



HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS – BRIAR HILL BEACON

MARCH 2011



It's never too early to learn to love books. This young fellow takes a quiet moment to check out a recycled Thomas the Tank Engine book at the "Recycle a Friend" used book sale at Briar Hill School last month. Huge thanks to our community for supporting the sale with book donations, book purchases, and hundreds of volunteer hours! See story, page ____.

- Calendar of Events -

Send us information about your annual or one-time event.

- Community Board Meetings**
April 7, May 12, June 9 at 7 pm
Community Boardroom
- Park N Play/Stay N Play**
August 15 – 19, Green Park
- Tots' Time Play Group**
Mondays, 9:30 - 11:30 am,
Community Gym
- Adult Badminton**
Tuesday through Friday,
9 am - 12 noon, Community Gym
- Women's Soccer Night**
Thursday nights, 8 - 9 pm,
Community Gym
- Family Open Gym Nights**
Fridays, 6:30 - 8 pm, Community Gym

NEW – Renew your CA membership online!

It's spring, and HHBH residents' fancy turns to ... thoughts of renewing their Community Association membership. Of course they do!

Well, even if they don't, here's a gentle reminder and a much quicker, easier way to do it: renew online at www.hh-bh.ca. You can fill out the membership registration form online and pay by Paypal, or print the form and submit it with a cheque.

Or, do it the way we always have: fill out the membership form on page ____ of this newsletter and drop it off or mail it along with a cheque (CA address on page 2).

At just \$20 for a household membership (\$10 for seniors), it's affordable and entitles you to join programs that range from badminton to soccer to enrolling your kids in our community kindergarten and play school.

In turn, your membership benefits the community by showing that residents are interested in and willing to support CA initiatives. That helps when it's time for the CA to lobby on your behalf on issues such as traffic calming, development permits or Transit-Oriented Development.



HHBH Community Association Board

President	Kellie Johnston	475-3763
1st Vice-President	Carol Sandahl	284-5851
2nd Vice-President	Norm Anderson	807-2134
Treasurer	Russell McWilliam	830-5863
Secretary	Mara Grunau	283-9091
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Director, Land Use	Terry Woods	701-8856
Director, Sears Plume	Emmanuel Malterre	282-0813
Director, Facilities	Gunter Sammet	210-2603
Co-Director, Facilities	Robby Sidhu	605-9120
Director	Tejinder Paul Sidhu	383-7029
Director	Kevin Taylor	863-4445
Director	David Winkler	680-7231

*Board meetings are held at 7 pm on the second Thursday of each month (except July and August) in the Community Hall meeting room. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.
To include an item on the agenda, please contact the Board at least one week prior to the meeting.*

Contact the HHBH Community Association at:

Mailing Address: Box 65086, RPO North Hill Calgary, AB T2N 4T6

Phone: 282-6634 (voice mail)

Email: hh-bh-communityassociation@hotmail.com

(phone messages and emails are checked 1 – 2 times per week)

Beacon Submissions to: Barbara Green, Editor

email: thebeacon2005@hotmail.com

Deadline for submissions for next issue: May 15, 2011

Beacon Ads: hhbhacct@telus.net

Hall/Gym Bookings: Andrea.Schmidt.09@gmail.com or 282-6634

Website: www.hh-bh.ca

Community Hall/Gym 1922 – 14 Avenue N.W.

Parking is west of the Louise Riley Library, accessed via the library driveway.

Hall/Gym is located NE of our parking lot, just across the soccer field.

The HHBH Gym and Boardroom schedule can now be viewed online at www.hh-bh.ca.

HHBH won't get traffic study in 2011

Although residents submitted more than 20 traffic concern reports and Traffic Calming Committee Chair Denny Kwan submitted an update of the traffic study application, it appears that our community is not in the city's plans for traffic studies in 2011.

Denny replied to an email from Transportation Planning official Nathan Carswell in March, underlining HHBH's continuing interest in having a study done here to identify key hazard areas and suggest remediation plans.

A public meeting last spring drew a record number of participants from the community, and subsequently residents have continued to submit traffic concern reports. The Calgary Police's representative signed off on these reports, as did Ward 7 Ald. Druh Farrell.

"We're disappointed, but I want to encourage community members to keep submitting traffic concern reports," Kwan said. "The best way to get on the city's radar for a traffic study is to demonstrate community support. In this case, it's definitely the squeaky wheel that gets the grease."

Traffic report forms are available online at http://www.calgary.ca/DocGallery/BU/trans_planning/transportation_solutions/traffic_calming_policy.pdf (the form is in Appendix 1) or by calling 3-1-1, and the completed forms can be dropped off at the Louise Riley Library, the HHBH community hall or Briar Hill School. (The school has two envelopes on the bulletin board, one containing forms you can take to fill out, the other for you to leave completed ones.)

If you have any questions, please contact Denny at dellienye@shaw.ca or contact the HHBH CA (email and phone contact info on page 2).

A fond farewell, with many thanks!

