

A Non-Profit Community Publication

The Indigenous Tree of Knowledge

Jared Owustenuxun Williams,(he/him) Wríter & Educator

We are but the leaves of the great tree. We burst forth full of life ready to take in the sun's light and feed the branches that sustain us. The strong branches are the knowledge systems, systems that the leaves, that came before us, helped to create. The ever growing branches push the leaves closer and closer to the sun. Giving every new generation of leaves greater access to the sunlight.

The sturdy trunk that holds the branches is the foundation of our knowledge systems, built by countless generations of branches and leaves. Held in place by the steadfast roots that grow deep into the land. Where our ancestral knowledge supports our

tree becomes one with the land and the water. In this great tree how can a leaf say it owns a branch, or that it can exist without a trunk, without roots, or without land? It cannot. When we learn from our elders. and when we teach our grandchildren, we are parts of this great tree. This system of knowledge is not owned, created, or property of one person. Instead, knowledge is held and carried for the next generation... so we can hold the next generation of leaves closer to the sun.

entire way of life, as the

Some of us have strong branches, some of us are starting new branches, but we are all from the same tree. We all contribute to the trunk that holds us up and one day, if we are lucky, we will make up the roots that connect future leaves back to the land.

About Jared

Jared Qwustenuxun Williams is a passionate traditional foods chef who spent much of his youth with his late grandmother, immersed in Salish culture. After Owustenuxun graduated from culinary arts he spent a decade working in restaurants across Vancouver Island before deciding to move back home to Quw'utsun to take the role of Elder's Kitchen Manager at Cowichan Tribes. After more than decade of cooking for his Elders, Owustenuxun now works as an Indigenous foods educator, writer, and consultant.

Most recently, Jared won a Canadian Online Publishing Award for best multicultural story; was nominated for the 2022 BC Multiculturalism and



Anti-Racism Award, and helped FNHA complete their first smoked salmon project, proving that Salish smoked salmon is a safe and effective technique for food preservation. When he is not working on furthering Salish food sovereignty, Qwustenuxun spends

his time with his young sons sailing and camping around the Salish Sea and, above all, making sure that his family comes first.

Coming soon — Jared's Tedx Talk, taped at Royal Roads University in February.

"Mukw' stem 'I' utunu tumuhw 'o' slhiilhukw'tul" - Everything on this earth is interconnected.

Be a part of something big!

Lori Treloar Executive Director



days, was passionate about the importance of the Museum and knew that, for the Museum to grow and be sustainable, there was a need for it to expand.

of community minded people had their first meeting in 1976. Their primary goals were to establish a Historical Society and to open a museum. They started collecting, and meeting,

now. We have a building permit, and the project has gone to tender. As long as the bids are reasonable to our budget, we should break ground sometime in April.

The Society has be

is committed to better serving residents, and visitors, by expanding the Museum.

Shawnigan Lake has an amazing community history, one that includes significant Canadians, and so many stories that connect community, and visitors, with the overall

Did you know that, in 2016, the Shawnigan Lake Historical Society was given a \$100k cash donation to facilitate an expansion to the Shawnigan Lake Museum?

I will never forget how that felt... a significant donation from someone who really understood what we were trying to do for the community, valued what we did, and was willing to invest in the future of the Museum. The donor, who had been involved with the museum from the early

It can be challenging to 'sell' the value of a museum when there are so many worthy causes to support. But it doesn't have to be like that...the Cameron family, with a long history in the area, also recognized the value of the museum by giving the project our second \$100 000 donation.

The Shawnigan museum is very much a community project... from the commitment of passionate volunteers over the past 47 years, to the generous donations of artifacts, photos, archival records and, of course, money. A group

in a few temporary locations before finding a permanent home for the Museum, in 1983, in the original Firehall building. While it was a generous space at that time, donations from the community soon filled the space. In the beginning, the building was a good fit but, as a public building, it lacked. There were no accessible washrooms, the archives/research area is not accessible, and the overall space is very limited. The Society recognized that, in 1989, with a dream to expand the building. That dream did not happen...until

fundraising for an expansion, for the last five years, that will triple the size of the museum. Much of the new space is designed so that we can invite the community for on-site events and programming; provide accessible space and washrooms, and become a place where people come to gather, to learn and to have fun. Another bonus in the project will be public washrooms for the community and visitors, maintained by the CVRD. These will be accessed from exterior of the building. The Society

Canadian identity.

