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

Cell phone equipment installation sparks controversy, petition

by Art Joyce

Cell phone service may be coming to New Denver, but not everyone is happy about it, and many are worried about the potential health risks. A petition has been presented to Village council demanding suspension of the service pending public consultation.

The Village received no notification from Telus other than an application for a building permit to construct the shed that houses the computer equipment. Telus technicians have been installing the cell phone transmitters on the CBC broadcast tower on the Carpenter Creek flats. The expected range is said by Telus to be about two kilometres or 'line of sight,' possibly extending as far as Hills, Red Mountain, Idaho Peak, and into Valhalla Park. The transmitters operate in the 800 megahertz (MHz) band.

Members of the Healthy Housing Society and other residents gathered about 115 signatures on a petition calling for a moratorium on the service until the public has been consulted. The petition was presented to New Denver council the evening of June 12. Council decided to contact Telus to request they suspend activation of cell phone service pending public consultation.

International scientific studies have indicated serious health risks from the pulsed electromagnitic frequencies (EMF) emitted by cell phones and transmitters in the 800 to 1800 MHz range. Studies suggest that children are especially vulnerable to the risk of developing leukemia, ADD and learning disabilities. A long-term study done between 1994-2004 in Naila, Germany showed that after the first five years, "the relative risk of getting cancer had tripled" for residents living near a cellular transmission tower. A study conducted by Tel Aviv University in Israel in a neighbourhood with a cell phone mast found similar results. The EMF 'hot zone' seems to be within 300-400 metres of a transmission site. The CBC tower in New Denver is within 200-300 metres of New Denver homes.

Chris Anderson, an EMF auditor and consultant, spent an afternoon taking EMF/RFR (radio frequency radiation) readings in the vicinity of the CBC tower in New Denver to establish current emissions rates. He believes that existing levels are already too high in places. In Britain, monitoring of cell phone masts in some cases has revealed transmissions up to 250 times the licensed levels. Traditional radio and TV transmission uses analog technology which experts believe is far safer than pulsed digital signals, but not without health effects. Anderson believes that Yfi wireless internet is just as dangerous.

"Many communities have rejected this form of EMF pollution based on independent scientific data showing it is dangerous to human health," says Anderson. "It would be idiotic to destroy the main reason people come here – for the healthy environment."

Health Canada has sided with the World Health Organization (WHO) in stating that there are "no known health effects" from cell phones or transmitters. Shawn Hall, media relations spokesman for Telus, says the company abides by Health Canada regulators, "who survey all the scientific literature on the subject. The level of emissions our cell towers produce are thousands of times below that." Hall says Telus is confident Canada's Safety Code 6 is sufficient to protect human health. However, at present Canadian electromagnetic frequency radiation (EMF) levels are set based only on what can heat or burn skin, not possible microcellular effects.

Many observers believe that scientific studies cited by the $40 billion annual cell phone industry are tainted by an obvious conflict of interest. Mike Repacholi, who headed the WHO project to set world standards for safe levels of EMF exposure, has since left the organization to work as an industry consultant. He has a reputation for downplaying cell phone technology's health hazards.

Shawn Hall says Telus negotiated directly with CBC for the right to 'piggyback' on the existing tower, as a cost-effective means of providing cell phone service. The installation of telecommunications equipment is governed by the federal authority Industry Canada, which allows municipalities' input as to the location of towers but states that they "cannot prevent a radiocommunication facility from being built."

Industry Canada Director for Okanagan-Kootenay region Bob Bissell says the federal agency is in the process of revising its public consultation policy based on a nationwide review. The review was prompted in part by a case in Colwood (near Victoria) in 2000, where citizens were angered by the lack of public consultation for a radio and wireless transmission tower built in their neighbourhood.

Despite government and industry assurances, citizens in countries around the world, including Canada, have lobbied city councils to have cell phone masts moved or torn down. The Vancouver school board does not allow cell phone antennae on school property.

New Denver resident Penny Bonnet urges people to "get educated" about the issue. "I think we should all become aware of the controversy and question our use of this technology."

Jody Cliff of Red Mountain caught a 19-pound Rainbow Trout at the mouth of Silverton Creek June 8. It took Cliff an hour to reel it in, as he was in his kayak for the entire fight.

Second annual Our Way Home Reunion to display soldiers' tombstones

submitted

The second annual Our Way Home Peace Event and Reunion will bring together an impressive lineup of keynote speakers and performers July 4-8 at the Brilliant Cultural Centre and Selkirk College in Castlegar. Peace activists, war resisters and the general public will celebrate the courageous legacy and contribution made to Canadian life by US war resisters.

Keynote speakers will feature Daniel Ellsberg and Senator Tom Hayden, along with Leonard Weinglass, the attorney who defended Ellsberg in the Pentagon Papers trial and Hayden in the Chicago Seven trial. Weinglass is a leading human rights attorney currently defending five Cubans in US prisons.

This year's event will also feature, for the first time in Canada, the Arlington Northwest exhibit, a dramatic display of over 3,000 tombstones and crosses with the names of US soldiers who have died in Iraq. This massive exhibit will for the first time include crosses and tombstones with the names of the Canadian soldiers who have died in Afghanistan.

Other keynote speakers include Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and President and co-founder of the MK Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence in Memphis, Tennessee; Peggy Mason, former Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament and Israeli Military Refuser; and the co-founders of the new Middle East peace organization, Combatants For Peace, Younatan Shapira and his Palestinian partner in peace.

An exciting highlight at the event is the Rolling Out The Resistance to War Peace Concert on Saturday, July 7. The concert will feature music spanning 50 years of styles including Egyptian Canadian performer and Juno nominee, Maryem Tollar and her uncle and poet peace activist Ehab Lotayef; Country Joe McDonald who performed at Woodstock; Ember Swift; and icons over the last 50 years in music including Utah Phillips and Rosalie Sorrels.

For more information see www.ourwayhomereunion.com or contact Isaac Romano, Director, Our Way Home Peace Event & Reunion 250-352-1187. Tickets are available at Earth Spirit Books in Winlaw, Sunnyside Naturals in Kaslo, Books and Music in Castlegar, and at Still Eagle, Gold Yogi, Spirit Quest and Kutenai Clothing in Nelson.

Stream of Consciousness

Use low-angle or pulsating sprinklers that produce large fat droplets of water. Sprinklers that spray the water high into the air or produce a mist or fine spray lose much of the water through evaporation. As a general rule, most lawns and gardens require little more than 2 to 3 centimeters (1 inch) of water per week. Water only in the morning and early evening. This, too, reduces evaporation.

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Province close to agreement with Ktunaxa nation – Sinixt feel shut out

by Art Joyce

The Ktunaxa-Kinbasket First Nation and the BC government are close to an agreement on a land and cash settlement, according to the Province's Chief Negotiator, Bronwen Beedle. The two parties are in stage four of a six-stage process in treaty negotiations.

"We're working toward an agreement that will look like the final agreement except for some specific areas," says Beedle.

The Ktunaxa filed its statement of intent on December 17, 1993 – the first stage of the treaty process. They have been in negotiations with the government since October 10, 1996 since declaring themselves in a 'state of readiness' (phase two). A framework agreement (phase three) was signed on May 6, 1998. The treaty process, when complete, eliminates the Indian Act as it applies to the nation in question. The nation is still bound by the Charter of Rights, as well as federal and provincial laws. The Ktunaxa will have self-governance – the right to control decision-making, taxation and law-making in their community.

Stage four involves an agreement in principle for the 'land and cash' phase of negotiations. The cash component includes money for economic development, resource management, treaty implementation and governance. Only crown land is on the table, not private property. Natural resources such as forestry, wildlife, fish and water are part of negotiations, which can result in shared or outright ownership of resources, or just access to them in some cases. According to Beedle, there was land considered near Nakusp but that has been dropped from discussions.

"We take into account municipal and regional district interests, transportation corridors, environmental issues and so on," she says.

But not everyone is happy about the process. The Sinixt First Nation – formerly known as the Lakes Indians – are concerned that their traditional territory is being ignored in the treaty process. The Sinixt were declared 'extinct' in the 1950s by the federal government, and without legal status, are not included in treaty negotiations. Ktunaxa spokesperson Garry Slonowski says they are not seeking 'exclusive rights' over the territory and try to respect the principle of First Nations sharing protocols to resolve territorial overlaps. Sinixt spokesperson Marilyn James, however, is skeptical.

"They can't claim exclusive rights in Sinixt territory because the Sinixt are the only First Nations with 'exclusive rights' in Sinixt territory," says James. "The only reason that any other First Nations can claim any right is through the generosity and sharing protocols that the Sinixt nation follow."

Slonowski says the Sinixt must first clear up their legal status before joining treaty negotiations. James explains that the Sinixt have filed a statement of claim with the federal government for reinstatement of their rights as a First Nation. Bob and Agnes Campbell and their infant daughter Lola are submitting themselves as part of a test case for the statement of claim but the case in still in its early stages.

"We encourage First Nations to work out the overlaps between themselves," says Beedle.

A map produced by the BC Treaty Commission representing an approximation of traditional Ktunaxa territory takes in an area from the Alberta boundary west to Castlegar, and north of Revelstoke and Golden. Ktunaxa territory traditionally also extended into northern Washington and Idaho, and into Alberta, but for the purposes of treaty negotiations only deals with BC. Marilyn James says the Sinixt contemporary boundaries are north to the Big Bend area around Revelstoke, to the height of the Purcells and Selkirks on the east, the height of the Monashees on the west, and south across the US-Canadian border.

Ktunaxa chief negotiator Kathryn Teneese says they are prepared to sit down and talk to any First Nation who shares territory with the Ktunaxa. Discussions have already been held with the Shuswap and Okanagan nations, although they're not involved in the treaty process. The Ktunaxa have told the Westbank band, which is currently involved in treaty negotiations, that they prefer to deal on a nation by nation basis rather than with individual bands.

"We have an obligation to talk with all of the nations we share territory with – not just the Sinixt," says Teneese.

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Open Fire Restriction throughout the Southeast Fire Centre

Effective at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 25, 2007 and until further notice, Category 2 and 3 open fire is prohibited throughout the Southeast Fire Centre.

A Category 2 open fire means an open fire that burns piled material no larger than two metres high and three metres wide, or grass over an area less than 0.2 hectares (2,000 square metres) in size.

A Category 3 open fire means an open fire that burns material in piles larger than two metres high and three metres wide, windrows, or grass over an larger than 0.2 hectares (2,000 square metres) in size.

This open fire ban applies within BC Parks and to all public (Crown) and private land outside of organized areas. This fire ban does not apply within municipalities or regional districts that have their own burning bylaws. Please check with your local authorities before lighting a fire.

This open fire ban is in effect to protect public safety and to limit the risk of person-caused wildfires.

The Southeast Fire Centre encompasses the area extending from the U.S. border in the south to Mica Dam in the north and from the Okanagan Highlands/Monashee Mountains in the west to the B.C./Alberta border in the east. This includes all of the Arrow-Boundary, Kootenay Lake, Rocky Mountain and Columbia Forest Districts.

To report a wildfire or unattended campfire call 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on most cellular networks. For more information on open fire restrictions or for updates on current wildfire activity, visit www.bcwildfire.ca.

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Nakusp airs concerns at CBT open house

by Jan McMurray

Nakusp showed its passion about the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) once again at an open house held June 11 at the arena auditorium. The second last open house in a series of eight around the basin, Nakusp had the biggest turnout and and the most indepth discussion.

Discussion topics in Nakusp included reservoir levels, the community initiatives and affected area funding program and the investment program.

The first question was: "What is the CBT's strategy to mitigate the effects of water fluctuations on tourism and the environment?" Kindy Gosal, Manager of Water Initiatives at CBT, explained that the water fluctuations are the responsibility of BC Hydro and not the CBT. He said the CBT has tried to get BC Hydro to realize how its operations affect communities and what Hydro can do to alleviate these problems. A four-year process of doing just that, with many Arrow Lakes community members involved, has resulted in the Columbia River Water Use Plan, available online or by calling Gosal at 250-344-7015.

He also mentioned that the fluctuations in water levels have been getting bigger over the last decade, due to a change in water flows and the huge demand for water in the US. The latter is a result of compensating for fish and wildlife under the US endangered species act. CBT reps said they wanted feedback on the Columbia River Treaty, which is the agreement between the US and Canada on the development and operation of the upper Columbia River basin. "We want to know what the public would like to see different in the treaty. Providing a voice for the people of the basin on the treaty is one of the most important things we are doing," said Wally Penner, Vice President of Community Partnerships.

The Community Initiatives and Affected Area funding program generated a lot of discussion. The program is under review, as this was the last year of the 10-year commitment to deliver the funding. Penner said the funding program will continue and the amount of funding will probably increase. A consultant from outside the basin is reviewing the Community Initiatives part of the program, while the Affected Areas piece is being reviewed internally. The report from the consultant is expected to be presented at the July board meeting. Muth explained that the reason the funding would probably increase is because the Brilliant Expansion program was coming online and the Arrow Lakes Generating Station was back online after having to be shut down for repairs.

Mayor Hamling said the community would like to see a better formula for the distribution of the Affected Areas funding. "We are not the only affected area, but we are affected strongly, so the community would like to see a better formula that takes that into account," she said.

Muth replied that the funding has been distributed on a population basis, and "to start putting value judgements on one area over another is very problematic. It is very difficult to put ourselves in the position to pit one community against another. Any benefit to Nakusp will come at the expense of another."

Suggestions from the public here included taking the total amount of Affected Areas funding ($500,000) and splitting it evenly among the six affected areas. Another was for the six areas to get together and lobby as a group "for a bigger piece of the big pie."

Over the last 10 years, Nakusp has received approximately $50,000 per year in Affected Areas funding and $10,000 per year in Community Initiatives funding. Communities located within a 10-km radius of a reservoir are awarded the Affected Areas funding.

The investment program was another lively discussion topic, and turned out to be one of CBT's programs that people knew very little about. Johnny Strilaeff, Vice President of Investments at CBT, explained that the investment portfolio had undergone a review in the past year and a draft statement of investment policies and procedures was to be presented to the board in July.

He explained that the goal of the investment program was to generate income for the Delivery of Benefits (DoB) program. The investment portfolio has a total value of $476 million and generates $15-16 million for the DoB or grant funding program. The biggest part of the portfolio by far is the power generating assets, worth $380 million.

The second part is investment directly in basin based businesses. This is the part of the investment program that Strilaeff says he wants to put more focus on. CBT is 50% owner of six seniors care facilities in the basin, representing an investment of $25 million. Also, the CBT has invested through loans, in partnership with credit unions, in the Kicking Horse Mountain Resort in Golden, Kokannee Creek Golf Course in Crawford Bay, Trickle Creek Golf Resort in Kimberley and the Eugene Mission Resort in Cranbrook.

The third part of the portfolio is managing the cash that is waiting for further investment. This is about $30 million and has been sitting in bank accounts. Strilaeff is hoping to move this money into the second part of the portfolio – investing in basin businesses. For now, he is proposing that the money be put into market securities, which will bring a better rate of return than it does sitting in the bank.

People wanted to know why Nakusp had not come forward with investment opportunities. Strilaeff said there was a lack of awareness of the program. He said he is seeking out opportunities in the communities by talking to people in the industry (bankers and lawyers), who will act as CBT's ambassadors for this program.

There were comments about a perceived lack of interest in smaller communities, shown in the attempt to close the CBT office in Nakusp last fall. Muth said this was a "big personal lesson for me" and added, "We know we need to build relationships." Community Liaison Lynda Lafleur said the Nakusp office was open to residents and that lots of people were coming in. Gosal said the CBT started "of the people for the people" and stressed the important role the people of the basin play in the Trust. "We have separated ourselves to some degree, not because we wanted to but because it happened. We do a lot of wrongs but we do rights, too." Muth said they sometimes "get beat up and it's not fun" but he knows it's better than not hearing from the people at all. Strilaeff told us to "stay passionate about the CBT, stay passionate about the economy, and help us."

The open houses were prompted in part by the recent division of the original 1997 Columbia Basin Management Plan into two parts – a standalone Charter and a separate document that sets three-year strategic priorities for realizing the goals of the Charter. Until now the two have been part of the same management plan, developed from the original mandate provided by Basin residents. Copies of the draft documents are available at any CBT office, on the CBT website at www.cbt.org, or by calling 1-800-505-8998.

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BCTS makes preliminary plans for logging on Perry Ridge

by Jan McMurray

BC Timber Sales (BCTS) recently notified approximately 20 water licencees on the north end of Perry Ridge, in the Nelly Creek watershed, about plans for a cutblock and road building. This area has been very contentious in the past and promises to be so this time as well.

"This development is predominantly on the west side of Perry Ridge – it is not in the domestic watershed of residents," said Al Skakun of BCTS in a telephone interview. He said the notice was sent to all water licencees that could potentially be downslope of the proposed development. "We expect it won't be in watersheds, but we're being cautious and notifiying people," he said.

The planning is in the very preliminary stages. "The earliest scenario for tendering the licence is in the fall," he said, reporting that field work to determine cutblock boundaries and road locations and all related assessments will begin over the next couple of weeks, and will be ongoing through the summer and into the fall. He also said there was potential that the development could get deferred because of mountain pine beetle elsewhere.

He assured that when more details were available on the cutblock boundaries and road locations, water licencees would be contacted and given another opportunity to provide input.

"Any comments or input will be responded to and considered in the planning and operational phases," he said, and recommendations coming out of field assessments have to be incorporated into the plan.

Back in 1997, about 4 kms of a planned 7.7-km road was built on the top of Perry Ridge from the north end heading south. Protesters blocked the development, and some were served a court injunction, which was set aside by Justice Parrett in November 1997. However, that was not the end of court litigation around the development on Perry Ridge. In September 1998, the Perry Ridge Water Users Association (PRWUA), Valhalla Wilderness Society and the Ministry of Forests signed an agreement to halt road construction until litigation was concluded. "The intent was to try to reduce the tensions and potential injury that could have resulted from some of the civil disobedience activities around the logging equipment," said Skakun. He noted that the last round of litigation ended in May 2003 in the BC Court of Appeal, so he says the agreement to halt the road building has not been in effect since then.

Skakun said that the current proposed development will probably involve extending this contentious road south along the ridge. "It's likely that there will be some continuation of that original road and there's likely to be spur roads off of it. The linear development of the proposed development along the ridge top would probably necessitate some extension of the original road," he said. He added that all of the east side and remaining west side of the ridge are in the timber harvesting land base.

Skakun said all the studies done by government, PRWUA and others that are relevant to the proposed development area will be made available to the professionals doing the assessments.

PRWUA spokesperson Marilyn Burgoon reported that the association is currently raising funds to look at its options on how to proceed legally. "Our argument is about equity," she said. "What do we lose in terms of home value and security when compared to the financial loss to the Ministry of Forests and the taxpayers." She said that a cost/benefit analysis on the ministry's 'Total Chance Plan' for Perry Ridge in the late 90s predicted a $2.25 million loss. "Perry Ridge has way more value economically and environmentally as a protected area. We feel we are saving the taxpayer money with our vision to work to conserve the ridge," she explained.

PRWUA would like to make Perry Ridge part of Valhalla Provincial Park, ideally with ecological reserve status. Development on the north end of the ridge will "cut the connective corridor to Valhalla Park and this is essential to have a protected area that enhances the park and protects the lower valley," said Burgoon. She said PRWUA has contacted the premier and Minister of Forests Rich Coleman with these ideas and have been told that "we've got all the protected areas we're going to get under the Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan." However, Burgoon argues, when safety is an issue, those plans must be re-visited.

"Our community is very united about what we want there. We have incredible support, especially by the newer people who have moved in," she said.

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MP Atamanenko tables bills on school rebates, terminator seeds

by Art Joyce

Alex Atamanenko, Southern Interior MP, has brought forward in Parliament two bills, one dealing with terminator seed technology , the other with GST rebates to public schools.

Atamanenko says Prime Minister Harper's office is being flooded with emails from across the country calling for him to do the right thing for people, farmers and the environment by making sure Bill C-448, the Terminator Seed Ban Act, becomes law. Over 700 letters have already been sent to the prime minister through the website www.rightoncanada.ca in support of Atamanenko's bill.

"The question is, how many more letters will it take to convince him to act?" says Atamanenko. "Canadians need their government to protect them from terminator technology today."

Atamanenko says the government's stated position to assess its use on a case-by-case basis as they do for other genetically modifying technology is unacceptable. He is working with the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network, the National Farmers Union and the Rideau Institute on the issue. In 2005 the Canadian Patent Office granted the first patent on terminator technology to Delta & Pine Land and the US Department of Agriculture who jointly own the technology. Biotechnology giant Monsanto recently purchased Delta & Pine Land, the world's largest cotton seed company. In 1999 Monsanto made a public commitment not to commercialize any type of sterile seeds, but in 2005 they tried to weaken their pledge so that it applied just to food crops. Terminator seeds require farmers to buy seed each year instead of saving seed.

"With that sale," says Atamanenko, "terminator seeds could be introduced in Canada without public debate or considerations of the social and economic impacts because Canadian regulations do not require this."

Closely related to Bill C-448 is another private members bill introduced by Atamanenko. Bill C-456 calls for mandatory labelling for genetically modified foods. It's estimated that up to 70% of processed foods on grocery store shelves may contain GMOs. In April 2004 the Canadian government adopted a standard of voluntary labelling. Atamanenko says that in the three years since, not a single label has shown the presence of GMOs in food. Industry claims the expense of labelling is too high, a claim refuted by a recent study by Quebec's Department of Agriculture.

"Year after year the results of public opinion polls overwhelmingly demonstrate that over 80% of Canadians want products containing genetically modified organisms to be labelled."

Atamanenko has also tabled a private member's bill in the House of Commons to give school boards a 100% GST rebate instead of the 68% they now receive. Atamanenko says ordinary Canadians want to see schools funded properly and his bill will help ease financial pressures in schools across Canada. Exempting school boards from the tax could save them $185 million a year as well as a costly and complex administrative burden.

"The Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) has been asking to be relieved of this costly burden for years," said Atamanenko.

Communities Pull Together and target invasive plants

submitted

Are you part of a club, sports team or organization that is trying to raise funds? Do you work in an office and want to promote team spirit? Would you like to do something for the environment? If so, consider the Communities Pulling Together program offered by the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee. Based on the Weed Warrior program of the East Kootenay, Communities Pulling Together (CPT) encourages community groups to become local stewards by hand-pulling invasive plants at a high priority invasive plant site. In recognition of the group's efforts, they receive an honorarium of $250 for their efforts, as well as gifts and refreshments. The honorarium is funded by grants from the Columbia Basin Trust and BC Hydro.

Invasive plants (also called noxious weeds) are introduced, non-native plant species that take over our local landscapes. Because they arrive in Canada without natural predators to keep them under control, they choke out native plants, reduce biodiversity, affect agriculture, and impact wildlife habitat. Some of these species include spotted knapweed, purple loosestrife, and yellow flag iris. By pulling these plants, we can reduce the impacts they have on our environment.

Funded by the Columbia Basin Trust and BC Hydro, the Communities Pulling Together program is geared towards a variety of community groups including sports teams, youth clubs, non-profit societies, community service groups, church groups, etc. It's a wonderful way to promote stewardship, encourage a family activity, and raise money for your group.

The Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee (CKIPC) has identified high priority sites for hand-pulling and welcomes groups from throughout the West Kootenay to participate. A group makes a three hour commitment for the event for a day and time that is convenient. The three hours includes an introduction to invasive plants, pulling weeds, and a refreshment break. For more information, call the CKIPC at (250) 352-1160.