By Mara Grunau

After four years of working together, our fabulous Community Association Board Assistant, Terry Hladun, has decided to pursue other employment opportunities. We will miss her, but wish her well in all her future endeavours.

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Get community news online

Did you know you can receive the Beacon and other community notices by email? If you're interested, just send your email address to: hhbhacct@telus.net.

Remediation plant finally up and running steadily

By Emmanuel Malterre - Chair, Sears Gas Plume

When the Sears Gas Bar closed in 1995, it was discovered that its tanks had been leaking for an unknown period of time, and plans were set in motion to clean it up. The first monitoring boreholes were drilled in the residential area around Lions Park in October 1998; it's been a long process, but we finally seem to be in the final stages.

The Sears gasoline plume remediation plant is now running after a number of stops and starts, and the plant operator doesn't foresee any further problems with power issues that caused a "significant amount of nuisance tripping and powering down" of the system during the last two months.

In February this year, the HHHB CA received a Pre-Commissioning Site Monitoring Report dated 17 January 2011. The report is based on analysis of 47 monitoring boreholes, and samples obtained in September 2010 from 21 of those wells were submitted for lab hydrocarbon analysis.

This report provides a "baseline" before the MPVE (Multi Phase Vapor Extraction) plant was actually functioning, against which remediation progress can be gauged.

The groundwater flow direction in the residential area is interpreted to be southeasterly at an average gradient of 0.03,

consistent with the previous 2008 results.

No LPH (Liquid Petroleum Hydrocarbon) was observed in the most recent monitor and sample event (September 2010). It is believed likely that no LPH was found because of the lower water table at that time of year. When monitoring resumes this spring, we will be able to see if LPH returns as water levels rise. It should be remembered that the water table level fluctuates throughout the year, with highs in the spring and summer, and lows in fall and winter.

As of September 2010, the volume of LPH recovered was 0 litres! The reader is reminded that the remediation plant was installed on its present site in November 2008, but was never functional until the summer of 2010, and since that time, several major interruptions occurred.

The total volume of LPH recovered since the first monitoring wells were dug in 1998 is 478 litres.

Alberta Environment Tier 1 Soil and Remediation Guidelines were revised and updated in December 2010. Stricter criteria of remediation were thus introduced for residential areas. The 204-page Guidelines Booklet can be downloaded from <http://environment.alberta.ca/02196.html>

Encroachment: here's what it is and why the City cares

Recently, a few local residents have heard from City officials about encroachment on bordering natural areas. Parks officials supplied the following information about why encroachment is a growing concern.

Calgary's natural areas are home to a variety of plants and wildlife. These natural areas are also valuable recreation areas for Calgarians.

The close proximity of some residential properties to natural areas presents the need to find a balance between nature and human use. When residents encroach onto public park land, the City is required to address the encroachment as per the Parks & Pathways Bylaw. Details of this Bylaw can be found online at www.calgary.ca/parks and click on About Parks.

Examples of encroachment include:

- building physical structures, such as bench pads or retaining walls, on native habitat
- planting non-native, invasive plants that outcompete native plants
- mowing the natural areas
- installing compost bins, bird feeders, and gardens

The concern is possible harm to the natural environment by either damaging vegetation or introducing invasive plants into the natural environment.

Public natural areas are for all to enjoy. Property lines delineate where residential areas end and public park space begins. Please be respectful of property lines and City bylaws by avoiding encroachment onto natural area lands. Working together, we can ensure our natural environments and wildlife will be protected, now and in the future.

Have your say about City budget, cost of new development

By Druh Farrell - Calgary City Alderman, Ward 7

For many years, a large share of the cost of suburban growth has been covered by all Calgarians through their property taxes and utility rates. A large portion of your tax dollars is directed to new growth, rather than reinvestment and renewal in our established communities. Last July, City Council passed a set of principles to guide the new levy negotiations with the suburban development industry. These principles recommended development levies that would more closely reflect the true costs of growth.

The discussion around the cost of suburban growth has become an urgent one. Calgary has grown by 250,000 people (the population of Saskatoon) over the last decade and during this time, growth-related debt has ballooned to \$1.5 billion. If left unchecked, utility debt alone is projected to rise to \$2.5 billion by 2018.

It takes many years for a new community to fully build out, and yet these new communities still require the amenities afforded to all Calgarians, before there is a tax base to support the services. Improper timing of new development puts a huge burden on both the operating and capital budgets.

The principle of allowing housing choice – where you want to live in Calgary and in what type of dwelling – is an important one. It is equally important that the true costs are associated with the choices that we make and that they are not based on a public subsidy.

Recommendations on the proposed development agreement will be debated at the Land Use Planning and Transportation Committee on April 20 where the public has the opportunity to comment. I encourage you to participate.

To learn more, please visit my facebook page, follow me on Twitter @DruhFarrell, or visit www.druhf Farrell.ca.

Our City. Our Budget. Our Future.

