



# Shawnigan Focus

Volume Six - Issue Eight

August 2016

A Non-Profit Community Publication

## Save Shawnigan Water – An Update



### Save Shawnigan Water Community Action Group

The fight to protect the Shawnigan watershed and prevent risk to our drinking water seems like a marathon with no finish line.

On August 21, 2013, the BC Ministry of Environment issued Permit 105809 authorizing Cobble Hill Holdings Ltd to discharge refuse to ground and effluent to an ephemeral stream from a contaminated soil treatment facility and a landfill facility located at 640 Stebbings Road, Shawnigan Lake, British Columbia.

Three years later the dumping of five million tons of contaminated soil continues at this site, five kilometres upstream from Shawnigan Lake.

Concerned residents continue to fight the operation, located in a Designated Community Watershed, in an active quarry, on top of fractured bedrock, in an earthquake zone. Shawnigan Lake is the drinking water source for some 12,000 people.

Similarly, Sooke Lake, which is equidistant from the site (but at a lower elevation) also provides drinking water - this time to 350,000 residents in the Victoria area. Yet unlike Shawnigan Lake, it does not have a creek running past the site feeding directly into its waters. Thus, any potential contamination would have to travel underground. The aquifer between the site and Sooke Reservoir is largely unmapped, but the engineering firm (Active Earth Engineering) hired by Marty Block and Mike Kelly (owners of CHH), have concluded there is no risk of contamination.

With regard to the choice of site for a contaminated soil facility, the Stebbings Road location is surrounded by water. It flows

around the site, is under the site, and also falls as heavy rain during the winter. Water management is challenging and worrisome; more evidence that this is not the proper place for an operation that could, in a worst-case scenario, or even a normal risk analysis, poison the drinking water and destroy an ecosystem.

One of many water management concerns is the “Perpetual Pond” which occupies a low area of Lot 23. Active Earth claims this to be a body of surface water which is too large to completely evaporate during the dry season. CHH made a futile attempt to pump it out and the surface pond did briefly disappear but the sump hole remained wet and the surface pond quickly refilled. This pond is not acknowledged in the SIRM water management documentation.

The pond apparently disappeared on August 10, 2015 when an engineering expert



hired by CHH/SIRM visited the site. As reported in the Joint Appellants Appeal Book, the expert, Mr. Beresford, said of his site inspection, “There was no standing water on the quarry floor or anywhere else that I observed in the quarry.” Photographs show the pond back on August 11th though, and it hasn’t gone

away since – very odd?

Countless concerns and documentation of non-compliance have been brought to the Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Mines by the local citizenry. The prevalent view: “this is not, and never will be, a suitable site for the dumping of contaminants.” The province disagrees – the official mantra: “It is a highly engineered site designed by qualified professionals; in any case, the permit conditions provide complete protection.”

There are also two legal battles currently grinding through the court system.

On February 29th, 2016 the Judicial Review of the Environmental Appeal Board’s decision to uphold SIA/CHH’s permit finished. Counsel for the Shawnigan Residents Association spent a total of 21 days in court presenting evidence of fraud, perjury, conflict of interest and other malfeasance leading to the issuance of the MOE Permit. BC Supreme Court Justice Sewell assured the parties that he would deliver his decision on a stay as soon as possible, while reserving judgment on the decision to quash the permit. Nothing has been heard from Justice Sewell since then.

On March 21st, BC Supreme Court Justice MacKenzie ruled in favour of the Cowichan Valley Regional District and said that the contaminated landfill is not a permitted land use

according to CVRD zoning. He also imposed a number of injunctions that prevented the importation of contaminated soil to the site.

On April 15th, Justice Kirkpatrick of the BC Court of Appeal issued a ruling on April 15th that granted a partial stay

allowing SIRM to complete six contracts – a total of 106,000 tonnes (6,000 tonnes over their annual allotment). Several of the contracts involve contaminated material from locations at Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt. These contracts were awarded by the Federal Department of Defense to Allterra Construction (not SIRM, but the same owners).

The actual appeal was scheduled for August 17-19 and will be heard in Vancouver.

On May 13th the BC Court of Appeal dismissed an application by the CVRD to discharge



or vary the stay order granted by Justice Kirkpatrick.

CHH/SIRM have been busy during June and July receiving and depositing vast piles of heavily contaminated material onto Lot 23. This activity must cease on August 17th when the appeal is scheduled to start.

In her ruling, Justice Kirkpatrick wrote of her concern that SIRM could go bankrupt if unable to honour their contracts: “thespectre of an orphan site”. Yet there was no move to put company profits into trust, pending the outcome of the appeal (as sometimes happens in cases where financial concerns are expressed, and costs of remediation, should the case go against the defendant, are high).

Citizens continue to monitor the site on a daily basis performing the compliance monitoring role expected of the regulatory entities. Much information, including aerial imagery has been collected and analyzed. Issues have been reported to MOE and MEM. MOE issued a June 28th “Warning Letter” regarding several instances of non-compliance. Another letter followed a day later stating serious concerns about water

management:

“... the non-contact and contact water permit non-compliances, and the significant and ongoing revisions to the facilities and works, imply that the facilities and works were not fully adequate to comply with the permit at all times. Further, assurance that the revised facilities and works are, or will be, fully adequate to comply with the permit at all times in the future has not been provided, as the required information, plans and specifications certified by a qualified professional, and the previously committed to non-contact and contact water management reviews/reports by the independent site engineering consultant, have not been submitted.”

