



WHONNOCK NEWS

Spring 2022



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome all to the Spring 2022 edition of the Whonnock News. During the past couple of years, we at the Whonnock Community Association have been basically treading water, holding zoom meetings, and offering newsletters with, let us face it, not many activities to announce or report on.

Recently I have been thinking and hoping that this year, we will finally be able to gather again as a community. We are thrilled to announce the return of the Whonnock Easter Egg Hunt this April 17th and the WCA will now be financially supporting Pascale Shaw and her wonderful Giant Pumpkin contest in the fall.

This fall we will also see a return to the "Volunteer Appreciation Dinner" – date to be announced – and hopefully a full ceremony for the annual Remembrance Day service.

Some other ideas we have been tossing around are, Dinner in the Park, Free Concerts, or the Great Lawnmower race. Of course none of these things happen without some enthusiastic neighbours and volunteers to help, so if you have some ideas, please feel free to share those at our meetings or send by email.

Our meetings are now "in person" again at Whonnock Lake Centre and the membership is encouraged to attend and we would love to see you and hear some of your ideas.

Brad Jennings

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Brad Jennings - President
Bernard Bezuidenhout - Vice President
Mary Blackstock - Treasurer
Helmi Braches - Secretary
Noreen Woods - Director-at-Large

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

Presented by the Whonnock Community Association.

As usual our Easter Egg Hunt will be on Easter Sunday, April 17th, at Whonnock Lake Centre.

The hunt will start at 11:00 sharp, rain or shine!

The Easter Bunny is looking for volunteers to do some very rewarding assignments for the event. If you are willing to hop along please call Shelley at 604-462-1881.



BECOME A MEMBER!

Membership in the Whonnock Community Association is free.

Registration forms are at the post office and can also be downloaded from our website whonnock.ca. Click Whonnock Community Association and select "membership."

If that does not work for you, contact secretary Helmi Braches at 604-462-8942 and let her have your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (if applicable). Or send an e-mail to webmaster@whonnock.ca



THE WCA BURSARY

Congratulations to the 2021 WCA bursary recipient, Caleb Orioux.

Caleb will be continuing his post secondary education at BCIT, studying Metal Fabrication, where he will complete his training to become Red Seal Certified before going on to become a high school technology teacher. Well done, Caleb. Good luck on your post-secondary education journey.

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:

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

Good luck to all applicants.

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 go to whonnock.ca, click Whonnock Community Association and select "bursaries".



RIDGE CANOE & KAYAK CLUB

Paddling through the last two pandemic years has presented many challenges for our club, but our coaching staff has worked extra hard to keep our members safe by following all public health protocols. Even during the pandemic, our club has continued to grow. We ran many successful short-term summer programs along with the regular summer and winter recreational and competitive programs for our members.

This winter, our thriving Masters group and the Junior / Senior competitive paddlers practices consisted of dry-land training and getting on the water as often as possible. Many of our seniors are looking forward to their upcoming spring training camp in Portugal!

This will be an exciting summer as many of our paddlers are aiming to compete at the BC Summer Games in Prince George or the Canada Games in Welland, Ontario.

As we gear up for our spring and summer programs, we are hoping, like everyone else, that we will have a more normal year. Our year-long programs kick off on April 1st for club members. If you are interested in becoming a member, please visit rckc.ca.

In addition, we will be running two short-term programs offered through Parks, Recreation & Culture: "Learn to Paddle" for children in May and June and "Learn to Kayak" for adults in May.

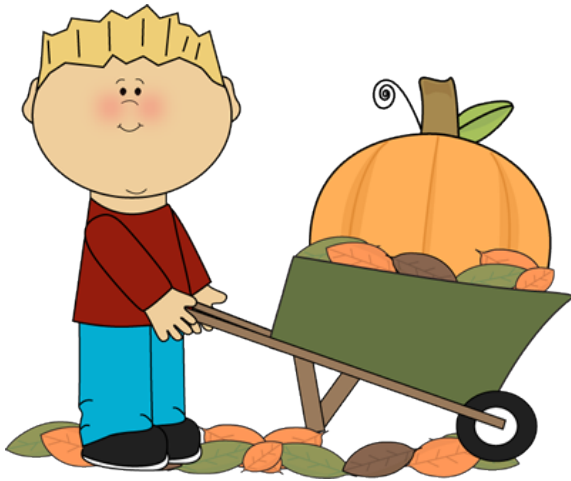
We are still anxiously awaiting the construction of the long promised new on-water boat storage bay and renovated exercise area in our clubhouse. The funding has been secured and the contracts signed. We are just waiting for final approvals on the environmental impact so construction can begin.