The Shawnigan Lake Museum provides a place for people to connect and re-connect. A large percentage of people who grew up in the small community of Shawnigan Lake moved away for work, and many of the summer places in the area did not last through multi-generations. The Museum provides a place for everyone to experience the sense of coming home.

Be a part of something big! Volunteer - Become a Member - Donate

Shawnigan Focus

A Culture of Caring

Kim Barnard

Secretary-President Story Gatherer

Many thanks to everyone who visited the Volunteer Fair! This was a super FUN opportunity to connect with so many of Shawnigan's volunteer groups. Thank you to the organizers and participants, and especially to everyone who stopped to chat with us!

As I write this on a snowy Thursday morning, 118 years ago on February 23rd, 1905, Rotary founder Paul Harris and fellow business friends made it official that they were going



to dedicate their time, talents and treasury to helping people in their community. *Happy Birthday Rotary!* 118 years later we get

to bring this "culture of service" to Shawnigan, with a nature-based lens. Each one of us brings something very special to the mix of talents and life experience!

Our biggest contribution is consolidating a

movement over the last five years to empower each resident to take care of our shared outdoors - especially if you find yourself walking, biking or paddling amongst garbage! Sadly, human beings are often guilty of carelessly amassing, hoarding and discarding junk. Only in the last century has our trash caught up with us and become such a pernicious problem for the environment. An unhealthy buildup of debris can happen anywhere (also called messy areas indoors?). Litterpicking won't solve this, but it is such a satisfying hobby to hunt and remove the trash from our treasure. Each

of us has the potential to become a local hero in this work! Committed friends can lead the way in ongoing caretaking, for the benefit of all. Plus, we're always looking for new members to join us in followup projects like Planting for Pollinators! We are encouraging everyone to participate in the upcoming Earth Day "Hearts in Action" Shawnigan Community Clean Up on Saturday, April 22nd from 10am-2pm! Details are posted at our website, www. ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca



YSAG

Many Busy Hands make Light Work for Area Volunteers Giving of their Time & Talents

Jennifer Heinrichs YSAG

One of YSAGs most popular groups is Friday afternoons "Busy Hands". Cécile Healey currently facilitates Busy Hands, whose members gather to knit or crochet

toques, scarves, slippers, and more. Most of their creations are donated to charities, from the North Cowichan Valley all the way to Victoria. Care homes, shelters, animal rescues, safe houses, veterans, and food banks have been on the receiving end of their lovely creations. This year alone they distributed 44 Afghans, 12 sets of baby clothes, 188 facecloths, 163 hats,

13 head bands, 5 pairs of mittens/gloves, 41 scarves, 38 sets of hats and scarves, 6 shawls, 123 slippers, and 5 pairs of socks... for a total of 638 items. "With that huge volume of items, donations of yarn are always appreciated", Celine says, adding, "Or, you can come help us create! The good conversation, tea and goodies are just a bonus to being a part of this YSAG group!"

can be avoided. "You have to get involved and give something back if you want to live your fullest, most meaningful life" notes Jen Heinrichs, YSAGs newest group facilitator and Director. Everyone hopes that a new generation of caring, community-

minded, active

55-plusers in the south Cowichan Valley take notice of YSAG and try a few of their activities, perhaps avoiding the senior AND Covid 19 "SAG"! You can get in touch with YSAG at blog.ysag.ca, and follow them on Facebook for up to date activities and events.



South Cowichan Library

Monica Finn

The library is ready to help you stay entertained over Spring Break! We will have Jenga one week and Magna-Tiles the other, out to play with all day. We'll also have a scavenger hunt and be participating in the VIRL Island Treasures Contest.

