

WHONNOCK NEWS

Spring 2016

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION

We thank the Whonnock Foundation for their generous contribution toward the cost of printing and mailing of this and future issues of Whonnock News.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's wonderful starting a New Year and anticipating spring. We're looking forward to our spring activities and the warmer weather.

Our REMEMBRANCE DAY gathering was wonderful. More of our neighbours are joining us every year – close to 200 enjoyed the ceremony put on by Phil Johnson and Tom Brent. We're hoping to have the use of the Centre this year for even more displays of memorabilia from the First and Second World Wars.

On Sunday March 27 the EASTER BUNNY visits and we have such a good time. The little ones have so much fun looking for Easter Eggs. We're hoping for a sunny day!

One Book Whonnock has their annual get together, Sunday April 5th for all those people who read *Paris* 1919. It's an interesting book, especially if you like history.

Our VOLUNTEER DINNER is on April 17th. It's wonderful getting together and celebrating all the special people that make our community vibrant. Our children happily receive the majority of these peoples' efforts. We also are excited about recognizing a "Volunteer of the Year" at the dinner.

We are having a RAFFLE to raise funds for our association. Since we no longer look after the booking of weddings, our funds are shrinking. We always want to have money on hand to fund all our worthwhile activities. The Raffle prizes are fabulous.

Our secretary is sending out a reminder e-mail of the WCA meetings. We'd love to see more of you at this time – Third Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM. We hope to meet more of you.

Our Annual General Meeting is held in May. I wish you all the best of the New Year and thank you for all you do for our community.

Sandra Rossington



"Spring Outside" Raffle

The Whonnock Community Association is holding a spring raffle with some great prizes to help us enjoy the great outdoors here in the Whonnock area, including a Custom Wood Adirondack Bench, a Wheel Barrel full of gardening equipment, and a Propane Patio Heater.

Money raised will go towards supporting our community activities such as the annual Bursary and cost of this newsletter.

Tickets are available at the Post Office, Feed Store and from some members of the Association. For more information or to buy tickets please call Noreen at 604 462-8557.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday March 27th - Easter Egg Hunt -Whonnock Lake

One Book Whonnock Gathering Tuesday April 5th - Thornhill Hall

Thornhill Annual Plant Swap Sunday April 17th - Thornhill Hall

WCA Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Sunday, April 17th - Whonnock Lake Centre

Annual General Meeting WCA

Thursday May 19th - Whonnock Lake

WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BURSARY

The Whonnock Community Association awards a deserving student an annual bursary of \$1000.

For those students interested in our Bursary and who qualify by having lived in the Whonnock area for at least 2 years, please see below for our criteria.

- First we look at the student's marks which must show a commitment to furthering their education at college, trade school or university.
- Secondly we assess financial need.
- Thirdly we look for a student's history of volunteering either in the community, the school or other worthy

Please check with your school counsellor during the fall semester for more information.

If you have an interest in serving on this committee please call Noreen Woods at 604-462-8557. The time commitment is minimal and the satisfaction is great, knowing you are helping a student on their road to future success.

BYRNES BURSARY

The Whonnock Foundation's Byrnes Bursary program grants amounts of up to \$2,000 per four-month period to students from east Maple Ridge enrolled in a college, university, trade school or other post-secondary establishment with a proven record of good performance in post-secondary

For more about the Whonnock Foundation and the terms of reference of the Byrnes Bursary visit: http://whonnock.ca/ whonnock/Foundation.htm>

E-mail: <foundation@whonnock.ca >



LAKESIDE PRESCHOOL

Located on beautiful Whonnock Lake in the Whonnock Lake Centre, this bright well-equipped preschool offers a variety of experiences for 3-to-5-year-olds.

Our aim is to provide each child with exciting and stimulating experiences in a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

For ongoing registration phone Mrs. Kilsby at 604-462-0026 to reserve your child's space in one of our programs.

Web site: < http://www.lakesidepre-school.com> E-mail: <lakesidepre-school@hotmail.com>

WHONNOCK **ELEMENTARY** School



For information about Whonnock Elementary and upcoming events please visit the school's Web site at <whonnockschool.sd42.ca>.