Meanwhile, residents documented the creation of a new “scientifically engineered” cell needed for the new soil, leading to some tense moments at the site when SIRM management allegedly threatened violence against senior citizens recording the activity. One incident was captured on film; others were reported to the RCMP. SIRM denies that any such incidents took place.

Finally, there is a new potential controversy. A detailed volume study by a member of the Save Shawnigan Water Community Action Group has concluded that the original engineering is questionable, and that this site can only hold 550,000 tonnes of contaminated soil. Given it has been approved for 5,000,000 tonnes, there is a potential order-of-magnitude discrepancy. If this is true, it would indicate stunning ineptitude, and be very troubling in its implications.

Clarification and confirmation is being sought from the Province.

*Editor’s Note: While statements in this article are believed to have been presented as a factual account, readers are encouraged to do their own research and draw their own conclusions.*



# Shawnigan Lake Heritage Fair & Family Picnic

Sunday, August 14, 2016

10:30am-2:30pm

Elsie Miles Park in Shawnigan Village, behind the Shawnigan Lake Museum

Free Family Event

Phone: 250-743-8675

Email: [shawniganlake-museum@shaw.ca](mailto:shawniganlake-museum@shaw.ca)

August 14, 2016 is a special day for lovers of Shawnigan Lake. The 4th Annual Heritage Fair & Family Picnic is an opportunity to engage in spirited, social activities while enjoying historical displays celebrating our rich past. Located in what is becoming a community gathering space, Elsie Miles Park, behind the Shawnigan Museum, is a large, open greenspace with lots of natural shade around the perimeter - perfect for spreading out a blanket to dine upon your home-made picnic luncheon.

We encourage event-goers to pack a picnic, just like the ladies would have done in the good ole' days, although a hot dog vendor will be on site and

the Village, with its range of eateries, is a short walk away. Both children and adults alike can look forward to the range of fun activities from a bygone era, such as the Egg and Spoon, Sack and Three-legged Races. Arcade Games can be played throughout the day and include the Ring Toss, Tin Can Alley, Fish Pond and, to cool-off, Squirt! Wee ones will enjoy playing with the Little Shawnigan Village and Spray Boat Races while the older ones practice using the stilts.

Create a vintage memory for your family. Families are invited to dress in provided costumes and props and sit for a professional quality old-time photo. The Memory Tent is the bee's knees!

Here, folks will find a series of photos from Shawnigan's illustrious past as a resort community, logging town and railway stop and visit with long-time residents to share stories and discover connections to the area's history.

With the cancellation of this summer's Show and Shine, folks will be thrilled to peruse our selection mechanical



eye-candy including vintage vehicles from the 1920's – 1960's, plus a vintage railway handcar and velocipede.

The mini Sheep-to-Shawl demonstration reveals the process from sheep, to spinning, weaving to wearing!

Naturally, throughout the day the Shawnigan Museum will be welcoming visitors to partake in their interactive displays (open from 10:30 to 4:00), view the E.J Gallery and browse the gift shop.

Parking is available in

and around the village and also at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre on the north side of the park.

We encourage folks to enjoy this free family event from 10:30am-2:30pm in the heart of Shawnigan.

## Discover Discovery Elementary

### A Kids Perspective Of School

**Allison Vliet – 11 yrs old**  
*The Discovery Team*

Let me tell you about the first day of grade 6 back in 2015-2016 at Discovery. It all started with, "Hey, Cliff! You're going to be going to a new school." I had no choice at all. I left all my friends and practically suffo-

cated on the way there because it was so hot.

The first day I was nervous. The principal walked up and gave me a kind smile. "Hello! You must be...?" He had asked. "Cliff, um.,,I don't know where I'm going." "Here, come right this way. We will find out whose class you'll be in," he said as we walked towards the office. I have to say he was the nicest

principal I'd ever met.

At lunch I was expecting to be alone for at least a week or two so I was surprised when a girl about 13 or so came up to me and asked me if I wanted to join her and her friends. I said, "Thanks!" but said I was going to read. A little kindergarten came up to me and said if I was lonely I could come play princesses with her. I said,

"Thanks!" but again told her I would love to but I was reading. At about 5 minutes to lunch time, a boy in about grade 4 wearing a motorcross sweater said if I was lonely I could sit on the buddy bench and someone could come and ask if I wanted to play or talk. He then ran off before I could say anything.

A story has to end some-

where, so mine ends here. I loved Discovery school so much that I ended up being a teacher there in 2036. I was only the fourth male teacher there but still loved it. I end my description with Discovery having given many memories and learning opportunities and it can also for you or your child.

~ Signed, Cliff

## SHAWNIGAN FOCUS ~ AUGUST 2016

### EDITORIAL TEAM:

Lori Treloar  
Dave Hutchinson  
[editor@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:editor@shawniganfocus.ca)

### LAYOUT:

Taryn Treloar

### ADVERTISING:

Kim Hennecker  
[ads@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:ads@shawniganfocus.ca)

### FOCUS TEAM:

Linda Nelson  
Bernie Lewis  
Monica Foster  
Sally Davies  
Peter Nash

Bev McCooley  
Marcy Green  
Grant Treloar  
Janet Neilsen

### ACCOUNTS:

Kim Hennecker

### COPY SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

For SEPTEMBER 2016  
Please send copy in by AUGUST 28th as an email attachment using Microsoft Word, text, RTF or Apple-works to:  
[editor@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:editor@shawniganfocus.ca)  
Hard copies can be left at

The Chipperry:  
1- 2740 Dundas,  
Shawnigan Lake

### AD SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Contact Kim at [ads@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:ads@shawniganfocus.ca)

Ads should be sent in correct sizing, B&W, high resolution, and as a JPEG or PDF. Kim is available to help create or reformat your ad.

