biker entered a clearly marked slow corner too fast and had to cross into the other lane to scrub off speed. Unfortunately for him, a chip truck was also trying to use that lane and the two met head-on.

After 35 years of riding – most of them here in the mountains – I've developed some habits of my own that may be useful to others that may not be as familiar with how to stay alive on these mountain highways.

1) Don't cut corners on your bike. You see cars doing this all the time around here and if you aren't on the outside of a blind corner when one of these bozos comes around in your lane, you are toast.

2) Excess speed will kill you. We all like to open it up now and again, but mountain roads contain many unexpected hazards such as suicidal deer and loose gravel on corners. I have a friend from Alberta that likes to come here in the summer to do some riding. He is an old racer and a very skilled rider, but I have had to gather him up from the hospital more than once, as he hasn't figured out that all these nice curvy roads aren't a racetrack.

3) Ride your own bike. It is tempting to try to keep up with others in a group when they go faster than you are comfortable with. Go along at your own pace and enjoy the ride. You will catch up in proper time.

On a completely other note, my friends and I have been enjoying the new pavement on the Kaslo road. It is amazing what $30 million dollars will do. You have heard me complain about the sorry state of this wonderful byway in the past and I am pleased to report that the 30 kilometres of new pavement, conjoined with the piece from New Denver to Fish Lake that had previously been reconstructed, has now made this road wonderfully rideable for two-thirds of its length. There remains only the last third of the road to do and we will have one of the best riding roads in the province back in shape.

The new pavement is thick, well laid down – the shoulders have been re-graveled and lines painted in. Get out there and try it out if you haven't already done so.

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with Andrew Rhodes

Mushrooms, Mushrooms, Who's got the Mushrooms???

Hello all you fantastic food fans. I've missed you, but I'm back, so lets begin with a skill-testing question: Where can you get a burger with two meat patties, two kinds of cheese, three strips of bacon, lettuce, toms, onions, mayo, relish, and three (count them) kinds of wild mushrooms? Well, It's the same place you can tie into grilled foccacia bread topped with crab, sautéed wild mushrooms and melted cheddar cheese. Shakes and floats, steaks and pasta are also on the menu. Where is this place?? It's in Fauquier of course. It is the MUSHROOM ADDITION RESTAURANT, owned and operated by Roger and Sandra Stephen. They've been doing their fabulous thing in Fauquier for fourteen years. Between the two of them they run the 50 plus seat restaurant, the convenience store and the Gas West Station.

I went there on Saturday via the Burton Tunnel and liked the place from the moment I got out of the car. The comfy 26 seat patio is surrounded by little evergreen trees amid lots of big boxes overflowing with petunias. There's a beautiful old golden lab named Kyla at the door. Umbrellas provide shade, and the place was hopping. I met Roger and Sandra right away just as Sandra was off to clean sixty pounds of chanterelle and lobster mushrooms, and Roger was busily looking after some of the over 4000 motorcyclists that have stopped there since May. (All the cyclists kept their engines at very low revs, so there was no bothersome noise at all.)

Meanwhile, I cruised the menu. There's a list of full breakfasts, many including wild mushrooms of your choice. Apps include wild mushrooms sautéed in garlic and butter, garlic ribs, and crab with cheese jalapeno peps. Soups include homemade mushroom and borscht,and salads include various Caesars and Chicken Taco. Here come the burgers, twelve of them, four of which come with your choice of wild mushrooms and they all come with home cut fries. Gotta love it. There are hot and cold wraps: steak, chicken or vegie. They all come with mushrooms if you want. In fact, I'm sure Sandra will include mushrooms (Morels, Lobsters, Honey, Chanterelle, Gypsies, and various types of Boletus) with any dish if you so choose. The list of entrees includes various steaks, chicken, pork and veal dishes, or you can go for chicken and mushroom fettucine. There's lots more. F'rinstance fish and chips, various quesadillas, or you can opt for the lovely simplicity of wild mushrooms on toast. I like that. For desert? Home-made pies!

The filling station is part of the operation, and Roger tells me he is the only service agent in North America who gives 'full service' to motorcycles. He puts the gas in the tank for cyclists and washes their windshields if they have one, and generally is a jovial and helpful guy to everyone around him. He and Sandra met in 1972 at a dance at the Okanagan Centre where they fell in love. They've been married 31 years and have three kids. Sandra worked building trucks and motor homes until 14 years ago when she traded her screw gun for a spatula, and now she and her staff can put out 54 full breakfasts in three hours.

