

Shawnigan Focus

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A Non-Profit Community Publication

LEGION DERBY LEAVES PEOPLE SMILING

Win Teague
Public Relations Coordinator

Folks, this past Saturday, June 20th, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 134 ran the 30th Annual Walter Hall Memorial fishing derby.

Fisher persons of all ages and sizes spent Saturday morning and the first 90 minutes of the afternoon trying to catch the biggest trout or bass before the official weigh-in took place at 2 PM.

While they were out enjoying themselves on the water, the volunteers and organizers were back at the Legion setting up tables, getting prizes put out on the prize tables and making sure that tickets for the food for the fishers was all in order. The Lions had their cook shack set up in the Legion parking lot and I can verify that the hot dogs and home made fries were top of the line.

I do not have a full list of all of those companies that donated prizes, cash or food towards the derby but I hope to be able to acknowledge those companies at a later date.

So here is a list of the winners:

- ★ Adult Largest trout - 1 Lb 4 oz. Tied: Jeremy Anderson/Tom James. This is the first time there has ever been a tie.
- ★ Adult Second place trout - Mark Bishop
- ★ Kid Largest trout - 4 oz. No name, but blonde with the cutest smile and maybe 4 yrs old. And she could say CHEESE forever while we took pictures.
- ★ Adult Largest bass - 3 Lb 9 oz. Trevor Finn
- ★ Kid Largest bass - 2 Lb 13 oz. Jace Potts
- ★ Hidden Weight (all fish) - 2 Lb 6 oz (bass). Con Haug

Every fisher person, whether they caught a fish or not, received a prize so we hope everyone went home happy.

We hope they all come back next year and bring their friends.

We would also like to acknowledge the large group of motorcyclists that stopped in for a lunch break while enjoying their Poker Run



SHAWNIGAN FOCUS
JULY 2015

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ABOUT THE FOCUS

The Shawnigan Focus is an independent, local, non-profit publication, produced by the volunteer Focus team. Shawnigan Focus endeavours to inform; promote involvement in the community; and interest a broad cross-section of the residents of Shawnigan Lake.

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Additional copies are available in The Village.

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Let yourself shine!

Anne Morrison, BA, MSW, RSW,
Professional Counsellor and Therapist

This past weekend I had the pleasure of witnessing the famous Satir Family Therapy Trainer Maria Gimori in action. She is a vibrant, radiant 95 year old with seemingly limitless energy! She personified living from a place of self worth with passion; she inspired others to claim their magnificence. She was beautifully, fully alive.

The process of claiming our worth can be challenging. One of the biggest hurdles can be a negative belief we have about ourselves. Often we grow up with family messages which still ring in our head. Phrases like, “don’t get too big for your britches”, “don’t be selfish”, or “silence is golden” keep reminding us that we should keep ourselves small, and perhaps unnoticed. It is not OK to shine.

These kinds of rules shape our expectations of others and ourselves. Those expectations are fuelled by the belief that we should not grow too big or express our feelings too loudly. The result? We hardly allow ourselves to be seen. We keep our strong feelings under wraps and the energy goes underground, festering in internal judgements that keep us reminded of the need to keep

parts hidden.

In my upbringing, we had a prominent family rule to keep feelings contained. I was labelled as “too emotional” because I openly expressed my feelings. That was difficult for my mother since my eldest brother was forever creating havoc. She just wanted some peace and quiet. So I grew up thinking something was wrong with having strong feelings. I later learned that the ability to be vulnerable and emotionally expressive is a gift.

Maria encourages us all to shine brightly. The world IS a better place because you are here.

So, what brings you joy? How do you let others see who you are inside? 95 year old Maria certainly lets her light shine and her strength is palpable. My wish for you is that you do NOT keep yourself small, under wraps, or hidden from the world. Let us experience your full Self. May you make room to experience your own beliefs and truths, and be proud of what matters to you. Then you can leave your unique mark on the world – no matter what your age!

May we all experience peace within, between and amongst us all.

www.annemorrison.ca

Shawnigan Secrets...

CLAFOUTIS. For breakfast or dessert.

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. and grease a 9 inch cast iron fry pan with 1 table-spoon butter.

In a blender put:

- ★ 1 Tbsp pure vanilla
- ★ 1 1/4 cups whole milk
- ★ 6 Tbsp sugar
- ★ 6 eggs

- ★ 3 Tbsp Amaretto
- ★ pinch of salt

Blend thoroughly and then add 3/4 cup sifted white flour. Blend again. Pour into prepared fry pan. Top with 3 cups of fresh or frozen (don’t thaw) pitted cherries, peaches, blueberries, blackberries or raspberries.

Bake for 20 to 25 minutes. Check (by looking

through oven window) to see if it is raised and golden. If necessary, cover loosely with foil to avoid over browning. Now shake the pan gently and if the centre is not wobbly, it’s done. If desired, sprinkle the top with icing sugar. Serve warm or at room temperature. Good topped with a dollop of Amaretto flavoured whipped cream. Serves 6.

~ Submitted by Moira Nash

Shawnigan Focus
please participate!

The Shawnigan Focus is a not-for-profit newspaper, produced by volunteers, for the benefit of the community. Its purpose is to inform, involve and connect community. We need the support of the community to create and to fund the Focus. We encourage your submissions of articles, reports and pictures. We also encourage businesses to place ads. In general, the percentage of ad space is less than 25%, which means that your ad will be very visible and that most of the paper is filled with meaningful content. Thank you for your support.

