

OUR VOLUNTEERS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS ARE OUR HEROES!

“I Love Shawnigan”

Taking the Trash Out of our Treasure!

Sun April 22nd • 10am to 2pm
Arrive + Sign In at the SLCC!

Clean Up Day 2018

Sign up at www.southcowichanrotary.org

Special Thanks to the **CVRD**, our Community Partners, **P.A.N. Disposal** and **Fisher Rd Recycling**, and our **2018 EVENT SPONSORS**

Rotary
Club of South Cowichan

Kim Barnard,
South Cowichan Rotary Club

Earth Day this year gave us the perfect opportunity to “Take the Trash Out of Our Treasure”.

As a community we successfully came together to make our beautiful outdoor spaces litter free! With glowing hearts, we are celebrating the achievements of our Volunteers and our local Rotary Club working together with P.A.N. Disposal, Fisher Rd Recycling, the CVRD, the Shawnigan Firehall, Mainroad South Island Contracting and the Cowichan Green Community. Thank you to our Event Sponsors and Community Partners, Coast Waste Management Association, Signology Signs and Graphics, Shawnigan Lake School, South Cowichan Community Policing, Cowichan Press -

and Alexandra Hamilton, our facepainter and Kid Zone Star!

The Clean Up Day turned into a Clean Up Week with the heroic efforts of the “1st Shawnigan” Guides on Thursday April 19th, Shawnigan Lake School students on Friday April 20th & Sunday April 22nd, and Discovery Elementary School on Monday April 23rd!

By the numbers:

- ★ 125+ volunteers engaged over a 3 day period - including Girl Guides, Shawnigan Lake School students and community partners who helped at our event on April 22nd
- ★ 35+km of roadways covered, around Shawnigan Lake and within the community
- ★ 2000lbs+ of Recyclables,

Returnables and Trash taken out of the environment and processed by our local Waste Diversion experts - P.A.N. Disposal and Fisher Rd Recycling

- ★ April 23rd - an entire school inspired to mobilize all staff and students, to join with our efforts, to clean up their school grounds at Discovery Elementary in Shawnigan Lake an overwhelmingly positive response and call to make this an annual event by all who participated :)

Some quotes:

“A HUGE Thank you to everyone that helped out on Earth Day. Together you pulled out of the ditches, by mailboxes, and sides of the roads almost 2000 pounds of garbage and recyclable items that are now being sorted and put where they

properly belong. Next year let’s make this a bigger event!! Start spreading the word!!! Thank you to all who volunteered!”

- **Tyler Davis, P.A.N. Disposal**

“All garbage and recycling which was picked up was dumped at our site and was sorted. We saw various types of garbage and recycling - some large pieces of styrofoam (typically used for flotation for docks), general garbage, lots of recyclable material and even car and truck tires.”

“I look forward to working with everyone again in the future; it is great to see so many organizations come together for the community we are all a part of.”

- **Spencer Atkinson, Fisher Road Recycling / DL Bins**

“I’m so happy that the opportunity to mobilize an entire community has arrived! Let’s look for ways to connect the volunteers who have committed to cleaning up the litter-prone areas of Shawnigan Lake and to encourage them to continue to make a difference by looking after the natural treasure we are gifted with, especially the bigger picture of what is possible if we all work together!”

“I’m super excited about this Waste Diversion effort by our local haulers! So very VERY proud of my entire community. I’ve posted a gallery and a story at our club website www.southcowichanrotary.org to acknowledge all of the groups that participated... and I have a Rotary Powerpoint presentation that tells our Clean Up Day story.” (In thanking P.A.N. Disposal and Fisher Rd Recycling for generously sharing the cost of sorting and disposal) - *“...I am in awe of the synergy you all demonstrated and I believe that the*

residents of the South End are in very good hands.”

- **Kim Barnard, “I Love Shawnigan” Clean Up Day project facilitator, South Cowichan Rotary Club**

“Thank you South Cowichan Rotary and head organizer Kimberly Barnard!!! Amazing event and just warmed my heart to see all the crews still out there working hard.”

“Thanks for your help P.A.N. Disposal and Fisher Rd Recycling. I’m excited for next year too. Excellent event Kimberly! Also big thank you to Rotary!!!”

- **Sierra Acton, Area B Director, Shawnigan Lake**

In the birds’ eye view moving forward, inspired by the lake photo used for promoting this event...

Our community has faced some enormous challenges when it comes to protecting our environment, but our First Annual Clean Up Day proved that each of us can take responsibility for caring for our outdoor living spaces. In fact, I believe that the same heart that beats in our community and stands united behind the rallying cry to stop the harmful dumping, would find the simple and continuous act of picking the trash out of our treasure to be a healing step in that direction.

