



HOUNSFIELD HEIGHTS – BRIAR HILL BEACON

DECEMBER 2011



Meet your new Community Association Board

Welcome to a new Community Association year! Last month's annual general meeting saw a full slate of directors appointed to the Board. Many are returning members with some taking on new positions; others came on mid-year last year and are gearing up to serve for a full term.

Your 2011-2012 Board members are:

President	Norm Anderson
1st VP	Carol Sandahl (Programs)
2nd VP	Robby Sidhu (Facilities)
Treasurer	Whit Skaug
Secretary	Mara Grunau
Education Director	Sonya Ventura
Directors	Kellie Johnston (Strategic Planning)
	Emmanuel Malterre (Sears Plume)
	Gunter Sammet (Facilities)
	Tejinder Paul Sidhu (Event Planning)
	Kevin Taylor (Communications)
	David Winkler
	Terry Woods (Land Use)

The Community Association has committees responsible for a variety of projects and always welcomes new volunteers. Read more in the annual committee reports inside this edition of the Beacon. The Board wants to hear from you! Our Community Board is well

cont'd on page 3

- Calendar of Events -

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

- Community Board Meetings**
Second Thursday of the month
7 pm, Community Boardroom - all welcome! To be on the agenda, please contact Caroline or Norm at least 2 weeks in advance
Next three: Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9
- Community Christmas Potluck Dinner Party**
Friday, Dec. 9, 6 - 9 pm, at the Library
- Briar Hill School Open House**
Spring 2012, Briar Hill School
- Kindergarten & Playschool Open House**
Kindergarten Registration
Jan 16, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Briar Hill School - Room 11
- Playschool Second Open House**
Feb. 21, 7 - 8:30 pm, Briar Hill School
- Playschool Pre-Registration**
(community residents, alumni families)
Feb. 22, 7 - 8:30 pm, Community Hall
- Playschool Registration**
Feb. 29, 7 - 8 pm, Community Hall
- Tot's Time Play Group**
Mondays, 9:30 - 11:30 am
Community Gym
- Women's Soccer Night**
Thursdays, 8 - 9 pm, Community Gym
- Family Open Gym Night**
Fridays, 6:30 - 8 pm, Community Gym
- HHBH CA Casino**
April 8 & 9, Stampede Casino



HHBH Community Association Board

President	Norm Anderson	403-807-2134
1st Vice-President	Carol Sandahl	403-284-5851
2nd Vice-President	Robby Sidhu	403-605-9120
Treasurer	Whittier Skaug	587-896-7248
Secretary	Mara Grunau	403-283-9091
Director, Education	Sonya Ventura	403-226-4800
Director, Sears Plume	Emmanuel Malterre	403-282-0813
Director, Facilities	Gunter Sammet	403-210-2603
Director, Strategic Planning	Kellie Johnston	403-475-3763
Director, Event Planning	Tejinder Paul Sidhu	403-383-7029
Director, Communications	Kevin Taylor	403-863-4445
Director	David Winkler	403-680-7231
Director, Land Use	Terry Woods	403-701-8856
Kindergarten Secretary/Treasurer	Kitty Jones	403-282-5235

*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 two weeks 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: admin@hh-bh.ca

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

Beacon Submissions to: Caroline Pankewich, Administrative Assistant

email: thebeacon2005@hotmail.com

Deadline for submissions for next issue: January 15, 2012

Beacon Ads: admin@hh-bh.ca

Boardroom/Gym Bookings: bookings@hh-bh.ca or 282-6634

Website: www.hh-bh.ca

Boardroom/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 be viewed online at www.hh-bh.ca.

President's Message

Norm Anderson

I am pleased to serve our community as President, following the November, 2011 AGM. We wish to thank past President Kellie Johnston for her work last year. I have lived in Briar Hill since 1996 and my family and I have seen many changes to our neighbourhood since then.

Unlike many communities in Calgary, our fiscal position is strong and we are seeking your input into goals for our Community. As was discussed during our AGM, your Community Association for the coming year is launching a strategic planning process that will be kicked off in the first part of 2012. With assistance of a group of a community planning group that works with non-profit community groups, a Strategic Plan is being created to address the desires and inputs from all community members.

We have heard of exciting plans for the West Hillhurst Community Centre just down the hill. As neighbours, any planning will certainly involve and impact our own community. The plans include refurbishment of the Community Arena Facility and our input into this "Inner City Partnership" has been welcomed.

