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

Youth conference in Castlegar looks ahead to the future

by Art Joyce

The power of one magnified by many is a potent force for change. That was one of the energizing messages offered at the Inspiring Youth for Change conference at the Brilliant Cultural Centre in Castlegar on Friday, November 3.

About 750 students from School Districts 8 and 20 in the West Kootenay and District 6 in the East Kootenay (Kimberley) packed the auditorium. On the program were youths and adults addressing the issues of peace, climate change, and environmental protection. JJ Verigin welcomed students with a reminder to reject the current culture of fear and instead emulate role models such as David Suzuki and Stephen Lewis.

"The world urgently needs an SOS. Every one of you, I hope, is going to be an agent of change in this world."

Ricardo Hubbs of recordO media introduced his documentary *Generation* by explaining that humanity is causing the highest rate of extinctions in three billion years. "Unsustainability looks like us," he said, and challenged students to set the goal of "sustainability within a generation."

"There's a second superpower in the world," he told students. "I'm looking at 750 of them right now."

Simon Jackson of the Spirit Bear Youth Coalition, now 24, started writing to politicians to protect the 'Spirit Bear' (white kermode) when he was just 13. Our youth may be too young to vote, he said, but they can write letters. Jackson's presentation included the short film, *Land of the Spirit Bear*, featuring local bear biologist Wayne McCrory. The BC government's recent designation of the Spirit Bear conservancy area left out one critical watershed, he explained, which will be logged. Jackson said little of other environmental groups involved in the success of the Spirit Bear campaign, but acknowledged helpful mentors such as Jane Goodall and John F. Kennedy Jr.

"I don't have any particular intellect or talent, but what I do have is passion. I believe anyone, anywhere, of any age can make a difference."

Mount Sentinel students showed a film called *Project Help Mexico*, based on their school's program of the same name. For the past three years, teachers and students have raised money for building materials and travelled to Tijuana to build a home for a poor Mexican family. The film provided a moving, intimate look at the students' most recent trip, and the profound emotional impact it has had.

A panel of speakers included poverty activist Anne Goderis, Amnesty International Canada chairman Gary Ockenden, Iraq war resister Ryan Johnson, and peace activist Grant Clubine. Goderis said that 30 years ago when she worked Vancouver's downtown east side, "there was no food bank industry." Canada's child poverty rate of one in six is actually worse in BC: one in four, "a national embarrassment in such a rich country." She encouraged students to work for change that addresses the roots of poverty, rather than just more band-aid solutions.

Ockenden told the story of a young woman in Ethiopia named Sirkalem Faisel who is in jail facing the death penalty for writing articles critical of the government. Another youth, Makita Sassim of Belarus, was jailed for his activities in the youth democracy movement there. Amnesty International's letter writing campaigns have brought international attention to Faisel's case and helped effect the release of Sassim.

"What if I do just one thing for an issue I care about," Ockenden concluded. "And what if that makes a difference for just one person?"

Johnson joined the US Army at age 20 in 2003, hoping to fight the 'war on terror' in the supply corps. Tired of a succession of low wage jobs, he was enticed by the army's offer of health insurance and $43,000 toward college tuition. Johnson was on duty only six months when he was notified of his deployment to combat duty in Iraq. The experiences of Iraq war veterans convinced him that the US was committing war crimes in Iraq by killing civilians. Johnson went AWOL and is currently seeking refugee status in Canada. He cited the legal precedent of World War II's Nuremberg tribunal, which established that soldiers have the right to disobey orders that amount to crimes against humanity.

Clubine read a detailed history of Afghanistan to illustrate that its current chaotic situation was actually a product of decades of CIA interference. He said the groups he represents, the Kootenay Fellowship of Reconciliation and the Nelson Peace Coalition, are organizing to oppose Canada's military mission in Afghanistan.

Climatologist Dr. Mel Reasoner gave a powerpoint presentation on global warming, with ice core data from the Antarctic representing 700,000 years of geological history. A global average temperature increase of between 2-5°C this century will cause the disappearance of glaciers around the world by 2050, resulting in water shortages, drought and catastrophic forest fires. He blamed the media for perpetuating the myth that there is scientific 'debate' over the issue, leading to inaction by governments to curb greenhouse gas emissions. "The debate among scientists on global warming ended 10 years ago," said Reasoner. Close on his heels were members of LV Rogers Secondary in Nelson, urging support for their Climate Change Youth Coalition.

Other presenters included Emily Menzies of the Sierra Youth Coalition and Dev Aujla, of Dream Now, a youth-led charity which provides resources and networking for young people with projects designed to 'save the world.'

The witches were out brewing their potions in the cauldron at New Denver's Hallowe'en Party at the Bosun Hall. There was also fortune telling and a haunted house, and the volunteer firefighters served up hotdogs and hot chocolate.

Early childhood development scores high in School District No. 8 area

by Jan McMurray

A project that helps us to understand early child development (ECD) in neighbourhoods across the province has been underway by the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) out of UBC since 2002. Clyde Hertzman of HELP came to Nelson on November 1 to present the latest project results in School District No. 8 – Kootenay Lake.

The project involves kindergarten teachers completing a checklist for each child in their class that measure a child's development in five domains: physical health and well-being; social competence; emotional maturity; language and cognitive development; and communication skills and general knowledge. Results are interpreted not at the individual level, but at the school, neighbourhood and school district levels.

School District No. 8 has participated in the project every year, from 2002 to 2006. Results from 2002-04 were grouped as Cycle 1 and results from 2005-06 were grouped in Cycle 2. Comparisons between the cycles were analyzed.

The good news is that School District No. 8 scores very high province wide. When looking at the percentage of children who are vulnerable to not thriving in the five domains, Kootenay Lake is in the least vulnerable quintile of all districts provincially.

It was noted that both Salmo and the Slocan Valley had low levels of vulnerability that have decreased significantly since Cycle 1. This was attributed to community cohesion, the child friendliness of the communities and access to a range of integrated services. Hertzman stressed the effectiveness of the 'hub' model. A hub is a place that co-locates all programs for children aged 0-5 or is a place where all of these programs can be accessed. He said it was important that quality childcare be included in the hub, mentioning that many hubs in BC include all programs except quality childcare. "Where hubs are well set up and stable, we get nice, consistent numbers," he said. He added that service providers can overcome competition and bureaucratic issues with the hub model as well.

In the language and cognitive development domain, the district is within the lowest quintile provincially. Hertzman said that this was surprising and was a "real credit to the families," because the West Kootenay area has a relatively low educated adult population according to the 2001 census. Someone from the audience also credited these results to the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy programs in the area.

In the physical health and well-being domain, the district is within the middle quintile provincially, with the lowest proportion of vulnerability in the district in the Slocan Valley.

In the social competence domain, the district is within the lowest quintile provincially. The lowest proportion of vulnerability within the district is in Salmo, with the Slocan Valley following close behind.

The communication skills and general knowledge domain is the strongest domain for the district, whereas the emotional maturity is the domain where the district is most vulnerable. Two communities in the district decreased in vulnerability here – the Slocan Valley and Salmo. The Kootenay Lake community increased by 2% in vulnerability in the emotional maturity domain.

Overall vulnerability decreased in the Slocan Valley from 21.5% in Cycle 1 to 10.9% in Cycle 2, a difference of 9.6%. In Kootenay Lake, overall vulnerability increased from 13.3% to 19.1%.

People attending the presentation / workshop, mostly people working in the field of childcare, had suggestions about what can be done to improve the lives of 0-5 year olds. Some of these were to involve municipalities, and physical and mental health practitioners, and to raise awareness about how important the early years are, especially among men. Kim Adamson of Children First announced that she would be distributing questionnaires regarding the state of childcare in the West Kootenays very soon. Hertzman said that there was some hope federally, now that the Liberal, NDP and Bloc Quebecois parties have put a childcare bill before parliament in support of a national childcare plan.

Hertzman passed on some other interesting information from a national perspective. "Despite all the work in Canada on early childhood development, Canada is the lowest spender," he said, showing a chart of public expenditure on ECD services in selected OECD countries. The chart showed Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, France and Hungary spending at least 1.5% of their GDP on early childhood development, compared to Canada's .25%. He also said that a country's goal should be that less than 10% of adults are non-competent in literacy and numeracy skills. Finland is functioning at about 10% and Canada is functioning at about 25%.

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Calgary developers plan residential subdivision in Galena Bay

by Jan McMurray

Arrow Lakes Developments Ltd. (ALDL), a father/son team out of Calgary, has planned a residential development on a 131-acre waterfront property in Galena Bay. Lindsay Moir (the son), stressed that the plan is a long way from becoming a reality.

Moir said that he and his father envision 30 1/3-acre waterfront lots. Behind those, there would be a 200-foot green belt, totalling 15 acres of parkland. Behind the parkland would be 18 half-acre view lots. Behind these, there would be 13 one-acre lots. In amongst the view lots and one-acre lots, there are eight half-acre townhome lots and four multi-family sites in the plan. There would be another 2.3 acres of waterfront parks, and 60 acres of land, which has been logged, would be returned to forest. ALDL does not plan to do any building on the lots. The company will prepare the sites, build the roads and provide water, sewer, power and telephone.

To raise capital for the development, ALDL is offering limited partnerships to investors. Limited partners pay $150,000 and receive a waterfront or view lot and a 2% interest in the development. If projections are met, limited partners will get their $150,000 back in 2010 and still retain their lots.

Moir says this type of limited partnership investment is common, but attaching the right of the lot to the offering is unusual. He said the main reason ALDL has "sweetened the pie for the investor" in this manner is that the land is in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and there is some risk that the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) will turn down the company's application to take the land out of the ALR. "It is no secret that this land is not good for farming," he said, "but there is a certain amount of politics involved for the ALC in making its decision, so anything can happen. However, this is still a high return and low risk investment – you are going to end up with a title on this property."

Moir says their goal is to raise $5.25 million, which is the cost of purchasing the land and developing it. They have already raised about half of it – enough to purchase the $2.5 million property. However, he says they want to raise the total amount before moving ahead so that they don't get into a debt situation on the property and end up losing it.

ALDL has an option on the property until April 30, 2007. Moir says the company expects to make its ALR submission in 2007. In 2008, they will deal with the other regulatory agencies – Columbia-Shuswap Regional District, and the Ministries of Health, Environment and Transportation. In 2009, they hope to do the development, providing lots to investors by late 2009, with all lots sold in 2010.

The company recently had a neighbourhood meeting, with a good showing of about 20 people from Galena Bay. "Most are for it," says Moir. "Two are not happy and two are sitting on the fence. Those against it are fairly vociferous." He says the happy ones are in favour because their property values will increase and / or because they can see themselves gaining employment from the development. People against, he said, don't have an "individual win" and may not be in favour of a bigger local population.

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The deadline to apply is Friday, November 17th, 2006 at 4:00 pm PST

Submit your resume to: Debra Stewart, Human Resources Coordinator, Columbia Basin Trust, *445 – 13th Avenue, Suite 300, Castlegar, BC V1N 1G1 or via email to: dstewart@cbt.org*

For more information about CBT or to get a detailed description of duties, skills and qualifications for this positions, visit the CBT website at www.cbt.org or call 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

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Applications must be received no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, Nov 17/06

Attention: Carmen Harrison
Community Futures of Central Kootenay
201-514 Vernon Street, Nelson, BC V1L 4E7
e-mail: charrison@futures.bc.ca

Only applicants short-listed for the position will be contacted. Thank you in advance for your interest.

Community Futures – Building Communities One Business at a Time

Great tea swindle not quite cracked; mayor denies involvement

by Nathanial Thorne

After many minutes of careful sleuthing, the *Valley Voice* has determined at least some of the culprits behind "The Great Tea Swindle of '06."

As detailed in the October 11 *Valley Voice*, publisher Dan Nicholson had his beard shaved off in preparation for his service as 'celebrity waiter' at the Apple Tree in New Denver. In addition to this Shearing For Charity (with funds going to the Sandon Historical Society), Nicholson let it be known that he would lose the mustache if someone were to donate a bottle of single malt scotch. However, in a close brush with the Grim Reaper, this reporter discovered the 'scotch' in the Glenmorangie bottle was a deceptive ruse, and was, I thought, tea.

Displaying fine reporter's instincts, Nicholson examined the evidence and noted that the seal on the bottle was not the original one. "I smell Doug Tappin's involvement," he mused, referring to the owner of the Silverton-based home brew outlet, Our Wine Mine.

When confronted later, however, Tappin took refuge in legal niceties. "I know nothing. You gotta talk to my lawyer," he blustered.

After reassuring Nicholson that "someone will talk; someone always talks," I stopped in at Odin's Pub. In no time flat, my hunch was borne out, as an unwitting source blurted out three names, assuming I already knew all. Following this lead, I tracked down the very man who had given the bottle to Nicholson, Apple Tree owner Rob Oschendorff. On being told he'd been 'finked out,' Oschendorff casually admitted his guilt. "With a public whine about scotch – a very public whine, you're fair game," he shrugged, adding mysteriously, "No tea bags were injured in the process."

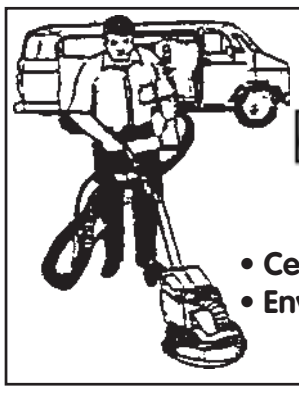
When told the names of his co-accused – which included Tappin – Oschendorff issued no denials, but intimated that there was a fourth conspirator who he was "not prepared to give up."

The third plotter, long-time tea-totaler Glen Palmer, made no bones about his guilt either, but shed light on Oschendorff's comment by claiming "It wasn't tea." He declined to identify the mystery liquid, but Nicholson has since noted that the pale liquid has not "gone gamey" despite sitting unrefrigerated now for almost a month. Palmer added, "Anyway, it raised a lot of money and that's the main thing. It saved a lot of money, too... alcohol rehab and all that kind of thing."

Seeking the unnamed fourth counterfeiter, I once more relied on Nicholson's hunch – "Who would pay for a bottle of Glenmorangie just for a joke?" I confronted well-known scotch-lover and mayor of New Denver, Gary Wright. After stammering for a moment, Wright blurted, "I did not have sexual relations with that woman!"