A special thank you to Abigail Barnard (age 11) who drew the “Heart in Action” that became our event mascot.

Many hearts working together DO make a lasting difference! Well done Shawnigan!



Packs for Success

Halie Gislason

South Cowichan Community Policing Advisory Society

Hi, my name is Halie Gislason, a resident of Shawnigan Lake, and one of the Newest Volunteer Directors of South Cowichan Community Policing Advisory Society (SCCPAS). I am also a student at Camosun College, studying Criminal Justice, and a Mom. I have a passion for helping and supporting community recycling, and reducing costs and waste to the families in our communities - no actually our world. So, when I joined SCCPAS and was given the opportunity to create a program that I was passionate about. I immediately jumped on board with this program, "Pack for Success".

So here is goes...Don't know what do with that extra

backpack or the extra school supplies you have? Well, you are in luck! We are looking for everything required from K-12. This includes backpacks, pens, paper, crayons, felt markers, erasers, white-out, lined paper, dividers, duo-tangs, binders, 12-inch rulers, pencil sharpeners, pencil cases, exercise books, notebooks, coloured pencils, glue sticks, blunt 5-inch tip scissors, highlighters, folders, tissues and antibacterial hand sanitizer.

The 'Pack for Success' program is being implemented to help ease the financial burden for families in need to provide school supplies for students returning to school coming September. The average school supply list costs about \$100.00, money that could be used towards school meals

and clothes. And with the cost of everything going up, and wages staying the same, budgeting for school supplies can be a struggle. Therefore, 'Pack for Success' will help students and their families with providing the essentials for school subjects.

My goal is not only to implement this locally in South Cowichan but to implement it in other areas. I have spoken to my classmates and they are planning on sharing this with the Victoria area as well. My goal is to reduce waste and help communities save on school supplies and financial burdens.

If you are interested in supporting this program and have any school related items available for donation please contact us at Email: sccp@shaw.ca or 250-929-7222.



Shawnigan Lake Museum

Mother's Day (May 13th) "Great Gift Ideas"

Exclusive Saltspring Soapworks Beauty Products; Live Edge Wooden Quarry Photo (14" x 5"); Artisan Wood-Cut Maps (9" x 18" & 5" x 10"); Hand-crafted, locally-made Shawnigan Jewelry; Wooden Kinsol Coasters; Shawnigan Lake Poem by William Stokes. A Lovely range of gift items appealing to all moms at the Shawnigan Lake Museum Gift Shop — Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 10:30 – 4.

Summer 2018 Museum Assistant Position

Two positions available:

8-Week contract: June 6 – Aug 5

8-week contract: July 1 – Sep 1

Some flexibility for start/end dates

For detailed information go to: <http://shawniganlakemuseum.com>

Contact: Lori Treloar, Executive Director 250-743-8675 / shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca



The Shawnigan Lake Community Association would like to extend a heart-felt thanks to the Royal Bank of Canada in Mill Bay. Kim Friedel is the Branch Manager and she along with some volunteers participated in "A Day of Service" with the SLCA on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018. Many thanks to all of you for helping out in more ways than one and making it another successful family event for our community.

If you would like to become a volunteer or get involved in any of our events, please contact Marian Davies at Shawniganlakecomassoc@gmail.com. Get ready for Canada Day! You can also find us on Facebook!

South Cowichan Library

Family Storytime for May is Saturday, May 5, 11am to noon with a theme of Mother's Day. Songs, stories, and crafts for children 2 to 8 years and a caregiver. Free.

LEGO® Club meets on Wednesday, May 9, 3:30-5pm. This is a free, drop-in event best suited for children 6 to 12 years but anyone old enough to resist eating LEGO is welcome.

Parent-Child Mother Goose happens every Friday in May, 10:30 to 11:30am. Rhymes, songs, and stories for babies and toddlers and their adults through June 1. Offered in partnership with Island Health.

SHAWNIGAN FOCUS - MAY 2018

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ABOUT THE FOCUS

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

The Shawnigan Focus is

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Additional copies are available in The Village.

