

Published by the Whonnock Community Association

WHONNOCK Note that the New York New Yor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Whonnock Community Association has had an interesting time since our last news letter.

Our Volunteer Dinner in April was well attended, by many community volunteers. Phil Johnson was our Volunteer of the Year. He is one of the founders & builders of the Whonnock Hall, has spent 30+ years volunteering with WCA, most recently organizing the Remembrance Day services, and the All Candidates meetings. He kept the hall going when we didn't have caretakers until we were forced to give the hall over to the district due to lack of volunteers. We are so fortunate to have him in the WCA.

Close to 500 big & little people along with the Easter Bunny turned up for the Easter Egg Hunt. Thanks to Shelley Popaduik for a fabulous job organizing a very popular event.

Our community has also been very involved with the protest against Tantalus Labs, both in council chambers and at the Bell Avenue demonstration. The threat to our water resources connected with this proposed industrial-size marihuana-growing facility has really brought the community together. The long hot summer reinforced the importance of maintaining the health and productivity of all the aquifers in our area.

At the Annual General meeting in May the following were elected by acclamation:

President – Sandra Rossington Vice President – Phil Johnson Secretary – Helmi Braches Treasurer – Noreen Woods

Please join us at our monthly meetings the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm at Whonnock Lake Centre.

A big thank you to Noreen Woods and Fred Braches for putting this newsletter together. It is full of information to help you enjoy living in Whonnock: So read it all!

Visit our Web site <whonnock.ca> and for news and events go to <whonnockian.blogspot.ca>. Log in!

Sandra Rossington

Whonnock Weavers & Spinners Exhibit & Sale

November 29th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at Whonock Lake Centre.

Thornhill Artisan Fair

December 5th & 6th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at von Hardenberg Candles Studio.

RCKC/WCA New Years Dance

December 31st at Whonnock Lake Centre.

SALT WATER ALERT!



Tantalus Labs has drilled a well to a depth of approximately 600 ft. where they encountered salty water with high levels of sodium and chloride. The readings are 806 mg/L and 3800 mg/L respectively, with acceptable levels being 200 mg/L and 250 mg/L respectively.

The fear is that salt water will be pushed upward in this artesian well and into the overlying fresh water aquifers. There are concerns that the Tantalus well will contaminate neighbouring wells including yours, in particular if you live near the Tantalus facility.

We do recommend that you have a chemical analysis done now. We can use that first test as baseline and repeat the test to monitor changes. If we start seeing high level of sodium and/or chloride or any chemical change in your water quality, we can show that the sodium and/or chloride or any other contaminants were not there before Tantalus Labs started operating. We encourage all residents, to take steps now and monitor / test their water quality.

We recommend Exova in Surrey for a full in-depth chemical analysis as a broad baseline. They can also test only for just these two items, sodium and chloride.

For more information visit our website at www.whonnockgrowop.com and click on "Water Concerns" on the home page or you can email us at info@whonnockgrowop.com

Sylvie Jensen

The Whonnock Community Association gives a big "thank you" to Bill and Nicole Jorgenson who have looked after our electronic "Pumphouse" sign for the last several years and are now ready to move on. We are looking for a VOLUNTEER to take over being the contact for the sign messages and changing the sign through a computer keyboard. Please contact Phil Johnson at 604 462 9058 for more information.

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 education.

In last four years the Foundation granted a total of just over \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) to students in our community.

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

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.

Montessori Corner

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

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

WHONNOCK **ELEMENTARY** SCHOOL



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



WHONNOCK COMMUNITY Association Bursary

We would like to congratulate Dayna Kelly who graduated from Garibaldi Secondary School on

receiving our Annual Whonnock Community Association bursary of \$1000. Dayna was our recipient for the 2014/15 school year.

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 cause.

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.

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.



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.



www.whonnock.ca



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

Thanks to our faithful volunteers we will be working on two projects this fall and winter to replace side porch and steps and to install a new furnace.

