

HIGHLANDS • BELLEVUE HIGHLIGHTS



SEPTEMBER 2013

ISSUE 10



Photo BARB MARTOWSKI

The sun shone brightly on the annual Highlands Pancake Breakfast on July 20, and folks were all smiles as they lined up to get some of the perfectly flipped Jacks from Past President Susan Petrina-Prettie. Big thanks go out to Mandolin Books for its tasty coffee, Remax, Northlands and all the volunteers – and you, for making it such a successful day.

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Parents reject budget cuts and take over a valued program
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Now that the city made its decision, it's time to put on the window dressing
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Virginia Park Seniors Complex appealed long before it was needed
See Page 20

A great event where artists and artisans shine
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These champs are strutting their stuff and you can join them
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People fought hard and died for this – are we too apathetic to appreciate it?
See The Final Word on pg 39

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HIGHLIGHTS HA HA
"My mother never gave up on me. I messed up a lot in school so much, they were sending me home, but my mother would send me right back."
— Denzel Washington.
American actor, film director and film producer



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Our editor, Barb Martowski, ran out of words for this issue, so she decided to share some of the many photos she shot this summer of a very busy community – an abundant community that's very engaged.

Lobsterfest at Concordia University



Howdy neighbour -> Lawnmowers on a sunny day.



Firefighters come to the rescue of a neighbour.



Bike parade - Streetfest

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A busy summer here in Highlands

By **SUSAN RUTTAN**

This is a busy neighbourhood in the summer, so the past few months have been amazing. Here are some things that have crossed my plate as your new Highlands president:

Final work on our Highlands Park improvements. Watching the kids frolic in the new spray deck repaid our efforts on this big project. Past-president Susan Prettie led the team on this.

New event

Summerfest on Ada, our new summer festival, was a wondrous success. The day-long event in Martel Park on Ada Boulevard was mellow, friendly, with people relaxing under the shade trees as they munched on kebabs and listened to five local bands. Many thanks to board members Dan Reitveld and Geoff Lilge for organizing this great event –

and to Northlands for the grant.

The closure of the front counter of the Beverly office of Edmonton Police Service raised some concerns, but police have assured us that service to our neighbourhood will not be affected.

Our annual pancake breakfast on July 20. Board member Barb Martowski took the lead on this one, with her usual skill.

Our under-12 boys' soccer team won the city championship this year. It's a tribute to Highlands soccer director Rhys Bailey, who has organized a huge soccer program, and to the coaches and the kids.

Conversations

Across Highlands this summer, conversations have been going on around the Abundant Community project, headed by former board member Howard Lawrence.

I interviewed people on my block and found it an amazing experience.

It's embarrassing how little I knew the people who live all around me.

More good stuff is coming, for sure, but it takes work. My hope is that people will offer to help as their time and talents permit. If you're willing to be on a volunteer list, please contact our volunteer director Brett Farquharson at **volunteer@highlandscommunity.ca**

That way, when we're looking for a pancake flipper or a membership table staffer or a nail hammerer, we can send a shout-out to people on our list.

You may have noticed that I've started posting short community updates on the *HIGHLIGHTS* facebook page; the page is a great vehicle for



Susan Ruttan

keeping in touch and I hope, if you haven't already, that you friend the page.

The next community event will be the annual city-wide Community League Day, Saturday, Sept. 21 – see you there.

You can reach me at **president@highlandscommunity.ca**



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Great rewards for being a Bellevue member

By **JANICE FLEMING WEEKS**

Summer has been busy this year with events happening in Bellevue community. On July 1st, we hosted a table at Canada Day in Borden Park to join the celebrations.

We gave out watermelon and apples along with information on our programs and upcoming events. There was a fantastic turnout that day of families.

On July 10, DECSA hosted its annual pancake breakfast for the community at their school location – 71 Street and 115 Avenue. They always serve an excellent breakfast of pancakes with strawberries, whipped cream, eggs and sausage.

Happy to help

Beth Roehler, DECSA's community liaison needed the support of Bellevue to access a grant for this event. We were more than happy to support DECSA in this endeavour.

Bellevue took part in the Front Yards in Bloom nominations this year. LeeAnn Wright and I nominated 17 front yards in Bellevue. It was great to see so many residents participating with such a variety of styles!

The Bellevue Daycamp ran August 6 to 9 for 3-6 year olds. Rumble in the Jungle was a daycamp put on by the City of Edmonton. It was filled

once again to capacity for the second year!

We had our sign up on August 28 for Ballroom Dancing, pottery classes or the Bellevue Children's Program. Registration went very well, but there's always room for more.

Community League Day – Sept 7

We are having our annual Community League Day on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Bellevue Hall.

This year, we are combining a trade show (businesses, schools, groups hosting information tables) with a car show and shine with several car clubs.

We are also having a petting zoo for the kids, selling memberships and Rick McAdie will be cooking the delicious hamburgers that he is so good at!

We will have lots of door prizes, so make sure you fill out an entry form. New this year will be a display of some of our past presidents from Bellevue Community.

This is part of the Heritage Local project for which we received a grant from the City of Edmonton Heritage Council.

Our artist, Robbin Martin, has made portraits of the previous historical board members of Bellevue community. A biography of each will accompany the picture.

Movie Night

On Friday, Sept. 20, Bellevue will be having an outdoor family movie night in our parking lot in partnership with Edmonton Northlands.

We ask that you bring a lawn chair and come early. We will be selling hotdogs, popcorn, refreshments and will have some door prizes. The movie will start at 7:30 p.m.

Community Swim & Membership Benefits

Make sure you use our unique salt water pool at Eastglen Pool with your community league membership.

The free swim takes place Sundays from noon to 2 p.m.

Memberships can be purchased from Grace Kelly, our membership director or any member of our board.



Janice Fleming Weeks

Cost is \$25 for a family, \$15 for two adults, \$10 for a single adult and \$5 for seniors.

Memberships also give you discounts at our community league programs, and the University of Alberta Technology Training Centre is offering 25% discount on all public courses to Bellevue Community League Members; their website - www.ttc.ualberta.ca

You can always reach me at bridgetjones6@hotmail.ca

Controversy continues – time to move on

Dear Editor;

I have lived in this neighborhood for over 20 years, and commend those who put together *HIGHLIGHTS*, as I enjoy receiving and reading it.

When I read the *Pew View* question in the previous issue, I wondered why such an article would be published, and many of my neighbors have expressed similar thoughts. And now, in the May issue, when reading Julie Rak's letter to the Editor, I was somewhat intrigued by the Editor's response to her. Although the topic may have been a "legitimate question posed by a reader" is there not other topics that would be more newsworthy? As the Editor points out in the 4th paragraph of the response...."the view of many churches on same-sex marriage and homosexuality have long been known and should come as no surprise."

So, if that's the case, what was the intent of the person who originally wrote that question? If *Pew Views* is about answering questions about faith and religion, are there not a lot of other topics not related to sexuality that could have been published. Perhaps more "neighbourly" in context, which could support and promote the "being a good neighbor" article on Page 11 of May issue.

The Editor states, "... it is not our policy to reject or discriminate against submitted works unless it is slanderous or subject to legal liability." While that may be true – what about discretion, or perception. This is only a small, local, neighbourhood magazine. I am not gay, nor are the neighbours who expressed thoughts to me, but perhaps such articles should be left out of Highlights. If this article was in the *Edmonton Journal*, I would not be writing this e-mail.

– Thank you, Sylvia Popik

Editor's reply:

Thank you, Sylvia, for your letter. Yes, we are a small community magazine, but we work hard to reflect the community we live in, and our community is as diverse as it is unique with a wide range of opinions – not all of which are universally agreed with. However, these diverse opinions are welcomed here, just as yours is, to be shared with all. Read on for another response to the same issue.

Dear Editor;

What a great response to the *Pew View Letter to the Editor*, and while I applaud the response, I am directing this letter to my neighbours:

When expressing concerns about an article that appears in the *Highlands-Bellevue HIGHLIGHTS*, please try to be gentle. Remember that the newsletter team is an integral part of our great, close-knit and community-spirited neighbourhood – volunteers all. And where would we be if our editors became discouraged?

I suggest you begin your letters about issues by thanking Barb, Laura and Shauna and the others for their tremendous efforts on our behalf. The quality and size of this newsletter are far beyond those produced by most other community leagues.

On the other hand, as Barb and I (a freelance writer) and others who work in journalism, PR and advertising well know, bad news does sell newspapers.

I do a newsletter for the editors' association and get virtually no feedback. I sometimes wonder if anyone reads it. Clearly, people are reading *HIGHLIGHTS*, happily or not. And that's great.

– Anita Jenkins

Editor's reply:

*Thank you, Anita, for your letter, and your kind comments are most appreciated. I would like to point out that, while the *Pew View* column was a tricky one, it was one that reminds us that while we may think we are liberal in our views and accepting of others, there is still a long way to go. Plus, controversial topics do get people talking. As with the *Abundant Community* project, the more people meet, talk and get to know each other, the better; maybe positive changes can be made that grow beyond the invisible borders of our community. Historically, we know that growth and positive change starts small, and it always starts within a community – just like ours.*

Editor's Note:

We truly appreciate all input from our readers. If there's something within these pages that makes you laugh, upsets you or that you have an opinion on, please send a Letter to the Editor by **Oct. 19** for publication in the **December issue**. If you would like to submit a story, please do so by the same deadline. All submissions should be e-mailed to highlights.newsletter@gmail.com



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Bill Johnson - General Manager and Highlands Resident

A young man with a purpose

By JOHN TIDRIDGE

The 66 Street Medicine Shoppe is where I visit for those occasions necessitated by growing older. I had noticed on several occasions a young man working in the store who seemed to be always busy. I was impressed.

When he was at the counter serving, he was polite and respectful ... not unlike a lot of young people I have run into these days.

The opportunity arose, after I had seen him busying himself in the pharmacy area, to have a longer conversation. And, no, he did not want to be a pharmacist – he is planning to be a police officer. Aha! His name is Kolt Arley Lane Cardinal.

After trading information and, given the fact of my police service, he asked if I knew a particular officer who was an instructor at the academy he was attending. I did, and he took my business card to the officer.