MONTESSORI CORNER

The Montessori Corner is a private educational organization. We offer preschool and kindergarten programs in two different locations, Websters Corners and Whonnock.

For more information visit http://montessoricorner.ca/, email <info@montessoricorner.ca>, or call Ms. Debora Vieira at 604-462-1400.

FIRST WHONNOCK SCOUTS



1st Whonnock Scouts would like to thank the community for their continued support. Our bottle drive fund raisers ensure our Scouts, Cubs and Beavers are able to participate in special events and camping. As with any great association, the volunteer parents make the program successful. With the rising cost of fuel and busy schedules our parents are finding it difficult to commit to driving the neighbourhood to collect donations.

To compensate and help the community continue supporting our kids please feel free to call our bottle drive coordinator, A. Hawrysh 604 773 9757, for a pickup of your donation.

www.whonnock.ca

MUSIC IN ME! STUDIO

Teaching a variety of programs and musical styles based on the individual student's preferences and musical goals.



- * Classical music
- * Contemporary styles (Pop, Jazz & Blues)
- * Recreational music (chording, play by ear, improvise)

Recital & Festival opportunities

Exams (for interested students, practical & theory exams) Call Eleanor Tracey at 604-287-6963 or email eleanor. tracey@shaw.ca

Website: www.musicinme.musicteachershelper.com



WHONNOCK TOPS LOCAL #4522

TOPS is a nonprofit organization that helps members to improve their health and well being. We meet at the Wildwood Fellowship Church Mondays at 6:30 pm.

Come and visit with us - we have fun and successful weight loss. Phone Carolyn, 604-462-1213, or Lori Button, 604-463-7355, for more info.

For information on other chapters in Maple Ridge phone Thelma at 604-467-5601.

4-H CLUB



The Otter Llama 4-H club has added poultry and Cloverbuds!

The 4-H motto is to "learn to do by going".

Come and learn about animals, meet new people, go to fairs and become a more confident young person all while having fun.

We meet in Maple Ridge.

Cloverbuds (junior 4-H) ages 6-8 (as of January 1st) 4-H ages 9-19 (as of January 1st) for more information contact Al tapdimer@gmail.com or Pascale at spshaw@telus.net

We are a small vegetable farm located in Thornhill



growing over 30 varieties of vegetables and herbs throughout the year.

We offer direct-to-customer sales through our website www.

wanderingrowfarm.com and also offer the opportunity to sign up for a weekly harvest box. For more information

call Angela: 604-418-4377

Email: angela@wanderingrowfarm.com



ONE BOOK WHONNOCK

This year's 'One Book Whonnock' book is a big one! The time to start reading is NOW! Thirty seven neighbours have already signed up to read it.

Get a copy of *Paris* 1919 by Margaret MacMillan and immerse yourself in the intrigues that followed the First World War. Answer two questions:

How has reading this book helped you understand more recent world events?

Do you have personal stories of the impact on your family of World War I and its aftermath or your family's life in 1919? We'd love you to submit these stories beforehand (jeandavidson@shaw.ca) so we can display them at the gathering.

Tell us you are coming to the gathering to discuss the book - Tuesday April 5, 2016 at Thornhill Hall. Please register by e-mailing jeandavidson@shaw.ca. We will then send you details for the evening.

Would you like to organize 'One Book Whonnock' next year? Lots of help available from those who have been doing it but it's time for someone new to bring their ideas and take the leadership.

For questions or ideas about 'One Book Whonnock' for this year or next, talk to Jean at 604-462-7341.

Watch the One Book Whonnock Web site for updates: <one-bookwhonnock.blogspot.ca>

WHONNOCK WALKERS

Join us Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9:15 for a friendly, one-hour walk. Call Brita at 604 462-9863 for more information.

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre Parking lot.



Beaver Mountain Works specializes in shooting, hunting and fishing gear, living history, and giftware, wood, steel, canvas and textile products. Under the name Leather Mark Saddlery we create quality

custom saddles and tack.