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Shawnigan Stargazer

Colin Frostad
Shawnigan Focus

May: Leo the Lion

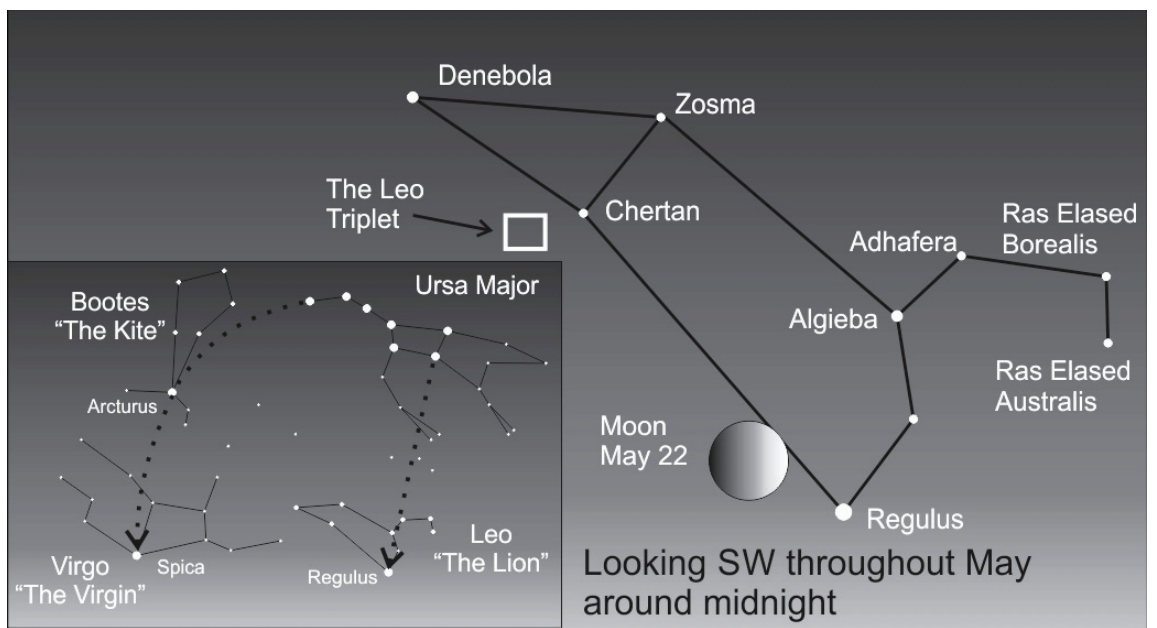
This month we will turn our attention to Leo the Lion.

To find Leo we are going to use the pot of the Big Dipper as our sign post. We will use the two end stars of “the pot” (Dubhe and Merak) to find our way; recall we used the same stars to locate Polaris in March. Follow the line through Dubhe and Merak down toward the southwest horizon. Approximately 2/3 of the way down to the horizon you will see a bright, blueish star. This is Regulus, the brightest star of Leo and the heart of the Lion. The head of the Lion is a backwards question mark that extends to the west from

Regulus. The main body and tail of the lion are to the south of Regulus.

Do not confuse Regulus with Spica. Spica will be almost due south in the sky and can be located by continuing the arc of the handle of the Big Dipper through the yellow star Arcturus, and down into Spica. If you are having trouble, on the night of May 22nd the Moon will be immediately to the left of Regulus because Regulus is extremely close to the ecliptic.

In 2044 the planet Venus will actually past in front of Regulus (known as an occultation). Regulus is 3.5x larger than our sun and, with binoculars, you can make out its blueish/white colour. It is 77.5 light years from our Sun, so the light hitting your eye



left Regulus during the height of the Second World War in 1941.

Leo is home to tight group of galaxies known as the “Leo Triplet”. The Triplet consists of M65, M66 and NCG 3628. To find the triplet, locate the two stars that make up the back end of Leo; Zosma and Chertan. Trace a line south from Zosma through Chertan and stop at the first star you see (n Leo). Go to

the left of n Leo to find the Triplet. If you have binoculars of 10x power or higher you should be able to see M65 and M66 as fuzzy patches. A telescope of 4” diameter or more should make out some features of the spiral arms of M65 and M66. NCG 3628 is an edge-on galaxy and, with a large enough scope, you can make out the dark dust band that bisects the galaxy. These objects are ~30 million light years away from our Sun.

Planets and Moon: Jupiter is in opposition (opposition means the earth lies directly between Jupiter and the Sun) on May 8th, and can be spotted to the southeast in the evening sky, south in the night sky, and southwest in the pre-dawn sky. Saturn and Mars shine bright almost due south in the pre-dawn sky. Venus is by far the brightest object in the evening sky to the west. New Moon is on May 15th. Full Moon is on May 29th.

Plastic the bad guy?

Glenn White
Parks Commission

I had the opportunity to help with the Shawnigan Lake Clean up on Sunday 22 Earth Day.

A big thank you to the South Island Rotary for the initiative to engage our community and bring out so many volunteers and especially including families. What a great way to help out environment! There were people who came from all over to help out. Well done!

While doing the cleanup in my sector I came in contact with several familiar items - plastic bottles, aluminum cans and paper coffee cups. The clear winner of the most contributions to the clean up material were the coffee cups in all shapes, brands and sizes.

In talking to the refuse I heard a familiar story they could not figure out why they, especially plastic, were being maligned in the media as the cause of almost all the pollution that was occurring in the land and sea.