The officer wrote back and suggested Cardinal would be ideal for a story, plus it gave an opportunity to advertise the work being done with young persons wishing to enter public service.

Grandma keeps him focused

Cardinal, who is 18 years old, was born in Edmonton and lives in Beverly. He says that his family is very supportive of the profession he plans to enter. While his mother has supported Cardinal as she has been able, his grandmother is his number one supporter, always making sure to add her opinion as decisions are made, just to ensure the right ones are made.

“You had better not get into trouble”, she insists. “And stay in shape so no one can outrun you,” she frequently admonishes. He was raised by his grandparents for most of his childhood and his grandmother has always taught him to be respectful.

Cardinal claims the staff at the Medicine Shoppe as “family.” They have been supportive of his career choice and are inspiring and motivating him so that his dream will be accomplished. This young man has been at the drug store for four years and seven months, starting first with Imperial Drugs and remaining on staff when it changed hands. He remained with the store, as the new owner had already noticed his good work ethic. Working at the pharmacy gives him a closer look at medicine, and what the effects of medicines are.

Serving customers at the pharmacy has made him a more calm, confident, “people-person.” The fact he has been employed for nearly five years, handles drugs and the like, speaks well of his character and motivation.

Mapping his path

Having already earned his high school diploma, he is presently enrolled in the Emergency Response Career Pathways, which is in partnership with Edmonton Police Service, Edmonton Fire and Alberta Health Services (EMR, EMT, EMT-Paramedic).

Current or retired members of the professions teach the students about what they can expect in any of those careers. Working out daily is a mandatory requirement of the course.

To become a police officer, Cardinal must complete at least two years of university (he has applied to attend MacEwan University), gain more life experience, and be in tip top shape to

protect others and himself.

The reason he has chosen policing as his goal-career, is because of the high level of professionalism required, and as most officers will say, to fight crime. To narrow it down, he wants to become a police officer because he wants to change people’s lives for the better.

He states emphatically that being a Métis person, he sees the world as every other person does: equality for all, because in the end, it’s who you want to be that counts. He holds his heritage proudly because his last name may inspire someone else of the same heritage to do their best.



Photo JOHN TIDRIDGE

Kolt Arley Lane Cardinal, seen here, is well on his way to becoming a police officer.

he wants to change people’s lives for the better.

He states emphatically that being a Métis person, he sees the world as every other person does: equality for all, because in the end, it’s who you want to be that counts. He holds his heritage proudly because his last name may inspire someone else of the same heritage to do their best.

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The next chapter, part 4:

Profiles of some amazing ladies in the Hood

By ANITA JENKINS, photos by RUTH CARR

For close to two years now, we have been seeking out local “Silver Girls,” which we define as women who have some gray hair but are not yet ready for the rocking chair. And the list just keeps on growing! This time, we had the opportunity to tour two spectacular gardens, both maintained by women in their eighties.

YVETTE DUMONT, 86, has lived in her Ada Boulevard home for 48 years, since 1965. Her house is spotless and beautifully decorated, and her garden is full of many different kinds of carefully tended flowers. Roses for the prairies are among her favourites, but she also has exotic plants such as a snowball hydrangea. Yvette enjoys keeping the house and garden, and still does all the work herself.

Yvette, who has always loved living in the Highlands, was an active volunteer with the community league while her four children were growing up. She still volunteers every two weeks at a seniors’ drop-in centre in the Abbottsfield Mall, serving coffee and cookies. A group of about half a dozen people from the Beverly community came up with this idea a few years ago and arranged for the use of a space in the mall, free of charge. The drop-in centre has no government funding and relies on donations.

Yvette can often be found at the Beverly Heights Seniors Club, a social and recreational gathering place located at 42 Street and 111 Avenue. Members play crib, bridge and bingo – or

just chat, which is what Dumont prefers to do. For a number of years she was a member of the club’s quilting group, which no longer exists. She also attends church regularly, and when we caught up with her she had just returned from a day trip to the River Cree Casino.

Yvette’s life has not always been so serene. Her husband, Leo (now deceased) was severely injured at work in 1961, when



Yvette Dumont

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he was 37 years old. This traumatic event occurred two and a half months before their fourth child was born. At about the same time as Leo's accident, the Dumonts and several other families living in the Garneau area faced expropriation of their properties to accommodate expansion of the University of Alberta.

Leo spent eight months in the hospital and was never again able to work full-time. Yvette took a job as a secretary with Edmonton Catholic Schools in 1968, after the children were all in school. She retired in 1988.

Ollie Lawrence, 80, says "I live in my garden. I sleep in my home." And she really means it. Ollie, who has lived in the Highlands with her family since the 1950s, has a huge and beautifully cared-for yard on a corner lot. It's full of perennials of all sorts, as well as a vegetable garden and some lovely annuals in pots.

Since gardening on the home front is apparently not enough, Lawrence has also volunteered to take care of the flowers at Mount Royal School and at the Highlands community league building. The Lawrences did yard work at their rental properties too. At one time she and her husband, Bob, did some of the gardening and mowing at four houses that they rented out. Not surprisingly, Ollie and Bob were members of the Highlands garden club for more than 15 years.



Ollie Lawrence

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"In summer I only clean the house when it's raining," Ollie says.

Ollie's yard features lilies of every colour imaginable, including apricot, yellow, rust, lilac, white and pink. She has participated in the Edmonton Horticultural Society's annual lily show and has also opened her garden for tours organized by various groups in the city. She is particularly fond of irises as well as lilies, and has several exotic specimens.

Ollie developed her horticultural interests early on, while growing up on a farm near Russell, Manitoba. Because she so much loves being outdoors, she would have preferred not to work in an office. But after the Lawrences' three children were all in school, she did accounting jobs for several companies, including Burns Foods, Shurgain and Byers Transport.

When they retired, Ollie and Bob delivered Meals on Wheels once a week for several years. Ollie's other interests – when it's not gardening season, of course – include oil paintings and creating cross stitch pictures. She also enjoys a card game called Samba, which she plays with other enthusiasts once a month. She says this game is "one up from Canasta" and "a good way to keep your brain alive."

Thanks to everyone who has agreed to be profiled and have their photo taken by Ruth. If you'd like to be included in a future issue, or know someone who would be a good subject, please contact Ruth, grcarr@shaw.ca or by phone at 780-474-7046, or Anita, ajenkins@compusmart.ab.ca, or by phone at 780-474-6656.

Musings of a Master Composter: Leaves are gold

By **HERB GALE**

With fall approaching I asked Mark Stumpf-Allen (Compost Programs Coordinator with Edmonton Waste Management Branch and an avid gardener in his spare time) for tips on how we can utilize some of our fallen leaves and compost material for fall/winter.

Tricks that Mark uses for his yard are:

1. Top dressing to lawns in the fall

Mulch dry leaves with your lawn mower. I rake the leaves onto the street and run the mower over the pile. I have been asked why I am mowing the asphalt. Answer: it's easy to scoop up and bag the material.

Pile the shredded leaves for a top dressing on the lawn. Apply just prior to final freeze up. Spread the mulched leaves evenly over the lawn to a depth of no more than a 1/4 inch (you want to be able to see the grass). The lawn will look unkempt until the snow comes. Over the winter the leaves will break down and disappear as the nutrients are added to the lawn. Saves time in the spring when we are attempting to revitalize our lawns.

2. Leaf Mold

To create leaf mold, place leaves in a plastic bag, periodically fluff the bag, add water, punch a few holes in the bag, and store for a year or two. The resultant material will have changed into leaf mold which is considered to be nature's way of providing pure humus – great compost material.

3. Adding Compost Directly to the Garden

Mark also indicated a person could (in the fall) spread a thin layer of compost on top of the garden. Dig this material into the soil and leave it to decompose over the winter, ready for spring planting.

4. Empty Compost Bin(s) In The Fall

This fall, remove all the compost material from your compost bin(s). Yes, clean out the bin(s) regardless if the material has totally decomposed. (By this time the plants have been removed from the garden/flower beds.)

In the garden/flower beds, dig trenches (two to three inches deep), place one to two inches of compost material into the trench(s). Cover the compost with the removed soil. Over our long winter the compost material will break down and become fertilizer. The area will be ready for planting in the spring.



When you're raking leaves this fall, remember those leaves have the ability to provide you with some of the best organic humus in nature, so bag them, don't burn them or throw them out.

5. Winter Composting

With the compost bin empty, position the bin in a location that receives some sunlight and is close by so the kitchen organic scraps can be tossed in with very little effort.

In colder temperatures the material will decompose slowly.

The composter will appear full several times, but over the winter, the material will break down and come spring, the depth of compost material in the composter will be only a fraction of a full unit. Allow the material to dry and age prior to applying to the garden and flower beds.



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Consumer awareness: GMOs not a good thing

By **KARIN NELSON**

Chances are, if you are like so many other people, you've never even heard of GMOs, much less understand what they are. GMO stands for Genetically Modified Organism and in this article, we are talking about genetically modified food crops that have infiltrated our food supply and we, as consumers, have not been told about it. It's a dirty little food industry secret that is blowing wide open.

Chemical companies that for many years built their business making herbicides, pesticides and defoliating agents saw an opportunity to make big profits and corner the market on food crops by patenting genetic changes to the seed and selling it to farmers. Problem was and is, that after being brought on board by cheap seed and promises of bigger yields, farmers are locked into this deal with these big agri-business corporations because these seeds are patented, contracts are signed and going back to traditional crops is difficult for a number of reasons. This is YOUR food supply and a corporation has a patent on it! These crops, predominantly corn, soybeans, cotton and canola aren't just crossbred by hybridization and cross pollenization, as was the standard practice for improving desirable traits in food crops.

In GMO crops, as the name suggests, the genetic material is "cut and pasted" to form a new organism that would never occur in nature. Genetic material from animals is implanted into a plant genome for instance. Plants are engineered to produce their own pesticides from within or are designed to be sprayed with Round-Up herbicide and not die. Sounds like a great idea in theory but hey, wait a minute...this is stuff we're going to eat!!