26525, 98th Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC, V2W 1K3 Tel: 778-994-1580

E-mail: info@leathermarksaddlery.com http://beavermountainworks.com http://whonnockian.blogspot.com



RUSKIN COMMUNITY HALL

RUSKIN COMMUNITY HALL 28395 96th Avenue, Maple Ridge, B.C., V2W 1L3 Phone: 604-462-9739 / ruskinhall@yahoo.ca www.whonnock.ca/ruskin/hall.htm

The Ruskin Community Hall is located at the corner of 96th Avenue and 284th Street. Community meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30. Everyone is welcome. The hall is available for rental at an hourly or nightly rate. Our seating capacity is 84.

For booking information call Shannon @ 604-462-7642 or the hall @ 604-462-9739.

KIM RONDQUIST continues to teach yoga Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9:00. Classes are for all levels of strength and flexibility. Drop in rates are available. For information call Kim at 604-462-4284.



THORNHILL COMMUNITY HALL

The Thornhill Community Hall finished a very successful and busy year of bookings and events in 2015. Bookings are beginning to fill for 2016.

The volunteers continue to maintain the equipment and upkeep of both the exterior and interior of the hall. Thank you to the City of Maple Ridge for their Neighbourhood Matching Grant which enabled us to do a complete renovation of both washrooms in 2015.

The Annual Plant Swap organized by Joan Duncan (604-462-8778) will be held in the parking lot of the Hall on Sunday, April 17th from 10:00-1:00. Rain or Shine.

Keep an eye out for the information on our reader board. Everyone is welcome to participate.

The City has renewed a five year lease with 2 subsequent 5 year terms to follow. It is very good news for our community as it provides stability and support.

Community meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month @ 7:00 pm.

For Hall rentals please contact Fran Norman @ 604-462-7869 or Shirley Kinney @ 604-476-7794.



Junichi Tanaka,

born in Japan, established a ceramics studio at Whonnock in 1998.

His work has been widely accepted all over Canada.

Ceramics is not his only passion. He has climbed major mountains and he is a poet.

His Web site address is

www.ceramicsjunichi.com



Klaus & Betty von Hardenberg Phone/Fax: 604.462.9244 Email: info@vonhardenbergcandles.com 9730 Spilsbury Street Maple Ridge, BC Canada V2W 1K7

www.whonnock.ca

WHONNOCK WEAVERS AND SPINNERS



The Whonnock Weavers and Spinners had a very busy fall and winter and were very happy to see many of you at our 35th Annual Open House last November. We will be back again on the last Sunday of November in 2016, so mark November 27th on your calendar.

This spring we are looking forward to a basket making workshop and will hold another beginner basket workshop later in early summer.

We have been hosting spin-ins on Tuesday nights at The ACT on January 12 and February 9. We will continue to hold the spin-ins on the second Tuesday of the month until June. We are either in the lobby or the Art Gallery from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Please do stop by to join us to see what hand spinning is all about. We also welcome you if you just would like to come and knit or work on a project.

This year our meetings are being held at the Whonnock Lake Centre on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. There is usually a short business meeting followed by a program.

We always welcome new members so if you are interested in the fibre arts and wish to join us, simply come to a meeting. If you would like more information, please phone Marie at 604-462-9059. Our website can be found at www.whonnockweaversandspinners.org

RIDGE CANOE AND KAYAK NEWS

First of all, the Ridge Canoe and kayak Club would like to thank all those who attended the New Year's Eve fundraiser! It was a great success and some good deals were found by many at the silent auction.

We are currently in the middle of our winter programs. With the warmer than usual weather, our athletes, the competitive group, youth and master's programs have been able to get on the water for paddling every week except for a few weeks right at New Year's. Dragon Boating will resume once again in the spring. The upcoming season will be upon us soon, with our first regatta in May.

We have already started to book our school programs, which were fully booked last year where we had over 1000 students attend. This is a fun-oriented outing designed to provide basic paddling skills and recreational water safety to elementary and high school students.

In order to introduce youth to the sport of paddling, RCKC offers this program at a very low cost compared to other school field trips. Information about our summer programs and camps will be available through Maple Ridge Parks and Leisure Services.