What’s Coming Up?

Summer Series at the Museum

To Educate, Engage & Entertain

July 8th - Co-evolution of Flowering Plants and Native Bees

July 22th - Foreshore Stewardship

RSVP - shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca

TO DO:
Aug 16th
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Elsie Miles Park
10:30-2:30

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community



Shawnigan Focus

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND US LETTERS... EDITOR@SHAWNIGANFOCUS.CA

The Focus will publish your thoughts on Shawnigan issues: bouquets you would like to offer to special people; things that strike you as funny; challenges you want our civic leaders to consider; and/or ideas that would better our community. Letters to the Editor must be accompanied by the author's full name, address and phone number, but the contact information, other than the name, will not be published. Letters should be limited to 300 words and we reserve the right to edit for brevity or to refuse inappropriate or abusive language. Letters should attack issues - not individuals or groups.

Voice from the past

The following is a copy of a letter to the Honourable Moe Sihota, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks dated November 10, 1995

Dear Editor,

RE: Acquisition of private forest land forming summit of Old Baldy Mountain, Shawnigan Lake, B.C.

On October 2, 1995, our Area Director, our elected Parks and Recreation Commission and our Area Planning Commission endorsed our Shawnigan Trails Committee Master Plan Proposal. A key element in our comprehensive proposal is to urge the provincial government to acquire "...the private forest land forming the summit of Baldy Mountain...and to combine this land with a adjoining Crown Forest Land to create Baldy Mountain Recreation Forest Reserve".

This lovely panoramic viewpoint, easily accessible to local residents has been an outdoors destination, summer and winter, for over one hundred years. Its recreational value was acknowledged in our first Official Community Plan twenty years ago.

In our research, our committee learned that Pacific Forest Products owned Block 1420, forming Baldy Mountain Summit, and had put forward a proposal to the Ministry of Forests for a land swap package that included that block. Our enquiries as to the status of the swap proposal have had responses from both Ministry of Forests (dated Sept. 20 1995) and from the Ministry of Environment, Land & Parks (file #11040-030-R003) dated October 11, 1995, that leave us concerned.

The Forest Ministry's response states that "the land exchange proposal was to be dealt with"...by..."prioritizing the areas involved. Phase one...does not include Mount Baldy, which is included in the second phase. The outcome of phase two will depend upon the successful completion of phase one." Clearly, community values were not a factor in setting those priorities.

The Ministry of Environment, Land and Parks letter mentions reviewing "...matters pertaining to aboriginal rights". The Chief of the Malahat Band was sent a copy of our Master Plan last spring, and we asked then for their input.

We wish to point out that our community has a traditional and deep-felt connection with this site. Our request is a modest one. Our goal is to secure public access, to mark and maintain trails in order to control erosion, to protect sensitive areas, to ensure public safety and to connect the baldy Mountain trail system with other trail networks. We believe that its recreation value can be retained only if Baldy Mountain summit becomes Crown Land.

We have consulted with all parties affected by our proposal - local B.C. Forest Service Officers, forest company representatives, residents, landowners, developers, local government and user groups.

If you and your ministry can help in any way to reach that objective we will be most grateful.

Sincerely,

George A. Norris,
Shawnigan Trails Committee

~Reprinted from December 1995 Crier



Fight for clean water!

Dear concerned neighbours,

If you would like to help make a difference to our fight for clean water, please start Twittering. It's easy, fun and broadens our reach for spreading the awareness. At first you can take it easy just follow anyone who is retweeting anything about #saveshawniganwater and retweet yourself with a click of a button. As you get more followers, your messages will reach more people. This is how Om the Bridge was stopped. It all helps.

If intimidated there are lots of tutorials on YouTube. Looking forward to Tweeting with you. Need help send me a tweet @ActonSierra

~Sierra

Transportation of toxic waste

Hi There,

I have been following your plight to protect the drinking water for Shawnigan residents. Though I am not a resident I have fond memories of the trek over the Malahat in the family station wagon to Shawnigan Lake. I remember spending time with my family at the cabins near Mason's beach. It was a truly amazing time. I look forward to visiting the Island again and taking my family to visit the lake as I did.

I no longer live on the

Island but recently heard of more material heading from as far away as Stewart BC to SIA! I find it hard to believe there is not a better solution for this material than transporting it literally from the northern most tip of the province to the southern-most tip of the province. I do not believe that this is the "local need's" being met.

~Michael

"Sunny Daze" Campground

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to last month's letter regarding the "Sunny Daze" campground. There are two sides to the story and I feel a little clarity is in order.

To begin, the property is zoned F1 (primary forestry) which does not permit a commercial campground, weddings, or "special events" - all of which have been held there illegally for years. These special events include three day festivals such as Luminosity, Farm Fest, and Otherworld/Underworld which attract hundreds of participants who party until the wee hours of the morning. Evidence posted on line, including Program Guides and pictures, show these participants indulging in questionable activities such as burning effigies with flames shooting many feet into the air - in the heat of the summer.

After reading the rezoning application report from the CVRD, it appears the main reason for not allowing Sunny Daze to become a legally zoned campground had to do with wildfire risk. The property is well beyond the fire protection boundary of the Shawnigan Improvement District and the Fire Protection Plan submitted by the owner/operators "may not sufficiently address wildfire concerns". That, coupled with concerns over campsites in the riparian area of the river plus "the commercial uses onsite do not have authorized water or sewerage systems", was enough to have the rezoning application denied by the CVRD Board on May 13th of this year.