The Inspired by Reading Book Club is hosted by the Cowichan South Arts Guild and open to anyone interested in reading and sharing inspired conversation. Book selections are based on creating and sustaining a hopeful and compassionate environment for all. it up to shine on your face and read a magazine!

Conversational Spanish: drop in to practice Spanish in a casual setting each Monday at 6:30pm and chat en español en la biblioteca! Beginners welcome.

The Intermediate Chess Club meets every Wednesday for matches from 12:30-4pm.

If you know a local who is unable to come into the library due to illness or injury, please let them know about the Home Delivery service for users of the South Cowichan library. Staff collect books, audiobooks, and DVDs and a volunteer delivers them all to the door at the start of each month. Please call the library to find out more. YSAGs volunteer facilitators, & members, demonstrate the very best of volunteering and caring and sharing, to make our community a better place. They know that isolation, ill health, and loneliness can come with aging and, as we've seen, with Covid. They also know this decline

MOHAT, Geraldine (MELLIS) 23 November 1934 - 25 January 2023



Our dear sweet mother, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt, sister, wife and friend passed away this past week. She went peacefully and quietly. After 88 years on this earth, she has served her purpose...raising 4 children and loving all those around

Monday, March 13, at 6:30pm: Aki-wayn-zih: A Person as Worthy as the Earth

LEGO® Club happens every Tuesday, 2-5pm. We provide the LEGO (and Duplo) and you supply the imagination. Come ready to build! This is a free, drop-in event.

If the gloom is getting to you, try a light therapy lamp you can use for 20-60 minutes in the library, depending on your need and sensitivity. Set The South Cowichan Library in the Mill Bay Centre is open:

10am - 8pm, Monday and Tuesday

10am - 5pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

Find out more at virl.bc.ca and at www.facebook.com/ VIRLSouthCowichan

250-743-5436 southcowichan@virl.bc.ca her.

Geraldine was born in Vancouver, BC to Burnice Mellis, the youngest of 3 girls. She grew up in the big city, riding on the electric trolley cars and spending time with family all around her.

At a young age she started living with her grandparents - William & Annabelle Mellis - who raised her into her teen years.

In her 20's she met then married Francis Joseph Mohat in 1956. Donna, her first born arrived in 1957. In 1961, Robert was born in the back seat of a '53 Pontiac before making it to the hospital, 1968 was the year Raymond was born - September - in the trailer in Bowden, Alberta. Number 4 child - Christopher, was born in July of 1970 in the fire truck that was taking his mother to the Trail hospital!

Geraldine lived in Chilliwack until 1978.

Her first grandchild was born in 1988, Sara. Then Samara in 1990 and Mariah. In 2012 after 16 years of living on her own in Kelowna, her health started deteriorating and it was decided it would be best for her to move in with her son Bob on Vancouver Island.

In 2015 she became a permanent resident of Acacia Ty Mawr Seniors Care home where she spent her last years in their wonderful care. She continued to make friends and enjoyed the many activities there as well. Geraldine was a happy, feisty resident and was loved by all. One of her favorite sayings were: "Take one day at a time and do the best you can!" We all need to take that advice!

Some of the things she enjoyed in life were: square dancing, playing bingo, crocheting/knitting - most everyone she met received an afghan or blanket handmade by her - and above all, visiting with family.

She was the Queen of Uno, Value Village and thrift store shopping was also a favorite pastime. Eating chocolate was also a big treat for her even though she was a diabetic. She loved all her friends like family and prided herself in remembering everyone's birth dates and anniversaries.

Her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren - Mischa, Amelia, Abigail, Ella, Aubree, Everly & Nola - were her passion in life, loving them all with all her heart!

We will miss her fun loving, spunky spirit. We know you are in a happier place and you know we will all miss you - God be with you till we meet again!!