Darren Koehler, Commodore, RCKC



Information about our club and programs is available on our website www.rckc.ca.



HELP SAVE THE SCHOOL BUSES

Did you know that all the school buses for Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows (SD42) have been cancelled effective the end of June 2016? ALL BUSES - this means no buses from Ruskin and Whonnock to Garibaldi!! How will the children in the communities of Whonnock and Ruskin get to their elementary or high schools?

The school board trustees made the decision to cut the school buses after three consecutive years of cuts to their budget. This year they were forced to cut yet again and they decided to cut the school buses because it affected the least number of children. What they did not know is that the school bus is the only means of transportation to and from school for some of the children in our community.

The families that live in Whonnock Ruskin and Thornhill moved here knowing that the school bus would take their children to and from school safely. Although there is some transit available, it does not accommodate school times, and is spotty in some areas while nonexistent in others. As well, with the worldwide move to more sustainable living, forcing more people to drive seems a step backwards?

Maple Ridge has changed and grown over the years. Our population has exploded. We have lots of new housing developments, new roads, transit to many areas of Maple Ridge and to some schools. One of the things that has not changed in all these years though is the distance to elementary and high school for those families who live in the remote area of Whonnock, Ruskin and Thornhill.

Although there are only about 360 children who use the bus at this time, enrollment in SD42 continues to go up which would means the number of children needing the bus to get to school is increasing. . Almost 20 percent of Whonnock elementary students use the school bus to get to school and almost 30% of the resident population of Garibaldi High School uses the school bus to get to school. In 2014/2015 parents also began paying \$215.00 for the bus per year.

If you need the school bus, had kids who used it, live beside someone who does or even don't currently use it but have children who will in the future, please tell the School Board Trustees, your local MLA, Mark Dalton, tell the Education Minister, tell the local newspapers, tell anyone who can make a difference.

Education who can http://whonnockian.blogspot.com

Pascale Shaw We live in the most rural part of Maple Ridge and we need our school bus! Please stand up and fight for our bus. Don't know how to help? for questions and information and see Facebook Savethemapleridgeschoolbuses or Email < savetheschoolbussd42@gmail.com>

Your voice counts! Please use it to help those in your community who really need the school bus.



For dates, cost, times and to register visit www.recreg4u.ca or call 604-465-2470

Programs in Whonnock

ADULT VOLLEYBALL at Whonnock Elementary, Wednesdays from 8 until 9 in the gymnasium. All skill levels welcome. Now a Parks & Leisure program sponsored by the Whonnock Community Association.

YOGA – HATHA YOGA: 16Y+ This intermediate yoga class will provide active stretching, balancing and sequences with a gentle flow, this class will reward you with a gentle yoga flow with you leaving feeling balanced, gently stretched and at peace. Beginners are recommended to take Yoga Basics prior to registering in this course. Location: Whonnock Lake Centre, Wed. 7 – 8 pm.

PILATES BY THE LAKE – Intermediate. Designed for those with a strong Pilates base to further improve posture, increase lung capacity, and sculpt strong, lean muscles. Work on your body and mind, soaking in the serenity of Whonnock Lake Centre. Mon. 7:30 – 8:30 pm. Own mat required.

PILATES – SCULPT Pilates will help you gain inner strength and support your spine while focusing on core postural muscles. In this class we will work on sculpting, strengthening and lengthening all areas of the body to improve your posture and gain flexibility. Grab your mat and join us! Whonnock Lake Centre. Mon 6:15 – 7:15.

Children and Youth Programs

WHONNOCK YOUTH DROP-IN A FREE drop-in recreation session for those wanting to hang out with their friends and be active.

Location: Whonnock Elementary. Monday 7:00pm-9:00pm.

MUDDY BY NATURE. (3 – 5 yrs) It's time to get muddy! Run, jump, duck, and crawl your way through a series of fun outdoor obstacles using basic movements. Participants will support each other to accomplish a series of fun and challenging courses.

Whonnock Lake Park. Wed March 23, 1:15 - 2:45.

DAYCAMP. Whonnock Adventures (5 -12 yrs) A week of fun in the great outdoors. We will spend the week playing games, making crafts and exploring the community of Whonnock. Please note we will get to all our locations by walking.