Voices from the Valleys

Corrections to Lancet article in order

With regards to the article published in the June 6 *Valley Voice*, "Historic Lancet 'floats' again," I agree, many people deserve credit for the restoration of the Lancet. But unfortunately I am not one of them.

The actual credit for the donation of the boat belongs to Ernie Wells (deceased) and his son, Doug. They were instrumental in working with the Silvery Slocan Historical Society in transferring the boat from our property in New Denver.

One other correction appears to be in order. The original engine, a four cylinder, is still waiting to be claimed by the society. Three of the original spark plugs are still in it. Doug also has a series of negatives of photos that show the Lancet with the engine in place. Both the engine and negatives have been offered, without charge, to the society.

The boat looks fabulous! Kudos to Mark MacKenzie and all who worked on it, they certainly can be proud of their work.

LaRalle 'Smitty' Smith
Silverton

Our Way Home a very special event

The 2006 Our Way Home Peace Event and Reunion had a profound effect on me. I was in an altered state for days afterward, and upon talking to other participants, discovered that we were sharing a common feeling. Why was this so? I believe it was because through the course of the four days, our hearts, through common focus on the grief of all war, opened to feel the emotions and memories that we had shut down so that we could manage daily life in a pro-war culture.

"Why did you come to Canada?"

What was the turning point for an individual to leave all that one cherishes of home? I think of my family and why they came to Canada. War was the reason then too, and the courage and determination to survive and create a healthier society was the grail, that pushed through the sorrow of leaving one's beloved home.

Rabbi Lerner encouraged each of us to "come out of the closet" with our feelings and memories – to heal, to walk the higher road every day, and to create a life-sustaining political party. We must give voice to the truth in our hearts even though we might be unpopular, and perhaps ostracized. We must support each other, in our quest for personal and worldwide peace.

So many tears were shed for all the stories told, for all the courage and success achieved. We celebrated often by singing and listening to wonderful musicians, celebrating the miraculous beauty of life that we are all so capable of. Our sorrow was equaled by our joy!

We rise up through the grief of all that we have for generations suffered, to appreciate each other, and to heal, and to create a peace-loving culture, like a phoenix raising from the ashes.

May peace be in your heart, and in your understanding.

Susan Eyre
Passmore

Public inquiry into RCMP necessary

How typical that the federal conservatives would appoint an investigator to look into RCMP wrongdoing, report what we already know, declare there is no need for further investigation, and put the ball in Stockwell Day's court.

Meanwhile, the so-called investigation was carried on in such a way the public has no information on who said what, who was interrogated, who was or was not investigated, and on top of it all, everyone is blaming the guy whose head has already rolled – Zacardelli.

I'm left wondering what it is that Stephen Harper and Stockwell Day are really afraid of. Or is the real concern that proceeding properly, and publicly, with a public inquiry into the RCMP will lose the Tories the support of the nation's police?

As an ex-reporter who has had his own experiences with RCMP 'issues,' I smell a rat. Either the RCMP has something on the federal Tories, or the Tories have some backroom dealing with the RCMP. What other reason could there be for this blatant attempt to whitewash the problem, and to prevent a thorough public inquiry?

Canadians need to know their federal police force is not corrupt. They need to have some confidence that whatever issues exist, they have been corrected. Only a public inquiry will bring about a restoration of our faith in the RCMP.

Will Webster
Kaslo

Water should remain public

Your article on the private hydro projects was interesting, mainly because we are somehow talking about 'how to do private power projects,' instead of 'how the heck did we decide to give away the rivers and creeks with power-producing potential?'

Don't get me wrong. I don't have a technical opinion about these particular projects. I just can't figure out why BC Hydro is no longer allowed to develop new power projects. Instead, we are treating a public asset, our water, as a commodity for private enterprise.

When the rates go up and the creeks are permanently in the hands of some investor, our children will wonder what we were thinking.

Laurie Page
Nakusp

Kaslo May Days parade not exactly "kid friendly"

The parade this year in Kaslo had a great turnout, wonderful participation, and the spirits were high. My children even participated once around and watched for the second passing.

They loved it and I enjoyed it as well, but I have two things I would like to see changed. One is the time the parade happens and two is the amount of candy thrown to all the kids.

The parade is more for the kids than anyone else, and being as such it could easily become more 'kid friendly.'

It could be held at 10:30 am, therefore ending just in time for lunch rather than running right at lunch time. This tends to make it unnecessarily challenging for those of us who are parents. The added fact that my sons' focus was to run out in front of oncoming (slow but not always looking) drivers or scrap on the sidelines for thrown candies, certainly took away from the purpose and enjoyment of just watching and simply waving to everyone riding by. Then there's the sugar high and sugar crash, the late lunch…well you can imagine the melt down.

The solutions are simple and not too much to ask really. Change the time and if you want to throw things, keep it to something inedible (i.e. balloons, magnets, pens, toys…).

Tamarra Nantel-MacCraken
Kaslo

Open letter to BC Minister of Health George Abbott

Perhaps we should pay attention to the fact that the 'Conversation on Health' forum was held in Castlegar. This venue most likely was chosen by the BC Ministry of Health because it was most centrally located for the people taking part in 'The Conversation.'

I can't help but wonder that if this choice was made because the Castlegar area was the closest for the majority of the people in the region to get to, then why isn't our government moving quickly to establish a regional hospital in the Castlegar area – since that apparently is the most central area for the majority of the people in the Kootenay Boundary region?

We all know, deep inside, that until such becomes reality we really must have surgical services in Nelson to alleviate the pressure on both Trail and Kelowna, not to mention the stress incurred by people who have to travel long distances to get full hospital services.

Now is the time for equality: Let's, for our own health, take the politics out of our health care services. Let's staff our newly renovated operating room right here at Kootenay Lake Hospital with a full-time resident surgeon.

glyn humphries
Nelson

Hidden costs of 'green power' – Koch Creek power proposal

The May 26 pubic meeting held by Dandelion Energy regarding a proposed hydroelectric power project on Koch Creek reminded me of a similar meeting held in Vallican four years ago. At that meeting, a developer presented plans to operate a cat-ski business that included construction of a 20+ bed lodge in the headwaters of Airy Creek, a consumptive use watershed. After it was clear that the community opposed the project as it was presented, the developer began to work with local groups and eventually agreed to move his base to an adjacent (more remote) watershed. The lodge never happened and local people benefited from employment. The overall outcome was positive because the developer chose to listen to community concerns.

Dandelion Power's Koch Creek project is an unknown but the community response to the presentation was not positive.

The approval process for these development projects requires significant funds and energy towards assessments and studies before public consultation. And so, when the proponent comes to present the proposal, he is really giving a sales pitch rather than a request for input or offer to work together. People don't buy it because they don't trust the process – even when/if a proposal has merit.

In the case of the Koch Creek proposal, the site may work fine on a topographic map or with regard to the land height differential vs. distance for the penstock, but the diversion takes water away from important natural features that locals know well. Scenic stretches of wild rivers are an environmental heritage that we all own and how far do we go in pursuit of energy/hydro power?

The Koch Project was cited as an example of 'green energy' at the meeting. Maybe power generation from small creeks like Koch is 'greener' than mega-dam or fossil fuel electrical plants but it is a very large disturbance for a relatively small amount of power. Is it worth the loss of two-thirds the volume of water for a 3.5-km distance of creek channel for 10MW of power? Is it still 'green power' when you consider impacts to riparian vegetation from lack of ground water, impacts to land vegetation and soil during construction, and impacts to aquatic life?

Shouldn't we also consider the benefits to the local community when we decide if something is 'green' and 'sustainable?' Many of us envisioned micro-hydro power systems that provide power to local communities, thereby supporting local economies – e.g. lower energy costs mean more disposable income for residents who, in turn, support local businesses. If small projects are impractical because of high construction costs, a community should be able to get help from BC government's $25 million 'innovative clean energy fund.'

Surely we can be more imaginative than a project that simply rewards outside investors without local buy-in. Dandelion's Koch Creek power project will not result in lower hydro bills in Passmore.

Jennifer Yeow
Passmore

Your tax dollars at work

I am inspired by those city councils accepting thousands of federal tax dollars to study how to reduce the likelihood of an al Qaeda attack on their transport services. It made me realize again how vulnerable the space under my bed is for use as an al Qaeda office, or perhaps even a training camp. Yes, I realize it's a small area, but these people are infinitely cunning and I am therefore asking for funds to study how to keep al Qaeda away from under my bed.

I have already found a copy of the Koran and a photo of the prime minister with the head cut off under my bed. Well, in fact I haven't yet, but if I did it would be too late for prevention and I'd have to call down an air strike. This would undoubtedly kill many of my innocent neighbours, and although I realize this is unimportant since it's done on a daily basis bringing freedom to Iraq and Afghanistan, the survivors might be a bit cross with me.

If anyone thinks I am just being paranoid and there are many better uses for federal tax dollars, please remember it's our government who is behind this and politicians never lie.

Keith Newberry
Slocan

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*.

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Voices from the Valleys

Perry Ridge logging very likely

Allow me to elaborate on your short article: 'Perry Ridge logging unlikely,' *Valley Voice*, June 6, 2007.

Logging is VERY likely on Perry Ridge.

BC Timber Sales (BCTS) is a separate entity within the Ministry of Forest (MoF) and has jurisdiction over Perry Ridge.

A recent reply from Minister Rich Coleman to me, and my meeting with staff from BCTS, confirmed that Perry Ridge (PR) is in the Timber Supply Area (TSA) and developments are planned between 2006-2011.

Residents at the north end around Nelly Creek have received notification May 16, 2007, that a cutblock and road building are planned on PR and given three weeks to comment.

The intent of MoF has always been to build a main haul road north to south on top of Perry Ridge and then have branch lines and spur roads leading east and west into the drainages (watersheds).

In 1997, the Perry Ridge Water Users Association (PRWUA) was successful in court and helped to prevent MoF from building this main haul road, of which 4 kms was completed at that time.

Now BCTS wants to continue with the contentious main road and build spur roads to reach the planned cutblocks.

Residents on PR have to understand the danger to their water and property values. Once the main haul road is built, anything goes. MoF cannot, and will not, give any guarantees about the effect of their developments and once a watershed is trashed, it cannot be restored.

The court in 1997 found the MoF presentation to be incomplete and accepted the geological assessments and hydrology reports warning about the risks associated with developments presented on behalf of PRWUA. Go to perryridge.org, click on 'The Parrett Decision' and read his Reasons for Judgment.

Hydrologist Al Isaacson and Geologists Dr. June Ryder and Frank Bauman made it clear that Perry Ridge is way too unstable to bear road building and logging.

Hydrology is not very well understood. Water tables move in mysterious ways. The wetlands on top of PR are unique and development in one area can have a serious effect three kms away.

Beetle-kill and fire protection issues are just another excuse to enter the watersheds.

The PRWUA is determined once again to prevent the building of the main haul road and subsequent logging on PR.

We need funds for another court case and to update the geo-tech reports and hydrology studies.

Please, send donations to PRWUA, Grp 16, C9 Winlaw, BC V0G 2J0.

All of Perry Ridge is at risk here. The north-end development plans are just the start.

Don't wait until the construction equipment appears one morning. Get involved. Protect your Water and property values.

Contact PRWUA 226-7324 or call me for more info 226-7880.

Gunter Retterath
Winlaw

Have we been selectively informed about hydropower?

Until a few weeks ago, I had never heard of Independent Power Producers (IPPs). This is curious, as hundreds of applications by IPPs have been submitted for run-of-river power facilities on creeks in BC.

These projects are being presented as replacements for US coal fired plants which sell power to BC. Who would not choose 'green power' over fossil fuel generated power?

But have we been selectively informed? Dandelion co-owner Harold Kalke states that we import power from the US, of which 30% is from unclean sources. BC does indeed buy power from the US, at the cheap times. However, BC Hydro sells power to the US at peak times. Dandelion Energy was making the case for more power generation to meet the needs of BC. But BC Hydro has surplus power during peak times. Enough of a surplus to make heaps of money selling it to the States.

The unclean sources argument is just a red herring. Yes, there is demand for more power, but the demand will not end because of the construction of power facilities on our small creeks. The demand will not end, because we are trying to support unsustainable lifestyles. Kalke's response to that was for a dramatic price increase to discourage consumption. Low income families, young people buying or constructing a home, young families – there could be quite a list of those who will suffer if such increases are allowed. Those for whom large price increases would not cause suffering could continue their lifesyles unaffected.

I attended Dandelion Energy's open house in Passmore. Yes, the studies were all there as well as maps and pictures on the walls. The presenters were very friendly and wanted to project a down-home feeling. But many people wanted a meeting. They were not content to meet "the guys," ask a few questions and leave. We asked for a meeting so questions could be asked, added to, answers heard by all. Kalke reluctantly granted our request. Many vital issues were discussed. As the creek has a generous falls, there was concern about flow. To many of us, the project size seemed inordinately large. And what about tenure? In addition to water license application, these companies are applying for land use tenures, which could be converted to land grants in the future, along with gating and fencing. After their 30 year term of contract, they may sell their power to whomever they like.

Should this project go forward? Are we sacrificing our little gems so that others can make a bundle of cash?

We asked for another information session and all agreed that there would be another in August. One bit of information that will interest me is how the fisheries studies could have been completed without a hydrology study. The hydrology study is due end of June.

I have more comments, but I wish to keep this short. Thanks for considering the points made in this letter.

Lorraine Raits
Slocan Park

ILMA needs to get its facts straight on mountain caribou

I believe most people would agree that environmental decisions ought to be informed by the best available science. Often, the difficulty is determining what the best available science on a particular issue is. Sometimes there are gaps in our knowledge or understanding. Sometimes there is a strong divide amongst scientists themselves.

But every so often, when an issue has been studied and researched exhaustively, a consensus develops in the scientific community. One example is the issue of climate change. An overwhelming majority of climate scientists have concluded that humans are negatively impacting our atmosphere with potentially catastrophic results.

The precipitous decline of mountain caribou populations in BC is another such issue. Mountain caribou are among the most studied endangered species in North America. Through radio telemetry, direct observation and other methods, scientists know in great detail how these animals live and what impacts their ability to survive.

To their credit, the BC government appointed a blue ribbon group of scientists – the Mountain Caribou Science Team – to guide development of its Mountain Caribou Recovery plan. These experts reviewed the existing science and made recommendations to the BC government on what was necessary to save this majestic animal.

Unfortunately, facts and clear science don't always dissuade some with vested interests from trying to move public opinion in their favour. Tobacco companies spent millions on public relations telling smokers that there was no evidence their products were harmful, long after it was proven they were. Major oil companies have funded obscure groups to try and confuse the public about the scientific consensus on climate change. Sadly, the denial industry appears to be alive and well in British Columbia.

The Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association (ILMA) made presentations to municipal councils throughout the Interior. Many of the 'facts' they have presented are patently false.

The ILMA stated that government's plan calls for the closure of heli-ski, cat-ski and ski resorts. This is false. The ILMA stated that climate change was not considered in the mountain caribou recovery plan. This is false. The ILMA stated that mountain caribou went naturally extinct from the Queen Charlotte Islands in the 1930s. This is false.

The ILMA provided the following quote from the Forest Practices Board Special Report on Mountain Caribou: "Experts predict continued declines, and expect that the most southerly populations in BC will likely disappear regardless of conservation efforts to date or in the future." The quote was falsely attributed to experts at the Forest Practices Board and does not represent the view of the FPB with respect to conservation efforts and the future of the southern herds.

The ILMA stated that there was "no support at all" by the Ktunaxa First Nation for augmentation of the southern herds with animals from larger herds. This is false. The ILMA said that the Mountain Caribou Project has its own distinct recovery plan unrelated to government's plan. This is false. The ILMA reported that recovering caribou at Kootenay Pass would come at the expense of other animals in the region. This is false.

The ILMA should be an important part of, not an obstacle to, discussions to save this endangered species. Citizens deserve accurate information about how the forest industry will actually be affected by conserving mountain caribou – both positively and negatively.

The ILMA do the public, decision makers and themselves a huge disservice by presenting completely inaccurate information dressed up as 'facts' to locally elected officials.

No one wants to see mountain caribou in British Columbia go extinct. We all want our children and grandchildren to live in a province that remains world renowned for its natural beauty and ecological diversity. We can guarantee that future for our kids if we allow science to guide strong environmental policy. And we can build an even stronger and more resilient economy while we do it.

I ask the ILMA to stick to the facts. We'll all be better off in the long run.

John Bergenske, Wildsight Kimberley

Canada/US integration update

I am writing to you to bring you up to date, since I last wrote March 19th, on policies of our federal parties on the Security and Prosperity Act of the North American Partnership (SPP) and other developments on this issue.

To summarize, I wrote to the Valley Voice, March 19th, saying I wrote the NDP, Green Party, Conservatives and Liberals, asking what their policy was on the SPP. Both Jack Layton and our local MP Alex Atamanenko responded quickly, stating that they were very against it. They provided much information and pointed out the work of Peter Julian, the NDP globalization and trade minister concerning the SPP. No response from the Greens, Liberals , and Conservatives at that time.

The Canadian Action Party (CAP) was the most active and passionate on the issue, providing much information and links, as well on their website. Their website provides much information and policies on many other important issues facing Canada as well. Also, check out the video on google of a public talk given by CAP leader, Connie Fogal, on 'The Corporate North American Union.'

Since March 19th, I have written several different heads of the Green Party, over several weeks, asking about their policy on the SPP. I finally received, a full, detailed, intelligent, and concerned response from Janet M Eaton, PhD, Green Party International Trade Critic. Eaton wrote that Green Party Leader Elizabeth May stated their party's position at the 'Integrate This' Ottawa conference, March 31 and April 1. Only two parties were represented on the panel of political reps – the Greens by May and the NDP by Peter Julian. The Liberals and Conservatives did not respond and the PQ bolted at the 11th hour. The Green Party's website has much information and their position on the SPP now. The Greens are asking to scrap the SPP, and use the six month clause to get out of NAFTA, which is one policy the NDP and CAP have in common. On the site they state, since 2006, the Harper government has been advancing the SPP. That is true, but it was Paul Martin, George Bush, and Vincent Fox that signed the deal at Waco Texas, in March 2005. The Liberals support this deal as much as the Conservatives.

Dion avoids the issue when questioned, or offers vague answers, silently in support of the SPP. This is one of the reasons I personally don't approve of May getting cozy with Dion. In regards to the deal she made with Dion on her running in the riding of Peter McKay, I believe true democratic coalitions happen after a election, not before. This deal also deprives those constituents who wanted to vote Green or Liberal in those ridings affected by the deal. Dion may appear as wanting to 'save the planet,' but by supporting NAFTA and SPP?

May doesn't agree with Dion on the issues of Afghanistan, NAFTA and SPP, but feels Dion would be better than Harper, and that is why she endorses him. I personally don't agree with the 'vote for the lesser evil' strategy. Where does that get us? The same agenda continuing with a different style? Both the Liberals and the Conservatives are influenced by the same corporate interest and agenda.

Our local MP, Alex Atamanenko has recently mailed out a short but well informed statement on the SPP. He assures us that the NDP will fight to get full disclosure on any agreements that Harper is entering into, and whether these plans for merging out three countries is really in the best interests of Canadians, or anyone that hasn't been invited to these secret SPP meetings.

There is too much complacency, secrecy and silence on the SPP here in Canada. The US is getting very active in resisting the SPP.

Montana has just recently passed legislation against the SPP, and 14 or more states are considering similar legislation. There is a house resolution introduced to stop the NAFTA super highway. Many US organizations, grassroots groups, politicians, alternative media, and radio are active in educating the public and resisting the SPP.

Interestingly, CAP leader Connie Fogal is requested to give many more interviews in the US than in Canada. CNN host Lou Dobbs is very much against the SPP, and gives many reports on the subject regularly on his show. Congressman Ron Paul is the only presidential candidate in the US that speaks out against the SPP.

Now that we know where all parties stand, we need to encourage the NDP, the Greens, and CAP to bring this out in the open for debate in parliament, demanding to SCRAP this deal, and using the six month clause to pull out of NAFTA. Another organization worth supporting is the Council of Canadians, Canada's largest citizens group, which is very concerned and active regarding the many issues that threaten Canada's independence.

The corporate and power elite are moving forward with this deal, by stealth, with the support of our treasonous political leaders, with the intention to bring it to completion in the next couple of years. We don't have much time, so I encourage us to get active, before it is a done deal.

David Fisher
Winlaw

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

Silverton council swears in Councillor Tim Wiseman

by Art Joyce

•CAO Junko Ida was called upon by Mayor Everett to swear in newly elected Councillor Tim Wiseman at the council's meeting of June 12.

•Councillor Wiseman read out a letter to council advising them that he won't be accepting the councillor's stipend for the year nor will he submit receipts for expenses. He said his particular interests on council are water, fire, and budget and he asked to be appointed to the relevant committees.

•A letter from Barton Insurance Brokers of Nakusp informed council that Silverton's fire protection status is currently not accredited as 'fully protected.' According to the company that does accreditations for fire departments, CGI, the current contract with the RDCK is not sufficient to upgrade its status. Fire Chief Casley said once the water system has been fully tested, the WSA engineer's report will be submitted to CGI in hopes of meeting their certification requirements. Failing this, the Village will have to bring in CGI to perform certification tests, which could cost $3000. Mayor Everett agreed with Councillor Wiseman that the certification be a priority, adding that the Village will do what it can to avoid the added cost.

•School District # 10 Board of Trustees Chair Pattie Adam appeared as a delegation with a 10-minute powerpoint presentation regarding school enrolment and programs. She said this district has the highest overall decline in enrolment in the province. She encouraged council to consider ways of attracting young families as a means of keeping our schools and asked for a letter of support for the provincial Community Connections program. Council voted to write the letter.

•Public Works Foreman Leonard Casley reported that work has been done with the new campground contractors to lay out the creekside campsite. Casley said he has contacted YRB and BC Hydro regarding power to the ball field sprinkler system, which has been out since a power line was removed last winter while the bridge was being repaired by YRB. Final hookup of the Village's emergency generator can proceed once BC Hydro engineers complete their review of the switching equipment.

•Under new business, Mayor Everett discussed problems with YRB's maintenance regime this spring. A letter will be sent to YRB expressing council's dissatisfaction with the poor quality of the sweeping on the Village's portion of the highway corridor, and asking that the hydro service to Dewis Park be restored immediately.

•Councillor Laktin had no report to make but thanked the Silverton Community Club for an excellent job so far on the Village Hall painting project, and thanked those who donated materials.

•CAO Ida reported that Megan von Krogh has been hired for the second year as the Village's summer student worker. Councillor Wiseman asked if the position was advertised, whether the full amount of her wages was covered by a grant, and whether it was covered in the budget. Ida said for reasons of timing the position was not advertised, and that the grant covers $4 of the $12 hourly wage. Mayor Everett explained that the position was budgeted for under casual wages.

•During public and press time, a member of the public asked why Silverton decided not to share garbage collection services with New Denver. Mayor Everett said the decision had to do with personnel scheduling and cost issues. Councillor Wiseman asked if the decision had been made in camera and was told it had. He cited regulations from the Community Charter, stating that only the motions or decisions are to be brought forward from in camera sessions and not the discussions or reasons related to them. When asked by the Valley Voice correspondent why Wiseman felt this was important, he stated "it's in the community's best interests" not to know this information.

•Councillor Provan asked that the Facilities and Recreation committee be re-established. Mayor Everett clarified that it had not been disbanded but was in recess. Council appointed Ty Capelle to the committee and will set a meeting *in camera* because there are personnel issues to be discussed.