For more information about our programs, checkout our website rckc.ca.

WHONNOCK TOPS LOCAL #4522

TOPS is a nonprofit organization that helps members to improve their health and well-being. In-person meetings will resume soon. 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.



4TH ANNUAL WHONNOCK GIANT PUMPKIN CONTEST

Thanks to a very generous contribution from the Whonnock Community Association, the Whonnock Giant Pumpkin Contest is going to be bigger and better than ever. This will be the fourth year for this giant pumpkin growing contest and if you are not participating yet, you are missing out!

This free community-building event was started in 2019 by Pascale Shaw as a way to try to connect people living in the small community of Whonnock.

The contest has grown leaps and bounds each year and is now jointly organized by Joanne Halliday and Pascale Shaw.

The most exciting part of the contest, weigh-off day, will be held on Sunday, October 23rd at 1:00 pm. Along with the heaviest and second place categories, there will also be an "outsiders" and special "surprise" category so that those who live outside of Whonnock can still participate. The free giant pumpkin plants are once again being grown by The Rainbow Eggs farm in Whonnock and will be available for pick up late April or early May.

For more information or if you are interested in donating money, prizes or time please, watch the Whonnock Neighbours Facebook page, keep an eye out for a flyer at Mcfli's or email whonnockgiantpumpkoncontest@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars for October 23rd. Everyone is welcome to come and view the pumpkins, make your best guess as to what they weigh, have a free family photo taken, sample some wonderful baking, enjoy some hot chocolate and last but not least, come and meet your neighbours!

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.

PARK, RECREATION & CULTURE PROGRAMS IN WHONNOCK

Details, dates, costs and times of the following programs held at Whonnock venues are published in the *Maple Ridge PRC Guide*, spring program guide 2022.

RCKC – CANOE AND KAYAK - LEARN TO PADDLE –

Age: 8 to 13 Y

Learn proper posture, balance, steering, stroke technique and basic water safety skills in kayaks on Whonnock Lake. Instruction provided by Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club coaches. All equipment included. Location: Whonnock Lake Centre.

RCKC – ADULT LEARN TO KAYAK –

Age: 19 Y and up

Learn proper posture, balance, steering, stroke technique and basic water safety skills in kayaks on Whonnock Lake. Instruction provided by Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club coaches. All equipment included. Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

PILATES BY THE LAKE

Age: 16 Y and up

Practical, useful and efficient training that is designed to help you in your everyday life. We aim to build your muscular and cardiovascular strength through a series of exercises that will challenge you on your fitness journey. Please bring your own mat.

Instructor: Curtis Health

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

HATHA YOGA

Age: 16 Y and up

This alignment-oriented class emphasizes posture and breath. It uses poses and stretches in combination with the breath that will develop and increase flexibility and relaxation. An excellent way to calm the mind and connect with your body. Please bring your own mat.

Instructor: Curtis Health

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre



WHONNOCK WALKERS

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



RUSKIN COMMUNITY HALL

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

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

The hall is available for rental at hourly or nightly rates for small events, classes, or meetings. For rental information contact our Booking Agent by phone at 604-462-9739 or bookings@ruskinhall.com, or www.ruskinhall.com.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are every Monday evening from 7:30 to 8:30. For information contact Dave at 604-462-7616.

Check out our website <ruskinhall.com> for upcoming events.



WHONNOCK WEAVERS AND SPINNERS GUILD

Last year was one of uncertainty but with the vaccines in arms it certainly made a difference for how we felt about it all.

Like many groups, the Whonnock Weavers and Spinners Guild continued to meet on Zoom when the guidelines demanded it, and in person with masks when restrictions lightened up. With Omicron we went back to Zoom and now in March we'll be in person again! We're such an adaptable group!!

Our guild was delighted to be able to resume our Annual Exhibit & Sale, November 28, 2021, our 40th Anniversary of this event! We knew it would be difficult to hold it at our usual venue, Whonnock Lake Centre, so we held it at St. John the Divine Church hall. Such a pleasant space for our 'smaller than usual' sale. The weather didn't cooperate but the sale was well attended and folks were more than willing to cooperate with showing their proof of vaccine and wearing masks.

Quite a few of our members are continuing to take online courses or listen to talks from instructors in different parts of the world. We also have an upcoming workshop planned - a Weaving Round Robin on 12 different looms with a different project on each. A learning and experiential opportunity for those who attend.