**CLASSIFIEDS:** \$10 (under 30 words) [ads@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:ads@shawniganfocus.ca)

### 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.

The Shawnigan Focus is delivered, free of charge, to postal addresses in Shawnigan Lake

Out-of-town subscriptions are available for \$30 per year. Contact: [editor@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:editor@shawniganfocus.ca)

*Views expressed in articles and letters are not the opinions of The Shawnigan Focus, but of the authors.*

Additional copies are available in The Village.

### MAILING ADDRESS:

*Shawnigan Focus - Box 331, Shawnigan Lake, V0R 2W0*



# Shawnigan Focus

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND US LETTERS... [EDITOR@SHAWNIGANFOCUS.CA](mailto: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.

## So if you ban wake board boats on Shawnigan Lake what do we do?

I have recently seen a petition to ban wake board boats in Shawnigan lake. It seems like we have been fighting this battle for a couple of years now with the skiers against the wake boarders and the property owners fighting with what they say wake board boats destroying what they say is their property placed on a public lake.

Let's look at this...

How many of these large boats are actually wake boarders and how many are just families or kids out on the lake in "wake board boats", surfing, tubing wake boarding and having fun.

I have lived on Shawnigan Lake for the past 15 years and have spent most of my life here. I have the same issues at every other lake owner. Large waves beating up my dock and eroding the shore line and yes it is frustrating but this is

where I chose to live.

It's like moving to Swartz bay and complaining about the ferry.

Shawnigan lake is a family water sports destination full of summer rentals for families to come and spend there time on the lake. In ski boats and wake board boats, row boats, kayaks, fish boats what ever you have that gets you on the water.

We live and train year round in Shawnigan. We are heavily involved in towed water sports slalom trick jump wake board and wake skate.

My son has been on the BC 3 event team and is on the BC wake board team and the Canadian national development wake board team. We spend 150 hours plus on the lake.

You will see us in our Nautique 210 and our Nautique 200 year round respectfully using Shawnigan as our training grounds.

You however will never see

us disrespectfully using Shawnigan or disrespecting our neighbours or their property.

So if you ban wake board boats on Shawnigan Lake what do we do? Do I sell my house and move to another lake only to find the same problems there.

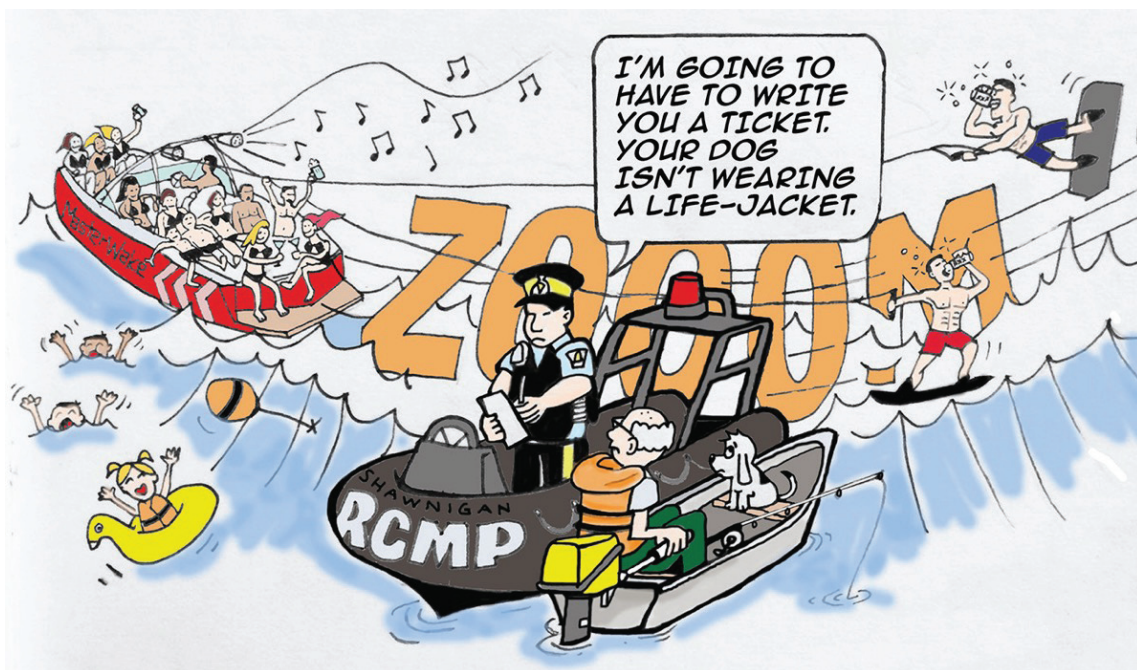
We must remember that the lake surface is not our property and any thing we place on it we do at our own risk. If we alter the natural shoreline we do at our own risk and are in violation of the CVRD bylaws. We as property owners do not own the property to the lake edge.