Here is their story and it was the same for all these containers.

“We were picked up by our new friends who babied us, held us securely and took us for a ride in their vehicle. The next thing you know we were driving down the road having a good time, enjoying the drive in the country. Safely secured with our new friends

in the vehicle, all was looking good for this relationship. Then bang, the window comes down and we are bounced out onto the road, no reason given, just thrown out the window like so much trash, almost like a mob hit.

We went from being hand held and enjoyed as part of the trip, to being just tossed unceremoniously out the

window.

Then we get blamed for polluting the road side or the lake or the ocean when we were innocent by standers taken advantage of by our new owners who just tossed violently aside.”

I thought, “these containers are on to something here - let’s not blame plastic or cans or paper. We are the

problem, we who show complete disregard for our road sides, our community, our lakes and our oceans. How can this be? It seems we are almost the only species that dumps garbage in its own living space.”

Do you think it is time to stop? We can all control this issue simply by recycling and while we are at it maybe the

government should put a \$2.00 deposit on all containers aluminum cans, plastic bottled beverages and paper containers. Would that make it worthwhile to return for refund? If not returned would that be the right amount to help to cover the cleanup costs? Is cleaning up the ocean and many of our lakes even possible at this stage of the game?



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Walk Talk

Robin Massey
Shawnigan Focus

As the story goes, John Durrance arrived at Victoria in 1860 after a lengthy trip from England. He settled on almost 400 acres within Saanich naming it Spring Valley Farm. John built his house on the corner of what we know as Wallace Drive and Durrance Road. In 1904 John was found deceased in a well on the property and, as a result, his son Jack inherited the land. Jack built a second house, which is still standing today, on the hill behind the original house. The only remnants of the farm are the cherry trees planted on the corner of Wallace Drive and Durrance Road. Between 1946 and 1963 Jack and his wife owned and operated the Prospect Lake General Store which is now deemed a West Saanich Heritage building.

Durrance Lake is the largest lake within Mount Work Park and is situated between Mount Work and Partridge Hills. It is a well-known swimming hole and quite popular among the fishing community due to its trout and bass. An added bonus is that the trails are dog friendly and considered off leash.

An easy 3 kilometer trail runs along the perimeter of the lake taking you from a wide gravel path into boggy damp forest that may have you detouring during the winter and spring months as portions can be submerged underwater.

The trail launches from the parking area past the sandy beach and fishing pier. If you choose to stray left before the trail slopes down over the creek, you will find yourself situated within a temperate rainforest weaving in and out

alongside the creek flowing from the lake. But don't worry about that shooting range nearby as there's a very big and bright wall to save you from accidentally venturing in.

Back across the creek path you once again have the opportunity to slip into the forest by a subtle trail hidden in the bushes on the left taking you up and around the pretty loop of partridge hills.

Following the straight and true perimeter trail is a pleasant experience through tall trees and heavy foliage. Your gentle trek will end at the familiar of section of Durrance Road which you previously experienced on your way in to the parking lot.

To get there, cross over TCH on Helmcken/Wilkinson Road to West Saanich Road. Take a left, and within 4 km another left on Wallace



Drive. From there you go left once more on Willis Point Road and finally a right onto Durrance Road. Follow to the very end where the small parking area is located. Be aware of your map app – if,

like mine, it may take you past Willis Point Road and up the mountain which is very much misleading!

See the photos from this hike and more on our Facebook page The Om Tree.

Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

Wellmania

(Extreme Misadventures in the Search for Wellness)

Brigid Delaney

Published by Greystone Books

Copyright 2018 by Brigid Delaney

Do you remember Elizabeth Gilbert's popular book, "Eat, Pray, Love"? It recounted her personal odyssey through food, spirituality and relation-

ships. In this book, the author decides to explore the wellness industry which she says generates four trillion dollars a year. She separates her research into Clean, Lean and Serene, a take-off on Gilbert's title.

She discovers that there are true benefits to be had, as well as some rip-offs, in anything that promises health, longevity and inner peace. Her research involves using herself as a guinea pig and,

fortunately for her, she was able to pay for most of these expensive treatments and retreats through her job as a journalist in Australia.

Tired of a night life of alcohol, binge eating and the odd line of cocaine, Delaney begins her journey with an extreme 101 day fast, the so-called Clean Eating section. It almost kills her as she eventually has heart pains, explained by her doctor as likely her heart muscle eating itself. I found this extreme fast with Chinese herbs and acupuncture, (one that is currently trending in Sydney) to be very alarming, although the end results were reported as excellent, although not permanent. The colonic cleansings she undertook were also worrisome, especially as her doctor explained the possible dire consequences.

