



SWISS HERALD

July/August 2026 Edition
 Swiss Society of Vancouver
 P.O.Box 32021
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 Langley, BC V1M 2M3

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Diego Renggli

HEALTH-THREAT

A serious Virus is going around all people with Swiss Roots:
 the **SWIWOCU-Virus**. (Swiss World Cup)

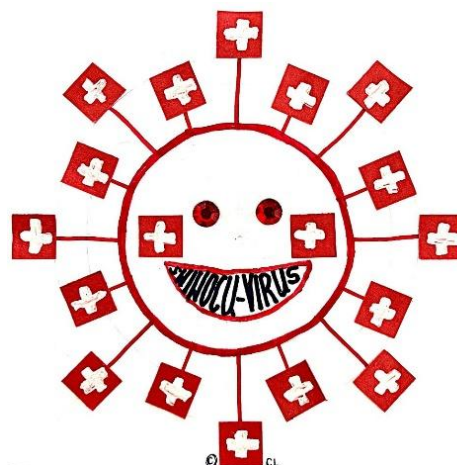
It's very contagious and can hit one out of the blue.

Symptoms:

- Urge to wear red with a white cross
- Get super-excited and face reds up
- Sweating and Swearing
- Cheering, jumping and screaming
- Spending lots of money

Cure:

- Stay cool and drink lots of water or beer
- Have always Ricola with you for your voice
- Cool down with a swim or in a tub with ice



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi everyone,

I hope you have all been enjoying our sunny spring weather and are ready for an equally beautiful summer. Hopefully it will not get as hot as it has been in Europe!

EUROFEST: Thank you to all the volunteers who came out and looked after our booth at the Eurofest on May 30th.

Thank you to the Dorfmusik and

to all the countries who

participated with their flags in the parade.

CHOIR CONCERT: Thank you to the Choir for putting on the "Say it with a Song" concert on June 6, 2026 at the All Saints Anglican Church in Burnaby. We were also treated to a guest performance by The Vancouver Gaelic Choir and solo performances by Choir Baritone, Kevin

Kirkland and Laura Iwan on trumpet. The reception and goodies in the church basement after the



lovely concert were enjoyed by all as one caught up with old friends and made new ones.

THE BELONGING: Thank you to the Consulate General of Vancouver for providing us with the opportunity to see the first episode of "The Belonging", a 4-part documentary covering the dilemma Swiss Soccer Players face when the time comes to decide whether they should play



for their adopted country, Switzerland ... or the country of their family's homeland ... when it comes to World Cup Soccer. Other than this first episode, the viewing of which was made possible by the Consulate of Switzerland, the series is currently available only in Switzerland and some other European countries. Hopefully in the future we can view all four episodes here in Canada.

FIFA: Great excitement has come to Vancouver with the World Cup Soccer games being played at BC Place. As one takes a stroll down Granville Street on game days, one is inundated with boisterous chanting, good cheer, national pride and a meeting of many countries in a mutually respectful way. It is so wonderful to see these positive vibes on the streets of Vancouver.





One of the most exciting games for us Swiss/Canadians was the Canada-Switzerland game held on June 24th at BC Place.

Many lucky local Swiss were able to obtain tickets to this once in a lifetime opportunity and joined in the long “sea of red” as they walked to the stadium, watched the Swiss and Canadian Flags rolled out, and were treated to a



Albert and Phillip Rechsteiner



a well-played game in which the Swiss won 2-1 against the Canadians.

Irene Sturzenegger and Lou

Congratulations Switzerland! Also, congratulations to Canada, who have made it to the round of 16 after winning against South Africa. On July 2nd, Switzerland goes up against Algeria, and “Hopp Schwiiz” – let’s make it to the round of 16 as well!

Some of us who were not lucky enough to get tickets to BC Place were able to watch the game from the Queens Park Arena, after being entertained by the Vancouver Swiss Choir, Yodelling Duet Andrea Fluckiger and Dorli Meier, and Alphorn players, Laura Iwan and Alice Palmer.