Instead of a total ban we need to educate the boating public so we can all get along.

Wake awareness, my friends...

~Jim Lindsay

*Editor's Note: We are unaware of a petition to ban wake/surf boats at this time. Rather, there is an appeal to wake/surf board boat owners to participate in the wider areas of this small lake, when possible.*



## St. John's September Festival

**Date: Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 10:00am to 2:00 pm**

**Location: 3295 Cobble Hill Road**

September is the month that brings one of the largest Reduce, Recycle and Reuse Events to the Cowichan Valley as it is time for St. John's Anglican Church, Cobble Hill, to hold their amazing September Festival. The Mega Yard, Book and Clothing Sales will have settled into the new places, on the beautiful Church grounds, that they experimented with in 2015. The Country Store has renamed itself Plants & Preserves but has not moved from its cool position under the trees. Better Buys, Jewellery, Art and Silent Auction will be in the Hall

and the Church. Outside, Divine Desserts, the Bake Table, hamburgers, popcorn and beverages will be easy to enjoy. For the children there is the Bouncy Castle, Face Painting and other activities to keep them busy while others are shopping and visiting. As usual, we shall be supporting local, national and international charities with some of the proceeds raised at this FUN DAY for all the family.

As always REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE is our mandate and where could you find a lovelier place to be able to do that? We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>!

For further information phone: 250-743-3095  
[www.stjohnscobblehill.ca](http://www.stjohnscobblehill.ca)

**HARMONY TAILORS**  
Shawnigan Lake

**Repairs & Alterations  
Custom Creations  
Fine Dress Making**

Nina Wang : 250-466-4206 / 250-929-4685

*Finding the perfect harmony between pattern, design & you.*

NATURES EDGE

# SIGNS

**SANDCARVED CEDAR  
HAND LETTERING  
CUSTOM ART**

NATURESEGE.CA  
250 701 7408

*Happy  
Birthday,*



*My Love!*

BALLET  
CONTEMPORARY  
HIP  
HOP  
JAZZ  
LYRICAL



**AGES 2-ADULT**

**REGISTER NOW!**  
[WWW.LTDANCESTUDIO.COM](http://WWW.LTDANCESTUDIO.COM)



THE CLAY HUB COLLECTIVE



FALL CLASSES  
NOW POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE

ONE-TIME MUG MAKING CLASS  
August 12, 6:00-8:30

www.theclayhubcollective.weebly.com



Dr. Mackenzie Brooks

Dr. Mackenzie Brooks

Registered Psychologist  
is pleased to announce  
the opening of an office in the  
Shawnigan - Mill Bay area.

Now with 2 offices to serve you,  
Oak Bay and Shawnigan Lake.  
Please call or e-mail for a prompt  
and confidential reply.

250-888-0517

Dr@DrMackenzieBrooks.com  
www.DrMackenzieBrooks.com

Professional Services

include :

- Counselling
- Coaching
- Organizational Development

Shawnigan Weather July 2016

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ compiled by Grant Treloar

	July Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015
Average High	22.9	24.1	27.6	23.1	26.5	23.5	26.9	23.6	26.7
Average Low	11.7	13.1	14.1	12.9	13.3	13.6	14.4	12.9	13.9
Extreme High	37.2	31.6	34.7	29.2	32.9	29.7	34.5	29.5	33.0
Extreme Low	3.9	9.8	10.2	9.2	9.3	11.0	11.5	10.0	10.5
Precipitation	24.7	33.6	25.4	22.0	24.2	25.5	19.5	30.4	23.8
Days w precip	6	10	5	9	5	9	4	10	5

Since 1914: 24<sup>th</sup> warmest, 26<sup>th</sup> wettest

Lake Temperature: July 3<sup>rd</sup>: 22° July 10<sup>th</sup>: 19° July 17<sup>th</sup>: 20° July 24<sup>th</sup>: 23° July 31<sup>st</sup>: 24°

Lake Level Change: July 3<sup>rd</sup>: -4cm July 10<sup>th</sup>: 0cm July 17<sup>th</sup>: -2.5cm July 24<sup>th</sup>: -2.5cm July 31<sup>st</sup>: -5cm

A very successful and  
rewarding life

Oriana Parker  
YSAGS

James Clark Silvester has  
always been a man in motion.  
That would explain why, at 93  
years, he is fit enough to enter  
and compete in 5k races. Jim  
prefers to walk the races com-  
pleting them in under an hour,  
having done so in Parksville,  
Sydney and Esquimalt.

He was born in Winnipeg,  
Manitoba in the custodial suite  
above King Edward II School,  
on April 7, 1923. This was  
home as his father was em-  
ployed as the school custodian.  
Throughout his elementary and  
high school years Jim was very  
involved in sports participat-  
ing in almost all sports with the  
exception of hockey.

After going through Cubs  
and Scouts, he decided to join  
the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet  
Corps in Winnipeg. In 1939,  
at the age of 16 and with his  
father's permission, Jim enlisted  
in the Royal Canadian Navy

as the ship's bugler. In 1941  
he was rated Able Seaman  
and drafted to his first Naval  
vessel HMCS Malaspina. His  
rating of Leading Seaman  
came while aboard the HMCS  
Quesnel. The ship was return-  
ing from escorting the US  
Tanker Lombardi to Alaska  
picking up survivors off the SS  
Fort Camosun that had been  
torpedoed and fired upon by a  
Japanese submarine. Still with  
the Quesnel they undertook a  
mission to round up Japanese  
fishing boats.