These folks are great. The restaurant has fancy coffees and is fully licensed. Poutine is also on the menu, and as we all know, poutine is an excellent source of gravy.

Next time you're coming or going on the Needles Ferry, stop at THE MUSHROOM ADDITION RESTAURANT in Fauquier. Have some mushrooms!!

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- Andrew Rhodes, Valley Voice Food Editor

Mushroom Addition Restaurant
129 Oak Street, Fauquier, BC
269-7467

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Stevens' birthday is September 12. Wish her a happy half-century!

Are you concerned about our community's housing needs and soaring housing costs? Ever had to wait a year to find affordable or appropriate rental accommodations in Silverton or New Denver? Then please take the time to fill out the Healthy Housing Society's housing needs survey included as an insert in the last issue of the *Valley Voice* and the 358 Exchange, or pick one up in Silverton: Gaze n Chat, Horsefeathers Gallery; New Denver: Valley Voice, Ann's Natural Foods and My Aunt's Place.

Or, if you prefer, we can e-mail the survey to you as a Microsoft Word attachment. Contact hhousingc@yahoo.ca and write "e-mail housing survey" in the subject line.

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1989 GMC 4x4 for parts. Has rebuilt transmission, new rad, new starter. $2,500. 265-3105.

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2001 DODGE DIESEL 1 TON, FD, C/W 6' sleeper, side tool boxes, engine brake, goose neck trailer 14000 lb. GVW, + 8' x 15' camper. All $33,000. Negotiate separately. Ph 250-269-7416.

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

THE 'ALFA' GUILD GALLERY is now accepting submissions for their 2007 and 2008 summer season. Deadline is Oct. 27, /06. Submission requirements are; description of proposed exhibit, CV or Biography, min of 10 slides or photos which are labelled with artist's name, title of work, medium, demensions and date made, and an artist's statement. Please include a SSAE for a return of submission package. Mail to Selection Committee, ALFA Guild Gallery, Box 155, Nakusp BC V0G 1R0. You may call Holly 250-265-3732 or Denyse 250-265-4998 for more info

CARD OF THANKS

RED MOUNTAIN ROCKS! Many thanks to all involved in making the RMRA 21st Anniversary Funraiser a huge success. Special thanks to all the party-goers!

Personal Classified ads start at $8.00. Email us —valleyvoice@netidea.com for details

COMING EVENTS

HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY Tara Ireland's show Sept. 6 – 11. Opening Sat., Sept. 9 (7-9 pm) Music by Trevor Caswell.

HAVE YOU HEARD THEM?? HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?? THE MCDADES ARE FANTASTIC!! and guess what??-THEY ARE COMING TO SILVERTON MEMORIAL HALL - SAT. SEPT. 9TH 7PM. Celtic, jazz, world rhythm, a great evening of family entertainment! Fundraiser for Memorial Hall. Tickets are $15, available at various local outlets and the door.

THE FRIDAY MARKET happens in New Denver every Friday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Local produce, flowers, herbs and artisans wares. fridaymarket@netidea.com or 358-7733.

SOULGARDEN presents: Drop-in OPEN ART STUDIO: Adults (14+): July 19-Sept 13th 7-9pm. ($9) Kids (2-13) Thurs Aug 17th, 10:30 am -noon ($6). CHAKRA'S: Expressive Arts Series: Mon (7-9:30pm) $18 each. Explore ea. chakra w/ creative arts Aug 21 (THROAT), Aug 28 (3RD EYE), etc. @ Hand & Soul Healing Centre, 202 Lake Ave, Silverton. Contact Sue for registration, flyer mailing, or more information at 358-2177 or Soulgarden@netidea.com.

IT'S GARLIC TIME AGAIN! Hills Garlic Festival Sunday September 10th, 10a.m.- 4p.m in New Denver at Centennial Park. Garlic, Produce, Crafts, Live entertainment by The Kootenay Grass Company and stilt walker Angela Sapphire Jones. CONTESTS: Heaviest Garlic Clove, Largest Garlic bulb, Best Garlic Poem, Best Garlic Braid & Best Booth! Admission $2.00; children under 12 free. Absolutely NO DOGS please.