The second section, Lean, dwelt mostly on yoga, and again, while beneficial, involved Bikram yoga, retreats in Bali and weeks of daily classes, all expensive and all well-attended by white, thin, upper-class women who have the time and money to pursue their dream of physi-

cal perfection.

The third section, Serene, was most interesting to me as Delaney tried many types of meditation and eventually found one that worked for her and which she was able to integrate into her daily life. She comments that as we move away from religion into a more secular life, a vacuum has formed. It is an existential one which people now pay to fill by attending meditation, wellness and mindfulness groups, often based on Hindu or Buddhist tenets watered down and made palatable for western society. Spirituality has become a product as individuals go from retreat to retreat, trying to fill the empty space inside. Some are able to find what they are seeking, while many continue to search for the next Great Thing.

"Modern life has very few gaps in it for us to practice the kind of intentional introspection and seek the serenity once found in traditional religion. Now spirituality is untethered from religion and is a commodity like any other product. To find it you need time, privilege and capital. Pay \$2,000 to

go on retreat, and meaning, spirituality and community will be sold to you."

While this sounds hollow and cynical, Delaney was able to lose weight, learn to improve her yoga practice and find a form of meditation that calmed her. This is, however, a cautionary tale, warning that many of the promises made in the wellness industry are unfounded and that one has to be selective and clear-headed. As always, don't believe everything you hear, but keep mining for those nuggets that are meaningful to you, whether in a practice or in a helpful book.

I enjoyed the humour and wit of the author as well as her honesty. Some might find the last part of the book confusing as there doesn't seem to be a time sequence and she bounces around a bit. Nevertheless, I think this is well worth reading as it is an interesting commentary on the endless search for meaning and health taken by many in our popular culture.

Rating: 4.5 stars

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*Be formless. Shapeless. Like water.
You put water into a cup. It becomes the cup.
You put water into a bottle. It becomes the bottle.
You put water into a teapot. It becomes the teapot.
Water can flow or it can crash.
Be water, my friend. ~ Bruce Lee*

Shawnigan Focus

Director's Report - Together we are stronger!

Sierra Acton
Director Area B

We All Love This Place We Call Home

The values and priorities of our community were highlighted this month with the Watershed Protection initiative, the Illegal Garbage Dumping campaign and a reminder to the Province to remove the contaminated soil. The theme of protecting our piece of paradise came shining through as this community continues to build bonds and connections thus further strengthening our sense of community. I think we can all agree, “We love this place!”

Love it!
The CVRD Board agrees with the people that water is our most important asset. The Board is asking the citizens of the Cowichan Valley if we want a regional function to manage and protect water (estimated to be approximately \$4.80 per \$100K of assessed value) The first step is collecting input from residents on how we would like to see this new service managed and then agreeing to the initiative through a referendum during the October Municipal Elections. If passed, it will be up to the new CVRD Board to deter-

mine what exactly the CVRD will deliver.

Lately I have been getting complaints about unsightly premises (e.g. dead cars, junk spread around, etc.) I delivered a report to the Board highlighting what we invest in, Tourism, Economic Development, Parks, and yet we allow these premises to remain even though they are usually near the gateways to our communities.

I was told that not many people complain about these issues. Unfortunately, bylaw infractions at the CVRD is complaint driven. If you would like to see a focus on cleaning this up, I suggest you write about your concerns to rconway@cvrld.bc.ca and cc myself, Sacton@cvrld.bc.ca. This will document the issue and enable the Board to determine it as a priority for 2019.

Share it!
Area B's Illegal Garbage Campaign had a spectacular kick off with a litter clean up rally for Earth Day (over 2000 lbs of garbage were collected in Shawnigan alone!) The event would not have been a success without the organization of Kim Barnard and the sponsorship of the South Cowichan Rotary...

THANK YOU! In addition, the CVRD is starting its Illegal Garbage Campaign that will be targeting dumping hot spots here in Shawnigan. You can expect roadside signage, radio ads, newspaper ads and more bylaw presence. Keeping our parks and trails garbage free depends on all of us: if you see any illegal dumping please call RAPP (Report All Poachers & Polluters) at #7277 or 1-877-952-7277.

This month I also attended AVICC (Association Vancouver Island Coastal Communities) and it was a huge eye opener for me. It was really great to see municipal elected officials come together to influence change at the provincial and federal level. I'm very excited by the potential impacts that could come from this association and the Province wide equivalent. In addition, I attended a presentation by Justin Langlois who presented on the topic of Making Art in Public: Exploring Creativity and Participatory Placemaking. It was really exciting to see so many creative ideas that were inexpensive, but could add so much to our sense of community. I know we have a creative and engaging community, so do not hesitate if you have an idea; I'm your

“YES” person and I will help in any way that I can.