City Council approved a three-phase public engagement process to review core services and The City's business planning and budget process. In Phase One, we asked citizens and City of Calgary employees what information they needed in order to participate. Phase Two consists of gathering information from citizens, employees and Council about values and priorities related to City services.


Finally, in Phase Three we are asking how budget dollars should be allocated to provide the services Calgarians want now and for the future.

The information obtained will be provided to City Council in June for our consideration as we confirm priorities for the 2012-2014 business plans and budgets. This will build the foundation for future planning and budgeting.

The response from citizens during Phase One was encouraging – community workshops engaged over 80 community organizations, associations and civic partners. The next two phases are where we really need citizens to tell us how to make the city we all want a reality – what is important, what is not. The focus is on City services, your values and priorities and how they relate to the services that touch your lives.

Dates and locations for all forums can be found at www.Calgary.ca/ourfuture.

This is an exciting time in Calgary, a time to let us know what is important to you. Please help us by participating.



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Community policing

A new (but familiar) face in community policing

A new Calgary Police officer is tackling crime in our neighbourhood. Constable Will Johnson took on the job of Community Liaison Officer for our area at the beginning of this year.

You will probably recognize the name from his time with the Calgary Stampeders (Johnson was a six-time All-Star, helped the club win the Grey Cup in 1992 and was inducted into the team's Hall of Fame last fall). But these days, Cst. Johnson prefers to count his "seasons" with the police department, and this year he's in his twelfth.

He has made Calgary his home for many years, and his previous assignments for CPS have included work as a detective and then focusing on traffic and traffic education in schools.

While introducing himself at the HHHB Community Association board meeting in February, Cst. Johnson said he hadn't heard much yet from our neighbourhood – and no news in this case is good news.

"It's mostly the bottle pickers and graffiti, and we're on that as much as we can be," he said. "We can't control people walking the alleyways, so the best advice is to make sure the blue boxes are stored in the garage till pick-up day, and when you do put them out on that one day a week, keep them away from your house – that will keep these folks out of your yard.

"There's no question they are migrating in from other provinces, and the only way to deal with it is to work together," he said.

He added that the police depart-

ment is currently working with social service agencies on more global solutions to the problem of homelessness and transience in Calgary. "The approach now is to find them housing," he explained. "People are inherently good. There may be the odd one who'll see an opportunity and go kick a door down, but it's just the odd one."

Please report non-emergency incidents by phone using the police general number at 266-1234, or in person at your local police district office (we're District 3).



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The Neighbourhood Kindergarten: 55 and going strong!

By Kari Brawn

When I think of the Sesame Street song, “These Are the People in my Neighbourhood,” I think of Mr. Harder. He was the crossing guard who guided the kindergartners across 19th Street in the 1970s. Kindergarten is on my mind because the Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill Kindergarten is celebrating its 55th birthday. Originally held in the community hall that was beside the Louise Riley Library, it’s now running out of Briar Hill Elementary School.

Mr. Harder was one of those memorable adults who took kids seriously as individuals. He would look you straight in the eye and remember your name. Mr. Harder made us feel special as we set about our grown up task of going to school like the big kids. A bright orange vest and an impressive red stop sign contributed to his importance in our eyes.

When we got to school, the teacher, Mrs. Kingston, would greet us in the cloakroom. Having your own hook with your name on it was a big deal. Then run, run, run to your favourite toys. I vaguely remember sitting on a carpet for stories, but I definitely remember where the kitchen was because that’s where the snacks appeared from. Then after kindergarten, I would go to the library to get some Dr. Seuss books. Only Dr. Seuss books, as he is the most stupendificous!

When Wendy Kingston left, she was replaced as teacher by Barb Scratch.



Barb started as an assistant in 1988, and is still going strong. That’s 23 years of students who learned how to be part of a community from her! Now Barb is the person in the neighbourhood that everyone knows as she drives down the street.

I’m still friends with people I met in that kindergarten. Many of our parents still live in the neighbourhood, and the smarter of us bought houses near our parents. Smart be-

cause not only is it a great place to live, but those same parents are great babysitters!

Shelley Robinson gave me a copy of this photo of the class of 1971. If you have any memories or photos of the Hounsfield Heights Briar Hill Kindergarten, please phone or email me at 403-270-0744 or kbrawn@telus.net. It would be great to write down more stories so we can add them to the community archives.



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memberships

Your annual membership is good from April 1 through the following March 31 and entitles you and your family to participate in a variety of different community programs and activities. The cost is only \$20 annually per family/ household or \$10 for seniors, including GST. Simply fill out this form and mail it in.

HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS – BRIAR HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION	
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2011-12	
Family Name(s): _____	
First Name - Adults:	1. _____ 2. _____
First Name - Children: (please provide ages)	_____ _____
Address:	Postal Code: _____
Home Phone: _____	
Email: _____	
<i>Would you prefer to receive the newsletter by email?</i> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/>	
I would be interested in volunteering for: <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Drive <input type="checkbox"/> Green Space/Reforestation <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors' Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities/Ice Rink <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Communications/Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Membership # _____ <i>Valid through March 31, 2012</i> Annual membership (including GST) is : <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 per household <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 for seniors Paid By: cash <input type="checkbox"/> cheque <input type="checkbox"/>
Send cheques payable to Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill Community Association Box 65086 RPO North Hill, Calgary AB T2N 4T6	
<i>Privacy Consent: By providing the personal information on this form you are consenting to HH-BH Community Association's collection and use of that information for the purposes of providing you a membership in the community association. This information will be stored in a database of community members for the sole use of the Association. The Association will not sell, barter or lease membership lists or information. We may retain this information until nine months after expiry date of the membership.</i>	

The Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill gym and board room schedule can now be viewed online at www.hh-bh.ca. We are planning on adding improvements to the site over the coming months.

Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill

Youth Badminton

We are offering a Spring program. Get in on one of Canada's fastest-growing sports – competitive badminton!

For players aged 12 – 15 yrs (intermediate level)

Spring Session:

Wednesdays: 5:30 – 6:55 pm
for an hour and a half
April 20 until June 22, 10 lessons

Cost: \$120.00
with HHBH community membership
\$400.00
for non-community members

Location: HHBH Community Gym
1922-14th Ave NW
(Next to North Hill Mall)

Registration:

Ongoing starting April 1, 2011

- 1:6 Coach to student ratio
- Coaches are Level 1 & 2 qualified by Badminton Alberta



For information call:
Lorne Cowman
Phone: 289-0921
Email: lorne2@telus.net

Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill (HH/BH)



TOT'S TIME PLAYGROUP

We are an informal, caregiver-supervised playgroup providing a venue for physically active social interaction among preschoolers and their caregivers in the community. Our morning consists of free play in the gym, organized games and snack time.

Come check us out!!

When: Mondays, 9:30 - 11:30 am

Begins September 13th

Where: HH/BH Gymnasium
1922-14 Avenue NW

- North of Louise Riley Library and Program Centre
- Entrance is on SW corner of gym; parking is west of library

Cost: \$20 per family
(Sept. - May)

plus community membership

Alternating families provide snack for all children.

For more information, contact Dawn at dawnehardy@hotmail.com

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Westwood Hockey Round Up 2011

By Janice Paskey

Westwood had a great season with 552 players, with 3 teams sent to the finals and one City Winner: PW2.

PW2 (Div3) won the City Championship 4-3 after 6 overtimes and 2 on 2 play. Luke Clarke passes to Tom Peterson, he scores! Game Hat Trick by Josh Ryan. Ian Scott in goal for Game 2: Roster: Matthew Coyte, Sehej Shergill, Tom Peterson, Luke Clarke, Liam Vernon, Griffin Williams, Hugh Partridge, Thomas Rayment, Zach Roberts, Josh Scotvold, Jason Lane, Jack Falcone, Jack Moroney, Eijaz Kassam, Josh Ryan, Sam Porcellato. Goalies: Jonathan Bateman, Ian Scott. HC Jason Bateman. ACs: Ross Rayment, Erin Scott, Glenn Roberts, Franco Falcone, Darren Lane. TM: Stacey Rayment.

Two HHHB boys were on the winning team:

Luke Clarke (l) and Jack Moroney (r) from HHHB receive their city championship medal. PW2 (Div3) Westwood Hockey.

Photos: James Paton



Our City Finalists are:

Bantam 1 (Div2): Sanders Brown-ing, Joshua Ramage, Daniel Bailey,

Paul Turko, Carter DeVries, Erik Soby, Matthew Behan-Fossey, Donovan Pederson, Peter Fan, Jackson Glimpel, Tim McMurtry, Stephen Bjarnason, Michael Gray, Luke Allison, Tyler Caine. Goalies: Jeremy Phillips, Calvin Giese. HC: Ben McGinn. ACs: Jeremy Robinson, Trevor Ramage, Rob Phillips. TM: Susan Ash Phillips.

PW5 (Div8): Cayden Murray, Eric White, Jack Ayrton, Jack Mazzei, Aiden Livesay, Ethan Chow, Connor Christensen, Tristan Ing, Daniel King, Odhin Laursen, Matthew Lee, Eric Mikulin, Clayton Rude, Craig Smith, Mary Snyder, David Stanich, Aliya Strong, and Dylan Watt. HC: Don King. ACs: Bruce Ayrton, Wesley Chow, Martin Rude.

Atom 1: Joshua Huang, Jace Kent, Frank Roth, Jack Hanrahan, Lynden Grandberg, Jaryd Hodge, Azam Jiwa, George Moroney, Marshall Porteous, Nathan Lane, Will Munro, Devon Stuart, Tyrell Munro, Tyler Mahan, Liam Brown, Brendan Paul, Matthew Federico. HC: Dave Stuart. ACs. Cam Brown, Ken Porteous, Aaron Grandberg, Sandy Munro and Rob Mahan; Manager Heather Porteous Goetjen.

Highlights

Timbits had a record 5 teams.