Our guild hopes to be able to have our Exhibit and Sale again the last weekend in November of 2022.

The Whonnock Weavers & Spinners Guild members hope that you all have a wonderful spring and summer! We certainly could all use it.

We always welcome new members so if you are interested in the fibre arts and wish to join us, simply contact us. We have spinners, weavers, basket makers, felters, knitters, and more! We meet twice a month and have a break for the summer. During the summer break we also plan informal fun days.

If you would like more information, please phone Marie at 604-462-9059 .

Our website is at www.wwsg.ca and we can also be found on Facebook and Instagram. hVps://www.facebook.com/WhonnockWeaversandSpinnersGuild hVps://www.instagram.com/whonnockweaversandspinners/





Grant Hill aquifer boundaries

TAPS THORNHILL AQUIFER PROTECTION STUDY

For those community members who are new to *Whonnock News* and have never heard about TAPS, I will briefly outline our goals and who is involved in this program.

TAPS is a grass-roots community-driven initiative that grew out of a collective effort of a core group of residents who are reliant on the Grant Hill Aquifer for their clean drinking water and for agricultural sustainability. In 2006, the residents were very concerned about the City's goal to develop urban levels of housing on our watershed, beginning with the municipality owned lands above 104th Street.

With the threatened impact on our drinking water, we agreed that data was the most paramount information should we be faced with water loss and/or contamination due to development. TAPS has been collecting well information since 2006, unique in the Province we are told by MFLNRO and our retained hydrogeologist. TAPS is entering its 14th year of data collection.

Coincidentally, the same day that our Council removed the Grant Hill Aquifer and Whonnock Aquifer map from the OCP, the Minister of Environment, George Heyman, announced that the Province would be focussing on the protection of watersheds. This was welcome news for us as the Province recognizes the important role it plays in securing watersheds from avoidable water loss and contamination that impact both residents' drinking water and their ability to be self-sustaining. Climate change is upon us and we can all do our part.

This requires planning in advance of acting and prioritizes and protects a community's basic needs first. We are so lucky to have the mature forest above us in the watershed that feeds and filters our water naturally. The City has shifted its focus from Residential Housing to Light Industrial as a result of a recent staff report which stated that Maple Ridge did not require housing until at least 2050 and beyond. The economic burden for Maple Ridge if this watershed is lost due to developing Light Industrial on it, is more than our City can afford.

We urge you to take the time to read:

- (1) <http://news.gov.bc> – Securing Watersheds For A Stronger Future
- (2) Take part in the Watershed Survey – The Province is wanting your input. Your input will help shape how our watersheds can be protected. Deadline for submissions is March 18/22. <https://engage.gov.bc/watershedsecurity>
- (2) Written submissions by email – livingwatersmart@gov.bc.ca

In light of the tragedies happening in Ukraine, we can always be grateful for where we live and how we can make choices that benefit a strong, healthy and united community.

We hope this coming year will give us all an opportunity to be with our friends, family and neighbours more often.

Betty & Klaus von Hardenberg

On behalf of TAPS

THORNHILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Due to the impacts of COVID, the Provincial mandates have not allowed us to book our hall for large gatherings and the Hall has suffered financially.