•A motion was discussed regarding the recommendation to appoint Cynthia Stokes-Capelle to the Citizens Advisory Committee for the OCP review and to adopt the terms of reference. Councillor Wiseman said he wanted the terms of reference withdrawn from the motion pending further study and review. There was some confusion as to whether the councillors (Bell and Laktin) appointed to the committee are voting or non-voting members. Mayor Everett withdrew the motion to allow for a review.

•Linda McGeachy submitted an application for a variance to add a porch to her house on Victoria Street, with the names of four neighbours who were in favour. Mayor Everett was inclined to grant the variance but Councillor Wiseman moved the application be tabled, saying he didn't believe the Village had the latest version of the variance procedure bylaw. He added that it would be "a disservice to other neighbours who have had to go through the process for the past six years" to do otherwise.

•Council granted the Silverton Community Club free use of the Fire Hall meeting room once a month.

•The Slocan Lake Management Committee (SLMC) submitted a request for a letter of support for its project to collect baseline scientific data on the lake and shoreline, preliminary to developing a lake management plan. Councillor Wiseman said "it's dangerous to support groups we know nothing about." The request was tabled pending further information.

•Ty Capelle informed council by letter that he has current boating regulation signs for the Village. The Mayor will direct Public Works to post the signs.

•A letter was received from Dan Reibin, District Recreation Officer, announcing that the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts Recreation Sites and Trails Branch has received capital funding for works at Idaho lookout. He asked that the Village send a representative to discussions to be held with interested parties in late June. Council decided that they have no one qualified to provide input on the matter and will forward the letter to Rick Tegeler.

•In response to a written request from Ty Capelle that the Christmas by the Lake committee be allowed to use gallery grounds for its event this December, council will authorize its use "with the reasonable assistance of public works."

Don't Miss the 27th Annual
Loggers' Sports Competition
starting at 11:00 AM
Sat. July 7, in Slocan City

with the Best and Fastest Male & Female Competitors from Canada and around the World!

THIS YEAR FEATURING
5 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

With all the usual exciting competitions:

- **Choker Race:** Obstacle race with cable
- **Double Buck:** 2-person crosscut saw
- **Single Buck:** 1-person crosscut saw
- **Jack & Jill:** Man & Woman double-buck
- **Axe Throw:** Just what it says!
- **Birling:** 2 people trying to log roll on one lo
- **Springboard Chop:** chopping top off 9' tree from springboard
- **Tree Climb:** Race to top (and bottom) of 80' tree
- **Dot Split:** Precision firewood splitting
- **Underhand Chop:** Between-the-feet chopping
- **Stock Saws:** Cut a round with Stihl saw provided
- **Hot Saws:** same as above, but the saws are REALLY JUICED UP!

Over **$10,000** in prizes!

Refreshments & Food available
ADMISSION: only $2.00

Please DO NOT bring pets with you!

Sinixt Nation Society

presents the 2nd Annual

FROGGY FEST 2007

The Children's Festival
Saturday, June 30th

Performances by:
• Flydini the Magician • Carol Street • Davie Duck
• Kayla Wilding/Frobe

Evening performances by:
• Pure Blend • DJ Pappa Roots • DJ Alexi
and more TBA

Cost: sliding scale $0-25

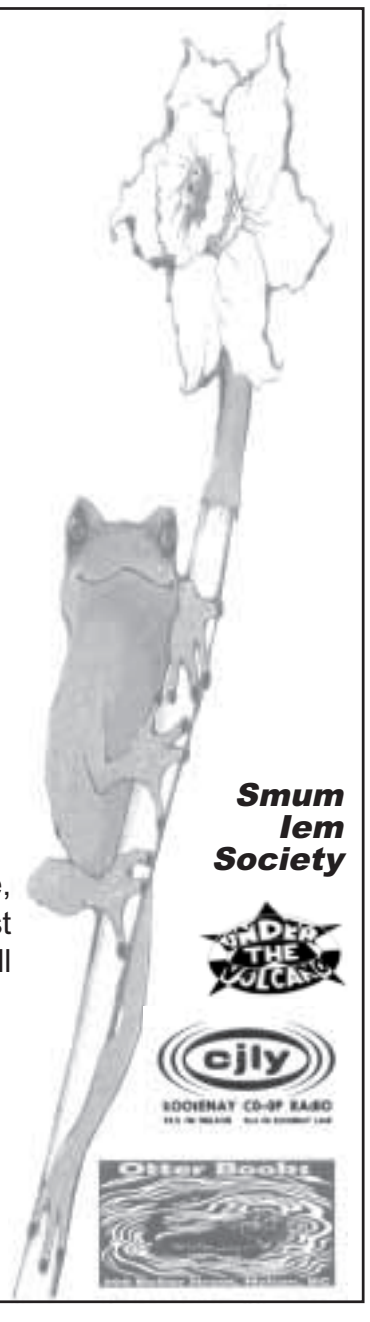
PreSale Tickets at:
Otter Books
Gaia Tree Whole Foods
Mountain Baby (Comfort and Joy)

Activities for the day are:
Painting teepee, story telling teepee, stick horse teepee, information booths, drumming workshops, plays, the list goes on and on. One thing is for sure though, you will have a hopping good time!

Also the return of the Famous Stick Horse Race!

Location: 4120 Lower Passmore Road, Vallican, BC
Time: Gates will open at around 11 am

For more information, please contact
sinixtnationfestival@hotmail.com
Vendors call for information: 226-7581



Silverton Memorial Hall open but renovations temporarily on hold

by Art Joyce

Silverton Memorial Hall is back in business – sort of. The hall will be available again during the summer for events but the renovation project has been temporarily shut down due to complications arising from the engineer's report.

Mayor Everett met with engineer Walter Schredl of Yoneda and Associates the afternoon of June 12 at an open meeting to discuss the challenges facing the renovation. Everett says that even though the hall is a heritage building, once a decision is made to renovate, all of the various electrical, water, fire suppression, and other systems must be brought up to current code. A septic system upgrade has already been completed.

There are some exceptions for heritage buildings, which would allow the existing forced-air heating system to be re-used, provided the building isn't deemed to be in an 'unsafe condition' (it isn't). And the exterior can be re-surfaced to match the original wood siding.

The air exchange system must be capable of shutting down at a moment's notice in case of fire. The proposed air conditioning system, although not a BC Building Code requirement for public assembly halls, must meet WorkSafe BC regulations stipulating a maximum temperature of 80 degrees F (26.7 C). Schredl explained that this is a public health consideration to prevent people from passing out or precipitating heart attacks.

To meet fire codes, a fire sprinkler system must be installed for all areas of the building, including crawlspaces. This will require a new water service to the hall. The north wall of the hall must be rebuilt with fire resistant materials in order to protect the adjacent home (the Nesbitts).

The kitchen renovation will require commercial grade exhaust hood, cooking equipment, dishwasher and walk-in cooler. To accommodate this equipment, the existing plumbing system will have to be completely replaced.

Schredl's report offers the Village some options, however. He has recommended that the air conditioning system take advantage of the hall's proximity to Slocan Lake to use water for coolant. The coil would use a non-toxic glucose and would be situated at a depth of 40 feet to take advantage of a consistent temperature. Mayor Everett says this would not only be an environmental advantage but could open access to the various 'green building' grant programs now available. Schredl estimates that such an air conditioning system would pay for itself in energy savings within 15 years.

Mayor Everett said the engineer's report came as a "shock," and has made the renovation far more costly than initial estimates suggested. The Village has contacted the 2010 Live Sites program which granted the Memorial Hall project funds for the renovation and have been given an one-year extension on their deadline for completion (March 2009). Everett says the Village will be exploring its options for project grants from other sources and meeting to discuss whether to proceed with Yoneda and Associates as the project engineer.

"What council has to do now is re-evaluate the project and decide where they want to go with it," says Everett. "We're aware we can't have a runaway horse here so we're proceeding with caution."

Slocan Valley south plans around economic development

by Jan McMurray

Economic development was the theme of the June 9 public meeting hosted by the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) of the southern Slocan Valley. The meeting was one in a series the APC is hosting to gather information from invited speakers and the public.

Derek Murphy, APC member and meeting facilitator, said that a draft Official Community Plan (OCP) would be presented to the public in the fall of 2008 if there is found to be enough support for it at the end of the consultation period.

He spoke about a 2002 survey, which had an impressive 39% response rate, and showed that 80% of respondents thought the RDCK should initiate a planning process in Area H. The #1 issue identified in the survey was economic activity and security. Second was water quality and watershed protection, which was the topic of the APC's first meeting. 75% of survey respondents agreed that RDCK should control where industry takes place, and 70% were concerned about economic viability for future generations.

Paul Weist from Community Futures gave a global perspective on economic trends in the province. Demographics – an aging work force and a lack of young people – are key here. The forecast is for a shortage of workers and a shortage of skills, specifically trades and communication skills. "We just don't have enough workers and communities will be competing for those workers."

Weist also added that affordable housing and childcare services were key to attracting young people, and are sorely lacking throughout the province. People at the meeting generally agreed that affordable housing was a priority for the valley.

Weist also pointed out that the lower Slocan Valley has a much larger land base than other nearby communities like Nelson. This raised the issue of zoning. Someone from Passmore said one development was built "right outside my door" and now there was a potential for a second development in the same area. "I am not against development but I am for development in the right place," he said.

Another said the primary reason people live and work in the valley is that they don't want to be "organized," but eventually this will be changed by those "who want to know what is going to happen next door. There should still be places for people who don't want regulations – who want a shooting range or a gravel pit on their property. This is being eroded by people coming in."

Derek Murphy spoke next on population trends. He said the southern Slocan Valley is maintaining its population, and this indicates a healthy community. School enrollment is steady or growing at three out of four schools in the valley. He pointed out that with an aging population, it would be important to provide housing for seniors to keep up the stable population.

Norm Zaytsoff, real estate agent in the area since 1982, says real estate values have been rising steadily since 1986. However, the demand is much higher now, and there is less available inventory. He says he expects prices to continue rising over the next 20 years, but thinks the rate of increase is not sustainable. "People will not be able to afford to buy," he said. The average entry level house price is now $200,000-$250,000, he explained, meaning a downpayment of $12,500 and monthly payments of $1,535. To qualify for a mortgage in this scenario, you have to be making $61,200 per year. Zaytsoff sees a lot of family members helping out these first-time buyers. There is also an interest in properties with "mortgage helpers" – a trailer, cabin or suite that can be rented.

Zaytsoff said that commercial properties were not in demand in the southern valley, but the junction is a hot spot for business. The junction is one area along the corridor between Nelson and Castlegar that is not zoned, so businesses are allowed there.

Zaytsoff said the valley was at that level of population where more community services were needed, especially community water systems and transportation.

Area H Director Don Munro said the water systems were a major issue. He said new provincial regulations are imposing unaffordable demands on system operators and operators are being asked to accept liability.

Community water systems are typically managed by a volunteer board of directors, and Munro said directors are not prepared to take on the liability and cannot afford to upgrade the water systems to meet the new standards. There are now 20 water systems that want the RDCK to take them over.

A valley resident described her community's water system – 26 water boxes on Elliot Creek. Chlorination is necessary when five homes share a box, she said, so avoiding chlorination means more boxes. She has purchased a point of entry filtration system for her tap, because someone upstream from her brought animals in. She said she would like to see private landowners take some responsibility towards consumptive water.

Gary Burns, forestry consultant from Slocan, spoke optimistically about logging in the Slocan Valley. Advantages we have here are the wide variety of species, known as the 'Kootenay mix,' and the very fast rate of forest growth. The total annual allowable cut in the valley from all crown land licensees totals almost 300,000 cubic metres, or 5,000 truckloads of logs. He says we need to keep the little mills such as Kalesnikoff and Springer Creek healthy with a steady supply of logs. "We need to make sure the timber land base and supply is able to be counted on by the businesses here." He also spoke in favour of a united community on forestry issues.

Dave Mason from Evergreen Natural Foods and Barry Derco from Lemon Creek Lodge both spoke about building their businesses. Derco said his business was growing, with significantly more Europeans coming to the lodge over the last couple of years and new residents showing up in his restaurant. Derco says he sees a need for more facilities for tourists, especially accommodations, as "you don't want them based in Nelson and doing day trips in the valley and spending all their money outside."

Discussion in the afternoon revolved more around the OCP process than economic development. Murphy said he was confident that regulation could be kept to a minimum. "The problem is many fear the process will result in regulations for everything that can possibly be regulated." Munro said he felt it was important to inform people about what the plan isn't. Dog bylaws, unsightly bylaws and noise bylaws can all be brought in outside of a planning process. He suggested that the plan be broad, rather than deal with every possible situation. Someone else agreed, saying that "guidelines" in the OCP that would steer the community in a positive direction would be more valuable than bylaws. Because rules are made to be broken, "we have to be built around principles, not rigid rules," he said.

Munro said the RDCK has a bylaw enforcement officer, and he has had more and more calls over the last two to three years about conflicts between neighbours. Someone brought up the idea of coming up with a conflict resolution framework as a way to resolve problems between neighbours. Munro said that conflict resolution could perhaps be a part of the APC's job if and when the OCP is in place.

One woman said she wanted to see more people who were opposed to the plan come out to these meetings. Murphy said they were welcome to come and participate, but not to disrupt. Dave Wahn from the RDCK planning department said some of the people in opposition to the plan had come to his office and he asked them if he or members of the APC could come to one of their meetings. There has not been an invitation yet. Wahn said a big difference he sees between the two groups is that the APC invites everyone to their meetings and wants to hear all perspectives, but the people opposed to planning dissuade people from learning about other perspectives.

Munro suggested the group refer back to the guiding principles at every meeting and talk about how to make sure the principles are followed.

Nikkei Centre designated national historic site

by Jan McMurray

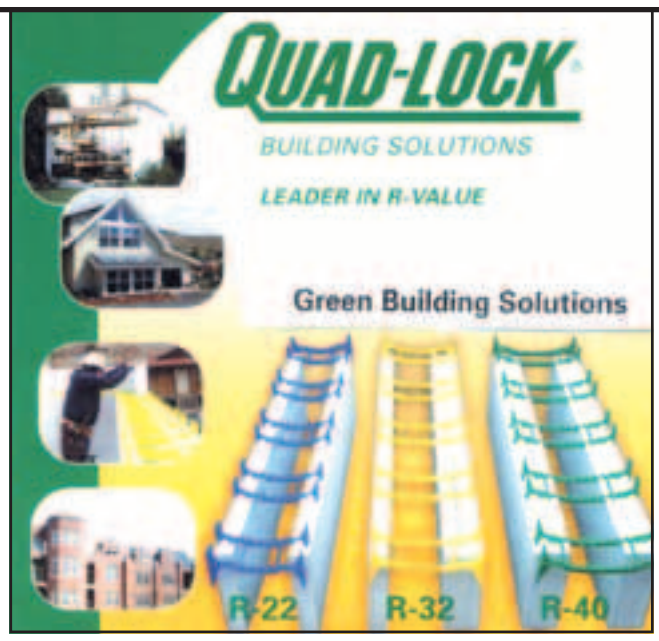
New Denver's Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre (NIMC) has been designated a national historic site.

Mayor Gary Wright was very pleased with the news and was quick to give credit where credit is due. "The designation is well deserved, but even so, it never would have happened if it hadn't been for Carol Gordon, the Village's Chief Administrative Officer. She put together a mammoth submission package, arranged for interviews with the historic sites board, helped organize the community for that visit and spent more than three years actively promoting the file at the federal level. The whole community supported it and the Kyowakai Society was very helpful, but Carol saw it through from start to finish."

Gordon was also very happy. "It's great, it's just super!" she exclaimed. "It's a recognition of what's been done there – all the work that has gone into it, the history involved, the archives that are there, and a recognition of the actual internment of the Japanese." Gordon added that the designation will help promote the centre and will hopefully open some funding avenues to assist with maintenance.

Gordon said the idea to apply for the designation came out of a discussion with local heritage expert Ken Butler and a representative of the BC Heritage Society. She made the application in 2003. Last fall, Catherine Cournoyer from Parks Canada visited for four or five days, worked at the Nikkei Centre and prepared a report which she presented to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. When the board met this June, it decided to recommend NIMC as a national historic site to Minister of Environment John Baird. The official notification of the designation came in a letter from Baird.

Just as the application process was lengthy, preparations for a plaque unveiling ceremony will take at least 18 months according to the letter from Baird. One of the reasons the board gave for recommending the national historic site designation was that the NIMC is one of few sites that still contains resources directly associated with the internment, and is located in an original internment camp.



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New Denver council, June 12: Public meeting to be held on cell service

by R. N. Riley

•Council will advise Telus that it has "serious concerns" about the proposed location of a cellular telephone receiver/transmitter on the CBC tower near the mouth of Carpenter Creek. Council will also seek a meeting with Telus representatives to allow citizens to air concerns about the impact on health from having a transmitter close to a residential area.

The decision came after a delegation of about 10 residents presented council with an ongoing petition regarding both health and social concerns around the impending launch of cell phone service in the village.

"I don't know what the numbers are, but I think one reason a lot of people chose to live here is because there is no cell service," said the delegation's spokesperson Norbert Duerichen. He said the petition was started because a lot of residents feel the decision to install cell service was made without consultation with locals and "lots of people feel uninformed, and don't know what to expect."

The public meeting with Telus officials has since been arranged for June 21 at 7 pm at Knox Hall.

•Councillor Bunka reported that there have been complaints of vandalism and harassment in the downtown area at night, with "teens yelling and screaming and throwing rocks." She said one family reported feeling "intimidated" and that they felt the police were not addressing their concerns adequately. Council will be sending a letter to the local detachment outlining its concerns.

•In response to a complaint, a sign will be placed on Pumphouse #2 at Greer Park, directing tourists to the washrooms in Centennial Park. Staff reported a second complaint about the lack of public toilet facilities in the downtown core.

•Improvements to the Idaho Peak trail, parking lot and fire tower will be discussed at a meeting June 27. A representative from the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts will meet with area stakeholders to discuss proposed improvements.

•Persons wanting to rent their homes for short periods – such as during the Valhalla Summer School of Music – will now have to pay a business licence fee of $30 per week, or any portion thereof, for a maximum of four weeks out of the year. The amendment to the Business Licence Bylaw was adopted.

•The audited financial statements for 2006 were received and approved. Administrator Carol Gordon said the growth in the reserve fund, now at almost $465,000, spoke well of the work council has done over the past year. She noted that the larger-than-usual surplus is also due in part to receiving $40,000 from the small communities grant, as well as revenues received from the Federal Gas Tax.

•Councillor Bunka reported that she and Fire Chief Leonard Casley had walked the trail between the Kohan Garden and the hospital in response to a complaint about fire safety. She reported that cutting the long grass should resolve the issue, and stressed that any similar issues should be brought to the Village's attention, rather than residents undertaking their own efforts.

•Council approved the installation of a storage shed and a canopy at Bosun Hall. The shed will hold the old wooden tables and chairs, and the canopy will protect the Hall's new doors from rain damage.

•The 300 Block of 6th Avenue will be closed on Sunday, July 22 for the annual Antique and Artisan Faire.

•The BC Masters Bicycle Race is returning on August 11 and 12, and criterium races are scheduled from 4-6 pm on the 11th, along the same downtown course as previous years. The appropriate streets will be blocked during that time.

•A letter of support for the Slocan Lake Management Committee will wait until council receives more information from the group. A letter from Hillary Elliott said the group seeks to conduct a baseline study of the lake in their efforts to establish a lake management plan. The group will be invited to send a delegation to a future meeting.

•A provincial proposal for a single business licence does not have council's support. The Ministry of Small Business and Revenue proposal, which grew out of a policy recommendation concerning mobile business licencing, would see the creation of a single interprovincial business licence. In effect, it would remove local control over the issuance of business licences, Mayor Wright said.

"We can't support this proposal, as we use licences to regulate businesses in our community, as well as the kind of businesses we want," he said. Council will seek further talks with the Ministry before a decision is made.

Slocan Outdoor Market

The Slocan Outdoor Market is starting up again on June 24 at the old Elementary School on Harold St.

• Fruit & Veggies
• Food Vendors
• Arts & Crafts
• Home Baking
• Snacks Available

Featuring a "Live Stage" with performers from throughout the Kootenays.

Sundays from 10 to 3 pm

Vendors Wanted
Contact Joanne @ 355-2531 or Leslie @ 355-2698 or market@slocancity.com
Musicians call Brian Waller @ 355-2730

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

NOTICE OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – JUNE 21, 2007

CELL PHONE SERVICE IN NEW DENVER

The public is requested to take notice that a Special Meeting of the Council of the Village of New Denver will be held on Thursday, June 21, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in Knox Hall. The purpose of the meeting is for a presentation by Telus Mobility regarding the installation of antennas on the CBC Tower in order to provide cell phone service to the area. There will be a question period allocated in order that the public may address questions through the Chair to Telus.

Carol Gordon, CMC
Administrator

Silverton Canada Day celebrations and parade bigger this year

Silverton's Canada Day celebrations just seem to keep getting bigger. The village will honour Canada's birthday this year with fun for kids of all ages, and as they say, everyone loves a parade!

For early risers there's the pancake breakfast from 7-10 am at Memorial Hall. The festivities start at 11 am with the parade, led by our very own RCMP (maybe even mounted!). Everyone is welcome to join in – clowns and kids' bikes are especially welcome. Please show up at 10:30 am at the Silverton Lakeshore Inn. The parade route will follow Highway 6 to 6th Street, Hume Street, down Leadville to Hunter, and wind up by the curling arena. Those who wish to enter cars, motorcycles or ATVs in the Show 'n Shine should contact Ron Provan at 358-2852 to pre-register by June 28.

Then it's on to a full day of fun and festivities. Kids will want to head to the Dewis Field ballpark for the treasure hunt, sack race, fish pond, and gold panning. The 'big kids' can enjoy bocce, duck race, the Bavarian Garden, concession, dunk tank, body painting, artisans market, and a silent auction fundraiser for the Silverton July 1st Committee at Memorial Hall. There will be street musicians downtown and music entertainment at the day park.

A dog show will be held at the Silverton Gallery and the Silverton Museum will be open. For the 'rockers' in the crowd there will be rock drilling at Fingland Cabin and a blacksmith on hand to demonstrate this ancient craft. Christmas by the Lake display booths will be set up to inform everyone of this exciting new event starting this year. Anyone interested in entering their canine pride and joy in the dog show should contact Penelope Stuart at 358-7269.

The Canada Day cake cutting ceremony will be held at the day park at 8:30 pm. There will be an evening dance on the grounds before the climax to the day's events – a huge fireworks display at 10 pm.

Come on out and help us celebrate Canada's Birthday!

Slocan Valley Art and Garden Tour the best way to go green

submitted

Enjoy an opportunity to see six gardens and a pottery studio right in your own backyard. This year's Slocan Valley Art and Garden Tour takes place Sunday, June 24, 10 am - 4 pm.

There will be three new gardens on the tour this year. New greenhouses, rock walls, bonsai and unusual perennials make this a fun family outing. Brochures are available at all local businesses and garden centres on Highway 6. Sponsored by the Slocan Valley Arts Council. Donations appreciated. For information call Laura Tiberti at 226-7347.

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Notes from the RCMP

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

Slocan Valley sees rash of break and enters

On June 7 and 8, Nelson RCMP responded to three reports of break and enters in the lower Slocan Valley.

A garage door at one residence in Slocan Park was broken and entry was gained on June 7.

Another break and enter occurred in the Passmore area on June 7. Taken from an unlocked residence was a TV, DVD/VCR combo, impact wrench, amplifier, digital camera and sub woofer.

In an attempted break and enter into a residence in the Slocan Park area on June 8, a door was damaged.

Residents are reminded to lock their doors and ensure their valuables are secure and not left in plain view. Anyone with information should contact the local RCMP at 250-352-2156 or Crimestoppers (1-800-222-TIPS).