NAKUSP FALL FAIR, SEPTEMBER 16. Table reservations: 265-0075.

SLOCAN VALLEY SENIORS HOUSING SOCIETY – Annual General Meeting, Tuesday September 19, at 7 pm. at Passmore Lodge, 3650 Old Passmore Road. Everyone young and young at heart is invited to enjoy refreshments and the usual AGM proceedings. For more info call 226-7136 or email svseniorshousing@netidea.com.

FOR RENT

3-BEDROOM TRIPLEX UNIT for rent. One mile from Nakusp, on acreage, appliances, privacy. $600 per month. Available September 1. 250-265-4914.

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MODERN ONE-BEDROOM plus loft house in Passmore. Available October 1st. NS. Pet OK. $550 per month; may trade for farm-labour. 226-7100.

NEW DENVER One bedroom cabin near the lake. Washer/Dryer. N/S. References required. October 1st. 778-322-7108 or 358-2816.

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FOUND – digital camera on beach in Silverton. Call 358-7145 or 250-764-8602 to identify.

Business Classified ads start at $10.00. Email us —valleyvoice@netidea.com for details

FOR SALE

LARGE, PRIVATE ANTIQUE SALE. Fine quality furniture. High-end to medium. Something for every room. Unusual items. Collectibles, China, Glassware, Art. No taxes. Starts August 21 until September 4. 7983 Mon Amie Road, Lemon Creek, BC. 355-2317.

FREEBIES

REGISTERMATE 1920 vacuum frame. Call 358-7218.

FREE FOR THE TAKING: SANDBAGS leftover from spring Slocan River flooding. Anyone needing sand for any reason should take this opportunity to pick up as many bags as they want from the pile on Indian Pt. Rd. in front of Don Munro's place.

HEALTH

FULL SPECTRUM BODY WORK offers deep tissue and stress reduction treatments in the privacy of your own home. For additional info and to book appointments please call 358-6808.

NATURAL HEALTH CARE Advice on Nutritional, Botanical and Natural Alternatives available this summer. Lisa Ann Azzopardi, Naturopathic Doctorate (250) 358-2562 for appointments.

MEDICINE WATERS HEALING CENTRE. Integrated bodyworks, lodging, hydrotherapy, investment opportunities. Joining happens when people begin to perceive a common purpose. Until then, separation rules. Reservations/appts: 250-265-2155.

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NOTICES

Do you have a story to tell about the Columbia River Treaty and/or the damming of the Arrow Lakes? RECORDO MEDIA is currently in production of a film concerning the impacts and benefits of the dams. It will be shown in the new Touchstone Museum and Art Gallery in Nelson. Please contact ricardO by phone or email. recordo@mac.com 250-226-6888

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

INTERESTED IN LEARNING HOW TO "MEDITATE EFFECTIVELY"? Look before you leap. Check out these websites- http://home.comcast.net/~dkmuir/index.html; http://members.shaw.ca/darkthirty/; http://plumtree444.livejournal.com/; http://www.rickross.com/reference/rc/rc1.html; http://harrahsahara.livejournal.com/

REGISTRATION FOR CHILD CARE at the New Denver Nursery School for the 2006/07 school year takes place September 5, 6, and 7. Our awesome program is for 2 1/2 - 5 year olds. Call 358-7768 to make an appointment. Call now to ensure a space! First come, first served.

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OBITUARY

Richard George Meissenheimer, beloved husband of Bonnie Baker, died on August 9, 2006, at the age of 59, in Kootenay Lake Hospital, from the effects of a massive and aggressive brain tumour. He was buried at the Dumont Cemetary in Winlaw on Sunday, August 13, 2006.

WANTED

RENTAL HOME NEEDED DESPERATELY Young family needs a place to rent in the New Denver/Silverton area immediately. Please call 358-7296 if you can help.

WANTED: 2nd HAND HOUSE/ CABIN. Around 400-500 sq ft on main floor. To move to new site. Within 30 km of New Denver and north of Silverton Bridge. Phone 403-627-3476.

