



Volume Twelve
Issue Eleven

Shawnigan Focus

November 2021

A Non-Profit Community Publication

SHAWNIGAN LAKE SCHOOL SET TO UNVEIL NEW WAR MEMORIAL ON CAMPUS

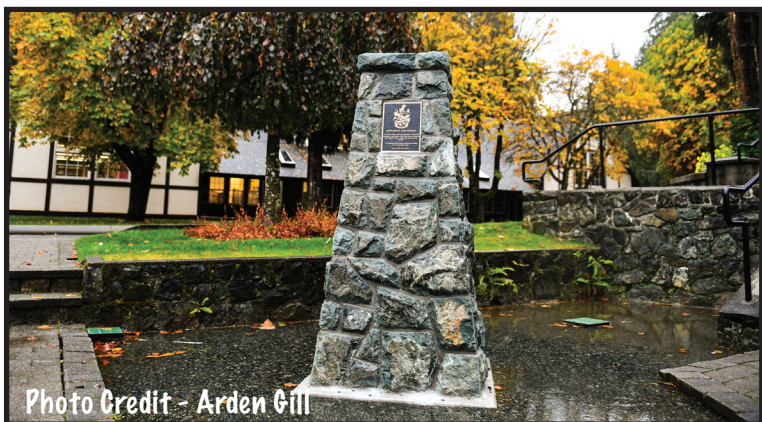


Photo Credit - Arden Gill

Rosemary Dolman,
Museum Curator and Archivist at Shawnigan Lake School

Since 1954, there has been a plaque in the Chapel at Shawnigan Lake School commemorating those forty-four alumni and one staff member who gave their lives in WWII. In the School Museum, there are names of some 200 other members of the School community who served in various armed forces. For many years, some staff members have

wished for a memorial on the School grounds that would remember all those from every country who served, fought or died in the cause of freedom.

After COVID-19 forced the School to hold its annual Remembrance Day Service outdoors last year, it became even more apparent that such a memorial would be appreciated. Head of School, Richard "Larry" Lamont, agreed to the commissioning of a stone pillar in the quad at the centre of the Shawnigan

campus which bears a plaque saying:

"In memory of those from the Shawnigan Lake School community who fought or died in the cause of freedom and of those of every country who made the same sacrifice. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

The memorial was built by a current Shawnigan parent and local stonemason, with help from his son, and will be unveiled at the Remembrance



Photo Credit - Arden Gill

Day Service at the School on November 11th.

For the Service, which is not open to the public due to COVID-19 restrictions, forty-five white crosses will be erected in the quad bearing the names of those who died and, as the Chapel bell tolls, members of the Grade 8 class will lay a poppy on each cross. The flags of each nation under which our boys served (Canada, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.A.) will process to the Memorial for

the Service of Remembrance, and wreaths will be laid by the youngest student in the School on behalf of the student body, by a staff member on behalf of the staff, and by an alumnus on behalf of the alumni. This year our special Remembrance Day focus will be on Sonia d'Artois (code named "Blanche"), who was an agent of the clandestine Special Operations Executive during WWII – and was the grandmother of four Canadian alumni of Shawnigan Lake School. Lest we forget.

The Malahat Legion

The Malahat Legion has been very busy even though we have only been open Fridays and Saturdays.

On October 22nd, we honoured our fallen soldiers who died on Canadian soil in a non-combative role, at the Cobble Hill Cenotaph. This year it included Veterans who died due to PTSD. Special thanks to Cdn. Bob Collins who organized this special event and to all who attended.

During Legion Week we held a giant poppy stuffing work party and poppy envelopes were put in the mail.

Donations can be dropped off at the Legion in our secure drop box or to Poppy Taggers who will be out this year. All donations stay local with the Branch. It helps support local Veterans and Veterans families in need.

On November 11th the Legion will be laying the wreaths on behalf of Organizations before 10:15 am. If you wish to purchase a wreath, or for more information please email: rc1134poppy@gmail.com.

The Remembrance Day Ceremony starts at 11:00 a.m.

at the Cobble Hill Cenotaph. Everyone is welcome to attend, but under COVID rules. (Cobble Hill Hall and the parade cancelled again.)

The Legion will be open to the public at noon and everyone is welcome but must show their Vaccination Passport and ID. COVID Rules apply. Masks are required when walking around.