2 SHAWNIGAN FOCUS

E.J. Hughes at Home in Shawnigan Lake

Robert Amos

Author & Artíst

Pat Salmon was a friend and helper to artist E. J. Hughes and collected material for his biography. In 2011, she passed it all along to me. As part of this, she shared many stories with me. Here's one of my favourites:

When Hughes moved to Duncan (in 1977), E. J. Hughes was very afraid of the water which came out of the tap there. He thought the water in Shawnigan was The Water. Then he read in the paper that some certain, or whatever, said that Shawnigan water wasn't that great and so he didn't have to do that anymore.

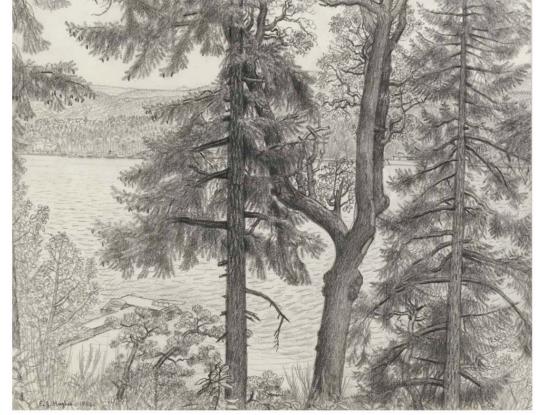
So he made a habit of going all the way up past Ladysmith. There was a spring water spigot at the side of the Island Highway and Hughes had a sort of plastic orange jug to collect the water. Quite often I'd go with him. This plastic thermos jug was a colour of orange which I thought was really bad. I noticed that all the cosmetics and so on at the time were really orange. This thermos was so old that it had cracked - when you opened it in the

sunlight you could see that it had cracked open, and you could see the sort of papery insulation inside it.

Every week or so we'd fill it right up there near Ladysmith and off we'd go. Well, finally I thought "this won't do anymore." But you couldn't necessarily just buy a camping thermos in the winter in Victoria. So, I bought something to replace it, something that would do. But that old orange thermos would not disappear. Every time I went to see him I'd look in the kitchen and it was always there, always there. Even if I didn't see it at first, I'd look around and keep finding this thing.

I said "Ed, I know why you're not throwing out that thermos, even though it has a crack in it, and it would spill all over. It's because you feel sorry for it." He knew I was right, and he said "yes." That was the extent of his personification for things, feeling sorry for this old thermos. To him, it was a "good and faithful servant." And I thought "my goodness, Ed. You really are something!".

As the years went by, he didn't speak to buildings



Fir and Arbutus Trees, Ladysmith, BC (1987). Pencil Photo courtesy of Heffel Fine Auctions. This is a scene on the Breton-Page Road looking west towarvds the Ladysmith waterfront.

as much as he used to. But for a long time, any building that he had anything good to do with, he'd talk to it as we drove past it in his car. "Hello" he'd say. And "goodbye" - nothing more. He was just acknowledging its

past with him. He'd say it to this house and that house: "hello" and "goodbye". I got used to it.

This personification was, I think, the kernel of his greatness. Because he

felt for things, as well as for people. In fact, he couldn't allow himself the luxury of feeling for people so much. I think that's it. I think that's right. He really had a feeling for things.

Cowichan South Arts Guild

LIVE MUSIC at the Shawnigan Lake **Community Centre**

Terry Dheensaw, CSAG PA/VA Lead

Hello Friends. As we are in the middle of winter and looking forward to stepping out into the warmth of early spring, in Shawnigan Lake, the time to gather for music and art is calling us.

We, at CSAG, are planning musical appreciation through yet another year of "Spotlight" events at the SLCC.

- Bass Guitar and vocals
- Mike Trepanier (aka Bearnaise Shallot) on Electric Guitars and vocals
- Bryon Thompson (aka Stemias Sparagus) on Lap Steel Guitars and vocals
- Freda Eckstein (aka Lmno Pea) on Ukulele and vocals
- Laverne Cherry (aka Baba Legume) on Drums and vocals



Put on your dancing shoes and get down with the sound of local musical heroes "Turnip the Beet" a band who plays songs for human 'beans' who always appreciate you 'rooting' for them!

We are proud to present a dance band for all ages Turnip The Beet.