SWISS NATIONAL DAY: We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the Swiss National Day celebration, once again held at the Chalet of the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association in Coquitlam. This year the event actually falls on August 1st, and we expect quite a crowd to show up. Please see details in separate ad in this issue of the Herald.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED: As always, many volunteers are required to put on a big event like the Swiss National Day. During the event, shifts are for two hours, in various capacities such as parking assistance, ticket sales, grill, pastry and clean-up. Please call me at (604) 375-9802 if you would like to volunteer, or send me an email at elisabethrechsteiner54@gmail.com.

There is also a **work party** to prepare the Chalet for the event on **Saturday, July 18th**, starting at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers are also required to assist in the set-up. Please let me know if you can volunteer on the 18th – it would be very much appreciated. Lunch will be served by the SCMRA to all volunteers.

NORTH SHORE LUNCHEON: We have arranged a luncheon to be held on September 15, 2026 at noon at the Lobby Restaurant at Pinnacle Hotel in North Vancouver. See details in a separate ad in this issue of the Herald. These luncheons will be held in different areas of Greater Vancouver each time, so that you don’t have to travel too far if you want to attend. However, you are welcome to attend every luncheon, even if it is not in your neck of the woods! We look forward to seeing you there.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our future events, and to having you volunteer at the Swiss National Day Celebration on August 1st, 2026 if at all possible! 😊

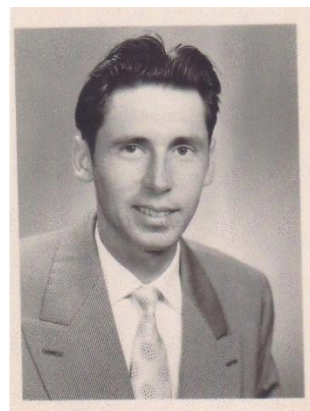
Elisabeth Rechsteiner at (604) 375-9802
elisabethrechsteiner54@gmail.com

IN MEMORY OF MAUTE, Arthur (Thury) 1932 - 2026



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our father, Arthur Maute, on Tuesday, April 14, shortly before 8 pm at VGH after a brief illness. We take some comfort knowing that he was not in any pain, and that we could be there holding his hand as he took his last breaths.

He was a dearly loved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, and an amazing husband to our dear Mom.



Born the third youngest of 11 children in a small farming community near Oberwangen Thurgau, he left for greener pastures in 1958 to join his older brother, Werner, who had already settled in Vancouver. In 1963, he met the lovely Berta Camenzind-Rey (who had been widowed) and her three children (Silvia, Bruno, Beatrice) at a Swiss dance. Arthur and Berta married in 1964, and Maya came along in 1966. Thury, as he was known to his close friends and family, enjoyed many adventures in the mountains in both Switzerland and Canada. He was experienced climbing all of the local Coastal mountains, and often did a quick hike after work up the Grouse Grind long before it became a well-known spot. A further highlight was his mountaineering to the top of Mount Shasta in California.



Thury Maute, Werner Maute, Benny Bürgler, Christoph Merkli



Thury was by trade a large machine mechanic and acquired the largest arsenal of tools and machines in his basement on Columbia Street. He could fix most anything, but if there was anything he couldn't build or fix himself, his brother Werner, brother-in-law Peter Bürgi or son-in-law Dominic Fassler could. Spending time with our large extended family and close friends was always his priority.

1998-Swiss-Seniors-Christmas includes: *Bertha & Arthur Maute, Maria & Fritz Hodel, Elisabeth & Nick Guebeli, and Ernie Weingand in the right back, Silvia Fassler to left of Mom & Dad (Berty & Thury)*

After his retirement, Arthur and Berta enjoyed many happy years together until Berta's passing in 2017.

Arthur's last two years were spent at a retirement residence in Vancouver, close to his daughter Maya, where he enjoyed being spoiled by the wonderful staff there.

