



Newsletter November & December 2019



MID WINTER CLOSURE

The Maple Ridge Museum and Community Archives, along with Haney House Museum will be closed for mid-winter beginning December 18th and will re-open on January 3rd. We hope everyone has a warm and beautiful holiday season

**ON DECEMBER 16TH
FROM 6:00 PM- 9:00 PM,**

Haney House will be open and free by donation for visitors coming to see the CP Holiday Train on the historic Port Haney wharf.

The house will be decked out in all of its Holiday glory and looking great as a photo backdrop. For everyone going to the wharf to see the holiday train and Terri Clark giving her performance from 8:00 pm-8:30 pm we will be open for tours and photos opportunities.

The holiday train travels through Canada and the U.S. collecting cash and food donations for North American food banks, so don't forget to bring donations.

Come by to enjoy this great community event!



EVENTS UPDATE –

We had a busy October full of events at Haney House, and they were smashing hits!

It has been a year in waiting but it finally came, the night of paranormal investigation at Haney House! The event had a limited number of tickets available and we sold out.

We were so delighted to be joined by the Cornerstone Supernatural group, all of whom volunteered their time and expertise for this fundraising event. We had children and adults alike and everyone had a great time. Those who were lucky enough to get their tickets early learned the equipment and expertise necessary to be a paranormal investigator and were even able to do some ghost hunting inside Haney House, finding some electromagnetic hot-spots like Anne Haney's dress!

We all had such a good time that Cornerstone Supernatural has been booked to come back next year to run the fundraiser again, so book your calendars early for October 10th, 2020 because tickets go fast!



Finding electromagnetic hot-spots in Anne Haney's dress!

Our second event at Haney House was our annual family fun "Eat, Drink, and be Spooky!" which saw great crowds of costumed kids and excited parents. The kids got to do scavenger hunts, check out some very creepy old dolls, and play "guess the icky object" out of our mystery boxes! It was a great day of fun and we can't wait to do it again next year.

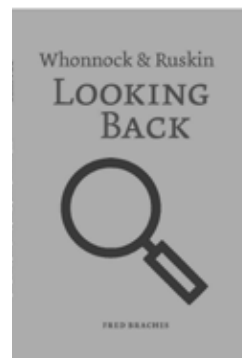


LIBRARY DISPLAY DECEMBER

For the month of December, the Maple Ridge Museum will have on display in the downtown library lobby "Once Upon a Gift: Christmas Gifts of Years Past." In our museum's extensive collections are a number of items that were given as Christmas gifts. So what constituted a Christmas in 1880? 1900? 1930? Check out our cases at the library and see how our modern notions of Christmas gifts compare to the perfect gift in years past.

WHONNOCK & RUSKIN: LOOKING BACK

This book by Fred Braches is a compilation of his "Looking Back" columns published in the *Maple Ridge News* starting in 1999.



Although, as the title suggests, the columns deal mostly with the history of the eastern part of Maple Ridge Fred also included his discoveries of the history of other parts of Maple Ridge.

Check it out in Black Bond Books, now at Haney Place Mall.



1939 student strikers outside old Maple Ridge elementary on their march for a "desent (!) school."

STUDENT AND YOUTH PROTESTS: NOTHING NEW

In recent months there have been a wave of youth and student protests demanding governments act on the climate change crisis. Despite the entire population participating in these climate strikes, they are organized and run by youth, mostly students. In just the past few weeks in the Vancouver area there have been two school strike days for students to participate in protests. With the size and scope of these protests it seems irresistible for news outlets to refer to these protests as "unprecedented" but we know better.

In some ways they are right, the scope of these protests is huge, but generation Z is far from the first generation to demand change by taking to the streets. Locally, we have examples of student protests from every generation of the 20th century.

The earliest and best example of student strikes from Maple Ridge past is the student strikes in 1939. MacLean High School was built in 1922 and was the first building meant to house specifically high school age students. The school however

soon overflowed into the neighboring old Haney School which was falling apart. The district attempted to raise funds for a new and larger high school but taxpayers turned down the referendum in 1937.

By 1939 high school students were trying to learn in buildings falling apart, rats scurrying about, and grass growing up between the floorboards, they had had enough. They took to the streets with homemade placards demanding a new school be built. In the proper 1930s this was an activity that was just not done. The march ended up making headlines in Maple Ridge, Vancouver and even made papers as far as the east coast. As a result, by 1941 Maple Ridge Secondary was built.

Student strikes and protests would pop up here and there for the rest of the 20th century. For the baby boomers there were any number of protests throughout the 1960s and 1970s calling for social and governmental reform.

Continued --->



Students with placards marching past Maple Ridge Square on Dewdney Trunk Road.

Generation X took to the streets several times in our city's history. In 1985 the students of the local high schools protested the ongoing teachers strike. They demanded that the union negotiate so that they could go back to school, they had been out for 35 days by then. Just a few years later in 1991 there was a student strike protesting Canada's increased involvement in the Gulf War.

The Millennials, while heavily participating in the ongoing climate strikes, held their own protests and walkout at Garibaldi Secondary over changes to student timetables.

Regardless of the circumstances or reason, the student protest has been a staple of each generation in our city's, and country's history.

The students striking and demanding action over climate change today add their names to a long and distinguished history of community members seeking a better future for everyone.

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: ras1@uniserve.com

This issue of the newsletter with contributions from Val Patenaude and Shea Henry was prepared by Fred Braches.