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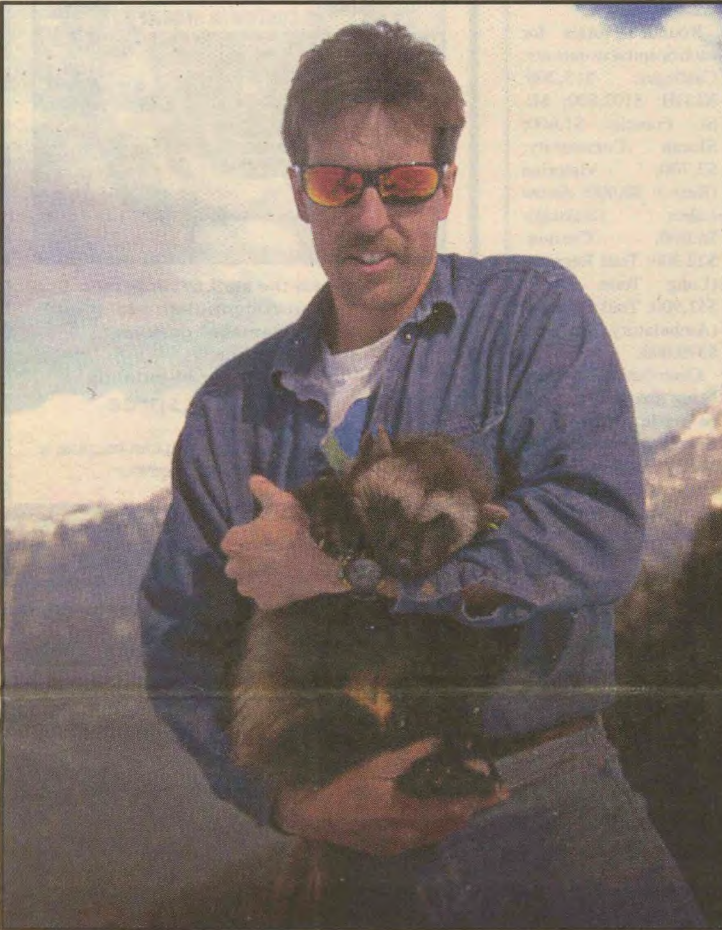


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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2001

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VOLUME 13, NUMBER 10



Wolverines and their man on TV

by Steve Thornton

He's a natural TV star. Handsome, rugged, kind of mischievous-looking. And highly intelligent. A little hard on the cafeteria staff, maybe, but wolverines don't eat indoors all that often, anyway.

Nelson resident John Krebs might have star potential, too – though the senior wildlife biologist for the Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program would probably be

happier in his current day job. Krebs spends a lot of his time sorting papers for the CBF&WCP, but when he gets outdoors, he manages to squeeze in some pretty interesting work – like capturing wolverines for a project intended to improve the survivorship of the blue-listed critters.

Krebs and his wolverine subjects star in a Discovery Channel program, "Champions of the Wild," airing Jan. 22 at 6 and 11

p.m. The wolverine project, which has been on-going for six years and involves trapping, radio-collaring, and following these large relatives of the weasel, is one of 59 projects funded by the CBF&WCP this year.

Wolverines are called "gluttons" because mythology suggests, wrongly, that they'll eat tremendous amounts of food. Champions of the Wild may help to set the record a little straighter.

Christmas sales very good

by Steve Thornton

NELSON - Although it was not a record year, the Christmas season produced strong sales for Nelson businesses polled by the Express. Most said sales were satisfactory, if not quite as good as in some years.

At Figments Fine Canadian Crafts, owner Petra Hansen said Christmas season sales were "the same as last year," though down "a little" from two years ago. "But we're happy," she said.

Mallard's Source for Sports had "the best December we've ever had," according to owner Dale Donaldson.

At Gerick Cycle, it was less clear cut. Sales were "way down" in areas dependent on downhill skiing, and up in all other areas, such as cross-country skiing and bicycle sales, said

owner Ross McNamara. He said the lack of pre-Christmas snowfall made sales of downhill ski equipment "a disaster," but because Gerick deals in goods that are less sensitive to snowfall levels, Christmas was "relatively good" there.

Predictably, the Lord Nelson Cold Beer & Wine Store revelled somewhat in the season. Business was "nuts" on New Year's Eve, said manager Scott Swetlikoe, but though sales began to pick up a couple of weeks before Christmas, the early part of December was a little slow.

Swetlikoe said he noticed high numbers of American tourists here during the season.

At Hipperson's Hardware, sales were down "just a tiny bit" from last year, though considering the store

wasn't selling Y2K survivalist supplies, sales were better than might have been expected. Owner Randy Horswill said he was satisfied with the season's income.

And at the Gift Hutt, owner Margaret Hutt agreed that sales this year were good. She said the season was slow to get started, but picked up and stayed busy right up to Christmas Eve.

There was a mix of opinions on the relative importance of the Christmas and the summer tourist seasons. Christmas is the "biggest time of year" at Hipperson's and is "our biggest month by far" at Mallard's, but at Gerick Cycle, Christmas sales perform the crucial function of allowing McNamara to keep his winter staff working.

Hey dad, it's your turn!

NELSON - Is there life after birth for fathers? Not yet, but it's coming, thanks to Nelson Home Support.

"We've had a Life After Birth program for mothers for years," says Sherry Kelly, a registered nurse who runs the program that helps new moms cope.

No it's time for fathers to have a group, says Kelly.

The meetings will be run on a drop-in basis at Home Support, 905 Gordon Rd., on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. First meeting is Jan. 17, and the group is free. Babysitting will be provided.

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New face at Nelson legal services office

NELSON - The West Kootenay office of the Legal Services Society (Legal Aid) has a new staff lawyer. Chris Hemphill took over the office in Nelson last summer from David Miller, who retired in July after 25 years of practice.

About his new job, Hemphill says, "I enjoy being able to help people without having to sell my services, and without having to always think about how much I am going to charge the client." Hemphill worked in a private law firm in Nelson for 12 years before moving to Legal Services.