On the community scene we would like to thank everyone who has donated personal hygiene items for the CMS Food Bank. **After Remembrance Day, the Legion**



will be collecting non-perishable food for the CMS Food Bank.

Y.S.A.G. has also been busy. They started by making masks, then the quilts for Quilts of Valour, and have

knitted lap covers for our veterans. We really appreciate their support in helping our community and veterans.

For more information about this club contact Fran Whitfield at itsmefran@shaw.ca

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LOCAL BOOK CLUBS: We currently have ten Book Club Sets in the branch.

If you know someone unable to come into the library due to illness or injury, please let them know about our monthly volunteer Home Delivery service. Get books, audiobooks, and DVDs right at your door

See you at the Mill Bay Centre Light Up on Satur-

day, November 27!
The South Cowichan Library in the Mill Bay Centre is open:

- ★ 10am - 8pm on Monday and Tuesday
- ★ 10am - 5pm on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
- ★ Public computers
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- ★ Seating
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Cowichan South Arts Guild (SAG) - H'ARTBEAT

How do you like to express yourself? What is your passion, what brings you joy?

Are you interested in joining other like-minded individuals for 'Creative Conversations' ?

If so, contact us at hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com and we'll add you to the email list for an invitation to one of our ZOOM or in-person coffee chats (held bimonthly). These small, informal gatherings generate lots of great ideas and enthusiasm, and give the Guild ideas of how it can best serve its communities through the ARTS.

Current CSAG programming includes:

- ★ Maker's Circles - held every 2nd Thursday from 12:30-3:30pm at SLCC. (Nov 4/18/Dec 2/16). Bring your latest creative project to work on as you gather with others to connect and chat.
- ★ Sampler Series - held once a month at Mill Bay Library offering a wide variety of creative workshop opportunities. Next in the Series is 'Celtic Knots' in November and an Outdoor Winter Sing Along in December, dates TBA.

Also, watch for the possible return of our popular Winter Solstice Spiral Walk. (email for details)

Spotlight Series continues to highlight local musicians and visual artists through locally recorded content available through CSAG's youtube link


- look for us on Facebook: cowichansouthartsguildgroup as we wait for our new Website to be completed.

Meet the new CSAG Board of Directors!

- ★ Claire Coupland - established touring singer/songwriter; skilled in event planning and social media.
- ★ Greg Bohemen - founder of CVGRO, a popular local musical collective, is passionate about creating musical connections.
- ★ Tina Ronse - artist extraordinaire, infectious enthusiasm for music, anything fibre, and pansypounding!
- ★ Diane Mellott - accomplished visual artist in a wide range of mediums, experienced in board governance.
- ★ Terry Dheensaw - long history of tireless volunteer work with many community organizations, and coordinating performing arts.
- ★ Jennie Stevens - passionate educator, long standing community builder, inspiring children and families through music.

And other dedicated individuals volunteer their time to coordinate Events, Activities, Workshops and more, networking with other local organizations as they strive to strengthen a foundation for artists and community to connect, create, express and grow through the Arts.

Shawnigan Weather October 2021
Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ Reported by Grant Treloar

	Oct Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Average High	14.1	11.9	14.0	13.0	15.0	13.0	15.0	12.5	14.1
Average Low	5.8	6.2	7.2	5.6	6.7	6.7	8.3	6.0	6.7
Extreme High	28.3	17.1	23.6	18.9	24.8	19.1	25.3	17.5	23.0
Extreme Low	-7.2	0.0	-0.8	-0.7	-2.3	0.1	-2.0	0.0	-2.0
Precipitation	114.7	141.0	151.5	160.2	129.7	171.6	114.1	132.4	121.4
Days w precip	16	20	12	24	13	21	11	19	14
Year Precip	830.8	879.4	1037.4	838.2	973.6	770.0	889.4	797.5	1029.8
Rank since 1914: 27 th coldest, 33 rd wettest									
Lake Temperature	Oct 3	Oct 10	Oct 17	Oct 24	Oct 31				
	15"	14"	13"	13"	10"				
Lake level change	+5cm	-1cm	+4cm	+1cm	+30cm				
Surface Elevation	115.98	115.96	116.00	116.02	116.32				

Cooler and wetter days prevailed for most of October with only 11 days without precipitation. Warmest day was October 2nd with frost happening on the last day of the month.