Genetic engineering has been around since the 1960's but has only entered the food chain in a big way in the last 20 years. Besides the obvious lack of data on the long term effects of GMO on the human body, on animals and the environment, there are a host of other issues.

The fact that a corporation or corporations can patent, and then control the planting and dissemination of a basic food source for people and livestock, is simply wrong. Typically a farmer plants seed saved from previous years, practices crop rotation to maintain health of the soil etc. and this has been the standard for thousands of years. Not so with GMO. The corporation "owns" the seed so the farmer must buy new subsequent seed from the corporation.

The heavy herbicide and pesticides spraying that these crops can tolerate or the pesticides that these plants produce themselves result in damaged soil and pollution when tillage occurs. This spells disaster for biodiversity or independent farming. Even if the conventional farmer next door wants to plant non GMO crops, it is spread to (his) field by wind, water and pollinators. Then, to add insult to injury, Monsanto sues the conventional

farmer for "stealing" their patented seed. Science to prove that these crops are not harmful to pollinators is not available and we have seen bees dying of late in record numbers. Without pollinators, we are done on this planet!

These genetically engineered plants are spawning a new generation of Round-Up resistant superweeds, and we have to use stronger and more lethal chemicals to control these weeds. In the U.S., where about 88% of the corn crop is GM and 93% of the soy crop is GM, they are about to change the regulations to allow higher concentrations of glyphosate herbicides to be sprayed on food crops. Another recent study showed that corn crops modified to resist a certain worm were again under attack by the same worms in only a few short years because the worms had evolved to deal with the pesticide and survive. Where does it end?

Currently, the U.S and Canada have no provisions or rules to let consumers know whether they are eating genetically modified material or not. The Canadian Food Inspection agency considers GM foods as "novel" foods and therefore they fall outside the standard regulations. There is currently a bill before parliament, C-257, that would amend the food and drug act to require mandatory labeling of food containing GMO ingredients. The European Union and a number of other countries (21 in all) have either banned all GM crops outright, have banned the importation of GM crops, have banned certain GM crops, or banned them in certain areas of the country.

What else can you do? Buy certified organic food whenever possible. If you buy beef, look for grass fed and grass finished. Remember, the farm animals some people eat are fed GM feed as well. "Buying Organic" is a bit more expensive but you can pay now for safe food, or later with your and your family's health.

Contact companies whose products you buy and ask if they contain GM ingredients and insist that they go organic or at least label. Sign petitions demanding the right to know what is in your food. Contact your government officials. Most of all, educate yourself about this important issue. Good health to you all!

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Parents save music enrichment program

Just like in *Music of the Heart* (1999)

By ELIZABETH JOHANNSON, Vice-President Virginia Park Parent Council

It was a sad day last spring when students across the city learned that the Music Enrichment Program had fallen victim to budget cuts, but thanks to the efforts of dedicated parents the program will continue.

The Edmonton String Players' Association (run by parents) will be taking over administration and Edmonton Public Schools, including Virginia Park and Mount Royal schools in our own community, will continue to host the lessons.

For over 50 years, the Music Enrichment Program has provided instruction in stringed instruments, including violin, viola, cello, and bass, for children across Edmonton. When word of the potential cancellation was released a petition sprang up on change.org which quickly gathered over 3,700 signatures, including legendary Alberta musician Tommy Banks, supporters from as far away as the Concertmaster of the Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal, and alumni who have spread across the globe to places such as the UK and Brazil.

Much more than learning music

The benefits of music education are proven through many studies to extend far beyond the immediate joy of learning an instrument. It increases students' academic performance in every area. This was articulated by Karen Kain, Artistic Director of the National Ballet of Canada, in a recent article for *The Huffington Post* about the importance of arts education across the country:

"For what the arts teach goes beyond the specifics of the arts themselves, they foster empathy, imaginative responses to life, expressiveness, the discipline of learning a craft, the discovery of beauty and the lessons of striving again and again until you finally get something exactly right. And while these are all virtues in and of themselves, they also contribute to an individual's development in any field of activity."

Parents directed appeals to provincial politicians to rethink recent cuts to education funding and to school trustees to work with parents to find solutions. With a moderate increase in fees the parent association proposed taking over administration, at \$320/year for beginners and \$360/year for returning students it is still meeting its mandate of affordable music instruction.

Strong partnership

Happily a partnership was reached with EPSB which has gifted a large number of stringed instruments to the parents' association to enable them to provide low-cost rentals to students. With that support, and a pledge from EPSB to continue to provide space for lessons, the Edmonton String Players Association is delighted to be moving forward with a great partnership with the joint goal of benefiting students in Edmonton through music.

One of the great benefits of the program is the opportunity to participate in the strings orchestras. These orchestras are open to students taking lessons from the Music Enrichment Program and



Photo courtesy ELIZABETH JOHANNSON

Musicians from the Music Enrichment Program entertain the public with carols at City Hall last Christmas.

also to individual students looking for an orchestra experience to complement their private music lessons.

The year-end orchestra concert in June was delighted to host former Senator Tommy Banks, who joined the Intermediate Orchestra for the signature piece "Take Five." The Singing String Orchestra (comprised of the most senior players) is continuing their plans for a tour of Europe in the 2013-14 school year.

For more information, or to register for the fall, please visit www.musicenrichment.org

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Number 7 Fire Station

By JOHN TIDRIDGE

Captain Chris Hardeman, a 24 year veteran, and a Station Captain in waiting at No. 7 Fire Station, freely shared his time and knowledge of not only operations, but also the men who occupy Hall No. 7. Among the things he told me: Firefighters are actually quite normal beings, some married, sometimes divorced, family men involved in the communities they live in, some single.

Graduating firefighters are arbitrarily assigned to a station, although the department tries to place the men in a station near their home. After a reasonable time, and with good reason, individuals can transfer to another station.

The station is a lot more than 'just a hall' to the men who serve us as firefighters. The station is manned 24 hours a day through a shift system. A crew has a minimum of 8 men, sometimes 10. A station has a station captain in charge and a captain for each of the crews. The majority of fire fighters are hired at 25 years of age or older, all males at #7 Station, and will each average about 3 years of service until they are likely to be transferred to another station. Ambulance services are no longer part of a fire station complement.

Unlike the police service, firefighters have to wait for a call, so are 'station bound' until that happens. During this free time there is much to be done to keep the station and equipment in top notch condition.

Their 'home away from home' is utilitarian to say the least... while a kitchen has been supplied... everything else is supplied by the firefighters... except the kitchen sink! The TV viewing area is stark to say the least!

When firefighters are seen shopping at local grocery stores, they are still at work and in contact with their dispatcher via portable radio and able to respond to 911 calls.... but they need to eat, the same as everyone else!

Some weightlifting equipment is city supplied and maintained; this is to ensure the equipment is in good repair and can be used without danger to the firefighters. Any televisions, microwaves and refrigerators are bought and paid for by the firefighters. It requires a great deal of give and take to achieve the rapport necessary to make it a 'happy home'.

Shift work, too complicated to document, undoubtedly adds to home life stress...and we should be mindful of all shift workers who bring us services we simply cannot do without.

The fire crews welcome the community to drop in (not all at once) to say hello. The crews are always willing to show people around, but you must be prepared to have your visit terminated, suddenly, as mine was, as a call came in requiring a response from the crew on duty.

The present #7 Fire Hall at 5025-118 Avenue opened in 1975, having previously been situated at 6508-118 Avenue, and prior to that, opening in 1913, at 128 Avenue and 66 Street. Unconfirmed information suggests this first building was shared with the police department.

This information was hard to come by due to departmental protocol, however, thanks to retired Captain Don Stalker, who as it happened, joined the police service with the author back in 1959, but (quickly) transferred to the fire department, a meeting took place.

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- Door prizes
- Historical presentations



EFCL News: When wishful ideas meet reality

By **CHRISTINE BREMNER**

Earlier this year, I marked my fifth anniversary as a member of the board of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (I have only one more year to go before I reach my term limit.)

Among the less-than-delightful duties I have come to dread is The Presentation. Usually, it's two or more people from another non-profit coming before the EFCL board to make a pitch: they want money, volunteers or both.

I've come to dread The Presentation for two reasons: our meetings are seldom less than three hours long, and even though we ask that they limit their remarks to 15 minutes, they never do.

The second reason is that most of these requests are based on the assumptions that community leagues are well-funded, professionally-run organizations, with an endless supply of eager volunteers looking for a worthwhile cause; one word from the EFCL, and this money and these volunteers will miraculously find its way to the asking organization.

Someone has to say something

I sit on a board with very nice, very polite people. Since I am sometimes not, I undertake the task of disabusing the group of their notions (usually, but not always, gently, depending on how arrogant their assumptions).

There are 156 community leagues in Edmonton. All are individual organizations run by a small group of overworked and often under-appreciated volunteers.

Far from being well-funded, community leagues are usually constantly stretched for funds. Volunteers are usually in short supply. Not only does the EFCL not tell leagues what to do, it's usually the other way 'round.

In the past year, I've sat through at least three presentations about seniors. It's finally dawned on the powers-that-be that the boomer cohort has arrived as seniors. They – we – are living longer, and governments can't afford more facilities to warehouse us in our declining years. The only option is to keep us rattling around in our homes, as long as we can keep the roof over our heads – and the lawn cut and the sidewalks shovelled.

And that's where the most recent pitch came in. Each board, said this group, should have a seniors' liaison who can provide seniors with a list of reliable and affordable people to do household tasks and chores, and a list of volunteers who will cut lawns, do yard work and clear the snow.

They have no helpful hints on the finding of these paragons of virtue, for a reliable tradesperson is in short supply.

A few years ago, one of my editors wondered what I considered the most valuable advice for anyone undertaking a home renovation. "When a contractor tells you the completion date," I said dryly, "make sure they specify the year." She laughed. I wasn't joking.