We recognize our ice scheduler Rob Langill (WHCA) and WHCA coaches Yves Choiniere who head-coached



two teams, and Bruce Ayrton who took on head and assistant coaching of two teams. The PW4 kids went out in the community shoveling snow for neighbours as a team building activity in Brentwood. Great idea!

Gerry Mumford from WHCA moves from President to Past-President. Thank you to Gerry for his leadership, and to our past president Glen Scott (Triwood) for all his support and wise counsel over this four-year commitment. Welcome Grace Lane (Brentwood) as our new President. Grace is hockey mom to 3 boys, a hockey referee, and works at a technology company.

Murray Briceland completed his 22nd years as Referee-in-Chief and 40 Westwood referees through thick and thin.

Registration begins this spring for the September season. There are no cuts; every player finds a team. Register through your community association.

Westwoodhockey.com

Westwood Hockey Calgary on Facebook

Silver for HHBH U12 Boys Soccer

By Trish Lovstrom

The U12 boys won silver in an amazing city-finals game against the Blizzard Barracudas.

The final championship game in March was the first and only game that they lost all season, and the score was 2-1.

Coach Bryan Smith and assistant coaches Rob Tholl and Steve Paul were outstanding and our boys deserve three cheers for such a great season!

The U14 boys brought home copper from the same tournament – way to go!



U12 Boys - Socceroos



U14 Boys

Tankk you?

There are two reasons the Beacon is usually easier to read than the headline of this piece, and both of them live in the neighbourhood and deserve our thanks:

- ❖ Kathleen Staniland does a masterful job of proofreading each issue and spotting typos, inconsistencies and wonky punctuation. Combined with her tremendous tact in bringing the corrections to our attention, her contribution is vital – THANK YOU, Kathy!
- ❖ Melissa Hagg does the design, layout and printing of the Beacon, and often contributes to the content as well. She's calm, humorous, competent and very, very patient – again, THANK YOU, Melissa!



HHBH adult badminton program brings home gold

By Lorne Cowan

Participants in the adults badminton program that runs in the HHBH community hall gym weekday mornings aren't just foolin' around – they won six golds and two silvers at the Alberta 55-Plus provincial games held in St Albert Feb. 24 – 27.

From left to right we have Loraine, Rex, Forester, Joan, Lorne, and Tak. Loraine and Jean won gold in the 75-plus women's class; Rex and Forster won gold in the 75-plus men's class. Forster and Loraine won gold in the mixed 75-plus set. Rex and Jean won silver in the 75-plus group. Lorne and Tak placed sixth in the 55-plus set in the province.

The gold medalists will represent Alberta in the Canada Plus-55 games in Strathford, Ont., later this year.

Bottles for basketball - Mark your calendars and save those bottles!

Foundations Youth Basketball will be in our area **Saturday, May 7**, to collect your donated refundables. Proceeds from the drive will help fund their upcoming May tournament, as well as supporting the fight against prostate cancer.

Please leave bottles out between **9am and 1pm** for collection on May 7, 2011.

Further details can be found at fybball.com.

Art, dancing and curling are great additions at Briar Hill School

By Steve Klukas - Principal, Briar Hill School

Briar Hill School provides high-quality educational programs for grades 1-6, has a strong community atmosphere and is fortunate to work with several community partners who operate in our building. Two of these are the community playschool and kindergarten, both ancillary groups of the HHBH Community Association

Grade one registration for the 2011-2012 school year began in January and is ongoing. At the moment, it looks like we will have close to 200 students next fall, which is close to record numbers for the school.

In recent weeks, our students started working on projects with our artist-in-residence, Ewa Sniatycka, and the work that has already been completed is wonderful. By the end of Ewa's time in our school, all of our grade 1-6 classes will have completed a project with Ewa. Many students have also had the opportunity to work on a community "studio" project during noon hours. This project has been focused around our motto "We Care," as students depict scenes with fabric that reflect things they care about or scenes that demonstrate care, peace, and well-being.

These fabric mosaics were on display during an Art Walk that showcased some of this excellent work in late March.

In February, our grade 4, 5, and 6 students completed their third and final field trip to the Calgary Winter Club where they learned the basic skills of curling from the club's curling instructors. By the final day, students had a good grasp of the basic concepts and skills, and were able to move beyond skill building to some game play.

Briar Hill School Council sponsored the annual Family Dance on February 4, and we appreciate the effort that many parent volunteers put into making this evening possible. The theme of the dance was "Go Green" and many in attendance wore green clothing, while others wore creative costumes. A donation will be made by the council to Green Calgary using proceeds from the dance.

Our teaching staff has recently been engaged in professional development in a number of areas including meeting the needs of gifted and very bright students, and the revised

Alberta Education mathematics program of studies. All staff took part in further development opportunities during Calgary City Teachers' Convention in February. As with other professionals, we actively work to stay current with developments in education and to improve our practice.

Stay tuned to our school's website to find out more! (<http://schools.cbe.ab.ca/b205/>). If you're the parent of a child at Briar Hill School, you're welcome to attend School Council meetings the second Tuesday of each month in the school library.