Whonnock Lake Centre. March 21 – 25, 8:30 – 5:00.



"Bloom," a public art installation is to unfold this spring at Whonnock Lake. "Bloom is inspired by natural flora ... It will provide some shelter using nature inspired coloured canopies blooming from the trunks of western red cedars. There will be wood seating and table areas of various heights beneath the canopies evocative of the wooden docks of Whonnock Lake."

ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS AT WHONNOCK LAKE PARK

The park improvement project at Whonnock Lake Park is now substantially complete with the contractor's focus now on completing some minor deficient items before they leave the site.

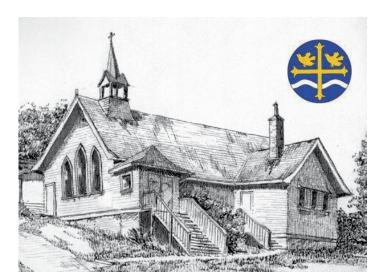
Public access to the park improvement areas has been gradual with the completion of the picnic shelter and playground being opened earlier in December. The last area to open was the new parking area near the existing sports court on the east side of the park.

The extended cold weather causing the ground to freeze in December caused some delay with planting and final grading of the road surface near the east parking area. With warmer weather in the spring the contractor will return to complete grass seeding and any clean up or planting replacements.

Parks staff are planning a park opening event in the spring likely once the seeded areas are more established.

For more detailed information please go to, http://mrpm-parksandleisure.ca/399/Whonnock-Lake-Capital-Improve-ments-Proje

To receive notification of any updates on Whonnock Project sign up at http://mrpmparksandleisure.ca/list.aspx>



HOLY SPIRIT ANGLICAN CHURCH

27123 River Road in Whonnock

Please feel free to join us for Sunday Service in our Heritage Church in a lovely rural setting. Service is held from 10:00 to 11:30 am every Sunday morning. You are encouraged and welcome to join us for coffee and fellowship afterwards in the adjoining hall.

Our minister, Reverend Howie Adan, will be leaving us soon. He has accepted an appointment as Head of Multifaith Chaplaincy at London Heathrow Airport. We wish him well as he undertakes this ministry for which he has a deep passion and we encourage him to keep in touch.

We are a congregation that worships and learns together, encouraging each other to grow in love and faith. As we look forward to welcoming our next minister we hope to also welcome you into our family. We will be having many activities and special services this year, beginning with our Easter Sunday service on March 27th.

THE BISHOP COMES TO WHONNOCK!

The Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster, the Right Reverend Melissa Skelton, is coming to Whonnock.

She will be toured around the area to highlight neighbourhood issues, and she will preside at the worship service at Holy Spirit Anglican Church on Sunday, June 19 at 10 a.m. All are welcome to come and meet her. Watch our signboard in front of our church for details or call the church 604-462-7933.



HOLY SPIRIT HALL

The Holy Spirit Hall, 27123 River Road in Whonnock, is available to clubs, groups, etc. for special occasions and weekly meetings. Contact our message centre at 604-462-7933 for Church and Hall rental information.

CAST AND CREW THEATRE ARTS ACADEMY



Cast and Crew Youth Theatre Society presents WONDERLAND: THE MUSICAL MISADVENTURES OF A GIRL NAMED ALICE, based on the novel Through the Looking Glass by Lewis Carroll.

This upbeat, coming-of-age show is filled with an eclectic mix of ballads, rap, funkrock, gospel and calypso music that will

leave you grinning like a Cheshire cat.

Show times are March 10-12 and April 21-23 at the North Fraser Centre – 9975 272nd Street, Maple Ridge.

Come on out and get reacquainted with some of your favourite Wonderland characters, while meeting dozens of new ones. Tickets are \$12.

For more information go to castandcrewtheatre.ca



WILDWOOD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Sunday Services are held at 10:30am (10810 272nd St.)

What is your heart longing for? People often come to church hoping to find answers to life, to find support in times of crisis, acceptance and love, to develop positive friendships. We define "fellowship" as "the oneness of spirit that comes when two friends are on the same side of a struggle."