This newly formed band is made up of local seasoned musicians,

Keith Washington (aka Borscht Kaleoff) on

This group of fine musicians are all about great music and having fun. From their wacky vegetable stage names to their infectious laughter and groovin' tunes, you won't be able to sit still.

What sets this band apart is each member sings harmony as well as taking turns fronting as lead singer.

Come prepared to dance!

An added feature will be two artists displaying their work - TBA.



Shawnigan Lake Community Centre

'FAMILY FUN' ACTIVITIES BEGIN @ NOON LIVE ENTERTAINMENT Featuring - JUMP INTO MUSIC - with Lady O!

EASTER BONNETS, BUNNY COSTUMES, BEST EASTER DRESSES

All Welcome!

FREE DRAWS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES



Watch our website for more information : www.shawniganlakecommunityassociation.ca

Sponsored by the SLCA - Shawnigan Lake Community Association



With the support of the Province of British Columbia



MARCH 2023 - SHAWNIGAN FOCUS 3



FEATURED ARTIST

Shawnigan Weather - February 2023 Report

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network & Environment Canada

Reported by Grant Treloar

\$ \$ \$	February Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Butler Road		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Average High	7.8	5.9	7.4	6.6	9.0	6.9	8.6	6.9	8.7	6.4	7.9
Average Low	0.4	0.0	0.1	-1.1	-1.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.2
Extreme High	18.3	10.2	11.3	10.7	14.8	11.5	13.7	11.1	15.6	11.0	12.5
Extreme Low	-16.7	-8.6	-5.4	-10.4	-7.1	-8.8	-6.2	-9.2	-6.2	-9.0	-6.5
Precipitation	134.7	159.1	108.9	135.8	101.0	221.4	90.6	116.1	78.2	114.0	90.4
Days w precip	16	22	11	22	11	24	11	20	11	22	11
Year Precip	350.0	302.8	225.0	266.2	285.0	221.4	213.2	220.9	199.3	228.0	222.4
Precip since Oct 1	884.7	828.4	946.9	769.3	1088.0	626.2	1071.9	625.1	974.0	655.0	1056.6
Rank since 1914: 41 st coldest, 47 th driest											
					Feb 5	Feb 12	Feb 19	Feb 26			
Lake Temperature						4°	4°	2°			
Lake level change						+19cm	-11cm	-10cm			

Shawnigan Focus Team

Surface Elevation

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116.32m 116.51m 116.39m 116.29

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We are saddened to announce the sudden passing of Janet Klaassen of Shawnigan Lake, BC., on January 24, 2023, at the age of 81.

Her family would like to send a heartfelt thank you to, Search and Rescue, RCMP, and the many local community members who helped in the search for Jan. We know that Mum's ability and love of walking made the search difficult, and even though the outcome was not what everyone was hoping for, the concern, time and effort that everyone put in was really appreciated.

Jan was born and lived her early years in England where she eventually trained as a nurse at Guy's Hospital, London. Outreach nursing took her to the Queen Charlotte Islands, where she met the love of her life, Victor Klaassen. Jan and Vic were married in England in March of 1967.

Jan emigrated to Canada where she and Vic started their family in Masset, BC. In the 1970's Jan and Vic moved to Shawnigan Lake, where they raised their children and enjoyed the many outdoor activities that the Island had to offer. Jan worked as a public health nurse at the Margaret Moss Health Clinic in Duncan, BC.

Jan was predeceased by her siblings Margaret and Peter, and is lovingly remembered by her husband Vic, son, James (Susan), daughter Joanne (Steve), grandchildren Matthew, Chelsea, Elizabeth, Rachael, Margaret and James, and her nieces and nephews in Canada and England.

Jan will be greatly missed by her family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Society of BC or Search and Rescue.





Visit our website for additonal information: www.stjohnsacademy.ca

Enrollment Opportunities at SJA

Did you know that St. John's Academy is currently taking applications for the 2023-2024 school year?

St. John's Academy (SJA) is in its fourth year of operations and currently offers grades 4 through 12. In the near future, we look forward to offering Kindergarten to grade 3 as well.