Briar Hill School artist-in-residence Ewa Sniatycka with just a few of the many art projects she helped students throughout the school create. The projects ranged from graphic family

history pieces like those pictured here, to multi-media oversize cloth books, batik and collages. All of the artwork was displayed during an Art Walk that accompanied parent-teacher interviews and the Briar Hill Book Sale at the end of March.

Photo by Mira Henderson.



**Hounsfield Heights/
Briar Hill
Parent-Child
Cooperative Playschool**

A place for 3 to 5 year olds to play, grow and learn

We are located in
Briar Hill School, Rm. 13
1233 - 21 St. NW

Phone: 210-5126
www.hhbhplayschool.ca

“Recycle a Friend” Book Sale brings in bucks for more books

Story and Photos by Dianne Gilchrist



“Wow! I can’t believe how many people I know here. This is the first time I’ve seen you guys all winter!”

Those were remarks overheard at this year’s “Recycle a Friend” book sale in Briar Hill School. In spite of some pretty unspringlike weather, the sale once again brought in more than 10,000 book dona-

tions, hundreds of customers and countless encounters among neighbours and friends of both the human and literary variety.

And once again, the sale raised over \$5,000 dedicated to the school library and literacy initiatives. The library also received about 160 books worth a total of \$1050.00. Teachers selected over 300 books for their classrooms as well. We donated about 100 books to outreach programs and the high-quality books that remained unsold have gone on to the Calgary Reads Booksale coming up in May.

The school’s “Save Our Earth” club also raised money for its activities by holding a very popular bake sale during the event.

This great annual community book sale depends on the amazing donations we get from the school and community, as well as all the folks who participate by sorting books, working at the check-out and coming in to buy books.

The sale also couldn’t happen without the willingness of the Briar Hill School staff to reorganize their days as we take over the gym for a week and the staff room for two weeks while we receive and sort books leading up to the sale.

Thank you to everyone who made this year’s sale such



a success. We’re looking forward to seeing you all again next year!

Families and students will explore our dynamic Earth with local geoscientists from May 8 to 10 at Earth Science for Society

About 2,000 junior high school students, as well as families and interested Calgarians will visit the Earth Science for Society Exhibition (ESfS), a vibrant showcase of the Earth Sciences with hands-on activities and exciting demonstrations for all ages and interests.

Last year, exhibition participants cracked rocks to find rare trilobite fossils, watched a dynamic presentation about coal mine explosions, looked through microscopes, and got up close with a large meteorite. The exhibition shows how Earth Science plays a critical role in our society and makes the connection between responsible resource development and the things we use every day. Some may even be inspired to pursue a geoscience career!

“ESfS was such a success last year that it is happening again this year and we are very excited,” said an ESfS volunteer. “Geoscientists love what they do and want to share their enthusiasm with others. This is a wonderful opportunity to make the connection between our everyday belongings and Canada’s natural resources”.

Join us for a fun and educational outing discovering the earth sciences. This exciting exhibition will be open to the general public on Sunday, May 8, from 12–5 pm and Monday and Tuesday, May 9th and 10th, from 9 am – 3:30 pm. It will be held at the TELUS Convention Centre, located downtown 2 blocks from the C-Train. Admission is FREE to this family-friendly event and all ages and interests are invited to attend. This year we will be offering complimentary giveaways to celebrate Mother’s Day. Earth Science for Society is an outreach initiative of the annual geoscience convention recovery 2011.

For more information please visit <http://www.geoconvention.com/earth-science-for-society> or email esfsinfo@geoconvention.com

Louise Riley Library

1904 - 14
Avenue NW

Hours

Monday - Thursday from
10 am - 9 pm

Friday & Saturday from
10 am - 5 pm

Sunday from
12 pm - 5 pm

** There will be no Sunday
hours from May 22 until
mid-September.*

*Programs are **FREE**
with your library
card.*

*Register in person, by
calling 260-2620 or
online at
[www.calgarypublicli-
brary.com](http://www.calgarypubliclibrary.com)*

At *your* Library

April 2011

Even when the Library is closed the Library's website (www.calgarypubliclibrary.com) never takes a holiday! 24/7 check your account, search the catalogue, request items, register for programs, or use one of the many e-resources made available for you!

Programs for Tweens (ages 10-14)

Pirates of the Caribbean 4: Stranger Tides Adventure Party! Get ready for the new movie by joining the crew for adventure on the high seas, including buried treasure, a scavenger hunt & prizes for best dressed pirate! Thursday, May 19 from 7 - 8:30 pm.

Programs for Adults

Medications Used in Child and Adolescent Mental Health: Gain an understanding of medications used for common mental health diagnoses, common side effects and how to manage them. Presented by the Community Education service, Child & Adolescent Addictions Mental Health Program. Wednesday, Apr. 27 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Register online at www.fcrc.sacyhn.ca

Introduction to Social Media: These unique sessions provide a basic introduction to websites such as Face-

book, Blogging, Twitter, YouTube, and more. Tuesday, Apr. 19 from 7 - 8:30 pm.