The CVRD did not "punish" or "politically bully" the owner/operators of Sunny Daze. Instead, after getting many complaints about the goings-on, the planning staff did the right thing by attempting to legalize a non-conforming commercial business.

In the end, the CVRD had no choice but to deny this application. Anyone interested in learning more can read the background report on the CVRD website under the Agenda of the Electoral Area Services Committee Meeting of April 21, 2015.

Sincerely,

~Barane McCartney

Well, George...it's 20 years later, and your dream just might come true!

Most people who have had a relationship with Shawnigan Lake have also developed a bond with Mt. Baldy. It is our mountain. It can be seen from most places around the lake and the community. Its shape is instantly recognizable. It provides a spectacular view from the top. It is a destination. It's priceless.

And now, we can preserve it as a

park for the community. We can own it. We can protect it. Forever.

The community is being asked to raise 1/3 towards the purchase of the 250 acres available for sale. The rest will come from Parks requisition. Think of your donation as a legacy for the people in your past, or for your children and grandchildren in the future.

The CVRD needs to receive most of the donations by mid August... More info: bsalmon@shaw.ca



This day was different (Orwell was right)

Bruce Fraser
Shawnigan Focus

A few days ago I attended a peaceful demonstration by the Shawnigan Community, all of us gathered together at the Stebbings Road site of South Island Aggregates where the Ministry of Environment has permitted a contaminated soil facility. The community is protesting the imposition of a contamination risk to our community watershed, visited on us for the financial convenience of a single corporation. The current 7000 water users and the potential future of 12,000 are being held hostage to fortune by a company and a provincial government who seem wholly impervious to the world emerging around them.

Recently in the Globe and Mail, the headline story was about drought in the west, with mention of the dire situation on the Cowichan River, just to the north of Shawnigan on the

southeast coast of Vancouver Island. In California, Oregon and Washington to our immediate south, governments and farmers are struggling with the increasing severity of droughts that affect their food growing and exporting capacity for which we, in British Columbia, are a major dependent recipient. Across the Atlantic, Pope Francis has released an encyclical calling on the world to take a moral and ethical stance to our relations with our only planetary home. Universities, pension funds and institutional investors are being asked to withdraw their investments in fossil fuels. Across the world there is a strong movement to create resilient communities whose footprint is in harmony with earth's sustainable capacity. All around us people are awakening to the peril of our destructive human footprint while here at home our leadership expects our consumptive ways to be supported long into

the future by extracting and exporting yet more fossil carbon headed inexorably to the atmosphere and the ocean.

But, the intransigence of a vastly out of touch provincial government is not what made the day different. It was not the rapidly developing consequences of drought or the ethical poverty of the insult to our watershed. It was not the inspiring commitment of our community to protecting our piece of nature. No, it was the dark cloud of government surveillance that cast a shadow across my path. As I was parking my car to attend the Stebbings Road rally, I noticed a man taking down the license numbers of all the parked cars. I challenged him, asking what right he had to be recording our numbers. He said, ever so politely, "I'm a Cop" and as he was not in uniform, I asked for his formal ID. He showed me a wallet badge and it later

turned out that he was from the Investigations Division of the RCMP. When I asked him why he was recording numbers he replied, "It will make it easier to follow up later". So there it was, in the early days of Bill C51, now law, a plainclothes RCMP officer taking down our license numbers in case they might prove "useful" in the future. That is what was so chillingly different this time.

This was not one of our local detachment officers, who rightly enjoy the trust and respect of the Shawnigan Community. It was not the local uniformed force visibly making sure that things did not go off the rails, keeping order, clearly protecting everyone. No, it was a plainclothes officer quietly collecting information, not for probable cause or an active investigation of a crime, but for a just-in-case database. Erosion of democratic civil liberties begins with such seemingly innocuous actions

that are now fostered by the law of the land.

So, my fellow Shawnigan citizens, we are now entered into a database for an undetermined "future use" by a police intelligence agency. This record supplements the facial recognition photographs taken of us in front of the legislature a few weeks ago. What comes next – voluntary muzzling of your personal views, a review of your social media posts, general designation as a "person of interest", a failed record check as a civic volunteer, a no-fly designation, a targeted CRA audit, or the proverbial knock on the door? There is a world full of examples of where this can ultimately lead for citizens of a society, comfortably accustomed to an open democracy, but insensitive to the early signs of the loss of that most precious of civic freedoms, the right to protest injustice in peaceful free public assembly.



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Directors Report, Area B

Sonia Furstaneau
Area Director

Last September, as the local election campaigns were kicking off, I wrote an article about possible visions for Shawnigan’s future, and ways we could move toward those visions.

I said that we needed to dream big, Shawnigan.

Now, more than ever before, we need to keep our big dreams alive for Shawnigan. We need to hold onto the future that we want for our community, not a future imposed on us by outside forces. We need to continue to hone our own visions, chart our own path, and work towards achieving all that we want for our community.

From so many people I have talked to, the idea of recapturing our place as a world-class recreational destination is a vision that deeply resonates. We have everything we need to make this happen – a spectacularly beautiful lake, an abundance of beautiful wilderness, and the types of boutique

businesses that attract people to our community.

We have a Trails Team working on creating an inventory of trails in the area, and developing a sense of how we can move forward to connect the already abundant walking and cycling trails that we have. We have the Shawnigan Village Committee, which has led the consultation and visioning process for Elsie Miles and the Shawnigan Village, and is now beginning to look at implementation of the community’s vision.