As an International Baccalaureate (IB) Accredited school we currently offer BC curriculum to grades 4 through 12, enhanced by the framework provided through the IB's Middle Years Programme (MYP) for grades 6-10. The IB's MYP is a five-year programme comprised of 8 subject groups, each requiring between 50 and 75 hours of teaching time. The next step up on the IB ladder is the Diploma Programme (DP), which is a two-year university preparatory pathway for grades 11 and 12. SJA is a DP candidacy school, and on track to offer the DP starting this September. Once authorized for the DP, SJA students will have three graduation pathways.





- 1. A full IB Diploma and the BC Dogwood.
- 2. An IB Certificate for individual Diploma Programme courses and the BC Dogwood.
- 3. A BC Dogwood.

The IB DP, launched over 50 years ago, is recognized by BC universities, as well as leading universities around the world. Some universities, including UVIC, give students up to one full year of credit transfers for their Diploma Program.* Are you interested to learn more? Would you like to consider SJA as the academic choice for your child?

The first step in the application process is to book a guided tour of our campus with our Director of Local Admissions. All family members are welcome to attend the tour and are encouraged to ask questions, a lot of questions! The next step is to complete the online application via the website. An interview will be booked for the applicant once your application is received.

We encourage you to book a tour if you are interested in joining SJA for the 2023-2024 school year for grade 4, 6 or 8. Limited space is available at each of these grades.

At St. John's Academy we are looking for students who want to learn, who want to challenge their minds, and who want to balance every day learning between classroom experiences and outdoor experiences.

Dear School Community,

SJA would like you to know that we have a few openings in a number of our grades for the 2023/2024 academic school year. Seats remain limited across the school, with some grades full. However, we look forward to receive your application if you are interested in having your child attend our school beginning Fall 2023.

For further information on our school, please visit our website, or feel free to contact:

Jenny Boomer, Director of Local Admissions jenny.boomer@st.johnsacademy.ca

*For additional details on credit transfers at UVIC, please visit: www.uvic.ca/undergraduate/_assets/docs/ uvic_ib_guide.pdf

4 SHAWNIGAN FOCUS

What's Your Story?

In 2022, we asked the community to share their favourite Shawnigan stories. When we asked a panel of 'judges' to read and order the stories, the results were so close that we were not able to rank them. All of the stories were so good that, instead, we will share one or two stories per issue (in no particular order) over the next few months.

Dave Pollock

For over thirty years, a galvanized bucket adorned the top of a power pole near 2556 West Shawnigan Lake Rd. How it got there, or why has not been revealed until now.

Unlike the elephant in the upper branches of an oak tree who had simply sat on an acorn and waited, the bucket had some human helpers.

Cliff Whitfield of 2585 West Rd. watched a "heavy gang" pole crew erect a short auxiliary brace pole just outside his gate. It was a hot day and just as they were finishing up, he filled a bucket with ice and bottled homemade beer. This, he

delivered to the crew.

"Welcomed with enthusiasm!" goes without saying. An impromptu party was held right on the side of the road. Back in the seventies, the West road was not overbusy, so a minimum of discretion was required.

Soon the beer was gone, and the day was over except for the crowning event. One of the crew, took the now empty bucket, quickly climbed the pole, and placed it like a thimble over the top. Down again in a flash, off with his spurs and with a quick tip of his hard hat climbed into the truck and was gone.

Cliff returned to his cabin for another beer and a

well-earned nap. Only happy memories and the bucket remained.

Cliff is gone now, having moved to the Cariboo in 1981. The Pole crew would all be retired by now and the pole reached the end of its days and was replaced. Even the bucket is gone.

The elephant may still be in the oak for all I know. Cliff Whitfield was a retired home builder who lived with his wife in a cabin he built of mostly salvage material. He had a little store called Canadiana Crafts where he built and sold ceramic tile topped tables. His daughter Dalene and her husband Chic Grinyer lived next door. They moved to 100 Mile House in the late 70s. Cliff followed them there. He died the next year. Several people lived in the cabin but eventually the property changed hands and much nicer buildings replaced what was there.

