

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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MARCH IS WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

Today Mar 10: Al Stjernegaard - Update on the project in Belize

Next Week Mar 17:

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
March 11: Patrick O'Brien	

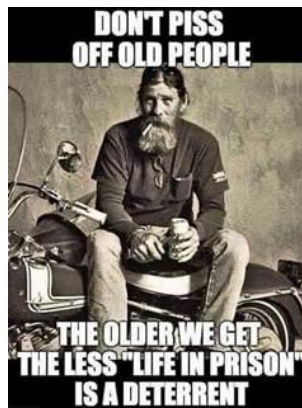
CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mar. 28	6:00 pm	30 th Anniversary Celebration of our Club's Charter	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Apr. 25	7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
Apr. 30-May 3		District Conference in Harrison Hot Springs	Harrison Resort
June 6-10		RI International Convention in Honolulu	Hawaii Convention Center

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Clint Callison presided.

Presidents quote for the day:



Guests:

Gordon & Mary Robson
Ron Langley
Debbie Bradbury
Shea Henry

Cheque presentations:



Community Services chair **Mike Davies** presented a check in the amount of **\$500** to the **Maple Ridge Historical Society**. Accepting the check on behalf of the Society was **Shea Henry**, who stated that the check will go to support Music on the Wharf.

2020 Concert dates are July 13, July 27, August 10 and August 24.

Over-looking the beautiful Fraser River, the "Music on the Wharf" concert series has something for everyone in the family. It started with a local band offering to play a one-time concert and has become one of the Maple Ridge Historical Society's most

popular annual events. Since 1997, this free (by donation) concert series has taken place on the [Port Haney Wharf](#) [located on River Road, just east of the Port Haney West Coast Express station].

The concert series features local and regional bands. The performers cover a variety of musical styles including Jazz, Blues, Bluegrass, Brass Band, Rock and Western. This is a great way to get to know the rich music scene in Maple Ridge. There is no seating provided at this event so bring a lawn chair. The best seating area fills up fast so it is best to be there early. Parking is limited so plan ahead and carpool if you can. There are refreshments available. We are grateful to our many sponsors who help make this a success every year. Come and join us for our summer music series to celebrate historic Port Haney. In case of rain, the concert will be cancelled, this decision will be made by noon the day of the concert. Signs will be posted at the venue, and you can contact 604-463-5311 for more details.



Debbie Bradbury accepted a check in the amount of **\$300** on behalf of the **Family Fest** ["three days of family fun!"] which will be held at the Home Show to be held on May 1, 2 and 3, 2020.

Happy and Sad:

Patrick Dobbyn had his car broken into and an item was stolen. (The thief must not have been too bright, because he left the bottle of hand sanitizer, which on the Internet these days of panic buying is being advertised for as much as \$40.)

Ineke Boekhorst said that those members, who did not attend the Coquitlam Sunrise Rotary Club's Quiz Night fundraiser on February 27, missed a fun evening, and encourages others to attend when it is held next year. Those attending with Ineke were **Peter, Laurie and Lorna Anderson, and Brenda Jenkins**.

Patrick Dobbyn related a "true" story that was related to him by his father, who sold farm equipment for a living. While on his rounds, his father saw something run very quickly into the farmer's property, and went in to investigate. The farmer explained that he and his wife had one child and they all liked to eat drumsticks, so the farmer bred a three-legged chicken in order that there would be three drumsticks to go around without buying a second chicken. When Patrick's father asked him how a three-legged chicken tasted, the farmer answered, "I don't know, I've never caught one".

[This story might not pass the four-way test, but was tailor-made for the three-way test – the chicken would agree that three legs would be "beneficial for all concerned"!]



Program: in the absence of a speaker, Mary Robson stepped in to tell us about the latest news about the Food Bank.



The Friends in Need Food Bank offers support to local residents, schools and charity organizations who require food supplies to support them or their food programs. Providing food for school programs helps to ensure that no child goes hungry.



The Food Bank has established a food recovery program with four stores in the area. It now has a new facility that enables it to receive and store, in refrigerated areas, what would otherwise be perishable foods. The food bank processes approximate 750,000 pounds of food per annum. Some of this food goes to other food banks and 28 other agencies other than food banks, including schools. This means that 750,000 pounds of food are diverted from landfills.

Every school in the district receives food for their programs. This food is delivered to the schools in a special van which is now owned by the Food Bank. 1100 Elementary school students in 1100 secondary school students benefit from the school lunch program. School lunches are open to all students who wish to partake of them. Being open to all students, this "helps build community" among the students, and none are embarrassed or stigmatized by having to admit that they do not have anything to eat.

Other information: "**A Friend In Need is A Friend Indeed**"

- The following article appeared recently in the News [updated with the addition of Save-on Foods]:

Maple Ridge's Friends in Need Food Bank will be seeing a major influx of fresh food through the expansion of its perishable food recovery program.

The program, established in 2017, sees major food stores provide fresh groceries, everything from meat, dairy and produce, to the food bank in downtown Maple Ridge where it's then distributed in monthly hampers that go out to about 700 households.

Four stores, Save-On-Foods, Meridian Farm Market, Thrifty Foods and Shoppers Drug Mart provide the fresh perishable food.

Adding the four Save-On-Foods stores in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows will see the number of large boxes or totes that are now collected every day full of fresh food, increase from 15 to more than 115. A new refrigerated truck will help in the distribution system.

Food bank executive-director Mary Robson said that Food Banks BC set out a system in 2017 that details how to set up a system where grocery stores put their surplus food into tote boxes where it's collected daily and then distributed through the food bank.

"We started the program back in 2017 ... and it has been working very well but to expand and do more, bring on more of the grocery stores, [we needed] another facility," Robson said.

She said that national grocers have been working with Food Banks Canada to set out a system to ensure that stores have no liability for any donated food.

Friends in Need Food Bank also supplies agencies such as Meals on Wheels, the Salvation Army Ridge Meadows Ministries and Ridge Meadows Seniors Society and also sends groceries to the temporary modular homes on Royal Crescent where there's only one hot meal served a day.

"We're actually becoming a bit of a hub in the Fraser north area with the food banks. We're becoming more of a distribution hub," Robson said.

"This is really the way of the future," Robson said.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson