



WHONNOCK NEWS

Fall 2020

NEWS FROM THE WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Well, the pandemic has obviously affected everyone and the Whonnock Community Association is no exception. We are sad that we had to cancel the Easter Egg Hunt, the Volunteer Appreciation dinner and our AGM. Also, there will be no public Remembrance Day ceremony this year.

The Whonnock Weavers and Spinners, whom we sponsor, had to cancel their annual Show and Sale. It would have been their fortieth.

We did manage one Zoom WCA board meeting and outdoor meetings in the spring and September. Not sure if we will be so lucky with the weather in October but hoping the Whonnock Lake Centre or another space will be open for a socially distanced meeting.

Happily we can still offer the community our biannual *Whonnock News*, the Whonnock Bursary and also Byrnes Bursary grants, and we continue to support local groups and associations.

Our Spring Raffle started just before the Covid shutdown, and thanks to the many supporters who phoned in to buy tickets or purchased tickets at the post office it was a success in spite of Covid. This year it was an all-local winners list! Elaine Hall from Ruskin won the first prize: an Adirondack bench. Susan Bliss from Thornhill was the winner of the second prize: a wheelbarrow full of garden tools. Inge Grootendorst from Whonnock was the third-prize winner: a \$100 gift certificate from McFli's (or cash equivalent). She generously donated the cash to the Whonnock Community Association. Thank you, Inge!

We need only to look outside and know how lucky we are to live in our little rural paradise with so much open space. In a pinch we do not even have to go into town for groceries when we have fresh veggies, fruit, eggs, and meat right here. The WCA hopes everyone stays safe, healthy and happy this fall and winter.

Noreen Woods



Elaine Hall from Ruskin won the first prize in our Spring Raffle, an Adirondack bench.

THANK YOU, BETTY AND KLAUS!

At this time we would like to recognize Betty and Klaus von Hardenberg for their tireless work for the community.

If it hadn't been for them, many of us would not have known about the Thornhill Trails Study, and it was Betty who made the City extend the deadline for submitting comments to October 15 to let even more people know about the study through the *Whonnock News* and make their views known.

See TAPS on page 4.

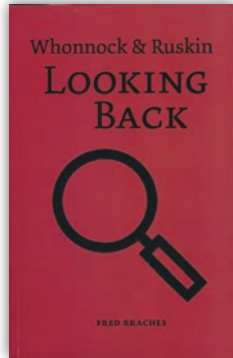
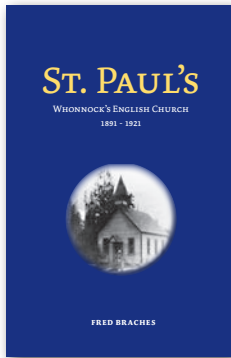
Unfortunately the nomination of Betty and Klaus for the Maple Ridge Foundation's Citizen of the Year award was not successful, but we are glad we nominated them, to show our appreciation. Betty and Klaus, thank you for everything you do for the good of the community!

WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BURSARY

Once a year the Whonnock Community Association offers a \$1,000 bursary to a deserving graduating student. To apply for the Whonnock Community Association bursary, please check with your school counsellor during the fall semester.

For those students interested in applying for our bursary we have the following criteria:

- * To qualify you have to have lived in the Whonnock area for at least two years.
- * We look at a student's marks which must show a commitment to furthering their education at college, trade school or university.
- * We assess financial need.
- * We look for a student's history of volunteering either in the community, the school or other worthy cause.



St. Paul's and *Looking Back* — two books filled with our local history: the history of Whonnock and Ruskin.

Get them at the post office at \$10 each. Or buy the two books together for \$15. Cash or cheque.

St. Paul's on 272nd Street was the precursor of the present church. The book is sold as fundraiser for the centennial celebrations of the Anglican Church.

Whonnock Books
books@whonnock.ca

WCA MEMBERSHIP

We encourage you to become a member of the Whonnock Community Association. Although some of our programs are on hold and our meetings are not open to the public due to the pandemic, we still work for the Whonnock community,

Membership is free. Registration forms are at the post office.

BYRNES BURSARY

The 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.