Maverick designs anything for print

by Dan Nicholson

Nikta Boroumand has started a new business that combines her skills as graphic artist and web designer with her flair for marketing. Maverick Design, according to its founder, is about "anything that you can design and print." This enterprising young woman will create posters, wedding invitations, business cards and complete corporate identity packages for discerning clients.

Boroumand has ten years of experience as a graphic designer, including a year and a half stint at the *Valley Voice*. Her local clients include Snowbike Canada, Raven's Nest Gallery, Soup du Jar, Silverton Resort, Silverton Lakeshore Inn, the 19th Hole Restaurant and the *Valley Voice* (she still maintains our web site, bless her heart).

She moved to the New Denver area in 2000, and has worked a variety of tourism, hospitality and government jobs since then – mostly in management positions. She's always done freelance design work on the side.

This spring, with the help of Community Futures, the young entrepreneur has made the leap to full-time self-employment.

Says Boroumand, "I love what I do. I love the fact that it gives me time to appreciate the area in which I live. I really love the support that I've received from the local community."

Maverick Design is open Monday to Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. You can reach Nikta by phone at 358-7276. Check out her seriously cool website: www.bigbrowneyes.ca or get in touch by e-mail – nikta@bigbrowneyes.ca.

Nikta Boroumand is the owner of Maverick Design in New Denver.

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Nabob Coffees All Varieties
300g *Reg. $5.99* **$4.99**

Taste of Thai Sweet Chili Sauce
200ML *Reg. $3.19* **$2.49**

Endless Summer Tan Cream
110ML *Reg. $9.89* **$5.99**

Gold Bond Foot Powder
Reg. $5.29 **$4.49**

Honey Nut Cheerios
525g *Reg. $6.49* **$4.99**

Taster's Choice All Varieties
150g *Reg. $10.99* **$6.99**

Co-op Cranberry Cocktail
1.89L *Reg. $4.49* **$3.99**

Co-op Pop All Varieties
2L *Reg. $1.29* **99¢**

Tide: Three Varieties
Lemon Fresh, Original, Coloursafe
3.2 - 3.6Kg *Reg. $9.99* **$7.99**

Knudsen Juices (not prune)
946ML **$3.99**

Old Tyme Cinnamon Syrup
Reg. $3.79 **$2.79**

Bee Hive Corn Syrup
1L *Reg. $5.49* **$4.49**

Robin Hood WW Flour
10Kg *Reg. $9.99* **$7.99**

All *McCormick* Spices
40g Bottles **$1.99**

Green Giant Canned Veggies
Beans ~ Cream Corn ~ Niblets
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341 - 384ML *Reg. $1.49* **99¢**

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12s, 540ML *Reg. $5.99* **$2.99**

Breyer's Ice Real Fruit Bars
14 X 50ML *Reg. $3.29* **$1.99**

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Mountain Sky Soap hits historic one million bar milestone

submitted

It was a labour of love and persistence that created the first Mountain Sky soap bars. Now with the million bar milestone in his wake, Raynald Losier, co-founder and CEO, discusses the history and future of Mountain Sky.

"After much research and study of old soap recipes, and the dream of creating a business that would allow us to stay home and raise our young daughters, I created the first Mountain Sky soap. In the spring of 1993 our 400-square-foot farmhouse basement in Winlaw became the manufacturing facility where some of the soaps we still create today originated."

With steady growth over the next several years, a move to a larger facility was required. The millennium year marked the relocation to the company's current 7000-square-foot facility in Crescent Valley, where an average of 600 soaps per day are manufactured, packaged and shipped out to stores all across Canada.

The most recent development at Mountain Sky has been the decision to add significant enrichments to the entire line of soaps such as Sea Buckthorn Oil, Mango Butter and Pomegranate Oil. To emphasize the new line, there is a new logo.

"We have built up a loyal following of Mountain Sky soap lovers because people trust our naturally made, river friendly products. Our company and products reflect our commitment to a higher quality of life for our family, employees, environment and community," says Losier.

Check out www.mountainskysoap.com.

Malaya Mountain, Rahel Sky and Raynald show off the new Mountain Sky line of handcrafted soaps.

This is the group that has just completed the EMR (Emergency Medical Responder) training course as part of the hiring process for the ambulance service. The course took place in Nakusp and some students were subsidized, thanks to the work of Mayor Karen Hamling and other local politicians, and funding from Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation (ALHF) and Columbia Basin Trust (CBT). Back row, L to R: Chris Mason (Superintendent, BC Ambulance Service), David Martin (Instructor), Karel Zapletal, George McCuaig, Kenny Randall, Stephan Lettrari, Orion Cooper, Richard Cann, Mike George (ALHF), Mayor Karen Hamling, Lynda Lafleur (CBT). Front row (L to R): Larry Badry (Instuctor), Debbie Morris (Instructor), Sandy Smith, Chris Schick, Sara Rainford, Jamie Masson.

Ministry of Forests & Range

TIMBER SALE LICENCE A70237

Take notice that, pursuant to section 20 of the Forest Act, a Timber Sale licence is being offered for sale by the BC Timber Sales, Kootenay Business Area.

Closing Date/Location: June 27, 2007 at 11:00 AM. Applications will be accepted by the Timber Sale Manager, Kootenay Business Area, 1907 Ridgewood Road, Nelson, BC V1L 6K1

Geographic Location: Snow Creek, located approximately 23 km southeast of the community of Burton, within the Arrow Boundary Forest District.

Estimated Volume: 38,716 cubic metres, more or less

Species / Volume: Hemlock 18,119 m^3 (47%), Douglas-fir 7,270 m^3 (19%), Cedar 6,477 m^3 (17%), Larch 2,476 m^3 (6%), White-pine 1,812 m^3 (5%), Balsam 1,305 m^3 (3%) and Spruce 1,257 m^3 (3%), more or less

The preceding volumes are estimates based on statistical samples. Bidders are strongly advised to conduct a thorough field review to verify estimates.

License Term: two (2) years

Upset Stumpage Rate: $24.16 / cubic metre

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

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

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

Comments: There will be approximately 1 km of new road to be constructed by the licensee and the harvesting method for both blocks will be cable clear-cut.

This licence is subject to, among other things, new 'Take or Pay' Procedures for Waste Billings, new maximum term limits and extension fee and surrender provisions. Applicants are advised to carefully consider the impact of these changes when formulating their bids. Further information on these changes may be found in Advisory Bulletin 11/21/06.

Per the January 19th, 2007 letter from Dave Peterson, Assistant Deputy Minister, BC Timber Sales, all companies or persons who work or operate on timber sale license areas, will need to register for SAFE Companies certification, or work for companies that are registered. This came into effect April 1, 2007. Please refer to the following website for more information: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/safety

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

In respect to this proposed timber sale licence, there is additional material which the applicant must consider in their application. This material and application forms may be obtained from the above BC Timber Sales Office, telephone (250) 825-1100 or the ministry web site at: http://www5.for.gov.bc.ca/notices/init.do Specify Timber Sale Licence A70237.

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

Mountain caribou presentation delivered to Nakusp council

by Jan McMurray

Lawrence Redfern of the Mountain Caribou Project, a coalition of nine environmental organizations, attended Nakusp's June 12 council meeting to make a presentation on mountain caribou recovery.

He informed council that the local Central Selkirk herd has decreased significantly in numbers over the last 10 years – from 222 animals in 1996 to 96 animals in 2006. He said the primary threat was the loss or fragmentation of their habitat, caused by forest fires, logging, road building, and recreational activities such as snowmobiling, heli-skiing and cat skiing. He said another very significant factor in the animal's decline was predation.

Redfern explained that the government convened a science team, which came up with five recommendations for mountain caribou recovery: habitat conservation, managing predators, managing disturbance, augmenting smaller herds and managing primary prey. He said the Mountain Caribou Project was advocating a recovery plan based on the government's Mountain Caribou Science Team's recovery actions and the government's Species at Risk Co-ordination Office's stated recovery goal.

He said some progress had been made, including voluntary closures by some snowmobilers and heli-ski outfits. He also said the forestry industry has done a lot. "It's good business to show your customers that your forestry practices are sustainable," he said.

Cam Leitch and Geoff Bekker from Pope & Talbot also attended, and offered to make a presentation to council in the near future on how the company is adapting. "It's changing your whole concept of forestry management," said Leitch.

Hills volunteers pour foundation for new fire hall

by Art Joyce

Hills residents gathered on June 16 to pour the foundation for their new volunteer fire hall. Residents have had several volunteer work bees this spring to get footings prepared. The project is co-ordinated by the Hills Recreation Society and Hills Fire Committee.

Committee member Wayne McCrory says after footings are poured, work will proceed on the foundation and walls. A company from Winlaw has been hired to install the Logix system which uses styrofoam forms and a cement injection system. The advantage of the new construction technology is that once the walls are up they will already be insulated up to the full 14-foot height. McCrory says this will net a huge savings on framing and insulation costs. Hills residents John Herrmann and Ron Friesen are taking a course to learn the Logix installation methods. Larry Grierson coordinated preparation of the footings. "Once we get rolling it shouldn't take too long to get the roof on. We've had good volunteer support so far," says McCrory.

The fire hall will be built with an extra bay to allow space for a tanker truck. Silverton Transport donated time and equipment to excavate the site, with Jim Fitchett running the machinery. Gravel was donated by George Bergevin. Robert van der Werve and Deb van Hoof have been "amazing" according to Lorna Visser, donating both equipment and time.

Funds already raised should be sufficient to get the structure up, McCrory adds. Once that's done, fundraising efforts can concentrate on finishing the interior. By winter the structure should be complete enough to house the fire truck.

Kokanee Falls development update: new road, changed plans

by Art Joyce

The developers of the Kokanee Falls subdivision near Enterprise Creek have been blasting rock to build a road to the water's edge. Some locals are wondering whether the appropriate environmental protection measures are being followed.

On June 2 Craig Pettitt of the Valhalla Wilderness Society took a boat down Slocan Lake to investigate and has taken photos of the work being done. VWS has contacted the RDCK and Ministry of Environment, asking whether "the extensive rock waste and damaged trees that are being allowed to enter the lake" is an acceptable practice within current environmental guidelines. Pettitt says VWS is concerned that the orange colouration in exposed rock "may suggest the presence of sulphides that generate acid when exposed to weather," and wants to know what tests have been done to assess the danger of acid rock drainage into the lake.

Project co-developer Andrew MacRae says the road, estimated to be about 12 feet wide, is being built for access to the five dock slips planned for the development. No permit applications or environmental assessments were required because the road work was done above the high water mark. The company will be submitting applications to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans to build the boat slips.

McRae says they've listened to what the community has said and taken that into consideration in the revised plans. The original brochure and website showed a development of 30 cottages with a helipad and a boat slip for each housing unit. The current website shows only five strata title units in the first phase (sized between 1400-2000 square feet), five boat slips, no details on a second phase, and a helipad.

"There's no amenities planned, and we're not planning to do any landscaping – we want to keep it as natural as possible," says MacRae.

Pettitt contacted RDCK planner Dave Wahn to ask what regulations apply to the development and received the following response: "Please be advised that the RDCK has no regulations with respect to the above noted property at this time. At the time of subdivision and building permit, the RDCK will ensure all applicable RDCK regulations are adhered to." While the regional district regulates building codes, environmental issues are the responsibility of the provincial and federal governments.

The first phase of Kokanee Falls will be completed over the next year. McRae says construction on the cottages will start roughly in mid-July. There are no confirmed plans yet for the second phase.

Nakusp Senior Secondary Valedictory speech

by Rane Marshall

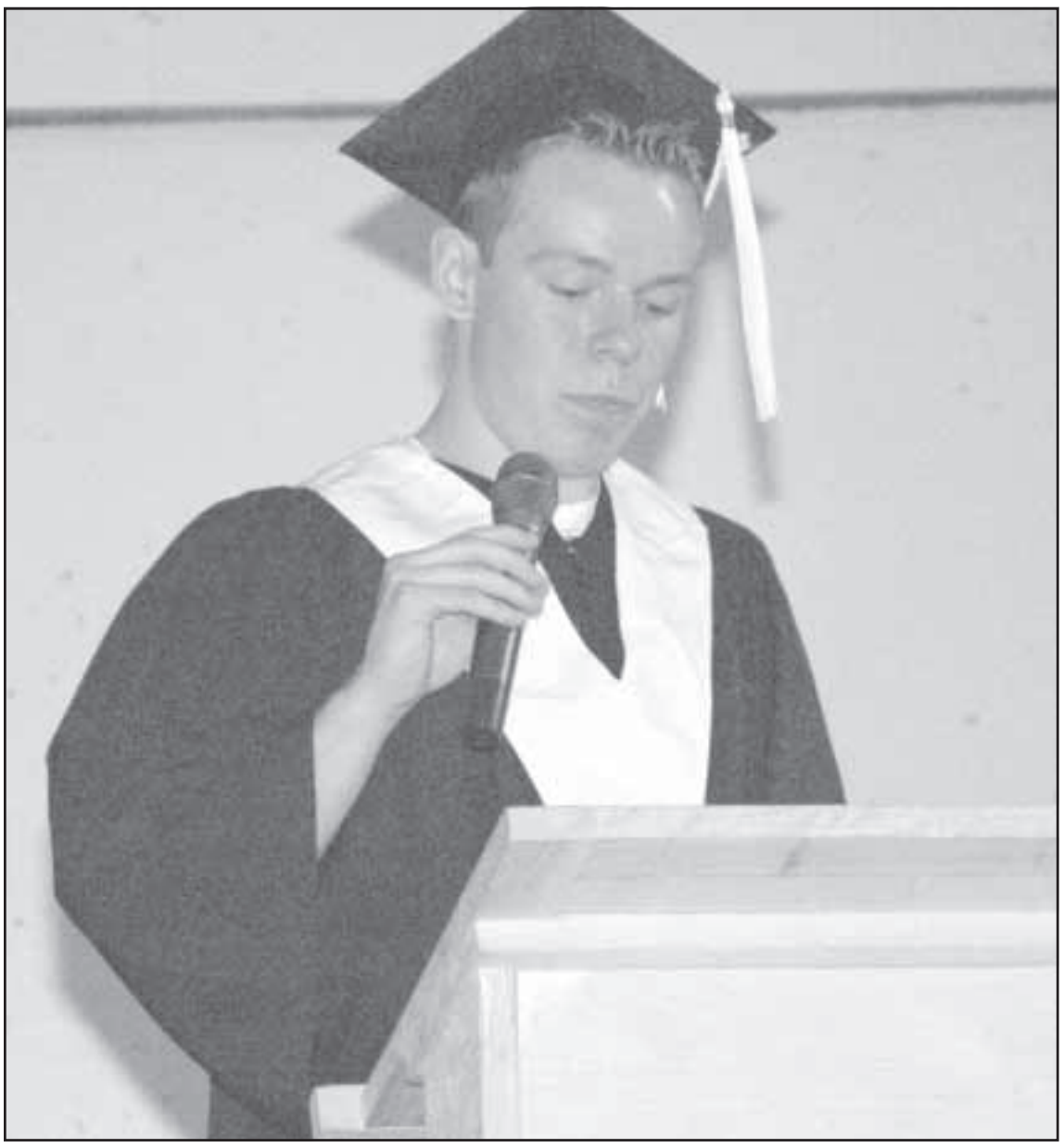
Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, thank you for coming. After 13 years and a lot of tests I can't believe it's all coming to an end. However, the rest of our lives are waiting to begin – I know we're all going to make the most out of our lives. It's going to feel weird to not wake up and hop on the bus to go to school or to procrastinate about homework. Now that I've started working, I realize that school isn't as bad as I thought it was; you get to hang out with your friends all day and basically sit at a desk all day.

I'd like to thank my friends for the memories that we have shared together. In grade 3, the hockey players in the class converted Mr. Sopow into a lifetime Canuck fan. After all, that's all we seemed to write about in our journals each day.

I also remember when our grade 7 class went to Silver Lake for our year-end camping trip. We took some fishing line and tied it around the girls' cabin door. Liz's mom was furious. When she came to yell at us in our cabin, Ben's dad simply said that we were just being boys.

The teachers at NSS were very friendly and I think that helped us feel a lot better about coming into a new school in grade 8. Needless to say, most of my teachers know I liked to socialize rather than read my textbooks, but one of my favorite classes was social studies 10 with Mr. Koochin. He was an easy going guy who made learning fun. Life continues to be a learning experience for me. I hope it's as fun later in life as it is now.

On behalf of the grad class I would like to thank our parents for supporting us through our choices over the years and lending us a helping hand when we needed it. Also, I'd like to thank all of the teachers and community members who volunteered to coach us over the years. In closing, I'd like to wish all of my fellow classmates success with their future plans and goals.



Rane Marshall was the valedictorian for Nakusp Senior Secondary School this year. His speech focused on the memories that all the graduates will share, as they move into a new stage of their lives.

Congratulations to the Nakusp Secondary School graduating Class of 2007 from
SCHOOL DISTRICT 10 ARROW LAKES

Congratulations to the Class of 2007
LOMA LUMBER
88 - 3rd Ave NW NAKUSP
True Value Hardware | IRLY BUILDING CENTRE

Best Wishes to the 2007 Grads from Dr. DeSandoli and staff at
SADDLE MOUNTAIN DENTAL CLINIC
84 Broadway Nakusp

KAL TIRE
Congratulations to the Class of 2007
"You'll like us for more than our tires"
6th Ave. NW Nakusp

Congratulations to the 2007 Nakusp Secondary School Graduates from
VALLEY FOODS
BROADWAY NAKUSP

Best Wishes to the 2007 Graduates!
Wylie's Pub
401 BROADWAY NAKUSP

Best of luck in your Future Endeavours!
Broadway Deli Bistro
408 Broadway, Nakusp

Good Luck to all the grads of 2006!
Best wishes from Dr. Norm Lea, Dr. Diana Kelland & Staff at
Saddle Mountain Medical Clinic, Nakusp

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B.C.'s very own food people.
NAKUSP
We wish the graduating class of 2007 all the best in their future endeavours.

Congratulations to all the 2007 Graduates!
The Valley Voice

We are proud of the entire Graduating Class of 2007 from Nakusp Secondary School! Good Job!
Arrow Lakes Teachers' Association

CONGRATULATIONS GRADS OF 2007
POPE & TALBOT LTD.

Congrats to the 2007 Grads of Nakusp Secondary School!
from Nakusp Esso

Congrats to the 2007 Grads
consider a career in forestry
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Congratulations & Best Wishes to the 2007 Graduates!
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Kootenay Savings
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Congratulations graduates of 2007!
Best Wishes from Warren, Deb and the staff at
NAKUSP AUTO PARTS

ARROW LAKES READY MIX IN NAKUSP
WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2007!

Congratulations from
NAKUSP ★ GENERAL ★ STORE
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Congratulations to the Class of 2007
MARVIN'S SMALL MOTOR REPAIRS
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Congratulations to the 2007 Graduating Class from
BDO
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"You're a cut above all the rest"
Cut Rite Meats
212 Broadway NAKUSP

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 2007 GRADUATES!
NICK'S PLACE
93-5th Ave. Nakusp

PHOTO CREDIT: JBAIMAGES.COM

The 2007 graduating class from Nakusp Senior Secondary: Front row (L to R): Elizabeth Waterfield, Alyssa Clermont, Shannon Fulmore, Maria Luisa Montaro, Tamara Adams, Kristy Homis, Casey Waldron, Kara Egli, Lara Eigelshoven. Middle row (L to R): Jordan Olson, Forest McCormack, Brenden Davie, Keegan Burnett, Rane Marshall, Laine Wieghill, Luke Krybyla, Andrew Orr, Nicholas Moore, Devin Buerge, Jerod Jacobsen. Back row (L to R): Ben De Wit, Jody Nelson, Tyrell Robins, Cody Cresiuk. Missing: Halley McKnight.

Nakusp Senior Secondary Class of 2007 off to a good start

by Geordie Rice

Nakusp Secondary held its 2007 graduation ceremonies June 9. Thus begins the journey into life after high school for the graduating class.

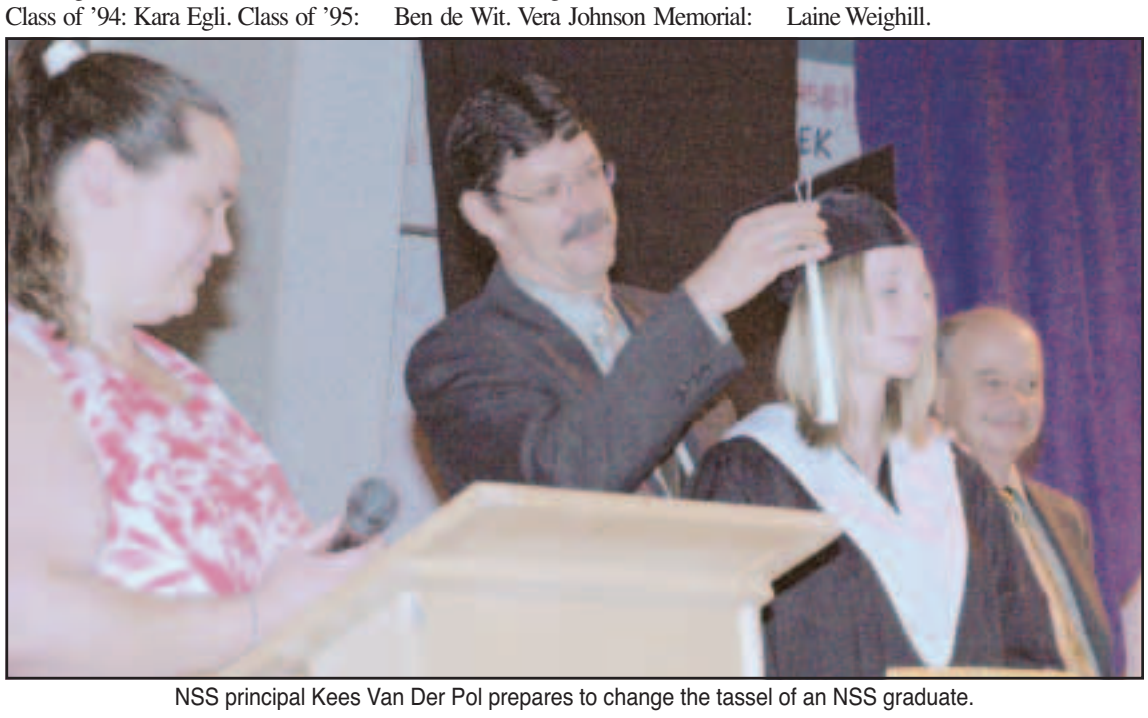
The ceremonies began with a few words from NSS Vice-Principal Susan Paterson, followed by the graduate processional and singing of O Canada. Speeches were given by NSS Principal Kees van der Pol, School District #10 Chairperson Patti Adam, and Superintendent Walter Posnikoff.

The grads were then presented with major awards, sports trophies, and acknowledgements of academic achievement, culminating in the changing of their tassels. At this point scholarships totalling an amazing $35,800 were awarded.