Your Board and other Community members will be "door knocking" to seek out your input this spring as a consultation on the roles and input into your visions, and determination of the goals for the Association. We are always looking for input and feedback.

As I write this note, the initial flood of the Green Park rinks (thanks to Will and his crew) have started and it won't be long until we are skating there once again. With the coming of winter our programs are continuing and youth badminton is starting again in January with registration continuing right now. Check out the website www.hh-bh.ca, for more information on this and all other community programs. Renewal of your community Association membership is also available online through the website, or traditionally by mail - check it out for more information. Thanks to the hard work of long time Community Association Director Gunter Sammet, our website is easier to use than ever.

We are excited. Please contact any of our executive members for any feedback or to place any questions.

Your new board cont'd from page 1

served by our Administrative Assistant and Book-keeper, Caroline Pankewich. Contact her with any questions or concerns at admin@hh-bh.ca or call a Director, details on facing page.



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!*

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AGM Committee Reports

Land Use

Terry Woods

The mandate of the Land Use Committee is to review and comment on development permit applications in the community; to provide feedback to the City on concerns regarding these DP as conveyed by community members or by the Land Use Committee.

It's been another busy year with 16 development permits reviewed to date (2 more are on deck for Nov). Most have been for new home construction under discretionary rules. There have also been 4 DPs under the new Contextual Single Detached Dwelling (CSDD) rules which are not discretionary but permitted uses (See page 17 for a summary of how these CSDD rules work). Out of the 12 discretionary DPs the Land Use committee supported 7, most of them with a request for minor amendments. The LU committee declined support for 5 projects which violated too many bylaws or requested an unreasonable number of relaxations – usually to setback limits. Two of these projects for which the LU declined their support were for new homes designed for garage entry from a side laneway and attached garage where a rear lane is preferred.

Also, there were 3 proposals for modifications to existing homes. Two were appealed (one successfully, one not) one is still in planning stages.

The DP process in this community is changing and getting more complex. Whereas in the past we saw little input from neighbours regarding new developments, we are now seeing much more interest and activism when a project is perceived to have large or negative impact. More residents are taking it upon themselves to making their views known or even appealing projects they feel very strongly about.

Education: Ancillary Groups

(Kindergarten and Playschool)

Sonya Ventura

Kindergarten

The HHBH Community Kindergarten program has been part of our community since the late 1950's. It was origi-

nally housed in the HHBH Community Association building in the library parking lot. It is an Ancillary Group of the HHBH Community Association along with the Playschool, which reflects the strong ties both of these programs have to our community. All families in the kindergarten program are HHBH Community Association members.

The HHBH Community Kindergarten is licensed, approved and funded by Alberta Education. The Program of Studies is set by AB Education, but the daily operations are controlled by the parent-run Local Advisory Council, under the HHBH Community Association Board.

Our teacher is Mrs. Barb Scratch (B.Ed), who is also a resident of Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill. She has taught our program for more than 20 years and is respected by students and parents alike. Our Kindergarten program offers many benefits beyond those offered by the Calgary Board of Education programs including a full-time teacher's assistant, more learning hours, more field trips and other program enhancements.

The Kindergarten program began offering an afternoon program as well as a morning program in the 2003/04 school year. This year there are 29 children in the program: 17 in the morning program and 12 in the afternoon.

Playschool

The HHBH Parent-Child Cooperative Playschool has been in operation since 1970 and is one of the oldest in Calgary. It is an ancillary group of the HHBH Community Association of which all participating Playschool families are members.

The Playschool structure incorporates the early childhood Provincial Standards and is regulated and licensed by Alberta Health Services and Alberta Child and Youth Services.

The philosophy of the Playschool is that children aged 3-5 years, learn through "free play". Each child explores at their own pace within a positive enriched environment of trust and respect. The Playschool goals are:

- 1) To encourage each child to develop socially, physically, emotionally, intellectually, morally and creatively.

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- 2) To nurture self-respect, self-control, self-expression and responsibility for self.
- 3) To promote respect for others and the environment.
- 4) To expand the knowledge base, interest and problem solving in mathematics, science, social science and language arts through play.
- 5) To expand experiences and interest through special activities such as music, movement, drama, physical education, stories and visitors.