The Bucket oversaw it all.

(continued on next page)

Thank you to all of our advertisers for supporting this local publication! We couldn't do it without your help...

The Focus team encourages community members to submit editorial content, including letters; articles of local interest, bouquets you would like to offer to people; things that strike you as funny; challenges you want our civic leaders to consider; and/or ideas that would better our want our civic leaders to constaer; 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.







BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL

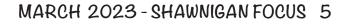
Friday Mar. 31st 6:30-8:30 Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Lounge Room \$5 members, \$10 non-members (\$15 to purchase membership) Reserve tickets: etransfer to hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com

BRITISH COLUMBIA

WE'RE HIRING! WE ARE LOOKING FOR REFRIGERATION JOURNEYMEN IN THE COWICHAN VALLEY.

Hey you! Thinking of getting a heat pump? You may qualify for up to \$11,000 in government rebates!

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Moreury Refrigeration

HEAT PUMP SPECIALISTS

Shawnigan Focus

(Continued from page 5)

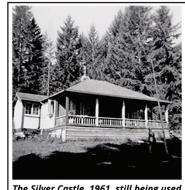
Camp Pringle

Eleanor (Smith) Montour

Camp Pringle holds a prominent place in my memories of summer. I first spent a week there when Mom was the camp nurse, then went as a camper, starting in 1953.

It was pretty rustic in those days, but we had such a good time with swimming, arts and crafts, games in the big field, decorating our cabins, sing-songs and skits, and peaceful times in the "chapel", a clearing in the forest.

When I graduated from high school in 1961, I got my first summer job: kitchen helper at Pringle, under the direction of



The Silver Castle, 1961, still being used in 1961 & '62 as accommodation for the kitchen staff and the nurse.

the very capable "Able Mabel" (Mabel Rodger). There were two of us girls helping with all the cooking and clean-up. All the dish-washing was done by hand.

We took care of everything used in the kitchen, and the campers

Did you know?

we offer

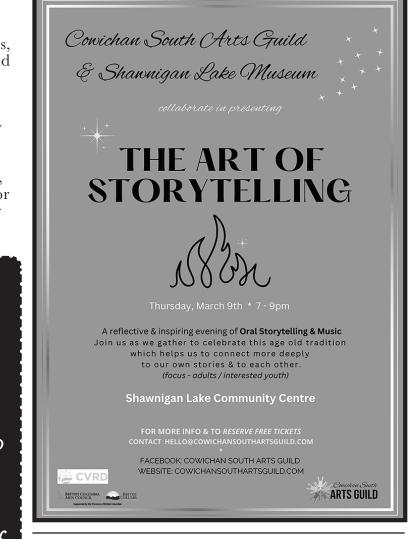
washed the dishes and utensils used at each of their tables. There was also a boy hired to work in the kitchen, I guess to deal with some of the heavy lifting. For each camp, we would cook a full turkey dinner for "Christmas in July" (or August), so there would be five or six huge turkey pans to be moved in and out of the oven.

I also have a photo of one of the boys sitting beside a very large bucket, peeling potatoes, which must have seemed like an endless job. We girls got the more interesting work! For the whole summer (July and August), my pay was \$100.00. Hired back the following year, I got \$150. This was for working 6 1/2 days per week.

Our "day off" was Sunday afternoon (starting at about 2:00), after serving and cleaning up after breakfast and lunch, and leaving a cold meal ready for the campers' supper. It was all worth it, though, just for the fun of being involved with the camp and creating memories that still bring me much pleasure.