"Many people think all Legal Aid does is represent people charged with crimes and people who are getting divorced," Hemphill says. "But our services go a lot further than that, into other areas of civil law."

Hemphill likes the educational aspect of his job. He explains that most people

who come into the office have a few simple questions which he can answer in a short interview.

"If it weren't for us," Hemphill says, "they might not go to a private lawyer for the answers because they'd be afraid it would cost too much. I just give them information and a bit of advice, and that's all they need. They can go away and deal with the problem themselves."

For clients who need more than brief advice, Legal Services can provide representation only if they meet specific guidelines.

Hemphill does not do criminal law cases himself. His office refers these to private lawyers who handle the cases and bill the Legal Services Society.

Most family law cases are handled this way too, although Hemphill does some of those himself.

"Many lawyers don't like doing family law," he says. "But I enjoy it because you

deal with very important personal issues, like custody of children. It's satisfying."

Other than family and criminal law, the most common legal issues presented by clients are problems with income assistance. "There are many problems with eligibility for disability status, and lots of disagreement about decisions made by the Ministry of Social Development and Economic Security about people's financial benefits," says Janet Sawyer, the paralegal who handles most of these cases.

Sawyer and Hemphill often visit other community service organizations to present workshops to people on specific areas of the law.

"This is part of Legal Services' community education mandate," says Hemphill.

"We can help a lot of people indirectly this way," he adds.

Hospitals light up with cash

NELSON - The sixth annual "Light Up the Hospitals" fund raiser in support of West Kootenay hospitals has topped the half million dollar level.

Rounded totals for each hospital to date are: Castlegar: \$13,200; KLDH: \$102,800; Mt. St. Francis: \$1,600; Slocan Community: \$3,700; Victorian (Kaslo): \$6,000; Arrow Lakes (Nakusp): \$6,000; Creston: \$22,300; Trail Regional (Long Term Care): \$51,900; Trail Regional (Ambulatory Care): \$379,000.

Contributions are still being accepted and can be made at any West Kootenay and Creston Valley bank or credit union, as well as at any hospital in the West Kootenay area.

Accident claims woman

NELSON - Nelson RCMP are investigating a three vehicle fatal motor vehicle accident that occurred in the Bonnington area of Highway 3A/6 in South Slocan.

A 59-year-old Blueberry Creek woman was a passenger in one of the vehicles involved in the accident. She died at the scene. Alcohol was not involved, police say.




Randy and the staff at Hipperson want to congratulate our "Home Advantage" customer, Cat. Steele, lucky winner of our bi-monthly \$100 shopping spree.

Come in for details on how you can become a "Home Advantage" member.

Hipperson Hardware
395 Baker St. Nelson 352-5517



Yes, but do you qualify for help?

The Legal Services Society gets about 40 applications a month for help with criminal charges, 40 more for family matters, and the same number for other matters in the West Kootenay region.

In order to help, the LSS requires that criminal charges must be serious enough that jail time could result. For family and other matters, the problem must pose a threat to health, safety or livelihood of family members.

Other matters may involve motor vehicles,

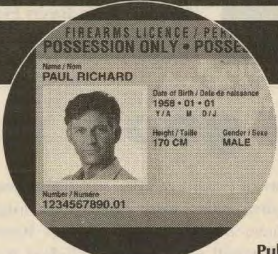
foreclosures, estates, tenancy, welfare, Workers Compensation, Employment Insurance, and other civil and administrative legal matters.

To be eligible for Legal Services Society assistance in a legal matter, a single applicant must make less than \$925 a month if the charge is criminal, and less than \$1002 for all other matters.

The income allowance increases with family size, and the applicant must not have more than \$5,000 in assets.

Important Information for all Canadians about responsible firearm ownership

An update on licensing



Temporary licences issued to meet demand

To comply with the *Firearms Act* requirement for firearm owners to have a licence as of January 1, 2001, Canadians sent in their licence applications in record numbers. To meet this demand, temporary licences are being issued to eligible firearm owners.

Public safety remains the cornerstone of the firearms program. Temporary licences are only being issued to those who are successfully screened against Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) databases. And, like all other firearm licence holders, those with temporary firearms licences will be continuously screened against police databases.

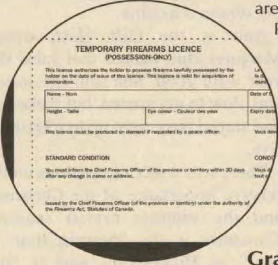
These public safety checks conform to the *Firearms Act* and keep firearms away from those who should not have them.

Temporary licence holders are not permitted to acquire firearms. However, they will be in legal possession of their firearms and they will be able to get ammunition. Temporary licences are only valid until June 30, 2001 or until those eligible receive their five-year licence.

Grace period introduced

Firearm owners who applied for their licence before the deadline will not be penalized if they did not receive their licence by January 1, 2001.

This grace period will last until June 30, 2001. It only protects people who applied for a licence before January 1, 2001. Firearm owners and users who did not apply for a licence or who don't have a valid Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) may be subject to penalties under the *Criminal Code*.




For more information, assistance or forms, call 1 800 731-4000 or visit our Web site at www.cfc.gc.ca

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Generations: Eighty-eight years old and still baking the best apple pie this side of heaven, Nelson area resident Lou Bedford is joined by her daughter Joan (top left), grand daughter Deanna, and great-granddaughter Hanna at a family gathering in Darwell, Alberta. Lou is the wife of Jack Bedford, a frequent contributor to Nelson newspapers.

Slocan Snowfest, magic in the snow

Circle your calendar for the weekend of January 13th and 14th because it marks the return of the Slocan Snowfest, a celebration of the virtues of snow and all good things about winter.