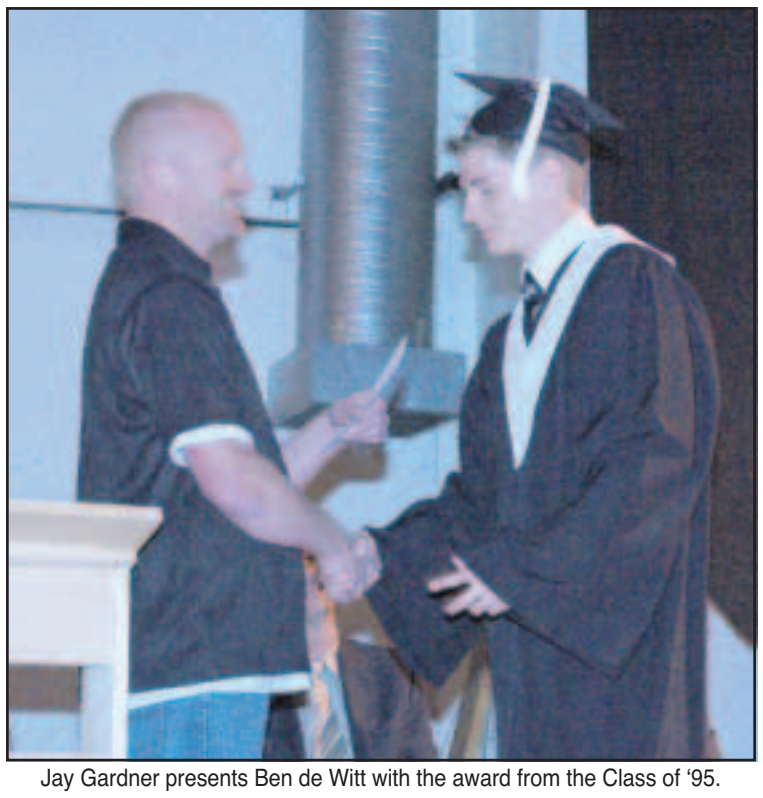
Valedictorian Rane Marshall followed the scholarships awards with his address. Ceremonies concluded with closing remarks from Susan Paterson, the recessional, and the traditional hat-toss.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Kootenay Savings Credit Union: Kristy Homis. Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 20: Kara Egli, Tyrell Robins, Luke Krbyla, Casey Waldron. Legion Ladies Auxiliary: Kara Egli. Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation: Kara Egli, Luke Krbyla, Casey Waldron. Hospital Employees Union: Andrew Orr. Hospital Auxiliary: Casey Waldron. Joe Lee Bursary, CUPE Local 2450: Tyrell Robins. Canadian Mountain Holidays: Luke Krbyla. Columbia Basin Trust: Kara Egli. Arrow Lakes Tugboat Society: Andrew Orr. Arrow Lakes Teachers Association: Luke Krbyla, Kara Egli. Rotary Club of Nakusp: Tyrell Robins. Columbia Power Scholarship : Forest McCormack. Music Festival Award: Luke Krbyla, Kara Egli. Pastor's Award: Shannon Fulmore. Robyn Pazurik Memorial: Ben de Wit. Overwaitea: Lara Eigelshoven. Renewable Resources Award: Ben de Wit. Yellowhead Road and Bridge: Shannon Fulmore. Pope and Talbot: Ben de Wit. Ron Aldridge Citizenship: Kara Egli. Reunion '80: Ben de Wit. Class of '94: Kara Egli. Class of '95: Ben de Wit. Class of '97: Kara Egli. Class of 2000: Lara Eigelshoven. Class of '01: Ben de Wit. Class of '03: Ben de Wit. Needles Reunion: Devin Buerge. Skills and Trades Bursary: Nicholas Moore. Jason Ambrock Memorial: Rane Marshall. Joan Fowler Memorial: Tyrell Robins. Sarah Jackins Memorial: Shannon Fulmore. Sarah Stykel Memorial: Shannon Fulmore. Trinity McQuair Memorial: Elizabeth Waterfield. Erling Johnson Memorial: Ben de Wit. Vera Johnson Memorial: Luke Krbyla. Arrow Lakes Historical Society Harry Murphy Memorial: Forest McCormack. Debbie Samuelson Memorial: Alyssa Clermont. Donna Wong Memorial: Alyssa Clermont. Garth Haggart Memorial: Tyrell Robins. Janice Buerge Memorial: Luke Krbyla. Clark Kessler Memorial: Jordan Olson. Logging Contract Bursary: Jordan Olson, Devin Buerge. NSS Scholarship Society Bursary: Elizabeth Waterfield, Brandan Davie, Laine Weighill.



NSS principal Kees Van Der Pol prepares to change the tassel of an NSS graduate.



Jay Gardner presents Ben de Witt with the award from the Class of '95.

Congratulations to all the Grads from
Bon Marché
DOLLAR $ DOLLAR
Broadway Street
Nakusp

Congratulations to the Class of 2007
Touch of FASHION
309 Broadway, Nakusp

Best Wishes to the 2007 Grads from
HALCYON HOT SPRINGS

Congratulations to the Class of 2007
LOMA LUMBER
88 - 3rd Ave NW
NAKUSP
True Value Hardware
IRLY BUILDING CENTRE

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2007 from
ROYAL LEPAGE
Selkirk Realty
Nakusp

Congratulations
Nakusp
HOME OF NAKUSP HOT SPRINGS
Village of Nakusp
Nakusp, BC

To all the 2007 Graduates
Best Wishes for a happy & successful future!
PEOPLES DRUG MART

Shaggyz Hair Care
Tracy would like to congratulate the 2007 Graduates.
Best Wishes!
92 Broadway Nakusp

Front row (L to R): Melissa Grant, Elysia Lecerf, Kathryn Mazzocchi, Tiffany Kosiancic, Kaylee Norn, Krystal Poznekoff, Maria Lapinski, Ali Ingram, Nicole Kerfoot, Andrea Grigg, Cindy Verigin. 2nd row: Barry Raugust, Katelyn McGowan, Ashley Adams, Spencer Duncan-Lilligren, Alexandra Barber, Chantelle Tarasoff, Lacey Taylor, Amanda Streichert, Andrea Soukeroff, Rayna Maltais, Megan Fodor, Jessica Radonich-Scanlan, Katarina Hrgovic, Sara Plante, Jordan Siemens. 3rd row: Damian Adams, Aram Yeow, Tristen Patterson, Dilon Standidge, Daniel Mclean, Chris Taylor, Colin O'Brien, Jordan Knott, Vanessa Rilkoff, Adam Kennedy, Kenneth Kabatoff, Angus McLellan, Simon Constantin, Christina George, Mark Sherbinin, Sheldon Strong, Blayre Popoff, Adam Makaroff, Cassandra Mclennan, Fraser Holtman, Grace Forsythe, Raymond Varney, Matthew Trace, Benjamin Poznekoff, Jeremy Webber, Jack Turner. Back row: Danny Mclean, Tital Lamoureux, Tristan Mounteer, Ian Fraser, Robert Tosh.

Mt. Sentinel Graduates receive scholarships, buraries and awards

by Jan McMurray

At graduation ceremonies held June 15, the Mount Sentinel class of 007 walked onto the stage to a medley of theme songs from James Bond movies, with silhouettes of James Bond and 'the girl' as the backdrop.

In principal Andy Leathwood's opening remarks, he spoke of his own two children and the paths they have taken in life. He said he saw many different paths for this group of graduates and advised them to "find your path and follow your dream."

Superintendent Bill Reid said the Minister of Education had recently visited and noted that this district brings up the provincial average in terms of achievement. "I hope you will bring up the average in whatever path you choose," he said.

Trustee Penny Tees said she hoped the students' experiences at Mt. Sentinel had taught them "to trust and to care deeply."

Guest Speaker Ed Nielsen said that while preparing his speech, he thought a lot about what kind of person would be the best kind of guest speaker. He came up with three, and impersonated them one by one. First up was Indiana Jones, who advised the students to be adventurous and to "boldly explore your world." Second was Obi Wan Kenobi, who provided a message about the importance of inner strength and wisdom. Finally, he was Theodore Giesel (Dr. Seuss) and read excerpts from the book *Oh, the places you'll go*. He concluded by telling the students that it is okay to take risks, to be safe and happy, and to "remember who you are."

Kaylee Norn and Ken Kabatoff gave a very entertaining Valedictory address, beginning with a film showing the two of them trying to beat each other (literally) to write the speech first.

Scholarships and awards

Sjoekie Barber: Castlegar Fire Chiefs Association; Ethel McKeown District Scholarship; Students' Council Award. **Spencer Duncan-Lilligran:** Rotary Scholarship. **Megan Fodor:** Students' Council Award; Rotary Scholarship; Columbia Power Corporation; Celgar Scholarship; Carol Sing Bursary; UVIC entrance scholarship (special mention). **Ian Fraser:** Richard Music Bursary. **Andrea Grigg:** Students' Council; Mt. Sentinel Parents' Advisory Committee; Rotary Scholarship; Columbia Basin Trust Youth Award. **Fraser Holtman:** Dogwood District/Authority Award. **Ken Kabatoff:** Nelson Credit Union Student Spirit Scholarship; Dogwood District/Authority Award. **Adam Kennedy:** Fortis BC Scholarship. **Nicole Kerfoot:** Springer Creek Forest Products. **Jordan Knott:** Dogwood/District Authority Award. **Maria Lapinski:** Dogwood/District Authority Award. **Elysia Lecerf:** Heritage Credit Union Bursary; RHC Insurance; University of Lethbridge Entrance Award (special mention). **Adam Makaroff:** Royal Canadian Legion Scholarship Branch #276. **Rayna Maltais:** Crescent Valley Volunteer Fire Dept. Scholarship; Dogwood/District Authority Award; Masonic Lodge High School Bursary. **Kathryn Mazzocchi:** Carol Sing Bursary; Nelson District Teachers' Association. **Kaylee Norn:** Mt. Sentinel PAC Award; Dogwood/District Authority Award; Masonic Lodge Bursary. **Sara Plante:** WE Graham PAC Award. **Jesse Radonich-Scanlan:** Coca-Cola Bottlers' Association; Kootenay Slocan Lions Memorial Bursary. **Vanessa Rilkoff:** Mt. Sentinel Students' Council Award; Kootenay Savings Community Foundation Bursary; Pope & Talbot Entrance Scholarship (special mention); UBCO Entrance Award (special mention). **Andrea Soukeroff:** Union of Spiritual Communities in Christ; Mt. Sentinel PAC Award; Kootenay Lake School District CUPE Local #748 Scholarship; Phil Malekow Peace Award. **Mark Sherbinen:** Phil Malekow Peace Award; Mt. Sentinel Students' Council Award. **Jack Turner:** Selkirk College Board of Governors Secondary Graduates Award. **Ray Varney:** Kootenay Lake Principals and Vice Principals Association Scholarship. **Jeremy Webber:** Slocan Valley Women's Institute Bursary; Mt. Sentinel Adminstrators' Bursary.

Congratulations to Class of 2007
CO-OP
Slocan Valley Co-op

SLOCAN PARK SERVICE
Congratulations 2007 Graduates!

Congratulations to the 2007 Grads *from Barry & Judy at* LEMON CREEK LODGE

School District Kootenay Lake
Congratulations to Class of 2007

You are Invited to a
Commemorative World War II
Plaque Ceremony
to be held at
SILVERTON MEMORIAL HALL
JUNE 30th, 2007 • 11:00 AM
Program Includes:
• Unveiling of Plaque • Valhalla Choir
• Dignitaries • Youth Essays
• Reception to follow Ceremony
Sponsored by: Friends of Silverton Memorial Hall
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Congratulations to Mount Sentinel's 2007 Graduating Class
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Mt. Sentinel Graduates from
EVERGREEN NATURAL FOODS

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Handcrafted natural soaps made in the Slocan Valley since 1993.
14 varieties made with essential oils and mountain spring water.
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Congratulations to the Grads of 2007! From Ken & Diane at
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Congratulations Class of 2007 on your success!

For grads' eyes only – valedictorians address the Class of 007

by Ken Kabatoff and Kaylee Norn

Every few years there is a really unforgettable grad class. We are that grad class. Not because we're talented, kind, caring, dedicated, or hard working individuals. No, you won't see any of our names on any trophies in this school; you won't even see our names on attendance sheets. Though even with the lacking work ethic of our class, we have succeeded in one thing – we have made an impact at Mount Sentinel. It is a crater so deep, it boggles the mind to think that only 58 grads could have made it. Sure there's a few of us on the basketball team, one of us made films, there was a dancer...I think, and some were from Slocan. But you wouldn't find any of us on the high ranking, banner winning senior driven volleyball teams. In fact, because of us, Sports Day was a flop and school spirit is down 40%. However, there is just a tinge of grad spirit; and that grad spirit is Cassie Mclellan. Last year was the largest grad class Mount Sentinel has ever seen; this year, we are dwarfed in comparison. But somehow, with 58 grads, there happens to be a pair of siblings, two Tristens, two Katies, two Adams, two Jordans, two Andreas, and two Daniel McLeans.

We have to give the staff a lot of credit for putting up with our lack of motivation and unwillingness to learn. It's only in a school this size that you get the same teachers from grade seven to grade twelve. They've seen us through the best of times, and they've seen us through the worst of times. We like to think of the staff as our family: Mr. Neilsen as our dad, Mrs. Humphries as our mom, Shippit as the cool older sister, Mr. Tchir as the crazy uncle, Wiens as the guy no one likes but you have to invite because he's family, and Gus as our great, great grandfather. Classes with these people have been life lessons – usually relevant. With Oly we learned how to plant tomatoes, and pick up chicks at night clubs...in grade seven math. To describe Mr. Foxcroft's English class we are going to use some poetic devices he drilled into us so kindly. English with Foxy is like a high jump; no matter how high you set the bar, everybody gets the same mark. Mr. Wiens' class is a lot like an episode of Seinfeld; there's a lot of enthusiasm over a subject about nothing.

During a random stroll through the halls it's easy to see Spencer walking aimlessly through the 100 wing with his metal lunch box, right past Jack who is picking up girls – literally. Damien hacks to a beat and is soon joined by the jolly Simon Constantine. Sara Plante might look intimidating, but she's actually playing with kids. Nicole, Colin, Robbie, Tristan, and Rayna are sitting across from them trying to play waterfall with Coke. It isn't working. Pretty much during every class, you could see Matt Trace taking a break on a bench, and Maria roaming the halls. Vanessa and Elycia confront you and snap their camera wildly taking pictures for the Grad Mag and Yearbook.

Outside, it's usual to find Katherine Mazzochi kicking a soccer ball to the moon. She nearly hits Dilon who by now has broken every bone in his body, at least once. Sheldon and Barry play a game of one on one; Sheldon's slow defence doesn't hinder him in the least because Barry simply can't score. It appears as if Adam Makaroff is talking to himself, but really he's just coming up with new catch phrases. And out in a far corner of the field sits Krystal who has so far in the last five minutes sent 400 text messages to her boyfriend.

If you took a close look at this group from grade seven, to now, you would find that we have become the provincial government's guinea pigs. It was in grade 10 when the dreaded P word rang through the halls. "A Provincial Exam?" Impossible! However, there was no way out. It didn't make sense to us then, and doesn't make sense to us now. Another experiment which was tested on us rather than on lab rats was the infamous Portfolio. A collection of volunteer work, community service, physical activity, computer skills, artistic ability, and education and career planning is what it consisted of, and apparently it was supposed to "let you know who you really are." Well after three years and a lot of complaints, the portfolio has dwindled down to criteria such as "Why you did what you did."

In the following year yet another provincial exam was thrown our way. In fact, it is the only provincial examinable course in grade 11 – Social Studies. By this point we have gone from being the provincial government's guinea pigs, to the school's guinea pigs. It seems like we have a Pro-D day or holiday every couple weeks. Now this may sound great at first, but when you realize that 10 extra days off from school will hurl you into a panic at the end of the year, it just doesn't seem worth it.

What we can't figure out though is why we keep getting vaccinations. We got one in grade six, then in grade nine, and again this year. With that amount of shots, our white blood cells should be able to kill anything, thank you Mr. Thompson.

And what seems to bother many of us is this year's awards day. For four years we sat through the two and a half hour ceremony recognizing Mount Sentinel's best, just waiting for our chance to become a senior and receive an award for ourselves. So as this opportunity to obtain an award for best academics, art, language, or mechanics finally came within reach, it was snagged out from under us and hurled into the fiery pit of change that seems to be stuck with our grade.

Contrary to popular belief, our class is gifted – we're just far too lazy to prove it to you. It's not that our class didn't do much in the way of grad fundraising, it's that we deliberately went out of our way to do nothing. In fact we always go out of our way to deliberately do nothing, except when a substitue teacher comes in and then we deliberately go out of our way to make their lives a living hell. Imagine walking into a classroom and being handed an attendance sheet where the first name is "Sjoekie." Spelled: "S-j-o-e-k-i-e." We of course sit idly by and let you struggle sounding out the name. Further down the list you get to a name that's just simply "Je" followed by the longest last name in the history of Mount Sentinel. Again, we let you struggle through this, and don't tell you who this is. Finally you get to the last name on your list, Aram Yeow. Of course upon reading this name you think it's pronounced "A-ram Yo" but since it's the last name, maybe the class cuts you a little slack, and corrects you. Mind you the class usually consists of eight people, because we heard a sub was coming ahead of time, so most of us are continuing our studies on the beach. After a 20-minute role call you try and tell us the lesson plan, but we adamantly disagree with whatever you tell us, and inform you that today is Bugs Bunny Thursdays in Biology 12, and we have to do it because it's on the provincial. About now, Tital Lamourex walks in late for no apparent reason. You recieve his late slip and say "Thank you Mr. Lam-or-ex," sending the class into a fit of giggles. To correct what you've done, you quickly say, "Oh, sorry, Title." This sets off a domino effect, starting with Chantelle's sarcastic remark, Ian begins to say something, but his soft voice is drowned out by Amanda, who is speaking her mind very loudly, then with no emotion at all Mark Sherbinin puts in his two cents. This chain is finally ended by Ali picking an argument with anyone in the room about the rights of people in South America. In a nonchalant tone you ask Tital why he was late, and immediately Adam Kennedy jumps in to defend whatever bogus reason Tital might give you. We now realize that Ashley Adams is actually in the room – it's just her hair colour today blended in with the desks. Meghan jumps up to take control of the situation because she is the most responsible person in the universe. Ray follows but realizes the hockey game is on and leaves the room. A faint murmur from Blayre and Chrissy is heard, but is soon snuffed like candle light by Meghan. The class is now settled into silent reading. However, the silence is soon broken by the most contagious laugh in the world – Ben Poznikoff. This continues for five whole minutes, and once again the class is unfocused.

We are lucky to live in this area. The support and love of this school is almost unfathomable. Even how we have come together for this graduation is a reflection of the amazing support from the community. The friendships we have made in this school will not end when we are handed our diplomas. We have become who we are together, and have affected other people in doing so. We have been inspired in these classrooms, and taken care of by these teachers. So parents, teachers, mentors, you don't have to worry, you've taught us well. We'll be careful when we drive. We know how to write an intro and conclusion. We'll be punctual. We will be respectful to our elders, and to our peers. Don't worry about us moving out and living on our own. Mom, we'll remember to turn off the stove when we're done cooking. And Foxy, we'll be careful out there.

Now we'll truly find out how much we have taken you for granted. Whatever we haven't learned, we are ready to face on our own. Sure we'll be living on Kraft Dinner for the next few years, but we're ready to take care of ourselves. You have been brilliant mentors. Now is not a time of stress and gifts, but rather a time of reflection and celebration. We embrace our past, but are running into the future. We live in a part of the world where we have the potential to be whatever we choose. Parents, teachers, mentors, we are the next generation, and we will live long and prosper. Thank you.

Kaylee: That's a terrible ending, why did you keep that line in?

Ken: What? Hey, it's great. You know, you read well tonight.

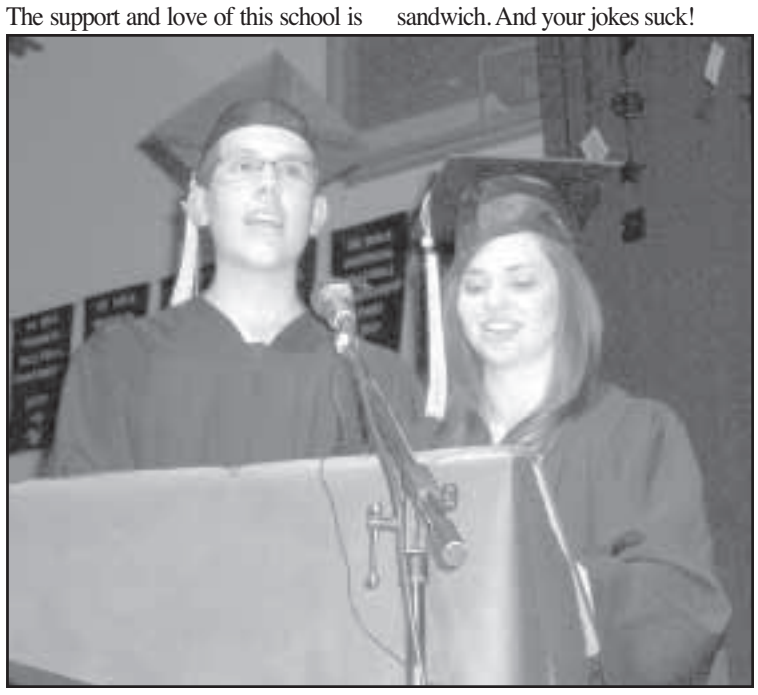
Kaylee: Thanks Ken.

Ken: You know our intro film is really symbolic of our relationship; we often have the same goals, but we do whatever's possible to prevent one another from reaching them. And because it's Grad, I feel this is a good time to come forward and make amends. I really like working with you Kaylee. Oh, I see you have written something about me too.

Kaylee: Oh, no, this is nothing, really.

Ken: Oh come on, what is it? I don't mind letting 1,000 people hear what you have to say. Go ahead, don't be shy, tell everybody your opinion of me.

Kaylee: Umm, well...You're self-centred. You segregate yourself from the class. You get away with everything. You're rewarded for nothing. Everybody seems to like you. You complain. You always have grapefruits. You don't care about anyone else. You're arrogant. You think the universe revolves around you. You skip to go to the beach. You're sexist. You act like you run the school. You have incredible luck. You're moody. You're always sarcastic. I hate that you get cold when it's 71 degrees out. I hate that it takes you an hour and a half to order a sandwich. And your jokes suck!



Ken Kabatoff and Kaylee Norn were Mount Sentinel's valedictorians for 2007.

Congratulations to the Mt. Sentinel graduating class of 2007. May your future endeavours take you places!
Mountain Valley Station
355-2245

Congratulations to the 2007 Grads *from Floyd & Natasha*
FLOYD'S Custom Furniture & Woodworks

Congratulations to the Class of 2007!
KS
Kootenay Savings
Where You Belong
South Slocan

SMOKEY CREEK SALVAGE
Good luck in your future endeavours!

To the Class of 2007 Graduates

Congratulations!
Have a safe and enjoyable summer!
As you set out on your future path remember to believe in yourself and follow your dreams.
You will help determine Canada's future!
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The Harold Street Cafe
Congratulations Grads of 2007

Nakusp's first Mixed Martial Arts event happens June 30

by Jan McMurray

When Hoss Cann of Nakusp went to Calgary to watch his nephew compete in a mixed martial arts (MMA) event, he was surprised that only 100 spectators showed up. He told people: "If this was Nakusp, we'd fill the rink." Now, Cann is hoping to do just that on June 30, when he and Morrie Curry's 'Gorrie Productions' puts on Nakusp's first MMA event.

Cann says they hope to have eight fights at the Saturday night event at the arena. There will be a variety of martial art styles and cash prizes for the winners. Local resident Alistair Skey is the ring announcer. There is one local judge, one from Calgary and one from Fauquier.

Two people from Nakusp will fight – Clive Toering and Gabe Dietermen. Toering practises Maui Thai, and Dietermen practises Jujitsu and Maui Thai. Cann's nephew will also come to Nakusp for the competition.