Protect it!
Well done Shawnigan!!! It has been a while since we stood along the road waving signs, but you certainly didn't forget how it's done. The Shawnigan Residents Association set out to organize the community in an effort to let the Province know it's time for REMOVAL of the 100k tonnes of contaminated soil at the SIA site.

I was deeply grateful to all of those who showed up at 7:30am on a Friday to support this effort. It was great to see more than a hundred concerned community members waving their Save Shawnigan Water signs. The next step is a letter writing campaign. We are currently looking for 6-8 people to lead this campaign, so if you are interested please get in touch. If you don't want to wait until we are organized, please write the following Ministers (pen and paper is best);

Minister George Heyman
642 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V5Z 1G1
george.heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca
Phone: (604) 775-2453

Minister Michelle Mungall
433 Josephine Street,
Nelson, BC
V1L 1W4
Michelle.Mungall.MLA@leg.bc.ca
Phone: 250-354-5944

Premier John Horgan
122 – 2806 Jacklin Road
Victoria, BC
V9B 5A4
premier@gov.bc.ca
Phone: 1-250-387-1715

If there's anything I can help with do not hesitate to contact me:
Sierra Acton
cell/text 250-732-0368
Sacton@cvrld.bc.ca
FB: Sierra Acton Area B
www.iloveshawnigan.com

Hope to see you at the next Director's Meeting: May 7th at the SLCC

Shawnigan Lake / CVRD

Rails to Trails Proposal

Glenn White
Parks & Rec Commission

As many of you may know a part of our Parks Master Plan, developed in 2012, included the development of a trail along the Island Corridor Foundation rail line in order to continue the expansion of family friendly trails and parks in our community. The next phase of this effort, and part of our long term plan, is to connect Old Mill Park to Elsie Miles and on to Mason's Beach. It will provide our community public access in a safe and family-oriented bike and walking path where families can easily walk to Mason's Beach without having to travel on the shoulder of the road and it will also improve foot access to the newly enhanced Elsie Miles Park and pavilion.

Over time, as the Museum is upgraded and the trails are developed, the community will be able to enjoy access to it from the trail. This will all enhance the long term plan of Elsie Miles Park as a focal point for our community where people can safely walk over and enjoy the area and special events.

It is not always easy to adhere to a long term plan. However, the plans were developed with community input and involvement and promoted by the Parks Commission members with technical support from CVRD staff. It takes that kind of long range vision and working relationship between our community and the CVRD Staff to fulfill those plans.

Once the finances are available the various projects are completed, such as the Elsie Miles Park Pavilion and the acquisition of Mt Baldy, to provide for more gathering places and park land for our community. These plans are not just grabbed out of thin air - they come about after a lot of planning and community input. We can accomplish the task by applying the budgeting and the finances as they become available.

The rail trail will be located on the 100 foot right of way along the current rail line. This land is not owned by any one individual and the plan has been approved and supported by the Island

Corridor Foundation as it will allow safe passage for all users should the railway begin functioning again.

We hope that many of you took the opportunity to view the proposed plans at the Shawnigan Community Centre and that you provided written comments. There was also an opportunity to review the plans online and provide your feedback on the proposal.

We have received a lot of positive comments from people in the community on the value of this newest addition to our community plan but, also, some less positive feedback. Generally, people have indicated that they like the idea that the new trail will link more of our parks and recreation areas together and encourage a more active community with a safe and secure place to share our lake shore and enjoy a visit to Mason's Beach.

You can still link to the Place Speak at the following link <https://www.placespeak.com/en/#/>



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.

No registration is required, just drop-in to visit and share a cup of coffee or a snack.

We will be discussing a wide range of topics.

It all begins at 10:30 AM

Every Thursday except the weeks with a statutory holiday.

INFORMATION : Rhoda - 250 709 3050
EMAIL : rhoda.taylor@viha.ca
FACEBOOK : Healthy Beginnings Cowichan



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Rally for Removal: A great turnout!

A few comments:

Bernie Juurlink, Shawnigan Research Group:

“Water samples show very much higher level of contaminants in the onsite monitoring wells relative to nearby household water wells. For example, barium, cadmium, cobalt, manganese and uranium are more than 20 times higher in monitoring well #6 compared to a household well about 350 metres SSE of the contaminated soil landfill.”

Sonia Furstenau, MLA for Cowichan Valley:

“The community is still dealing with the fallout from contaminated soil being dumped near our drinking water source. This has led to costly legal challenges and a loss of trust in government agencies.”