One of the major issues facing our city's mature neighbourhoods is the flight of young families to the suburbs. Long gone are the days when the eager teenager down the street looked to grass-cutting and snow shovelling to supplement his or her allowance. Two years ago, the Seniors' Association of Greater Edmonton (SAGE) came up with the idea of enlisting community groups

to shovel snow for seniors. The idea was to have the seniors pay the groups, not the shovellers. According to SAGE's web site:

"The SnowBusters program enables community leagues or non-profit groups to raise funds by providing affordable snow removal for seniors in their area. Providing service within a small area aids in the snow removal being completed in a timely manner. Participating community leagues or groups provide snow removal for 5 months, from November 1st to March 31st. Seniors receiving service will be billed directly by Sage on a monthly basis and Sage in turn will pay the community league or group for each customer served.

"For community leagues, helping seniors who live in their own community is an obvious benefit of this program. It's about neighbours helping neighbours. It also provides a great fundraising opportunity.

"For sports teams, Girl Guides and Scouts, the fundraising potential is excellent. In addition, it fits well within the purpose of these groups; helping out in your community. So, whether the money raised goes towards a fundraising project or is used to pay shovellers, your participation helps senior neighbours live in their homes longer and maintain their independence."

To the surprise of those promoting the program, there was no flood of leagues signing up. Insurers balked at liability, and volunteers to coordinate the program – let alone provide the services – did not rush to commit. (Last year, the 8th Edmonton Scouts, our neighbourhood troop, disbanded for lack of participants.)

Good neighbours

But neighbours are already helping neighbours, with no formal organization required. In our little corner of Highlands, we look out for one another.

When our neighbours are away, we look after their home and shovel the snow in winter. When our next-door neighbours were on a winter vacation and my husband was recovering from surgery, our neighbour on the corner stepped up and kept all our walks clear – no extra parties involved.

It happens informally all over the community, because that's what happens when you make friends with your neighbours, whether you do it over the back fence, while walking your dog, attending a community league function or going to church.

Nonetheless, the EFCL will be working with the City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council to set up a workshop on how to make community leagues more "seniors friendly." It will be held on Oct. 22 at 5:30 p.m., venue yet to be determined. If you're interested in attending, check the EFCL website at www.efcl.org closer to the date.

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Everyone should have some place secret to go

By ADAM KNEESBENT

Gardening is in my blood; from my mother's (an excellent gardener) side through to her dad, a market gardener and, though skipping my dad, but through his dad and grandfather. Both these gentlemen were head gardeners in Jolly Olde. My sister has a miraculous green thumb; anything grows for her, almost anywhere! My gardening is of the plant and pray variety. I had hoped to follow a career in gardening; economics did not make this possible.

For my garden there must be some straight lines softened by the odd curve. I do not accept advice easily, although when followed, it usually turns out to be for the best. It is safe to assume where the singular is used throughout plural would be perfectly acceptable!

It is a back garden, small by some standards, probably 66 feet by 66 feet, which includes over half as lawn. Oh, and a double garage! Most of the garden has wooden boxed beds and a natural border.

There is a water item with a woman holding a water vase, the water is emitted close to the vase but is not part of it and falls into a large bowl, my 'retirement' gift of a sun dial, two small statues of children, a bird bath and some angels and fairies that have appeared over the years, courtesy of my wife. Oh, yes, a rabbit or a deer, the statue types, may put in an appearance.

There are two arbors; one completely covered in Virginia creeper; the other shares a hop vine with a less aggressive Virginia creeper. A trellis on the home wall carries a couple of Clematis. There is but one tree, a Russian willow, a vigorous grower but it

fits in nicely with the garden. Where there is no house or garage walls the garden is bordered by 'neighbourly friendly' cotoneaster hedges on two sides and a much taller one abutting the lane.

A small garden exists within the secret garden to commemorate our second great granddaughter who died at birth.

Some plants in the garden are over 20 years old, others quite recent acquisitions. None of the plants are unusual, apart from having survived in the garden. All have been purchased from local greenhouses or have been begged from other gardeners.

Delphiniums, roses, climbing, shrub and hybrid tea, Hostas, Astilbe, three or four varieties of bedding plants, an Aster, day lilies, Shasta daisies, poppies and a couple of others I don't have names for are the staples of the garden. There is one shrub, a Spiraea that adds some texture. Several types of ground cover thrive in the spaces between the blocks that form the path taking you to the separate borders. In a border in front of the home wall are four or five varieties of hen and chicks with three cacti to keep them company.

Others have commented on our garden; two workmen, who sat in it for lunch, said they felt as though they were at Buckingham Palace; a policeman said how peaceful it was.

To my wife and me it is our secret garden, surrounded by the community with the noise associated with the area; it is just a retreat ... a secret garden. We'd love to share it with you, but then it would not be a secret anymore, would it?

And you thought I would describe our front yard ... not a chance!



Photo courtesy CITY OF EDMONTON

City planners are developing design plans to add enhancements to the Highlands shopping district between 62 Street and 68 Street.

112 Ave Enhancements September Public Open House

During the City's 112 Avenue Reconstruction project public consultations in fall 2012 and winter 2013, the residents of Highlands and Bellevue expressed a desire to showcase the unique historical nature of their neighbourhood and its many distinctive features.

In response, City planners are developing design plans for community enhancements to the area between 62 Street and 68 Street, with a specific focus on the commercial district from 64 Street to 66 Street.

The plans may include street-side tree and shrub plantings, street furniture, greenspace and sidewalk improvements. The goal is to create a space that is safe, attractive and welcoming to

all users, including the patrons of local offices, boutiques, cafes and restaurants.

Community members are invited to provide feedback on proposed design plans at an Open House in September. Time, date and location are still to be determined, but check your mailbox for an information flyer in August.

For more information about this

project contact us at 780.944.5600 or 112Avenue@edmonton.ca or visit us online at www.edmonton.ca/112avenue





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EPS: Steps for dealing with a suspected drug house

You may have noticed some of the following unusual behaviors on your block or in your neighbourhood: people coming and going at strange hours of the night and an unusual amount of foot and vehicular traffic all hours of the day and night.

You may find confused or dissociated individuals wandering into the neighbourhood, and a rise in property-related crime such as theft from vehicles and garages.

What you are observing may be related to drug activity. Individuals involved in the distribution of drugs typically operate out of rental properties, where they actively distribute product from their residence into your community.

This brings an undesirable group of individuals into your community, but what course of action can you take? Here are some options.

1) Contact the complaint line to report suspicious activity: 780-423-4567 or #377 from a mobile phone. In some instances the activity may warrant a patrol unit to respond to the location. In most cases the information will be documented and forwarded to the area Neighbourhood Foot Patrol Officer (NFP) or Community Liaison Officer.

2) Contact your area NFP.

A NFP Officer is responsible for a specific community. This officer may not be aware of the new home owners or tenants.

A NFP Officer is an experienced police member with a vested interest in your community and community stakeholders and government agencies to ensure their community is a safe

place for its residents.

3) Contact your area Community Liaison Officer.

In some cases a NFP Officer may not be present in your community. In these cases a Community Liaison Officer is always present.

Like a NFP Officer, a Community Liaison Officer is an experienced police member with a vested interest in a specific area of the city. The Community Liaison Officer actively works with community stakeholders and government agencies to ensure their community is a safe place for its residents.

In some cases you may be afraid to contact police. If this is the case there are still options afforded to you.

Contact Crime Stoppers, 1-800-222-TIPS. Crime Stoppers is a confidential 24 hour service and information is anonymously forwarded to police. Be specific and detailed. The more detail you can provide, the more useful the information is for police.

Contact SCAN (Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods) Alberta at 1-866-960-SCAN. SCAN is a new provincial body providing assistance to concerned citizens with troubled addresses. Like Crime Stoppers, SCAN is completely confidential.

Remember your community is your responsibility. We are here to help. Please help us by providing detailed information. The problem will only be addressed when you are prepared to address it.

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Abundant Community Initiative and our social fabric

By HOWARD LAWRENCE

So the Highlands Abundant Community Initiative is moving right along! Most blocks have a neighbour or two who are coming by each household and asking a few friendly questions. Two of the questions inquire about our interests and activities.

“What activities or groups that you participate in, or want to participate in, would you join in with neighbours?” and “Do you have interests or passions that you would value discussing or joining in with neighbours?”

The responses are amazing. Lots of neighbours want to play baseball together, and many want to try lawn bowling with neighbours on our local turf. Dozens want to exercise together, walking groups, running groups, dog walking groups.

There is a desire for book clubs, cooking groups, Ted Talk groups and the list goes on and on. Most of us belong to lots of different kinds of clubs, groups and associations. Each of those groups is held together by a common interest or passion. Choirs are associations that magnify the gifts of people who sing well. Sports teams collect people together with certain athletic skills.

The Legion joins together people with a common war experience. Whatever the group, the “glue” that holds it together is whatever the members have in common – something important enough to lead us to join and actively participate in a pursuit that interests us all. The idea of doing these activities and interests with neighbours is appealing, in that it glues us together right in our neighbourhood. Friendships form and support develops for the long haul.

So when our blocks or neighborhood organizes, it is because something we have in common leads us to come together. As our neighbourhood organizes because we know what we share or have in common, we build well being into our neighbourhood.

Our collaborators for the project from Northwestern University would say that:

“The neighborhoods that are organized are drawn together because they have discovered the gifts, skills, interests and passions of their fellow residents. This knowledge is the catalyst for all kinds of new relationships. The connections may be between two neighbors who discover a mutual interest in jazz. Or several neighbors may be connected by an interest in gardening. Or it may be that all the neighbors have discovered their common interest in being a village that raises a child.”

Two other questions our interviewers ask are:

“Do you have skills, gifts or abilities that you would be comfortable using to help neighbours or the neighbourhood?” And, “Are there some life experiences that you would consider sharing for the benefit of neighbours?”

Here again, we are assembling quite a list. Babysitting, Commissioner of Oaths, assisting our senior neighbours, fixing bikes, guitar lessons and on and on.

We are forming a list of gifts and skills that people are willing to share neighbour to neighbour.

Again our collaborators:

“A neighborhood comes together in powerful and satisfying ways, when two things happen. First, when neighbors have found out about each other’s gifts. Second, they have made new connections based on these gifts”.

Sharing our gifts and skills with one another is an amazing way to build the lives of others into our lives and into the neighbourhood as a whole.

It is the sum of these connections created out of sharing our activities, interests and gifts and skills that “glues” a neighborhood together. This gluing is often called building the “social fabric.”