1961 Peeling Potatoes



CYCLE FIT CLASSES Cycle Fit (also known as indoor cycling or spinning) is a group fitness class focusing on endurance and strength with a mix of intervals, high intensity and recovery. DAY TIME MONDAY 8ам, 9ам, 6:15рм TUESDAY **9**AM WEDNESDAY 8ам, 9ам, 6:15рм THURSDAY 9am FRIDAY **9**AM SATURDAY **9**AM VALLEY **HEALTHand FITNESS**

Call (250) 743-0511 www.valleyhealthandfitness.ca #1-1400 Cowichan Bay Road, Cobble Hill Submission Guidelines: Email to:

Editorial

shawniganfocuseditor@ gmail.com

Send in word or text format, not pdf

lf you include a photo, send as separate jpg file Photos should be high resolution

Shawnigan Lake Fire Department

Phone: (250)743-2096 Non-emergency: (250) 812-8030 shawniganfire@shaw.ca

February Report

Department Members Attended 16 Incidents to Feb 25th

- Friday, Feb 3 Hydro Lines on Renfrew Rd Saturday, Feb 4 - 1st
- Responder off Sylvester Rd

shawnigangarage.com



ICE MELTER SOLD HERE

- Monday, Feb 6 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Feb 7 Assistance off Renfrew Rd
- Friday, Feb 10 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Sunday, Feb 12 -Assistance on Berger Rd
- Monday, Feb 13 -

FULL SERVICE GAS BAR 7AM - 7PM • MON - FRI WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS • 9AM - 6PM



AUTOMOTIVE & MARINE SERVICES CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS 8AM - 5PM • MON - FRI

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6 SHAWNIGAN FOCUS

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PRIVATE & COMMERCIAL **DESIGNATED PROVINCIAL** VEHICLE INSPECTION FACILITY



- 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, Feb 13 1st Responder off Carlton Rd
- Thursday, Feb 16 -Vehicle Fire on Thain Rd
- Monday, Feb 20 Hydro Lines on Sylvester & Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rds
- Monday, Feb 20 Hydro Lines on Linden Ln
- Monday, Feb 20 Hydro Lines on Mable Rd
- Monday, Feb 20 Hydro Lines on Graff Pl
- Monday, Feb 20 Hydro Lines on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, Feb 20 Hydro Lines on Linden Ln
- Thursday, Feb 23 First Responder off Widow's Walk

Shawnigan Focus

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton Email: sierra.acton@cvrd.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 Lake Museum Contact us for information about hours and/or group visits. Contact: museum@shavniganlakemuseum.com (web): shawniganlakemuseum.com
- Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) For info: (web): www.thesra.ca
- Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA) Contact: bburr@shaze.ca
- Shawnigan Basin Society #102-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS) Contact: *ysagssl@gmail.com* (web): blog.ysag.ca
- South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP) Contact: 250-929-7222(web): southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134 Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: Gloria gsolley@shaw.ca
- Cowichan South Arts Guild (CSAG) Contact: hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com (web): cowichansouthartsguild.com
- Shawnigan Quilters Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)
- **Rotary Club of Shawnigan Lake Eco Club** Meeting Info & Contact: ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca

At the end of the day it's not about what you have done or even what you've accomplished... it's about who you've lifted up, who you've made better. It's about what you've given back." -Denzel Washington



Pemberton HOLMES ESTABLISHED 1887

250-732-5232 mronaldjones@gmail.com www.mrjrealty.ca

Shawnigan Cemetery



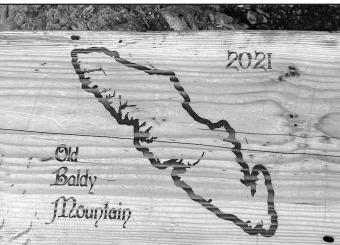
୭୦ EST 1965 ୧୪ "A Community Resting Place" Information 250 929 6100



SHAWNIGAN FOCUS CLASSIFIED are your classifieds of choice. Your message delivered to every address in the Shawnigan Lake area. \$13.50 for the first 30 words 35¢ per additional word shawniganfocusads@gmail.com Telephone : 250-743-2197

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One lucky respondent with the correct answer will be randomly selected to win two Specialty Coffees.

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Congratulations! Mackenzie Leslie 1 of 5 people who correctly identified February's photo — the warning sign at the Old Mill Park lookout.



MARCH 2023 - SHAWNIGAN FOCUS 7



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Whippletree



Cobble Hill

8 SHAWNIGAN FOCUS