

Heritage Here

FALL 2006

WHONNOCK CEMETERY
PLAQUE UNVEILING

2

HANEY WHARF CLEANUP

3

SEEKING NEW
COMMISSIONERS

4



WHONNOCK CEMETERY PLAQUE CELEBRATION

A place known for its peace and quiet was alive and happening one Saturday morning. That was when the Community Heritage Commission celebrated the centennial of the Whonnock Cemetery and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque, on Saturday May 20th, 2006 at 11:30 a.m. at the Cemetery on 96th Avenue, Whonnock.

Nina Unger, a descendent of the original Norwegian settlers was asked to welcome all with a few words in Norwegian.

Commission member Jim Connor added his own magic touch in emceeding the event, engaging the audience, and keeping the festivities lively.

Local historian Fred Braches, (who designed the commemorative plaque) outlined the historical significance of the site. The cemetery was started in 1905 by the Norwegian Lutheran Community of Whonnock. The commemorative plaque reflects on the early days and in particular remembers the Lee family who were instrumental in the creation of the cemetery.

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WHONNOCK CEMETERY CONTINUED

Three members of Council (Mayor Robson, and Councillors Daykin and Hogarth) were on hand to join the fun and to formally unveil the plaque.

But perhaps the most welcome items of all were the authentic Norwegian goodies produced by Nancy Webster, and Karin Edberg-Lee. The refreshments were very popular, and were the "icing on the cake" to a truly memorable event.



Karin Edberg-Lee describes the traditional Norwegian treats she had kindly prepared for the event.



Three special volunteers who helped make it happen: Fred Braches, Nancy Webster, and Helmi Braches

MUSIC ON THE WHARF 2006

This year's four Music on the Wharf concerts were a great success, with a total attendance of over 1400 loyal fans and people who attended for the first time. The July 17th performance of the Golden Ears Jazz Band also served as a 50th anniversary event for the Maple Ridge Historical Society which has been sponsoring the concerts for ten years. Members of the Golden Ears Vintage Car Club displayed some of their 1950s and 1960s beauties. We also heard from Tusket on July 31st, Sandy Watkins and the Hickabillies on August 14th and the Celtic and maritime songs of Copper Sky on August 28th.

Everyone enjoyed the clean-up job on the wharf. On the evening of the last concert, a man from Fort Langley side of the Fraser heard the music and hurried to the Albion Ferry to take in the rest of it. Music on the Wharf will return during the summer of 2007.



Volunteers assisting with Wharf Cleanup

HANEY WHARF CLEANUP



Mayor Robson helps out with Haney Wharf Cleanup

A special thanks goes to Commission member Claus Andrup for organizing a citizen's clean-up of Haney Wharf on June 25, 2006. The Wharf's office building and nearby historical plaques had been severely vandalized in recent months, despite its value to the community. The Wharfinger office is owned by the Historical Society, and the Wharf has also been the setting for a popular summer concert series over the past 20 years.

A big **thank you** to participants for risking life, limb and heat-stroke on that hot Sunday morning – what a job! Those who participated include Bernice and Don, Danny, Tom Little, Mayor Gord and Mary, Linda King, Val Patenaude and family, Ian McCleod, Jim and Louisa Connor (Louisa's job on the tunnel was fantastic and will be appreciated by commuters all summer long. The sandwiches were a life saver!). Special thanks to David Boag and the District of Maple Ridge for materials and equipment supply.

And thanks so much for all the free press with respect to the wharf woes and from Monisha at the NEWS.

A greater presence from the Auxiliary, the RCMP and the Fraser River Port Authority has also been appreciated.

If we made this an annual (last Sunday of June) event I think the guests for the Music on the Wharf and the general public would be really impressed with the fact that we care about our waterfront.

SEEKING NEW COMMISSIONERS

The District of Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission, established in September 2000, advises Council on heritage issues, and engages in activities to support the preservation of the District's built, natural and cultural heritage assets.

The Commission is involved in a set of ongoing core activities related to community education and celebration of its heritage assets. In addition, it has established priorities around longer term goals, subject to available resources and other opportunities.

The Commission is committed to projects aimed at promoting heritage education and public awareness. Past successes include: a heritage plaque program, newsletter, and Heritage Awards program.

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Heritage Commission? If so, please submit a letter of interest to the Community Heritage Commission, c/o the Maple Ridge Planning Department, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, BC, V3X 6A9, by fax to 604-466-4327, or by email to plan_eng@mapleridge.org.



Events + **P**rojects

The Community Heritage Commission is ever mindful of nominations for the Annual Heritage Awards Ceremony, held in February. Please turn your thoughts to any buildings, projects or people deserving of special recognition within the community. Official nominations will begin early in January 2007. Please contact Diana Hall at 604-467-7402 or dhall@mapleridge.org should you require additional information.