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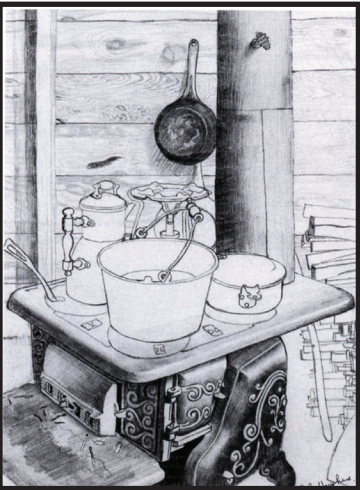
Jessica and Janet at the 2nd Annual All Hallow's Eve Witches Paddle

Wood Heat

Robert Amos
Shawnigan Focus

Robert Amos is the official biographer of E. J. Hughes

Artist E. J. Hughes was no newcomer to wood heat. His sister Irma reminisced about their childhood: “A cold winter spell in North Vancouver required that Eddie, the Leader [of four siblings], be given special care. He ordered us to drag the big comfy chair out of the living room into the kitchen, in front of the stove, which had the oven door open to get maximum heat on his feet. He ordered Zoe to bring him a silky comforter to wrap



himself in, and then ordered Zoe to bring his Sexton Blake detective book.”

In 1938, while he waited for the fishing season to begin at Rivers Inlet, Hughes drew a surpassingly detailed view of the little stove that kept him warm. It’s a work camp still life, with wood pile beside the cast-iron stove and a frying pan hanging on the wall. The wood grain on each rough-hewn plank is drawn with unwavering attention, and even the spent matches on the hearth are carefully drawn.

Later, in 1951, Hughes and Fern moved into an old two-storey house at Shawnigan which was heated with wood. Fern took a photo of her husband in front of a huge wood pile with axe in hand. On November 14, 1955, the artist wrote to his dealer in Montreal: “I am working on three more watercolours, and if this cold spell would just end so I can spend less time stoking fires and more on painting, I hope to have them done in a week from now.”

In fact, wood heat just

wasn’t able to warm up his studio on the top floor. On March 3, 1956, he explained to Dr. Stern at the Dominion Gallery: “We have been installing oil-heating in the studio and an oil burner in the kitchen stove, which already are saving me some time on my painting.” Thanks to his contract with the Dominion Gallery Hughes was successful artist and didn’t have to live this way. Stern was offering him \$4000 and a trip to Europe to meet his Gallery’s European connections. But life at Shawnigan Lake suited Hughes. He lived there with no phone and no car and walked to the post office once a week to pick up his mail.

In the following year, on January 23, 1957, Hughes faced the winter with new confidence. “Our newly installed winterized plumbing here, and our new (1 yr. old) oil stove and studio oil heater are working efficiently in this long period of steady below-freezing weather (about 3 wks. so far) with only once up to 32 degrees.” In these conditions some of Canada’s most valuable paintings were created.



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The War Years

Lori Treloar,
Shawnigan Lake Museum

Although the population of Shawnigan Lake was small, the community made a large contribution to the war effort in both WWI and WWII. In the first war, the old SLAA hall was basically given over to the war effort. A Red Cross group was formed and, from this, the Shawnigan Lake Women's Institute developed (est. 1914). Volunteers worked with tireless energy to aid the cause. The women rolled bandages, and knitted socks and balaclavas for the soldiers. A volunteer rifle association was formed in both Cobble Hill and Shawnigan and the men were given some basic training. Countless fundraising dances, concerts and raffles were organized. On one occasion, a farewell dance was held in the hall for the 103rd Battalion which many of the local boys had joined. A

good number of these never returned.

In WWII, Shawnigan again made a considerable effort. An Air Raid Patrol (A.R.P.) division was formed to provide civil defense. After the war, the fire-fighting branch of the ARP group became Shawnigan's first local fire department. Once again, the Red Cross was very active with units in the village as well as one at Cliffside. The Women's Institute issued ration books, produced several dozen quilts and sent boxes of food and clothing to England. They also offered home nursing and first aid classes.

Even the children helped. At the little school on the west side, all of the students collected clothes. The older students also used a portable sewing machine to make children's clothes and then put together bundles that were sent to Britain.



