

Falaise Focus



Special points of interest:

- A Day to Remember!
- Naden Band Plays
- Refreshments
- Guest Speakers
- Unveiling of Interpretive Signs

Celebrate with us!

Saturday August 16, 2014

2pm—4pm

Falaise Park



On the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Falaise Gap we honour the courage of our service men and of the Veterans who came home.

Join us on August 16, 2014 for the unveiling of our new signs!

In the last news letter we told you about the Battle of Falaise Gap and the interpretive sign that was going to be raised in honour of our community name. Many exciting things have

happened since then. Our original plan was to have the Battle sign unveiled this year in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the battle and next year a sign

for the Veterans who first developed our community. Saanich has agreed to have both signs placed this year and they will be unveiled on **August 16, 2014**

A Veterans' Community

As part of the Veteran's Land Act that was passed on July 20, 1942 the Canadian Government offered land to veterans so they could re-establish themselves when returning from the War. A loan was given with a conditional grant based on a 10 year residence in the home. The lots were awarded based on a point system for war services and other criteria.



The Ehmke Residence (1959)

Resident Lenore Ehmke was awarded 100 acres of land after being awarded the 100th Central Postal Directory in 1945. She moved to the area in 1946 and built this house in 1959. The house is now owned by her daughter, Lenore Ehmke, and is still standing.

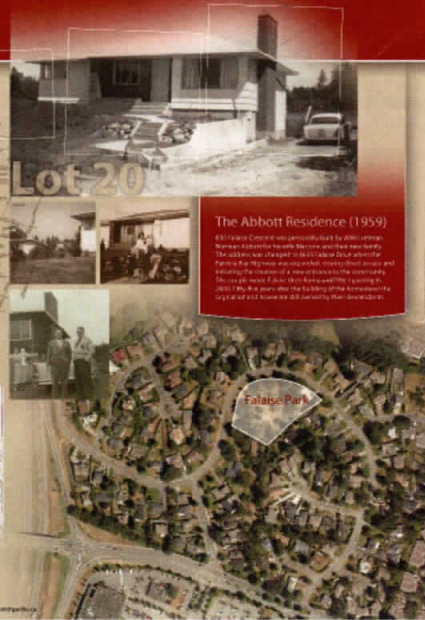


The Abbott Residence (1959)

The Abbott Residence was built by a veteran who served in the Canadian Army. The house is now owned by the same family and is still standing.

Seven Lots Still Open To Veterans

Seamich



First Draft Community Sign

Join us August 16, 2014

**A day to
remember
and celebrate
our great
little
community**

August 16, 2014 will be remembered as the day that the Falaise Community celebrated its roots.

On this day we will be honoured to have the Naden Band join us to help in the celebration.

With a donation from Thrifty Foods, Broadmead we will be serving hot dogs and drinks!

Although all the speakers have not been confirmed we are hoping for an interest-

ing line up. Above all else we plan to have a great time.

So mark the event

**2-4pm Saturday.
August 16, 2014**

Those who went before

The community sign is only so big and we want to remember all the veterans who helped form this community. With that in mind we are trying to put together brief bios of each of the families who helped build this community. If you are

a member of one of the original families please get in touch as soon as possible and help us honour them. When Falaise was built many of the families built their homes themselves. We have heard stories of those

early days and this should not be forgotten. So again if you are a member of one of the founding families or have information to share please call or email us.

The Battle of the Falaise Gap

The Falaise Pocket

The Falaise Pocket, was a battle fought during the Second World War from 12-21 August 1944 and was the decisive engagement of Battle of Normandy. A pocket was formed around Falaise, Calvados in which Army Group B, with the German 7th Army and the Fifth Panzer Army (formerly Panzergruppe West) were encircled by the Western Allies.

The battle is known as the Battle of the Falaise Gap, after the center where the Falaise Gap is a narrow strip of land. The battle was fought to the west of Falaise, where the Falaise Gap is a narrow strip of land. The battle was fought to the west of Falaise, where the Falaise Gap is a narrow strip of land.

1944

1945

First Draft Battle Sign

Did you know!

- ⇒ Falaise, Normandie was the birthplace of William the Conqueror
- ⇒ It is 60 Miles from Juno Beach where Canadian troops landed on D-Day
- ⇒ Two-thirds of the town was destroyed in the war.
- ⇒ The battle marked the end of Operation Overlord and 2 days later Allies arrived in Paris
- ⇒ In Canada the Veterans' Land Act was passed in July, 1942
- ⇒ Land was offered to veterans so they could re-establish themselves.
- ⇒ Loans, plus conditional grants were based on 10 years in the home.
- ⇒ Lots awarded based on a point system, war service, financial status and length of time here.

Falaise Community
Association

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Be a member!

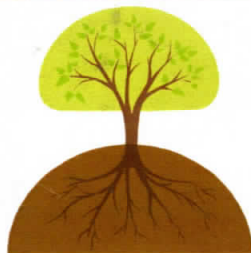
Executive 2014-15
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Although the smallest Community in Saanich, Falaise has the second oldest community association, founded in 1959; showing a long history of community caring. Many people have worked hard over the years to make this a happier, healthier community. Join your community association it is only \$10 per household, that's the cost of two coffees a year, not a bad deal if you think about it!



Last thoughts from the Falaise President

I have had the privilege over the last few years of being involved with the community association and can honestly tell you that it is a great feeling knowing your neighbours and having the sense of security to know there are people who are willing to help in times of trouble. Over the years busy lives and new laws and regulations have ended many of the community functions that used to happen in this community. It is time to get that back and working together we can raise Falaise up so everyone would like to live in our area. If you have ideas of what you would

like to see happen in the community please call and I would be glad to present the ideas to this years executive. Help make things happen! We live here this is our home. Lets make it the best that Saanich has to offer.

Thank You

Colin Boog & Mark Cammiade For their work on the FCA Executive.

Dave Obee who presented at the AGM has been a great aid in helping supply facts and information about the history of this community and the Battle of Falaise Gap. So thank

you Dave for being a great community member. Most of the pictures have been "borrowed" by me to help in the production of this newsletter. Any errors or omissions are mine.

A big thank you **Thrifty's** Broadmead who continue to support our efforts.

Royal Oak Burial Park for joining and donating to the FCA.

Sequoia Gardens for their generosity every year, giving us a home for our AGM.

Last but not least a big thank you to **Saanich** and particularly the **Parks Dept.** for our Wonderful Signs.