There is a spirit of cooperation and collaboration that infuses the many businesses already operating in and around Shawnigan, and this spirit grows steadily.

This fight that we are in – this crazy, unbelievable fight against decisions that are unsupportable and unjustified – has robbed us of so much. It has robbed our time, it has robbed our energy, and at times it has robbed our faith in the processes and systems that



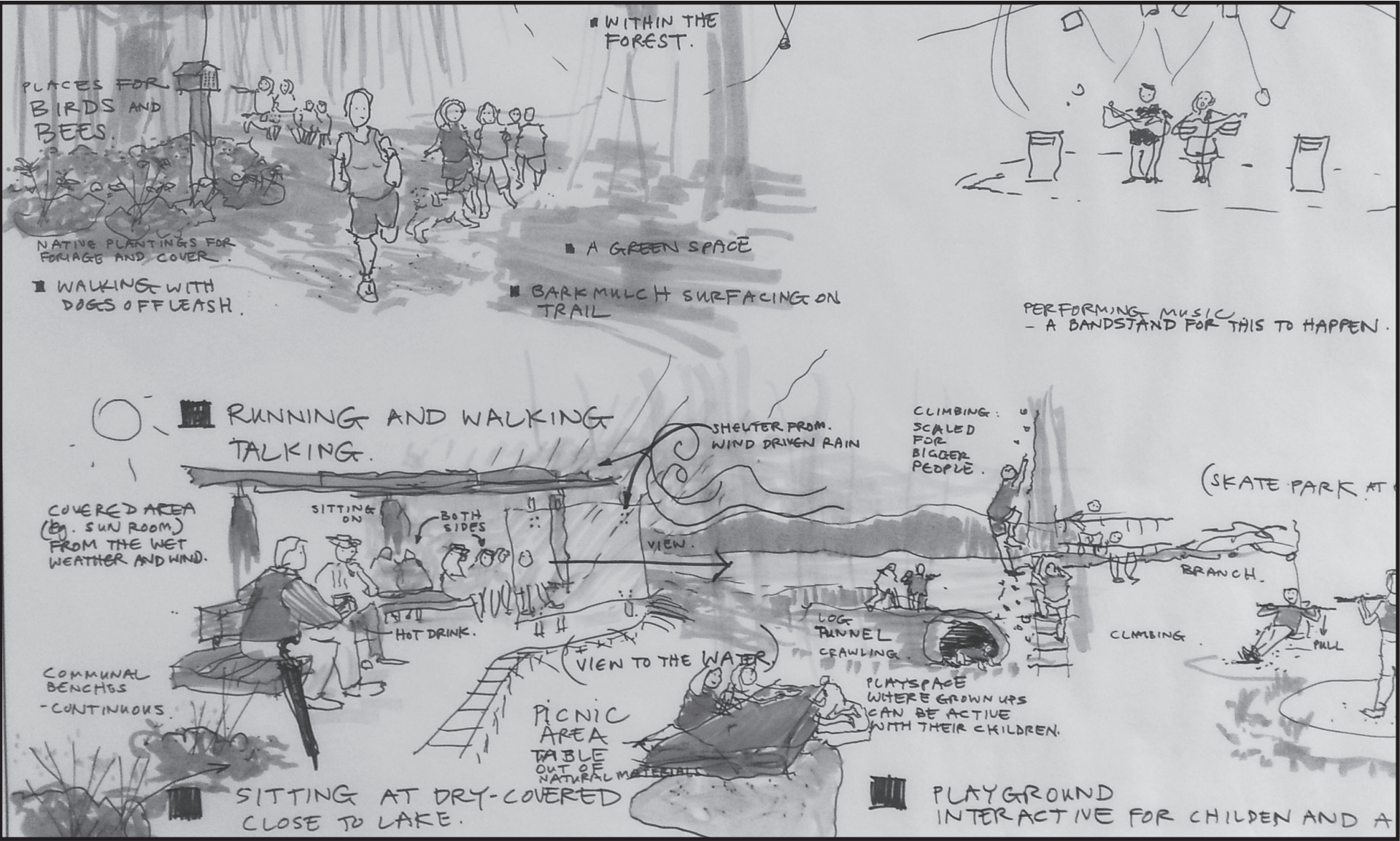
are meant to protect the common good.

For me, my greatest sense of grief when I first heard the decision three months ago was the grief I felt for our future. For months, all of my efforts

had been going into building the future we want for Shawnigan, and I knew that those efforts would have to be set aside for the duration of this fight.

But we must not let this

rob us of our visions, our hopes, and our dreams. Keep dreaming big, Shawnigan, because when this fight is over and we have won, we have lots of work to do together to build the future that we want.



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Lake Watch. Is it dead in the water?



Gaileen Flaman
Commission Member

The Parks Commission has seen Lake Watch, a community-based program to raise

awareness of unsafe boating practices on the water, listed on its agenda for the past few months in the lead-up to summer. Many users of the lake and lakeside residents have

concerns about speeders and boaters who don't respect the rules of the "road", yet few are committing to be volunteer "Watchers". Many residents are frustrated with those

few that spoil it for everyone – those boaters that drive too fast and create excessive wake, party too loudly and disturb the peace, and allow their docks and boats to decay and dirty the lake. No one wants them around yet not enough are stepping up to join Lake Watch, initiated in late 2012. Unless those same people who have concerns about the hazardous habits of some boaters on the lake commit to putting in some volunteer hours, Lake Watch may be dead in the water.

At our AGM in April, one gentleman made an impassioned plea for the organized patrolling and monitoring of boaters throughout the summer months and verified that few locals had joined in to offer their time on the water. So, how do we as a community respond to this need? Some feel that education is

the answer and stationing CVRD summer students at the boat launches distributing information would be helpful. Others sense that education is wasted on those deviants who choose to disobey and even if one observes a rule-breaker, the ability to identify the perpetrator is diminished as they speed off. And is the pleasure boater out for an afternoon bob expected to try to enforce the rules if an opportunity arises?

According to the South Cowichan Community Policing page, Lake Watch has been temporarily suspended and one may conclude that without this service, the amount of unsafe and inappropriate activities on the water will increase. When you see an undesirable activity take place, please report it to the Shawnigan Lake RCMP at 250-743-5514.

Lake Stewardship: Summer Engagement

Jenny Berg,
Shawnigan Basin Society

It's an exciting time to be around Shawnigan Lake at the height of summer as the lake shore is teeming with life and natural wonder. With many plant species flowering this time of year it's a pivotal time to spot and familiarize yourself with both native

and non-native plant species. Getting to know the ecology of your watershed is just one of the many opportunities of participation, and entry points of lake stewardship.

This July, start with the foreshore. Homeowners, in particular, should keep their eye out for the showy Yellow Flag Iris. At other times of the

year (without the flower) this invasive can appear to look like other shoreline vegetation such as, cattail.

Growing awareness and action, in a timely and effective manner, about this invasive plant species is key to mitigating an ecological blunder. So far, Shawnigan Lake does host this fast spreading weed, but

populations are relatively small, with periodic patches around the lake. It has six distinguishing yellow petals, 3 smaller petals orientated up and 3 larger petals downward.

Ecologically, the Yellow Flag Iris changes shorelines by out-competing native plant species. The rhizomes of the Iris (which grow horizontally and facilitate vegetative propagation) form dense mats. This results in a loss of habitat as sediments become trapped due to compacted soils, thereby increasing elevation.

In addition, lake stewards should be aware that all parts of this tenacious plant are poisonous, and as such limits food resources for wildlife. Therefore, if you do take ac-

tion to remove any part of the plant, WEAR gloves as this plant can cause skin irritation and nausea.

Removal of the flower, preventing and eliminating the seed, is a proactive action that helps contain current populations. It's also the least intensive. Once you've collected the flower, seal it tight in a garbage bag, labelled invasive plant, for disposal in the landfill.

Don't compost this flower. Digging up the plant is a more intensive process and you can read more about this process through the District of Saanich - Yellow Flag Iris Alert. For more information check out the Invasive Plant Council of BC.



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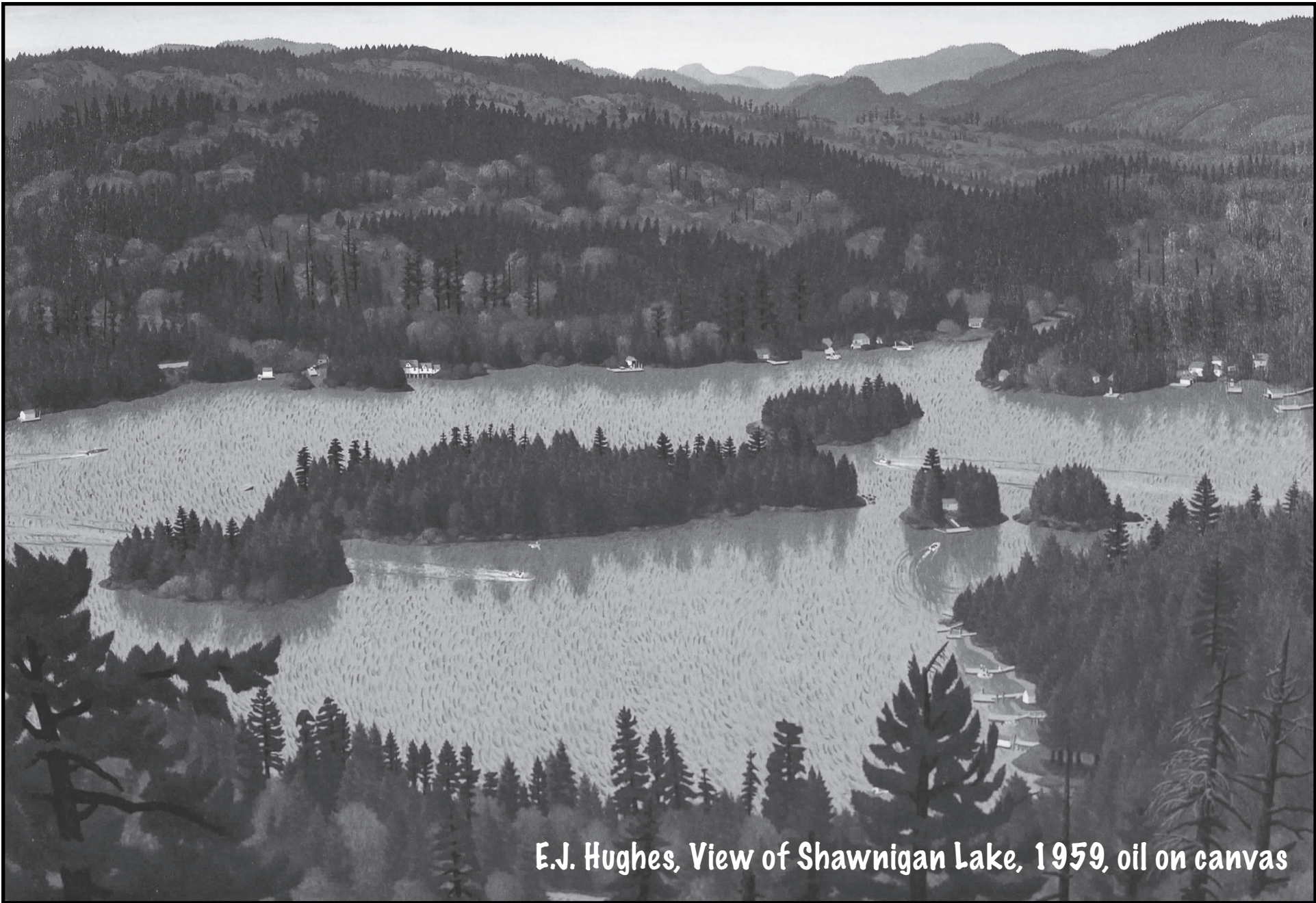
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E.J. Hughes, View of Shawnigan Lake, 1959, oil on canvas