It is hard, now, for most of us to imagine the times. Butter was rationed (margarine was available). Sugar was restricted to three pounds per person per week. Special sugar coupons could be obtained for canning purposes. Meat, tea and coffee were rationed and luxuries like nuts, raisins and spices were not available. Gas was rationed, with a certain amount available for essential use and less for pleasure. Everyone was encour-

aged to collect bits of metal, used tin foil, gum wrappers etc., which could be melted down for ammunition and other war necessities. Family members signed up enthusiastically and went off to fight. Many did not return but if they did, came home much changed.

The Cenotaph in Cobble Hill honours the fallen soldiers from Cowichan Valley's south end, including Shawnigan. At the

time, around 1919, there was a possibility that the cenotaph could be built at Shawnigan but the decision was made to place it in Cobble Hill. In 2009, the memorial was moved to a safer spot about 30 feet from the original location and underwent an amazing rehabilitation. The restored Cenotaph in Liberation Park is a worthy tribute to the men and women from our area that fought for the freedom we now enjoy.

Dear community...

Steve Elskens
Shawnigan Resident

Do you remember Jackie DeShannon's song 'What the world needs now, is love, sweet love?' Released in 1965, it is, of course, still very relevant today.

This is the essential message of the martial art, aikido that I would like to introduce to you. Let me explain.

I have been practicing this Japanese martial art since 2003, studying with my teacher Sensei John Petersen at his dojo in Shawnigan Lake. Aikido, like most other martial arts, does not teach you

how to fight, but how to defend yourself against any form of aggression. Morihei Ueshiba, who founded aikido, came up with a distillation of several more severe budo (or martial arts) after the second world war, when he realized the world does not need more fighting, but instead more harmonizing.

This is exactly what we train in aikido. Harmonizing and blending with any aggressive energy, whether physical, mental or emotional. It teaches you how to remain relaxed in your mind, and centered in your body and spirit, in the face of adversity. In aikido, you learn how to lead a potential conflict and redirect your attacker towards

a peaceful, harmless resolution.

In essence, you learn how to look at the world from another perspective, how to really, deeply, listen. Don't you think we need more of that in our world? Less individualism, more openness?

The incredible benefit from the mostly physical training on the mats is that you can transport the philosophic principles embedded in the practice into daily life. We all need to harmonize with other people (spouses, colleagues, siblings) on a daily basis. Aikido can help you find a centered, embodied approach to dealing with friction.

Aikido, the peaceful warrior art, calls on all men and women, young (14+) and old, who want to make a positive difference in their lives and in their communities . Build the confidence to stand your ground and speak your truth in a relaxed, centred and open-minded way.

Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

Taste - My Life Through Food

Published by Gallery Books. Copyright 2021 by Stanley Tucci

I literally whooped when I found this book, and immediately grabbed two, one for me and one for my daughter-in-law, the Chef. I am a huge fan of all things Tucci.

I so enjoyed his TV series,

"Searching for Italy" where he travels through the different regions of Italy, cooking with chefs and restaurateurs, tasting and smacking his lips while discussing all the details. He walks through the cobbled streets like a gun-fighter, confident and handsome, taking us on to the next adventure.

And let's not forget his video success, mixing a Negroni for his wife, which apparently blew up on YouTube. And, if you haven't seen his latest film with Colin Firth, "Super-nova", you're in for a treat.

But back to the book. This is a well-written memoir of his warm childhood with Italian parents, who instilled in him the love and appreciation of cooking and enjoying food in the company of family and friends.

Tucci takes us through his life of acting and travelling via this medium of food. He also briefly shares that his beloved

first wife, Kate, tragically died of breast cancer, leaving him with three small children.

A few years later, at the wedding of his co-star, Emily Blunt, from the film, "The Devil Wears Prada", he meets her sister, Felicity, a literary agent. He is charmed by her appetite on their first date. He describes how she chased down a cheese dessert table after eating all of her dinner and part of his. How could he resist such a woman? Together, as a married couple, they have carried on the tradition of big family meals, and have added three more children to the family.

What is such a bonus is the addition of recipes throughout the book, including some from his childhood, brought by his parents from Calabria, Italy. I certainly intend to try some of the pasta recipes, of which there are many. This is a man who starts thinking of what he is going to make for

dinner from the time he gets up. Food is his big passion.