For more about the bursary program and the terms of reference of the Byrnes Bursary visit: <whonnock.ca> and select Byrnes Bursary.

Apply at any time. No deadline.

WCA PUMP HOUSE SIGN

Call 604 462 8942 if you'd like to see an event posted on the sign. Leave a message if you get the answering machine and your call will be returned pronto.

ONE BOOK WHONNOCK

Our most recent project was *Spilsbury's Coast* by Jim Spilsbury. Because of the pandemic we had our gathering to discuss the book outdoors – it was much enjoyed by everyone who came.

We are still deliberating our next choice of book, but there will be one! The gathering may well have to be outdoors again, so there's lots of time. Details will be out in due course on my usual mailing lists.

If you are not on my list and would like to know more, give me a call!



Helmi Braches
604-462-8942

WHAT YOU ARE MISSING

Due to the uncertainties around CORONA this issue does not include the familiar entries about schools.

For the same reason the list of programs offered in the Whonnock area by Parks, Recreation & Culture is missing. Please consult <PRC-Fall-2020-Program-Guide>

RIDGE CANOE & KAYAK CLUB (RCKC)



All you can say is what a summer. COVID caused a serious disruption to our club. We ceased all operations from the middle of March until the beginning of July.

The biggest impact during that time is that no school programs were able to run and we normally have about 1200 participants that get to enjoy Whonnock Lake for the day.

We actually were one of the first sports that was able to start training and resuming operations, including summer programs, due to the fact we are outside and that we paddle with separation between athletes.

We were allowed to train but no competitions were approved and we basically missed the entire competitive season. In early September, as COVID rules changed, we were allowed to run modified regattas again.

We planned our first regatta for September 13th but we had to cancel due to the smoke and air quality advisory! We finally got to run our first regatta on September 26 and 27, a modified regatta we named the COVID Cup. Besides some rain on the Saturday the regatta was a great success and the athletes from U10 to Master's division finally got to race again, many coming off the water with big smiles on their faces.

We are now moving into our winter session and registration is open if anyone is interested in joining the club, contact Coach Tessa at <tessanagai@gmail.com> or visit our website at <rckc.ca>

Have a great autumn and stay well,

Darren Koehler, Commodore RCKC



WHONNOCK WALKERS

Join us on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at Whonnock Lake Centre parking lot at 9:15 for a friendly one-hour walk. Call Britta at 604-462-9863 for more information.



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 is <ceramicsjunichi.com>



WHONNOCK WEAVERS AND SPINNERS

It is with heavy hearts that the Whonnock Weavers and Spinners

Guild have decided to cancel our 2020 Open House Exhibition & Sale which was to be held on Sunday, November 29, 2020.

Two reasons helped inform our decision to cancel this year. First & foremost is that we would not want to endanger the health & safety of anyone who supports our guild on the day of the gathering. The second reason is the uncertainty of whether or not we will even have access to Whonnock Lake Centre for the event.

Since we are currently in Phase 3 in BC this cancellation follows provincial guidelines. Once the health officials in BC announce that we are entering into Phase 4, we can safely reschedule our event.

Stay safe friends... we will get through this!

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.

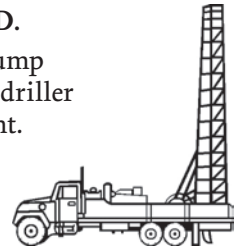
For information on other chapters in Maple Ridge phone Thelma at 604-467-5601.

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604-418-4377

angela@wanderingrowfarm.com

We grow a variety of delicious veggies and offer pasture raised, organically fed eggs. We employ organic practices and are in transition to Certified Organic. Sign up for our weekly subscription box which runs from April to October or place a custom order online.



TAPS held their annual meeting in January at a time when we could gather for meetings, food and fun in our home without any worries. Hopefully we will be able to gather once again in the near future.

The members have kept in touch with each other as concerns arise, but we have had a quiet quarter with wells maintaining consistent levels. We had a very rainy June and early July with sprinkles in between, so many of us have not had to haul water.