Our family is grateful to have had this special man in our lives. He was an adventurer, someone who charted his own path, and a man who put his family above all else.



Arthur Maute with his children:
Beatrice Ruggles, Silver Fassler, Thury Maute, Maya Maute, Bruno Camenzind



DIEGO RENGGLI EXHIBITION

Sunday, May 24th the SSV Board-Members were invited to Diego Renggli's Art Exhibition at the House of the Consul General Thomas Schneider.

Diego is the husband of our Consul Silvana Renggli-Frei and he is a Steinbildhauer from Switzerland. He uses all kind of materials for his



various art projects like wood, crayons, wax, plaster etc.

Contact address:

Instagram:

Diego.renggli.kunst

Most of the photos are from Monika Korbut photography.

Diego with his two daughters and wife Silvana Renggli-Frei





After looking at all the fascinating art we had a relaxing talk with fresh croissants.



EUROPEAN FESTIVAL

The European Festival 2026 took place Saturday, May 30, 2026 at the Slovenian Hall in Burnaby. There were cultural performances, live music, European vendors, authentic European Food, a beer garden, children's activities and the European flag parade. The Swiss Society Vancouver also had a table there and represented Switzerland very well.



Some of the Volunteers



Talerschwinge is not easy.



The Dorfmusik played outside



and inside.

Theresa Welzin and Consul Silvana Renggli-Frei represented Switzerland at the Flag-Parade.



And outside more people tried their luck with Talerschwinge.

CHOIR NEWS

Written by the Choir President Theresa Welzin

From Eurofest to our Spring Concert to FIFA World Cup

Our past president, Peter Schälle was very keen to have Switzerland well represented at the annual Eurofest held at the Slovenia Hall in Burnaby. Several members of the choir along with other members of the society volunteered to host the "Swiss Table". Theresa Weltzin along with our Consul, Silvana Renggli partnered together to carry the Swiss Flag during the parade of flags ceremony. It was a beautiful sunny day and our unique TalerSchwingen (thank you to Elisabeth Rechsteiner's brother Roy for sharing his Taler) event plus lots of Lindt chocolates attracted many to our booth. The Vancouver Dorfmusik played early in the festivities representing Switzerland and also accompanied everyone for the singing of the Canadian National Anthem.

The Vancouver Swiss Choir's Spring concert was on June 6 - one week after the Eurofest event! We were so happy to finally perform for our guests, which is a large contingent of Swiss people plus our guest performers, the Gaelic Choir. We had Laura Iwan from the Vancouver Dorfmusik play her trumpet accompanying the choir for two songs "La Montanara" and "Signore Delle Cime". Her trumpet play was so melodic and resonated beautifully in the church. Kevin Kirkland, baritone, sang a couple of solos accompanied on piano by



Dubravko Pajalic. We are all delighted by his fine strong voice. Kevin joined us because of Rolf Brulhart's invitation several years ago. We served light refreshments and coffee downstairs of the All Saints Anglican Church and had a chance to catch up with many of our colleagues and friends. FIFA TV came to town and filmed our concert and interviewed several of the choir members. They told us they will be selling the film to Swiss (and any other) broadcasters promoting Swiss culture here in Canada during the World Cup! Lastly we thank Astrid, Vanessa and Scarlett for assisting us behind the scenes!



This past spring, we welcomed two new members to our choir, Sue and Jang Choi, who had to learn several new words in German, Swiss German, Italian and Romansch plus yodelling! We continue to welcome new members who love singing.