Everything's Coming Up Springtime: Skip or splash your way to springtime stories and rhymes for the whole family. Ages 2 to 5 with a parent/caregiver. Wednesday, Apr. 20 from 7 - 7:30 pm.

Programs for 50+

50+ Coffee & Conversation: Join us for coffee, conversation, and informal presentations of interest. Monday, Apr. 25 from 2 - 3 pm.

Healing with Home Remedies: Learn how to prepare rejuvenating remedies with everyday household items at minimal cost. Monday, Apr. 11 from 2 - 3:30 p.m.

May 2011

Watch for our NEW program guides for summer, or keep up to date by checking out the online program guide on ([www.calgarypublicli-
brary.com](http://www.calgarypubliclibrary.com))



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Library Programs cont'd from page 14

Programs for Adults

E-Books: A Library On the Go: Are you curious about e-books? Library staff demonstrate how to download an e-book using OverDrive. Thursday, May 12 from 7 - 8 pm.

Introduction to Photoshop: Learn how to edit digital images using Adobe Photoshop Elements. Basic computer skills required. Tuesday, May 17 from 7 - 8:30 pm.

Programs for Tweens (ages 10-14)

Pirates of the Caribbean 4: Stranger Tides Adventure Party! Get ready for the new movie by joining the crew for adventure on the high seas, including buried treasure, a scavenger hunt & prizes for best dressed pirate! Thursday, May 19 from 7 - 8:30 pm.



LEGO Contest! (Ages 6 to 17): Create something fun or spectacular with LEGO at home. Bring it to the Library and you could win a prize! Saturday, May 28 from 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Make sure you register!



Splash! TD Summer Reading Club: Join us as we kick off Splash! Celebrate summer with the 2011 TD Summer Reading Club. Drop in for a scavenger hunt and other fun activities. Dress up as a pirate, mermaid or fish – or anything to do with “Splash!” come to the library and collect your activity booklet and read all summer to win great prizes! Big “Splash!” Kick Off - Saturday, June 18 from 10 am - 4 pm.



See you soon at the Louise Riley Library!



Family Drop-in

GYM TIME

Free for HHBH Community Association Members Only

Fridays 6:30 - 8 pm

Bring your neighbours.
Play badminton/volleyball/
basketball.

HHBH Seniors:

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Pets and People: Learning to Share our Parks Responsibly

Calgarians have stated that parks and green spaces contribute to their overall quality of life. Likewise, with over 100,000 dogs in our city, it is clear that Calgarians also enjoy sharing their lives with canine companions.

In order to maintain, preserve and utilize the City's parks and green spaces in a sustainable manner, The City of Calgary Parks, in partnership with Animal & Bylaw Services, has created the Pick Up Pooch's Poo Yourself (PUPPY) program. The intention of this program is to educate citizens about the importance of picking up after their pets and to become familiar with responsible pet ownership, as outlined in Calgary's Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw.

The PUPPY program will consist of four events throughout 2011. Each event will involve a community-based park clean-up, as well as opportunities for education and interaction with various experts.

Sunday, April 17 – Southland Park: Come learn how animal waste affects the watershed, as well as how improper use of park spaces can lead to river bank erosion and water contamination.

Sunday, June 12 – River Park: Veterinarians will be on site to explain how sickness and disease can spread to both animals and humans if pet waste is not picked up.

Sunday, September 25 – Nose Hill Park: It is a reality that Calgarians must learn to live in harmony with wildlife, such as coyotes. Come explore how the habituation of wildlife can occur if pet waste is left behind.

Sunday, October 16 – Bowmont Park: Calgary's parks are multi-use spaces. Come learn more about how to share these spaces in a manner that is respectful of pets, wildlife, bicyclists and all users of green spaces.

For more information about the P.U.P.P.Y. program please go to calgary.ca/parks or call 3-1-1.

Stay N Play/Park N Play programs in Green Park this summer

The HHBH Community Association and the City of Calgary are once again cooperating to bring the Stay N Play/Park N Play program to our neighbourhood August 15 - 19.

The popular summer kids' program is organized and run by the City with partial funding coming from local community associations.

Stay N Play is a free summer drop in program for 3 - 5 year olds who must be accompanied by an adult/guardian for the entirety of the program. Children and adults participate in creative play, arts and crafts and outdoor fun from 10 am - 12 pm.

Park N Play is a day camp program designed for 6 - 12 year olds who engage in fun and interactive games and activities from 10 am - 3:30 p.m.

Flexibility is a great aspect of these programs, because parents can opt to sign their kids up just for a day or for the whole week, or decide day-to-day based on weather or other circumstances. A parent or guardian must sign each child in at the beginning of the program and out at the end each day.

The programs will also be held in other neighbourhood parks this summer, including:

- ❖ West Hillhurst: July 4 - 8
- ❖ Banff Trail: July 18 - 22



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

2011: The Year of the Cat

Most people say that pets bring unconditional love and a sense of fulfillment to their lives. Too often, however, that sentiment is not reflected in the way pets are treated; especially in the way cats are treated.