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Virginia Park Seniors Complex became the perfect home

By GRACE KELLY

As you drive down 112th Avenue, you see Borden Park on the north side and on the south side, three, four-storey brick buildings tucked behind the houses and spruce trees. There are three apartment buildings and a lodge at the Virginia Park seniors complex of Greater Edmonton Foundation.

I lived at 10922 – 74 Street in a large house and often drove past the complex. I saw beautiful flowers, grass, shaded trees and thought, “Maybe when I get older, I could move into one of the apartments.”

Well the years pass, and I got older and my husband died. The house was too big and it was time to move into something smaller. Virginia Park, here I come!

I moved into Plaza 2 in November 1999. Best move I ever made! I cook my own meals, volunteer at the lodge, enjoy the entertainment and I make friends my own age. I love my smaller apartment, friends and staff at 11114 – 75 A Street.

Virginia Park is quiet with beautiful grounds, fresh air and shaded sitting areas provided by its 280 trees. It is comprised of a lodge and three apartment buildings. The apartments have 140 suites and the lodge has sixty-five rooms. The well-lit hallways lead to sitting areas, a multi-purpose room, a sunroom, a hair salon and a dining room.

The garden in the courtyard is there for residents to grow and

maintain flowers and vegetables.

Services available to residents include an ATM, foot care clinics, hearing-aid clinics, a hair salon, and a denturist. The large dining hall in the lodge serves buffet style meals and has a dance floor and piano for live entertainment.

The sunroom is a place to gather with friends and watch some television. Activities like morning walks, bingo, chair exercises, giant crosswords, story hour and knitting are available. Virginia Park is lower income subsidized housing.

Virginia Park is located at 11033 – 76 Street, which is on the borderline of Bellevue Community.



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Orthodox Cathedral of All Saints
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St. Clare Roman Catholic Church
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780-471-2353 or www3.telus.net/stclare

The Neighbourhood Church
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5347-112 Avenue NW
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Pastor Les. Theiss
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For church history check: www.highlandscommunity.ca and
look at the left side bar, scroll down to 'Places of Interest.'

A woman is shown from the waist down, wearing a red long-sleeved top, a grey and black geometric-patterned skirt, and red tights. She is standing outdoors on grass with fallen leaves. The background is a blurred natural setting.

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Farewell to the Gimby House

By ANITA JENKINS

For 100 years the Gimby residence stood at the southwest corner of 65 Street and 112 Avenue. Then one day this spring, it was gone. The demolition of this historic building sent shock waves through the community.

“It is disappointing,” says Johanne Yakula, an active member of the Highlands Historical Society. “Admittedly not every house in our neighbourhood deserves to be preserved, but the Gimby house’s fate was sealed without giving it a chance.”

Longtime Highlands resident, Yessy Byl, is proud of the fact that the Highlands has the most homes with historical designations of any neighbourhood in the province. Yessy, who regularly leads historical tours of the community, was very sorry to learn that one of the buildings she often includes on her tour is no longer there.

I too was dismayed to learn about the demise of the Gimby house. Like Yessy and Johanne, I value the built heritage of this remarkable corner of Edmonton. In addition, I have a particular interest in this house because it was built by my great uncle, C.W. (Charles Wellington) Gimby.

Our family enjoyed pointing out this landmark and its connections to our history. We are proud as well of the achievements of C.W.’s descendants. His daughter, Marian, was the first female president of the Alberta Teachers’ Association in the 1950s. His grandson, Bobby, was a member of the Happy Gang on CBC Radio and the composer of the 1967 Centennial song, CA-NA-DA.

Still, I have come to accept this change. When I had a chance to visit the home about 10 years ago, I saw that it was clearly in need of major repairs and upgrading. Such an undertaking is not

for everyone. It requires a significant investment of funds and a passion for restoration. As much as we would prefer it to be otherwise, decisions must often be made on the basis of dollars and cents.

C.W. would have understood. He was a businessman. Like many others, he came to Edmonton from Ontario to seek his fortune – he saw that there were many opportunities to make a lot of money when western Canada was first being settled.

We can take comfort in the fact that we still have the house next door, also built by the Gimbys as their retirement home, and it will soon be old enough to have some sort of historical status. As well, we still have the stories of the people who lived in the foursquare house on the corner (see below).

As American writer William Faulkner said, “The past is never dead. It is not even past.”



Photo courtesy
HIGHLANDS HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Residents of the Gimby House

- C.W. Gimby family, 1913-29: real estate investor, cattle dealer, automobile service station business
- Andrew Millar family, 1929-44: chief inspector of mines, Alberta government
- R.W. McIntyre family, 1944-1953: owner of General Whitewear and uniforms
- Donald Wilson family, 1953-54: Canadian Chemicals employee
- Leslie and Julie Wiles, 1955-2000: owner of auto service station
- Shannon Ellett family, 2000- ?

Plenty of blooming yards in Bellevue & Virginia Park

By JANICE FLEMING WEEKS

This spring, the Bellevue Community League took part in nominating some of our local gardens in Bellevue for the Front Yards in Bloom contest. LeeAnn Wright and I spent several days touring the neighborhood and nominating some seventeen front yard gardens. It was interesting to see the variation of designs, types of flowers and shrubs and unique pieces used in the displays.

We actually had a lot of enjoyment doing this; viewing our local beautiful gardens and rating them individually. You can check out some of the photos we took of the gardens in our facebook page – The Bellevue Community League.

Nomination placards were put into the yards and a card from the city stating they were nominated for the event.

We thank all residents who participated in the community – you helped bring such beauty, creativity and wonder to the neighbourhood!



Photos JANICE FLEMING WEEKS
Just two of the 17 Bellevue/
Virginia Park homes that were
nominated for this year’s Yards
in Bloom.

Looking for fresh ideas and new enthusiasm!

Wanted: Festival Event Coordinator & Farmers' Market Manager

By Barb Martowski

This community is lucky to have people like Yvette Cioran living here. She's an idea woman who is always looking for a great way to bring the community together – two of which are the Highlands Street Festival and the Highlands Outdoor Farmers Market – which she, along with others, have turned into two of our greatest events.

Like many great idea people, she's also a project person who understands the necessity of documenting and building procedures. She has compiled "How-to" binders on the operations of both, and now that these events are on solid footing, she's ready to move on and find a new project that will meet her creative needs.

Her How-To binders will make the transition for whomever steps up to take on either of the two (or both?) easy peasy – all that's needed is a commitment of time. If you are pondering this, I only have one question to ask, "Just think about how important these events are to the community and the loss we would experience if we didn't have them."

The Street Fest

Over the last few years, the Highlands Street Festival has blossomed into a lovely event that attracts vendors and visitors from all over the city. The festival represents the charm and character that Highlands is so well known for.

It runs the first Sunday of June and vendors are ready to commit for the daylong event, but we need fresh ideas and some help coordinating the event.

Duties would include setting a theme, possible grant applications, sending out event notices, updating social media and event listings, taking vendor registrations, mapping vendors and being the man-on-the-ground during the event.

Compensation is 20% of festival income, a great social experience and resume event.

The Market

The Highlands Outdoor Farmers' Market is a great little local farmers' market with a potential of 25 vendors per week.

It runs Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The market started in 2012, and attracts customers from Highlands, Bellevue, Newton and other adjacent communities and includes an array of great vendors, artists and musicians. The market is friendly and welcoming as a local market should be.

We need a great market manager with people experience to continue and grow the Highlands market experience. Duties would include annual paperwork with Alberta Agriculture and Alberta Health, finding and signing up vendors, updating social media and event listings, possible grant applications and hosting an information table at each market from May to September. Compensation includes 20% of the vendor intake plus a great social experience and resume event.

If you are interested in taking on one or both of these positions, please contact Laura at laura@mandolinbooks.com

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New session begins September 3

Free Classes October 4 and 5 for new session beginning October 28

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Lori Passmore - AKC, RKC Level 2, WKC Certified Kettlebell Instructor, Hatha Yoga Teacher, AFLCA Certified Resistance & Group Exercise Trainer

Welcome to a new neighbour

By JOHN TIDRIDGE

The rental signs torn down, people were working inside, and of course, with my curiosity, all this led to the discovery of the operator of the new barber shop at 5019-118 Avenue. I met Hassan (Sam) busily working on the renovations of his business. I left him the usual business form and the next day I received a call telling me the form was ready. What a good start!

Sam thought I was the plumber when I arrived at the store in response to his call, but after a few minutes thought, he remembered me and we were in business. At least Sam was. He is the proprietor of the new East Side Barber Shop.

A quick look around showed that when finished, the shop will be bright and professional. We talked prices briefly – my own tonsorial artist will have to lower his price to compete ... Ahmed, can you hear?

Sam says he is an enthusiast when it comes to his business of barbering. He has been so engaged for 11 years. He says he can really make you look “fresh” in five minutes!

The Highland-Beverly area was selected by Sam as he saw potential for a good business. He hopes his business will benefit the area, and, of course, the community will benefit him.

Providing everyone with great attentive service, fair prices, bearing in mind the economy, Sam will reach his goal of having happy customers!

Welcome, Sam, to our community!

The East Side Barber Shop is located at 5019-118 Avenue.




Photo by JOHN TIDRIDGE

Dressed more for construction than barbering, Sam was still working on renovations when he and HIGHLIGHTS scribe, John Tidridge met.




Call for an appointment at 587-524-EAST.



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- Dave will speak out against urban sprawl and focus on maintaining current infrastructure

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Bellevue puts the focus on kids

By **JANICE FLEMING WEEKS**

On May 18, children from the Bellevue Kid's Puppetshow program received seeds, pots and soil from Kuhlmann's Markethouse Garden and Greenhouse. The kids planted vegetables in one pot and flower seeds in another pot, which they took home as their craft project.

Every year, Kuhlmann's Greenhouse donates the materials for our May plant. This year, they also donated bedding plants to plant in our flower box at the front of the hall.

Park bound

It was such a nice day that we took the children to the Borden Park new playground for our playtime. The kids also had some freezies for a treat from Save-On-Foods, Stadium location.