Back in February, the city of New Westminster contacted our choir to invite us to sing at the **New Westminster "Fired Up for Football" Fan Festival event on Wednesday, June 24th at the Queens Park Arena for the game Switzerland vs Canada.**

We agreed then and at the actual event we sang a composite of our concert songs: Vive la Musica, Bergvagabunden, Lueget, vo Bergen und Tal, Uf de Bärge, Là Haut sur la Montagne, Vive l'amour and our favourite Bärghilbijutz. We shared the cultural stage with Laura Iwan and Alice Palmer playing Alphorn duets. As well, past choir members Andrea Flukiger and Dorli Meier joined us and also sang a couple of yodelling songs.
Theresa Weltzin

FAN-WATCH PARTY FOR THE FIFA WORLD CUP



Switzerland – Canada

June 24th, 2026 from 11:30am

Venue at the Queens Park Arena in New Westminster



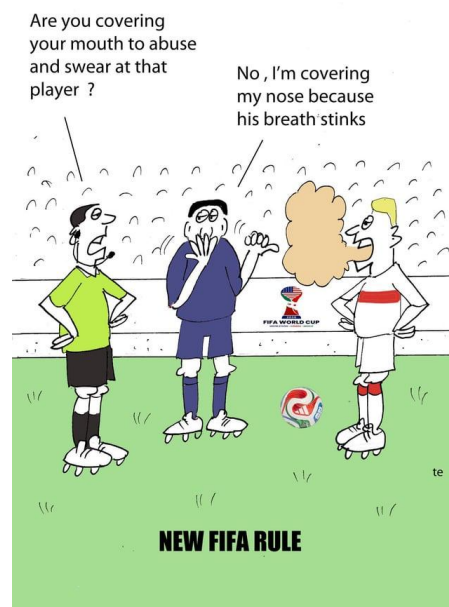
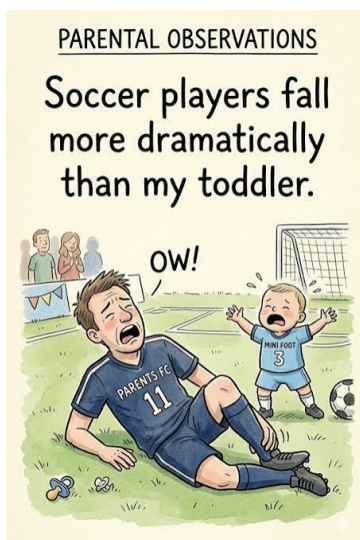
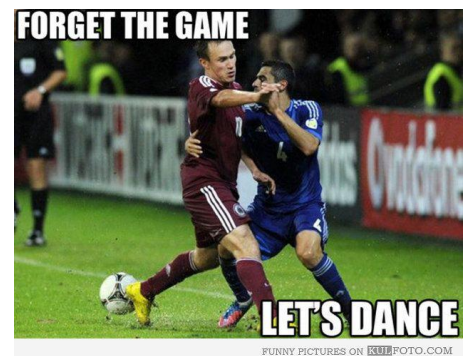
Waiting for the big performance



Well done, Swiss Choir!



While some Swiss Fans watched the Swiss Soccer Team live at BC Stadium, others met in the Steamworks downtown and enjoyed themselves too!



SCANDINAVIAN MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 20, 2026

Once again the Vancouver Dorfmusik played at this festival.

Robert Toren, our longtime Trombone player is the musical director of this festival and organizes Groups performing throughout the two days.



The Galiano Trio opened the day with our Dorfmusik player David Boddington. He plays an EWI Instrument. "EWI" (pronounced "Eee-wee"), which stands for "Electronic Wind Instrument."

It can imitate not just wind instruments, but also string instruments as well as percussion.

The trio plays everything from classical music and folk music to modern jazz and pop music.



It's always a fun event with tables from all the Scandinavian Countries and their typical food.

There is even a competition for couples: Which husband can carry his wife the fastest around the May-Pole.



SENIORS' CORNER

FIRST SWISS MONTHLY LUNCH FOR SENIORS

Tuesday, September 15, 2026, 12 noon

THE LOBBY RESTAURANT

Address: 138 Victory Ship Way
(bottom of Lonsdale Ave.)
North Vancouver, BC V7L 0B1

WEB SITE FOR
RESTAURANT: lobbyrestaurant.ca
Phone # : 604-265-7410



We invite All Swiss Seniors of the Swiss Society, bring your spouse or bring a friend - we plan to have a few hours of fun and good food with socializing!!
Each member of the SSV will get \$10 paid towards his/her costs from the SSV.