Brent Beach, Shawnigan Research Group:

“Closure is spelled Removal”

John Horgan, Premier of BC:

“All you need is two eyes to see it’s a bad idea to put toxic soils in a watershed looking down on the drinking water for 12,000 people”

Dave Hutchinson, Co-editor - Shawnigan Focus:

“A valid question is ‘Where should the soil be removed to?’ The Federal Department of Defense did ship some material to Shawnigan but is now apparently paying a lot more to send it to a properly engineered facility in Oregon. As a society we produce contaminated waste and must find appropriate methods to deal with it. Remediation close to source is desirable. Facilities must be run by reliable operators and not jeopardize Community Watersheds used for drinking water.”



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shawniganfire@shaw.ca



Department members attended 15 incidents in March

- ★ Wednesday, Apr 4 - 1st Responder off Colman Rd
- ★ Thursday, Apr 5 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, Apr 9 – MVI on Renfrew @ Worthington Rds
- ★ Thursday, Apr 12 – MVI on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Apr 16 – Structure Fire on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Apr 17 – Alarms Activated on Cudlip Rd
- ★ Thursday, Apr 19 - 1st Responder off Thain Rd
- ★ Thursday, Apr 19 - 1st Responder off Silvermine Rd
- ★ Thursday, Apr 19 – MVI on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Saturday, Apr 21 - 1st Responder off Brairwood Dr
- ★ Sunday, Apr 22 – HazMat on Northgate Rd
- ★ Sunday, Apr 22 - 1st Responder off Thain Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Apr 24 - 1st Responder off Elford Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Apr 24 – HazMat on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Apr 26 - 1st Responder off Treit Rd

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COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Office hours by appointment. Email sacton@cvr.bc.ca *Next Director's Meeting: May 7, 2018.* For more info check Facebook at Sierra Acton Area B
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**
Meetings TBA at Shawnigan Lake Community
Contact: Bruce at jenniebruce1@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. 7pm at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
April 16th - 7 pm 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**
1st Tuesday of the month in Watershed office: Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: luvlife@shaw.ca
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: blog.ysag.ca - email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10:30-4 For info, contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- ★ **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:-5:00pm. General meeting 3rd Sunday, 1:00 pm
Contact: Gloria.gsolley@shaw.ca

Classified

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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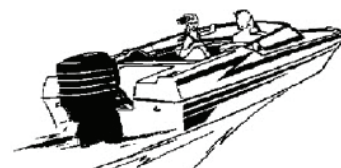


*One lucky respondent with the correct answer will be randomly selected to win two Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.
Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca*

CONGRATULATIONS

The winning answer for March was submitted by Roz Cuthbert who, "after much rumination, concluded that the mystery objects are those loathsome plastic floats that were so shamefully exchanged for our rustic, classic, lake friendly log boom at Masons beach, under the misguided thought that they were somehow safer as children couldn't climb on them."

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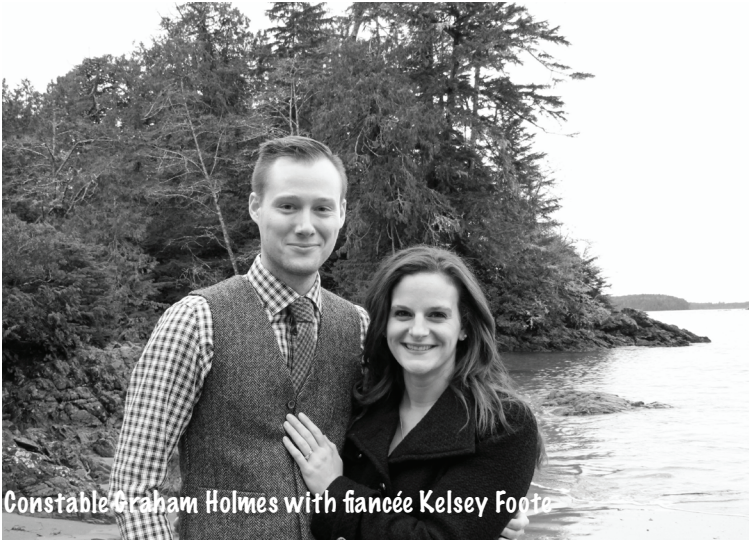
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Nine Year Veteran of RCMP Dies in Snowmobiling Accident



Constable Graham Holmes with fiancée Kelsey Foote

Constable Graham Thomas Holmes, 30, passed away in Kugluktuk, Nunavut, April 6, 2018.

Holmes was snowmobiling with a fellow officer and

friend when the incident occurred. The pair were enjoying sunny, spring conditions on their ride to Bloody Falls Territorial Park, approximately 14 kilometres out of Kugluktuk. While returning

to Kugluktuk, Holmes did not see a sudden drop off and plunged over an embankment to his death. The other rider narrowly missed the same fate.