The Bellevue Children's Puppetshow program will change to a new time – 10am – 11:30 am every third Saturday starting September 21st. If your child is 2 years – 8 years of age, please bring them to the program.

We have a story time, puppetshow,

craft time and playtime. Children in the neighborhood are welcome; we just ask that the parents have a community league membership.

New programing

This fall we will be doing clay ornament crafts. Starting in September the children will make them and then they will be baked in the pottery kiln located in our hall. Kids will glaze them and can use them for Christmas ornaments this year.

We hope to have some guest speakers this fall; a fireman and policeman.

The Bellevue Children's Puppetshow Program has been running for over three years in our community. Parents are welcome to drop their children off for the duration of the program.



Photo by JANICE FLEMING WEEKS

A few of the Bellevue kids enjoying time at Borden Park, after spending some time planting flowers at Bellevue Hall.

If you are a parent and wish to help with the program and/or become a guest speaker, please call me at (780) 474-1183.



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CANADA POST

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POSTES CANADA

Your health. My priority.

New faces join the Bellevue Community League

By JANICE FLEMING WEEKS

Bellevue held its Annual General Meeting on May 6, 2013. We have some returning directors and some new additions.

Returning as a director is Grace Kelly, who is responsible for membership; Jeanne Barr, who is responsible for good & welfare (Seniors); Joachim Nuthack, who takes on civic matters and transportation issues, Kerry Weeks, and John Flower.

We are pleased to welcome newcomers, LeeAnn Wright and JoAnne Granstrom as directors of the board.

LeeAnn is new to Bellevue community and JoAnne has deep family roots in Bellevue. Her grandparents were the owners of the Virginia Park Greenhouse. Both of these ladies are enthusiastic, have tons of energy and were most happy to be on the board when I first approached them.

Judy Nuthack is returning as our Secretary and Rick McAdie as our Treasurer and Building Manager. Debbie Petit will still coordinate newsletter distribution for Bellevue as a volunteer, but will not be



Courtesy BELLEVUE COMMUNITY LEAGUE

Front Row (L to R) Darryl Szafranski, Judy Nuthack, John Flower and Jeanne Barr and Barb. Middle Row (L to R) Rick McAdie, LeeAnn Wright, Grace Kelly and Jo Nuthack Back Row (L to R) Wendy Mitchell, JoAnne Granstrom, Janice Fleming Weeks and Keira Weeks. Missing: Kerry Weeks and Deb Petit.

sitting on the board.

Wendy Mitchell is our representative from the Pottery Guild. Darryl Szafranski is our community relations manager from Edmonton Northlands, and Shan-

non Murray is our Community Resource Coordinator for Bellevue with the City of Edmonton. Our Vice President position is vacant and I am returning as President of the community league.



We will be celebrating our 1st Birthday on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 with a Southern-Style Birthday Bash!

Bring this ad in during the month of October to receive 15%!
Applies to food only.

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Highlands memberships now available

By **RHODA MCDONOUGH, HCL Membership director**

Highlands Community League is happy to be selling your 2013/14 Memberships!

Community League Memberships expire on August 31st of each year.

Why purchase a membership? Becoming a member of our Community League is a demonstration of your commitment to your community. It also gives you a discounted rate for many of our League's programs AND the City of Edmonton along with The Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues have created a new program called "The Community League Wellness Program" offering a 10% admission discount to all the City of Edmonton Recreation facilities.

If you have children who will be participating in league soccer or hockey, a community league membership is required. This will be one less task to be completed during this busy month of September.

Purchase your memberships at Mandolin Books at 6419-112 Avenue or purchase online at Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues at www.efcl.org

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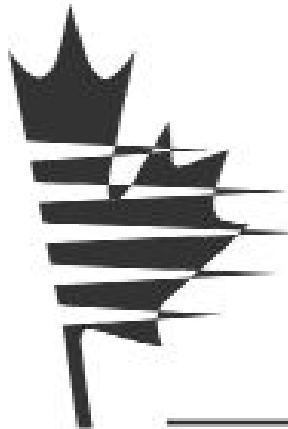
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O CANADA "IN ALL THY SONS COMMAND"

Changing our national anthem to render the line "in all thy sons command" seemingly more gender neutral is grammatically unnecessary. "O Canada" is already gender neutral. We can check the dictionary or recall our historical precedents to see there is no need to make changes out of some sense of political correctness.

The word "son" has more than one definition; it does not necessarily refer to a male offspring. This is particularly true when referencing nationhood.

Take Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, tenth edition. A son is defined as: "a **person** closely associated with or deriving from a formative agent (as a nation, school, or race)." Or the Concise Oxford, ninth edition, which includes in its definition: "a **person** regarded as inheriting an occupation, quality etc. or associated with a particular attribute (sons of freedom, sons of the soil)." Hence, sons in this context can be seen as **persons**.

The 1929 "Person's Case" contested and won by the "Famous Five," which included well-known Albertan Emily Murphy, concluded that women are indeed persons.

Therefore, if sons are **persons** in the national context, then the word "sons" in our national anthem "O Canada" is gender neutral and indeed means both male and female persons.

The version of "O Canada" on which the official English lyrics are based was written in 1906 by Justice Robert Stanley Weir. Today's English version includes changes recommended in 1968 by a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, which reviewed the anthem word for word for its appropriateness.

"O Canada" was proclaimed Canada's national anthem on July 1, 1980, one hundred years after it was first sung on June 24, 1880.

I see no reason to change the anthem's lyrics. The current anthem wording is politically correct and is gender neutral.

What do you think?

780-495-3261 www.petergoldring.ca

Summerfest on Ada a big hit



It's amazing what can happen when neighbours have a vision – it turns into a party that the whole community can enjoy, and that many want to see happen again next year. Big kudos go out to the Highlands Social Club and the Highlands Community League for giving the community another great reason to “hang out in the park.”

Photos by GEOFF LILGE



What is art?

Everyone appreciates the fact that artists need to express themselves and share their art with others, but there's a vast difference between adding beauty and destruction.

On the left, some unknown artist spray painted a dog on a garbage can along Ada; it brings a smile to all who see it. On the right, this is not art, it's not even imaginative.

Whatever you want to call it – tagging or graffiti – has been increasing in our neighbourhood. If you see some, please call 311 and make sure to provide the address so it can be taken care of.



Pottery guild – creating pieces of art

Pottery sale Sat., Nov. 24

By **JANICE FLEMING WEEKS**

The Whetstone Pottery Guild had its annual spring sale on April 28th at the Bellevue Community Hall. Members of the Guild work away at making their creations to sell twice a year – once in the spring and the second in late fall November. There is such a uniqueness of designs, styles, color and materials from each potter.

While working at the sale this year, it was interesting to see returning customers who would particularly come for a certain potters design. We had some new potters who contributed to the sale, which was nice to see.

This year, while the sale was on, Janet from the Guild serenaded us with a classical music ensemble.

What's unique about the Whetstone Pottery Guild is that it's the only guild in the city situated in a community league. Winnie Rimstad has been with the guild for over 20 years. I asked her what brought her into pottery, and she says it's a way to unwind from the stresses in life, and time alone to create pieces from clay.

I joined the guild this year and after taking pottery classes last year, I found myself wanting to learn more.

The Guild is offering classes once again this fall in September and though registration took place Aug. 28, (too early for this publication) there might still be some room. Cost is \$160 for BCL members and \$180 for non-members. Cost includes materials and firing/glazing. The course will be taught by Alan, a member of the guild.

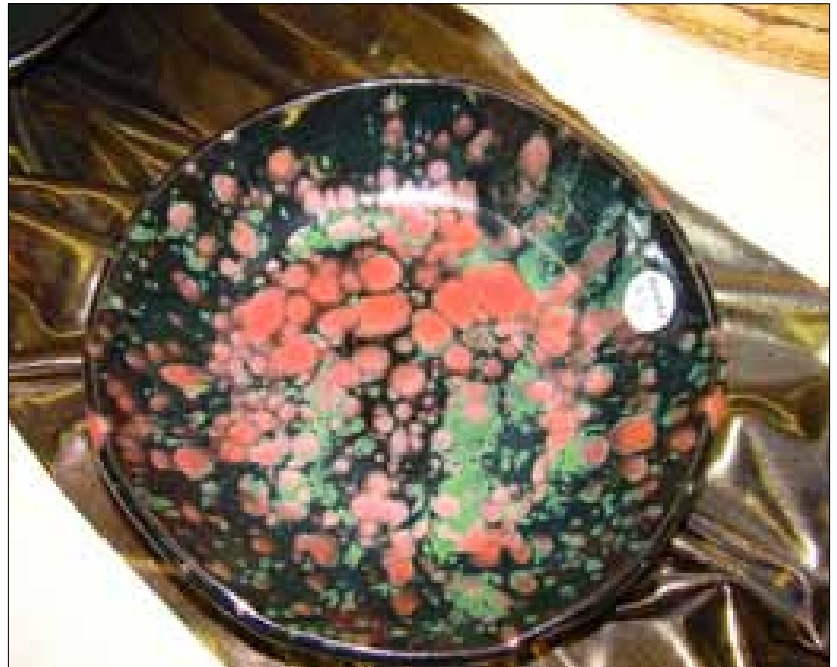
If you have never potted before, this is an opportunity to learn! You may want to become a member after the class. There will be a pottery demonstration on Saturday, September 7 at community league day (9 a.m. – 3 p.m.). Come out and speak to Alan or one of the members on hand that day.

The next pottery sale will be on Saturday, Nov. 24 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Bellevue Community Hall.



Courtesy of BELLEVUE COMMUNITY LEAGUE

Just some of the beautiful pottery available at the upcoming Whetstone Pottery and Gift Sale, Saturday, Nov. 24.





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Shall we dance?

By **Janice Fleming Weeks**

Bellevue Community offered ballroom dancing classes in May and June this year. We had a couple who were preparing for their wedding waltz. With constant practice and help from our instructors, Louis, Janice and Vicky, they were able to master the waltz for their wedding in July.

Couples and singles sign up who want to improve their skill level, meet new people and challenge themselves. The classes are 1.5 hours long and are quite the workout when we dance to fast paced dances like the cha cha, salsa and jive.