A flower-class corvette of  
the Royal Canadian Navy the  
Quesnel took part in convoy  
escort duties and primarily  
saw service in the Battle of the  
Atlantic. These were danger-  
ous and delicate missions. Jim  
recalls, "We picked up sonic  
echoes of the occasional Japa-  
nese submarine, but primar-  
ily German submarines and  
had to deploy depth charges."  
These are also known as a  
Depth Bomb, a type of weapon  
that is used by surface ships  
to attack submerged subma-  
rines. However, according to  
Jim, these charges were not  
very efficient.

As a Petty Officer, Jim re-  
ceived an honourable release in  
January 1946. For his military  
service he was presented with  
the 1939-1945 Star, Atlantic  
Star, Burma Star and Clasp,  
Canadian Volunteer Ser-

vice Medal and Clasp, War  
Medal and Canadian Forces  
Decoration.

Jim and his family, which in  
time included two sons and a  
daughter, moved around after  
the war living in Winnipeg,  
Montreal, then returning to  
Winnipeg where Jim worked  
for Great West Life Assurance  
for 28 years as their Office  
Machine Technician. In retire-  
ment, Jim and his wife Gwen-  
doline purchased a mobile  
home in Kerry Village where  
they lived happily for 22 years.  
Recently when Jim found him-  
self alone he moved in with his  
daughter who lives in Shawni-  
gan Lake.

Jim's passion about his vari-  
ous hobbies is well documented  
by binders of photos bearing  
witness to years of painstaking  
work doing cross-stitch, macra-  
mé, woodworking, embroidery,  
scroll saw work, hooked rugs,  
thread art, beadwork, punch  
work, plastic canvas work, mac-  
ramé folding chairs, plywood  
Christmas characters and so  
much more. However, the most  
touching is a cross stitch photo  
he completed as a tribute to  
his beloved wife Gwendoline,  
which commands centre spot  
on his wall.

Jim is a member of YSAGS.  
He's a fan of five and ten  
pin bowling, as well as  
carpet bowling, and is also a  
member of Ceevacs.



Dwight  
School Canada

Check out our big news at [dwrightcanada.org/as-we-grow](http://dwrightcanada.org/as-we-grow)

A quality private school education  
at a place where you matter

\$462 per month  
tuition for grad

Visit dwigh



Coming soon!



# Shawnigan Residents Association

**Calvin Cook**  
*President, SRA*

The Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) would like to express its sincere gratitude for the overwhelming support from our community in our May 28th, 2016 ‘Culinary War on the Lakeshore’ held at Shawnigan Lake School for the Clean Water Fund.

In one evening we raised \$35,000 which was

matched by an anonymous donor pledging up to \$30,000 for a grand total of \$65,000! This has helped to boost our overall fundraising to meet 60% of our \$750,000 goal. All funds go to our legal challenge of South Island Resource Managements permit to dump 100,000 tons of contaminated soil per year in the Shawnigan Lake basin.

Accolades to Chefs Lisa Ahier, Robert Belcham, Robert Clark, Stephan Drolet, Nicholas Nutting,

James Walt, whose talent and creativity created a ‘party of our palates’! Special thanks to the culinary team organizers; Jessica Howard, Andrew Shepherd, Matt Horn and our hard working SRA Fundraising team.

A thank you to our sponsors, silent auction & wine donators and all those who attended. The SRA would also like to recognize the staff, students and board of Shawnigan Lake School for their unwavering support of our efforts to overturn the permit.

## Book Reviews

**Marcy Green**  
*Shawnigan Focus*  
**Plague**

*by C.C. Humphries*  
*Published by Anchor Canada*  
*Copyright 2014 C.C.Humphries*

This book is a combination of mystery and adventure, with a highwayman, a thief-taker, an actress and a serial killer as the colourful main characters. The rather macabre tale is set in London in 1665 during the height of the Great Plague, and, while never dry, is very well-researched. It includes a love story and even some gal-lows humour.

Humphries, a celebrated Salt Spring Island writer and actor, takes us into the terror and despair of the poorest parts of London where life is threatened not only by poverty, filth and vermin but also the “monster in the labyrinth”, the bubonic plague. He contrasts these scenes with those from the court of King Charles the Second and then takes us into the raucous theatre of the day, where women, while allowed to be on stage with men, are regarded as harlots and are fair prey unless sheltered by a Protector.

The story is vivid and reflects the uncertainty of the times in its twists and turns. Who is the killer? And when will he strike again? All of this suspense is played against the horror of some of the historical facts. Did the constables really shutter up the plague houses with living people still in them, sentenced to die with those already afflicted? Sadly, the answer is yes. And one is always struck by the sheer insanity of culling all the cats and dogs, allowing the rats, who carried the infected fleas, to flourish.

From the dreadful prison of Newgate to the flooding tides of the busy River Thames to the unruly theatre crowds waiting for the curtain to rise, one is taken deep into seven-

teenth century England after the Civil Wars. It is a dangerous time, made even more threatening by the religious extremists like the Ranters and the harsh Fifth Monarchy Puritans, all waiting for the End Times, when punishment and destruction will rain down on the ungodly and the good will be rewarded.

