

Brentwood Potluck – You're All Invited!

NOVEMBER 14!

Notwithstanding the fact that your last Bugle gave a different potluck date, the Brentwood Community Association Potluck will be Saturday, November 14, 2009 at 5:00 pm and all of our neighbours are welcome – singles, couples and families; youngsters, seniors and everyone in between. This event is free but we do ask you to bring a dish that feeds 6-8 people, a list of the ingredients used in that dish (so folks with food allergies or restrictions will know what they can eat) and a serving utensil. Label the serving piece and all containers with your name. Once everyone arrives, we'll all sit down to a community meal together in the upstairs hall at the Sportsplex.

RSVP to Cheri at 403-220-1219 or Filomena at 403-289-3854 by Wednesday, November 11, 2009 so we know how many tables and chairs to set up.

Animal & Bylaw Services
Partnering with Calgarians
www.calgary.ca/animalservices

My Licence Is My Ticket Home

We love our animal companions and we try to keep them safe, but sometimes their curious natures find a screen door to sneak through or an open gate that leads to exploring the neighbourhood.

Licensing your pet is their ticket home! All cats and dogs three months of age and older residing in The City of Calgary must be licensed under the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw. A licence enables Animal & Bylaw Services to reunite lost pets with their owners.

A one-year licence for:	COST
Altered cats	\$10.00
Unaltered kittens (up to six months old)	\$15.00
Unaltered cats	\$30.00
Puppies (up to six months old) & altered dogs	\$31.00
Unaltered dogs	\$52.00

A pet owner's licence fee allows Animal & Bylaw Services to:

- Return lost cats and dogs to owners and enforce the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw
- Educate animal owners about Responsible Pet Ownership
- Feed and shelter lost cats and dogs entering our facility
- Provide emergency medical care for injured cats and dogs
- Operate our animal adoption and volunteer animal socialization programs
- Deliver our school programs
- Help neighbours resolve their animal related problems
- In early 2010, provide free spay or neuter surgery for cats and dogs of low income Calgarians who meet the criteria

Your pet relies on you to keep them safe. The licence is the pet's reassurance that if they are to get lost, they can be returned home by Animal & Bylaw Services.

For more information about licensing fees visit calgary.ca/animalservices or call 3-1-1.



Midnight Mural Maintenance Unexpected Requirements of Community Stewardship!

Guest Writer (Ghost Righter), Robin Cockett,
steps in with screwdriver:

There are unexpected risks involved with community stewardship – especially if it requires operations late at night. Let this little tale speak to all those stewards out there who find themselves working in those black hours: stewardship is an important service ... but consider leaving rigorous testing of your work to the light of day!

It was the evening of Wednesday, September 23rd that my wife, Polly, asked me if I could walk back from work at the University of Calgary via Charleswood Drive so that I could inspect the mural at the corner of Northmount Drive. It had been noted on the community e-grapevine that something was amiss with the trim. Arriving there I discovered that indeed the metal trim had worked itself loose from the bottom of the mural and was hanging precariously by a couple of completely inadequate screws. It was clear that unless it was fixed immediately it would be a much bigger repair job.

Accordingly, I proceeded home and reported on the matter to Polly, who agreed that I should make what repairs I could after supper. By the time I had finished my meal it was pitch dark, so this time equipped with a head torch, several large screws, and a good size screwdriver, I headed back to the mural. I was delighted to find that the trim had not yet completely fallen off. The old screws had not been long enough to get through to the 2x4s backing the mural but I found that holding up the trim I could get enough of the longer screws, with which I was now equipped, through to reattach it fairly firmly to this backing.

Several screws later, I stood back proudly to admire my efforts. All that remained was to check my work by testing to see whether the trim was firm. Applying some pressure to it, I was pleased to find it held quite firmly. So, confidently I moved along the length and applied firm downward pressure at another spot. It held. However, at that very moment light and noise exploded! I whirled round, screwdriver in one hand and torch on head, to realize that a police car had drawn up on the curb and a police officer was watching me rather closely!

Now, this added a completely new dimension to matters which I really had not considered. I approached the police car, wondering what exactly the officer would make of my actions. Once at the car, being determined in no way to bias his opinion, a silence ensued. Finally he commented, "You seem to be working a bit late." There seemed to be only one possible response: "In my profession you have to!"

The officer, recognizing the requirements of community stewardship, saw that all was as it should be and, quite satisfied, swept off on his way.

Do you have Stewardship Stories to Share? Contact me!