One of the major attractions of the day will be the Snow Sculpting Workshop hosted by the Slocan Valley's very own Peter Vogelaar, Lesley Mayfield and Jules Delaney, the former (and hopefully future) Canadian National Snow Sculpture Champions. The event includes a Saturday workshop from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Youth Centre in Slocan where entrants will get instruction on the art of carving snow (tools, designing, etc.). As well, Peter, Lesley and Jules will share some of their unique experiences at snow sculpting competitions around the world. On Sunday, entrants have all day to work on carving up a block of snow six feet tall into a work of art.

Cost of the workshop is \$10 per person or \$25 per family. To register for the workshop call the W.E. Graham Community School Co-ordinators office at 355-2484.

Another feature of Snowfest is the return of Snowpitch sponsored by the new and revitalised Slocan Valley Recreation Commission. You've never played snowpitch until you've been part of Snowpitch! It's a one-pitch tournament with up to 15

members on a team playing one inning games with their own pitcher. Team members can include all family members and friends. Dress warm, dress silly and bring your ball-glove. Who'll win the coveted golden glove trophy this year?

And yet another part of Snowpitch will be the Team Snowshoe Race before the final game. Five team members strap on a pair of boards and run! Entry fee for Snowpitch is \$30 per team with the proceeds going towards the Mt. Sentinel School French Club's Quebec Exchange Program.

Call the Rec Office at 226-0008 to get your team signed up.

Screening mammography

The screening mammography program will be in Nelson from Jan. 27 to Feb. 7 at Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital. Call 1-800 663-9203 to book an appointment for a free mammography exam.

Screening mammography is an important tool in the fight against cancer, and particularly against breast cancer. The program is for women who are 40 or older, are not pregnant or breastfeeding, do not have breast implants, had not had breast cancer, have no current breast problems, have not had a mammogram in a year, are BC residents, and have a family doctor in BC.

Kootenay trio sings about love

NELSON — Three accomplished Kootenay musicians will present Shapes of Love - a romp through 300 years of love songs, Saturday, Feb. 17 at the Capitol Theatre.

Featured in this revival are soprano Elizabeth Ross and pianist Wendy Guimont, both from Cranbrook, and baritone David Stewart from Argenta. Show time is 8 p.m.

Written and compiled by Stewart, Shapes of Love was first presented in central Alberta in 1988. The Red Deer Advocate's Bob Weber said, "They sing

songs capital-R Romantic, gently wistful, satirical, and downright lascivious. And they sing them so well that if you aren't in love, they make you wish you were."

Songs range from Mozart to Manilow. There are offerings from opera and musical theatre as well as straight heart-on-your-sleeve solos.

A Gershwin medley decorates the first half of the show and Rossini's famous duet for two amorous cats brings it to a close. Ross, Guimont, and Stewart are musical veterans.

Elizabeth Ross, with a string of musical theatre

performances to her credit, is also in demand as a recitalist and oratorio soloist.

Wendy Guimont is a busy piano teacher in Cranbrook and has performed with the Symphonie of the Kootenays as well as in many chamber music ensembles.

David Stewart has performed in opera, musical theatre, and oratorio in both Canada and the US, as well as on CBC radio and television.

Tickets for Shapes of Love are available from the Capitol Theatre and Figments in Nelson.

Play Safeway's \$50,000 A Day Giveaway!

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Items and prices effective Thursday, January 11 thru Saturday, January 13, 2001

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Each day for 30 days, \$50,000 is available to be won at Safeway. From January 2 to January 31, 2001, Safeway will air daily draws for \$50,000 or come in-store and check the Daily Prize Sign to see if you have won! Scratch the designated area on your ticket for your own \$50,000 A Day Giveaway Series of characters (numbers and letters). Keep all of your game tickets through to the end of the contest. Each ticket is valid for all 30 draws. Buy any 4 Participating Products and receive a bonus ticket! Tobacco purchases do not qualify.

See posters for details.

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You can kick the habit if you try

Kick the habit, get the habit.

We are all addicted and tis the season we choose to remember. We make annual resolutions to better ourselves. We don't always recognize our addictions. There are the obvious addictions, like alcohol, heroin, marijuana and cigarettes. But we carry both negative and positive behaviour patterns – not all addictions are harmful. We also have good habits, like brushing our teeth and saying thank you. Part of the process is to turn our lemons into lemonade.

Being a better human being means constantly ridding ourselves of negative behaviour patterns and substituting good ones. None of us is as beautiful as the image of who we think we would like to be. We will never be perfect, but life is a process of striving for that goal.

Every forward step we make enables us to feel more powerful, in relationships with ourselves as well as with those things around us. Getting rid of one addiction gives us strength to rid ourselves of others.

We all have something to say. We all want our voice to carry power and ring true. The more we are like the image that we want to be, the more powerful our voices will be.

All addictions are both physical and emotional. In the end, it is the addict who must see and acknowledge their addiction as a first step toward becoming non-dependent. If going it alone is too hard, there are many groups that are out there to help you become the better person you want to be.

If you are the friend of an addict, offer help. That help might only be a sympathetic ear. Some addictions only need a realization of that addiction to disappear.

Acknowledge your addiction.

Write down all the reasons why you want to eliminate this behaviour from your lifestyle.

Substitute a good one for a bad one.

The best substitute may be something that is exercise related. Ride a bike, go to the aquatic centre, go for a walk. Stand-up and shake your arms.

Never give up. You are always making progress. Start with small successes and build upon them.

Each small win will give you the confidence to take on the next step in becoming the person that you strive to be.

Ridding ourselves of addicted behaviour does not give us the right to be self righteous. We still have got more things to work on. In the end, only you can cure your own dependency.

The Editor's Mailbag

That's garbage!

Dear Editor:

Recent garbage fee increases for Nelson taxpayers prompted me to once again present city hall and the RDCK with a way out of the parochial mind set that deals with garbage by digging a bigger hole. Perhaps now four or five years later they may be a little less deaf considering a \$200,000 environmental study commissioned by the RDCK about the Salmo landfill clearly points out the flaws in not modernizing our approach to dealing with garbage.