NEWS:

1. The new observation well installed in Selvey park by MFLNRO is now in operation collecting data. The well was drilled in March and data has been collected ever since. The live data collected by telemetry is yet to be installed. Hopefully by October. That will enable live data to be collected automatically and will be available for viewing by the public. The new well was installed because there was significant pumping interference by the nearby community well. Both wells will be monitored for a few years before the old well will be considered for decommissioning.
2. Parks, Recreation & Culture held two Open Houses on Sept. 9th and 22nd at the Whonnock Lake Centre. The City would like input from the community regarding the uses of the Thornhill Trails. Deadline for submission of the Online Comment Form have been extended to October 15th. We attended the Open House on September 22/20, where we had a productive, straightforward and informative meeting. They mentioned that the attendance was great (by pandemic standards) and they had already received over 650 responses, which is 10 times more than what they expect to receive from a survey.

To get to the Online Comment Form of the Thornhill Trails Study go to <mapleridge.ca/1441/Park-Development-Projects>, and click on the picture "Thornhill Trails." There you'll find links to the "Online Comment Form" and the "Information Panels."

Please read the information provided by the City and submit your thoughts on the Comment Form by October 15, 2020. Fill in the comment section #9.

For those who do not do Internet, printed copies of the Thornhill Trail Study Comment Form are available at the post office.

OUR EXPRESSED CONCERNS:

1. The maps are not an accurate reflection of all the trails that the mountain bikers have built.
2. The City provided no information on their maps nor information panels, that the current trails and future plans for proposed urban uses are on the Grant Hill Aquifer.
3. The City did not acknowledge that the Thornhill/Grant Hill Aquifer is the sole source of drinking water for hundreds of residents in our communities
4. They referenced the OCP regarding future development plans in the urban reserve. We need to remain vigilant, continue to protect our water source and educate our community that our water resource must be secure. The City agreed that bringing City water to Thornhill will be very expensive.
5. The Coquitlam and Seymour Watersheds are only accessible to the public through group tours and are physically protected from access while the Grant Hill Watershed is slated for development.
6. Developers, speculators and the City have long waited to develop our watershed because it is in unprotected City owned lands. Therefore, the residents are always at risk. We asked that these City owned lands become either a dedicated park or a conservation area.
7. The City is concerned by the increased impact from mountain biking activities and they are trying to determine the best way to manage it. It was left too long without any planning. They are aware that there are many users from outside of Maple Ridge.
8. Mountain biking is not compatible with horseback riding, walking, hiking and running. It is dangerous and poses a liability to the users and the City.
9. There is a growing problem related to parking on 256th. Dogs, pedestrians, cyclists, horses and cars do not mix as the roadway is no longer two lanes, with cars parked on both sides of the road.
10. We suggested that the City review their land bank to find a more suitable piece for mountain biking and then Thornhill Trails could once again be used for walking, hiking and horseback riding. Local users are reluctant to use the trails. The City is relying on the public to be the eyes and ears with regard to the activities on the Thornhill Trails. They said that although they will not expand the trails, they are reluctant to remove the current mountain biking activity.

We cannot emphasize enough that both the City and TAPS are asking all the residents to submit their completed Comment Form online or by dropping it off at the City by October 15th.

We hope you all keep healthy in the coming months and New Year. We will continue to protect and value our groundwater and mature forests. We are fortunate to live here and to have such beautiful natural resources we can protect.

Betty & Klaus von Hardenberg

TAPS (Thornhill Aquifer Protection Study)



THORNHILL COMMUNITY HALL

We are hoping to find that our community members and supporters have weathered the COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and have remained safe.

The Thornhill Hall was closed for a time in the spring because of provincial restrictions over gatherings, but now they have been partially lifted to allow gatherings of 50 or less with all the other protocols such as physical distancing (6 ft.), staying home if sick, and sanitizing.

The Hall is OPEN for rentals.

These restrictions have impacted hall rentals and activities, but we are grateful for the guidance that allows us to be safe.

We all await to see how the Fall and Winter months will unfold, but we wish our community and supporters to remain healthy and safe.

For inquiries regarding Hall rentals call Fran Norman at 604-462-7869. Visit our website: <www.thornhillhall.ca> for further details.

THORNHILL ARTISAN FAIR

We are sorry to cancel the Thornhill Artisan Fair this December due to our concerns over the health and safety of our customers and vendors.