Once the confusion was sorted out, however, Wright claimed innocence. While admitting to being an accessory before the fact, he said he was not one of the principle fraud artists. Told that in fact his name had been confirmed by an inside source, Wright inferred that the investigation was being intentionally misled by those with ulterior motives. "You've gotta ask yourself, who would have something to gain by fingering ME," he protested.

At present, we have two bald-faced confessions, one suspect who's all "lawyered-up" and a stout denial. The investigation continues.



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Notice of Meeting
Thursday, November 16th, 7:00 pm • Winlaw Elementary School
The Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission invites residents of the Slocan Valley to a discussion of the options and proposals currently being considered for a high-speed wireless Internet service to communities in the Slocan Valley, especially those north of Crescent Valley and south of the Village of Slocan. The meeting will present the findings of a detailed engineering report and business plan. The public will be invited to ask questions, express opinions and to get involved in the effort to make high speed internet services a reality.
For further information call Derek Murphy (359-5998) or Leah Main (358-7704)

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PRE-TENDER ADVERTISING OF TIMBER SALE LICENCES – Kootenay Business Area
The Kootenay Business Area of BC Timber Sales is advertising pre-tender information for planned timber sale licences within the Arrow Boundary, Kootenay Lake, and Rocky Mountain Forest Districts. Formal advertising of tenders for these timber sale licences will occur between November 1st, 2006 and March 31st, 2007. The purpose of this pre-tender advertising is to provide prospective bidders with an opportunity to view planned timber sale areas in the field before inclement weather or snow conditions make the areas less accessible.
Preliminary information, including access, location maps, cutblock maps, timber volumes, harvest methods, and road information can be found at the BCTS Kootenay website at:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/external/!publish/PreTender_Info_KootenayBusinessArea
Please note that this advertisement and the information provided at the above website is for viewing purposes only and is not an official invitation to tender. Final tender documents may vary from the preliminary information provided. Field viewing of timber sale areas is not a mandatory requirement requirement before submitting a tender, however viewing is highly recommended.
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Crystal meth is not an easy subject to discuss with your kids. But experts agree parents play a crucial role in preventing kids from taking meth. That's why the provincial government is introducing new tools and resources to help families fight this devastating drug. Together, we can stop meth from ruining a lifetime of memories.
For the facts on crystal meth and tips on how to talk to kids about it, visit www.no2meth.ca
BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Voices from the Valleys

MP sympathizes with publisher

It is with a sense of sympathy that I read of your intention to shave off your beard for the "common good of society," in this case, the Sandon Historical Society.

Having taken the plunge a few years ago myself after more than 35 years of facial cover, I understand the anguish and torment that this must have caused you and the supreme sacrifice you made.

Congratulations (or condolences) on your "courageous decision." Please find enclosed my small donation to the Sandon Historical Society.

Alex Atamanenko, MP
BC Southern Interior

A good word for our teens

I think our teens are wonderful. While being a mom and a community member in this area for some 15 years, I have had the privilege to know many people as they passed from childhood to adulthood, and I would like to say you guys are great. I feel sad for the young people in other places who act on their anger, pain, frustration and boredom with destruction. I am blessed to have found my home amongst awesome people of all ages. Thanks for including me.

Ruth Tichenor (aka. Steve, Mick, Willow, Shea and Lena's mom)
Hills

Summit Lake Ski Hill a valuable asset

I am writing this letter in support of financial contribution to the Summit Lake Ski Hill. My family has lived in Nakusp for 10 years and we enjoy the small town lifestyle. Over the past few years we have been disappointed to see activities like gymnastics, bowling, martial art and figure skating no longer available. It would be very disappointing to see the ski hill that is used by people from all areas of this valley close. Up to this time the Summit Lake Ski Hill has been able to stay open because of thousands of hours put in by volunteers but with rising costs, financial help from the community is essential to its survival. For my family it would be a very sad day to see such a valuable asset in our valley close, especially one enjoyed by people of all ages.

The Aeichele Family
Nakusp

Smoke from slash burning causes discomfort

Just as the weather turned cold and clear last week, slash fires were ignited on the northeast-facing slopes above Hills along Bonanza Creek. Within a day, the air was thick with smoke. We could smell it intensely, our eyes burned, and our noses and throats were becoming irritated.

Thursday morning I called the Ministry of Forests in Castlegar, which referred me to the "fire centre," which referred me to the Ministry of Environment in Nelson. They were responsive to the call; they followed up by contacting Springer Creek Forest Products to check out the dates and conditions under which the fires were lit. Current (misguided and inadequate) regulations allow slash-burning on good "venting" days. The Ministry said they rely on such calls to follow-up on slash burning infractions. Their number is 1-877-922-3399.

R. Allin
Hills

Summit Lake Ski Hill good for youth, families and community

My family has been involved with the Summit Lake Ski Area for the past 18 years, but with increasing costs the likelihood of having this wonderful family outlet may soon not exist. Our ski and board activities may come to an end, not because of mismanagement from a handful of volunteers but because of lack of grant money and an exorbitant increase in fees especially insurance.

The Summit Lake Ski Area has kept our local youth busy with racing programs, travelling to competitions (and winning them) and a Friday night ski and board program. The club has stubbornly maintained low season pass costs in order to keep the hill a place where whole families can enjoy outdoor activities at a fraction of the cost at a larger hill. The ski club, a non-profit society, has offered very affordable ski packages that schools from Silverton to Edgewood have participated in.

Do we have many outlets where people from our Slocan and Arrow Lakes Valleys come together to play? What will our youth find time to do?

Brenda McQuair
Nakusp

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*.

Support our kids

The recent UBCM was a wonderful opportunity for me, a small town councillor, to learn about and partake in the decision making process of provincial politics.

Presentations on sustainable communities, crystal meth issues, seniors, transportation and emergency services were excellent. Now I'm hearing about small town politics as regards our Summit Lake Ski Hill. As a community volunteer I know about the commitment it takes to keep a service running for the benefit of the users, the extra work to pay for exorbitant insurance and I know about the benefits to the whole community for services that many individuals may not ever use.

Skiing is beyond me, however the very presence of a volunteer ski hill makes me proud to be a part of this community. The coordinated School District #10 programs strive to give our students the opportunity to engage in a physical activity that encourages fitness, cooperation and intergenerational social responsibility. If this were a profit making enterprise we would not be able to afford the rates.

It is such a gentle hill, the adrenaline seeking skiers pass it by. For our kids and the adults who frequent the slopes it is ideal.

We know about the related costs of other options easily available to our youth.

The alternative approval process cost is minimal in comparison to the referendum bill of $10,000 +. We could go that route and it would pass, the process taking another year. The price tag of $6-$8 (depending on assessment) on our tax bill is an insignificant price to pay to defray the cost of insurance.

I urge everyone to support our kids with access to positive, healthy programs that lead to lifestyles based on contributing to community.

Carol Bell
Silverton

A few tax dollars will give long-term benefits to youth

It has come to my attention that Summit Lake Ski Hill is in need of taxpayer support to the tune of about $5 per household; otherwise, the future of this facility is in jeopardy. It has also come to my attention that a groundswell of opposition to this proposal is developing, and I am at a loss to understand why. I am told that the actual tax increase will be $4.20 on a $100,000 home, and I find it hard to understand that this amount would cause any hardship whatsoever for anyone who owns property in the area.

Summit Lake is the only ski facility between Nelson and Revelstoke, and serves an area from Silverton to Trout Lake, including Burton, Fauquier and Edgewood. Had I not had a stroke almost four years ago I would now be looking forward to my 60th year of downhill skiing, and Summit Lake would be my preference, because winter travel to more exotic ski hills had lost its appeal for me.

In fact, I was planning to head out to Summit Lake on the morning of New Year's Eve 2003, but I had had a stroke sometime during the night.

I would urge all those residents of RDCK who are weighing the cost of the tax increase to consider the long term benefits which will accrue to the young people of the Arrow and Slocan Lakes communities if Summit Lake Ski Hill is kept open. It's important to keep something that does have appeal to youth in a small community, especially during the winter months, and Summit Lake is well situated to serve children, youth and adults alike.

Please...keep it open!

John Perkins
Nakusp

Summit Lake Ski Hill benefits community as a whole

It isn't that unusual for a municipality or a regional district to provide recreational opportunities for its constituents. These may include libraries, arenas, ball fields, senior centres, recreation centres etc. Any one service will not benefit the majority but will fill a need that benefits the community as a whole.

Community means the whole, not the individual. One only has to look at our neighbours south of the border where the concept is 'every man for himself and damn the rest' to see the horrors that follow. There was a time in this area before the rape and pillaging that each small community had baseball and hockey teams. Then the flooding came and families moved away, leaving a lot less kids and very little opportunity for them.

The ski hill at Summit Lake probably has the highest amount of volunteer hours compared to any other organization along the Arrow or Slocan. Their many years of dedication have served our communities well but recently they have been sabotaged by greedy insurance companies that demand premiums in the mid $20,000 range every year. We as a community have choices to make here. We can save our six bucks a year and tell the kids sorry but it's OK to just hang around with nothing to do and to make their own fun without any direction. If we choose this one, we'd better not complain when bad things start to happen. We can just use those six bucks we saved and put it into more jails and courthouses. Something strange is going on these days. A lot of folks are becoming more and more self centred and cannot get past themselves. It is kind of scary in a way.

Please good folks, I beg of you to think twice when someone comes to your door asking you to sign a form to keep your taxes down. Local government taxation goes back into the betterment of your community; this form of taxation is less than 5% of the taxes you pay in any given year.

If this Alternative Approval Process is defeated the next step will be referendum. The referendum process will not have any problem passing but will cost between $10,000 and $15,000, which is a waste because that will be deducted from the money going to the ski area.

Paul Peterson
Electoral Area K Director, RDCK

Support our young skiers/boarders

I am writing this letter in support of our local Summit Lake Ski Hill and the Nakusp Ski Club. The Regional District has put forward a bylaw to collect taxation to support the hill. I understand a number of community members have taken it upon themselves to go door to door to collect signatures in objection to this initiative. I am in support of this taxation levee.

Generally, I am not in favour of additional taxation burdens, but financial hardship has been brought upon our little hill by way of the insurance industry and the overall corporate philosophy after 9/11 to reduce risk or raise the price of coverage. The latter has happened to our ski club. Insurance for the hill has increased to account for approximately 1/3 of the annual budget, and that number is growing every year. The club is in a catch-22 – it cannot raise rates beyond the value of the product it is offering because people will ski out of town. But they need insurance to operate. This small hill is there for our children and through many years of dedicated parent volunteer help, the club has improved.

To recognize what this facility offers our children, go up one day when the school program is running and see the excited and smiling small faces. I have personally seen these smiles as a Nancy Greene ski racing coach and trainer. As a school board trustee, I will always support our staff including this activity in our school's curriculum. The staff at the ski hill and the club provides a good experience at a very fair price to the parents and go out of their way to make the day as enjoyable as possible. The club has purchased additional rental equipment so the program can offer skiing and boarding to all the children who come up to learn from the qualified instructors. Ask any student involved with this program if they would like to see it or the entire hill disappear – I know the answer! Students from our entire district participate, including those in Fauquier and Edgewood.

I ask you to support the Nakusp Ski Club and all our young skiers/boarders by not signing the taxation counter petition on this initiative. Without this money the future of our little ski hill is very much in jeopardy.

Bill Hilton
Burton

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Voices from the Valleys

A cull on predators?

The decline of the mountain caribou is a sad legacy we humans are leaving to our children, the earth and especially to the mountain caribou themselves. Nevertheless, to once again take aim at the predators in a blaming fashion for the plight of these caribou speaks loudly of the potential for shoddy science and questionable ethics. Large scale industrial clear-cut logging of mountain caribou habitat is the greatest enemy, not the wolves, bears and other predators. Have we forgotten that caribou evolved with these natural predators? To have any chance of healing the issues surrounding the decline and potential extermination of the caribou, we need to seek truth relative to the real effects of industry on their habitat, as this is where they live. Next, action has to be taken to curb the onslaught of industry before it is too late.

Forever, the health and strength of the caribou has depended on the predator/prey balance and it is no different today. To open season on the predators is a reprehensible deed that could only stand to benefit both government/industry as well as those that hunt carnivores. Through this cull, industry can shirk responsibility from themselves to the predators, and therefore continue with their economic agendas. A spin-off benefit of this cull is within the hunting community, as it would increase the number of ungulate and open season on the predators which incidentally look "really good" on the pathetic walls of trophy hunters.

Clearly, industry/government has to listen to the voice of the people on this. They have to be sure that what we do not want, once again, is a killing rampage on our wild animals in the forest. Curb industry, and the caribou may even have a chance to recover – and leave the predators alone.

Ellie Archer
Calgary

Small price to pay for valuable community asset

I've lived in Nakusp for the past eight years, moving here as a 27-year-old with a young family. In that time I've seen few people my age moving into the community. That was until very recently. As some of our older professionals in the community retire and the global workforce moves from industrial to information occupations, we've started to see younger people moving back into rural areas for economic and social reasons. This younger workforce provides many of the services a community relies upon to remain an attractive and vibrant place to which existing residents are accustomed and new, older residents, expect. We are however competing for these new residents with every other community in our region; our inability to attract a doctor highlights this fact.

If we continue to lose valuable recreational facilities, including our curling club, arena, marina and ski hill it will become more difficult to attract or for that matter retain our young work force. Imagine, no waitresses, coffee shop, checkout staff at Overwaitea, bar maids, gas station attendants and new teachers.

All of our existing recreation facilities except the Summit Lake Ski Hill receive tax derived financial support. I personally use them all but I know many people who use the ski hill who do not use many of these other facilities. My family places almost no burden on the public health system yet I still have to pay taxes, the majority of which is spent on public health. I expect many younger people would like to see our portion of the tax revenue at the municipal, regional and provincial levels spent on a myriad of things that have a greater use or benefit to their generation and their kids. The proposed addition to property taxes of $4.20 per $100,000 of valuation equates at most to a couple of jugs of milk a year. This is a small price to pay for a recreation facility used by people of all ages not to mention a valuable community asset.