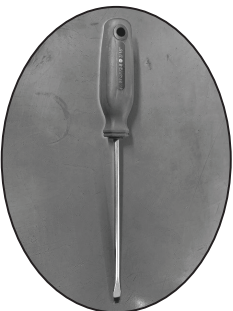
For the most part, the tone is light and breezy with enough humour and wit to make one laugh out loud. But near the end he shares with the reader his terrifying cancer diagnosis, which, ironically, was a tumour under his tongue. With months of chemo and radiation, he lost his sense of taste and eventually had to be fed through a stomach tube. His slow recovery, helped by his loving wife and many friends, is very affecting.

Remarkably, he has fully recovered and is back cooking and savouring food and, as well, looking after his small children during Covid times. As a fan, I rejoice with him and look forward to more of his writing.

Recommended for foodies, film buffs and travel fans alike.

Rating: 5/5

Tools @ Work



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October **Tools @ Work** - NO WINNER

October tool was 'a spring or hose clamp remover.'



The Indian Act

Jared Qwustenuxun Williams
Chef to the Elders, Writer and Cowichan Tribes Member

The most successful thing the Indian Act accomplished was turning us against ourselves.

I don't even know the exact number of tribes that would have been encompassed in the Salish Nation, but it ran from northern Vancouver Island to the south Washington coast. We were not isolated tribes working for individual wealth, nor were we a unified group working for a superior like a king or emperor. No, we were family. Everything was done for the good of our family.

Trade and relations within the Salish nation could make or break the entire civilization. We were unified in the cause of joint prosperity for our family, by working as one for the good of all.

Sounds too utopian? Let's pull up some other supporting theories.

To be a Chief, meaning the one who is in charge of a family, or group of families, one had to make choices that were 100% a benefit to the people as a whole. Why? Because in Europe there are standing armies that will defend the kings' choices. So, if the king commands you to do something and you say no... well the standing army kills you.

There was no standing army here, at least not in the same sense. If the Chief sent people to do something dishonorable, or foolish, and the people said no, there was no secondary enforcement. Of course, honour and cowardice come into play, but for the most part Chiefs did not rule with absolute power. Instead, these Shsiem mustimuhw were chosen from a young age and trained to be emphatic and wise so that when they were given the hereditary Chief name, they knew how to lead by listening.

The Indian act replaced that traditional governance system with the Band Council system - a system that reports directly to Indian Affairs. A system that replaces teachings and leadership with votes and popularity. Suddenly, small royal families that had been carrying teachings and passing on leadership snuw'uyulh for generations were suddenly unseated and out-voted by the larger families. Leading up unto a point where many of my own tribal members don't know our hereditary Chief names, and which village each name belongs to. Even I only know three, of the supposed five or six names.

The system broke our nations apart, great nations broken into misplaced tribes. The Indian act made us in their image. No one took the

time to note that in a single village there would be many family houses from different "tribes" all over the Salish sea. There were Cowichan family houses spread across the Salish nation, and there were houses from all over the Salish nation in Cowichan. It's so hard to get this idea across because it's just so foreign to this modern world. But, in one foul swoop that was undone. We were divided and set to the task of a treaty to negotiate and argue with Canada, and each other, over which land was ours and which land was theirs.

I desperately want to help our people get back who they were. Where the leaders of our community work beyond the confines of the Indian Act. Where we face our enemies with nutsa'maat shqwaluwun. Where we fight for the good of the entire nation. Where we can show the world that we will not be divided, we will not be separated, and that no matter how they cut us apart we are one family.

"Don't fight over land." - the Elders
Stsielhstuhw tu shwaluqwu'
Honour our family
Shsiem - leader/manager
mustimuhw - people
Snuw'uyulh - teachings
Nutsa'maat shqwaluwun - Working as one heart, one mind
shwaluqwu' - family

How's your toilet paper stash?

Glenn White
Opinion

Over the past couple of years, we have all had to deal with the impact of COVID, from the first cases, with business closures, having to mask up to go grocery shopping, the number of layoffs and a degree of isolation. Although comic relief came from the toilet paper caper, I often wonder how much is still stashed in people's homes...it's a good thing it has a great shelf life.

Our first covid exposure seemed like a long time ago, but our scientists' developed vaccines that proved to be our salvation and masking up became the new way of life. The vaccine has saved many lives and the governments have provided a lot of support for individuals, as well as businesses, to keep our economy running

Our amazing hospital staff are truly above and beyond the call of duty, working overtime and working to save lives while being exposed to all kinds of risks. The most disgusting exposure was the anti-vaxxers spitting on them and cursing them as they went to work saving lives. The overloaded hospitals, due most recently to the anti vaxxers, has resulted in many surgeries being cancelled and many people denied a treatment that would have improved their lives.