Our studio is closed for visitations, but we continue to service our customers by safely arranging pick up outside our studio, deliveries, and mail orders.

For further inquiries please contact us at 604-462-9244 or info@vonhardenberg.com.



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



RUSKIN COMMUNITY HALL

28395 96th Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC, V2W 1L3
 Phone or text 604-462-9739
 Email <ruskinhall@yahoo.ca >
 Facebook: <Ruskin Community Hall>

The Ruskin Hall is located at the corner of 284th Street and 96 Avenue. Hall meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00. Everyone is welcome.

The hall is available for rental at hourly or nightly rates. For rental information contact our Booking Agent at 462-9739, bookings@ruskinhall.com, or www.ruskinhall.com.

Kim Rondquist continues to offer HATHA FLOW YOGA classes on Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9:00. Classes are for all levels and everyone is welcome. For information contact Kim at 462-4284.

Check out our website for upcoming events. www.ruskin-hall.com



GIANT PUMPKINS



The second annual Whonnock Giant Pumpkin growing contest is in full swing.

Last year over 100 people picked up their free pumpkin plants and attempted to grow the biggest pumpkin. Many obstacles were encountered along the way. Early on in the race slugs devoured some pumpkins and near the end there were reports of goat nib-

bling, chicken pecking and sheep eating entire pumpkins.

This year the participation has doubled with over 200 people picking up their free pumpkin seeds in early May. There is some heavy competition this year with those hoping to beat Joanne and Trevor Halliday's 109 pound pumpkin which won the day last year.

The rains in early summer made it hard for the bees to get inside the soggy pumpkin flowers, meaning pollination was not taking place. As a result, many pumpkins had a late start. When the sun came out again the pumpkins just took off with some people saying they were growing right before their eyes.

Although the judging does not take place until October 18th, some have already shared pictures of what just might be this year's winning pumpkin. Stay tuned to the next edition of the *Whonnock News* to see who wins.

Pascale Shaw



WILDWOOD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Wildwood Fellowship Church Welcomes You.

Sunday Services are being held at 10:30 am and follow BC Health COVID-19 guidelines (10810 272nd Street)

Now more than ever, our world is dominated by chaos and uncertainty. But Jesus Christ remains the unchanging source of truth and peace.

Part of our Church's purpose statement reads, "Our purpose is to know Christ and to make Him known. We make Christ known through caring acts, caring attitudes, and a care-filled message."

If you're looking for a place to belong where you can discover and live out a relevant faith, we invite you to experience the community of Wildwood Fellowship Church. We are a family-oriented, non-denominational Church.

Is this COVID pandemic leaving you feeling anxious? isolated? perhaps needing someone to talk to? Perhaps you are a single parent (or know of one) finding it difficult to put groceries on the table? Or you've lost your job and are struggling to buy the groceries you need? Wildwood Fellowship Church would like to try to help you in some small way.

Please reach out to us by leaving a phone message for Pastor Arnold Tracey at 604-462-7741 or email us at <aetracey@shaw.ca>.

We also have some free Cobs bread to give away – no need to call ahead, just stop by the church on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

SLICE OF PARADISE NAILS

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or visit us on Facebook

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Phone: 604-362-2112

Web site: <driftwoodbay.com>





HOLY SPIRIT ANGLICAN CHURCH

27123 River Road in Whonnock

Visit our website <holyspiritanglican.ca>

Church - phone: 604-462-7933

Email: holyspiritanglican@gmail.com

CHURCH-GOING COVID-STYLE

Church-going has changed quite a bit since COVID. We started to worship online only but now we are back to in-person worship with strict health protocols. Some still join on Zoom.

Church attenders must notify the church during the previous week that they wish a seat reserved for them. Then we must arrive in time to be screened (temperature, symptom checks and contact information) and shown to assigned seats (which have been measured as appropriately distanced). Masks are a MUST.

There is no movement during the service, and no singing. We have our talented musician to provide beautiful music to hum along to. There are no hymn books or prayer books; everything is projected on a screen.

We are making every effort to keep worshippers safe by adhering to a meticulous safety plan we prepared and which the Diocese approved.