Community meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30. Everyone is welcome. The Ruskin Hall is located at the corner of 96th Avenue and 284th Street. Hall is available for rental at an hourly or nightly rate. For booking information call Shannon at 462-7642 or the hall at 462-9739.

Kim Rondquist continues to teach Hatha yoga Wednesday nights at 7:30. Hatha yoga uses breathing to bring fluidity and flow to stretches and poses. The classes are geared towards all levels of strength and flexibility. For information call Kim at 462-4284.



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



THORNHILL COMMUNITY HALL

This was one of the driest summers on record and with the many restrictions placed on water usage, we were pleased to have a good well that serviced the many events that took place this spring and summer.

The volunteers at our hall took on two major renovation/construction projects that required repair. One was that the lighting was reconstructed and replaced with better lighting. The second project was the complete restoration of both bathrooms. It required replacement of the subfloor, painting, tiling, and replacement of vanities.

We have two new beautiful washrooms for our events that will be appreciated by the public.

This big job took two weeks to complete, however, it was a pleasure to work together with our volunteers.

We have complete bookings into the fall and winter, with new people hearing about our quiet little hall in this beautiful setting. The Thornhill Hall is also being used for the coming Federal Election and don't forget:

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

THORNHILL ARTISAN FAIR

3rd Annual Christmas Event December 5 and 6 from 10:00 to 4:00 von Hardenberg Candles Studio 9730 Spilsbury Street, Maple Ridge www.thornhillartisanfair.com



nttp://whonnockian.blogspot.com

RIDGE CANOE AND KAYAK NEWS



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

Another great paddling season has wrapped up with our annual Pacific Cup and BC Bantam Championships Regatta held at Whonnock Lake on September 12th and 13th, 2015. Over 250 athletes under the age of 16, from 14 Paddling Clubs from BC, Alberta, and Washington State competed for the coveted Pacific Cup. A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers that make this annual event a great success every year!

Non-competitive Programs

Attendance for our School Programs was one of the best in recent years. School group bookings were completely full. RCKC hosted over 1000 students from schools in Maple Ridge and Mission during the months of May and June. This is a fun-oriented outing designed to provide basic paddling skills and recreational water safety 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.

Our summer camp program continues to be very popular. Attendance normally varies week to week during the summer months. On average there were 12 summer camp attendees every week.

COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS

Our competitive programs continue to develop successful athletes at both the National and International levels.

BRIAN MALFESI is currently a member of the Senior National Team and this year was on the European World Cup Tour racing in Portugal, Germany and Denmark before representing Canada at the Senior World Championships in Milan, Italy. In previous years Brian competed in the U23 World Championships in Hungary and the Junior World Championships in Germany.

ALEX BRENT competed for Canada at the Junior World Championships in Portugal this summer. Last year he also competed at Junior Worlds in Hungary and the Youth Olympics in China.

MATHEW KOEHLER won the grueling U17 K1 6 Km race to win his first National Championship. He will also be competing in the Olympic Hopes Regatta in Poland in September 2015.

RCKC athletes won more medals in 2015 than all other paddling clubs in the province combined at Western Canada Summer Games in Wood Buffalo, Alberta.

RCKC athletes won more medals in 2015 than all other paddling clubs in the province combined at the Canadian National Championships in Ottawa, Ontario.

Winter Competitive Programs start October 1, 2015 and run till March 31, 2016. For information about our winter programs contact programs@rckc.ca.

Sport Fitness And Fun for Kids, Looking for something active, fun, sporty but fitness focused? This is an all levels program run by the Coaches of Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club. Each session provides cooperative training for all abilities where participants will work on developing their movement skills that will allow for competence in all sports. Sessions will focus on awareness of strength, flexibility and endurance. More information and Registration can be done online 24/7 at www.recreg4u.ca.

Fred Won, Commodore, RCKC

NEW YEARS EVE DANCE

Ridge Canoe and Kayak and the Whonnock Community Association will again be putting on a New Years Eve Dance at the Whonnock Lake Hall. Planning has already started to make this year's event the best ever. Tickets will be available by early November, stay tuned!