So, if the current state of the world is getting you down, you might want to read something a little lighter. Or distract yourself with Pokemon Go. But, if you enjoy a well-told story, and wish to enter into a fascinating time period, I would recommend this to you.

**Rating: 4/5 Stars**

**Frame and The McGuire**

*By Joanna M. Weston*  
*Published by Tradewind Books*  
*Text Copyright 2015*  
*Joanna Weston*

It is always a pleasure to

read a book that is set in the Cowichan Valley. Cowichan Station is at the centre of this Young Adult mystery and it is interesting to check off the familiar landmarks as Frame, the heroine of the story, launches into a murder mystery investigation, helped by her brothers.

A body is found and identified, and suspects become apparent. The mystery itself moves along nicely with a surprise ending that will satisfy young readers. The farm family setting is warm and believable and the characters are well drawn. I especially liked the easy dialogue and the descriptions of the farm, nearby river and valley. Being set in 1985 gives it an additional charm.

The author is a published poet and it shows in her descriptive language. This is a good choice for younger YA readers who like their stories to move along at full tilt.

**Rating: 3.8/5 Stars**



RBC Royal Bank®

## Get instant results with our Rate Loss Program.

**Switch to an RBC Homeline Plan® credit line and pay only prime + ½% vs. prime +1% at your bank.**

**Join the thousands who have lost rate and saved thousands of dollars.**

Introducing the RBC Rate Loss Program: a fast and easy way to go from paying 4% (prime + 1%) at your bank to 3.5% (prime + ½%) by switching to an RBC Homeline Plan® credit line. You could save as much as \$5,000 in interest payments\* and worry less, sleep more and feel better. **And we'll even cover your switching costs\*.** So get with the program – and lose the rate you've been carrying today.



Contact me today to find out more:  
Emily Black  
Mortgage Specialist  
250-715-7692  
emily.black@rbc.com

**Advice you can bank on™**

\* We will pay the basic title insurance fee (not including migration fee), appraisals/property valuation fee and one discharge/switch out fee at another financial institution (up to \$300 maximum). Offer excludes mortgage prepayment charges that you may have to pay. Minimum advance \$50,000. \* Savings based on \$100,000 secured line of credit with interest being paid over 10 years comparing a 3.5% annual interest rate to a 4.0% annual interest rate. The interest rate will fluctuate with the Prime rate and is subject to change at any time without notice. Rate is effective as of September 20, 2011. Personal lending products and residential mortgages are provided by Royal Bank of Canada and are subject to its standard lending criteria. © / ™ Trademark(s) of Royal Bank of Canada. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. 39106 (09/2011)

*Esthetics by Lois*  
In Shawnigan Village

WE MOVED  
ACROSS  
THE STREET

PARKING  
AVAILABLE

**...has a NEW Home!**  
**@ 1752 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road**  
( Next to DFH Realty )

**250-743-5559**



HOURS : Tuesday thru Saturday - by appointment  
lois@estheticsbylois.ca  
1752 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road

**Quality  
Consistency  
Value**



**Experience the Difference! Everyone's doing it!**

**Steers Meat Market, more than just your village meat market.**  
**We have everything including . . .**  
**fresh cut meats, breads, vegetables, fruits, salads and deli meats**  
**. . . all your grocery needs.**  
**We even have food and treats for your dogs.**  
**Stop by and take a look at our great selections!**  
**Located on Dundas Road in the heart of Shawnigan Village . . .**  
**. . . sharing a home with the Village Chippery and Thrinx Salon.**

**HOURS** Tuesday thru Saturday 10 - 6  
Sunday - NOW OPEN 10 - 5  
Monday CLOSED

**778-356-3313**

like us on . . .

**2740 Dundas Road** **www.steersmeatshopltd.com**



**WARMLAND**  
**MEDICINAL CANNABIS CENTRE**

**Located in Pioneer Square Mall**

**Phone:** 250.929.5588 | **Fax:** 250.929.5596

**Email:** info@warmlandcentre.ca

**Web:** www.warmlandcentre.ca

**Hours:** Monday to Saturday 11-6, Sunday 12-5





## Take A Hike!

**Robyn Massey**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

You may have heard that a CONGRATULATION is in order for Tofino in winning the **Sunset 2016 Travel Award for "Best Beach Town in the West!"**

And for those of us that have the pleasure of a first-hand experience, we know this to be completely true! This time of year many of us also try to take a moment out of our hub-bub lives and flock to Tofino and/or Ucluelet in search of a Vancouver Island staycation.

Have you heard of the Shorepine Bog Trail? In the surrounding rainforest is this little pocket of alternate reality that feels like you've warped into the thirsty depths of the African desert. The forest lacks color and appears near death BUT really it is exactly as it should be.

It's a very different and beautiful landscape created by the acidic soil as a result of water gathering during

geological depression leaving behind thirsty looking trees and foliage. In comparison to the other trails in the area that boast moist coastal rainforest scenes, the bog forest is quite the unexpected opposite. Bogs are found in cool, moist regions once covered by glaciers.

To help protect the delicate soil and moss from our trampling, the Pacific Rim National Park constructed a wooden walkway resting on the surface of the bog, rather than driving posts into the precious sphagnum moss, the most prominent type of vegetation you will see in the bog.

Sphagnum moss can grow up to two meters thick and up to 400 years old! It is precious and incredibly important in a bog ecosystem as it is what changes the rain water into the acidic soil, inhabiting decay. The trail namesake, the Shore Pine, is the only tree that can endure the lack of nutrients and minerals stunting its upward growth and forcing it to



branch sideways, creating all sorts of amazing twisted, gnarly and contorted states.