Following his death, Holmes was brought home to BC, April 11th. His procession was welcomed home by RCMP members from the Westshore, Shawnigan Lake and North Cowichan/Duncan, along with other first responders, friends and family.

He leaves behind his fiancée Kelsey Foote to whom he proposed this past December on a beach in Tofino, BC. The couple, who met in 2012, had just booked a June vacation to Mexico, the day Holmes

passed away. Holmes was predeceased by his father. He also leaves behind his mother and brother, as well extended family, friends and members of the RCMP.

Holmes grew up in Shawnigan Lake, BC. He entered Depot in Regina, SK on July 28, 2008 and graduated January 12, 2009. Holmes first posting was in Masset BC, before being posted to his home town Shawnigan Lake, BC.

Holmes volunteered for the posting in Kugluktuk, Nunavut. There he discovered a passion for the Inuit people and the land of Nunavut. He embraced all that the area had to offer, spending his down time snowmobiling, quadding and ice fishing.

Residents of Kugluktuk, said, “his passing was a shock to the community”, “he was very approachable and friendly” and “he was a fine young man and a good officer”. Holmes loved the RCMP for the opportunities it afforded him to travel and experience other cultures.

Holmes sudden passing was a shock to his family and friends. They will cherish their memories of his sense of humour, generosity and adventurous spirit. His passing leaves an empty space for all who knew him. He will be deeply missed.

Donations can be made to a scholarship fund in Constable Graham Holmes’ name at Island Savings, account 2642940.

The Malahat Legion

GLORIA SOLLEY
Malahat Legion

Thinking of becoming a member of the Legion? Want to check us out first? You are welcome to attend one of our regular events. All you have to do is let the bartender know you are thinking of joining and he or she will help you out. Stop by for lunch on Wednesday, or dinner on May 4th (roast pork) and 18th (BBQ steak). Why not drop in for our weekly meat

draws on Saturdays? The May General meeting has been changed to May 27th, at 1:00 pm. In honour of Mother’s Day and the Victoria Day Weekend. Planning is almost complete for a very busy June. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO SELL? Vender applications for tables are now available for our INDOOR / OUTDOOR Flea Market for \$15.00. Information

and application forms, are now posted on our Face Book, and website (see links above). Or, just stop by the Legion. Hours for the sale are 9:00 – 2:00 pm. Concession by Mill Bay Lions Club.

Doing anything on Fathers’ Day Weekend? Have you considered going fishing? Why not attend the 33rd Annual Walter Hall Community Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 16th which is held in conjunction with B.C. Family Fishing Weekend. Derby Rules & Regulations are posted in the Legion. Tickets are now available at the Legion. Adults Tickets: \$25.00, Youth tickets (12 years and under) \$8.00 and will be on sale until Friday, June 15th. Final weigh-in is 2:00 pm. Cash Prizes for the largest salmon, trout or bass and hidden weights. Separate Prize selection table for Youth and a BBQ by Mill Bay Lions Club are included.

1625 Shawnigan Lake-Mill Bay Rd., Shawnigan Lake, B.C - Email: Arel134@shaw.ca - FaceBook: Royal Canadian Legion Br 134 - Web: www.malahatlegion.com Phone: 250-743-4621

Shawnigan Lake Volunteer Fire Department Invites you to an OPEN HOUSE On Saturday, June 16th At #1 Fire Station 1645 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road Demonstrations- Activities - Fun

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Shawnigan Weather April 2018 - Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ compiled by Grant Treloar

	April Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Average High	13.5	13.3	12.5	13.7	12.5	14.1	12.9	13.2	12.8
Average Low	3.8	4.4	4.2	5.1	3.7	5.1	4.5	4.1	3.7
Extreme High	30.0	26.7	16.9	26.3	16.6	28.3	18.0	25.0	16.5
Extreme Low	-5.6	-0.9	-0.8	0.7	-1.6	0.9	-0.3	0.0	-1.0
Precipitation	71.9	128.6	132.1	135.9	117.0	117.3	94.2	130.2	102.1
Days w precip	16	16	21	16	22	16	21	16	25
Year Precip	541.1	545.8	625.2	528.0	585.3	490.6	508.6	490.6	569.9
Precip since Oct 1	1075.8	1128.5	1376.5	1089.1	1308.8	1001.4	1167.3	1197.3	1107.4

Rank since 1914: 43rd warmest, 38th wettest
Lake Temperature: Apr 1st: 6" Apr 8th: 9" Apr 15th: 8" Apr 22nd: 9" Apr 29th: 13"
Lake Level Change: Apr 1st: 0cm Apr 8th: +13cm Apr 15th: +14cm Apr 22nd: -4 cm Apr 29th: -16.5cm
Surface Elevation: 116.50m 116.63m 116.77 116.73m 116.56m