Information I presented our leaders deals with a state of the art composting facility that has been operational in Edmonton for seven or eight months. The compost facility is a private-public partnership between Edmonton and an international electric utility called "TransAlta." This facility is designed to compost 180,000 metric tonnes of residential garbage along with 22,500 tonnes of bio-solids (poop), generating 125,000 tonnes of finished product annually (soil).

Cost to Edmonton \$62/tonne; cost to Nelson \$75/tonne to keep digging a bigger and better hole for ourselves. You get what you vote for.

Sooner or later we must deal with our garbage in a less neolithic manner. An old saying in business is "you have to spend money to make money."

The same could be said about not raising taxes. You must invest in creative solutions to simple problems in order to keep taxes from going up in the future. That is real leadership. The solution to our garbage problem is not rocket science.

It does, however, require taking our collective heads out of the sand.

Tom Prior
Nelson

Why should I pay for your carwash?

Dear Editor:

I am one of the concerned citizens regarding the increased costs of water and sewage which can be administered without raising our rate in the coming year. I propose the city to give us options to install water meters so that we are truly paying based on our own consumption rather than others'. I am quite willing to pay towards the cost of installing a meter for my house like many other homeowners who conserve energy. It is time that Nelson joins other municipalities to deal with wasted water by residents. I have seen too many people washing their cars every few days, sidewalks for hours, forgetting to turn off their sprinklers for the weekend, washing one pair of pants in the machine, etc., etc.

These people use perfectly good drinking water which is hard to come by in many other countries.

I know that conserving water will lead to less stress

on the sewage system, less contamination on this beautiful land, and of course decreased abuse on our lakes and rivers.

People generally do not conserve water without knowing exactly how much they actually use. If the city increases our water rate uniformly, it would not reduce water consumption or stress on the sewage system, just complaints from taxpayers.

I would like to propose that the city subsidize those who are willing to pay the cost of installation. For those who are not willing, perhaps give them three years or so to install the meters so that they can budget for it.

Several years ago I worked in one municipality which was dealing with the increasing cost of utilities. We switched from no meter system to the meter system, and let me assure you that everyone was pleased with the result.

Riki Sato
Nelson

"I can see clearly now ..." More predictions for 2001

Gord McAdams

"The new hospital campus is taking shape and the foundation has been poured for the community complex approved in the referendum last spring. The West Waterfront pathway is nearing completion. Streetfest 2001 was by all accounts the "best yet," and the 57th annual Midsummer Bohnspiel brought over 400 tourists into the area for a week.

Our economy continues to thrive and diversify, led by value-added manufacturing, outdoor recreation, and our local retail sectors. KSA is again expanding and the Nelson Campus is nearing capacity. There is talk about the need for more buildings on the site.

Curbside recycling is finally a reality with a corresponding reduction in the cost of garbage. The residents in the new social housing projects feel a sense of pride in being a respected and productive segment of our community. Public transit continues to expand with new services and improved scheduling. Crime rates have again fallen and the area is being touted as a safe place to work, live and raise

a family. Dog lovers, joggers, and sports groups having fostered mutual respect, now coexist in harmony. Citizens are proving that "Working Together Works!"

A critical mass of attention

C.H. Jeanes

If not in 2001, then surely by 2010, the Kootenays will experience a development boom. A world-class tourism economy, of more, of better-quality and more variety, in resorts and activities, will come.

Mega-projects to improve access by road, air and perhaps rail, will be undertaken.

A "critical mass" of global attention upon us from the wealthy and leisured classes, will make this possible.

Electronic commerce will largely be to thank for this.

Any opponents of this trend will have to admit that demands for employment, to ease regional poverty, justify the move to intense development.

And we'll say, "Let the good times roll!"

Letters to the Editor guidelines:

We encourage our readers to write to us. Letters are a way for you to speak to your community, to give new information, participate in a discussion or express an opinion.

Please address letters meant for publication to the Editor. We do not accept open letters or poetry of any kind. Letters must be short (200 words maximum) and to the point. We reserve the right to edit letters, and the decision to publish or not to publish is completely at the discretion of the Editor and Publisher.

Commentaries can be longer (500 words maximum) and are more in-depth than letters. Commentaries usually

require some research, and should offer new information as well as an opinion.

If you wish to write a commentary, please contact the Editor.

All letters and commentaries must be signed and include your name, address and phone number. We will not print "name withheld" letters, or letters or commentaries that have appeared in other publications or contain personal attacks, derogatory comments or promote violence, racism or sexism. Opinions in the *Express* are not necessarily those of the publisher or the *Express* advertisers.

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opinion

STREET TALK

WE ASKED:

"If you were the West Kootenay area, what new year resolution would you have?"



I would keep my natural beauty so that people would get out and experience me more and keep their peace of mind and their health.

Sara Fujibayashi
Nelson



I would stop wearing cosmetics, clean up my appearance, don't be such a poser and live up to my reputation of being pure in water and beautiful in my forest.

Andrew Lazier
Nelson.



I would hug everyone, because everyone needs hugs and a joke.

Pauline Hughes
Nelson

GOOD NEIGHBOUR OF THE WEEK



Gordon Paul Cowan

Age: 26

Lives in: Nelson Born in: Nelson

Occupation: Furniture Salesperson

Favourite leisure activity: Woodworking

Favourite non-profit organization: Royal Canadian Sea Cadets because it gives teenagers some goals in their lives and training in leadership and discipline.

Words to Live By: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

NAHC

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
NELSON AND AREA HEALTH COUNCIL**

On March 31, 2001, the Minister of Health will be appointing *four individuals* to the Nelson and Area Health Council for a *one to three-year term*. The Council is required to nominate two candidates for each position. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in our community and to play a role in meeting the health care needs of local residents. The Nelson and Area Health Council will recommend candidates to the Minister of Health based upon varied selection criteria designed to meet the needs of our community including, geographical participation in an equitable manner a broad range of participation from across the population – finance, legal, medical, age, education, business, ethnic, visible minority groups, Aboriginal representation and gender equity.

INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCE

Nelson and area residents with interest in and or previous board experience with seniors, children and families, housing, rural health issues, acute care, community care, and continuing care are encouraged to submit a nomination form. Members of the Nelson and Area Health Council are volunteers appointed for their interest, knowledge, skills and expertise as well as their ability to represent the diversity of the Nelson and Area Health Council's population.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Council members assist in developing policies, setting priorities and allocating resources for the delivery of health care services in Nelson and area and in the West Kootenay Boundary region. All Health Councillors are volunteers, there is no remuneration. However, expenses are reimbursed in accordance with the policies of the Nelson and Area Health Council.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Nelson and Area Health council please contact Miriam Ramsden, Executive Assistant for more information and individual nomination papers at #402, 3 View Street, Nelson, BC V1L 2V1, Phone 250-354-2318 or by e-mail at miriam.ramsden@nahc.hnet.bc.ca.

The deadline for submission of completed nomination papers is January 29, 2001.

Quality RE/MAX Listings



TREMENDOUS VALUE
This spacious manufactured home makes a great starter. Approximately 100 sq.ft. with 3 bedrooms and 2½ baths including ensuite. Also features sundeck, shed & garden.
Wayne Germaine
354-2814 (Cell)
\$45,000



CREEKSIDE 1/2 ACRE
Ready to move into 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 level home, with attached garage and workshop. Garden area and patio. 20 minutes to downtown Nelson. Bonus 2 bdrm. mobile home on property as mortgage helper.
Lorne Westnedge
352-7199 (Res.)
\$114,500



AFFORDABLE PRICE
Immaculate 2 bedroom mobile home at Bonaventure, covered deck, patio, gas fireplace, all appliances included. Boat & Beach access. Move right in.
Shirley Cutler
352-9883 (Res.)
\$34,900



QUALITY LIVING
This one owner home has been immaculately maintained on ¼ acre city lot. 3 bdrms. 3 baths, workshop and attached garage situated on a quiet cul-de-sac. Move in and enjoy!
Lorne Westnedge
352-7199 (Res.)
\$181,900



CITY CONVENIENCE
Walking distance to mall, downtown & schools, this 3 bedroom, full basement home is convenient and affordable. Quick possession could be arranged.
Lorne Westnedge
352-7199 (Res.)
\$133,500



LOTS TO OFFER
Great spot 10 mins. from Nelson at Beasley. Nice property full of trees & shrubs. Large garden plus several fruit trees. Superb view from covered deck. Attached carport. Small barn, chicken coop & root cellar. 5½ acres bordered by Garrity Creek.
Wayne Germaine
354-2814 (cell)
\$124,900



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Dances of Universal Peace

Sing and dance with your friends and neighbors on a Friday night in downtown Nelson, at the Boy Scout Hall.

Friday, January 12 this fun event will be back in Nelson for the first time since the early '90s led by Shemmaho: the local representative and a certified teacher of the worldwide organization known as Peaceworks. The doors open at 7 p.m. and dancing is from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

"This kind of dancing can be seen as a very simplified cousin to folk dancing," says Shemmaho, who has been leading these events for over 16 years. "It celebrates every interpretation of spirituality - without the preaching." Whether you're out for a grassroots good time or another way to focus your prayers you can find it all at the Boy Scout Hall, 310 Cedar Street, on the second Friday of the month. Cover charge is \$5 to \$10 per person, sliding scale. For more information call Shemmaho at 355-2591.

Salon of Arts evening at Kaslo's Langham Theatre

KASLO - The North Kootenay Lake Arts and Heritage Council hosts the region's first Salon of Arts on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Langham Theatre in Kaslo.

The evening, a fund-raiser and membership drive for the council, will include an array of artistic presentations from a variety of genres, a silent auction, a sampling of homemade baking, and lots of fun.

Presentations will include video snippets by Rik Valentine and John Mercy, poetry by David Herreshoff and Judy Wapp, drama by Lynn Van Deurson and company, love songs by David Stewart, the melodies of a classical quartet with Jane Ballantyne, David Stewart, Stephanie Judy, and Judy Woodward, plus the J.V. Humphries School Jazz Trio, the sounds of Peter Kremler, Brendan Birkett, Geoff Leathwood, and friends, and readings by Chuck Finn

LEISURE & LIFESTYLE

and Margot Mckague, both recent recipients of Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance Grants administered by the Council.

Visual arts will be shown by Philip Pedini, Ursula Rettich, Judy Wapp, Pat Forsyth, Gordon Brown, Peter Estok, Amos Tanguay, and others.

Silent auction items will include a Kwondo Box, hand-crafted by David Stewart, a hand-painted T-shirt by Deb Borsos, a "block heater" knitted by Emily Mattas, a signed copy of "Music for the Joy of It" by Stephanie Judy, pottery by Chris Greyta, and a print by Nick Meijer Drees. All money raised in the silent auction will aid the work of the council.

Memberships in the council are five dollars and will be sold during the evening. Admission is free, but a hat will be passed for contributions.

She draws from nature

Mildred Erb Gallery 352-9813

Watercolour painter Marjorie Nelson exhibits new work all month at the Nelson Museum in an exhibition hosted by the Nelson Public Art Gallery Committee.

The artist works in water-colour for the medium's delicate qualities, embracing subjects such as flowers and old buildings. She is often compelled to stop by the side of the road when a scene takes her, and keeps her easel handy for just

such an occurrence.

Marjorie Nelson has exhibited work previously in Fernie and Nelson, and takes her roadside scenes from both the East and West Kootenays.

The Mildred Erb Gallery at the museum is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m.

New style Tai Chi

Eric Tuttle, a highly respected martial artist from Kingston, Ontario, is offering an intensive program for people wanting to learn Chen Style Tai Chi.

An early start will allow students to come before starting work or going to school. Classes are Monday through Friday, every day, for one hour, 6:50 to 7:50 AM.

Classes start January 15 and run through until the end of April.

This intensive program will allow students to learn the complete first form of the system.