Cann reported that front row and second row seats were selling fast. "We're hoping for 800-1,000 people," he said. There will be seating in a beer garden area, or in a 600 capacity seating area for families. The Nakusp Mud Bog Association will run the beer garden. A food concession will also be open to all spectators.

The main sponsor of the event is Primal Instinct, an award winning, high quality tatoo studio out of Kelowna. "He is supplying the ring girls, all the cards for the rounds, and lots more. The small businesses in Nakusp, the backbone of our community, have kicked in generously as well. There has been an overwhelming response," he said.

The fights start at 7 pm and the doors open at 6. Tickets are available at the door. General admission $20, beer garden $35.

Hidden Garden Gallery grand opening for new garden project July 1

The Hidden Garden Gallery will host the grand opening of its new garden area, stage and deck on Canada Day, Sunday, July 1, from 2-4, with cake, refreshments and music by blues/folk singer-songwriter Pernell Reichert. The ribbon cutting to officially open the new garden facility and thank those funding agencies that provided assistance will take place at 3 pm. The garden is now accessible by wheelchair ramp.

The opening will coincide with the gala reception for Argenta artist Deb Borsos and her new show of pastels, *Vanishing Points*, a collection of artwork portraying the disappearing outbuildings of the Kootenays. Borsos' work will be on exhibition at the Hidden Garden Gallery from June 27 – July 2.

"As I drive through the Kootenays observing the decay of these barns, sheds and wharves I realize that these structures provide connections to our own culture and generational knowledge," says Borsos.

The total project for the building of the deck, stage, ramp and garden beds cost $1,937.50 plus generously donated labour. Funding was received from the Kootenay Savings Community Foundation, RDCK Area H Director Don Munro, Recreation Commission No. 6 and the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance for the project.

Gallery hours during peak season are 11 – 4 daily except Tuesdays.

The West Kootenay Junior Golf season has come to a close with Havill Leitch of Nakusp in second place overall. Leitch earned 263.5 points over the season. This qualified him to be on the West Kootenay junior team, which will participate in the provincial tournament July 3 in Nanoose Bay. Leitch also won the Most Improved Junior Golfer award this year.

WWII memorial plaque unveiling set for June 30 in Silverton

submitted

A plaque memorializing the men from Nakusp, New Denver, Silverton, and Slocan lost in action during the Second World War will be unveiled on Saturday, June 30, 11 am at Silverton Memorial Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

Enjoy the music of our fabulous Valhalla Choir, and listen to essays from Lucerne Grades 5-6 on their interpretation of the words 'war' and 'freedom.' There will be representation by invited dignitaries with a reception following the ceremony.

Sponsored by Veterans Affairs Canada and Friends of Silverton Memorial Hall with the following contributors: Silverton Community Club, Royal Canadian Legion of Nakusp, Agnes Emery and the assistance of the Village of Silverton.

For further information contact Kathy at 358-2852.

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textiles . objects . artworks

New custom made functional pottery by Susan Janzen
Visit us this spring and summer for fabulous gifts, furniture and home decor with a world beat twist

318 Broadway St. Nakusp, BC 265-3288

Three generations of soap box racing results in first annual Nakusp Soap Box Derby

submitted

When Simon Hellyer from Hills built his first soap box racer at nine years old, it didn't go very fast but he was hooked nevertheless. The next year he saved all his egg and garlic money to buy wheels and axles from the All-American Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio and coerced his neighbour John Herrman into helping him build a winning car. The silver bullet made out of wood won its first year and for many years afterwards even when raced by other kids, going up against Ron Scroggins' infamous cars. Many years later, Simon and his dad Daniel heard that they were resurrecting the derby in New Denver during May Days and wondered what happened to their old car. They discovered it in George Bergevin's barn, miraculously intact 25 years after being built, and Simon's sons Justin and Travis raced it that year in the new derby. That car served as the foundation for next year's incarnation, rebuilt by Simon and the boys' grandfather Jim Hughes at his autobody shop – the now-famous Hellyer Hellracers blue and yellow bullet. It outraced all other cars that year by a mile and spurred the boys on to their latest beautifully designed creation, the even faster blue and red Scotty Masters car driven by Justin to another victory last year and by Travis this year to victory once again.

The success of the soap box racers inspired Simon and Jim to form the Nakusp Soap Box Racing Association (NSRA) in the summer of 2006, and they collected their first donations at the Canada Day celebrations last July. Their goal was to start their own soap box derby to involve local kids and dads in learning carpentry and mechanic skills – and a fun community competition that could be enjoyed by all. To that end, Simon purchased 12 GOKIT cars that have been distributed to interested builders/racers and sponsors within the community for this year's inaugural race. The cars will be raced in two classes – the stock class (for kit cars) and the modified class (for custom-built cars), both of which will be racing for time. Don't have a car but want to participate? No problem! Kids that show up early with a proper helmet and shoes will be able to register to drive a stock car. Participants are also welcome to bring their own cars but they must be deemed safe by race officials (i.e. have steering and braking mechanisms). Adults can race as well – Simon and Tom Webster have had their own racing rivalry going on for years. This is your chance to race your nemesis for bragging rights!

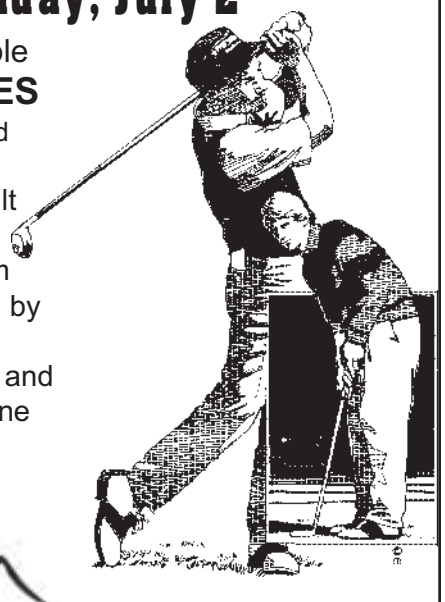
The first annual Nakusp Soap Box Derby will be held on June 30 at the Marina on Nelson Avenue in Nakusp starting at 2 pm. Parents and spectators alike are encouraged to come out and support this new annual tradition. Participants please arrive early for registration. Prizes will be awarded for the best racing times. Local sponsors include Captain Jack's, Lesters Hobbies, the General Store, the Treasure Trove and the CMH Kootenay Mountain store. Kits are available at www.gokit.com or via Jay at Captain Jack's (265-3111). For further details, or to become a volunteer or sponsor, call Simon at 265-3874. Racers of all ages, local and non-local, are welcome – especially from New Denver!

Simon Hellyer makes an adjustment to one of the front wheels of a soap box racer at New Denver May Days.

40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
FAUQUIER GOLF COURSE
FREE 18-HOLE GOLF TOURNAMENT
- Monday, July 2

• 2-person scramble
LOTS OF PRIZES
1st 72 pre-registered
269-7214
Junior, couple, adult divisions
Shotgun start 9 am
Tournament followed by open house with complimentary coffee and snacks 2-4 - everyone welcome!

Sponsored by CBT



COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST
a legacy for the people

Come celebrate what volunteers can do!

Seventh annual Whatshan Lake Music Festival benefits youth programs

When you buy a ticket to the the Whatshan Music Festival this July 20–22, you're not just buying a good time. You're supporting programs for BC youth at the Whatshan Retreat Centre sponsored by the Grand Forks-based Freedom Quest Society.

In 1999, volunteers from the Doukhobor Heritage Retreat Society dedicated the centre (founded in 1991) to commemorate the centennial of the Doukhobor arrival in Canada from Czarist Russia, as a gift to the people of BC. The youth programs include a ropes course with swinging, crawling, balancing, climbing and co-operative challenges like those developed in Outward Bound type programs. The retreat is set in the Interior Mixed Rainforest of the Whatshan Lake basin, with numerous trails and streams near the main lodge.

The seventh annual Whatshan Music Festival will feature music by well-known Canadian folk artist Connie Kaldor, the Kimberlites – a high energy act that was a favourite last year, the Salmon Armenians – an 8-piece R&B group from Salmon Arm in the style of Downchild Blues Band, Restless Lester – a smooth bluegrass group from Alberta, new country artist Steelewater from Kelowna, folk/fusion singer-songwriter Tracey Saxby, country singer Leo Dumont (a great-nephew of Riel Rebellion leader Gabriel Dumont), Kettle Valley Brakemen – a popular South Okanagan group that performs railroad heritage music, Uncorked (Jeff Queen and Lisa Salter), and singer Earl Staten. Dave, Dan, and friends in the House Band will be doing less backup of other acts and more showcasing of their own stuff.

Festival campsites cost $15 a night and have good water on tap. Showers are available. There are RV hookups and food vendors. A weekend festival pass is $60. Day passes are $35. Kids under 12 are free.

The success of this summer's festival will further advance the work for BC youth attending the Whatshan Retreat Centre. For reservations contact 604-594-1030 or email ddergous@shaw.ca. For more information see www.whatshanmusic.com or www.whatshan.com.

Award-winning poet Diana Hartog reads at Nakusp Library

submitted

For those who still remember the magic words can spin in just a few lines, New Denver poet, memoirist, and novelist Diana Hartog reads at the Nakusp Public Library, June 29 at 7:30 pm.

Hartog is a winner of the BC Book Prize for poetry and the Gerald Lampert Award. Her books include Polite to Bees, Candy from Strangers, and Matinee Light (poetry), *No Hippies Allowed* (memoir), and a novel, *The Photographer's Sweethearts*. Her newest book of poetry, *Ink Monkey*, was published by Brick Books in 2006.

"Give Diana Hartog a subject – monkeys, frogs, jellyfish, or a Japanese printmaker on the Tokaido road – and she will play riffs that dazzle," says writer/biographer Rosemary Sullivan.

For more information, contact the Nakusp Public Library at 265-3363. The reading is sponsored by the Nakusp Public Library, Writers in Libraries grant from the Ministry of Education, and the Kootenay Library Federation.

Full day of fun planned for Nakusp's Canada Day celebrations

submitted by Beth McLeod

Celebrating with a 'community' theme this year, Nakusp's Canada Day celebrations on Sunday, July 1st offer a full day of entertainment.

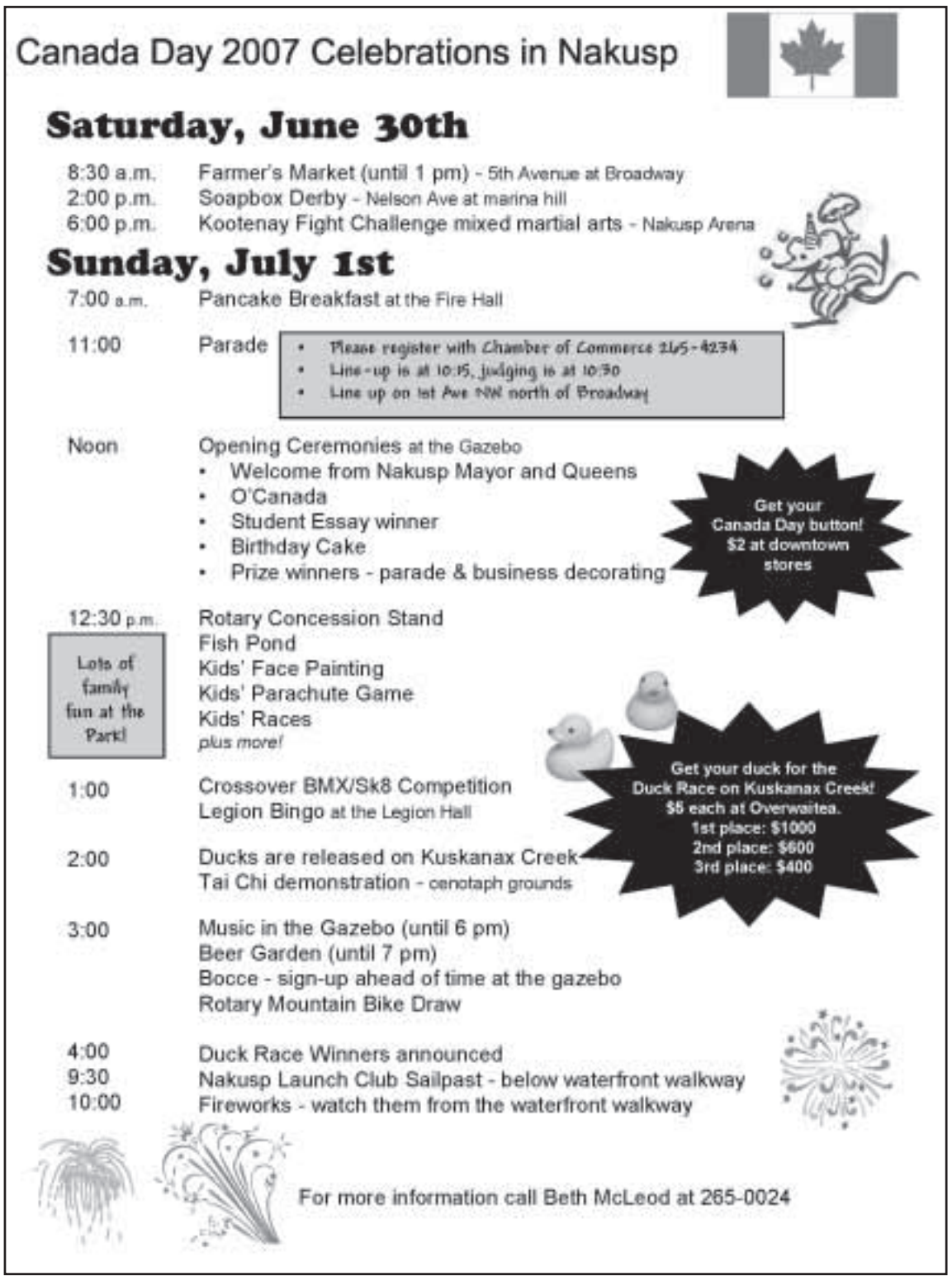
Kick off the day with the Firemen's Pancake Breakfast, then take in the parade down Broadway Street at 11 am. The community park is the site of the afternoon's activities, starting with the opening ceremonies and the serving of the beautiful Canada Day cake, something new for this year.

The ever-popular Kids' Races start at 12:30 pm this year, and at 1 pm check out the Crossover BMX/SK8 Competition hosted by the Arrow Lakes Youth Society (registration starts at 11 am). Also happening all afternoon is the Queen's fish pond, face painting, street chalk art and kids' Parachute Games, as well as displays set up by local community groups. The Rotary Club of Nakusp will run their super concession all afternoon, and the Legion will start their Canada Day Bingo at 1 pm at the Legion Hall. Get your ducks early for Overwaitea's Kuskanax Creek duck race, where you have a chance to win one of the three cash prizes up to $1000! Ducks are released at 2 pm and winners announced at 4 pm at the park. Also at 2 pm the Tai Chi club will demonstrate their moves on the grounds by the Cenotaph.

Starting up at 3 pm we have music at the gazebo for everyone to sit back and enjoy, or jump up and dance. Bring your lawn chair and dancing shoes! A small beer garden will run from 3 pm – 7 pm, and those wanting to challenge others to a game of bocce can sign up for the afternoon tournament. Spectators for the fireworks (approximately 10 pm) can start lining the waterfront walkway at 9:30 and enjoy the sailpast of lighted boats led by members of the Nakusp Launch Club.

The First Nakusp Pathfinders designed a very attractive button for the 'community theme this year, depicting brightly dressed figures celebrating below fireworks. These are available in limited quantities so get yours early, for a donation towards next year's celebrations (minimum $2).

The committee would like to thank the sponsors: Canadian Heritage, Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce and Nakusp & Area Development Board.



Columbia River Brigade retracing David Thompson's route to Nakusp

submitted

Nakusp's public beach and community park will host the arrival of the 100 canoe paddlers in the 2007 Columbia River Brigade on Wednesday, July 4. The event commemorates the bicentennial of David Thompson's exploration of the Columbia River in 1807.

The brigade starts its journey on June 26 in Canal Flats. Participants hope to increase recognition for Thompson's extraordinary contribution to Canadian history, including the establishment of the fur trade in the Columbia Basin.

Due to arrive in Nakusp at 3 pm after their overnight stay at Galena Bay, the brigade will be escorted by other paddlers in kayaks and canoes, and welcomed ashore by Nakusp's mayor and council. A team of paddlers from Nakusp will join the brigade in Revelstoke, for the two-day portion of the journey to Nakusp. The public is encouraged to gather anytime after 1 pm and take in the educational displays and storytelling at the park, where a tipi, trading post and stage show set will help set the atmosphere for the afternoon event. We will be able to track the paddlers through GPS transmitters which will update a Google Earth map on their website every half-hour.

Once the audience has had a chance to view the canoes and learn about them, the paddlers will challenge each other to sprints below the waterfront walkway. Following the sprints there will be a community barbecue, professionally catered by Deb Guest's Catering and Cakes. Columbia Basin Trust has generously sponsored dinners for the 100 paddlers, and the public is welcome to buy tickets for this wonderful dinner at What's Brewing on Broadway for $13 each. The meal includes kebabs, pita pockets, various salads, dessert and coffee/tea.

Entertainment for the evening is the David Thompson Heritage Stage Show, starting at 6:30 on the portable stage which follows the brigade from one community to the next. This stage will be set up on the park grounds, so bring your lawn chair and be prepared for an enlightening evening!

For more information on the Nakusp event please contact Beth McLeod at 265-0024 or see www.canadianvoyageur.com/crb.

Computer Problem?

Call Ron at the Old Grey Barn

250-265-2163

Celebration of Wellness

We would like to thank all of our sponsors, supporters and volunteers for their help with the first annual event. It was a great success and we look forward to next year's.

We would like to say a specific thanks to:

Nakusp Chamber of Commerce
RDCK Paul Peterson
Nakusp and Area Development Board
Nakusp Hot Springs
Spiritwood Cards, Baubles and Tunes (Nakusp)
Reawakening Health Center (Nakusp)
Selkirk College
Nakusp Squash Club
Stepping Stones Pre-School
Howling Moon Productions
Irly Bird Lumber Supply
Arrow Lake News
Valley Voice

Thanks to all of our volunteers. They were all so great!

Thank you to our committee for their tireless, no problem attitude, and their dedication to promoting wellness.

Well done everyone, thank you!

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation
will be held at
7 pm on Monday, Aug 13, 2007 in the Hospital Cafeteria.
Elections will be held to fill Director positions: 3 for 3 years
In order to vote at the Annual General Meeting, new members need to obtain their $1 card from a Director or at the hospital desk before July 13, 2007.
For further information, write to Box 284, Nakusp or call 265-3515.

Nakusp council, June 12: Golf club makes $10,000 payment on Village loan

by Jan McMurray

•Cheryl Nishida, director on the board of the Nakusp Golf Club, presented council with a $10,000 cheque. This was the club's first payment on its $20,000 loan from the Village, used to replace the submersible pump at the golf course. When the pump failed in July 2005, volunteers did the watering by hand until the new pump could be installed. The loan from the Village was approved in September 2005, and carried a term of seven years, with a grace period of two years. She assured council that the club had set up a contingency fund to pay back the Village and to cover future emergencies.

•Brought forward from the May 22 *in camera* meeting was a motion to create a hot springs board with authority to manage the affairs of the hot springs, as the current advisory committee model is "not effective and is somewhat redundant." As the Hot Spring Advisory Bylaw must be amended, CAO Lafleur distributed the original bylaw and amendments made May 2006. Council decided that these be referred to the hot springs committee for review and comment.

•Councillor Mueller reported on the hot springs committee meeting of May 28. The meeting was attended by Chris Fairbank, who managed the phase one repair project. He presented a letter from West Kootenay Mechanical showing that all items on the deficiency list had been resolved. The only exception was the flow meter, on back order. He said that two things should be addressed immediately – the facility needs a strainer to keep silt out of the pumps, and the ozone room must be protected from freezing. Council directed staff to research these costs for the next meeting. Security issues should also be addressed, and the committee recommended that council reconsider this. There is $5,000 budgeted, but Mueller indicated that this may not be sufficient. Since January, the hot springs has been experiencing losses of $10,000 per month on average, including debt servicing. "Some of this deficit is caused by increased wage cost and overtime," states Mueller in her written report. Mayor Hamling called this a huge concern" asked if the committee would discuss this and bring recommendations back to council. One suggestion offered by councillors was closing the facility during the winter.

•Council increased the hot springs chalet lease from $7,000 per year to $1,000 per month effective July 1. The term of the lease will remain on a month to month basis. This was brought forward from the May 22 in camera meeting.

•A teleconference with Water Comptroller Jim Mattison has been set for June 19 from 11 am to noon to discuss concerns about the wharf access agreement with BC Hydro. Councillor Switzer, in his written report, states that the purpose of the teleconference is to "outline the current impasse and query Mr. Mattison as to the role of the Comptroller, should we not be able to reach agreement with BCH."

•Councillor Switzer reported on the Nakusp Community Forest. There was a good turnout to the public meeting held May 28 and strong support for the project. The final application should be submitted to the Ministry by June 15. He asked to place the incorporation of the community forest onto the agenda for the next meeting, and said he would present council with the proposed board structure and skills/interest matrix on behalf of the committee.

•Bylaw 463-8 was given three readings. This bylaw amends the water rates bylaw by requiring water meters in all newly constructed buildings, buildings that change classification or buildings that are extensively renovated. The bylaw also makes it an offence to use water inappropriately or excessively.

•Council gave Bylaw Nos. 463-7 and 479-10 three readings. These bylaws amend the water and sewer rates bylaws by adding a $2,500 connection fee for each service for newly created lots, and for each unit of a multi family complex. The reason for these bylaw amendments is to establish reserve funds for the water and sewer systems until a Development Cost Charge bylaw is in place.

•Bylaw No. 436-54 was adopted. This amends the zoning bylaw by changing the zoning of properties owned by Crossley Coates from M-2 Industrial to a new Resort/Residential zone. This amendment is made on the understanding that the permitted uses and regulations of this new zone will be determined and adopted at a later date.

•Bylaw No. 605, Athletic Commission Bylaw, was adopted. Councillor Len Heppner, Les Spooner, Gary Wanstall, Scott Park, and Jay Gardner were appointed as directors.

•As requested by Brandy Needoba in a letter to council about speeding traffic on 1st Avenue NW, council decided to place a 4-way stop at the corner of 2nd Street and 1st Avenue, and to change the 3-way stop at 4th Street and 1st Avenue to a 4-way stop.

•The Nakusp Child Care Society wrote to council with concerns about the carnival which recently came to Nakusp. Open beer was found near the childcare centre, the workers spoke roughly as they set up during school hours, and the workers used the exterior electrical outlet on the childcare centre building three times without permission. CAO Bob Lafleur said they also used the electrical outlet at the seniors hall without permission. Council decided to send West Coast Amusements a copy of the letter from the society as well as one from the Village to make it clear that this is intolerable.

•Claire Jackson wrote to ask for approval to build a practice wall at the tennis courts. She asked the Village to provide a letter of approval for the project to the Columbia Basin Trust, to support a grant application. She also asked if Village staff would provide the labour for the project. Council agreed to her requests.

•Council will send a letter of congratulations to Terry Warren, Emergency Program Co-ordinator for Nakusp/Area K & Area H - the Slocan Valley for successfully completing the Emergency Management Certificate program. The convocation ceremony will take place June 22 in New Westminster.

•The Village will contact BC Hydro about having Councillor Switzer sit on the consultative committee that will help determine the preferred development sequence for the remaining generating units at Revelstoke and Mica (Revelstoke 6, Mica 5 and 6).