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HOME WANTED: Hard working locally employed family with well behaved children, bear-chasing dogs and mouse-eating cats need long-term housing anywhere from Hills to Enterprise. Have excellent references. Lease, rent to own, please call 358-7913.

PHOTO CREDIT: RORY A. MCLEOD

Tammy Riemer coming around a barrel on Okie. Reimer was named runner-up in the Open category at Arrow Lakes Saddle Club's annual gymkhana on August 19-20.

SLOCAN VALLEY RECREATION

WILD GATHERED THINGS - With Jan Norn. Make medicinals and soaps from local plants. Sunday, Sept. 17th. Crescent Valley

GEM FIELDS OF THE SLOCAN VALLEY - Valley geology and gem collecting. Instr: Rod Luchansky & Lesley Anderton. Sat. Sept. 23rd. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

C.O.R.E. HUNTER TRAINING - Sept. 23rd and 24th (Sat. & Sun.) Winlaw School

VOLLEYBALL AT MT. SENTINEL - Resumes Sept. 12th (Tues. & Thurs.)

ART IN THE PARK - Winlaw Regional & Nature Park. Sunday, Sept 24th. Noon to 4 p.m. More info? Call JoAnn at 226-7925

SPIN JAM - With Angela Jones starts Sept 26th at Winlaw School

PILATES - With Lynn Fredrick begins Sept . 27th at the Slocan Park Hall.

FOR THE KIDS - Safe at Home - Sept. 29th Crescent Valley; Babysitter Training - Sept 29th in Crescent Valley & Oct. 14th in Slocan; Pre-School French begins Sept. 29th

PHONE 226-0008 EMAIL: SLOCANVALLEYREC@NETIDEA.COM

Nakusp Gymkhana Results

Pee wee high point: Kiara McLean riding Misty, Runner up: Kathleen Fox riding Shadow.

Jr. High pt.: Lana Reimer reiding Harvey, Jr. runner up: Nicole Hawe riding Snickers.

Open high pt.: Gina Volansky riding Tim, Open runner up: Tammy Reimer riding OKie.

BCBRA: Jr avg winner: Kyli Haugland riding Bayou, Jr runner up: Shayle McLeod riding Daisy.

Open BCBRA avg winner: Tammy Reimer riding Okie. Open runner up: Rhonda McLeod riding Boots.

Sr. high pt. avg. BCBRA: Sheila Haggert riding Bad. Sr. avg. runner up: Lorne Haggert riding Rowdy.

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FLIKS opens its new season with two Valley screenings of SIR! NO SIR!

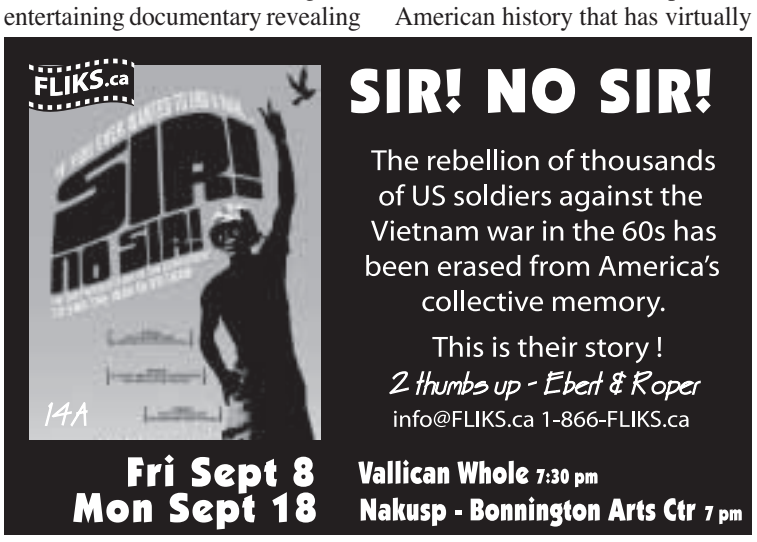
FLIKS begins its 3rd season of independent films in the valley with SIR! NO SIR! on Friday September 8 at the Vallican Whole Community Centre at 7:30 pm and Monday September 18 at 7 pm at Nakusp's Bonnington Arts Centre.