Two teachers are employed to teach and facilitate the children. Erin Speer (Ms. Erin) completed her Early Learning and Child Care diploma at Mount Royal College. Upon graduation she received the Governor General's Award for achieving the highest grade point average in all the diploma programs in 2009 at Mount Royal College. Our other teacher, Marie Benedict (Ms. Marie) has spent a lot of time in the past 7 years in the playschool classroom as a parent volunteer and co-chair with her own three children. She completed her Child Development Assistant certificate in the fall of 2009 and taught at WHCA preschool before starting at HHHB last year.

The Playschool offers 2-day, 3-day and 5-day per week morning programs and a 3-day/week afternoon program. This year there are currently 52 children enrolled with 20 MWF am, 13 MWF pm, 19 T/TH am. Currently, the 2 day T/TH afternoon class is accepting registrants and is anticipated to begin January 2012.

Communications

Kevin Taylor

The Communications Committee had a quiet spring as we were gearing up for the second half of the year. It will be the next twelve months that all the hard work of the past year will start to show some positive results.

After several years in planning and permit reviews we are pleased to announce that our community entrance rock sign

is in the final stages with the city and we should have it installed in the spring of 2012.

This year we will be reviewing our Governance and Management of our community association. Simply put, that means we will review our by-laws, our definitions, and proceedings at our Annual General Meeting.

To be both efficient and effective at our monthly meetings it is important to know and use these procedures. It provides "good manners" in meetings and an orderly plan to follow in carrying out the business of the meeting.

Next will be our History Book, we have taken the next step in processing all the information that was gathered and we are now ready to put it into a book format. Once that is done we will then apply for a grant application with the Heritage Preservation Partnership Program. Then present a rough draft for the community association and residents to review content and layout.

The next project that we will be working on is our community newsletter, The Beacon. We are looking for an editor to help edit the Beacon that is published five times a year. We will also be reviewing our advertising revenue to help ensure that the Beacon is self-funded and continues to be a part of our community. So if you have a few hours a month to spare we sure could use your help.

cont'd on page 6



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Your board reports cont'd from page 5

Facilities

Gunter Sammet with Robby Sidhu

The mandate of the Facilities Committee is to operate and maintain the Community gym facility. The gym is well used both by community groups and outside users. It is booked from 9 am – 12 pm and from 5 or 6 pm until late in the evening every single week-day. On Saturdays and Sundays the gym is used all day long. It continues to be run at a profit for the Community Association.

Booking and scheduling has been taken over by our new Board Assistant Caroline Pankewich. We want to thank Terry Hladun and Andrea Schmidt for all their hard work and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. Also, a big thanks to our gym caretakers. They work behind the scenes hosting events and ensuring our gym is clean and well-maintained.

Robby Sidhu took over the main-

tenance responsibilities from Phil Johnson after last year's AGM. A big thanks goes out to Phil Johnson for his years of work for the Community Association. Technical issues in the gym are taken care of on an as-needed basis. We aim to keep the facility in good condition. We're currently looking into making some sound improvements to the gym.

We have a free community drop-in time Friday evenings, 6:30 – 8 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and play badminton or volleyball or basketball with our neighbours. The gym schedule can be viewed online at www.hh-bh.ca. We plan to add more booking info and some more pictures this winter.

Programs

Carol Sandahl

Our Community Association runs many programs – a huge shout-out to all of the hardworking coordinators!

Our largest community program and membership drive is Outdoor Spring Soccer. This year we had 190 participants with teams from U5 to U14. We had 2 new coordinators this year, Leigha Pidde and Jenny Hoops. Thanks to outgoing coordinator Terry Killackey who organized our soccer program for many years!

Patsy Montgomery and her committee organized a fabulous Summer Solstice Block Party in June. Turn-out was stellar despite driving rain and single-digit temperatures. The Community Association supports this Block Party and it has replaced our former Volunteer Appreciation Night.

Thanks to all our pancake flippers and to Tony Smith and Lorne Cowan for supplying their grills so we could have a boot stompin' good time in Green Park! Come volunteer next year – our Pancake Breakfast is held the 2nd Saturday of Stampede.

This fall we celebrated our Kindergarten's 55th Anniversary! Thanks to the organizing committee and to all the many volunteers who worked to make this special event such a success. Photos will be posted on hh-bh.ca. Stay tuned!

Indoor soccer and badminton are well underway. Eve Miller and Lorne Cowan are the coordinators, respectively. Soccer is hopping with 110 participants. Badminton runs Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30. A new badminton session begins in January, please see registration in-

cont'd on page 7



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formation in this issue of the Beacon! Thanks to outgoing indoor soccer coordinator Kitty Jones who organized our indoor soccer program for many years.