We would like to thank both Haney Appliance and Sound

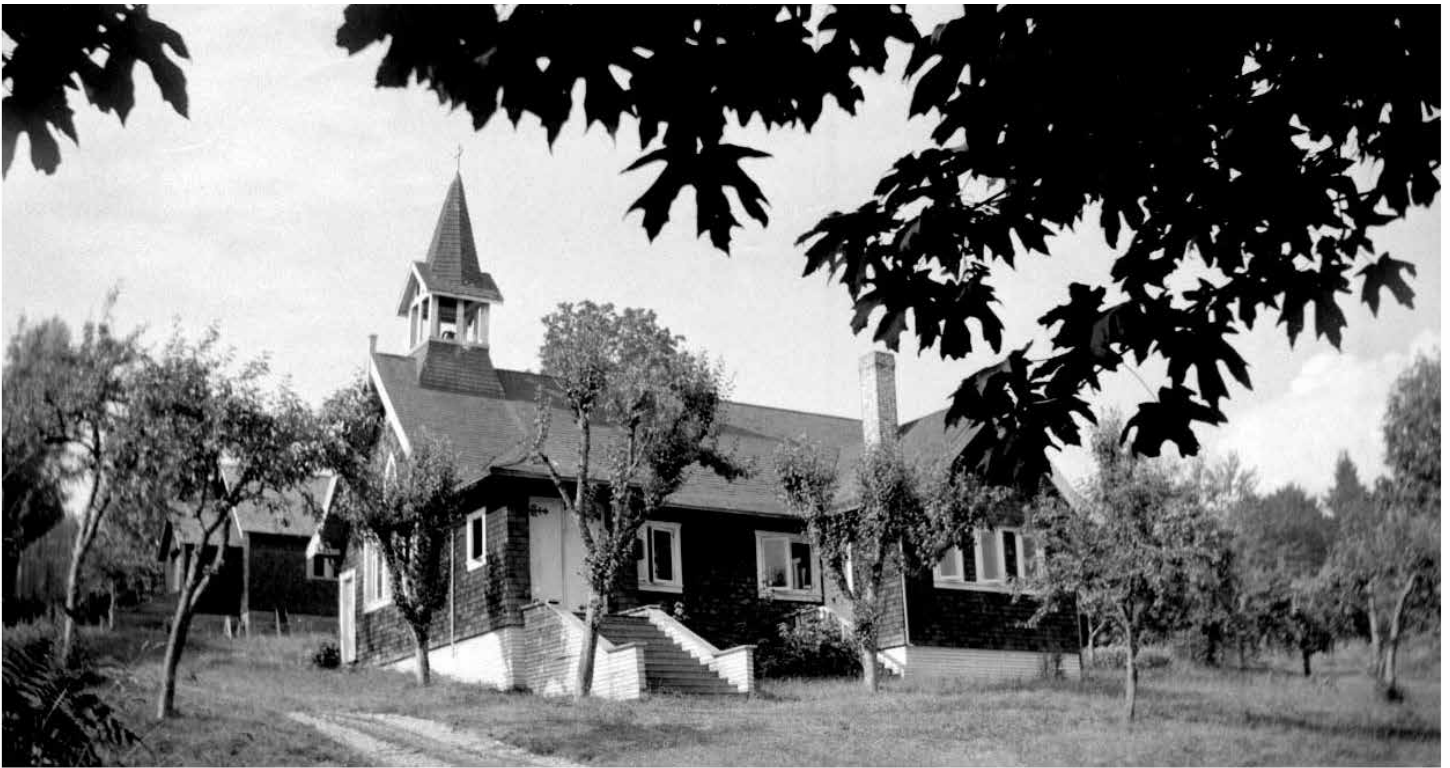
who supported us when we needed to purchase a new fridge and Johnston Meier Insurance who gave us some grace in paying our biggest annual bill. We were able to make the payments over time. Even though we are a City now, these local businesses made us feel like we still lived in a small and caring community. We were extremely grateful for their generosity.

Now, we are starting to get bookings for the spring and summer for larger gatherings which we have all missed.

For bookings and the latest information regarding COVID regulations call Fran @ 604-462-7869.



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



The Holy Spirit Anglican Church was declared this year's winner of Maple Ridge's "Heritage Site Award" for "... retaining its heritage character," a recognition of responsible conservation and restoration work by the community on the building for over a century.

HOLY SPIRIT ANGLICAN CHURCH

27123 River Road in Whonnock

Visit our website <holyspiritanglican.ca>

Church - phone: 604-462-7933

Email: holyspiritanglican@gmail.com

Welcome: Sundays 9:30 AM – in person – mask please

Much to report from the past few months at the Anglican Church.

We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the church building on the weekend November 13-14. Dignitaries and former members joined the Saturday afternoon jazz concert themed on The Prodigal Son, a bible story of welcome and embrace. On Sunday, the Holy Spirit priest, Rev Miranda Sutherland, was joined by Rev David Price, former priest. Pamela Watson was presented with a certificate honouring the Watsons as a "Founding Family" of the church.

On Remembrance Day we rang the church bell 103 times at sunset as a plea for peace and listened to stories of those who yearn for peace.

December saw 80 items of warm winter hanging on our 'Sock Tree' outside. Thanks to neighbours who hung socks on the tree.

We are now launched into the next century of worship and service = 2022 brings new and renewed projects:

- > baking cookies and preparing welcome packages (bed linen, towels, toiletries) for new residents of Garibaldi Ridge, a supportive housing unit in Haney;
- > continuing work on beautifying the church property; ongoing studies on current faith issues;
- > '215' group learning about First Nations' issues before seeking reconciliation;
- > welcoming neighbourhood children to an exciting Sunday School program called 'The Whole People of God';
- > the dream of a music academy with plans still in process.