You are welcome! People matter to God and they matter to us! We believe you will find us to be a small church with a big heart where "people know your name and people are glad you came." If you're looking to find a place to belong where you can learn about and live out a relevant faith, then we invite you to experience the community of Wildwood Fellowship Church. We are a family-oriented, nondenominational community church. We want to come alongside you in your faith journey, knowing that ultimately Jesus Christ is the One who can truly satisfy the inner longings of your heart.

For more information on kids events, ministries, or special services visit our website at www.wildwoodfellowship.com, call Pastor Arnold Tracey at 604-287-6963, or just drop in and visit us some Sunday morning.

TANTALUS LABS UPDATE!

Tantalus Labs drilled a second well since the fall publication of this newsletter. The Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resources is requiring Tantalus Labs to decommission their first artesian well because of the brackish/ salty water. Very high levels of Sodium and Chloride were confirmed in the chemical analysis risking contamination of the fresh water layers of the aquifer.

The pump test on Tantalus Labs' latest well, has not occurred to date, and the new Water Sustainability Act 2016 is now in effect and much more stringent requirements are in place for Commercial Water licence applicants.

A few of the residents who were contacted by Active Earth regarding the monitoring of their wells during the pump tests on Tantalus Labs's new drilled well have made some specific requests, which have not yet been accepted or approved by Tantalus Labs and Active Earth. They're still waiting for their response.

> It is the wettest time of the year and we are requesting that a more accurate test of impact to neighbouring wells be conducted at the driest time of the year, September/October. As we don't know precisely when the pump tests will be held, we are asking that everyone keeps an eye out for any anomalies with their wells. Active Earth has provided a letter stating that the brackish/salty artesian well will be decommissioned after the pump test is complete. Also, Health Canada has still not granted a "licence to produce" to Tantalus Labs. They remain an applicant and not a licensed grower. For further information and contact, visit our website at www.whonnockgrowop.com or contact us at info@whonnockgrowop.com. Sylvie Jensen

TAPS - THORNHILL AQUIFER PROTECTION STUDY

The Thornhill Aguifer Protection Group (TAPS) held our annual meeting in January. We continue to work closely with homeowners in Thornhill to monitor both water quality and quantity. We are entering our 11th year and marvelled at how adversity, perseverance and hard work built a strong community.



TAPS continues to collaborate with the

Whonnock community who are currently affected by the MMPR Tantalus Labs. The next hurdle is the pump test of the second well which is designed to determine whether Tantalus's draw will have impact on neighbouring wells.

TAPS has concerns over the efficacy of this test based on:

- Testing for recharge at the wettest time of the year is not an accurate reflection of overall recharge.
- No mandatory retesting at the driest time when there is no recharge. This would be a more realistic test for recharge.
- A 72-hour pump test is not an adequate length of time to determine impact especially in deep wells.
- 72 hours does not reflect the impact of the MMPR's continuous draw especially in the driest months over a longer period of time

We are still making every effort to have Tantalus Lab's production licence denied based on the non-sustainability of the water needs required by this commercial venture.

We have received assurance from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources that they will be present for the decommissioning of the original well. Active Earth has also stated that the brackish water well will be decommissioned after the pump test. The test has not been done as far as we know. The well has not been decommissioned.

Good news! TAPS has a brand new website that we hope will be of value to all our well-dependent communities.

Please take the time to look through it. We hope you find it helpful. www.tapsmapleridge.ca

Betty and Klaus von Hardenberg



FTER THE TRANSFER of the operation of Whonnock Lake Centre to the Municipality Athe Whonnock Community Association became dependent on other income to fulfill its mandate.

The Whonnock Community Association would like to continue to serve our community by, for instance, producing this newsletter, maintaining a Web site, arranging events such as the yearly Easter Egg Hunt, the Volunteer Dinner, granting bursaries to promising students, and supporting initiatives such as One Book Whonnock.

You can help us achieving these goals by making a donation. Any amount is welcome! Taxdeductible receipts will be issued for amounts from \$15.

Call Noreen at 604 462 8557.