This fall we held our 7th annual Community Clean up. Brenda Domeij, our longstanding and highly organized coordinator is stepping down. Thanks for your dedication, Brenda! We have seen a huge increase in participation of this event over the years. If you or someone you know can help coordinate this event for next fall, please let our Administrative Assistant, Caroline, know!

Will Moroney and his team will have our skating rinks up and going as soon as the weather is right. The City has intimated that longterm use of the fire hydrant for rink flooding will be phased out but we are fine to use it this year ... and possibly for the next few years. Come on out for a skate!

Tot's time, a drop-in playgroup, operates in the gym Monday mornings 9:30-11:30, September to May. This is open to all community members with preschoolers.

Women's indoor soccer is run by Norma Dougall, Thursday evenings, 8-9 pm. Drop-in is encouraged! and costs \$5 for community members. Come on out!

Drop-in Family Gym Night is Friday, 6:30-8 pm for community members. Come on out to play badminton, volleyball and basketball!

Finally, our next Casino will be Sunday April 8th and Monday April 9th at Stampede Casino. Mark your calendars! If you can volunteer, please email Caroline at admin@hh-bh.ca.

Sears Plume

Emmanuel Malterre

The mandate of the Sears Plume Committee is, in conjunction with Alberta Environment and Alberta Health Services, to investigate and monitor the activities of Sears' remediation of the hydrocarbon plume that has migrated into the Hounsfield Heights Community.

Since inception of the remediation plant a year ago, Alberta Environment has not convened any meetings with the stakeholders this past year. The Committee gets monthly phone updates from Sears' consultants.

After sitting idle for about 2 years (since November 2008) the remediation facility in Lions Park was first fired up in October 2010. However, as a result of several delays the Dual Phase Vapor Extraction (DPVE) was not considered "fully operational" by Sears' consultants until February 2011.

Now that the remediation plan has been approved, Alberta Environment does not hold regular progress meetings with Sears and the stakeholders. Alberta Environment expects reports when Sears has reached certain milestones in the remediation process. The Committee has not been made aware of what those milestones entail and expected timing.

The remediation of the contaminated portion of the Hounsfield Heights community is subject to two different sets of guidelines; the residential area on and south of 11 Avenue NW follows the Alberta Tier 1 Soil and Groundwater Remediation Guidelines, rev. December 2010, while the area to the north of 11 Avenue only bears the less stringent Site-Specific Tier 3.

A Pre-Commissioning Site Monitoring Report was released on 17 January 2011 by Sears consultants/ remediation plant operator. The report was based on the results of fluid sampling in 47 boreholes drilled throughout the community during September 2010. The report represents a monitoring base line against which remediation progress would be gauged.

Two quarterly monitoring reports were thus far released by Sears' consultants during the year: the First Quarter Site Monitoring Report dated 11 July 2011, based on borehole samples extracted on 1-3 June 2011. (The lateness of this first sampling was due to the fact that the plant was never functional until February 2011.)

The Second Quarter Site Monitoring Report was released on 5 October 2011, based on sampling taken on 12-14 September. No change was noticed between those two reports, considering that the plant was shut down from June until mid-September.

The plant is currently shut down since 27 September, for more repairs related the four electric motors in the

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vacuum blowers that burn out one a time. This has been a problem right from the start, blowers “blowing out” and other problems... at the time of writing, the plant is supposed to be operating since 11 November in the “thermal mode”, whereby the oxidation tower burns hotter to ensure complete combustion of the hydrocarbons AND avoid releasing airborne pollution into the neighbourhood.

The gas plume committee is getting more than a bit concerned about the poor performance of the plant since inception. We estimate that the plant has only worked about 50% of the time since October 2010, for one reason or another.

The committee is thus planning a series of meetings with Alberta Health Services, Alberta Environment and Sears to, first, review any potential health issue to the residents who would be affected by the contamination, and examine whether the remediation technique employed is the appropriate one for this type of contamination.

On a lighter note, please inspect the latest artistic license on the fenced off plant, much “better” than other graffiti we’ve been exposed to before, I say...



Strategic Planning

Kellie Johnston

Watch for us! We’re coming to your door!