You are welcome to join in any of these efforts.

COVID has been hard for all of us.

If you feel the need to talk to someone about stress or isolation you may feel, the priest, Rev Miranda Sutherland, would be happy to speak with you.

Call her at 604-462-7933. Please call to ask about Lenten and Easter events too.





WILDWOOD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

In our world dominated by chaos and uncertainty, Jesus remains the unchanging source of truth and peace.

We believe the God who designed and created the universe is not silent and has a design and purpose for each one of us.

We believe He hears and answers our prayers, reaching down and touching our lives with His love, forgiveness and grace.

Through His Word, the Bible, God gives us His blueprint for life, giving us direction and confidence and peace as we seek Him and follow His ways.

We are meeting at 10:30 AM Sundays for regular Services.

You are welcome to join us.

Feel free to visit our website, www.wildwoodfellowship.com

COBS BREAD AND BUNS:


If you are in need or know someone who is, Cobs bread is available free at the church on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

If you are not able to get to the church on Wednesday mornings and would like some bread, or if you are struggling and need help with groceries, please call the church at 604-462-7741



DRIFTWOOD BAY GALLERY

27170 108th Avenue
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 Phone: 604-362-2112
 Web site: <driftwoodbay.com>





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COUNTERPANE COLLECTABLES



Collectable teddy bears designed and lovingly handmade by Neva Springman. Custom orders welcome.

www.Counterpanetedies.com

SUNFLOWER CAFE

10225 272 Street / yellowhousefarm.ca

Our little farm-to-table restaurant, Sunflower Cafe, will be reopening for the season on April 1st!

Our farm is certified organic and the majority of the food prepared in the cafe comes from the farm: our produce, eggs, and chicken. We will be open Wednesday to Sunday 5:00 to 9:00 pm and on Saturday and Sunday also from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.

We are also still accepting memberships to our CSA program where people can get a weekly box of produce delivered to their home. The cost is \$63/week for a full share and \$38/week for a half share.



CRAFTY FARMGIRL

Super fun personalized gifts! Mugs, wine glasses, novelty socks, pillows, plastic egg cartons, journals, sketch books, water bottles... t-shirts and more!

Crafty Farmgirl Shannon Dureau's gifts now include t-shirts, crew-necks and hoodies showing the Whonnock logo.

Facebook: [CraftyFarmgirlWhonnock/](https://www.facebook.com/CraftyFarmgirlWhonnock/)

Text: 604-313-5974 E-mail: shannon.andre@hotmail.com



WHONNOCK RED & WHITE STORE

In 1921 F. W. Showler became the first owner and shopkeeper of a grocery store that shortly after 1925 became part of the chain of independent Red & White stores.

Showler sold the store in 1947. His successors in the end could not survive the competition from the supermarkets in Haney and Mission and the store closed in the 1970s.

With a short interruption in the 1980s, when it served as an antique shop, the building was not used as a store again until Sue Schulze bought it from John Page and saved it from almost certain demolition. In 1994 she started the successful feed store she named "McFli's" after her favourite Jack Russel. fb

FIRST WHONNOCK SCOUTS



Camp Whonnock has been closed for most of 2020 and all of 2021, so the Scouts didn't have any place to meet and are not meeting right now.

Now that the camp is finally getting ready to reopen, the Scouts will be starting up for the fall season in September. They are in need of adult volunteers for the coming year, both for the Scouts and the camp.

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Paul Doyle (pauldoyle@shaw.ca) or go to myscouts.ca.



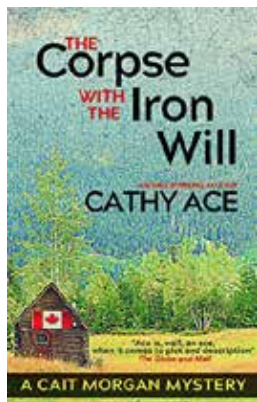
JUNICHI TANAKA,

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



ONE BOOK WHONNOCK

Not quite a book club, but an opportunity for neighbours to come together and get to know each other over a book. We choose a title once or twice a year and come together to talk about it informally.

We do not have a fixed membership - everyone who is interested may sign up for a particular book. For more information, or if you are interested to sign up for the current book, call Helmi at 604-462-8942.

The current book is *The Corpse with the Iron Will*, a mystery by local author Cathy Ace, who has already promised that she will come to our gathering, which will be sometime late spring or early summer.