Resort celebrates with two big challenges

PANORAMA, B.C. — Roughly a six-hour drive from Edmonton, **Panorama Mountain Village Resort** is a beautiful place nestled between the Rocky and Purcell mountain ranges.

A longtime favourite with Albertans throughout the province as a ski destination, Panorama's popularity is also growing as a great family summer destination.

Activity options are endless with kid's adventure camp, mini-golf, horseback riding, hiking, ATV tours, whitewater rafting, fly fishing, tennis and of course, golfing at the Greywolf Golf Course.

Recently ranked as number 10 in Canada, the Greywolf is renowned for its fantastic vistas and challenging course, especially the infamous 6th hole, the Cliffhanger.

The $250,000 Cliffhanger Shootout returns Aug. 31 with all proceeds from the event going to the Invermere Fire Department. You can register online at www.greywolfgolf.com.

The other activity that is extremely popular at Panorama is mountain biking. There is terrain to suit every level and the resort offers rentals and lessons. Throughout the summer, there are several major bike events held in the Bike Park, including the final event, The Panorama Cup Race.

"The Bike Park has been in great shape all summer and many people have enjoyed it, including those who competed in The Ultimate Road Trip," said Hayley Wilson, Pano's media queen.

"To celebrate another great season, we're bringing back the Panorama Cup on Aug. 31. The race has a number of categories to suit everyone's abilities. Register for the cross-country haul up Lookout or the downhill section on the newly renovated Rocking Horse. You've had all summer to practice, so come and show us what you've got."

To find out more about the upcoming bike race and how you can compete, or about Panorama in general, visit www.panoramaresort.com.

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VICTORIA, B.C. — Canada's oldest brewpub, **Spinnakers Gastro Brewpub & Guesthouses**, is celebrating 24 years of bringing people together with the release of Blue Bridge Double IPA.

"Bridges link people – they bring them together and that's exactly what the Johnson St. or 'BlueBridge' does here in Victoria," says publican and owner Paul Hadfield.

"And that's what we've always wanted to do – bring people together to enjoy beers that weren't readily available in our marketplace.

"The bridge was opened in 1924 and we're celebrating our 24th year – so there's some nice symmetry built in."

Blue Bridge Double IPA will join Spinnaker's other classic brands in liquor outlets at the end of this month.

Brewmaster Rob Monk says he's very happy with how Blue Bridge turned out, a double India Pale Ale (IPA) that owes its complex flavour to the complex hop profile they've created using a blend of new world and traditional English hops.

"We've been thinking about doing a double IPA for some time," says Monk.

"We wanted to create a beer with a big flavour, yet cap it off a bit which is why we've used three different hops – it gives us that flexibility and produces a great drinking beer with a gorgeous dark golden color."

In the kitchen too chef Ali Ryan is making a slight alteration to the famous Brew Pub Burger which was a cornerstone of Spinnakers menu when it first opened its doors in 1984. The "Blue" Pub Burger features the traditional grain fed highland beef burger topped with a SaltspringIsland artisan made blue cheese.

"It's just a nice touch to go with a mainstay that has brought people here for years," says Ryan.

"It also shows a progression of sorts to other parts of the menu which have expanded over the years. We refining what we do – but we don't forget our roots.

"For years now we've been doing just that - in our beers and in our kitchen, we've been creating a sense of place which combines an emerging artisan craftsmanship with the best products from our local environment."

The Blue Bridge Double IPA is joined by a delicious hand made chocolate set for summer by Chocolatier Crystal Duck – the Lemon Drop, a white chocolate with lemon and a hint of basil which pairs nicely with the Blue Bridge bringing three distinct tastes and textures together in one perky punch.

The Double IPA and the new chocolate are paired together in Spinnakers Beer and Chocolate Pairing menu offering.

Last year Spinnakers was awarded Pub of the Year by CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) Victoria, and also *Northwest Brewing News* Reader's Poll voted it as B.C.'s Best Brewpub.

To find out more, visit www.spinnakers.com.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

Victoria's Spinnakers, which brews its own delicious beer, was voted Best Brewpub in B.C. last year.