COVID also changed us in other ways - we began to walk outside more often and, also, cycle more on our local trails. The old rail beds became a favourite walking and biking route for many of us. Bike sales rose and supply

became difficult to obtain with the worldwide impact of COVID. More and more we see it from Victoria to Shawnigan, and up island, rail beds are being used for bike travel and trails are being built beside the rail beds to help meet the demand and utilize the routes. These old rail beds are very conducive to leisure riding and building pathways is a good use of the right of way along the rail line, which is currently not used by trains.

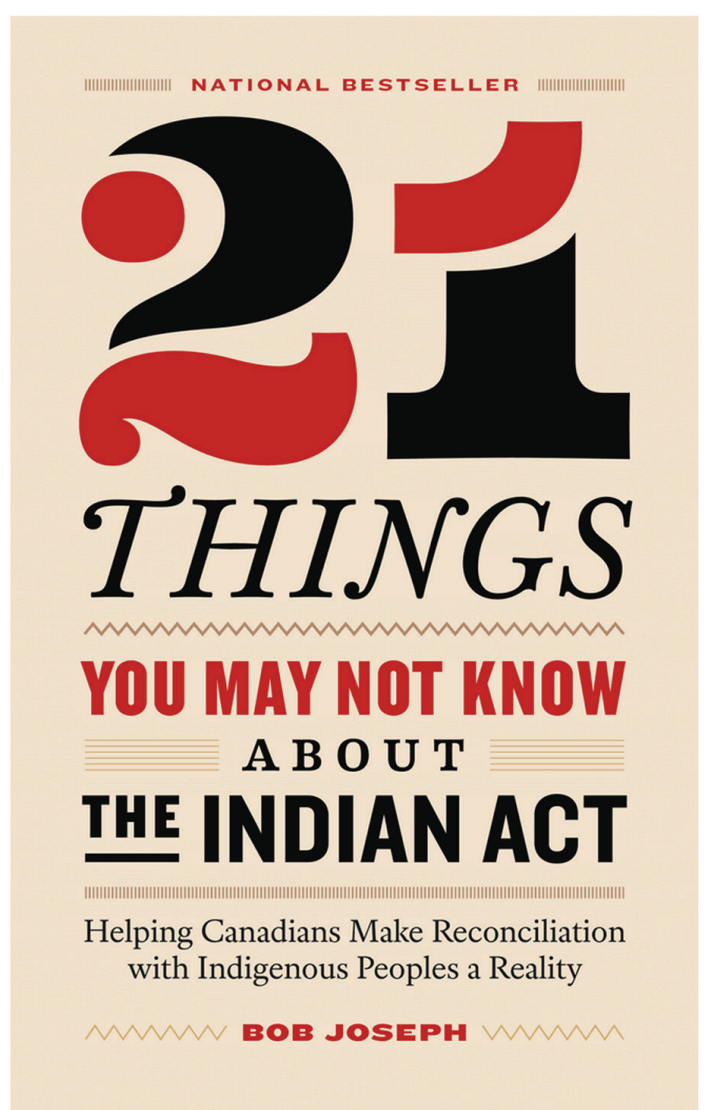
Summer was a bit better, with some of the restrictions being lifted and the implementation of COVID passports which allowed more businesses to open and get back on their feet. Masking is still required in our gyms, grocery stores and shopping malls but a minor inconvenience compared to the lock downs of last year.

New vaccines are being developed as boosters and will be available to people in a phased process.

We owe a big thank you to our scientists and manufacturers of vaccines which keep us safe and the future is looking good, from my point of view. We still have a way to go as we try to cope with the influx of cases in some regions with low vaccination rates, but our medical heroes are providing the best care they can.

So, thank you to our community, our governments, our businesses and our medical staff for all that they have done to help us come back to a new 'normal', and to support us. It is up to us to patronize our businesses and thank the medical personnel who keep us going and safe.