Alistair Skey
Nakusp

Disheartened in Rosebery

My father grew up in Slocan City in the 1930s. As a boy he learned to love the valley and as a result took me back to explore his roots as I was growing up. Every year, my father and I spent time (most specifically in Rosebery) fishing the mouth of Wilson Creek. Through the course of time I watched things change starting with the dismantling of the railway and then further development throughout the area. I started bringing my girlfriend, now my wife to the area in the early 1980s; she too became infatuated with the pristine atmosphere.

In the spring of 2003, Mary-Jane and I found the closest piece of land to the location in which I spent most of my childhood vacations fishing, and it was for sale. Through deliberation with the Rosebery Parklands Development Society, we were fortunate enough to acquire 509 Rosebery Loop Road. We were told that the property beside us (Lot Six) was designated non-motorized parkland and that our property had right to moorage in the bay.

We acted upon what we believed were our rights installing our dock and commencing construction on our home. We acquired letters of approval from the society for our dock as well as the excavation and the design of our home.

As it sits today, we have become public enemy number one with the community. We have since learned that Lot Six that we have built beside is not legally encumbered as designated parkland and that the community opposes our dock that we have put in place. We may have built our dream home next to what could become the next 'Marriott Hotel.' It frustrates us to no end that all that we wanted is what we were told we could do.

We realize this is a small, well knit community, and it troubles us that nobody took the time to talk to us about their issues. Instead the community voiced their concerns publicly and lobbied political people to work against us on their behalf. How neighbourly! We are not the enemy. If the community has a problem, it should not be with us. They should learn to pro act to our ever changing world rather than to react to a single situation that they chose not to be a part of. Let this be a wake up call for all area residents. Development will only increase and can only be controlled through zoning guidelines. To this day, proper guidelines are still not in place.

If there is an issue as to how the landscape is changing, the community needs to make a plan, in conjunction with government, so that there is a vision rather than a reaction.

Brian, Mary-Jane & Justin Sykes
Rosebery

Global warming old news

Although global warming is considered a current problem, it actually has a long history. Intensive pollution of air took place in Britain about 700 years ago when sea-coal began to be used in London for industrial purposes. An insufficient knowledge of the principles involved in combustion led to the production of dense smoke and choking odour produced by the inefficient burning of bituminous coal. Severe discomfort led to widespread protest, and royal ordinances in 1273 and 1306 attempted – unsuccessfully – to ban its use. Finally in the 1600s, Queen Elizabeth banned the burning of coal in London.

Although George Bush denies the existence of global warming and corporations employ people to write books and articles claiming it is not happening, the chemist Svante Arrhenius was awarded the Nobel laureate in chemistry in 1896 for discovering the existence of what we now call global warming. Arrhenius recognized that people were burning fuels such as oil, coal, and wood at an increasing rate each year. He understood that huge amounts of carbon dioxide were being emitted to the atmosphere from combustion of these fuels.

In April, 1896, Arrhenius published an article in the London, Edinburgh, and Dublin *Philosophical Journal*. In it he explained that, "We are evaporating our coal mines into the air," and the addition of so much carbon dioxide must be altering the transparency of the air. This would cause the less transparent air to act as a blanket which, in time, might cause the earth to become heated to an extent never known before. His article was prescient: it predicted that a doubling of carbon dioxide would cause mean earth temperature to rise between 5 and 6°C. The accuracy of his predictions were verified by computer modelling in the 1960s. The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has increased each year since then. A tremendous mass of data verifies the steady accumulation of greenhouse gases, yet for years corporate interests have denied that we need change our ways to accommodate reality.

Today, intensive use of aircraft constitutes one of the biggest problems. Certainly they facilitate travel, but they are superlative pollution machines. George Monbiot, in *The Guardian* on the subject of a proposed wind farm at Winash in Cambria stated: "The Winash project, by replacing energy generation from power stations burning fossil fuel, will reduce carbon dioxide emission by 178,000 tonnes a year. This is impressive, until you discover that a single jumbo jet flying from London to Miami and back every day releases the climate-change equivalent of 520,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year. One daily connection between Britain and Florida costs three giant wind farms." On any trans-continental trip our personal contribution of C02 will be 300 kgs.

Bob Harrington
Galena Bay

We need to keep our ski hill

I am writing a letter in support of the Regional District's proposal to help support the Summit Lake Ski Area. My personal memories go back 35 years. I have phoned Ralph and Ermine Stevens, a couple that I knew who were very active in the ski hill when I was a child. (Ralph and Erm moved to the area in 1961 and the club was already active with once having a ski jump ramp above the Pope & Talbot site.) They figure the hill started in the mid 50s, meaning the ski hill is near its 50th anniversary.

The hill has always been a non-profit organization, dedicated to the children and families of this area from Silverton to Edgewood. Over the years there have been hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours put in to keep the ski hill operational. The hill today is still run by a group of volunteers. There is a race program which has seen kids participate in such levels as the BC winter games, BC high school provincials, and national snow board events. There is a school program that involves over 400 students for three visits a year including special needs groupings. All of this time and dedication is now being put in jeopardy – not because of poor management or lack of participation, but because of things beyond the club's control. Things like 9/11, Kelowna fires and mouldy condos have increased insurance fees, so they say, and the club's rates for insurance have gone from $6000 to more than $22,300 in the last five years. Cost of an annual safety inspection from $100/year increased to $1500/year. The ski hill must now purchase a contractor license at $500/year. Liability insurance means having to pay two ski patrollers as well as sending four other people to special courses at a cost of $400/person. Plus, fuel costs are always increasing. The costs jumped so high, so fast, that the club could not possibly make up the difference even by raising lift pass rates.

The club has managed to survive even with a few bad snow years. But now the club needs the support of a few dollars from each household from each community to continue operating. The ski area is lucky enough to be part of a large area, Edgewood to Silverton, thus helping to keep costs to a minimum per household.

Without this funding, the ski club will not be able to operate and our community will lose another valuable asset. I've noticed a lack of people to fill available jobs in our community. Having a recreational site like our ski hill attracts people and the RDCK's support will ensure our ski hill is just one more site to entice families to move to our area.

We don't want our kids on the streets, causing trouble. We don't want the elderly to fall victims of idle youth. We do need something to keep our kids lively and healthy. We do need to keep our youth focused in positive activities. We do need to keep our ski hill – it's for the good of the communities.

Doug McQuair, Vice President
Nakusp Ski Club
Summit Lake Ski Hill

RDCK property tax increase wrong

The RDCK's notice on p. 5 of the *Valley Voice* of October 25 has got my blood pressure up.

Why should everyone in Area K, a portion of Area H and the Villages of Nakusp, New Denver and Silverton have their property taxes increased to support Summit Lake Ski Area whether or not they use it?

This is wrong in principle, in practice, and especially in the means by which it is being forced upon us.

This sets a precedent for every special interest group in the area to expect funding in the same way.

The regional directors pass this and we, the property owners, are put in the position of having to interrupt our lives and work to defend ourselves. They limit the response time and the means by which we can respond. No petitions will be considered. Objections must be on 'elector response form' only. In spite of the *Valley Voice* article (Aug. 2, p. 20), the forms are not widely available. When I asked the RDCK about that, they said they could not be responsible for what someone put in the newspaper. You must ask for forms at 1-800-268-7325 or download them from www.rdck.bc.ca under 'Public Notices.' The form must be received in Nelson by 4:30 pm, December 4, 2006.

Only Canadian citizens and BC residents can sign the forms. Provincial voter requirements apply, even though this is only a local issue affecting local property owners. They take my money, but I have no vote. The numerous Alberta residents who own property here also have no vote. While I wholeheartedly accept that I cannot vote in federal or provincial elections as a landed immigrant, I do not accept that I have no voice on a purely local matter. I would love to become a Canadian citizen, but equally ridiculous US government rules on dual citizenship and social security preclude this as an option. Please, someone who normally doesn't vote – speak up once for me!

But be careful – the forms may work against us. The forms allow for six signatures. I suspect if one is signed by an ineligible voter (like me), the whole form could be disqualified. I don't know this for a fact, but it would be just like government, wouldn't it?

What about the future? The notice provides for a "maximum" amount to be requisitioned annually. Examples of tax rates boil down to the following per $100,000 assessed property value: Residential - $4.20; Utility - $14.70; Business - $10.29. If the RDCK can do this to us now, why can't they increase it in the future? (It ALWAYS goes up). Now multiply in all the others who will jump on the bandwagon. Consider the projects other regional directors will come up with for their areas and will expect our regional director to support them on.

Increased tax burdens should not be imposed in this manner or for such purposes.

While I sympathize with the hard-working volunteers and users of Summit Lake Ski Area, if the ski area isn't self supporting through user fees and contributions, it just isn't viable. To confiscate our money to prop up a failing endeavour is wrong. Sorry, but that's the truth. What about the Columbia Basin Trust? If this is something that would benefit the community at large, shouldn't they provide funding for the ski area? If it doesn't qualify for CBT support, how can the RDCK justify robbing us?

If the RDCK had brought this before us with a referendum and allowed all property owners a vote, I could go along with a majority rule. But to invoke the 'Alternative Approval Process' and exclude non-citizen property owners, out-of-province property owners and absentee property owners from having a voice is wrong!

The regional directors have stacked the cards in their favour and are banking on people not getting involved over a few dollars a year. Without doing their jobs to ensure majority support, they throw out a little bomb and place the onus on us to defend ourselves in a very limited time.

Let's fool them – let's send a message that says, "No cotton-picking way." Please help defeat this! Get the form. Make sure you're eligible. Sign it. Send it in. Be heard!

M. J. Morehouse
Fauquier

Kids for Caribou involved in the protection of BC's inland temperate rainforest and its endangered species

by Jan McMurray

Kids for Caribou, an environmental initiative born in the Slocan Valley, is a non-profit society aiming to motivate children and teenagers and their educators to get involved in the protection of BC's inland temperate rainforest and its endangered species.

The group recently took children from Vallican Whole School to the Retallack Cedars Trail, an easy one-hour hike through old-growth forest. Local forest experts Craig Pettitt and Eloise Charet came out to point out such forest features as bear denning areas and nursery trees. Pettitt also let the kids all have a turn on the increment bore, a tool used by foresters to determine the age of trees.

The same day that the first group of Vallican Whole students were out hiking the Retallack trail, the Province made an announcement on mountain caribou recovery. With the completion of a two-year study on mountain caribou in BC, the government issued a call for input from stakeholders on the findings. The study, done by a 'science team' formed in 2004 as part of the Species at Risk Co-ordination Office cross-government planning activities, listed five types of potential recovery actions. These were: removing predators such as cougars and wolves that are known to kill mountain caribou; removal of other ungulates such as deer and moose from mountain caribou habitat; further protection of core mountain caribou habitat from logging; further management of recreation activities in mountain caribou habitat; translocation of mountain caribou from larger to smaller herds.

The announcement prompted response from several environmental organizations, and Kids for Caribou was among them. "We can't believe that the science team recommends removing wolves, cougars, black bears, grizzly bears, wolverines, moose elk and deer for the sake of the mountain caribou. All these species find their niche in the inland temperate rainforest. Young children know that the mortality rate of up to 50% of mountain caribou calves is based on the lack of food through habitat loss and motorized winter activities, and not on the presence of too many predators," stated the Kids for Caribou press release.

Elisabeth von Ah of the society says the group will likely change its name to 'Kids for Animals' in the new year, as a result of the science team's report. "We've been focused primarily on the recovery of the red-listed mountain caribou so far, but based on this report, 'Kids for Animals' would be more appropriate," she said.

Check out the society's website at www.kidsforcaribou.org.

With an invitation from Kids for Caribou, Vallican Whole students hike the Retallack Cedars Trail.

Jack Harvey's Restaurant is now closed for the season. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our loyal customers for their generous support during the last two busy summers. It has been an intense one, and many of you could not get a seat or a reservation at Jack's so please excuse us if we had to turn you away! But mainly I want to thank the Jack Harvey's Team for making things happen, and helping me to create the inviting atmosphere and quality everyone enjoyed. Johanna, Morgen, Darlene, Mona, Martina, Brandon, Ben, Evan and Chelsey I could not have done it without you!

Juerg

PS.: you still can make an entry in our Address Book ! if you are interested in knowing when and where we're going to reopen.

Send us a postcard with your E-mail address, Name and the Town you live in. Your entry will be kept confidential and not shared with any third party. (please write clearly)

Jack Harvey's Restaurant , 404 Lake Av, Box 44
V0G 2B0 Silverton B.C.

Jack Harvey's Restaurant

Find out about winter recreation opportunities at annual swap

submitted

The annual Winter Sports Equipment Swap will take place on Saturday, November 18 at Slocan Park Hall from 10 am to 1 pm. This year there's a twist: as well as hosting the swap, Slocan Valley Recreation is inviting winter recreation groups to set up information tables. Admission to the event is a donation to the Slocan Valley Food Bank.

New to the area and want to find out more about area downhill, cross-country and back country skiing opportunities? Want to link with other snowmobilers? Curling? Skating? What's happening on the Slocan Valley Rail Trail this winter?

Slocan Valley Recreation Coordinator Craig Lawrence explains, "We think the swap is a great way for folks to get connected with the various winter recreation groups. On top of that, we've got one of the longest running winter sports swaps, so buyers and sellers alike should circle their calendars to take advantage of the crowd we're expecting."

If you want to sell recreation equipment it should be dropped off at the Slocan Park Hall between 9 and 10 am the day of the event. Ten percent of the selling price, to a maximum of $20 per item, goes to the SVRC. Payouts and unsold equipment can be picked up between 1:00 and 1:30 pm.

The Slocan Park Hall is on Highway 6 next to the Slocan Valley Co-op. For more information phone 226-0008.

Silverton council, October 24: Garbage issues aired

by Jan McMurray

•Ray Nunn attended as a delegation regarding the lack of receptacles in the village for dog waste. He acknowledged that there were three (at Bigway, the tennis court and the day park), but wanted to know why the garbage containers at the campground and near the public washrooms had been locked up. He informed council that garbage is being dumped in the dunk tank, which is beside the curling rink, and warned that people will dispose of dog waste inappropriately without enough garbage cans around town. Public Works Foreman Len Casley said he thought it was routine to lock up the two garbage cans for the winter. It was decided that Casley would unlock the can in the campground.

•Casley reported that he was going to a Small Water Systems course in Vernon October 30 and 31. This will certify him to operate Silverton's water system. Tom Hughes, Public Works employee, already has this certification.