We covered the rhumba, cha cha, waltz, jive, two-step, tango, salsa and two different types of Greek dances. The mixture of couples and singles enjoyed learning each dance and practicing them. Everyone particularly enjoyed Vicky Barclay's teaching of the two Greek dances!

Couples and singles are welcome to sign up for ballroom dancing. There was interest in fall classes, so we will offer a six week course covering all the above

dances starting Sept. 4 on Wednesdays from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Cost for Bellevue and Highlands community league members is only \$45.00 per person. Cost for non-members is \$60.00. Registration will take place on Wednesday, August 28th from 6-7:30 pm at Bellevue Hall – 7308 – 112 Avenue.

If you wish to sign up, please email me at bridgetjones6@hotmail.ca with your name, address and phone number.



Photos by **JANICE FLEMING WEEKS**

Bellevue league is offering a six-week course in ballroom dancing starting in September, with a wide variety of styles, including rhumba, cha cha, waltz, jive, two-step, tango, salsa and two different types of Greek dances.



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Pub Night – September 20



From left to right: Kyle Dehaan, Hannah Giesbrecht, HCL Membership director, Brett Farquharson and Katrina Nelson all from Concordia and terrific hosts at the June Pub Night.

The next Pub Night will be Friday, Sept. 20 and we will be welcoming a whole new Pub Night crew to oversee the running of Highlands' longest running community event.

As tradition dictates, they will be looking for monthly guest hosts so the September night is the perfect opportunity to come out and see what's involved in hosting a Pub Night.

We think of it as hosting a house party for the neighbourhood with reasonably priced drinks, free munchies and door prizes plus great music. Doors open at 8:30 and we'll see you there.

Anjl Horse & Carriage

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Also available for fresh eggs, beef, pork, bison & honey

Highlands Farmer's Market, Thursdays
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Capilano Mall Farmer's Market, Saturdays
Next to Albert's Restaurant
9:30 am - 4:00 pm

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Community League Day & BBQ

Saturday, Sept. 21
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Celebrate your community, visit with your neighbours and enjoy:

- Community BBQ
- Family games, including Soccer
- Community Groups & Associations
- Music, wagon rides and much more

It's the perfect opportunity to purchase your membership



Highlands Park 61 St. - 112 Ave.

Congratulations to the Highlands U12 champs



Photo courtesy RHYS BAILEY

By SUSAN RUTTAN and RHYS BAILEY

Highlands has had a very strong soccer program this year, and the icing on the cake was the triumph of our under-12 boys' team this summer.

The Highlands Spartans played a total of 24 games and ended up first the city of Edmonton champions, then the gold medal winners at the Inter Cities Soccer Championships in Calgary in July.

The team consisted of 16 regular players and 12 guest players from the Fraser under-12 boys' team. Five team members have been playing together a couple of years, but obviously the whole team came together this year to become a winning combination.

Congratulations to head coach Jason Du, assistant coaches Curtis Zeiner and Dean Lieu, and team manager Heather Zeiner. And a special congrats to our Highlands soccer director Rhys Bailey. Hard work and commitment do pay off – the Spartans have proved that.

Highlands Community League has a goal in place to provide an opportunity for players and coaches of our community and neighbouring communities to participate in and enjoy soccer all year round. Highlands offers both outdoor and indoor soccer for U4 to U18 age groups.

This past outdoor season, our player registration numbers came in at 150 with 12 teams representing our community!

The program continues to grow and is a great testament to our community, players, coaches, managers and volunteers for the dedicated effort that goes into running teams, the ball never stops here in Highlands!

We are looking forward to the upcoming indoor season and if you are reading this in time, there is still one more date for registration – Saturday, Sept. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Highlands Community Hall Sports Room at 6112 - 113 Avenue.

Players, age 4 to 18 (born 1996 through 2010) are eligible, and parents/players must bring a birth certificate, passport or drivers licence, form of payment (cash or cheque) and a current community league membership. (Highlands memberships can be purchased at the registration.)

The Indoor season starts in late October and runs through to March. We foster team spirit and enjoyment for all players and coaches and encourage our teams to participate in tournaments.

Development camps will be offered for all players and coaches that are interested. All Highlands coaches are experienced and qualified but we can always use more. Whether you are an experienced coach or new to the sport, but have desire to become more involved in our year-round soccer program, please contact us.

If you have any questions or comments about soccer in Highlands, just drop a note to Rhys Bailey at highlandssoccer@gmail.com



There were many top-ranking women playing at the Mayfair, including New Zealander, Lydia Ko. She is currently the top-ranked woman amateur golfer in the world and is the youngest person ever to win an LPGA Tour event.

Up close with the best

By **TED SMITH**

The Highlands Golf Club had a 25 member team that was in charge of Marshaling duties on hole number 12 at the Royal Mayfair for the LPGA CN Canadian Women's Open on August 19 to 25. We were responsible for the safety and well being of players, spectators, media and officials, during and after play each day.

Reputation on the line

In the eyes of the players (and remember folks, these gals are the cream of the world crop), the reputation of the tournament, to a great extent, depended on the behaviour of the gallery and that's where we came in.

We ensured all competitors had a chance to play their very best and also ensured the safety and comfort of the spectators and allowed them to enjoy the play.

The task was not an easy one, but our Highlands group, including Highlanders, Jean Shepansky, Loie Unwin and myself, was certainly up for the event. Our team was positioned at the

tee box, cross walk, drive zones and around the green.

It was an exciting time and a great chance to watch the best women players in the world.



Let's play hockey!

By **HOWARD LAWRENCE**

Attention Highlands, Bellevue, Virginia Park guys – if you are interested in playing mens' hockey, keep reading.

We have booked the Russ Barnes indoor arena (121 Avenue and 67 Street) for Thursday nights from 9:15 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. through the winter for adult hockey. We will begin on October 3 and play 25 games through to March 27.

Folks of all skill levels are welcome. This will be no hit, full equipment hockey. We will divide teams each week and seek to ensure that we have goalies for every game.

The cost is \$300 per player, for the season. We will limit the number of skaters to 28 per night. I am sure however, that there will be lots of nights with only two lines per team. Friends can join us to a max of five times for \$20 per skate.

In order to sign up give me a call, send an e-mail or simply drop off a cheque for \$300 at 11220-62 Street.

Contact me at 780 707-9501, or e-mail howardlawrence@shaw.ca



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HIGHLANDS

For more information and to become a member, contact Ray Milne, General Manager at 780-474-4211 ext. 4

Located just minutes from downtown Edmonton and nestled in the beautiful North Saskatchewan River Valley.

Edmonton connection with the County of Wellington, ON

By **HERB GALE**

Why am I mentioning this location located way east of our community?

The reason is, I, along with other Master Composters, spent part of a day meeting with Doug Konard, the Solid Waste Services Manager for the County of Wellington.

Konard's department has just started a program similar to Edmonton's Master Composter Recycle/Reuse Program. He said our program is very unique and impressive. They want to learn from our knowledge and streamline their program. For example, they want to know how we are able to have a large group of volunteers.

From our discussions, I can see where we are far ahead of Wellington with our composting, recycling, and reuse programs.

A few items of interest that were very different from Edmonton's include:

1. Garbage bags

Must be purchased from the County. Charge is 10 bags Large (30"X38") \$17.50

Small 24"X28" \$10.00.

Material has to fit into the bags or there is no pick up.

Now think about all the "stuff" that we place for the collectors to haul away that are not in bags. Konard said the bag price will increase as needed to keep pace with processing costs.

2. Large items and other materials not bagged

These must be taken to the Waste Facility and there are fees.

3. Bottles

In Ontario, only beer and wine bottles are returned for a refund.

Other cartons and containers are tossed in the garbage and sorted at the Waste Facility. These containers are then sold to private industry (similar to Edmonton and Alberta as a whole).

This was interesting and what a waste (no pun intended). Think about the monies generated in Alberta by the return of all of our different types of containers. And the number of sport teams, school groups, girl guides, scouts, etc. who help pay for

their activities by returning containers for money.

4. Reuse Centre

Konard could not believe the unique service of this facility. He thinks this is the only facility of its type in Canada.

He was impressed that items like yogurt containers, egg cartons, pull tabs from beer and pop cans and elastics, have an after life and are not tossed into the garbage.

5. Composting

The County administrators are trying to deal with the high cost of taking peoples' organics and turning this material into compost at a large facility. The plan is to educate people to use composters and allow the grass clippings to go back onto the lawns; just what we have been doing in Edmonton for many, many years.

We can be thankful that in 1991, we started our programs to prolong the life of the Clover Bar Landfill. Now we are well ahead of our neighbours to the east who are just now seeing the sense (and cents) of municipal programs such as ours.



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Alberta Health Services EMS would like to remind parents and caregivers of children of precautions they can take to prevent childhood poisonings. Ingesting medications, prescription or over-the-counter, is the leading cause of accidental poisoning in children. Even small amounts of adult medications can be seriously harmful or even fatal to your child if swallowed. Other causes of poisoning are household products, such as dishwasher tablets, and personal care items, such as mouthwash or nail polish.

Medication storage

- Store all medications in a locked container and place in an area inaccessible to children.
- Keep medications in their original child-resistant packaging.
- Do not mix multiple medications inside one bottle.
- Install child locks on all cabinets or drawers where medications are stored.

Prevention

- Store household products, car supplies, and cosmetics in locked cupboards or drawers.
- Apply child safety latches to drawers and cabinets if they are within a child's reach.
- Know and label all plants in and around your home and garden.
- Antifreeze, windshield washer fluid, and pesticides are extremely poisonous. Even small amounts of these can cause serious illness when ingested.
- Poisoning information can be obtained by calling the Poison and Drug Information Service (PADIS) at 1-800-332-1414.
- In case of a poisoning emergency, call 9-1-1.
- Provide the name of the product ingested or, if it is safe to do so, a sample of the substance for EMS to inspect on their arrival.