Chen Style tai chi has not been offered in Nelson before. It is believed to be the oldest style of tai chi. The many other styles practised around the world are thought to have derived directly or indirectly from Chen style. Other styles of tai chi include Yang, Wu and Sun.

Chen is characterized by fast as well as slow movements not seen commonly in Yang style, an emphasis on spiral connection and more apparent issuing of energy.

Students of other styles will learn new ideas about internal connection and the importance of correct structure.

Eric is an inspiring and enthusiastic teacher who loves what he does.

For more information call Virginia Stanford at 352-9678 or Eric Tuttle at 505-5378.

New thrift store to open

Women In Need 505-5444

NELSON - The West Kootenai Women In Need Society will open Nelson's newest thrift store on Saturday, Jan. 13.

The WIN community thrift store will be run by volunteers with the purpose of addressing poverty issues in Nelson.

The store is located at 701C Baker Street, underneath the LORDCO store. Entrances will be located at the corner of Baker and Hall streets and there is a ramped, easy-access entrance in the alley directly across from the Extra Foods shipping area.

On Saturday, Jan. 20, there will be a huge indoor rummage sale and silent auction, an open stage, a child activity centre, and refreshments for everyone.

The store requires immediate donations of clean clothing, shoes, books, toys, household goods, linens, small appliances, furniture, sporting goods, and other saleable items. They will not accept hot water heaters, refrigerators, or garbage.

Donations can be dropped off at the store and pick-up can be arranged.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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• The Yang Sheng Health Centre focuses on the treatment of: acute and chronic pain; stress and exhaustion; irritable bowel and inflammatory bowel diseases, and other auto-immune diseases.

• Happy New Year to all the friends of Redfern House, past, present and future! We have lots of exciting new plans for this, our 5th year . . . so stay tuned!

• WINTER CLEARANCE at STREETCLOTHES NAMED DESIRE. This week only, all winter stock is: 30% off Monday thru Thursday • 40% off Friday • 50% off Saturday and Sunday. Don't miss out!

• Teth, Christine, Mary-Lin, Sheila and Tracy welcome you to C'est La Vie and Body Contouring. We offer a complete range of family hairstyling services as well as waxing, herbal bodywraps and detox, ear and nose piercing, Tarot Card Reading, hair extensions, pedicures, face-lift masks.

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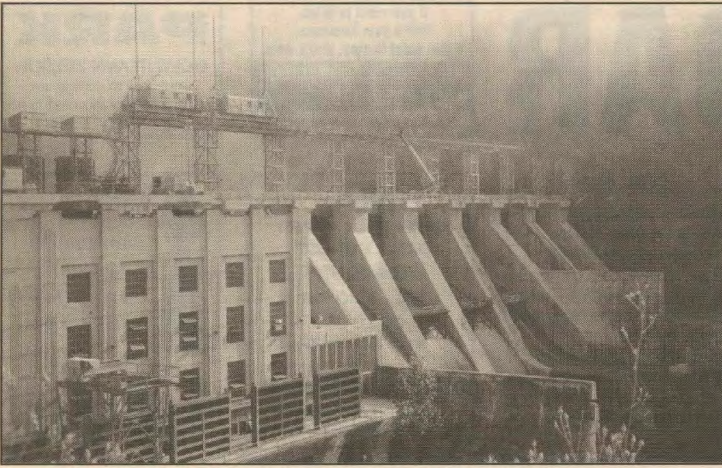
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New turbines going into the Columbia Power Corp. dam at Brilliant will help ensure that the facility continues to pump out wattage at maximum capacity.

Brilliant dam upgrade will turn up the megawatt dial

CASTLEGAR - A multi-million dollar project is underway to upgrade four turbines at the Brilliant Dam. One of the four turbines was completed in August, adding approximately five megawatts to the facility's generating capacity. Two further turbines are scheduled for upgrading in March and August of 2001. The fourth turbine is scheduled to be upgraded in 2002.

"The turbine upgrade project is part of the multi-million dollar capital program underway at the Brilliant Dam this year, which also includes building a new switchyard to replace the existing switchyard, and anchoring of the dam to meet new safety standards in the event of a major natural disaster. Together these projects employ more than 40 local

people, and increase generating capacity, reliability, and safety," says Minister Ed Conroy, the Minister responsible for Columbia Power Corporation and its joint venture partner the Columbia Basin Trust. "These projects will also ensure that the dam remains a good long-term investment for the people of the Columbia Basin."

Life extension work is being undertaken in conjunction with the turbine upgrades. These projects are being completed in parallel in order to achieve efficiencies and minimize unit outages. The replacement of key turbine components, as well as the rewinding of the four generator stators, are all part of the life extension project. In total, these projects will help to ensure that the Brilliant Dam and power-

plant will continue to have some of the best operating statistics in the country.

The Brilliant Dam, acquired in 1996, is one of several joint power development investments that generate income for the joint venture partners.

-Columbia Power Corp.

Student nurses need help of local families

CASTLEGAR - Families with health problems can help student nurses complete their education.

Each year, student nurses at Selkirk College learn how chronic health conditions affect the family dynamic by observing and interacting with volunteer families in the Selkirk College region.

This term, volunteer families who are living with chronic health challenges and who would be willing to assist the learning process are asked to contact Selkirk College. These families would be asked to permit student nurses to visit them in their homes and interview family members about how they cope with the presence of a chronic health condition.

A chronic health challenge is any long-standing condition that has an impact on the way a person maintains daily living.

Volunteer families would

help first-year student nurses learn how families function and how they live day-to-day with chronic health challenges. Families who volunteer to participate in the program can expect to have three one-hour visits by a student nurse to be arranged at their convenience between late January and the end of March.

Interested in volunteering? Call Bev Onis-chak, Department of Health Studies, Selkirk College, (250) 365-7292 ext. 332.