Environmentally yours,
Polly Lee Knowlton Cockett, environews@shaw.ca



School Year Underway at Simon Fraser!

By Nancy, Shelley and Cam

It's only the end of September and already Simon Fraser is hard at work. Simon Fraser is now a middle school, opening its doors to grade 5 and 6 students from Royal Oak and Rocky Ridge communities. "The situation was very complex," commented Mr. Johnston, the principal of Simon Fraser. "The program was supposed to be housed at Montgomery School, but they disliked the idea. Since our school's population had been dropping over the past 5 years, the Calgary Board of Education gave us the program." To be better prepared for this transition to middle school, teachers from Simon Fraser visited many existing middle schools to research what works best for all students.

Simon Fraser is embracing its new diverse population which now includes grades 5-9. Our population has sky rocketed, resulting in an increase in students as well as staff. The change allows students opportunities to demonstrate sensitivity and understanding toward students who are much younger while offering grade 5 and 6 students opportunities such as Option classes and a wealth of resources not common within an elementary setting. The result - Simon Fraser has become a much happier place to be.

To help form the cohesive relationships among the students of Simon Fraser, students and staff had a great time on Wednesday, September 16 at Bowness Park. This was an entire school field trip about team building and peace. Throughout the day every class participated in activities that focused on team building such as toxic and the blind leading the blind.

During the following day, the school had two speakers come in to talk about tolerance, not bullying and poverty/ child labour. They did a great job of making us think about how we treat others and the hardships other people suffer in the world. They made us think about what we were willing to do about these issues at home and abroad. In the afternoon the entire school participated in a dance. It gave everyone from grades 5-9 a chance to get together, have fun and enjoy a common love of music and dance.

Peace Initiatives benefits the school by giving the students opportunities to make friends while learning how to get along and communicate, which makes the school a better place. If Simon Fraser School is a better place, Brentwood benefits as well. A caring school equals caring students who help the neighbourhood be a community everyone enjoys belonging to.

Caring not only for ourselves but also our environment is reflected within our curricular activities. Throughout September, all grade 8 classes, led by their math/science teachers, went on a fieldtrip along the Elbow River. The main purpose of this trip was to investigate the river's water quality. We observed the river at several locations and noted water quality differences depending on the location and the different human impacts such as: forestry, oil and gas, industries, and ATV recreation. This fieldtrip offered an authentic scientific learning experience that enhanced our current science unit, "Fresh and Salt Water Systems." Water tests were conducted at the following sites:

Cobble Flats, Redwood Meadows in Bragg Creek, and at Twin Bridges, just outside of Calgary. Two other stops at the top of Moose Mountain, and at Mclean Creek allowed the students to observe the human impact on the Elbow River watershed. "The students learned how to test water quality, how different uses impact the water quality. We, as teachers, hope that after this trip, the students will be more conscious of water usage and that their awareness of water conservation will be raised," said Mr. Kamori, the grade 8 Science teacher who spearheaded the trip.

The swimming program for grades 5, 6 and one class of grade 8's is among countless experiences starting in October. Sports teams are now in full swing: volleyball, soccer and cross country. If we thought September was busy, October will certainly keep pace.



Community Support for Garden Taking Root

By Sue Drader

and members of the Brentwood Community Garden group

In August, the garden group undertook to survey the homes closest to the proposed site, which is located west of the playground and north of the skating rink/shack at the site of the old Brentwood Community Association building on 33 Street. The purpose of the survey was to give potential neighbours the opportunity to voice support or concerns about the prospect of a community garden in their immediate area and see whether any might be interested in participating in the garden's creation. The results were positive in that of the 43 adults surveyed, 21 expressed support for the initiative, an additional 19 residents were interested in being involved in the gardening group, while 3 people were either undecided or neutral. Encouraging news for the community! Thanks to all who responded to our door-to-door pollster!

On September 20, we had a presence at the annual Brentwood Street Party where an additional thirteen volunteers signed on to the garden project team. Thank you and welcome to our new garden project team members!

At their September 29 meeting, the Brentwood Community Association (BCA) board voted to approve, in principle, the garden group's proposal for a community garden. The BCA granted their support for the group to submit a formal application for a City of Calgary grant. Sincere gratitude is sent to the members of the BCA for nurturing this initiative.

The idea of a community garden is truly taking root in Brentwood. For more information, please visit us at <http://groups.google.ca/group/brentwood-community-garden?hl=en>