Safety tips

- Ensure visitors to your home keep their personal belongings out of children's reach. They may contain unsafe items.
- Take extra precautions with medicines that appeal to children such as chewable vitamins or flavored cough and cold syrups.
- Properly dispose of any medications or toxic household products no longer in use.

www.albertahealthservices.ca

Highlands Community League Events and Programs

All programs are held at Highlands Community Hall, 6112-113 Ave., unless otherwise stated

For more information on all the programs available for kids and adults, please visit www.highlandscommunity.ca

Growing Changes Occupational Therapy Services for Children pres- ents:

Fine Motor Camp

A five (5) week fun and interactive camp for children in Kindergarten and grades 1 to 3 who find printing, using scissors or other fine motor activities challenging.

The camp will be run by two experienced pediatric occupational therapists. A multi-sensory approach will be used along with co-operative games and crafts to practice the skills needed for hand functioning.

This camp is designed for children who may be experiencing



mild to moderate delays in fine motor development or who would benefit from extra practice.

The camp places an emphasis on grasp development, formation of letters, legibility, review of lower case, copying, using school tools (scissors, glue) in hand manipulation skills, eye hand coordination and strength.

This includes a summary report identifying individual children's strengths, areas of need, and suggestions for further skill development.

This camp will use a multi-sensory approach combining fine and gross motor movement to enhance learning.

Parents are welcome to attend the first of the 5 sessions in order to help their child feel more at ease in the group and to learn how to support their child with printing practice at home.

Time: Printing Basics: 10:00 am - 11:15 am daily

When: Saturdays, Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, and 16

Cost: \$250.00

Contact: Rebecca Summach at 780.965.4310 or email growingchanges@gmail.com to register.

Note: OT services may be covered depending on health plan and are tax deductible.

Bellevue Community League Events and Programs

All programs are held at Bellevue Community Hall, 7308-112 Ave., unless otherwise stated.

For more information on any of the programs you see here, please contact bridgetjones6@hotmail.ca or call (780) 474-1183 or visit our Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/pages/Bellevue-Community-League

Ballroom Dancing

Cha cha, rhumba, tango, salsa, waltz, jive, two step, Greek dance

Beginner – (Six lessons)

Wednesdays – (September 4 – October 9th – 7-8:30 pm)

\$45 BCL members, \$60 Non-members, \$10 Drop-in

Pottery lessons

Wednesdays – 6:30 – 9:30 pm

\$160 BCL members, \$180 Non-members

Bellevue Children's Puppetshow

10 am – 11:30 am

Every 3rd Saturday (Sept 21, Oct 19, Nov 16)

Community League Day – Show & Shine and Trade Show

Sept. 7 – 9am – 3pm

See antique cars, businesses, community groups providing information sessions, free hamburgers, petting zoo, membership sales, door prizes and historical portraits.

Family Movie Night at Bellevue

Sept. 20

Bring your lawn chair and watch a movie in our parking lot. Movie to start at 7:30pm. We will have hotdogs, popcorn, drinks for sale. Door prizes. Event in conjunction with Northlands.

Pottery Sale

Saturday, Nov. 23

9am – 3pm, Bellevue Hall Check out the handcrafted items from members of the Pottery Guild. Great time to shop for Christmas gifts.



Photo BARB MARTOWSKI

Learn pottery through Bellevue Community League with Whetstone Pottery every Wednesday.

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY LEAGUE CONTACTS

Executive

President/Programs	Susan Ruttan	780-477-3663	president@highlandscommunity.ca
Vice President	Cheryl Mahaffy	780-479-3524	vp@highlandscommunity.ca
Treasurer	Allan Mayer	780-477-6382	treasurer@highlandscommunity.ca
Secretary	Andrea Allen	780-474-3848	secretary@highlandscommunity.ca
Past President	Susan Petrina-Prettie		wands@web.net

Directors

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Events & Social	Dan Rietveld		social@highlandscommunity.ca
Membership	Rhoda McDonough		membership@highlandscommunity.ca
Civic Affairs	Jonathan Lawrence		civicaffairs@highlandscommunity.ca
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Facility & Grounds	Boyd England		facilities@highlandscommunity.ca
Building Manager	Arie Joel	780-474-0535	
Sports	Geoff Lilge	780 695-0994	sports@highlandscommunity.ca
Soccer	Rhys Bailey	780 479-6957	highlandsoccer@gmail.com
Casino	Nykie Starr		casino@highlandscommunity.ca

Committees

Highlands/Bellevue HIGHLIGHTS	Barb Martowski (magazine, facebook & enews)		highlights.newsletter@gmail.com
Highlands Website Manager	Yvette Cioran		enews@highlandscommunity.ca
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Pub Night	Shauna Larkin		shaunal@telus.net
Neighbourhood Patrol	Jim Krysko	780 850-8573	highlandsneighbourhoodpatrol@gmail.com

Associations and Clubs

Tennis	Ian Tomas		manager@highlandstennis.ca
Community Garden	Jan Kuperus		mine@telusplanet.net
Children's Playgroup	Nikela	780 472-8610	
Gardening Club	Audrey Hayward	780 474-2993	ahayward2@shaw.ca
Lawn Bowling Club	Barb Spencer	780 473-0733	highlandswlawnbowlingclub@gmail.com
Bridge Club	Murray Hoke	780 474-5408	mhoke@telus.net

Partners

EFCL District Representative	Christine Bremner	780 426-4369	cbremner@telus.net
Highlands Seniors Housing	Ann Blakely	780 479-5079	annblakely@shaw.ca
EDM Community Recreation	Anne Harvey	780-496-3436	anne.harvey@edmonton.ca

Disclaimer: This newsletter may contain opinions or statements that are those of the authors, and not of the Highlands community league.

Sweet Baby Touch

4 week baby massage class at Birth Source, Inc.
Starts: September 12 or October 17

Call Sharon Melvin at **780 288-2004**
www.babymassage.com



Tai Chi Chih

6 week Tai Chi Chih classes
(noon or evening) at
CAPILANO COMMUNITY HALL
CALL SHARON MELVIN AT
780-288-2004
www.relaxwithtaichi.com
Starts September 23 or 25
12-1 pm or 6-7 pm
(Also: Dance Tai Chi starts
September 25 9:30-10:30 am)



BELLEVUE COMMUNITY LEAGUE CONTACTS

Executive

President/Programs	Janice Fleming Weeks	780 474-1183	bridgetjones6@hotmail.ca
Vice President	Vacant		
Treasurer	Rick McAdie	780 471-6720	rmcadie@telus.net
Secretary	Judy Nuthack	780-479-7878	judnu@telus.net

Directors

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Director at Large	Joachim Nuthack	780-479-7878	jornu@telus.net
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Director at Large	Jo-Anne Granstrom	780-908-5168	jo-anne.granstorm@atcogas.com

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Whetstone Pottery Guild	Wendy Mitchell	780 478-7374	Mitchx2@shaw.ca
Northlands Communications	Darryl Szafranski	780-491-3401	dszafranski@northlands.com

Disclaimer: This newsletter may contain opinions or statements that are those of the authors, and not of the Bellevue community league.

CITY EPS CONTACTS

Community Beat Sergeant	Keith Pitzel	780-426-8100	keith.pitzel@edmontonpolice.ca
Community Beat Constable	Joshua Adams	780-426-8100	joshua.adams@edmontonpolice.ca
Community Liaison Sergeant	Kim Clark	780 426-8100	kim.clark@edmontonpolice.ca



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HIGHLANDS • BELLEVUE HIGHLIGHTS



Deadlines: February Issue: Dec 14 September Issue: July 19
May Issue: Mar 15 December Issue: Oct 18

Distribution: 2,250 copies. Hand delivered to all homes, business, local schools and public areas in both Highlands and Bellevue Communities; that is from 50th Street to 76th Street, and between 118 Avenue and the North Saskatchewan River.

Payment: We accept Visa, MasterCard, Amex, or cheques payable to: Highlands Community League and full payment is due when advertising is reserved.

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What are you doing on October 21?

By **CHRISTINE BREMNER**

Are you going to the polls to cast your vote for mayor, city councillor, and school trustee?

Or are you going to stay home, as two out of three eligible voters did in 2010?

I was amazed – and appalled – to discover that in the last Edmonton municipal election, the voter turn-out was 33.43% – meaning that many of you who complain about rising taxes and utility fees, user costs, potholes and whatever civic project that rates your condemnation, didn't bother to get out and vote.

When voters go to the polls this year, they will be electing local politicians for a four-year term.

Nominations for positions on the ballot close on Sept. 21, and at this writing, there are four declared candidates for mayor: Kerry Diotte, Don Iveson and Karen Liebovci, all current sitting councillors, and Curtis Penner, whose political experience is limited to his community league.

I don't propose to summarize their policies and platforms; each candidate has

a website, and I'm sure we'll be receiving campaign literature.

In our own ward, Ward 7, there are three declared candidates at present: the incumbent, Tony Caterina; Dave Colburn, Edmonton Public School Board trustee, and Mimi Williams, who has run for a fair number of elected positions. All have a web presence.

The City has already organized one election forum for Ward 7 council candidates: Oct. 3, 7 p.m., at St. Bernadette Elementary School, 11917 - 40 Street. I hope that others will step forward to organize other public events.

When it comes to public school trustees, we're in Ward D, and so far, Ray Martin is the only declared candidate. This area is in Ward 73 of the Catholic Schools Districts. Cindy Olsen is the incumbent, and I haven't been able to confirm if she is running again, nor if there are any other candidates.

In order to vote, you must be a Canadian citizen, 18 years of age or older, resident in Alberta six months prior to the

election, and live in the district.

Rules have changed, and you will be required to produce identification that establishes your name and current address.

Authorized identification includes: Alberta Driver's Licence, Alberta Identification Card, bank/credit card statement or personal cheque, income/property tax assessment notice, insurance policy or coverage card, and statement of government benefits (employment insurance, old-age security or social assistance.)

If you can't make the Oct. 21 date, you can vote at City Hall in the Continuous Advance Vote from Oct. 8-12 and 15 to 19 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursdays: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

You can also cast an advance vote on the same dates and times at the Edmonton Soccer Association, East Soccer Centre, 12720 Victoria Trail.

When you think of how many people fought for the right to vote, and how many have died for it, isn't it amazing how few of us exercise that right?



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