•Mayor Everett reported that Red Mountain Internet Society hoped to have 10-15 people hooked up to its high-speed internet service this year. Vince Geisler, the project's technical architect, will be in Silverton over the Remembrance Day weekend to do some more installations.

He spoke about the house fire on Red Mountain Road, which has recently been brought into the fire service area for the New Denver and Area Fire Department. He and Fire Chief Casley praised the crew, and said that Red Mountain residents should make sure they have their fire numbers posted at the bottom of their driveways, and to work on access to their properties so that the fire trucks can get in more readily. Casley added that residents should keep their driveways clear and mentioned that the ambulance took an extra 15 minutes to arrive at the scene because of difficulty finding the house.

•The Village received a letter from the RDCK advising that the recycling bins would be moved to the Public Works yard beside the Village office on November 1.

•Rita and Barry Morrison sent the Village a copy of a letter they wrote to Dave Wahn, RDCK Planning Department, regarding the Area H OCP process. They express their support for Slocan lake being free of noise and water pollution, and for a walking path along the lake, especially between New Denver and Silverton.

protect yourself and those around you
get your flu shot
Interior Health

FLU CLINICS

Flu shots are safe, effective, and free for the following:

- People 65 years and older
- Children and adults with chronic health conditions and their household contacts
- Health care workers and emergency responders
- Healthy children aged 6 - 23 months
- Household contacts and caregivers of infants aged 0 - 23 months
- Pregnant women in their 3rd trimester
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities

NAKUSP		
Nakusp Seniors' Hall (Drop-In)	Nov. 6	9:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Health Unit (611 Broadway)	Nov. 7	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
(Phone 265-3608 to book appt.)	Nov. 14	9:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
NEW DENVER		
Slocan Community Health Centre Activity Room (Drop-In)	Nov. 9	10:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Slocan Community Health Centre (Phone 358-7911 to book appt.)	Nov. 16	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
EDGEWOOD		
Red Cross Outpost Hospital (Drop-In)	Nov. 10	9:00 am - 11:30 am
BURTON		
Burton Community Hall (Drop-In)	Nov. 10	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
SLOCAN PARK		
Slocan Park Community Hall	Nov. 17	10:00 am – 12:00 noon
SLOCAN CITY		
Slocan City Wellness Centre (Harold Street)	Nov. 27	10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Clients for the flu clinics should wear short sleeves and bring their glasses and Care Card. If you need more information about the flu vaccine or the clinics, please call the Nakusp Health Unit at 265-3608 or go to www.interiorhealth.ca

Slocan Valley & Area

MP Community Forum

Are you concerned about climate change?
Afghanistan? Child Care? Opportunities for youth?
Food security? Economic and other development ?
Tourism? Other issues?

You are invited to an evening
of open discussion
of issues of concern to you
with local representatives and guests

Tuesday, November 14th 7:00 PM
Crescent Valley Hall, Hwy 6

Panellists:

Alex Atamanenko	MP, BC Southern Interior
Don Munro	Area H Director, RDCK
Derek Murphy	Slocan Valley Economic Development Committee
Katelyn Jmaeff	Inspiring Youth for Change
Don Warthe	Teacher & Mentor, Inspiring Youth for Change

And more!

HOSTED BY ALEX ATAMANENKO, MP
BC Southern Interior

For more information: 1-800-667-2393 or 365-2792

Observing five decades of International Peacekeeping

For over half of the 87 years since the first "Armistice Day" in 1919, Canada has had troops involved in United Nations peacekeeping missions around the globe, from the Sinai Buffer Zone, and the Golan Heights to El Salvador and Cyprus.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the creation of UN peacekeeping forces and their first mission — keeping Egyptian troops separated from Israeli, British and French forces during the Suez Crisis. In the five decades since, over 750,000 military troops— 125,000 of them Canadian— civilian police, and thousands of other civilians from around the world have served on missions in over 35 countries. In that time, more than 2,200 men and women, including 140 Canadian military peacekeepers and civilians have lost their lives on these missions.

Perhaps it is appropriate, at this half-century mark to remember not only the troops who have died on these missions, but also the many thousands of military and civilian personnel who have served alongside them. Perhaps it is also fitting to reflect on the original Armistice Day, held to commemorate the end of "the Great War" of 1914-1918.

World War I — "the war to end all wars" — stunned the global community with the new horribly efficient methods of killing. New and terrible weapons were invented and used, including mustard gas, and the world recoiled in horror. On November 11, 1919 Armistice Day was held throughout the Commonwealth, not only to commemorate the millions who had died, but also to remember the futility and horror of war. "Lest we forget" became a motto that referred not only to the memories of the many fallen, but to the whole war experience. Many veterans hoped that the vast slaughter and ruin of the Great War would prevent such a thing from ever happening again. Today those hopes seem somewhat naive, but in 1918, they were deeply felt.

Almost 40 years after the Great War, following an even more horrific world war, and the Korean conflict, the world once again faced a powder keg over the Suez Crisis, with fears it could spiral out of control if the United States and Russia were dragged in. Lester Pearson's proposal of peacekeeping troops was seen as a way to defuse an explosive situation, and the concept of international peacekeeping was born. This innovative approach had a lasting impact in the way the international community dealt with conflict around the globe and would help define Canada's international military role for decades. In 1957 Pearson won the Nobel Peace Prize for his idea, and 31 years later the same honour was awarded to all UN peacekeeping forces.

Military peacekeeping is a demanding job that requires more than just combat skills. Negotiation, the ability to stand firm in the face of hostile forces, willingness to endure privation — all are requirements of the job, and as the task evolved and demanded change, so too did the skills. Peacekeeping today has transcended its original role, and would be almost unrecognizable to its founders. Peacekeepers are now asked to do much more than they were in previous missions, including such tasks as disarming military forces, providing security to the population, organizing elections, forestalling conflicts, encouraging peace settlements, training and leading local de-mining teams, protecting humanitarian aid convoys, and performing civil functions. Canada has always been a strong supporter of the United Nations and of peacekeeping, and Canada is the eighth largest troop contributor behind Pakistan, the Russian Federation, India, Bangladesh, Jordan, Brazil, and Poland.

But while the Canadian Armed Forces have played a leading role in international peacekeeping, many Canadian civilians have also made significant contributions. Politicians and diplomats, for example, have been active in negotiating peace in a number of countries. Members of the RCMP and other Canadian police forces have performed policing functions in countries including the former Yugoslavia and Haiti. Other Canadian civilians have also played an important role in extending democracy around the world by preparing and monitoring elections in countries like Cambodia, El Salvador, and Angola.

But if peacekeeping has been transformed far beyond the original vision of its founders, it is still very much in keeping with one of the original aims of Armistice Day. That goal, to remember the horrors of war, was intended not only to pay tribute to the fallen, but also to warn against the folly of making the same mistake again, and to work for peace. That work has been undertaken not only by military personnel, but also by teams of civilians and government diplomats, often working side-by-side in some of the world's worst trouble spots.

This year on Remembrance Day, Canadian troops are in the field in Afghanistan, and while many citizens take part in "Red Friday" displays of support, recent polls show an increasing number of Canadians are questioning the country's participation in Afghanistan. Anti-war rallies have been held across the country, and peace activists challenge the perceived drift away from Canada's established role as a peacekeeping nation. Many of these peace activists firmly believe that they too are pursuing the goals of the original Armistice Day, by working to find alternative solutions to armed conflict.

One of those local activists is Nelson-based Don Currie, of the Canadian Peace Congress. "There are huge profits to be made from war." Currie points out. "Canada now ranks twelfth among the world's nations in military spending. For 2005 Canada's military expenditures were $10.6 billion ($327 per capita) representing 1% of the all military expenditures on the globe."

This figure stands in contrast to Canada's contributions to peacekeeping. In 1994, at the height of UN peacekeeping, Canada contributed $127.7 million, less than one quarter of what it costs to operate the Montreal Police Department. By 1996, Canada was contributing even less — $94.9 million, an amount roughly equivalent to 3.1 percent of the UN's total peacekeeping budget.

Currie points out that while Canada's contributions to peacekeeping are declining, its expenditure on war efforts have grown. "Prime Minister Harper's decision to turn a war of occupation in Kabul into a seek and kill operation in Kandahar has increased military expenditures to $15 billion and rising. Canadian Government spending on NATO for 2005 —combined personnel and equipment — was $6.4 billion, or 60.4% of total military expenditures and an increase of 20% over year 2000." Currie says. "The Canadian Government spends 60% of its military expenditures on NATO and only 40% on the defense of Canadian territory, airspace and coastal waters."

Like many other peace activists, Currie decries what he sees as a regression to the 'bad old days.' "In the 21st century, war is an anachronism, an affront to human reason and a terrible scourge and waste of human and material resources," he says. "On this November 11th we commemorate those who have died and honour them in the only way that is appropriate to their sacrifice, by dedicating ourselves to work for a permanent and lasting peace.

Did you know?

• Peacekeeping Day is celebrated in Canada every August 9th?

• Ottawa is home to the monument 'Reconciliation', the only monument in tribute to peacekeepers in the world?

• The UN's Dag Hammarskjöld Medal honours Blue Berets killed on peacekeeping missions. As of 2004, 104 medals have been awarded in honour of Canadian Forces personnel.

• The 'Blue Dove' has been created to honor the 50th anniversary of Canadian peacekeeping efforts around the globe. For info: www.bluedove.ca.

Jack Harvey's Restaurant
We are grateful for their sacrifice, and sincerely hope it is never required of our sons and daughters again.

The Village of New Denver
The value of the price they paid is evident in the faces of our children.
We thank all our veterans!

The Apple Tree
Thank You,
to all our veterans,
active service people,
and to our
peace-keepers.
Main St. New Denver

Panini Bistro
Our gratitude to our veterans and active service persons knows no bounds.
Main Street, New Denver 358-2381

Meritxell Books
In troubled times such as these we are reminded even more strongly of what we owe to our brave veterans and our current soldiers and peacekeepers. They are in our hearts.
314 Broadway, Nakusp 265-4450

The Valley VOICE
We thank our veterans for the freedoms that we enjoy today.

ANDERSON INSURANCE
We Serve You First
We must all do our part to ensure that our children are taught the sacrifices that were made for us all.
Main St. New Denver 358-2617

Mark Adams
CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANT
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Or their children, either.
We must not forget!
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we WILL remember."

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In honour of Canada's history as an international peacekeeper.
Alex Atamanenko, MP
BC Southern Interior

Remembrance Day
In Honour of Those who Served
REMEMBRANCE DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE
Saturday - 10:00 am
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION HALL
NAKUSP, BC
NOVEMBER 11TH
Reverend Warren Fulmore officiating
PARADE TO THE CENOTAPH FOLLOWING THE SERVICE
ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND
Tea and Coffee for the Adults and Cocoa & Cookies for the Children will be served in the Hall following the Parade.
At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning,
We will remember them
Take Time to Remember

Wombat Books launches new novella by Stephen Lones

submitted

Local publisher Wombat Books will host a writers' coffee house between 2-4 pm Sunday, November 19 to launch *Yung Chigi*, a new work of historical fiction by New Denver author Stephen Lones, a member of the Slocan Writers' Guild.

Lones takes on the challenge of preserving in novella from a well-loved tall tale told for many years by his late father about a supposed summer job aboard a ship. With several illustrations by Vancouver artist Kacey McDougall, this blend of fact and fiction contains historically accurate background material suited for readers from pre-teen to senior.

The author will be on hand to autograph copies and direct a dramatized reading from his book. Publisher Roger C. Lewis will introduce Steve and launch the new website www.wombatbooks.ca with a few anecdotes from 30 years of publishing. Members of the Slocan Writers Guild and Wombat authors will be on hand to read from their work. Other local writers will also read, chant or declaim. Admission is free. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Fight off the deepening darkness by joining us to celebrate the delights of literature.

Help Wanted!

Area H North TV Society is looking for a director to take on the office of volunteer secretary.

• 3 hours per month at most

Call Trevor at 358-2375

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Slocan Lake Golf Club

December 4, 2006 at 7:00 PM
Lucerne School Library in New Denver.

• • • • •

All Members are welcome to attend

Rail Trail hosts Hallowe'en Bike Ride

submitted

About 65 grades 5 and 6 students from Brent Kennedy School spent a beautiful sunny Hallowe'en morning riding the Slocan Valley Rail Trail from Crescent Valley to Slocan Park. A light sprinkling of snow dusted the multi-coloured trees and the crisp weather only added to the magic of the day. The Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society will have an information table at the Winter Info Day and Sports Swap at the Slocan Park Hall on Saturday, November 18.

Brent Kennedy grades 5 and 6 students ride the Slocan Valley Rail Trail Hallowe'en morning.

The society has spent a busy season on the trail this summer making the trail even more beautiful. Distance markers have been erected, information sign boards posted at the main parking areas and trail packing has made rougher sections of the trail more accessible. In Crescent Valley, cleanup of a community eyesore has been done and installation of a parking area is underway. The Adopt-A-Trail program has proven very successful with all sections of the trail now being maintained by dedicated local volunteers.

There will be another Trail Ski Day taking place in late January. The society can be reached by calling 1-888-683-7878 or visit their website at www.svrt.ca.

Join a Conversation On Health in Castlegar

What is it all about?

Everyone has opinions on health care. The Conversation On Health is an unprecedented year-long opportunity for you to provide your views directly to the Province, and to discuss with other British Columbians how we can improve and renew B.C.'s public health care system.

Your feedback will help set the direction the Province takes to strengthen our public health care system for today and tomorrow within the Canada Health Act.

Why is it important?

Our health system faces real challenges. Our population is aging and growing, and the costs of expanded health services, new treatments and new technologies are rapidly rising.

These pressures are threatening the sustainability of our health care system for our kids and future generations.

How can I participate?

Sign up for a regional forum in Castlegar. Simply visit the Conversation On Health online or call toll-free to request a spot. Pre-registration is required. To ensure a meaningful dialogue, participation will be limited at each forum and registrants will be randomly selected for the forum within their health service delivery area.

All participants will receive an information package prior to the session. Funding is available to help offset the cost of travel within the health region.

Together, we can keep improving B.C.'s health services and be sure they're there for our kids.

To request a spot or for a list of forum locations in each of B.C.'s 16 Health Service Delivery Areas, call toll-free 1-866-884-2055 Monday to Friday, 8 am to 8 pm, or visit www.gov.bc.ca online.

BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth

Conversation On Health

After more than a year, the Silverton Historical Society has found a way to re-print the popular Old Silverton by local author John Norris. The society is hoping that it will be available for sale by the end of November, so stay tuned for more information about how to buy it. This latest edition is almost an exact duplicate of the original – the big change is the dramatic glossy black cover with bright silver lettering.

Kaslo and Nakusp artists show at Langham

submitted

The Langham will feature two new gallery shows and a reception with the artists opening Friday, November 10, from 7 - 9 pm.

Transitions, the work of Regina Thomas of Kaslo, is a mixed media show. Thomas draws her inspiration from the forests and mountains and Kootenay Lake. Her efforts begin by capturing moments of natural beauty in 'pleine aire', working to capture on paper before it changes. Later, in the studio, it is the changes that become her central theme.

Imprisonment for Removal 7 Years, the work of Betty Fahlman of Nakusp, is a series of 11 paintings and drawings that will focus on the changes created in the old townsite of Arrow Park as a result of land flooded by BC Hydro dams.

Ian Tamblyn plays Nakusp and Silverton

submitted

Multi-award-winning musician Ian Tamblyn comes to the Bonnington Centre Thursday, November 16 at 7:30 pm and the Silverton Gallery Friday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 at the door. The Silverton show is a fundraiser for wilderness preservation.

Tamblyn is an independent recording artist who has kept his integrity in the highly commercial music business. He has travelled literally from the Antarctic to the Arctic and laid tracks from his field recordings of wildlife calls and bird songs into soulful, beautiful songs about nature, love, friendship, canoeing, wilderness and travel. He can play anything from acoustic guitar and hammered dulcimer to piano, harp and percussion. All this skill and experience are woven into Ian's 21 albums and numerous film and theatre soundtracks.

This Juno award winner has been compared to Bruce Cockburn, Robbie Robertson and Daniel Lanois – among the most original and skilled songwriter-musicians of this generation. Ian's songs have been performed by some of the best-loved Canadian musicians around, including Ken Hamm, Ken Whitely, Lynn Miles, Rita Chiarelli, Valdy and Tamarack. See www.tamblyn.com for sound clips.

It's a coup to get Ian here – the last time he played the Silverton Gallery the place was packed, so come early.

Ian Tamblyn

Canadian folk music icon
Silverton Gallery
Friday 17 November
7:30 p.m.
$10 at the door
fundraiser for wilderness

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Kaslo Concert Society's 33rd season features all Canadian artists

submitted

The Kaslo Concert Society's 33rd season opens on Friday, November 17, with the Kelowna trio – Canto del Viento, literally 'chant of the wind.' Soprano Beatrice McQuaid, pianist Sandra Fletcher and trumpeter Allen Szeliga deliver a diverse program ranging from Purcell and Bach to spirituals, musical theatre and folk songs.

Saturday January 13 is Romanza – three outstanding Canadian tenors sing the opera arias everyone loves to hear as well as musical theatre, popera, love ballads and Canadian folk tunes arranged especially for them.

Sunday, March 25, the cello/piano duo of Denise Djokic and David Jalbert deliver impeccable musicianship that is sure to please our discerning audience.

On Friday, April 27, the Jack G. McDowall Memorial Concert presents Nelson guitarist Alan Rinehart in a program of Spanish and Spanish-inspired music for classical guitar.

The final concert of the season on Friday, May 11 welcomes Allison Girvan and her popular choirs, Shenango and Corazon.

Welcome
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2 for $5.99

Natura • 946 ml
$23.99 / case

Simply Organic
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X-MAS - TICKETS SPECIAL
Nakusp Music Fest
July 13 - 15 2007

July 13-15	X-Mas Special until Dec.31,06	Early Bird until June 30,07	Gate July 1 - 15
Adult (19+)			
3-Day Pass	$ 115.00	$ 135.00	$ 175.00
Sat.& Sun	$ 89.00	$ 105.00	$ 140.00
Fri. Kick-Off	$ 30.00	$ 35.00	$ 40.00
Saturday	$ 65.00	$ 75.00	$ 85.00
Sunday	$ 65.00	$ 75.00	$ 85.00
+VIP Pass	+$ 115.00	+$ 125.00	+$ 150.00
Youth (13-18)			
3-Day Pass	$ 60.00	$ 70.00	$ 80.00
1-Day Pass	$ 40.00	$ 50.00	$ 60.00
Children (8-12)	N/C	$ 15.00	$ 20.00
(7&under)	FREE	FREE	FREE

www.nakuspmusicfest.ca

All prices incl. 6% GST.
FREE SPECIAL EDITION POSTER - with all Christmas Special ticket orders.
One adult ticket must be purchased to receive one child's pass at N/C.
For more information or ticket orders call 250.265.2141 or 1-877-265-5565 or go online at www.nakuspmusicfest.ca or visit our office at 119 Broadway Street in downtown Nakusp.

Author Bob Harrington addresses planetary health

by Marilyn Boxwell

Well-known local author, educator, scientist and deeply committed environmentalist Bob Harrington presented a talk in Nakusp on October 20 on the topic of danger to planetary health and the earth's population, and what may be done to help alleviate the growing threat to human existence as we now know it. He pointed out to his audience of 18 concerned area residents that scientists began charting concerns about global warming and the greenhouse effect as early as the 1880s. This is not a new issue, but one which is continuing to worsen as time progresses.

According to Harrington, the problem lies in humans not valuing the Earth. "Small is beautiful, and we have to remember that everything is connected – we must return to a standard which redeems creativity and goodwill. The greatest sin we humans have committed is to become alienated from nature."

Harrington placed special emphasis on the need for all of us to adopt measures that will help moderate the world's climate, including personal initiatives such as searching out the simple acorns which have fallen to the ground and symbolically taking responsibility by planting these as a means of renewing life.

Discussion ensued on how to help reduce the risks and challenges associated with climate changes and greenhouse gases, a leading cause of air pollution, causing catastrophic effect on the overall health of the planet and its occupants.

"We as individuals must walk the talk," Harrington stressed. He outlined some ways individuals can contribute to the reduction of toxic emissions, for example: travelling less, using public transportation and car pooling where possible, and supporting the local economy by shopping locally. Harrington advocated that emphasis be placed on self-reliance in terms of local food production, including support for the creation of community gardens.

Composting organic materials is another means of protecting the earth and our water supply. Encouraging children to become aware and actively involved in the process is vital, whether within the context of the family or school curriculum, according to Harrington.

He proceeded to challenge his audience by urging them to contact local politicians, inform key leaders of environmental concerns, and urge stakeholders to adopt policies which protect our communities from further exploitation by outside interests.

Also discussed was the sensitive issue of property purchases by absentee owners which has been instrumental in creating virtual ghost towns throughout BC. According to some members of the audience, Fernie and Invermere have now instituted bylaws requiring property owners to establish primary residence within the community where they have chosen to purchase a home.

"Education can save the world," stated Harrington, adding that a local or district-wide group, even if not politically affiliated, can do much to revive interest in the 3-Rs principles of waste-reduction, re-use and recycling. The formation of discussion groups and the sharing of ideas and resources can be a step in the right direction, he told his audience.

Nakusp Public Library celebrates expansion

submitted

A 15-year campaign to find more space for the Nakusp Public Library has come to fruition. Everyone is invited to celebrate the new library space on Saturday, November 18 from 12 to 4:30 pm and give thanks to those who made it possible. The opening ceremony will be at noon, there will be story times for children on the hour beginning at one o'clock, and refreshments will be served all afternoon

"We are pleased and excited with the expansion, want to thank the community for their support through the years, chair of the Nakusp Public Library board of trustees.

The library has more than doubled its space and now occupies the entire top floor of the Centennial building There is an inviting lounge area with comfortable seating for reading, space for children to study, computers for public use, space for artists' work, and room on the shelves for the collection to grow, along with new paint, flooring, lighting, shelves and furniture .

The Nakusp Public Library has long played an important role in Nakusp. The Nakusp Public Library Association was formed in 1920, and the library had been housed in the same space for nearly 50 years while the collection grew from 2,650 books to 16,500 books, magazines and audio visual materials. The library had become overcrowded; there was no comfortable seating and no place for children to study. Literacy Now concluded that a larger library was the top literacy priority in the community. Last year 1,966 Nakusp area patrons checked out 33,453 books, magazines, videos and DVDs, audio books and CDs.

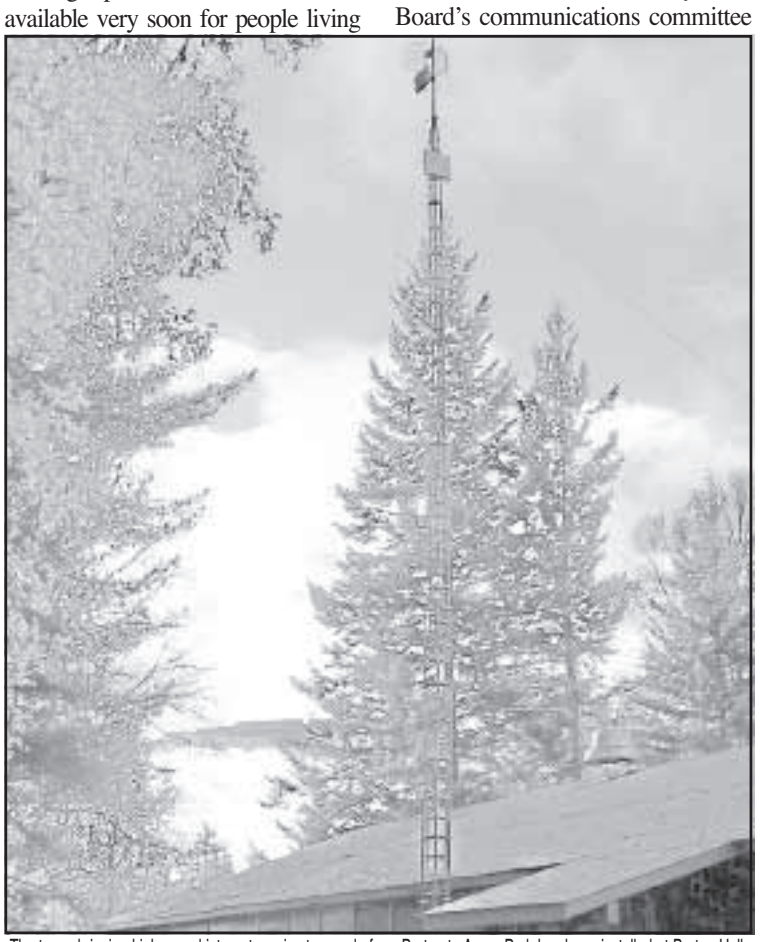
"It is still a work in progress," says librarian Evelyn Goodell, "and we continue to acquire new furnishings, so this is an excellent time for people to offer suggestions and give us their ideas. It is our goal to serve the community with quality materials and services which fulfill their informational and recreational needs. We are so pleased to be able to better serve the community in our new space. It feels like a dream come true."

Another community gets connected – Burton to Arrow Park

submitted

High speed internet service will be available very soon for people living from Burton to Arrow Park.

The Burton Community Hall Board's communications committee took this project on back in October 2005. This is when $20,000 grants were made available to many communities without high speed service through a BC government / Telus partnership. Under the program, Telus brought the fiber into the communities and the communities were in charge of the "last mile connections" to residents.



The tower bringing high speed internet service to people from Burton to Arrow Park has been installed at Burton Hall.

Other funding for the Burton project came from grants from Area K Director Paul Peterson ($8,000) and the CBT ($20,000).

In Burton, the Telus fiber is relayed by a solar site on Mt. Naumulton. The Burton committee had to find an internet service provider (ISP) and then have a site survey and site plan done. It took until April of this year to find an appropriate ISP. Then in July, In the Air Networks (ITAN) out of Kelowna did up the plans. Thanks to Jim Robertson's knowledge of local logging roads, the committee was able to find a good location for a solar site to bounce the signal from Burton Hall to Mt. Naumulton. ITAN then installed wireless Tranzeo radios on Mt. Naumulton and at Burton Hall. Telus sent three teams of men to connect and activate the fiber at the hall. Local help was also much appreciated. Mel Matchett levelled the ground and situated the solar shed, and George Vaclavek prepared the server room and tower site at the hall. Pat Orr, owner of Burton Store, is currently programming internet radios and preparing to help with installing the units.

Okanagan Net in Kelowna will provide the ISP service, system monitoring and billing. The rate will be $34.99 plus the cost of an internet radio purchase or rental. Internet receivers range from $295-$538 plus tax. If customers wish to rent or rent to buy, an additional $10-20 can be added to the monthly rate. Contact Rosalie Cranna, committee chair, at 265-0161.

Nakusp General Store once again presents
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

DEADLINE: NOV. 18, 2006

Operation Christmas Child gives you the opportunity to make this Christmas brighter for a needy child. Now in its 12th year, this project of Samaritan's Purse allows you as a family to send a message of love and compassion to children in crisis areas of the world.

We welcome the opportunity to join with you to bring a gift of hope, faith and compassion to a needy child this year.To take part in this exciting program, ask for a brochure from the Operation Christmas Child Co-ordinators, **Second Sight and Nakusp General Store**. By joining together with Operation Christmas Child, you can share the true meaning of Christmas with millions of precious children.

Shoe boxes available at
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Ph: 265-3444

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SEASON PASSES

2006 - 2007 Early Bird Rates

	All prices include GST	Early Bird
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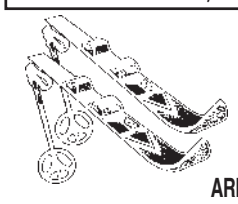
Student (13 - 18)	regular price $192	**$162**
Child (6 - 12 yrs.)	regular price $130	**$113**
Senior (60 yrs & up)	regular price $130	**$113**
FAMILY RATES (includes 1 adult)		
One Adult	regular price $235	**$199**
Two Adults	regular price $419	**$357**
Student	regular price $154	**$132**
Child	regular price $115	**$95**

Large Family Discounts available - adults pay, 2 oldest pay, & rest are 50% off

Reminder: Before your pass can be issued, WAIVERS MUST BE SIGNED (at ski hill) and PHOTOS FOR YOUR PASS DROPPED OFF. (write your name on the back of the photo).