SIR! NO SIR! is an energetic, entertaining documentary revealing the story of the rebellion of thousands of US soldiers during the Viet Nam war. This was a huge movement that spanned barracks, brigs, small military towns, military colleges, essentially infesting the entire armed services. This story has never been told and it's a piece of American history that has virtually been erased from America's collective memory.

This film challenges deeply-held beliefs not just about the Vietnam War and those who fought it, but about the world we live in today. It is a vivid portrayal of William Faulkner's famous observation that "The past isn't dead; it isn't even past."

Screened this summer in Nelson as part of the Our Way Home Reunion, special guest speakers Tom Hayden, Keith Mather and David Cline spoke afterwards. Footage of this Q&A session will be shown following the feature presentation. For more information contact FLIKS at info@FLIKS.ca, www.FLIKS.ca or 1-866-FLIKSca.

Sir! No Sir! chronicles the story of the rebellion of thousands of US soldiers during the Vietnam War. The film plays in Vallican, September 8 and Nakusp on September 18.



Third Annual Kootenay Book Weekend

The Third Annual Kootenay Book Weekend takes place September 22 – 24 at the Best Western Baker Street Inn. Internationally recognized writer and activist Joy Kogawa is this year's featured author, and will speak on Sunday at 11:00 am.

One of the highlights of the weekend will be an optional excursion to the Nikkei Memorial Internment Centre in New Denver on Saturday afternoon. This will give participants the opportunity to explore the historical context in which *Obasan* was written.

Tickets for the author's talk can be purchased from Otter Books for $10.00 by those not attending the book weekend. Visit www.kootenaybookweekend.ca for further information.

Notes from the RCMP

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

Slocan Lake Detachment

RCMP in New Denver, with the assistance of the West Kootenay Traffic Services, are investigating the fatal collision involving a southbound motorcycle and northbound DCT Chambers semi truck and trailer unit. Gary James Onciul, aged 43, of Malakwa, BC was killed on impact when the motorcycle he was operating collided with the transport truck. The motorcycle had crossed over into the northbound lane while southbound on a sharp curve on Hwy 6 just north of New Denver, BC. The incident occurred shortly after 5:00 pm on August 15.

The incident remains under investigation pending the results of the coroner and the RCMP accident analyst. No charges are being contemplated.

Nakusp Detachment

Nakusp RCMP are seeking any information regarding a break and enter which occurred sometime between August 17 and August 18, 2006 at Cutrite Meats on Broadway Street in Nakusp. Entry was gained through the back loading area and once inside, the culprits damaged the cash register, stereo, weigh scale and packing machine, while at the same time enjoying an ice cream cone. An undisclosed amount of money was also taken as well as crab legs and a set of knives.

Nakusp RCMP have received numerous complaints of sprinkler heads being destroyed at Nakusp Elementary and Secondary School. The vandalism has occurred on two separate nights - August 3 & 15. The sprinkler heads have a combined value of $490. If you have any information in regards to these incidents, you are encouraged to call the Nakusp Detachment at 265-3725.

Nakusp RCMP also would like to remind residents that it is feeding time for local bears. Numerous reports of hungry bears looking for food on local fruit trees and in gardens have been received in recent days. It is recommended that trees be picked and any fallen fruit be removed immediately. The bears that have been reported have been calm around people while feeding, but when approached to scare them off have become aggressive. Please do not approach or feed any bear. Contact the Nakusp RCMP or the Conservation Officer if a bear becomes a problem.

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Notice of Intent
Rocky Mountain District

Notice is given pursuant to Section 60 (2) of the *Transportation Act* that the Ministry of Transportation has received an application to discontinue and close lane between Lots 8 and 10 of Block 3 of Plan 530D, District Lot 762, Kootenay District, and that such closed road allowance be vested pursuant to Section 60 of the *Transportation Act*. The subject portion of lane is adjacent to William Street in Trout Lake BC.

A plan showing the proposed road closure may be viewed during office hours, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Ministry of Transportation District office 129-10th Avenue South, Cranbrook, BC, V1C 2N1.

Any person(s) having an objection to this application for road closure should do so in writing no later than September 15, 2006.

Ministry Contact:

Brooke Clasby, Development Approvals Technician
Rocky Mountain District, Ministry of Transportation
Phone: (250) 426-1596 Fax: (250) 426-1523
Toll Free: 1-888-613-9993

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