The welcome is still warm – and you are invited to join us, in-person or online. Sunday mornings at 10:00 am – arrive 9:45 for screening and seating. To reserve seating at a service, or request a link to tune in online, call Deborah 604-785-0379

SEEKING DESCENDANTS OF FORMER PARISH MEMBERS

We need help locating descendants of members of the church around 1921, the year it was built. Can you help us?

If your ancestors attended the Anglican Church in Whonnock, or if you or family members were married or baptized at the church, we'd love to hear from you too. Call Jean 604-462-7341.

ANGLICAN CHURCH LAUNCHES 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



On September 13, Holy Spirit Anglican Church welcomed Archbishop of British Columbia and the Yukon, The Most Reverend Melissa Skelton, as preacher and to officially launch celebrations for the centennial of the church building and continued ministry in the community.

The church was colourfully decorated with flowers from Whonnock gardens. The centennial banner was unveiled

in the church by the Archbishop assisted by the priest, the Rev. Miranda Sutherland. The Archbishop's sermon was on forgiveness - an apt topic for a fresh start for the next century of the church.

REMEMBRANCE DAY BELL RINGING

"102 Bells for Peace" will take a different format this year due to COVID. We still invite you to listen for the bells on Remembrance Day, starting at 4:33 pm.

Call Jean 604-462-7341 if you want to reserve a seat and ring the bell. You will then receive further information. You will also be invited to nominate someone affected by war in whose honour the bell will toll.

CHRISTMAS AT THE ANGLICAN CHURCH

For any of the following events, please call to book seating at the service you would like to attend, or to request a link to connect online. Deborah 604-785-0379

Blue Christmas Service - Sunday December 13, 7 pm. An invitation for the entire community to attend a quiet, contemplative, service. This year, people may not feel very "Christmassy." People may feel alone or be struggling with pain, loss, fear or worry. This evening offers a time of calm and tranquility.

Christmas Eve - Thursday December 24 at 6 pm and 8 pm

Two Christmas Eve carol services this year to safely accommodate participants. Everyone is welcome. Due to BC health protocols, we may not be able to sing carols but there will be beautiful music.

CARING FOR LOCAL SENIORS

A grant from New Horizons, a federal government program supporting and enriching life for seniors, will be used for 100 care gifts for neighbourhood seniors. The goal is to make seniors who may feel stressed or isolated in the pandemic feel more connected, cared about and supported. The Anglican Church in Whonnock will coordinate this with input from other local churches and agencies.




We invite our neighbourhood to help celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Anglican Church in Whonnock!

COVID-19 restrictions permitting, there will be several events leading up to November 2021. For now, we invite you to participate in the centennial projects listed on the reverse. Please let us know when you have done one of the items by calling the church and leaving a message with your name and contact info.

The Rev. Miranda Sutherland welcomes calls and would be happy to talk to anyone during these challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Let us know of your efforts!

Holy Spirit Anglican Church
27123 River Road • Maple Ridge, BC • V2W 1M4
604-462-7933
holyspiritanglican.ca • hswonnock.blogspot.com

Anglican Church Whonnock

Centennial Projects

Plant 100 Trees in Whonnock

Let us know when you plant a tree on your property. We'll keep count.

Sign 100 Organ Donor Cards

Sign up on register.transplant.bc.ca or 604-877-2240.

Give 100 Blood Donations—Critically Needed Now!

Sign up on blood.ca or 1-888-236-6283.

Collect 100 T-shirts

For temporary foreign farm workers in Pitt Meadows/Maple Ridge (round neck T-shirts only, no polo or dress shirts). All sizes. Logos are fine. Pre-worn fine, as long as they still have a bit of wear in them. Please launder them, and we'll collect when safe.

Read 100 Scripture Verses

Use your own bible or access many versions of scripture online at bible.oremus.org.

Walk 100 Metres a Day for 100 Days this Year

Keep track and let us know when you get there.

Do 100 Good Deeds

If you have been recipient of a good deed from your neighbour, let us know.

Provide 100 Books for Schoolchildren of Kingcome Inlet

This is an expansion of an ongoing parish project on BC's north coast.