Incidentally, the Shore Pine is the same species (*Pinus contorta*) as Lodgepole Pine seen in other areas of BC that can grow up to 30m high, but in the bog environment it can only reach a mere 5m in height.

Other bog residents are Yellow Cedar, Crowberry, Labrador Tea, Bog Laurel and Evergreen Huckleberry. Also present is Sedge, a rush-like plant with very solid stems, which was used to weave fine baskets by the early Nu-

chah-nulth peoples.

You can find the bog trail on Wickaninnish Beach Road, south of Tofino, north of Ucluelet, just off of the Pacific Rim Highway. The almost kilometer loop is a flat leveled walkway (stroller and wheelchair accessible) that guides you along seamlessly. Be sure to take a boo at the parking lot interpretive sign which is a map that corresponds with numbered signs throughout the trail to educate on this natural wonder!

**JOIN US!** Find photos of our adventures on Facebook at *The Om Tree*.

### 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 20 Incidents in July

- ★ Saturday, July 2  
Assistance on Sooke Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, July 2  
Burning Complaint on Angus Rd
- ★ Sunday, July 3 1<sup>st</sup>  
Responder in the Beach Estates
- ★ Sunday, July 3  
Burning Complaint on Dundas Rd
- ★ Sunday, July 3  
Structure Fire on Kews Rd
- ★ Tuesday, July 5  
Mutual Aid Rescue with Mill Bay on Empress Ave
- ★ Tuesday, July 5  
Alarms Activated on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, July 8  
1<sup>st</sup> Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, July 10  
1<sup>st</sup> Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, July 12 1<sup>st</sup>  
Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Wednesday, July 13  
Burning Complaint on Hartl Rd
- ★ Wednesday, July 13  
1<sup>st</sup> Responder off Northgate Rd
- ★ Thursday, July 14  
1<sup>st</sup> Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, July 18  
MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, July 20  
Burning Complaint on Thain Rd
- ★ Saturday, July 23  
Burning Complaint on Nugget Rd
- ★ Sunday, July 24  
1<sup>st</sup> Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, July 26  
1<sup>st</sup> Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, July 26  
Burning Complaint on Knappett Rd
- ★ Thursday, July 28  
Alarms Activated on W Shawnigan Lake Rd

*Follow us on  
Twitter  
LIKE us on  
Facebook*



**We have expanded our school!**

**Spaces Available  
For September**

**250-743-6279**

**Preschool & Child care**

**Part time & Full Day Programs**

We offer Montessori classes for children 30 months to 6 years of age, including kindergarten. Full and part time programs available. Our experienced staff, using an enriched Montessori curriculum, will provide the best preschool education for your child.

**www.shawniganlakemontessori.com**

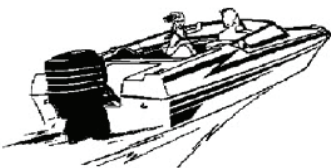




## COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sonia Furstenau**  
*Office hours* by appointment. Email [sfurstenau@cverd.bc.ca](mailto:sfurstenau@cverd.bc.ca) For meeting updates check [www.soniafurstenau.ca](http://www.soniafurstenau.ca)
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**  
Meetings held in Watershed office: Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd **Contact:** [grtreloar@shaw.ca](mailto:grtreloar@shaw.ca)
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**  
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. 7pm at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre. Next meeting is in September.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**  
Shawnigan Lake Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**  
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**  
For info: check [www.thesra.ca](http://www.thesra.ca)
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Business Association (SLBA)**  
Contact: [info@slba.ca](mailto:info@slba.ca) for information
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association**  
Contact: [bburr@shaw.ca](mailto:bburr@shaw.ca)
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**  
Meetings held in Watershed office: Unit 4-17760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road.  
Contact: [luvlife@shaw.ca](mailto:luvlife@shaw.ca)
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**  
Contact: [www.ysag.ca](http://www.ysag.ca) email: [ysagssl@gmail.com](mailto:ysagssl@gmail.com)
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**  
Open Thurs-Sun 10:30-4. [www.shawniganlakemuseum.com](http://www.shawniganlakemuseum.com)  
Contact: [shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca](mailto:shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca)
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing**  
Contact: 250-929-7222 - [www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca](http://www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca)

**SHAWNIGAN MILL BAY  
AUTO PARTS (1992) LTD.**  
**743-3355**



**Mill Bay's  
Auto/Marine  
Parts Store**  
Pioneer Square

## Mason's Store

Family owned since 1956

Your one-stop convenience store.  
We have everything:

Subs & Hot-Dogs—Slush—Instore Bakery—Lottery—Giftware  
Greeting Cards—Balloons—Fax & Photocopy—Dry Cleaning  
Rug Doctor—Hunting Licenses—Fishing Tackle