— SKI SWAP —
on Saturday, Dec. 2/06 @ NSS Gym
9:00 am Drop-Off 10:00-2:00 Sales
PASSES WILL ALSO BE ON SALE
NANCY GREENE REGISTRATION
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Season Passes are available at Alley Health and Fitness, Nakusp & Mountainberry Foods, New Denver, B.C. or call Karen @ 265-4778.
www.skisummitlake.com

Season Pass Holders are entitled to 25-50% Off Skiing Out-Of-Town

Nakusp Public Library Invites You to a Grand Celebration of Our Newly Expanded Library

Saturday, November 18th, 2006

Official ceremony 12 noon
Open house until 4:30 pm

Refreshments & Storytimes.
Everyone welcome.

YRB yellowhead road & bridge

YELLOWHEAD ROAD & BRIDGE (KOOTENAY) LTD.

YRB requires winter equipment operators for the upcoming season at various locations throughout the North End area. Minimum qualifications include Class 3 licence with air endorsement, previous driving experience, ability to carry out duties in an outdoor, all weather environment on both day and night shifts. Must be physically fit. Please bring your resume along with a recent BC driver's abstract to Chris Fox , North end area Manager for Nakusp, New Denver, Edgewood. To YRB yard in NewDenver, 1-250-358-2343 or chrisf@yrb.ca

NSS soccer team earns its way to Provincials

submitted

Nakusp Secondary hosted the Kootenay high school boys 'A' soccer championships on October 24. Schools with less than 400 students in grades 8-12 are eligible to compete in the single 'A' playoff, and teams from Sparwood, New Denver, Rossland and Midway travelled to Nakusp to determine the Kootenay championship.

In the first game New Denver edged Sparwood by a 2-1 score to advance to the semi-final against the top NSS team. On the Zeleznik field, Rossland dominated the game against Midway, winning by a lopsided 6-0 margin.

Nakusp jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in their contest with New Denver, and held on for a 4-0 victory. This set up a championship game between Nakusp and Rossland, with the winner advancing to the provincial finals in Osoyoos November 2-4.

In the final Rossland came out strong and grabbed a lead by converting a corner kick into a goal two minutes into the game. Nakusp responded with goals by Joel James and Mark Tennant to take a 2-1 lead at halftime. NSS dominated the second half but was unable to seal the victory until an insurance goal was scored by Ben Dewit in the 60th minute. New Denver finished third out of the five teams in the tournament.

NSS enters the provincial tournament as the 6th ranked team in the province. They hope to improve on their 8th place finish from a year ago.

Young Nakusp snowboarder receives $1,000

by Jan McMurray

Jesse McDonald, a star snowboarder from Nakusp, was recently honoured with a $1,000 donation towards her athletic endeavours from Bell Canada at a 2010 Legacies Now Connecting Communities event in Cranbrook.

McDonald, a grade 11 student, is a member of the provincial boarder cross team and a member of the Canada Winter Games team. With her beginnings at Summit Lake Ski Area, she has been snowboarding since she was eight years old, coached by her father, Tim Markholm.

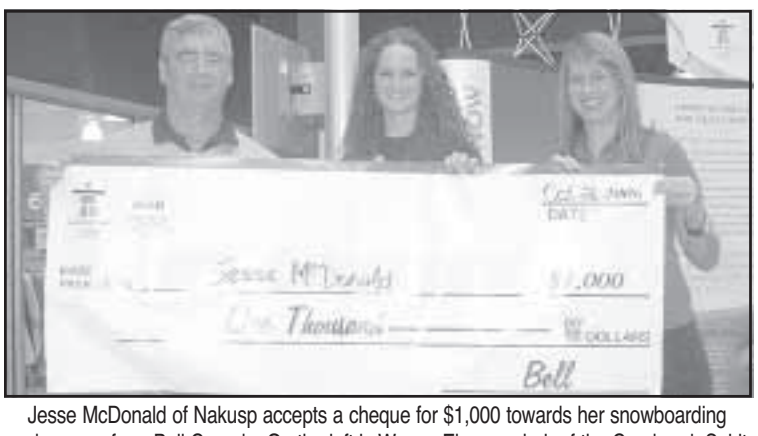
"My dad taught me everything I know," she said.

He sure did a good job, because McDonald is one of the top five female boarders (cross) in the province. Markholm has been coaching at Summit Lake Ski Area for eight years, but now that McDonald is on the provincial team, she has a new coach.

Her goal is to get onto a national team in the next couple of years and then go on to the Olympics. "After graduation, I plan to get right into snowboarding – train, train, train – and see how far that takes me," she said.

At the moment, McDonald trains about an hour and a half each day. She says she anticipates it to be challenging to keep up with her school work during the season this year. "In January and February, I am basically not home at all," she says, "so I will do school by correspondence. We are still trying to figure all that out." Last year, she found it not too difficult to keep up, with her mother, Allison Alder, tutoring her.

During the recent 2010 Legacies Now Connecting Communities Tour, Bell Canada donated $1,000 to a local athlete at each of the 10 communities that the tour visited. Jesse McDonald was the recipient for the Kootenay region. Athletes were chosen by PacificSport, the Canadian Sport Centre in BC that delivers sport performance programs to help athletes and coaches win medals for Canada.



Jesse McDonald of Nakusp accepts a cheque for $1,000 towards her snowboarding endeavours from Bell Canada. On the left is Wayne Eburne, chair of the Cranbrook Spirit of BC Committee and on the right, Hallie Sanderson of 2010 Legacies Now.

Join the Women's Institute

submitted

The Edgewood Inonoaklin Women's Institute is celebrating its 80th anniversary of service to the community. To mark this milestone, members served cake and ice cream for guests at a supper held at Legion #203 on Saturday, October 28.

The Edgewood chapter's annual meeting was held October 5. All executive members were re-elected, including: Ella Spence, president; Rachel Eckert, secretary; Lois Wood, vice-president; and Penelope Penner, treasurer. Nominated and elected was Barbara Quigley as director. Alice Rawlins will represent the group at emergency social services.

Continuing projects include making blankets for the homeless and Cabbage Patch dolls for children in crisis. A recent donation was made to help with the safety car seat clinic held at the Edgewood Outpost hospital. The Women's Institute is also a strong supporter of the Edgewood Elementary School, especially its reading centre.

A general call is being issued by the BC Women's Institute for more members. Anyone in the Edgewood-Nakusp area interested in joining can call Rachel Eckert at 269-7314. Meetings of the Edgewood Inonoaklin WI are held the first Thursday of each month at the Legion Club Room at 7 pm.

Switzer wins Nakusp byelection

by Jan McMurray

Doug Switzer is the newest addition to Nakusp council, after winning the byelection of October 28 with 109 votes.

John Janzen received 92 votes and Ron Nymeyer received 34.

Switzer says it looks like he will be on the hot springs committee and the community forest committee, and is looking forward to spending time on those projects. He says he has been working on the hot springs for a couple of years now and "would really like to see something positive happen up there." He describes the community forest project as "very exciting."

"A lot of people have worked very hard on the community forest and now it seems pretty close to a reality," he said.

Switzer will be sworn in on November 9.

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Nakusp, BC
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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO NAKUSP WATER USERS

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- If you hear water running when all your water fixtures are turned off
- If you notice water running or wet areas outside that do not dry up
- If you are aware of a leak

You can also help by repairing leaky taps or toilets that run constantly in your homes.

Thank you for your assistance.
Village of Nakusp

Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services

Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services is located in Nakusp, BC. We are a small community located in the heart of the West Kootenays. Our numerous Hot Springs, vibrant community and mountains make this an ideal location for people who enjoy the outdoors or the values of living in a small town.

Currently, we have a variety of openings including the following:

• Employment Counsellor 1.0 FTE (Nov 15th 2006)
Assisting clients with Skills and Needs Determination and providing relevant career counselling. An undergraduate degree combined with 3 years related experience or equivalent is required for this position.

• Clubhouse Coordinator 0.4 FTE
Working with a clientele of mental health consumers and brain injury clients in a clubhouse setting. This role involves coordinating group activities and liaising with other direct service providers.

• Clubhouse Employment Facilitator 0.4 FTE for 21 weeks
Working with a group of 18 mental health consumers to develop employment and life skills. Will work with consumers to assist in finding volunteer and/or paid job placements.

• Stopping The Violence Outreach Worker 0.2 FTE (Slocan, BC)
Providing Outreach services to survivors of household violence (emotional or physical).

The ideal applicant(s) will be comfortable with the public, well organized with demonstrated computer, writing, presentation and communication skills.

Positions offer a competitive salary. A valid Driverís License and current First Aid certificate are required. The successful candidate(s) will be required to sign an Oath of Confidentiality and complete a Criminal Record Check.

Positions will be closed when filled (except for where specified)

For further information or to apply please email Farhana Alam, Administrative Assistant at falam@aslcs.com

Kaslo council, October 30: Council will look into heritage designation for Provincial building

by Jill Braley

•Council members attending UBCM met with Minister Olga Ilich regarding the Provincial building. Illich indicated that there would be further discussion between the two parties regarding the potential purchase of the building by the Village. In the meantime, Illich suggested that council look into heritage designation for the building as another way of ensuring a future for the building that is in keeping with the character of the village and the wishes of its residents. Heritage designation for the building will be referred to the Administration & Finance committee.

•Administration will investigate energy efficient upgrades to the city hall building. This was identified as a possible priority project for Community Works (gas tax) funding. The municipality will consult with Robert Inwood regarding heating upgrades to the building. All standing committees will submit written suggestions for other possible energy efficient projects.

•Tom Lancaster of SmartGrowth BC will be immediately engaged for a maximum cost of $10,000 in 2006 to begin an Official Community Plan review, subject to participation by other neighbouring communities.

•Gillian Froese voiced concerns regarding safety while the skatepark is still under construction, and suggested that a fence be erected around the site. People are using completed portions of the park although 'closed' signs have been posted. Froese's email was sent to the skatepark committee. Ownership of the park will not be transferred to the Village until it is completed.

Tola Cooper of Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) sent in an email to say she had no concerns with the borrow pit work that was done at the skatepark site and is satisfied that is was complete. She says that any future works within 15m of the high water mark of Kootenay Lake should be discussed and approved through the Ministry of the Environment and DFO prior to commencing.

•The RDCK is working on a report on expanded fire protection in the area and provided council with a map showing the proposed fire expansion area south of Kaslo. Another option the RDCK would like to explore is an overall fire protection service area from Coffee Creek to Schroeder Point. RDCK asked the Village for a list of upgrades that would be necessary for such an expansion. The information will be forwarded to the fire department for comment.

•Kathy Freeman was appointed as the Village of Kaslo Emergency Social Services Co-ordinator. Cathy Portman will be sent a letter of thanks in appreciation of her past volunteer service in this role.

•Donna Cormie asked council to consider a Development Cost Charge bylaw. She said it was quite common for municipalities expecting growth to have such a bylaw in place. This was referred to the Planning and Development committee for recommendation to council.

•The Kaslo Golf Club is making an application to Columbia Basin Trust for $60,000 to fully complete the new clubhouse and asked council to provide a letter of support, emphasizing the value to the community of the new facility. The request was granted.

•Val Koenig of the Kaslo Trailblazers Society wrote to council stating there may have been a slight misunderstanding regarding council's request for the group to remove a park bench from the current paintball area, adjacent to the Kaslo River. Koenig stated he knew of no park bench in this area – all the benches are along the trails. He said it was his intention to make council aware of potential problems with open fires, spiked trees, wood with nails exposed laying on the ground. Koenig welcomed the opportunity to take council members on a guided walk to this area. Council referred the matter to the Public Works committee to visit the site, with paintball group members present.

•Council received a petition from the Kaslo Trailblazer Society requesting that Highway 31A from Kaslo out to Keen Creek/Southfork be widened in the spring of 2007 when that section of the highway is to be paved. This was referred to the Planning & Development committee for recommendation to council. Area D Director Andy Shadrack will be invited to the meeting to make comments on the issue.

•Ursula Ringwald of the Kaslo Area Youth Council expressed an interest to rent or lease the Community Hall to carry out programs for the Youth Centre. The youth council has outgrown its current location, and find it too small to accommodate their needs. A representative from the youth council will be invited to meet with the Administration & Finance committee to discuss future use for the hall.

•Council received a residential subdivision proposal for property below Highway 31 and Larch Drive by Ward Engineering for Marina Ridge/Kaslo Bay Resort. This was referred to the Planning & Development committee and Urban Systems Ltd for comment and recommendation to council.

•Three delegations appeared before council. Clarice Caywood presented a report by the Seniors Support Research Advisory Committee, and requested local government support for recommendations contained in the report. It was suggested by Mayor Holland that Kate O'Keefe be contacted to make recommendations to the IHA.

Terry Geche made a request to add six more customer parking spaces to her restaurant, now under construction. Council referred the matter to the November 1 Planning & Development meeting. The outcome at that meeting was to refer the application to increase parking spaces from 13 to 16 to the fire department to consider all aspects of parking adjacent to the fire hydrant on Oak Avenue.

Kohle Ocello asked for clarification on the updated Noise Abatement Bylaw #1035, and was advised bylaw enforcement with respect to noise is complaint driven.

Calling for memorabilia for Kaslo's renovated arena

submitted

Renovations to the Kaslo arena are now complete. The facility has a new timber frame covered walkway on the outside that leads people into a new lobby/meeting area. It has new stairs, a boardroom and a fifth dressing room.

The new lobby / meeting area is a place where people are encouraged to spend time before and after events. The plan is to have a display in this space showcasing the area's history with hockey and community. At one time, special trains ran to accommodate the crowds and players who travelled between Kaslo and New Denver for a rousing evening of hockey, dinner, and a dance to boot.

Anyone with jerseys, photographs, printed materials and other memorabilia to donate to this permanent display, which will reflect the spirit and the history of the area, contact Jeff Davie at Kaslo Building Supplies at 353-7638.

The Amazing Cromoli Brothers return to Kaslo and the Slocan Valley

submitted

It has been one year since the Amazing and Impermeable Cromoli Brothers toured the Kootenays with *The Fall Show* and they have since gone on to garner international recognition, touring to New Zealand and being voted the "Best Comedy" at the Wellington International Fringe Festival. However, they have returned from abroad to bring you *The Anniversary Show*.