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COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST
PROJECT IDEAS SOUGHT
Social Sector Program Funding

The Columbia Basin Trust's Social Sector Steering Committee invites individuals and groups from around the Basin to outline, in a one- or two-page letter, project ideas that will fit into any one of the three programs (listed below) funded through the Social Sector over the next two years:

- Early Childhood Supports
- Affordable Housing
- Families

Please contact the Trust at 1-800-505-8998 or visit the Trust's website at www.cbt.org to get more detailed information about the above Social Sector programs and how to submit a project ideas letter.

LETTERS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 16, 2001.

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Local community taking pressure off forest

by Michelle Johnson

What do value-added forest products, eco-certified lumber, community business planning, organic botanicals, and clean drinking water have in common? The Harrop-Proctor Community Co-operative Association (HPCC), located 30 km northeast of Nelson.

It all started over water. Since 1976, locals in the small 650 resident community of Harrop-Proctor, have consistently protested logging domestic watersheds. The residents, like many communities around BC, voiced concerns in hopes of making changes to local logging practices affecting the community. What started out as a watershed protection society of concerned citizens in Harrop-Proctor has now evolved into a novel forest management co-operative with the focus being not on

what to take, but what to leave behind.

The plans to purchase the 10,600 hectare area began when the B.C. government created The West Arm Parkland near Harrop-Proctor. Although the park was welcomed by residents, a large area of crown land remained unprotected and available for forestry purposes adjacent the community. With the community's future in mind, in 1996, surveys were taken during public meetings which determined that 60% of the adult Harrop-Proctor residents did not oppose ecologically-minded logging. From those findings, a community forest proposal based on ecologically-based forestry was taken to the people, then to the government. Today the HPCC, is one of seven communities in BC, who have been granted a tenure to log the forests which affect them,

without big corporation backing.

"It is a right, not a privilege, to have a say as to what happens in our own backyards," says Rami Rothkop, one of the directors for the HPCC. The community, at this point, has four business objectives: sell eco-certified lumber, create a value-added manufacturing plant, harvest botanical forest products and encourage environmentally low-impact tourism. Their plan is to create a viable business with a strong foundation in public involvement, decision making and conflict-resolution.

"There are no illusions to how tough the economics are here," says Rothkop. The Co-op's belief is that through eco-certification and by realizing the potential of the forests beyond just cutting the trees, the profit generated will stay within the community and create more jobs.

Jobs which have been dwindling around BC. The once mighty BC forest industry now only employs about five per cent of the labour force, according to Patricia Marchak, in a publication put out by Ecotrust and The David Suzuki Foundation titled, Falldown. While, according to Forest Renewal B.C.'s, Ric Careless, BC forests are being cut 25% faster than they can grow back. HPCC is addressing this reality by changing the mold of logging management.

"It's more than just the forest," says Ramona Faust, another director at HPCC. "By managing things on the ground, we will determine how to take care of the understory and profit from that. The idea is not to liquidate our largest asset first which takes the longest to replace."

The HPCC advocates the importance of strong community backing since they know from experience changes can be made when people get together. They hope to attract more local artisans and craftsmen in utilizing their eco-certified wood which will be ready late summer, early fall 2001. They are encouraging people to buy the organic tinctures, teas and herbs from Sunshine Bay Botanical, an off-chute business of HPCC, whose products are available at The Kootenay Co-op and Kootenay Folks.

"Our is an eco-based approach. We have to look at the other options as a means to be successful and put power back into the hands of the community. We've [the society] given away a lot of the belief that we have power. Being powerless becomes truth only if we believe that," says Rothkop.

Anyone with ideas or specific needs regarding products or wood use proposals should feel free to contact The Harrop-Proctor Community Co-op at (250) 229-2221. For more information on eco-forestry see the Silva Forest Foundation website www.siverfor.org.

Course offered on co-ops for young people

NELSON - Course on co-ops for young people

Cooperatives are a significant and growing segment of the business world, especially in the Nelson area. Any type of business can be set up as a cooperative. To assist local young people with exploring co-op options, the Youth Options branch of the Ministry of Small Business, Tourism & Culture, in cooperation with the Ministry of Community Development, Cooperatives and Volunteers, is offering a

free course beginning in January.

Lyn Cayo, a noted co-op consultant, will explain how co-ops are formed, the legal implications of a co-op, and how to create an effective board of directors. Cayo will be assisted by Bruce Lacroix with the business planning segment of the course.

The course runs in the evenings, and begins Tuesday evening, January 16. Call 352-3878 for information.

Thief raids cars and freezer

CASTLEGAR - A rash of thefts from vehicles occurred in downtown Castlegar during the last half of December, RCMP report.

On Dec. 27, a 19-year-old Castlegar resident was arrested and charged with thefts from unlocked vehicles and from an unlocked outside freezer. Police remind vehicle owners to lock their cars.

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 Workstories - a 2 phase Career Development Program focusing on researching your dreams and our community while developing marketable skills - begins in February 2001. The program goal is to produce the Workstories Multimedia Library for community use. Workstories will run from February 12 to May 18, 2001.
 If you are unemployed and interested in working on a community centered project as part of a team, attend an information/orientation meeting at:
 Selkirk College
 Silverking Campus
 2001 Silverking Road, Nelson
 Thurs. Jan. 11, 2001, 2 p.m.
 Room 204
 Eligible participants will be funded through a partnership of various funding agencies.
Selkirk College
 Developmental Education Department
 2001 Silverking Road, Nelson, B.C.
 Ph: 352-6601 local 223 - Richard Cima or
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MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS
CENTRAL KOOTENAY DISTRICT

HIRED EQUIPMENT REGISTRATION

The Ministry of Transportation and Highways in the Central Kootenay District (Nelson, Salmo, Winlaw, New Denver, Nakusp, Edgewood, Kaslo, Lardeau, Creston) is compiling its Hired Equipment List and advises all person/companies wishing to have their rentable equipment listed that they should contact the District Office for an "Equipment for Hire" registration form.