VILLAGE OF NAKUSP

VILLAGE OF Nakusp HOME OF NAKUSP HOT SPRINGS

NOTICE OF ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with Section 98 of the Community Charter, the Village of Nakusp will be presenting its Annual Report at the Regular Council Meeting of June 26, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

The Report details Council's achievements for last year, and what is proposed for this year and for 2008. Other information will include reports from each department.

Copies will be made available to the public, and your comments are welcome.

For further information, please contact the undersigned at 265-3689.

Bob Lafleur, CAO

Hill Creek Spawning Channel operating as usual

by Jan McMurray

The Hill Creek Spawning Channel is still operating as usual, although activity at the site may indicate otherwise.

The Ministry of Environment has decided to sell a number of the buildings from the days of the hatchery operations. These buildings, which have sat empty since 2001, are being dismantled and moved to other locations. One residence and a couple of storage buildings will remain at the site.

Angus Glass from the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, which operates the spawning channel, explained that the Hill Creek facility was originally built for a bull trout hatchery. The spawning channel has always operated independently of the hatchery, although the two operated simultaneously for some years.

Glass says that about 15 years ago, the hatchery stopped operating because it was found to be unsuccessful in increasing recreational fishery. The building sat empty until 2000-01, when some of the buildings were revamped to accommodate a white sturgeon hatchery pilot project. At the end of the two-year project, it was decided to move the operation to Wardner, near Cranbrook. Since then, the hatchery building has been empty again.

Glass said various stakeholders put ideas forward for the buildings, but none were found to be viable, so the Ministry of Environment decided to sell them.

He reported that Brian Barney of Kingfisher Silviculture Ltd. is the contractor again this year at the Hill Creek Spawning Channel. This is his fourth year to hold the contract.

The spawning channel was completed in 1980 as partial compensation for the loss of spawning habitat as a result of the Revelstoke dam.

Honey Bear Bakery
Tues-Sat 9:00-5:00
311 7th Ave NW • Nakusp • 265-4633
Rear Alley Entrance

gallery
alfa guild
ARROW LAKES FINE ARTS
619 Broadway Street, Nakusp, BC
Celebrating our 10th year, we are proud to present our second exhibition for the Summer of 2007
"LAYERS OF LIGHT"
PHOEBE BRADBURY
(Abstract Painter)
Wed, June 20th through Sun, July 8th, 2007
Opening Reception 6 - 8 PM Friday, June 22, 2007
Gallery hours: 12-4 Wed thru Sunday
619 Broadway Street, Nakusp, BC

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NAKUSP WELCOMES

THE DAVID THOMPSON 2007 COLUMBIA RIVER BRIGADE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4th
at the Public Beach and Community Park in Nakusp.

Here's how you can be a part of this exciting event:

- Come and watch from the beach as the paddlers approach (2 or 3 pm).
- Join the Brigade in your kayak or canoe for the last stretch to Nakusp.
- Browse the displays and listen to storytelling at the Tipi (after 1 pm).
- Line the waterfront walkway to cheer on the teams in the sprint (4:30 pm).
- Join us for the community BBQ - 5:00-6:30 pm
  Tickets are $13, available at What's Brewing on Broadway!
- Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the David Thompson Heritage Stage Show (6:30 pm)
- Track the canoes on the Brigade's website at www.canadianvoyageur.com/crb

Thank you to our sponsors:

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST
~Nakusp & District Development Board~
~Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce~
~Village of Nakusp~ ~Deb Guest's Catering & Cakes~ ~Arrow Tipi~

BC's Kootenay Rockies Summon the Adventurous Spirit

The Kootenay Rockies are a playground of pleasure for adventure-seekers. The wildlife-rich region of glacier-studded mountains, dense forests, wild rivers, and pristine lakes beckons outdoor enthusiasts whether it's a leisurely hike to see wildlife or a backcountry camping trip. What follows is but a sampling of the soft-and hard-core adventures that await in this southeastern corner of BC.

PHOTO CREDIT: TOURISM BC/DAVID GLUNS

Slocan Lake from Idaho Peak

The Kootenay Rockies is a haven for hikers. With four national parks and great swaths of wilderness, there is no end to exhilarating excursions by foot. In Yoho National Park, adventurers can join a guided hike of the Burgess Shale and learn about Cambrian-aged fossils that are more than 500 million years old. One can snap a photo of a natural bridge — carved by the ferocious waters of the Kicking Horse River - it is surely one of Mother Nature's wonders. For a backcountry experience, outdoor aficionados can explore Top of the World Provincial Park to be enraptured by the jagged beauty of the Hughes Range on a high elevation trek.

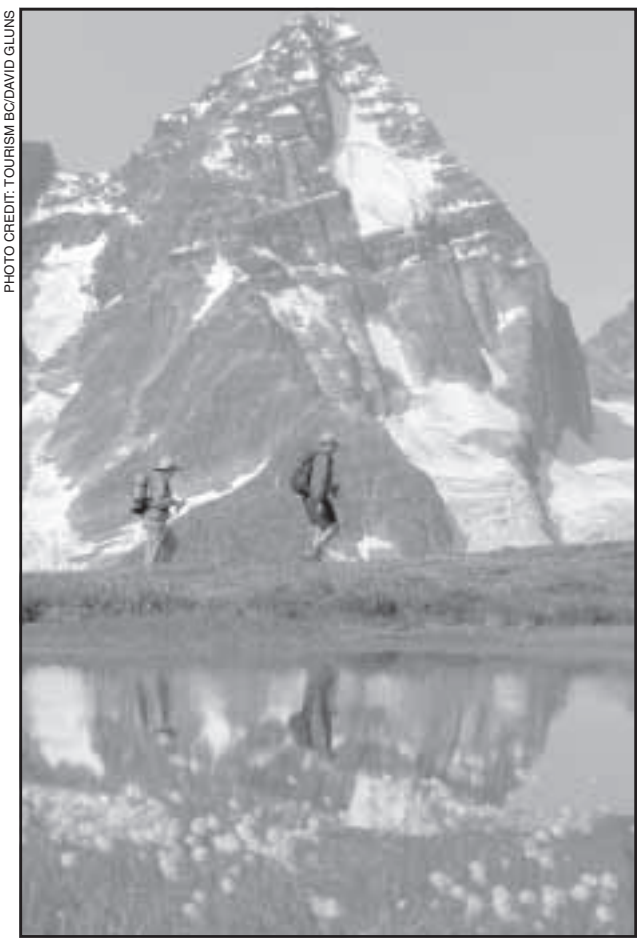
Avid cyclists have heard about – and many have pedalled – the Golden Triangle, a strenuous road route between Radium Hot Springs, Golden and Lake Louise. It features countless impressive panoramas including glaciers, canyons and waterfalls.

Ski towns in winter like Fernie Alpine Resort, Panorama Mountain Village, Red Mountain Resort and Kicking Horse Mountain Resort beckon single-track junkies during summer months. There are always some playful slopes for the novice but for those who want down and dirty challenges, these destinations have them. Black diamond ski runs make for wild mountain biking terrain.

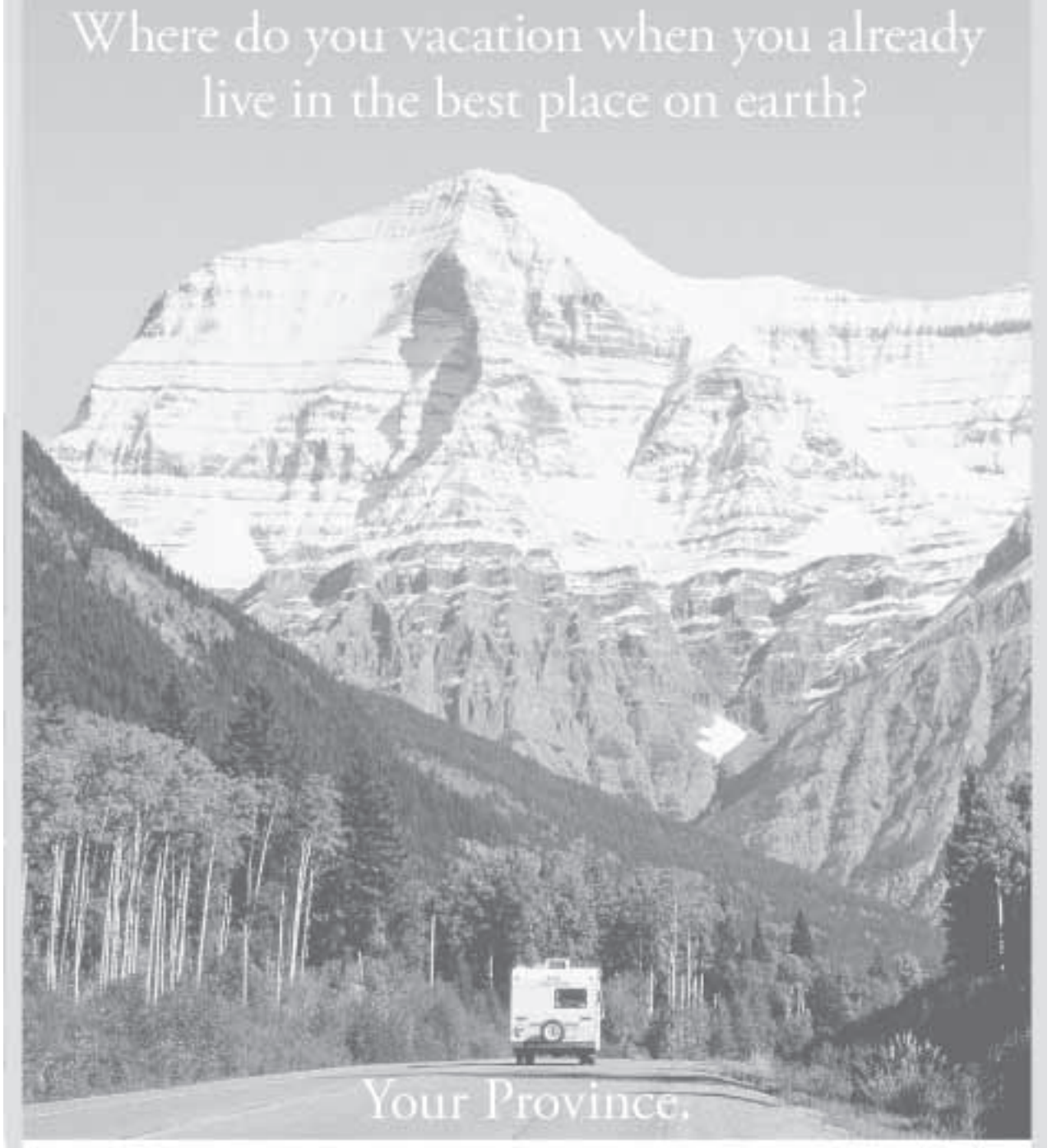
And should thrills on the water entice, adventurers can join a whitewater rafting group and, for fun, take on Toby Creek near Panorama Mountain Village. For a big water challenge, enthusiasts can get wet on the Bull River with its serious Class IV whitewater. Two favourites with daredevil river kayakers are the Elk and St. Mary Rivers.

To learn more about outdoor adventures in the Kootenay Rockies Region and to get everything you need to plan your vacation ñ where to go, what to see and do, where to stay, plus printable maps to show you how to get there – visit HelloBC.com/kr/adventure.

PHOTO CREDIT: TOURISM BC/DAVID GLUNS



Glacier National Park



There's no better place for a summer vacation than right here. British Columbia offers almost endless combinations of natural beauty, people and cultures. For outdoor enthusiasts, B.C. is an awe-inspiring display of mountains, rivers and lakes. Ripe vineyards, wide-open plains and beaches that seem to stretch forever. This summer, there really is no better place to explore than your home – British Columbia.

For more information on special travel opportunities within B.C. and to order your free **BC Escapes**® Guides, call 1-800 **HELLO BC** or visit **HelloBC**.com

BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth

Festivals & Events - Kootenay Rockies

Date	Event
June 14 – 17	Sam Steele Days, Cranbrook
June 22-24	Mountain Beats Festival, Revelstoke
July 1	Dominion Day, Fort Steele Heritage Town
July 9 – 14	International Old Time Accordion Championships, Kimberley
July 14 – 15	Creston Valley Garden Festival, Creston
July 13 – 15	Nakusp Music Festival, Nakusp
July 21 – 22	Starbelly Jam Music Festival, Crawford Bay
August 3 - 5	Kaslo Jazz Etc. Summer Music Festival, Kaslo
August 4	Sounds Over the Rockies, Radium Hot Springs
August 10 – 12	Cranbrook Pro Rodeo, Cranbrook
August 17 – 26	Railway Days, Revelstoke
September 9	Hills Garlic Festival, New Denver

For more information about Festivals & Events in the Kootenay Rockies Region, please visit HelloBC.com/kr/events.

Environmental youth camps coming to Slocan Valley

submitted

This summer Inspiring Youth for Change will host two three-day Environmental Youth Camps for children in Grades 3 to 6 July 10–12 and July 24–26 at the Crescent Valley Youth Centre. The camps will run from 10 am to 3 pm daily. Space is limited and the fee for the three day camps is $25.

Through hikes, craft projects, field trips, theatre sports and games, participants will get an interactive introduction to the unique and fragile environment we live in and what we can do to have a positive impact on our future.

Each day will be based on a different fun theme. A visit to the Slocan River will focus on river safety and the many elements involved in a river ecosystem. The mountain theme day will focus on mountain caribou and what is being done to restore this native population. A full-on survivor day will have kids learning a wide range of leadership and survival skills. All days will have a wide range of crafts and games mixed in with them. Kids should bring some water, lunch and be prepared for some hiking.

Inspiring Youth for Change grew out of the youth environmental conference held last November in Brilliant. With support funding from the Columbia Basin Trust, Mt. Sentinel and LV Rogers Schools, IYC have been developing and leading a variety of projects that they hope will make a difference.

For more information or to register, contact Katelyn Jmaeff at 359-7861.

GOLF COURSES

•Nakusp Golf Club

Phone/Fax: (250) 265-4531

9-HOLE PUBLIC COURSE , RATES IN EFFECT 7 DAYS A WEEK

GREEN FEES: **Adults $20.00**/9-holes, **$28.00**/18-holes

Weekly Pass: **$160.00**

Juniors 13 & under: $10.00 / 9-holes, Senior rates - 10% off

10 game punch card available

Golf lessons with Burt Drysdale, CPGA Pro, available.

Rental carts, clubs, pull carts. Driving Range available.

FULLY LICENSED EXCELLENT RESTAURANT

Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.

Ladies' nights Tuesdays 4:00 - 6:00 Guests welcome.

Men's nights Thursdays 4:00 - 6:00 Guests welcome.

2007 TOURNAMENT DATES:

- Club Championship, June 23 & 24
- Ladies' Open, July 4, 10:00 am - Shotgun Start

•Slocan Lake Golf Course,

New Denver **Phone: (250) 358-2408**

9-HOLE GOLF COURSE , OPEN 7 AM TO DARK

GREEN FEES: **$18.00**/9-holes, **$27.00**/18-holes,

Day Pass: **$40.00,** Weekly Rate: **$175.00**

RENTALS: Clubs and Pull carts available.

Power cart: **$15.00**/9-holes **$25.00**/18-holes. *All prices include tax*

RESTAURANT: 8 AM TO 8 PM (LICENSED)

2006 TOURNAMENTS:

- Club Open, Sun. Aug. 12: $40 members / $45 non-members*
- Bushwackers, Sat. Sept. 8: $20/couple
- Club Closing, Sun. Sept. 23: $15

(* fee includes dinner)

• Valley View Golf Club

Winlaw **phone: 226-7241;**
toll-free: 1-877-324-GOLF

Discover golfing at its finest at Valley View. Licensed lounge & restaurant open 7 days a week. Catering and dinner meetings available on request. Everyone welcome.

GREEN FEES: $20 / 9 holes (including GST), $25 / 18 holes

RENTALS: Power and pull-carts available

Juniors' Night Mondays at 4:00 • Seniors' Morning Mondays • Mens' Night Thursdays • Two-for-one golf Fridays after 2:00 pm plus WING NIGHT!

NOTICE TO VALLEY VISITORS:

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

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Woodbury Resort
Kutenai Showcase
Ainsworth Hot Springs
Sandon: Sandon Museum
The Prospector's Pick
Slocan Valley:
Arica Gardens B&B
Mountain Valley Station
Winlaw Mini-Mart
Lemon Creek Lodge
Slocan Valley Co-op
Floyd's Custom Furniture
Nelson: Otter Books
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Silverton: Silverton Bigway
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The Valley Voice
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CAMPGROUNDS

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

May 1-Sept 30. Serviced ($20) Unserviced sites ($15) Water and power hook-ups, fire pits, picnic tables, restrooms and hot showers. Downtown location, close to park, beach, playgrground, SS Moyie infocentre and great shopping! Pets on leash welcome.

• Centennial Campground

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

• Three Island Resort Campground (250) 265-3023

65 sites, full/semi hook-ups, tenting, boat launch, paddle boats & canoes, pets welcome, children's playground, firewood, fishing, hiking trail, confectionery, sani-station, showers, laundry facilities, large gazebo with BBQ pits.

• Springer Creek RV Park & Campground (250) 355-2266 springr@telus.net

Open May 18 to Sept. 30. Located at 1020 Giffin Rd., Slocan. Turn right immediately off of Highway 6 entrance to Village of Slocan. Full hook-ups, partial hook-ups, tenting sites, sani-dump, pets on leash and seasonal Tourist/Information Booth.

• Silverton Municipal Campground (250) 358-2472

Situated on Slocan Lake at Leadville & Turner Streets. Lakeshore and Creekside Tent and Trailer Sites. Fire pits and firewood.

• West Kootenay Park Management Inc. 1-866-937-5734 www.westkootenayparks.com

WKPM

$14/night $7 extra vehicle. Cash only. May 01 - October 15th.
Fire ring, tables, pit toilets.

McDonald Creek Provincial Park

Shores of Upper Arrow Lake 16 km south of Naksup on Hwy #6. 46 spacious campsites. Half with direct access to an extensive sandy beach waterfront, boat launch. Reservations 1-800-689-9025 www.discovercamping.ca.

Rosebery Provincial Park

Enjoy a quiet forest setting on the bank of Wilson Creek, a short walk to Slocan Lake and the historic Galena Trail. 33 campsites. 3 km north of New Denver Hwy #6. First come, first served.

• Woodbury Resort and Marina (250) 353-7717

Serviced Sites – Tent Sites – Motorcycle Friendly – Marina – Heated Pool – Boomed Swimming Beach – JB's Pub and Restaurant – Motel and Chalets – Charter Fishing – Boat Rentals for guests only – Quad/Bike Trails – Scuba Dive the Anscombe wreck. 4 km North of Ainsworth Hot Springs on Highway 31.

HOT SPRINGS

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

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

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Experience our main Hot Springs pool in the crisp, clean air, explore the tranquil steam bath in the Hot Springs cave, take a plunge in our stream fed cold plunge. Savour the fabulous food in our Dining Room and then enjoy the comfort of one of our 43 air-conditioned rooms.

ACCOMMODATIONS & RESTAURANTS

• William Hunter Cabins (250) 358-2844 www.williamhuntercabins.com

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• Silverton Lakeshore Inn (250) 358-7929

Silverton Lakeshore Inn

Visit the Silverton Lakeshore Inn, located on Slocan Lake since 1897. Offering 7 lakeview rooms. Third floor penthouse suite sleeps 6-8 and has a big screen TV. Full service restaurant and pizzaria, fully licenced pub with patio and offsales. Rooms starting at $89. Penthouse suite $2,000/week. Restaurant and pub open 7 days a week.

• Selkirk Inn Ph: 1-800-661-8007 / (250) 265-3666 Fax: (250) 265-4799

Selkirk Inn

CAA & AAA approved 210-6th Ave. West, Nakusp, BC www.selkirkinn-nakusp.com email: selkinn@columbiacable.net Located in the heart of Nakusp, we are close to the Nakusp Hot Springs, Halcyon Hot Springs, the Nakusp Golf Course, and only a short walk from the shores of Upper Arrow Lake. All 39 deluxe rooms have a TV, phone and fridge. 30 units with air conditioning, some units with kitchenettes, wheelchair accessible unit available, pets allowed in select units.

• O'Brien's on the Lake, 1710 Hwy 6 Nakusp, Ph: (250) 265-4575 www.obriens.kootenays.com

O'Brien's

Beautifully hand-crafted log cabins with a million-dollar view. Full kitchen and bath. Satellite TV. Private phone and barbecue on lake-view deck. All units non-smoking. No pets please. World class fishing, golfing, hiking and much, much more just minutes away. **It's so much more than a place to sleep.**

• Oldham's Lakefront Cottages ph. 358-2415 oldhamslakefrontcottages.com

Oldham's Lakefront Cottages

Family or Friends Coming to Visit? Oldham's Lakefront Cottages will help you maintain family bliss and lasting friendships. We have four fully furnished vacation rentals available April 1st through Christmas. Check out oldhamslakefrontcottages.com or call Jeff and Lorie at 358-2415 for full details.

GIFT SHOPS

IONA COTTAGE

Iona Cottage Guest House & Gift Shop is located in a charming heritage house at 407 'B' Avenue in the heart of downtown Kaslo. Unique, evolving and worthwhile, this shop features quality creations by local artisans and a line of Celtic giftware. The upper floor is a vacation rental guest suite. Call 353-2141 for details or visit www.ionacottage.ca

BED & BREAKFASTS

• Sweet Dreams Guesthouse & Licenced Dining Phone (250) 358-2415 Fax 358-2556 www.newdenverbc.com / sweetdreams@newdenverbc.com

B&B in historic building by the lake. Licenced dining & patio by reservation. Ethnic style meals.

MUSEUMS

• Sandon Museum & Visitors' Centre (250) 358-7920 www.slocanlake.com/sandon

Open 10:00 to 5:00. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy. 31A in historic silver mining ghost town. Collections of stunning photographs and fascinating artifacts including the famous "two story mousetrap." Admission: 18 & over, $4.00 •12-17 yrs. $3.00 • Under 12, free.

• Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre (250) 358-7288

The only historic site in Canada dedicated to telling the WWII internment story. Located in *The Orchard* in New Denver, open 7-days-a-week 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

• Arrow Lakes Historical Society Ph/Fax: (250) 265-0110 265-3323 alhs@netidea.com

e-mail: alhs@columbiacable.net Location: 92B - 7th Avenue NW (BC Hydro building). Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 - 3:00. Archives and publications. Best source for area history and family research.

• Silvery Slocan Museum (250) 358-2201

The old Bank of Montreal building at the foot of Main Street, restored to circa 1900. Open Monday to Friday in June. 7 days/week in July and August. Special tours welcome. Please call 358-2201, 358-2478 or 358-2656 for further information. **A MUST SEE MUSEUM WITH DAILY TREASURE HUNTS FOR CHILDREN!** Hope we see you there.

Kaslo council, June 12: Public meeting on provincial building set for June 20

by Jan McMurray

•A facilitated public round table discussion on the provincial building will be held at the Langham Cultural Centre on June 20 at 7 pm.

•The Village will respond to Stan Leathwood's letter about the provincial building to let him know that Area D Director Andy Shadrack has no interest in having an office; enquiries have been made about selling the City Hall building for $1 with no results; the question of contingency plans for the archives will be referred to the Kootenay Lake Historical Society.

•Lynch Building Inspection Services Ltd. will be asked to submit a proposal for a compete building code review and environmental risk assessment report for the provincial building, including an inventory of all possible asbestos containing materials.

•Council decided to contact Village lawyer, Lori Staples, to ask her to reply to council's query about urgent repairs to the provincial building, which are included as the responsibility of the municipality in the Offer to Purchase.