First up at the Vallican Whole Community Centre as part of the centre's Up Close & Intimate Culture Series on November 11, then on to the Silverton Gallery on November 18 and finally to Kaslo's Langham Theatre November 25 (all shows start at 8 pm). *The Anniversary Show* features 15 vignettes encompassing the best of all their past shows, including Cromoli classics *Pilot Talk, Cover Song, Sex, Shot in the Dark, Nude Beach*, as well as a selection of past show favourites such as *The Harvest* (starring Bud and Leif Cromoli) and new vignettes like *Dear Marco I'm Really Sorry You Had to Pay All My Tips in Mexico* and never-ever-ever-heard-before New Zealand rarities, *I Heart Peter Jackson*, and *Ode to Matamata*. Performed on ukulele, glockenspiel, and melodica, this is a vaudeville extravaganza not to be missed!

The Cromoli Brothers are the brainchild of Lucas Myers, a professional actor, writer and composer who has toured internationally with companies from Victoria and Vancouver and as a solo artist. He has performed two other solo shows in the Kootenays, *Dress* and *East,* to great acclaim.

Warning: nude sock puppets, hilarity, Jesus.

One of the best decorated homes every year at Hallowe'en in Kaslo is the Woolgar's, and now we know why. It's Paul's birthday! He celebrated his 75th this year, among the special lights, bats, rats, goolies, singing monster on a Harley and, best of all, a moving hand. Both Paul and Helen always appear in costume to hand out the goodies.

It would be an understatement to say that a sold-out dinner fundraiser for Gord Chernoff at the Legion Hall in Kaslo on October 21 was a success. The event raised more than $26,000 for the Kaslo resident, who is in Vancouver awaiting a heart/lung transplant. At the fundraiser, there were games, raffles and auctions, as well as an excellent meal. Organizer Opal Jacobs says, "It was an unbelievable community gathering – to see people pull together to support a local fellow fighting for his life." The volunteer committee is very grateful for the generosity of the donors and people who attended the event.

Fern Van Horn celebrated the grand re-opening of her store, Fern's Flowers & Fancies, in her new location at 415 Front Street in Kaslo on Saturday October 28. Customers were treated to a free fern, goodies and a draw for a basket to help celebrate. The store has an enchanting new look thanks to hard work by Fern & husband Jim.

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Get Outta Town!

with Peter Roulston

Hot springs and cool rides

This time of year with the coldish days and darkish nights I think about hot springs quite a lot, and the Kootenays are blessed with lots of them, both developed and rustic. My plans to tour the East Kootenay and Rockies springs got delayed with the cold snap last week, so I decided to make a simple day trip over to Ainsworth. The forecast day's high temperature was only -2°C but the sun seemed pretty inviting.

After breakfast in Kaslo at the Treehouse and some minor shopping around, I drove down to Ainsworth along one of my favourite scenic drives. Kootenay Lake was calm in the cold morning sun and the fresh snow in the Purcells was just beautiful. In the parking lot at Ainsworth Resort I unloaded my hybrid bike and got all dressed up in much of the gear that I wear for ski touring, except for the ski boots, eh?

The idea was to ride south on Hwy 31 to Balfour, into the midday sunshine and check out some of the sights that are hard to digest when you're busy driving the car and having to speed along with the flow of traffic. The 15-km ride is spectacular and has several good hills and narrow shoulders but quite a few tiny pullouts just right for bicycles...

So I dressed in several layers, and had my headband tucked under the helmet, and double ski overmitts on and warm large cycling shoes with insoles that still fit into the pedal toeclips okay. My outer jacket is real warm and bright enough red to show up well even in those shady spots that are more prevalent this time of year. The road shoulders are still mostly free of sand and salt and traffic seemed quite sparse.

Leaving Ainsworth I got warmed up right away on the climb south out from town and then enjoyed the sunny views along the bluffs before Coffee Creek. It's neat to stop along the narrow shoulder here and gaze up at the rock face with heavy steel mesh strung over it to capture any tumbling rocks. Also at this point I like to look up and then out over the lake to see the immense hydro lines suspended all the way across Kootenay Lake to Riondel. These lines start off way above the bluffs and sag far down out over the middle of the lake. the lineal load on these cables is hard to imagine and if you go to the east side of the lake it's easy to walk in and see the massive anchors at the east terminus. I think these lines are said to be the longest free span in the world.

Coffee Creek is busy these days as the work continues on a new bridge slightly down from the existing small wood decked structure. There was nothing happening that actual day I rode past, but there's a couple big excavators building spur roads and all manner of barriers and soil curtains to secure the site. I lingered to look for some minutes, but it was very cold there in the shade and a frosty breeze flowed down the creek so I set off up the tight and narrow route on towards Queen's Bay.

Cresting the hill and back in the midday sun I began the long descent to lake level and around the long sweep of Queen's Bay. There's several nice little pocket beaches along the shore here, starting with the one down the Queen's Bay Wharf road and also down from the small pullouts beside the highway. The row of cabins and cottages that soon crowd the shore farther along remind me of cottage country back in Ontario with water below and asphalt above.

I rode up the turnoff for the Balfour Golf Course and this leads to a broad bench with numerous streets and residential areas above the Balfour ferry landing zone. The route drops back to the highway just west of the ferry and there's plenty to take in as you drive or cycle through this densely developed section. The Osprey 2000 boat was laid up for service and a small lineup of traffic awaited the MV Balfour that day.

I grabbed a coffee at the tiny bakery on the landing, then began the ride back to Ainsworth, already deep in the early shade of the November day.

Along the way back north, I was riding the lake side of the highway and found some of the obscure paths that lead out to those choice bluffs that overlook the main lake. Waved to a couple of ladies walking along near Toad Rock Campground then endured the cold coast back down into Coffee Creek canyon, with thoughts of hot pools inspiring me. After welcome relief into the hot pools and several trips through the caves and some conversations, I loaded up and left the uncrowded resort to drive the unbusy highway through the quiet little communities to a restful evening.

Peter Roulston own the Bicycle Hospital in New Denver and recreates mainly in the Kootenays.

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Financial forum

with Debbie Pereversoff

When the Banks want it All!

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you needed a mortgage or a personal loan? The first place most people go is to their local bank or credit union. The loans officer states that you qualify for the financing but only if you transfer your other outside investments and RRSPs over to the bank or its affiliates. You want this loan but you do not want to move your investments – you want the right to keep your money somewhere else. You agree to do this because you feel you have no choice. You either comply with the bank's request or you lose your financing.

Please be advised that coercive 'tied selling' is prohibited under Section 459.1 of the Bank Act. More specifically, it is against the law for a bank to "impose undue pressure on, or coerce a person to obtain a product or service from a particular person, including the bank and any of its affiliates, as a condition for obtaining another product or service from the bank."

Most people are not aware that this is against the law. If you qualify for a loan, a banking representative is not allowed to unduly pressure you to buy another unwanted product or service as a condition of obtaining the loan that you want. One way the banks are getting around this is by offering preferential pricing and/or bundling of products and services. The idea behind this is to offer potential and existing customers better prices or more favourable terms.

Here is a little scenario – see if it seems familiar to something you may have experienced: After approving your application for a home mortgage from the bank, the loans officer tells you that your mortgage is approved at a certain rate but it would be available at a lower interest rate if you transferred your investments to the bank. Approval of your mortgage or loan is not conditional on you taking another bank product or service. The banks call this preferential pricing – and technically, the above practice is acceptable. The banks and credit unions are aggressively going after your business but you need to be aware that you do have the ability to explore other options.

For many people, they have formed trusted relationships with their independent financial advisors. In spite of the discounted rates at the bank, the customer still wants to maintain their freedom to deal with a financial advisor of their choice. Once again, they may feel enticed to comply with this request knowing that they would potentially save thousands of dollars in interest payments over the years.

If you find yourself in need of a mortgage, take the time to meet with an independent mortgage broker. A mortgage broker can take your application and submit it to several lending institutions who will all clamor for your business. Chances are those financial institutions will be offering you those same rate discounts – if not better, regardless of whether you do any other business with them or not.

In this day and age, you have the freedom to choose, the right to negotiate and the privilege of doing business with whomever you want. Recognize that – seize the opportunities to explore further and do what's right for you.

Debbie Pereversoff CFP CSA is the co-owner of The Affolter Financial Group Inc. specializing in investments and portfolio management and design.

YOU MIGHT WANNA KEEP THE BIKE OUT
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Cool Eateries of the West Kootenays

with Andrew Rhodes

Drifting with Sylvia

Food editor's log: Saturday Nov. 4, '06. Hello again all you famished food fans.

It was a dark and stormy afternoon. Mist and thick fog lay over Kootenay Lake like gravy on a French fry. I was headed north on a slippery Highway 31 on my way to Meadow Creek where I had a rendezvous with Sylvia at Drifter's restaurant and bar. The place is real easy to find. Just pull off the highway into the parking lot. I walked into the restaurant and was immediately put at ease because of the down-home casual feel. I had managed to arrive between the breakfast and lunch crowds, so I almost had the place to myself. Out of the kitchen comes Sylvia, a smiling, good-natured woman who guessed who I was, introduced herself and sat down to chat. I love it when they do that. Turns out Sylvia and Scott Hamilton have been married for 34 years and have run the Drifter's restaurant, bar, and accommodations (twenty rooms) for fourteen years. Sylvia says, "I think we'll stick around a while." I began asking about the menu, and Sylvia tells me: "First of all, all of our meals are meant for hungry people, and breakfast is quite a big deal." A glance at the menu reveals The Truckers' Special: three each of eggs, sausages, bacon, and toast. Also of note is The Loggers' Skillet: bacon, ham, sausages, toms, green peppers, 'shrooms, onions, salsa, hash browns and toast. There's Eggs Benny, and lots more including waffles (with strawberries or blueberries) topped with whipped cream. Sylvia figures about ninety-five percent of the food is homemade.

The lunch menu kicks off with a 'loaded' hamburger. I saw two of them walk by, and they were ginormous. There are subs and steak sandwiches, quesadillas, and various wraps.

Now, I consider 'bread bowls' to be a crowning achievement of the human race, and Sylvia has 'em: Hollowed out loaf of bread with chili or Soup de Jour inside. What a concept! I had homemade ham and pea soup in a bread bowl with lots of extra butter. Then, cuz I felt so good, I had my beloved Clubhouse Sandwich.

Dinner? If I could have stayed for dinner I'd have had the 10 oz. New York Steak, or maybe Chicken Cordon Bleu, or perhaps homemade Meat Loaf covered in beef gravy from a secret recipe. Silvia wouldn't divulge the formula. Drat! The dinner menu also includes various pastas, more steaks and chicken, veal, and chops. There are side orders, one of which is Poutine, which health professionals say is an excellent source of gravy!

Attached to the Drifter's restaurant is the Bar S Pub with seating for forty. Sylvia and Scott also own and operate Drifter's accommodation: Twenty rooms that they rent to motorcycle and bicycle touring groups and to logging outfits. In her spare time, Sylvia is the president of the Lardeau Community Centre which organizes dances and parties, classes for kids, a reading room for Mums and toddlers, bowling, and exercise classes featuring videos of Richard Simmons singing golden oldies while he exercises.

Speaking of golden oldies, the music Sylvia has chosen for her restaurant is golden oldies at low volume. I noticed Buddy Holly's *Rave On* while finishing my soup, and as I munched my beloved Clubhouse I listened to *To Know You is to Love You*. By the way, Sylvia tells me that some folks drive all the way from Trail to dig into her cooking, and I know why! Here's to you Sylvia!!!

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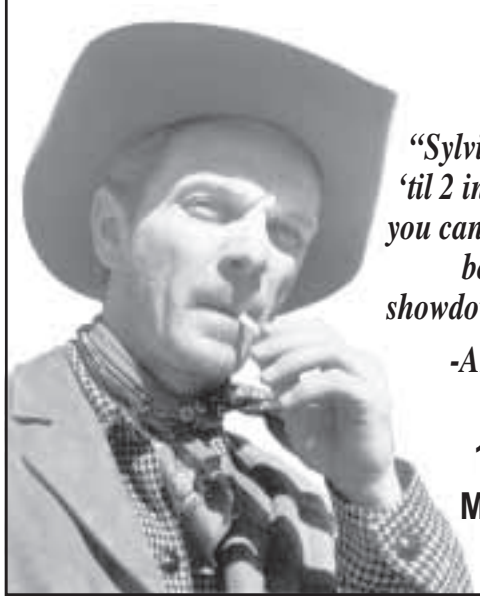
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CARD OF THANKS

Gord and I would like to thank everyone for coming to the recent fundraiser that was held in his honour – the response was overwhelming. Gord is in Toronto waiting for a heart/double lung transplant. We would also like to thank the following people who spent so many hours organizing this fundraiser: Bruce & Opal Jacobs, Colin & Laureen Jacobs, Corey & Jocelyn Jacobs, Deb Reimer, Pam Walker & Kathy Volpatti.

So many individuals came forward to volunteer their time, businesses donated items for our Auctions, as well as food for the dinner, we thank you so much.

It was an evening filled with laughter, good friends and memories that we will cherish forever.

Heather Kelsey & Gordon Chernoff

Many thanks once again to all that came and filled their plates at our Harvest Supper at the Winlaw Hall Oct. 22. It was a lot of work but well worth it to see everyone had lots to eat and left full. No event is complete without thanking our committee: Carey & Mike, Bob & Carolea, Lil & Bob & Brent. I'd also like to thank Iris once again for doing a great job on the gravy, also to Gordon for doing the mountain of dishes without even complaining, Cody for looking after the tickets and door. Thank you once again to Bob Cutler for the many hours he spent sanding the floor and polishing it, his wife Carolea & Brent for doing the major part of painting. Thanks once again to Fomi's Bakery for their support, Briane & Nina owners of Aark disposal, & Pearl & Fred at Four Seasons Greenhouse. Donna, Helga & Susan – thanks for peeling veggies. We have a great committee but there is room for more. If you have time every once in a while to help please let us know. If you would like to make donations towards the hall please contact one of us. This is our Community Hall – let's keep it going and help support it. Watch for upcoming events, we are open to different ideas to make money for our hall.

Thanks one and all,

Lorna P. Burns (President Winlaw Hall)

Winlaw

COMING EVENTS

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME at the Nakusp Public Library on Tuesdays at 10:30, beginning November 7th. Stories, Songs, and Rhymes. Free.

SANDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY AGM. November 13, Knox Hall, 7 pm.

SLOCAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COMPLEX SOCIETY Annual General Meeting. Thursday November 16th, 7:00 PM, W.E. Graham School.

33rd ANNUAL ST. ANTHONY'S FLEA MARKET. Saturday, November 25, 10 am - 2 pm. Bosun Hall, New Denver. TABLES SOLD OUT. More info: Gail at 358-2397 or Bev 358-7771.

FALL PROGRAM @ Artel Studios (New Denver). *ADULT DROP-IN CLAY CLASSES have started again! Every Monday afternoon 1:30pm. *KIDS XMAS CLAY CLASSES starting Nov. 21 and/or 22, 3:00-5:00pm. (3 weeks) Come make your own presents. To sign up call Elly at 358-2689.

NOTICE – BEAR SMART DATE & PLACE CHANGE Wayne McCrory will give his talk about Bear Smart and the Spirit Bear on November 26 at Silverton Memorial Hall, 7 pm.

PAINTING INSTRUCTION, drawing and composition, Thursdays, Winlaw Hall until November 30, 9 am to 4:30 pm. Experienced artists also welcome to have studio space for the day. 226-0021.

DANCE IMPROV Thursdays 7 pm at Winlaw Hall until November 30. 226-0021 or 226-0008 (Slocan Valley Rec).

COFFEEHOUSE / BOOK LAUNCH Sunday November 19, 2-4 pm at the Hidden Garden Gallery, main street New Denver. Featuring a dramatized reading from *Yung Chigi*, the new Wombat Books novella by Stephen Lones, plus presentations by several guest readers and the sale of Wombat publications.

VALLEY ARTISTS CHRISTMAS SALON Saturday, November 25, Winlaw Hall, 5897 Hwy 6, 2pm - 7pm - inspiring paintings, small art treasures by six accomplished local artists. 8pm - 11pm - cash wine bar, films, music. Art and Adventure 250-226-0021 www.barbarawilson.ca

SOCIAL BALLROOM DANCE, November 11, 2006. Playmor Hall, South Slocan. 7:30 pm mini lesson: East Coast Swing. 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm dancing. Singles Welcome! $8.00 non members. www.dancingbeat.org.

TAI CHI in NAKUSP - the dynamic way to health – NEW SENIOR'S CLASSES STARTING: Tuesday November 7, 2006, running every Tuesday & Thursday 10 am, SENIORS HALL Nakusp, $20 to Join (includes T-Shirt) - $15/Month Membership, Please call Mary 265-9986 for more information.

GOAT MOUNTAIN SCHOOL Society AGM will be held on November 21 at 7 pm in Room 121 at Lucerne School. For more info, call Ruth at 358-2116.

HABONDIA AGM. November 19, 3 pm - 6 pm. Tea and treats. Come see our new straw bale house! Phone for directions: 250-226-6788.

CANADIAN FOLK MUSIC ICON IAN TAMBLYN plays the Silverton Gallery Friday Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m. $10 at the door for this wilderness fundraiser. Ian is a multi-instrumentalist who has made 21 albums and won many awards. A rare chance to hear one of Canada's finest songwriters. Ian packed the house last time he played Silverton - so come early.

SILVERTON CHRISTMAS FAIRE at the Memorial Hall on Sunday, December 3, 11 am to 4 pm. Celebrate Christmas with handcrafted gifts by Kootenay artisans. Come and enjoy a homemade lunch and delicious baking. Info: Morgen, 358-7733.

ATTENTION PARENTS! Parent sessions on sexual health are being held for Area H in November. Two of the four sessions will focus on sexual health education for children in the elementary years. The remaining two sessions with focus on sexual health education for high school youth. Nov. 8 (Wed.): Elementary years, Winlaw School 6:00 to 7:30. Nov. 9 (Thurs.): High School years - Winlaw School 6:00 to 7:30. Nov. 15 (Wed.): Elementary years - Brent Kennedy School 6:00 to 7:30. Nov. 16 (Thurs.): High School years - Mount Sentinel Secondary School 6:00 to 7:30. Please pre-register by calling 226-6877.

COFFEE HOUSE/CALL FOR PERFORMERS: The Whole School's 9th annual Blue Moon Coffee House takes place Saturday, December 2nd from 5:00 to 11:00 pm at the Vallican Whole. Join us for an enchanting evening with an Indian feast, music, decadent desserts, coffee and huge silent auction. Admission is $5/adult at the door. Local musicians interested in performing call Bevan at 359-6654. More info 226-7737.

WINLAW HALL X-MAS CRAFT FAIR Dec. 9/06 9:00am-3:00pm. Table rentals call Ruth 359-7884.

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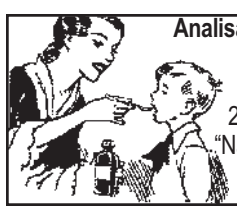

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FELDENKRAIS, Maintaining and Improving your Back, Nov. 25;

OCCUPATIONAL LEVEL 3, starts Nov. 27 - Dec. 8;

SINIXT NATION PUBLIC UPDATE, Nov. 29;

GROUND DISTURBANCE LEVEL 1 & 11 COMBINED, Nov. 29;

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HOME SUPPORT WORKERS WANTED Personal care and household management for mature disabled male. Sunday to Thursday 4 hrs/day or Friday and Saturday 4 hrs/day. Require Care Aide course plus First Aid certificate, bondable. $17/hr. Submit application to Box 433, New Denver.

AREA H NORTH TV SOCIETY is looking for a director to take on the office of volunteer secretary. 3 hrs/month at most. Call Trevor at 358-2375.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Lillian Rolfe, Croix de Guerre.
Gone but not forgotten.

During WWII, Lillian worked with the London based Special Operations Executive. She was placed with the French resistance in northern Nazi-occupied France. She was captured and sent to Ravensbruk and was murdered in February 1945. Her biography is found at www.64-baker-street.org under "agents," then "WAAF."

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

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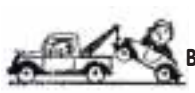

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Neighbourhood pub proposed for Slocan City – Public Meeting

by Don Currie

A well attended public meeting on November 2 considered a request to Slocan Village council by Dave Crane of Edmonton to establish a pub at 520 Harold St., formerly Helen's New and Used. Crane and his wife own the property and asked for permission to establish "a small, quiet neighbourhood pub" on the main level. The owners say the proposed pub would employ four staff and a manager, offer sports television and serve pub food. The application states, "we are aware that there are residents in the area and know how loud bars can be. The type of establishment we want to develop would honour noise bylaws of the Village and would respect local residents while providing a fun, safe service to them."

On October 19, the Village sent a letter to residents living near the proposed pub warning that they may be affected by "altered patterns of traffic, parking, customers and noise that may be caused by the new business" and asking them to "let this office know how granting the described licence might affect you."

Residents living near the proposed pub directed many questions to Caroline Hanson, designated pub manager. Hanson said she would apply for a liquor license in her name to serve about 25 to 30 patrons from noon to 11 pm Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and from noon to 1 am Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Fifteen parking spaces would be provided at the back of the pub and an open air deck would be available for smokers. She said the area would be screened by a fence. There were no plans to have live bands and staff would serve both alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks and microwaved food.

No one attending the meeting voiced opposition to a neighborhood pub. Those who were opposed were concerned at the location in a mixed residential and commercial area.

Residents living nearby expressed fears about losing the safety and quiet enjoyment of their homes and yards from noon to late at night, falling property values, the possible sale of drugs, rowdiness and violence and potential for increased vandalism and crime. There were concerns voiced about drinking and driving in a residential area straight down Harold Street past WE Graham School two blocks away.

Supporters of the location of the pub said the town needed a "watering hole" and opposition to the proposal was "negative." Others said if residents didn't want to live next to a pub they shouldn't have bought property in an area zoned commercial. Others said they didn't want the Village to become just a "retirement community" and the younger people needed somewhere to meet and socialize.

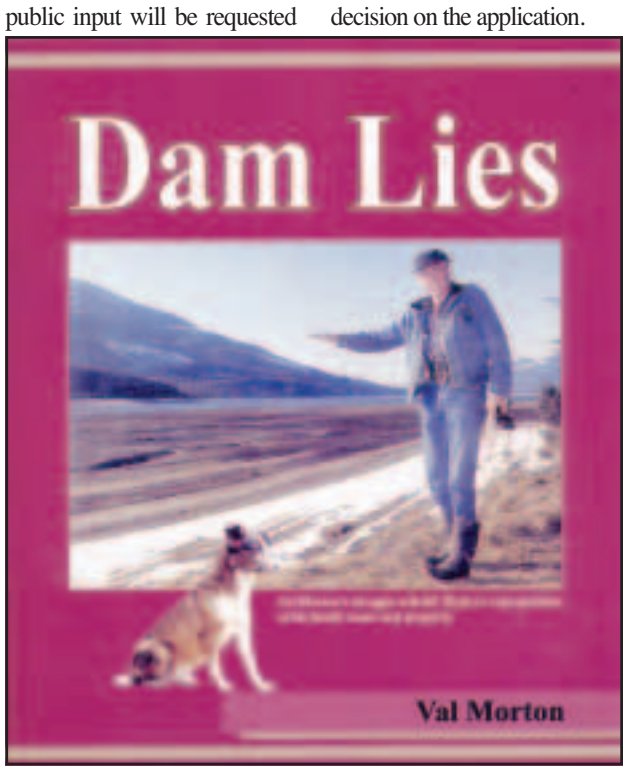
The meeting could not reach agreement to vote for or against the proposal. Village Administrator Eunice Ludlow said that when the liquor licence is applied for there will be another public meeting and further public input will be requested before council makes a final decision on the application.

Women's Institute invites new members

submitted

The Slocan Valley Women's Institute raises funds for local hospitals, schools, community events and contributes to worthwhile causes throughout BC, Canada and the world. Women of all ages enjoy the rewards of working together to produce crafts, baking, catering, and other fund-raising projects.

If you would like to be part of this worthwhile organization, please contact your local Slocan Valley WI branch by calling Dawn Anderson at 355-2252.



Val Morton, whose family's land on the Arrow Lakes was expropriated under the Columbia River Treaty in 1969, has written his story in a self-published book, Dam Lies. The book can be ordered by calling Pat Cameron at 265-3294, Michelle and Tom Morton at 250-337-8124, or by emailing tmmorton@telus.net.

Notes from the RCMP

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

Kaslo

The Kaslo RCMP are investigating the theft of a custom made business sign which was stolen from the area of Twin Bays Road and Highway 31 in Fletcher Creek. The sign is described as plywood, 4 feet by 4 feet, dark green and yellow with the name of Cedar Bay RV on it. Anyone with any information on this sign is asked to contact the Kaslo RCMP.

Several incidents involving vandalism on beach front properties in the Shutty Bench Road area have been reported to the police. The investigation is ongoing.

With the cold weather and snow upon us, drivers are reminded to take the extra time to clean all their vehicle windows. Drivers who fail to do so could face a fine of $109 under the Motor Vehicle Act for driving while view obstructed. Also, drivers could be found at fault in a motor vehicle accident should the vehicle be equipped with summer or all season tires.

The Kaslo RCMP would like to thank all the communities in the Kaslo area for a the safe Hallowe'en that took place this year. A reminder: Kaslo detachment office hours are Monday to Friday 8 am to 11:45 am. Routine inquires after these hours can be made with the phone outside the detachment, which connects directly to the Kelowna Telecom Center, or by calling the non emergency number 353-2225. For emergency assistance please dial 911.

Kootenay Lake

On October 21, officers responded to a complaint of an erratic and dangerous driver driving in the middle of the road between two lanes of traffic. The vehicle was last seen heading towards Balfour on Highway 3A. Further checks revealed the vehicle to be stolen from Alberta.

At 17:45 hours, a West Kootenay Traffic Services member accompanied by a Kaslo detachment member spotted the vehicle pull into the Balfour Ferry landing. Upon observing the police, the driver of the vehicle fled on foot. Both officers engaged in a foot pursuit lasting approximately five minutes. An off-duty Nelson detachment officer who happened to be on scene also gave chase. The fleeing suspect was located hiding near some bushes, visibly out of breath. He surrendered to the officers and was taken into custody without further incident.

The 33-year-old male was determined to be wanted for being Unlawfully at Large, entered by Calgary Police Service. He was also bound by four probation orders stemming from multiple assaults that took place in Alberta. As well, the male was facing pending charges of Possession of Stolen Property from a previous incident.

Locally the individual will be facing criminal charges of Possession of Property Obtained by Crime, Operating a Motor Vehicle while disqualified, Impaired Driving, Driving with a Blood Alcohol level over the legal limit and Breach of Probation.

Slocan Lake

Slocan Lake RCMP would like to warn people to beware of letters received by email, fax or post proposing some kind of financial dealing. Recently, a New Denver resident received a letter through the regular mail from a woman saying she works in a bank in Spain. She says there is a large sum of money in an account at the bank that belongs to a foreign customer who died in a car accident along with his entire family. Because of this, she says, there is no next of kin to claim this money. So she proposes that the New Denver resident, who has the same surname as the allegedly deceased bank customer, claim the money and share it with her. The New Denver resident brought this letter to the attention of the RCMP right away, and called Phonebusters at 1-888-495-8501. Slocan Lake RCMP encourages anyone who receives similar correspondence to inform them.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

2007 Property Assessment Notices will be mailed to all property owners in British Columbia on December 31, 2006.

If you own a property and have recently moved, please provide BC Assessment with your new mailing address by November 21, 2006 so we can ensure you receive your assessment notice.

Consult your phone book or our website for your local office information. www.bcassessment.ca

Our Service Commitment to you is to be Reliable, Accessible, Uniform and Accessible.

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With 60 new artisans and returning favourites

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Friday, Nov. 24: 1pm- 9 pm
Saturday, Nov. 25: 9 am - 6 pm
Sunday, Nov. 26: 10 am - 5pm

Free Entertainment*Delicious Food
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CBTCIP07

The Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is seeking proposals from qualified contractors for the evaluation of its Community Initiatives Program. The Community Initiatives Program evaluation will review and assess the impacts and the effectiveness of the program.

Closing date for proposals is:
3:00 PM PST on December 15, 2006

Full proposal information packages may be obtained from:

Aimee Ambrosone
Columbia Basin Trust
Phone: 1-800-505-8998
Email: aambrosone@cbt.org