WHONNOCK WEAVERS AND SPINNERS

The Whonnock Weavers and Spinners spent a wonderful spring and summer weaving, spinning, knitting, dyeing, felting, rug hooking and making baskets. Last spring we



held a knitting workshop with Janet Armstrong from Vernon, BC where we knitted samples from a colour inspiration photo or item. During the summer, members met to hand dye yarns in glorious colours. We demonstrated at Golden Ears Cheese Crafters on May 10th, Haney Farmer's Market on July 4th, at Country Fest at the Albion

Fairgrounds on July 25th& 26th, at Maple Ridge Library on September 26th as part of Culture Days and at the Pitt Meadows Library on October 9th as part of an Artist in Residence series. This fall we will be having a workshop on surface design with Anita Luvera Mayer. In the New Year we will be hosting spin-in Tuesday Lobby Nights at The ACT on the second Tuesdays of the month from January to June, 2016 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm.

We are now busy preparing for our 35th annual Open House exhibit and sale at the Whonnock Lake Centre on Sunday, November 29 from 11 AM to 4 PM. We hope to see many of you there.

Our meetings are held at the Whonnock Lake Centre on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM except when we will be at the ACT for Lobby Nights in the New Year. We usually try to have a short business meeting followed by a program. We invite visitors and potential members to join us for a meeting. There is always lively discussion and often wonderful programs with opportunities to learn. Occasionally our meetings are moved to members' homes for special events so if you are interested in joining us, please contact Marie at 604-462-9059 for an update on meeting location. Our website can be found at www.whonnockweaversandspinners.org.



Kids and Family karate classes at Whonnock Lake Centre Mondays and Wednesdays: 4:45 – 5:45 pm

The instruction for this group is specifically designed to help children, 7 years and up, with the necessary skills needed to protect themselves and gain discipline and confidence through their growing-up years and entire lives.

Karate is also a great affordable way to gain flexibility, get in shape, increase everyone's confidence and protect yourself. Come try a free drop-in class any time.

Sensei Gary Johnson brings over 45 years of martial art experience to the Whonnock community.

Phone: 778-232-1704 or email info@westcoastshotokan.com



Come Join in the fun at the Whonnock Lodge 27660 Dewdney Trunk Road on Tuesday Evenings

> Beavers: age 5 to 7 Cubs: age 8 to 10 Scouts: age 11 to 14 Ventures: age 15 to 17

To register or volunteer for scouts please contact Marcia Mahoney at 604-476-0953 or marciamahoney@msn.com

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

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



Programs at Whonnock Lake Centre

For more info, dates or to register by phone, call 604 465-2470 or for online registration go to www.recreg4u.ca.

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.

FITNESS - MUSCLE SCULPT ON THE BALL

Hop on the ball to improve muscle endurance and sculpt all areas of the body. Participants will enjoy additional work on balance and mind/body coordination. Own ball required. Whonnock Lake Centre. Mon 6:15 – 7:15. Own mat and foam roller required.

Programs at Whonnock Elementary

ADULT VOLLEYBALL at Whonnock Elementary, Wednesdays from 8 until 9 in the gymnasium. All skill levels welcome. Now a WCA sponsored, parks and leisure program.

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 Fee: FREE! Monday 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

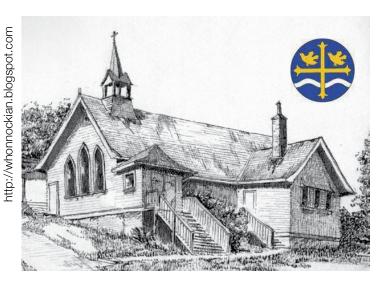


IMPROVEMENTS AT WHONNOCK LAKE PARK

The gazebo has been open for some time now with a water tap. The half of the playground with the climbers and sand surfacing will open by Oct 1st. The accessible playground area with the rubber surfacing is currently underway.

The furthest parking lot to the east by the basketball court is that last area of construction for completion. Finally we will prepare to plant and seed.