HOW TO GET THERE:

BY CAR: no problem, there is parking in the Hotel, you have to buy a ticket at the machine in the lobby of the Hotel, keep the ticket, when you pay your bill part of the fee will be deducted!

BY BUS OR SEABUS:

Take any bus that takes you to the Seabus Terminal at Lonsdale Quai and you walk to Lonsdale to the Pinnacle Hotel right there on the bottom, just north of Tap & Barrel Pub.

WE HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON AND LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU ALL TO OUR **FIRST** SENIORS LUNCH!

Any Questions: please write to: irenesturz22@gmail.com. or call **778-279-0414**

Looking forward to seeing you there!!

Irene Sturzenegger



SWISS NATIONAL DAY AUGUST 1ST, 2026



Hosted by the SCMRA in cooperation with the Swiss Society of Vancouver,

Venue: Chalet of the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association

4141 Quarry Road, Coquitlam, B.C.

2 km on the gravel road and then a left turn into our paved driveway



ENTRANCE FEE: \$10.00 (16 and under are FREE)

1:00 PM	Gates Open
4:00 PM	Bar and Grill Open
4:00-7:30 PM	Helicopter Rides
5:30-7:00 PM	Entertainment by Silverstar
7:00-8:00 PM	Dorfmusik and Vancouver Swiss Choir
8:00-8:30 PM	National Anthems and Official Ceremony
8:30-10:00 PM	Entertainment by Silverstar
9:30 PM	Lampion Parade
11:00 PM	Event Bar Closed

*****No open flames/ No Candles***

**** FREE OVERNIGHT CAMPING/RV PARKING****
(reduced tenting area from previous years)

NOTE: Due to our liquor license: *all alcohol on the property needs to be purchased from our bar*

*****CASH and Debit/Credit now accepted*****

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

...to assist at the Swiss National Day Celebration on August 1st, 2026!



This can be a nice social affair and a chance to meet new people

Please sign up as a volunteer for the Swiss National Day Celebration!

We need you... and we would love to have you join our list of volunteers for this

year's event!

There are all kinds of opportunities to volunteer at this wonderful yearly event, and it is a great way to meet people who you may not otherwise meet during the course of the celebration.

A shift is two hours long and can be carried out in various capacities throughout the event such as: the entrance gate; assisting with parking; selling of food-and beverage tickets; grilling sausages and preparing plates; handing out coffee and pastries; children's games and the lampion parade.

Thank you in advance for doing whatever you can to get volunteers to come forward for the 1st of August.

Persons on the official Volunteer List do not pay the entrance fee! 😊

Please call **Elisabeth Rechsteiner** at **604-375-9802** (leave a message if phone is not answered) or send an e-mail to elisabethrechsteiner54@gmail.com

Please indicate your preference of work area and the time you can volunteer and we will do our best to accommodate you! Shifts start at 1:00 PM at the Gate and Parking and at 3:30 PM for the other stations. ***We look forward to hearing from you!***

Great opportunity to see the area from above!



Please register on their website:

<https://skyhelicopters.ca/swiss-national-day/>

Great opportunity to see the area from above!