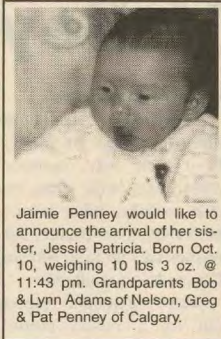
Current policy will not permit the hiring of equipment that is not registered with the Ministry. This Ministry will be hiring local equipment (where available) for projects in their area. Proof of ownership, insurance, and tear slips are required yearly for all registrations. Previously listed equipment must be re-registered.

Owners are reminded that if statements on registration forms are found to be false, the registration forms may be rejected and the equipment may be excluded from the District's hiring list.

Deadline for registration in the District is March 15, 2001.

Central Kootenay District
2nd Floor, 310 Ward Street
Nelson, BC V1L 5S4
(250) 354-6521 1-800-665-2515

Jacques Dupas, P. Eng.
District Highways Manager.



Jaimie Penney would like to announce the arrival of her sister, Jessie Patricia. Born Oct. 10, weighing 10 lbs 3 oz. @ 11:43 pm. Grandparents Bob & Lynn Adams of Nelson, Greg & Pat Penney of Calgary.



Rebecca Wilcox and Ross Revilla are pleased to announce the birth of their baby girl Olivia Jade on Oct. 22/00 weighing 7 lbs 13 oz. Proud first time grandparents are Marge Guild of Nelson and Mont Wilcox of Burnaby "Welcome Olivia"



A beautiful daughter for Sean & Crystal Browne. Nicole Paige Browne born December 4, 2000. 6 lbs 4 oz. 18 1/2" long. Proud grandparents are Steve & Linda Webber of Trail and Jim & Jane Browne of St. Lazare, Quebec.

Looking at health care system

VICTORIA - An advisory committee of British Columbians knowledgeable about the province's health system has been appointed to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the BC health action plan, Health Minister Corky Evans said recently.

"To provide British Columbians with the health services they need, the government and its health care partners must embrace change and responsibility for achieving the goals of the health action plan," said Evans. "I want to ensure that all parts of the health care system are held accountable for results and have named an independent committee to help measure our progress and advise on the implementation of the plan."

The health action plan was announced by Ujjal Dosanjh on Dec. 5. It introduces more than 25 new programs and funding enhancements to improve patient care and modernize B.C.'s publicly funded health system, based on ideas put forward by health care providers and administrators.

The health action advisory committee will be chaired by B.C.'s provincial health officer Dr. Perry Kendall. The members of the advisory committee represent a diverse range of professional expertise and experience in health care, and one of them, Dr. Phillip Malpas, is a Nelson

physician. Members are Keith Anderson, vice president of Continuing Care Services, Simon Fraser Health Region; Don Avison, president of the University Presidents' Council of British Columbia; Judy Burgess, executive manager of the James Bay Community Project; Betty Cameron, chair of the South Fraser Health Region, Colleen Fitzpatrick, vice-president of the Hospital Employees' Union; Dr. Phillip Malpass, internal medicine specialist, Nelson; Rick Roger, chief executive officer, Capital Health Region; Elaine Sloan, registered nurse, Castlegar; Cindy Stewart, president of the Health Sciences Association of B.C.; and Darlene Watts, co-chair of the First Nations Chief's Health Committee.

The first meeting of the advisory committee is set for Jan. 15. The committee will meet and report regularly to the health minister, monitoring progress, identifying concerns, and recommending solutions on implementing the health action plan.

The provincial government has committed \$180 million to the action plan, which includes funding to recruit more nurses, doctors, and other health professionals, provide new and replacement equipment, and improve access to hospital, home-based, and community health care.

Valley residents debate rails-to-trails

By Erin Maconachie

SLOCAN — If some Slokan Valley residents have their way, outdoor enthusiasts will soon be able to hike, bike, horse-back ride, cross-country ski or snowmobile from Slokan City to Newfoundland.

Many residents turned out for a recent public meeting to express their support and concerns for a proposed trail that would link the Valley with other Kootenay communities and with the Trans Canada Trail.

"If residents go for it, the Slokan Valley is an excellent place for this kind of thing," said Kootenay Loop Trail Project coordinator Hanne Smith Heintz.

The proposed Kootenay Loop Trail would connect Castlegar, South Slokan, Glade, Nelson, Ymir and Salmo to each other and to the Trans Canada Trail in a 250 km circular trail. The Slokan Valley could join the network if the abandoned Slokan Sub rail grade was converted to a trail.

The rail bed is already popular with cross-country skiers and snowmobilers in the winter, but rough ballast would have to be removed before it could be used by cyclists in the summer.

Heintz said the trail would be a recreational asset to the Valley and would allow communities to take advantage of economic opportunities presented by the Trans Canada Trail, a 16,000 km shared-use recreational trail that winds through every province and territory. Its route through British Columbia traces the historic Dewdney Trail from Cranbrook to Christina Lake, and follows the province's southern border to Vancouver and Victoria. Heintz said the Valley has greater potential to develop a bed-and-breakfast trade than other more sparsely populated areas.

But not everyone shares Heintz's enthusiasm for the project. Adjacent landowners were surveyed in May 1999, and while most were in favour of converting the rail bed to a trail, many had reservations.

Some landowners voiced their concerns at the Nov. 29 public meeting.

Concerns include unsafe driving of recreational vehicles and resulting dust and noise, trespassing on private property, loss of privacy, vandalism, litter and

uncontrolled dogs.

Heintz called these concerns "classic problems" with abandoned rail beds. But she said successful trails like Victoria's Galloping

Goose prove that managed rail-trails can solve these problems with strategies like access control, signs and public education.

"The people who came

were primarily concerned with management problems," said Heintz. "Most of the people were reassured that these problems could be dealt with."

For now, Valley residents will have to wait and see what becomes of it.

The CPR donated the abandoned rail grade to the Trans Canada Foundation

for use as a recreational corridor. The non-profit organization is in the process of passing it on to the province, but negotiations are not complete yet.



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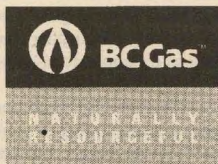
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