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NOVEMBER 2021- SHAWNIGAN FOCUS 15

SCCPAS Office Coordinator Erin Willis Hawkins reflects on the 20th Anniversary of 9-11

Oriana Pellizzari Parker
SCCPAS

South Cowichan Community Policing is delighted to welcome Erin Willis Hawkins as the part-time office coordinator. With a degree in political science and communications from Simon Fraser University, Erin is a great candidate for the job. She is also pursuing a degree in social work from the University of Victoria. With a fourteen-year gap since her last job, due to her commitment to motherhood, raising two boys, Erin considered volunteer work as a good option for slowly re-entering the workforce and re-establishing her career. After meeting with Sarah Davidge Cardinal, Manager of Programs and Volunteers at SCCPAS, with the intention of volunteering, Erin was offered the part-time office coordinator position.

Erin has a passion for travel, which she claims she acquired from her grandparents, on her mother's side. They immigrated to Canada with their entire family, from Liverpool, England, bringing with them their "wanderlust" for travel and adventure. Thus, Erin was introduced to travel at a very young age. Among many of the places her travels have taken her, she has been



to England, Italy, Spain, Israel, Portugal, Russia, Turkey, Greece, Jamaica, the States and Canada. The Covid pandemic has disrupted travel, but she is determined to resume travelling with her family as soon as it becomes feasible. Travel, according to Erin, is "transporting myself to different times, whether it be a medieval hillside village, or walking through the Acropolis of Athens. I am fascinated by the history of human evolution."

In 2002, Erin embarked on what would be her most poignant and unforgettable trip, to New York City. She and her family arrived six

months after the 911 disaster. "I had a vision of what New York City would be like. The 'Big Apple', vibrant, bustling, traffic everywhere, on the streets and on the sidewalks. The bright lights of Broadway. But what I found was an anomaly! Ground zero was unimaginable! The enormity of destruction was inconceivable. It was hard and painful to absorb. It was surreal! I felt like I was in a sacred place, like I was intruding. Everywhere, people were coming together and supporting one another. Ground zero had beacons of light, illuminating the way for search and rescue, representing the hope of find-

ing and bringing home all the missing loved ones. Emotionally, I felt a tremendous sadness at the tragic way people died and was shaken to think that those enormous towers were reduced to these gigantic hills of rubble. The pictures and the posters of the missing were unnerving. People walked around dazed, quiet and respectful. I gazed at the church, just a few metres away, St. Paul's Chapel, which survived the attacks intact, with just one pane of glass shattered by the falling debris. That experience is etched forever in my mind!"

Erin and family returned to New York City in 2015, this time with her two sons, William 9, and Jonathan 8. The city had changed considerably and regained its energy. They made their way to The National September 11 Memorial and Museum. She recalls, "The Memorial site was extremely moving. It took me back to the enormity of the task - to heal, recover and rebuild. This Memorial acts as a symbol of hope that through all the pain, suffering and loss, you can rebuild into something meaningful, a tribute in light to all those lost, for generations to see. We went to the museum which featured a

firetruck in its original condition after the attack, mangled, destroyed. It was a horrific sight. That day the boys both learned that firemen do not just put out fires, but they help to rescue people as well."

Erin, husband Patrick, sons William and Jonathan live in Mill Bay. Of community policing, Erin says, "I am happy to be involved in a process designed to keep the community safe."

SHAWNIGAN LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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



*Department members attended
14 incidents to October 27th*

- ★ Friday, Oct 8 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 11 – MVI on Cameron-Taggart Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 11 – Burning Complaint on Lakewood Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 15 – 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Oct 16 – 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Oct 16 – Alarms Activated on Fitzgerald Rd
- ★ Sunday, Oct 17 – Burning Complaint on Woodcroft Pl
- ★ Sunday, Oct 17 – MVI on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 18 – Alarms Activated on Fitzgerald Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 18 – HazMat on Gammon Way
- ★ Friday, Oct 22 – Mutual Aid MVI with Malahat Fire on TCH
- ★ Saturday, Oct 23 – Alarms Activated on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 25 – 1st Responder off Campbell Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Oct 27 – Hydro Lines on Oland Rd

Thank-you to our community for working together and staying safe!