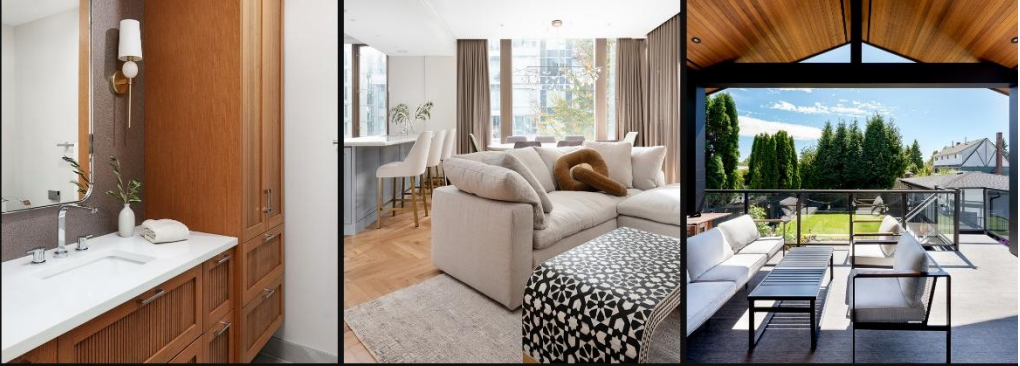
Please register on their website:

<https://skyhelicopters.ca/swiss-national-day/>



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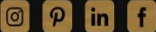
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FEES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE SWISS HERALD

Fees for design:

To make minor adjustments: **Free**
 To make major changes to an ad: \$ 25
 To create a new ad: \$ 50 – 100

Deadlines for sending in ads or articles:

20th of August, October, December,
 February, April and June.

Fees for advertisement:

Ad Size	One Issue	Six Issues
One full page	\$ 150	\$ 825
½ Page	\$ 90	\$ 495
1/3 Page	\$ 60	\$ 330
¼ Page	\$ 40	\$ 220
Business Card (5 Line	\$ 20	\$ 110



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RESULTS THAT MOVE YOU

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

Date	What kind of event	Where
Saturday, Aug. 1	Swiss National Celebration	Mountain Range
Tuesday, Sept. 15	Seniors' Lunch	The Lobby Restaurant, N-Vancouver
Oct.	Filmnachmittag	
Nov.	Choir Concert	
Nov.	Filmnachmittag	
Dec.	Christmas Luncheon	
Dec.	Waldweihnacht	

From the Book: **Tell me a Swiss Joke!** Humor from Switzerland. Believe it or not, it exists!

Collected and edited by Rene Hildbrand, translated by Birgit Rommel

Two little boys were at a wedding when one leaned over to the other and asked, "How many wives can a man have?" His friend answered, "Sixteen... four better, four worse, four richer and four poorer." This joke is not from that book

A reporter asked a football trainer:
"How can your team manage to win every match?"
"I don't understand it, either. What's more, before every game I bet the referee five thousand francs that we'll lose."

A Swiss politician: "I started with nothing. All I had was my brains."

In a restaurant:
"Waiter, this soup tastes funny."
"Then why aren't you laughing?"

Fourteen goals were scored against a Swiss football club in three games. The club president made the goalkeeper the following offer:
"We'll sign a contract for sfr 100.000 a month-if you move to another club!"

IN A SWISS SCHOOL, THE TEACHER ASKED ONE OF THE PUPILS:
"WHO WAS THE FIRST MAN?"
"WILLIAM TELL."
"NO, REALLY, ADAM WAS THE FIRST MAN."
"WELL, IF YOU'RE GOING TO INCLUDE FOREIGNERS..."

A neighbour: "You had a real family row yesterday evening, didn't you?"
"Nonsense, my husband was simply arguing with the referee during a football match on TV."

"YOU NEVER THINK ABOUT ANYTHING BUT FOOTBALL:"
SILVIA COMPLAINED. "I BET YOU CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER WHEN WE GOT MARRIED."
"OF COURSE I REMEMBER, IT WAS ON THE DAY SWITZERLAND DREW AGAINST GERMANY."

"How would you like your tea, with or without rum?"
"Normally I drink it with rum, but without tea."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Title	Name	Email address	Number
President	Elisabeth Rechsteiner	president@swiss-society.org	
Vice President	Peter Schaele	vicepresident@swiss-society.org	604-435-6159
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Fifa-TV at the choir concert and at the Steam works Pub downtown.

Photos Theresa Weltzin