A moment in art at the Shawnigan Lake Museum

Nastazja Pederson,
Volunteer

It is no surprise that the lake was inspirational for E.J. Hughes - he lived in Shawnigan for approximately 20 years. The perspective of the painting indicates a higher vantage point, and may have been painted from Old Baldy Mountain, a common painting spot and subject for Hughes. The painting may have also been the product of what the National Art Gallery of Canada calls Hughes’ “skewed perspective”. Hughes’ may have very

well sketched the scene from ground level and imagined what the islands would look like from a higher perspective, and used that vision to produce this painting. In the painting, many tiny islands are visible.

The most well known, Memory Island Provincial Park, can be seen furthest to the left in the painting. Memory Island is a 1 hectare park that provides sanctuary for breeding waterfowl and other small animals and wildlife. The original oil on canvas can be seen at the Mendel Art

Gallery in Saskatoon. However, a watercolour version of this, done in 2004, is in collection at the Nanaimo Art Gallery. E.J. Hughes’ Shawnigan paintings undoubtedly increased the popularity of Shawnigan Lake.

Hughes favoured Shawnigan Lake, and its surrounding area, for its peaceful picturesque setting, an opinion that is still prevalent today. You can find this reproduction, as well as many more, at the Shawnigan Lake Museum, open Thursday-Sunday 10:30-4.



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Exercise Before Learning Program starting at Discovery

Discovery Elementary set to establish a forward thinking Exercise Before learning Program (EBL). The new program, Fit 2 GO, is a 20 minute intense cardiovascular program right before class. The program will start with two classes, twice a week and only 2-4 classrooms participating at first. Eventually Learners will be sweating five days a week and the whole school will be participating at the same time. To keep things

interesting there will be 4-6 stations to rotate through during the week and an all school run on Fridays. For example, one class may have the Jump Zone on Mondays, the Cardio Corridor on Tuesdays and the Stretchy Zone on Wednesdays.

Benefits: Research from Dr. John J. Ratey of the Sparkling Life Program found that in one semester, a group of students who suffered from

attention-deficit disorders had improved their reading and comprehension scores by 50 per cent more than fellow students who did not take part in the physical exercise program. Students who exercised before math class increased their problem-solving abilities by an average of 20 per cent compared to a two per cent average improvement for other students.

In simple terms, exercising gets the brain ready to receive information. Past test runs in the U.S. and Canada have shown that the school exercise programs improve learning ability, boost attention, increase motivation and manages behavioral problems.

It is good for test scores, it sets the learners on a path for life long wellbeing, fitness and health. For more interesting facts go to youtube Tedx Talks Run, Jump Learn.



Grade 2 Learner Testing out the Jump Zone Circuit

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Parking Advisory Notice (June 25th, 2015):

Please be advised that this parking lot is designated for Mason's Beach Park use only from May 1st to September 30th.

For Cowichan Valley Transit

Customers using commuter or local buses, the lower driveway parking stalls at the nearby Shawnigan Lake Community Centre (SLCC, pictured below), can be used on a first come, first

serve, basis between May 1st to September 30th. The existing Transit Park and Ride lots at Frayne Road (Mill Bay) or Valleyview Centre (Cobble Hill) are also available to transit customers.

Vehicles parked in this lot contrary to the posted CVRD notice respecting beach use only may result in fines being issued and/or vehicle impoundment, effective starting July 13th, 2015. The CVRD appreciates your cooperation in this matter. Thank you.



Wild Side: Water Striders

Have you ever thought you saw a bug walking on water?

What you saw on the surface was probably a water strider from the family Gerridae which is a family of true bugs in the order Hemiptera, commonly known as water striders, water bugs, magic bugs, pond skaters, skaters, skimmers, water scooters, water skaters, water skeeters, water skimmers, water skippers, water spiders, or Jesus bug. They are small insects that evolved for life on top of still water. Water striders use the surface tension of water to their advantage so they can "walk on water". The secret of the water strider is its legs! The legs have tiny hairs that repel water and cap-



ture air. By repelling water, the tiny water striders stand on the water's surface and the captured air allows them to float and move easily.