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COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Email sacton@cvr.bc.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)** Meetings TBA
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
Meetings TBA. Held at the 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
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: blog.ysag.ca - email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open: 10:30 to 3:30 - Thursday to Sunday (Masks required)
Contact: museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com ~ www.shawniganlakemuseum.com
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- ★ **Cowichan South Arts Guild**
contact: hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com / Facebook: [cowichansouthartsguildgroup](https://www.facebook.com/cowichansouthartsguildgroup)
- ★ **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: Gloria.gsolley@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Healthcare Aux.** every second Tuesday from 1 -2pm. at Mill Bay Community League Hall. southcowichanhealthcareaux@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)

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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: shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

Congrats to Pat & Brian Swan!
October's contest answer was from at the entrance to Our Ecovillage on Baldy Mountain Road.

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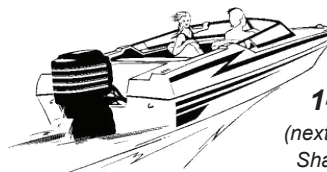


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Dump them at the Dump

Paul Jolicoeur,
Shawnigan Lake

C'mon people! Did you really think that somebody out there just couldn't wait to get their hands on your discarded children's car seats, even after they had been sitting on the ground for a couple weeks? After they've been rained on for days? After animals marked them? Really? Do you think their appeal has increased with age? Did you quickly dump them under the cover of darkness because you didn't want anyone to see you? C'mon!

It's very discouraging for your neighbours to see your garbage every time we go to pick up our mail. Car seats, chairs, flyers, couches, toys, dressers, clothing. If you don't want these items anymore, there are more responsible ways to deal with them. Give them to someone who

could really use them. Drop them off at the Salvation Army or Women in Need. Sell them, or offer them for free on Facebook Marketplace or Used Cowichan. How about this, instead of dumping your discards on the side of the road, don't be a lazy, cheap, lousy neighbour...DUMP THEM AT THE DUMP!

Granted, sometimes dumped items have value and they disappear quickly. We picked up a terrific cabinet that I restored that was sitting on the side of the road. If you're going to dump something on the roadside, may I suggest that you check-in on your stash now and then, and if it hasn't disappeared in a day or two, take them away before they become toilets for dogs, rats or raccoons. Especially your mattresses, sofas or your Lazyboy, lazy boy. C'mon!

You have some wonderful, commu-

nity-minded neighbours out there who regularly pick up the garbage you tossed onto the side of the road, because they care about your neighbourhood. Fellow Shawniganites volunteer to tend to the flower boxes in the Village on your behalf... some cleanup and have created a pollinator garden in the parking lot at Mason's. These caring citizens give us hope that there is a gradual movement building, a movement of respect and good stewardship for our Shawnigan Lake paradise. The least you can do is just this one thing...take ownership of your own garbage, and not dump it on everyone else who shares this beautiful part of the world with you.

C'mon people...we all live here... play a little part in the effort to keep it beautiful. We all have garbage to deal with...you take care of yours, and I promise to take care of mine.



St. John's Academy Spotlight

Visit our website for additional information:
www.stjohnsacademy.ca/shawniganlake

Fall is a busy and exciting time for our school with various activities such as: Truth & Reconciliation Day, the Terry Fox Run, Eco-Action and Service Days, Thanksgiving and Halloween all taking place over a few weeks.

St. John's Academy (SJA) has been actively engaged in acknowledging and celebrating these community/family events. We had a successful Orange Shirt Day and an excellent Truth & Reconciliation guest speaker from the University of Victoria.

All of our students participated in the Terry Fox run at the Kinsol Trestle and we are now focusing on doing community service and supporting local aconservation activities. We will have students working with the BC Shores Clean-up and picking up garbage at the Old Mill Park, along the Mill Bay waterfront and along some of the local roadways.

Our younger SJA students are hosting a Food Derive with the CMS Food Bank (Cobble Hill, Mill Bay, Shawnigan Lake) while our older students have been assisting the Salmon restoration efforts taking place with the Mill Bay and District Conservation Society.

Matt Jonah
Director of Admissions
matt.jonah@stjohnsacademy.ca



SJA students participating in Terry Fox run, Kinsol Trestle.



Students assisting the Mill Bay and District Conservation Society.



Some of our Grade 7 students preparing posters for the CMS (Cobble Hill, Mill Bay, Shawnigan Lake) Food Bank.



SJA students showcasing their artwork that was created as part of Orange Shirt Day.

That thing that makes you “not fit in”.
Be proud of it. Nurture it. Because that’s your
‘extra’ in the ordinary. ~Myra S.