Last year, more than 6,500 cats entered the City of Calgary Animal & Bylaw Services and the Calgary Humane Society. The reasons for this sad situation are threefold. Unlike dogs, many cats are allowed to roam their neighbourhood, they are not licensed and they are not spayed or neutered. That is why Dr. Elizabeth O'Brien, who is heading up a national Year of the Cat campaign, states that pet owners need to start treating their cats more like dogs.

But the picture is not all bleak. In 2010, 55% of the cats that entered the Animal Services Centre had identification, enabling them to be reunited with their owners. That is up from 49% in 2009. In 2010, 54% of the cats in our city were licensed, a 7% increase from 2009.

The City will continue to promote cat licensing because licensing helps to get cats home. Owners can license their altered cat for only \$10 a year and also get an I Heart My Pet rewards card that offers rebates at over 45 different vendors across the city.

To reduce the number of unwanted cats, owners need to spay or neuter their pet. To help low income Calgarians, the Animal Services Centre provides free spaying and neutering of cats and dogs.

Finally, owners need to keep their cats safely at home and not let them roam.

Implementing these three simple steps will ensure that cats are safe, healthy and returned home if they ever get lost. To find out more information about licensing, the I Heart My Pet rewards program and the No Cost Spay/Neuter Program, call 3-1-1 or visit calgary.ca/animalservices.



Urban Wildlife

In the city of Calgary, we are blessed with an abundance of parks, natural areas, river valleys and green spaces. These areas are not only attractive to the citizens of our city, but also to our urban wildlife. Animals such as badgers, deer, skunks and especially coyotes are a fact of life in Calgary. We share these spaces with them and therefore, we must learn to co-exist.

As Calgarians, we all play a key role in keeping our communities safe by ensuring that wildlife do not find food, shelter or water in our neighbourhoods or backyards. As spring approaches and wildlife become more active and visible, we need to remember some important tips:

- Don't take garbage out until collection day.
- Don't litter.
- Don't leave pets unattended.
- Keep cats indoors.
- Keep your yard clear of animal feces.
- Avoid having birdfeeders in your yard.
- Keep garbage/compost in containers with secure lids.
- Don't let fallen fruit from trees accumulate.
- Trim bottom branches on trees and shrubs.
- Keep your yard free of accumulated materials.
- Close off crawl spaces under decks and patios.
- Don't leave pet food outside.
- Keep your yard tidy.

Never feed or approach wildlife. They can become bold if they are taught that people will feed them. And although it is rare for most of our urban wildlife to be aggressive towards people, there is always a risk of a negative encounter when interacting with wildlife.

Wildlife management in Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial government. Animal & Bylaw Services supports Fish & Wildlife Management to track and understand coyote migration in the city of Calgary. Please assist us by reporting all coyote sightings to 3-1-1.

For badgers, deer or other large wildlife, call 403-297-6423. If you encounter animals such as bears, moose, cougars or wolves please call 9-1-1 immediately.



Emergency
Medical
Services

Bicycle Helmet Safety

Bicycle crashes are the leading cause of brain injury in school-aged children. Most injuries occur when a cyclist suffers a fall, strikes a stationary object, or collides with another cyclist or pedestrian. Remember – it is the law in Alberta that cyclists under the age of 18 must wear a helmet (and highly recommended for all ages). Helmets should be CSA approved and worn during recreational activities such as skateboarding, in-line skating, or cycling.

Getting informed

- Wearing a helmet while cycling can prevent a serious injury or save a life.
- Brain injuries can cause permanent disability or death.
- Reduce your risk by always wearing your helmet.
- Replace any helmet that has been involved in a crash, even if it appears undamaged.

Getting started

- Allow children to assist when buying their helmet. Cyclists who choose their own helmet are more likely to wear them.
- Start the habit early. Young children learning to ride tricycles need to wear helmets.
- Parents must lead by example: always wear your own helmet when cycling.

Getting the right fit

- Take the time to properly fit and adjust your helmet to ensure maximum protection in case of a crash.
- When worn properly, helmets should fit level, not tilted up or down over the forehead.
- Helmets should feel snug, but not too tight. To test the fit, the helmet should not fall off when you shake your head from side to side while the straps are unfastened.
- Adjust the chin straps to form a “Y” below and slightly forward from the ears.
- Only one finger should be able to fit under the chin strap when it is fastened.
- Do not forget to use the sizing pads included with the helmet. They will help improve the overall fit and comfort.

www.albertahealthservices.ca



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Briar Hill is the community that we call home. It follows naturally that where we live, work and play is where we provide our services to friends and neighbors. This is the community where we were raised and have chosen to raise our families.

Being that this is an area in the city we love, it is also fitting that we love to sell this community. As much as we sell homes, it is also true that we sell communities. And while we align the needs of our clients with properties, it is common for us to find ourselves promoting the part of this city we call home.



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