Water striders eat insects and larvae on the surface of water, such as mosquitoes and fallen dragonflies. Gerrids, or water striders, are preyed upon largely by birds and some fish.

If you sit quietly on a Shawnigan beach for any length of time, you are sure to be visited by a group of water striders.

Take a Hike!

Robin Massey
Shawnigan Focus

Lately I've come across various tidbits about the Wild Deer and Jack Fleetwood Trails. These are out by what most of us know as "Burnt Bridge" but more formally referred to as Koksilah River Provincial Park, just northwest of Shawnigan Lake. Well naturally I had to check them out to share with our Shawnigan Focus followers!

Over the years, I've been all over this area; up, down and around; lost in the ravine, dead ended at various logging roads, and up to the backside of Eagle Heights. I was super stoked when the Kinsol Bypass Trail went in a while back and have spent a lot of time on that trail however, as fabulous as it is, it can be a long hike and time commitment. When I read Sarah Malerby's article about the launching of the two new trails, it rekindled my Burnt Bridge spark, and I headed back there. Thanks so much Sarah!

Once you cross the bridge there is a fabulously informative sign that informs which way to the trails. To the left we have the low key Wild Deer Creek Trail, which is about 2km depending on which entry point you choose, as there are a couple. What's really great about this trail is that it's nice and close to the waters. One lucky day we saw a golden eagle there which was breath-taking. Another

time, while crawling along the rocks with the kids, we came across a nesting area of, what I think were, Canadian Tiger Swallowtail butterflies – so many of them!

On the other side of the bridge is where you catch the Jack Fleetwood Trail. You head up the road a tad and then you'll come across the newly revamped stairs that take you down into the foliage along the river. Shortly after you'll wiggle and waggle your way through thick and lush fern meadows and salal. Then the special part, when you are greeted with a fabulously butt burning incline back to the main road, looping back past the stairs and to the bridge - a very nice 4.5km loop. HOWEVER, if you've eaten your Wheaties and wanna go for it, you can certainly extend this route - all the way to the Kinsol Trestle – one way is 5km - both ways makes for a sweet workout!

Now, who is Jack Fleetwood? Well, he was a local historian and advocate for deeming Kinsol Trestle the heritage site it is today. Also, in 1958, he and his wife Mabel donated the land that we call Bright Angel Park.

*Thinking of getting out there in the woods but not sure where to start or who to contact? Hiking doesn't have to be a solo sport! Find us on Facebook at The OM Tree Studio Inc.



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South Cowichan Community Policing

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Tips to Prevent Warm Weather Break-Ins

Our beautiful weather in south Cowichan attracts more people to the pleasures of Shawnigan Lake and surrounding area whethe swimming, boating, fishing or just relaxing at the cottage. With the influx of people comes the need to become more aware and protective of your property and that of your neighbours.

The RCMP offers several important safety reminders to

help secure your home and vehicle against theft.

- ★ It is important to safeguard your home windows, as residents tend to leave them open more often during the warm weather. Whether you're inside, out in the back yard or running a quick errand, the following tips will help prevent a possible theft:
- ★ Close windows on ground level when not in the room
- ★ Secure patio sliding doors by fitting a snap resistant cylinder lock
- ★ Lock sheds with a padlock to prevent a burglar from

using your ladders or garden tools to break into your home

- ★ Don't leave valuables to be seen through windows – certainly not within reaching distance of an open window

Also, completely close your vehicle windows when parking. Officers have seen an increase in thefts from vehicles, due in part to drivers leaving their vehicle windows, including sunroofs, down or slightly open, when parking their vehicles. Thieves can quickly reach in or force the window down and steal your valuables. Don't allow your vehicle to

become a target and attract thieves by leaving valuables in plain view. Make sure to safeguard your boats as well.

Police strongly encourage all residents to be mindful of vehicle and home security during these warmer months. Joining your local [Block Watch](#) is a great way to get to know your neighbours and help prevent crime.

For more information on Theft Prevention go to the [BC.RCMP.CA](#) website.

Report all suspicious persons and occurrences to the Shawnigan RCMP by calling 250-743-5514 or the Duncan RCMP at 250-748-5522.

SHAWNIGAN LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

PO Box 201, Shawnigan Lake, BC V0R 2W0
Phone: (250)743-2096
Fax: (250)743-2096
Non-emergency Phone: (250)812-8030
Email: shawniganfire@shaw.ca

Department Members Attended 22 Calls in June



- ★ Monday, June 1 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd at Cameron-Taggart Rd
- ★ Tuesday, June 2 – First Responder on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Friday, June 5 – First Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, June 5 – Burning Complaint on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Saturday, June 6 – First Responder in the Village
- ★ Saturday, June 6 – Burn Pile on Countryside Pl
- ★ Friday, June 12 – Burning Complaint at the Rock Quarry, Thain Rd
- ★ Saturday, June 13 – Campfire on Angus Rd
- ★ Saturday, June 13 – MVI on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Sunday, June 14 – MVI at the Rock Quarry, Thain Rd
- ★ Sunday, June 14 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, June 14 – First Responder at Arbutus Mtn Estates
- ★ Monday, June 15 – First Responder off Northgate Rd
- ★ Wednesday, June 17 – Assistance in the Beach Estates
- ★ Thursday, June 18 – Unknown Fire in the Beach Estates
- ★ Thursday, June 18 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, June 20 – Burning Complaint on Carlton Dr
- ★ Sunday, June 21 – First Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, June 23 – Bush Fire on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Wednesday, June 24 – Burning Complaint on Hepworth Rd
- ★ Thursday, June 25 – First Responder off Deloume Rd
- ★ Friday, June 26 – First Responder in the Beach Estates