1855 Renfrew Road  
Ph: 250-743-2144 Fax: 250-743-7883

24 Hour  
FREE  
Estimates  
Fully Insured  
We Buy Timber



**Dangerous Tree Removal**  
**Falling \* Topping \* Limbing**  
**60' Bucket Truck**

**COMPETITION TREE SERVICE**  
**BUD BEAM**  
**250-743-2341 CELL 250-744-6898**

## Shawnigan Cemetery



EST 1965  
"A Community Resting Place"  
Information 250 929 6100

Maintained by  
MALAHAT LIONS



**Recycling in South Cowichan,**  
it just makes cents!



1350 Fisher Rd. | Tues-Sat 9-5 | [islandreturnit.com](http://islandreturnit.com)

## Sarah & Co Property Maintenance

FREE Estimates Seniors Discount  
Carpentry, Eavestrough Cleaning,  
Edible Gardens, Gardening, Hauling,  
Lawn Care Packages, Landscaping & Design,  
Moss-Removal, Painting, Powerwashing,  
Rubbish Removal, Small Moving Jobs  
RECYCLING

Sarah Davidge 250 732-3591  
Nathan Pay 250 466-0521

[sarahandcompany@shaw.ca](mailto:sarahandcompany@shaw.ca)



## HEALTHY BEGINNINGS

A Free Drop-In at the  
Shawnigan Lake Community Centre



Healthy Beginnings is a friendly, relaxed group for moms and dads with babies and toddlers from birth to 3 years of age. There is no registration required, just drop-in to visit and share a cup of coffee or a snack. We will be discussing a wide range of topics. Gathering every Thursday morning except the weeks with a statutory holiday.

Toddler Group starts at 9:30 AM | Infant Group starts at 11:00 AM

INFORMATION : Rhoda - 250 709 3050  
EMAIL : [rhoda.taylor@viha.ca](mailto:rhoda.taylor@viha.ca)  
FACEBOOK : Healthy Beginnings Cowichan

## Classifieds

### CHILDCARE

#### BUSY BEE DAYCARE

- Licensed multi-age facility
- Fully fenced playground
- Rural acreage
- Subsidy accepted
- Close to Shawnigan Village
- Contact for availability (drop ins)  
250-743-5031  
[busybeedaycare@shaw.ca](mailto:busybeedaycare@shaw.ca)

### RENTALS

#### LOOKING FOR OFF SEASON MONTHLY RENTAL

Of cabin or small home by, or near,  
Shawnigan Lake. Elder, semi-retired  
gentleman – orderly, clean,  
responsible, healthy and active  
seeking nature. Will care for your  
home and yard.  
Troi Leonard 250-532-3442

### FOUND

#### LADIES BIKE

Following minor accident at 4-way  
stop in Shawnigan Village late May,  
early June. Waiting safely for owner  
at Shawnigan Garage - Please collect.  
250-743-2122

### FOR SALE MISC

Shawnigan Focus Classifieds is  
your classifieds of choice. Your  
message delivered to every address  
in the Shawnigan Lake area.  
\$10 for the first 30 words  
25¢ per additional word  
Email : [ads@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:ads@shawniganfocus.ca)  
Telephone : 250-743-2197

### EMPLOYMENT

### AUTOMOTIVE

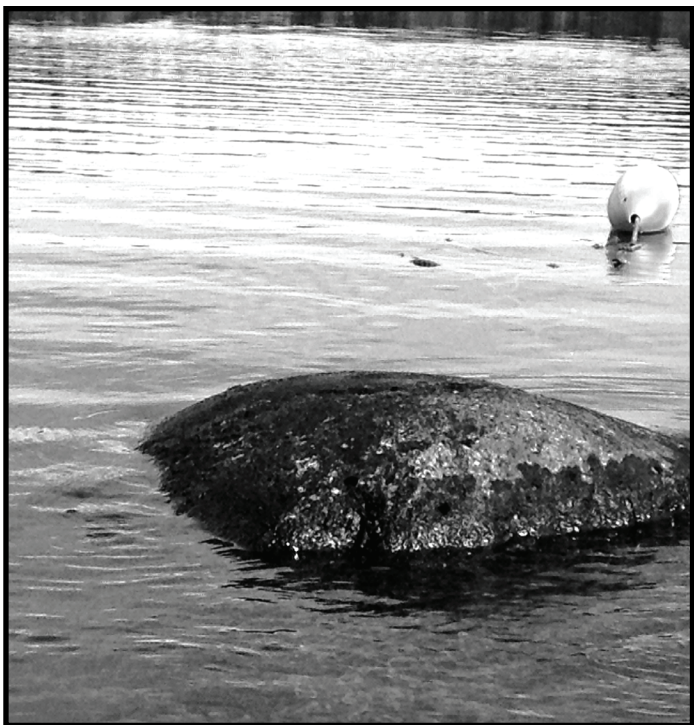
### HOME SERVICES

### GENERAL INTEREST

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WANTED

What Is It? Where Is It?  
Why Is IT?



*One lucky respondent with the correct  
answer will be randomly selected to win two  
Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.  
Reply to: [editor@shawniganfocus.ca](mailto:editor@shawniganfocus.ca)*

## CONGRATULATIONS

The winning answer for July was submitted by  
Roy Davies who identified the "new life-guard  
chair at Camp Pringle".

The docks at the camp got a major renovation  
recently with some beautiful yellow cedar and  
the chair was constructed then too.



# Thank-you Shawnigan!



# 60 YEARS

1956 – 2016

- ... for letting us serve you!
- ... for helping us celebrate 60 years all summer long!
- ... for being a great community!

# Mason's STORE & PATIO



**CHECK OUT OUR  
Summer Long  
Sales & Specials!**

**ENTER TO WIN!  
Draws & Prizes  
All Summer**