•Mark MacKenzie will be asked to provide guidance for procuring a cost analysis of urgent repairs to the provincial building.

•Mark MacKenzie will be paid the first of three installments as Kaslo City Hall Conservation Manager.

•An email from the RDCK regarding fire service extension will be referred to a special meeting of council to be held June 21 at 4 pm to consider fire boundary expansion.

•The RDCK will be advised the Village of Kaslo is agreeable to extending fire protection service to the Fletcher Creek area, subject to negotiation of an acceptable contribution formula.

•A request from the fire department for three members to attend Cranbrook courses was approved. Council also decided that the fire chief could approve training expenses within the allowable municipal budget. The chief will also be asked to provide training reports to council.

•Kaslo Jazz representatives attended as a delegation to speak about the benefits of the annual festival to the community, and presented information on its beer garden license application. Later in the meeting, beer garden licenses for the Kaslo Jazz Festival Etc. Society August 3-5 were approved.

•An application by the Kaslo Curling Club for two beer garden licenses on Front Street August 4 and 5 were referred to the Planning & Development committee for recommendation to Council.

•The Regional District of Central Kootenay will be asked to supply cardboard recycling service to festival sites in Kaslo.

•The Village will send a letter of support to the Kaslo Area Youth Council for an official skatepark opening on July 7.

•A letter will be sent asking for the Kaslo Area Youth Council timeline for completion of the skatepark and receipt of as-built drawings, as stipulated in the original agreement with the Village of Kaslo.

•Irrigation will be installed at the skatepark.

•The Bryce application for development variance at 504 Centre Street to reduce exterior lot line setback to 10 feet was approved, based on plans presented for a two-storey dwelling. Notice on Title will be registered on the 504 Centre Street property permitting a single-family dwelling only.

•Bottling Kaslo water for sale will be included on the Planning & Development committee project list for future consideration.

•Every council member will submit the names of six key people for interviews and five major regional issues for the OCP review process, as requested by SmartGrowth BC.

•The quote of $1,272 by G&D Linemarking for painting Front Street parking stalls, Front & 4th Street handicapped stalls, crosswalks and centerlines was accepted. It was also agreed to repaint speed limit signs on Front Street at the SS Moyie.

•Interior Health will be advised Councillor Leathwood will participate in an interview or photo session with respect to the installation of no smoking public area signs in Kaslo.

•Kaslo Hotel was permitted to remove and replace fencing located at the Saturday Market leased site on Front Street to allow construction of a retaining wall on hotel property.

•The Village approved construction hoarding over the Front Street sidewalk by the Kaslo Hotel provided it does not obstruct pedestrian sidewalk traffic.

•An email from the RDCK notified the Village about the adoption of Bylaw 1890, which adds another McDonald Creek area resident to the water system.

•CAO Sawyer was authorized to accept AM Ford's offer of a community defibrillator, pending funding confirmation and exclusive of any training or maintenance contract.

•Deputy Clerk Susan Van Zandt was authorized to attend an administration course, with tuition and expenses paid as per municipal policy.

•Accounts payable of $61,500.28 were approved for payment.

Classroom with Outdoors – environmental education in action

On June 11, grade 4/5 students from JV Humphries School in Kaslo participated in a Classroom with Outdoors field trip to the old growth cedar grove in Retallack, located on Highway 31A between Kaslo and New Denver.

Enthusiastic schoolchildren learned about local plants and some of their uses and experienced the wonder of ancient trees. A highlight was crawling into abandoned bear dens at the base of huge cedar trees. The trip was led by Gillian Sanders, who is also the Bear Smart Program coordinator for the North Kootenay Lake area. Sanders enjoys sharing her love of the natural world with grade 4-7 students from Nakusp, Meadow Creek, Kaslo, New Denver, Burton, Edgewood and area.

The Classroom with Outdoors program combines play with discovery and ecosystem studies. Students take an all-day field trip to a forest, old growth forest, wetland or grassland ecosystem near their own community. The program is available to both public and home school groups throughout the Columbia Basin, with experienced local educators for each area.

The program is sponsored and administered by Wildsight, an organization working locally, regionally and globally to protect biodiversity and to encourage sustainable communities in Canada's Columbia and Southern Rocky Mountain region. Wildsight received the 2005 Canadian Environmental Award for Conservation in recognition of its successful work to protect the region's wildlife and wild land values.

"In the end, we conserve only what we love," wrote Senegalese poet Baba Diuom. "We love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught."

Funding for the program comes from the Columbia Basin Trust, BC Gaming Commission, Nature Canada Parks and People, Shell Environmental Fund, Columbia Power Corporation, Osprey Foundation, and school Parent Advisory Councils.

For more information, please visit www.wildsight.ca and go to the link to Classroom with Outdoors.

Grade 4/5 students from JV Humphries School enjoyed a Classroom with Outdoors field trip led by Gillian Sanders to learn about the ecosystem in the old growth cedar grove near Retallack.

Historic St. Andrew's United Church fundraising for repairs

submitted

Kaslo's beautiful City Hall is badly in need of attention, and now, St Andrew's United Church can be added to the list of endangered old structures. The church's management committee is planning several fundraising events and intends to apply for matching funds from the BC Heritage Trust to preserve the church.

The world has greatly changed since 1893, when the church was built. At that time, it was the hub of most community events, and a refuge for the residents during the great flood, the devastating fire and the hurricane of 1894. Villagers took refuge within its walls from those terrible events, and it again became a place of sanctuary for the Nikkei when they were interned here in 1942. Such a rich heritage is contained in that building of 114 years.

It has been faithfully maintained over the years, but with the passage of time and a dwindling congregation, repairs have become a formidable challenge. This past winter saw a rapid deterioration of the sanctuary roof. The window sills and deteriorated masonry steps are in need of repair, just to mention the major items. A small ramp and lift at the hall entrance is also needed to make it more accessible for seniors and the handicapped. Requests for estimates on roofing, carpentry and masonry repairs have gone out.

The first of three summer fundraising events will kick off Wednesday, July 4 at 7:30 pm with Tell Me An Old Story, an historical pantomime with characters from the past portrayed by the residents of today. Admission by donation, and receipts will be issued for amounts over $10.

The second event, *The Sacred Side of Jazz*, will be held Sunday, August 5 at 10 am.

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Get Outta Town!

with Peter Roulston

Of falling waters and waterfalls

Although there are a few skeptics around who like to say that "the big runoff hasn't even started yet," I think we've been lucky with the weather lately. The cool days have really evened out snowmelt rates and flood worries have declined. Local creeks and streams are no longer the surging, muddy torrents of previous days with waters now running much cleaner. Lake levels are down some but is there ever a lot of flotsam, driftwood and debris for beach fires later this summer....

Though the creeks have cleared up quite a bit and dropped somewhat in flow rates, this should now be the best time to get out and experience the local Kootenay waterfalls. The water is freezing cold and still dangerous but now there's a bit less spray to soak you and water clarity has improved a lot.

Three waterfalls worth visiting in the Slocan Valley are in Valhalla Provincial Park on the west side of Slocan Lake. Evans Creek can be hiked to via the lakeside trail from Slocan City but I'd sure rather use my boat or kayak. The other falls up the lake at Nemo Creek and Wee Sandy Creek are water access only. All three of these scenic treats are only minutes up from the lakeside and an easy walk for any person. Get a copy of the Valhalla Park map or one of many topo editions or visitor maps of the area.

Returning again to Slocan City, there are a couple of small pleasing cascades in the village campground area on Springer Creek, and the real doozer is above the highway from the pullout only 300 metres north of the north turnoff into Slocan City. The pullout is obvious and the creek rages into a culvert right there, but the plan is to pick up the sketchy and very steep path that grinds upslope for maybe 200 metres to a spot on the rock bluff where you can see Springer Creek plunge into a spectacular bowl.

To the north, Enterprise Creek does have a falls in the canyon down toward the lake but it's hard to get to for most folks, however the attraction here is the rush of clean cold Kokanee Park water as it rages under the highways bridge. You can park and look around here if you're mindful of traffic squeezing across the bridge. It would sure be nice if this sturdy but narrow bridge could remain for pedestrian enjoyment after the new bridge gets built, which I guess is some time this year.

North to New Denver you can enjoy the meandering trail along the north side of Carpenter Creek that goes from the highway crossing upstream for maybe three kilometres to Denver Canyon, the historic site of an earlier power plant. This trail skirts and probably crosses some private lots but is remains creekside much of the way. Parallel to this trail and on the ridge above is the Galena Trail which can be hiked up to from the canyon and falls for a nice couple hour loop walk.

Wilson Creek falls in behind Rosebery is the main attraction for the area and is reached via the main Wilson Creek forest service road that heads in opposite the log dump and follows the south side of Wilson Creek for nearly 12 kilometres to the uphill turnoff. There are a couple of beat-up but helpful signs and you can either drive up the steep spur road for a kilometre to the trailhead or hike up, which adds 20 minutes to a 30 minute hike. This falls is enormous and well visited by plenty of people though further distant. Again, check a map or try to find a local to guide you in if you don't know the area

North to Nakusp, there's a fine small falls on the Kuskanax River about one kilometre before the Village hot springs, pretty much across from where the Kuskanax forestry road goes off uphill. This is a very attractive location and has a rough skid trail leading to the creekside down under the power lines. This could easily be a stopoff for people doing the hotpool outing and is pretty safe and visible from the road as you drive by.

This column is long on ideas but short on details this time, but hopefully you can stop in or walk in to see some of these wonders in the remaining weeks of high water.

Peter Roulston owns the Bicycle Hospital in New Denver and likes being out on the water. 358-2133.

with Jamie Barber

Nelson billboard war provides lesson on community planning

I'm sure everyone has been watching the Nelson billboard saga over the last couple of years. I don't get into town that often, but I am always interested in how things are faring in the battle, and try to look for the latest signs. I am of course referring to the three large billboards that some booster has placed on a promontory on the west entrance to the fair city.

Mostly the billboards are blank, with a much smaller notice indicating that they are for rent if one wishes to call the number below. Periodically, a large display is placed on said billboard, but soon enough, someone defaces it in some way. The fair burghers of Nelson prefer their town not to be too overtly commercial, and certainly take exception to the roadside beauty being traded for garish advertisements.

At one point, someone cut one of the wooden billboard posts with a chainsaw, but it was soon replaced with metal reinforcing to preclude any more midnight cutting. Since their inception, no Nelson business has dared advertise on these billboards, as this would be a sure way to lose customers.

Something needs to fill in the blank spots however, so the booster periodically displays anti-abortion messages and a banner for a music festival long passed. In time, these get paint-balled or torn down and the blank faces of the plywood once again block the view of the landscape. On my last trip to town, I noted that the old paint-balled anti-abortion display has been replaced with a spanking new one, which I am sure is going to raise the moral turpitude of Nelsonites.

What interests me about the battle is not the obvious disjoint between those Nelsonites who feel respect both for natural beauty and the negation of blatant commercialism, against the individual who feels he has the right to seek his fortune against the ethos of the community, but rather, what it says on a deeper level. What happens when one, (or a few), individuals believe it is their right to make economic gain to the detriment of the rest of the community?

This very newspaper has been giving us insight into ongoing concerns regarding development in our own communities. There is a controversial development planned for Galena Bay, another is being pushed through near Enterprise Creek. With few exceptions, these developments have negative consequences for those that have their own lifestyles implanted in the regions that will be affected. I suppose the same could be said for clearcut logging on private land if it was to have negative consequences on those who reside in the area. I'm sure we can all come up with like examples. The real question is how can we deal with the conflict between the economic gain of the individual to the detriment of the community? Probably the idea that makes the most sense is to have the community itself define what important development guidelines it wishes to pursue. If there is a consensus that strip malls and billboards, such as in the Kelowna model, are what is wanted, this type of development should be pursued. If on the other hand, residents overwhelmingly wish low-key commercialism and preservation of natural beauty, these should be preserved.

There is a danger in the last scenario however. A community that preserves natural beauty and encourages low impact lifestyles is a community that many will like to take advantage of for their own gain. If no planning guidelines are in place, it is very easy for unscrupulous developers to commercialize the natural beauty that the residents themselves have worked so hard to preserve. Putting your head in the sand and not setting those guidelines is where the real danger lies.

I can understand that many may be concerned that development guidelines limit their personal freedom, and this is a very real concern. Most rural people cherish this freedom from rules and stricture with good reason. However, the flip side is that we can only too easily be negatively impacted by development that most may oppose, with no real way to stop it. The inevitable consequence is something similar to the Nelson billboard war.

Cool Eateries of the West Kootenays

with Andrew Rhodes

19TH Hole Restaurant -Dinner With a View

Hello food fans one and all. Eaten lately? Hey, speaking of food, perhaps you've heard that last week Jody Cliff caught a 19 º lb. rainbow trout from his kayak at the mouth of Silverton Creek. He used light gear and an 8lb. test line. Took him an hour to land it. I had the extreme pleasure of eating some of it last night. The best!

Speaking of Slocan Lake, on Tuesday my fearless publisher and I dined at The 19th Hole Restaurant at the Slocan Lake Golf Course. It was Lady's Night, but our friend Lana, the manager, served us despite our gender. She welcomed us with that big smile and asked us where we'd like to sit – inside or out? Because the deck at the 19th HOLE has what may well be the most beautiful view in the world, we chose to sit outside. As we gaped at the stunning view of the lake, Lana gave us menus but informed us she already knew what she was going to feed us. Fantastic! No 'menu stress' whatsoever. We did, however, get to choose our appetizers: a beer apiece – so much more than a breakfast drink! Have I mentioned the view? You can see New Denver and well past Silverton to Enterprise Creek and beyond. Breath-taking.

We sipped our beer and Lana brought us our first course. Caesar salad. I gave it the 'eyeball test:' You open your eyes wide and stare down at the salad from five inches away. If your eyes begin to water, it's gonna be a good Caesar. My eyes did water. The croutons were big and crunchy. A thoroughly good Caesar salad. I finished the salad and looked up. The view remained stunning.

Lana came smiling back with Spinach Quesadillas filled with spinach pesto (one of my faves), black olives, green onion and cheddar cheese all between toasted flat-bread. Lip-smacking good, but we weren't done. Third course: Chicken Parmesan! Now, I love chicken. This chicken breast was melt in your mouth juicy, spiced just right and covered in grated parmesan. I felt like I was in Heaven. A simply wonderful dinner. Thank you Lana.

The actual menu at the 19th Hole is both meat-eater and vegetarian friendly. For breakfast choose from French toast, various egg dishes with bacon, ham or sausage, three egg omelettes, or try a breakfast burrito! Eggs Bennie on Sat. and Sun. The 'Snack' menu includes Poutine (ahhh), fries, rings, corn dogs, Greek ribs, Sweet Potato fries and Caesar salad with Lana's homemade dressing. (No wonder my eyes watered). In the 'Light Ideas' section of the menu you'll find Quesadillas: spinach or basil, fish and chips, and chicken fingers. Then we have The Sandwich Bar. Why not have a steak sandwich, or a clubhouse? (my beloved). Maybe you like Ruebens, or a beef dip or a Philly Cheese Steak. Look, wraps! Chicken, Tex Mex, and Veggie Mediterranean. Don't forget the home-made fries.

Here come the burgers. Ham and Swiss, Mexi Burger, Chicken, Maui Burger, Salmon Burger, Veggie Burger, and, believe it or not, a REGULAR burger!

Deserts include Decadent Brownies and Strawberry Cream Pie.

Lana has recently added martinis and special coffees to the menu.

Lana also has specials on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Some of the specials you might encounter are Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding, Greek Ribs, Seafood Fettuccini, Cajun Red Snapper, Chicken Curry, Veal Cutlets, Pork Cutlets, and Quiche (even for real men!). Friday is Wing Night.

My advice is to 1) call ahead (358-2408) and scope out the up-coming specials. 2) Bring your binoculars and scope out the view. 3) Enjoy the great food and Lana's smiling face.

You can play golf if you want to, but you don't have to. You can go there just for the food – or just for the view...or both.

The Slocan Lake Golf Course is owned by its members. It is located just north of New Denver on Highway 6. Lana wants me to remind you that local and international politics are freely discussed at the 19th Hole Restaurant. The 19th Hole is open from 8 am to 8 pm in June, and from 8 am to 9 pm in July. The view is utterly magnificent. Go there soon. I forgot to tell you, I had Strawberry Cream Pie for desert!

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CALL FOR ENTRY

THE LANGHAM CULTURAL CENTRE ART GALLERY is seeking exhibition proposals for the 2008 season. Submissions from artists must be post-marked by July 1, 2007. Proposals should include a Curriculum Vitae, project description, image list, 10 - 20 numbered slides/prints/digital photos on CD, and a S.A.S.E. www.thelangham.ca

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY MARKET, downtown New Denver, happens every Friday 10 am to 2 pm. Local produce, flowers, herbs, artisans wares and Kootenay mountain culture. Ph 358-7733. fridaymarket@netidea.com.

OPEN HOUSE SOCIAL, Slocan Legion Hall, Saturday June 23rd, beginning with Happy Hour at 5:00 p.m. Beef Dip & Potato Salad $4.00. Card Games, Darts, Shuffleboard. EVERYONE WELCOME. Help support your Legion!

10TH ANNUAL SLOCAN VALLEY "ART & GARDEN TOUR" Sunday, June 24, 10am-4pm. Six gardens and one pottery studio. Ponds, greenhouses, bonsai and more. Brochures with map available at local businesses on Hwy 6 and garden centres. Bring the family on this popular summer outing. Sponsored by Slocan Valley Arts Council. Donations appreciated.

RED MT RD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AGM - Sun June 24 - 4 pm at Wendy Harlock's, #7918 Hwy 6. BBQ to follow. Call 358-7750 for info.

JULY 1ST FLEA MARKET - Calling all craftsmen and -women, householders with stuff, baking tables and gardeners with extra plants. Come one and all - bring your own table to the lawn in front of Silverton Gallery. 10 until 2. Madeleine for further info - 358-2475.

RURAL ALTERNATIVES RESEARCH & TRAINING SOCIETY (aka Vallican Whole Community Centre) AGM and Potluck. Sunday June 24, 5pm. Vallican Whole Community Centre, 3762 Little Slocan Road. Vallican. All members and prospective members welcome. 226-0097 for more info.

TODDLE-A-THON: The annual New Denver Nursery School Toddle-a-Thon takes place June 21, starting at 10 am at Lucerne School. The kids will be collecting pledges, so please support the nursery school and make a pledge. Donations also gratefully accepted and can be mailed to Box 466, New Denver, BC or dropped off at the Valley Voice office. Come out and support the kids on June 21 - they will leave the school at 10 am, go down 7th Ave., turn at Brouse Lodge and continue to the main street. After visiting some main street businesses, they will continue down to Centennial Park.

BIBLIOBUS IS BACK on four wheels for two seasons every second week of the month. Check www.afkofrancophone.org or call Jocelyne 250-304-4558 or 352-3516.

ART SHOW @ Frog Peak Cafe – "PULLING THE THREAD" Featuring the paintings of local artist Stephanie Webster. This body of work is a poignant contrast. It follows the artist's fascination with the intricacies of human interaction alongside our relationship with nature and solitude. Meet with friends over your favourite drinks and delicious panninis on a relaxing patio. Show on display until June 30th. 1418 Hwy 6, Crescent Valley (250) 359-7261.

AUTHOR READING BY DIANA HARTOG at the Nakusp Public Library on Friday, June 29th at 7:30. Everyone welcome to this free event. Free.

HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY CELEBRATES CANADA DAY! - July 1st, 2-4. Grand Opening of new garden area. Refreshments, music. All welcome to celebrate Canada Day. Deb Borsos shows new pastels - June 27-July 2. Reception July 1st, 2-4. Open daily 11-4 except Tuesdays.

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FOUND: EYEGLASSES at New Denver May Days. Come and claim at Valley Voice office, on New Denver's main street across from laundromat.

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NOTICES

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

Looking for TONY KULJT or someone who knows him. Tony may be working in the hospitality industry as a cook. He is black, mid forties, 5ft 6in tall. "Please call your aunt Sue or your brother about a family gathering in August." Sue Johnson (250) 474-1349, email: charlie_sue@telus.net.

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ELEMENTAL ART FOR TEEN/ADULTS - July 7th & 8th (Sat./Sun.). It's low to no-impact art at its finest! With Evelyn Kirkaldy

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS - Brent Kennedy School. July 9th to 12th with Gisele Chouinard. Ages 5 to 7 and Ages 8+

GYMNASTICS WITH RHONDA - Brent Kennedy School. August 13th to 16th. Pre-School to advanced!

KAYAKING CLASSES - Youth Week - July 16th to 20th, Women's Week – July 16th to 20th (afternoon). Family & Couples - Aug.18th/19th. Endless Adventures, Crescent Valley

SUMMER SWIM LESSONS AT SLOCAN LAKE: Village of Slocan Beach. Lessons from pre-school to teen. July 30th to August 10th.

SIZZLING SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP - Ages 9 to 12 years. Aug. 20th to 24th. Crescent Valley Youth Centre.

RUSH HATS - For adults. With Sharon & Lynnda. Sunday, July 15th, Threads Guild Building, Perrys Siding.

DYEING WITH INVASIVE PLANTS - With Tricia Rasku & Juliet Craig. Friday, July 27th. Threads Guild, Perrys Siding.

14TH ANNUAL SLOCAN VALLEY POKER FLOAT - Sunday, August 12th. Join us for another pleasant valley Sunday!

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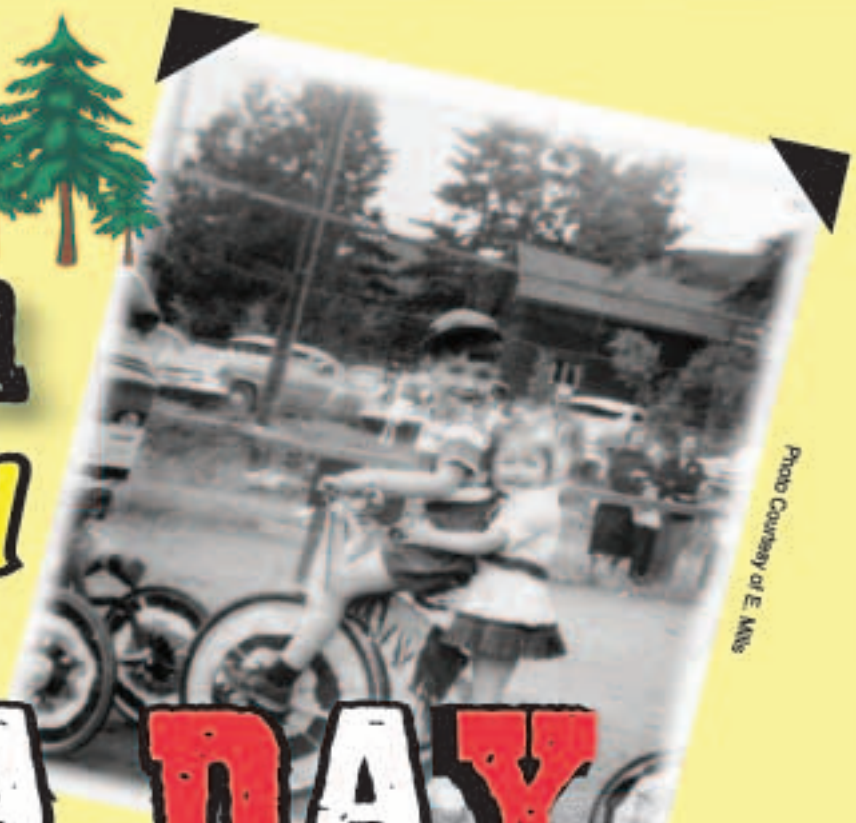

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