Shawnigan Weather June 2015

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ complied by Grant Treloar

	June Stats	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
Normal High	19.6	26.3	21.5	24.7	20.7	25.3	21.7	24.3	20.6
Normal Low	9.7	11.8	10.7	11.1	10.2	12.4	11.2	11.7	10.8
Highest Temp	35.6	35.0	26.7	34.1	25.6	35.2	27.3	34.0	25.0
Lowest Temp	0.0	8.2	6.1	7.0	6.5	8.2	8.1	7.5	7.5
Precipitation	40.2	5.0	10.2	2.7	9.8	3.2	6.5	4.0	9.2
Days w precip	10	2	9	2	8	2	9	2	10
Precip since Jan 1 (mm)	644.9	530.4	721.2	506.2	675.1	447.5	602.7	492.0	663.8
Since 1914 (up to June 28): 2 nd warmest 4 th driest **stats until June 28 th									
Lake Temperature:		June 7 th : 23°		June 14 th : 23°		June 21 st : 23°		June 28 th : 24°	
Lake Level Change:		June 7 th : -2.5cm		June 14 th : -5cm		June 21 st : -2.5cm		June 28 th : -4cm	

Never ending summer

Grant Treloar
Shawnigan Focus

Like last year, this summer is forecast to be a hot, dry one. Listed below are the top 5 hottest and driest summer months (June, July August) in Shawnigan since 1914. So far, June is right up there: (*June 2015 up to June 28th)

Temperature Rank (°C)					
June		July		August	
1	1958	17.9	1958	20.7	2014
2*	2015	17.7	2009	19.8	1967
3	1969	17.6	2004	19.7	1986
4	1992	17.2	2014	19.6	2004
5	2009	16.9	1985	19.4	1977

Precipitation Rank (mm)					
June		July		August	
1	1922	0.0	1922	0.0	1942
2	1977	3.8	1967	0.0	1967
3*	2015	4.0	1986	0.3	1986
4	1926	5.1	1955	0.5	1955
5	1951	5.3	2003	0.8	2003

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sonia Furstenau**
For summer info: check www.soniafurstenau.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**
1st Thursday Watershed office - Unit 4 - 1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
July 9th 7:00 pm at the Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
Sept. 7pm at the Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) Board meeting**
for summer info: check www.thesra.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Business Association (SLBA)**
2 meetings per month. Contact info@slba for dates and times
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association**
4th Monday of each month 7pm. Contact bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
1st Tuesday of each month 7pm. at Unit 4 - 1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Info at: www.ysag.ca email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Thurs, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10:30-4. www.shawniganlakemuseum.com
*looking for a retired bookkeeper or accountant (volunteer) to help with financials
- ★ **Village Development Committee**
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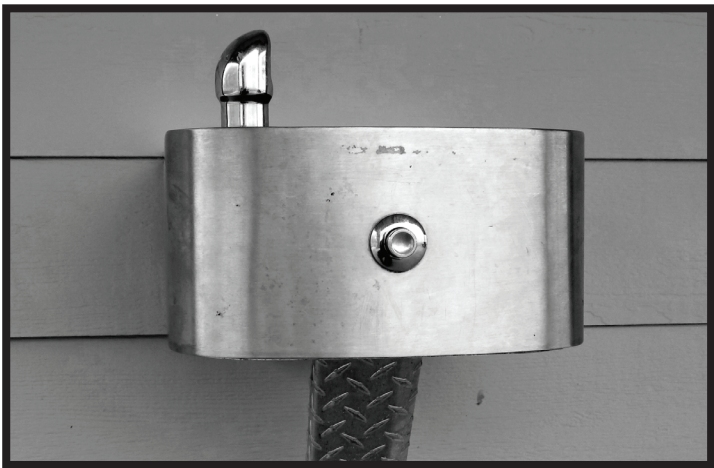
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What Is It? Where Is It?



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CONGRATULATIONS

The winner for June was Lynne Grass who recognized the Shawnigan Lake School crest on the east entrance to the new Hockey Arena.

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Equipment vandalized - not a reflection of our community!

Dave Hutchinson
Shawnigan Focus

Probably kids, probably at night, in the first week of June a mindless wrecking spree occurred that resulted in significant damage to a vehicle and other equipment owned by the Sager family.

The Sagers, along with their partners, are attempting to establish a development across from the Community Centre. Part of the land was the location of the old community dump 50 years ago. Accordingly, much effort has been spent cleaning up the site and it has taken years of jumping through bureaucratic hoops to get to this point. The community appears to strongly favour this project. It is

ironic that it is the same Ministry of Environment demanding strict remediation conditions at this end of the lake, while simultaneously jeopardizing Shawnigan's drinking water by permitting SIA to dump contaminated waste at the other end!

Just kids – but someone's children, someone's grandchildren – behavior that reflects an undesirable community image. The Focus, on behalf of the community, offers an apology to the Sagers and wishes them well on their development project.

There is a \$1,000 reward for credible information that identifies the individuals responsible for the vandalism. Call 250-743-4174 or email goodgrief@shawniganfocus.ca.



Loader with broken windshield, lights and other damage.



Peaceful Protest - June 28th - Photo by Sally Davies

Ben  Kotler, MA
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