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



HOLY SPIRIT ANGLICAN CHURCH

27123 River Road in Whonnock

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

Last September we hosted a "Reunion Service" and invited past members of our congregation who had moved to other communities. The church was bursting at its seams as we welcomed back many old friends for that special day. Many had wonderful memories of Whonnock and the years they had lived here.

This year, on Sunday, September 20th, we had a "Neighbourhood Service" and invited the residents of Whonnock. All faiths or none – all were welcome to come and enjoy the beauty and peaceful surroundings of one of Whonnock's historic places.

Church and Hall Rental Information: 604-462-7933

SYRIAN CRISIS

Interested in helping with the sponsorship of a Syrian refugee family? Everyone has been moved by the images of the flood of people from the Middle East seeking safety and a new start. There has been some talk of involvement in sponsorship at the Anglican Church in Whonnock and there may be opportunity to work together as part of a larger initiative. It is a big undertaking and needs money and lots of people to help. If you are interested, please call Roberta at 604-367-5547 or send your name and contact details to <webmaster@whonnock.ca> and someone will be in touch with you to talk about your interest. Thank you!'

HOLY SPIRIT HALL

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



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.

CAST AND CREW THEATRE ARTS ACADEMY

Sing Donce

We are a new non-profit group offering opportunities in theatre arts training for kids of all ages, with classes during the day, afternoons and evenings.

Classes and theatre productions at North Fraser Centre, 9975 272 St (site of the old Whonnock Elementary School).

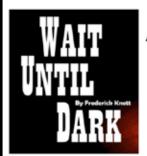
Please check our Theatre Class Information and our new Dance Class Information pages for our 2015/16 Season. NOTE: We have updated our Dance Class offerings.

Our Friday morning class is off to a great start and our Friday evening class will start October 9, 2015 – there is still room in the evening class – Fridays 4:00 pm-7:00 pm. Both classes will be performing Wonderland in the spring.

Web site: castandcrewtheatre.ca



Upcoming Shows:



An edge of your seat thriller that keeps you guessing until the final scene.

OCT 8-31

The great Christmas Classic with wonderful new music.

CANADIAN PREMIER
DEC 3-20



604-259-9737

theatreinthecountry.com



by Robert W. LaVohn

directed by Sharon Malone

Join the players of The Emerald Pig for dinner ... and a MURDER at North Fraser Events Centre in Whonnock. Start: November 5th End 14 November. For information

emeraldpig.ca or phone 604-785-1405.

ONE BOOK WHONNOCK

The book selected for the One Book Whonnock 2014-15 season is *Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World* by Margaret MacMillan. This was voted as the overwhelming choice of those who attended the gathering this past March to discuss last year's reading choice: *The Best Laid Plans* by Terry Fallis.

Nine neighbours went to Vancouver on September 18 to see a musical based on *The Best Laid Plans*. We car-pooled to build community. We had our picture taken with the book's author, Terry Fallis. It was a fun and exciting wrap-up to last year's One Book Whonnock book.

The date for the gathering to discuss *Paris* 1919 is Tuesday, April 5, 2016; mark that in your calendar. That is during the week of the 99th anniversary of Vimy Ridge, so significant to Canadian history and identity. Please let us know if you would be willing to help plan the gathering.

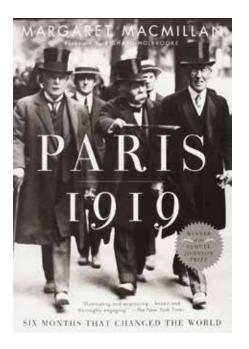
We suggest you think of two questions when you read Paris 1919: (1) Has reading this book helped you understand more recent world events? (2) What is your family story in 1919?

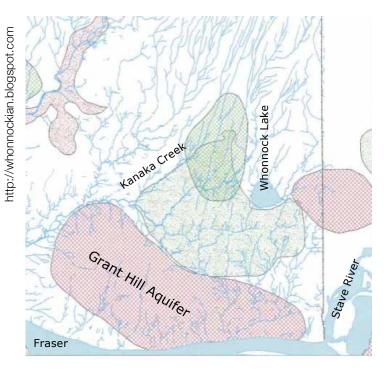
If you have personal stories you could share about the impact on your family of the First World War and its aftermath? We'd love you to submit these stories to us beforehand so we can display them at the gathering.

This is a very big, but also very readable book so you can't start reading on the weekend before the gathering. Take notes to keep the cast of characters sorted.

We look forward to having you join us to discuss an international story with many local connections! Please sign up today by contacting Jean Davidson at 604-462-7341 or emailing webmaster@whonnock.ca.

Visit our Web site. Search for "One Book Whonnock" or key in <onebookwhonnock.blogspot.ca>.





TAPS GROUNDWATER WATCH

The Thornhill Aquifer Protection Study (TAPS), which consists of 15 residents, has been actively monitoring both shallow and deep wells since 2005. The data collection from private wells in the Thornhill area includes both quality and quantity information to establish baseline information on the behaviour of the Grant Hill Aquifer.

The Grant Hill Aquifer is the sole source of clean drinking water and water for agricultural purposes for approximately 600 residents in the rural communities of Thornhill, Whonnock and Ruskin. The majority of the recharge area for this approximately 19 km. square aquifer is the remaining forested area that is largely owned by the City of Maple Ridge and Crown land owned by the Province. When all users of this aquifer help to protect it through vigilant careful usage, thoughtful tree removal and by keeping harmful chemicals, pesticides and pollutants off the ground, out of our streams and ditches, we will become the front line protectors of our aquifer.

It has been the goal of TAPS to educate the users of the aquifer, the community of Maple Ridge at large, our local government, the Provincial government and Health Canada about the importance of protecting our groundwater source and understanding the intrinsic value of this precious and unique resource.

In February 2015, TAPS was approached by the Concerned Residents of Whonnock for our support and knowledge of our aquifer because a very large, inappropriately placed Medical Marijuana Facility, Tantalus Labs, is seeking a Production Licence from Health Canada. We have provided our experience with well water monitoring, our valuable relationships with both the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources and Environment Canada to hire a well

respected, experienced bedrock aquifer hydrogeologist to review, comment and write a thorough, scientifically based report challenging both the findings of their hydrogeologist David Kneale of Active Earth in his Well Report and the statement made by Tantalus Labs that this facility will have "no impact on neighbouring wells."

It is our effort, in collaboration with the Whonnock Community, to ask Health Canada to reject a production licence to Tantalus Labs based on the undeniable impact this facility has had and continues to have on the residents of our communities and their drinking water.

The current urgent issue regarding Tantalus Labs' site well is that it is artesian and is continuously updrawing salty/brackish water and contaminating the overlying clean aquifers that the residents of all the communities are drawing from. It has been and is still bleeding into the gravel layers and fractured bedrock that lays below the ground.

Drought conditions this summer (level 3), meant that water restrictions were in place for city-water consumers. Well dependent communities did, as we have always done, hauled water to supplement our wells for our basic needs.

Mayor Read along with Councillor Craig Speirs, Senior Administrator Frank Quinn and the Director of Planning Christine Carter were in attendance at a meeting in June where we asked what the contingency plan for water supplies would be if the Medical Marijuana facility in question started to dry up our already stressed wells.

This answer was issued in writing," Issues regarding the aquifer in the Thornhill area are well known in the community, as are the existing seasonal water shortages and for that reason, bulk water stations have been established in the area and are available to and resident needing water."

This response does not address the short and long term concerns over water requirements for any household to function or agricultural activities to take place, throughout the year.

Our efforts as a community, grassroots organization has provided a very positive and growing contribution to the knowledge base of our sensitive bedrock aquifer, Grant Hill.

TAPS has been vigilant about the protection of the aquifer and will require the "eyes and voices" of everyone, to keep these important issues in the forefront. We are grateful to all the greater community for their support.

For further information and contact: www.tapsmapleridge. ca and tapsmapleridge@gmail.com.

Betty & Klaus von Hardenberg