This year the Strategic Planning Committee was charged with developing a process for communicating with community residents in order to establish a mandate for the Board from the Membership with

particular regard to how casino money is spent. The Strategy Committee is excited to announce that it has hired CentrePoint consultant Frank Johnston to facilitate our Strategic Planning Process. We plan to begin the entire Process early in the New Year. The Process is designed to solicit input from each community resident individually (survey), community residents as a collective (workshop), before being synthesized by Board members and finally by Committee members. The Process includes: conducting a door-to-door survey to the entire community, hosting a community-wide workshop (consultant to facilitate); holding a Board workshop to identify mission, vision (again, consultant to facilitate) and finally drafting a strategic plan together with an action plan for implementation.

The Committee has met frequently and will continue to drive the process together with the consultant. We anticipate having the Strategic and Action plans in place to present at the 2012 AGM. While the Committee will shoulder the bulk of the project, the full Board will support the process in principle, and at several practical steps along the way, e.g. conducting the survey, attending/hosting the community-wide workshop and participation at the Board workshop.

Traffic Calming

Denny Kwan

In February of 2011, we submitted our report to the City of Calgary Traffic Department with a summary of the activities we had undertaken in order to show the City the efforts we had undertaken with respect to traffic calming in HHBH, including: publishing articles regarding traffic issues in the Beacon; holding an open house for community residents; submitting Traffic Issue Reporting Forms; and requesting temporary playground zone electronic signboards;

In March of 2011, we received a letter from the City advising that the City no longer undertakes community wide traffic study, instead, they will focus on a specific traffic issue within a community. Unfortunately, HHBH was not included in the 2011 study program, however, we continue to be on the “List” and we will be considered for 2012.

In light of the City’s apparent shift in focus, we will focus our efforts to identify a list of specific traffic issues and submit them to the City which may increase our chance of having one of the issues being studied by the City.



**Hounsfield Heights -
Briar Hill Community
Kindergarten**

**OPEN HOUSE &
REGISTRATION**

Monday, January 16, 2012
Registration begins at 5:30 pm
Open House 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Room 11, Briar Hill School
1233 - 21 St N.W.

- MEET** the Teacher and parents of children currently in the program
- SEE** the classroom and sample work of current students
- REGISTER** your child for Kindergarten (2012/13)

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
Children must be 5 on or before March 1, 2013.

TO REGISTER, please bring:

- **Completed registration form** (forms will also be available at the Open House)
- **3 Separate cheques are required.**
 - \$20.00 Community membership
 - \$45.00 Processing Fee
 - \$300 Post dated Refundable cleaning deposit cheque
- **Original birth certificate of the child**
- **Alberta Health Care number of the child**

Registration forms will be available online mid-December at
www.hhbhkindergarten.ca/registration.html
OR outside the classroom

For more information, contact the Kindergarten at 220-9775.



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

Phone: 210-5126
www.hhbhplayschool.ca

- **Open House**
Monday, January 16, 2012 from 5:30 - 7 pm
- **Open House 2**
Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 7 - 8:30 pm
- **Pre-registration**
Wednesday, February 22, 2012 from 7 - 8:30 pm
- **General registration**
Wednesday, February 29, 2012 from 7 - 8 pm

General registration throughout the year

*Farewell to our
beloved editor!*

For many years now, Barb Green has single-handedly written and edited the Beacon! We will never be able to thank her enough for her dedication, creativity, humour, attention to detail, initiative taking and writing. As we stumble over our own typos and grammar errors this edition, we miss her already! All the best, Barb, as you pursue other volunteer endeavours! Thank you for your years of service.

Calgary MountainView



Dear Constituents;

Winter is upon us and the holiday season is quickly approaching. I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Best wishes for 2012!

As your Calgary Mountain View MLA and critic for Health and for Human

Services I have been busy within the constituency. Human Services is an amalgamation of former departments of Child and Family services, community supports and Employment. Many constituents still identify health care as their number one issue and want the system to be fixed immediately so that they, and their families, can receive a good standard of care when they need it most.

I am disappointed that the Premier is not following through on her commitment to a Public Inquiry into the health care system. Her plan to give certain powers to the Health Quality Council is misleading and appears to simply be delaying the important investigation that is long overdue and much needed.

This inquiry must be independent and judge-led to ensure it has the powers and impartiality to solve the serious mismanagement and compromised care of people. Please let me know of your experience in the health system – both good and bad.

The issues I hear about across the constituency are varied. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Mike or Jenna in my office and they will help to address the issue. You can contact my office at Calgary.mountainview@assembly.ab.ca or 403-216-5445.

I look forward to meeting you as I am out in the community and hope to make myself as available as possible to hear your concerns. Once again I hope you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season.

Warm Regards,
David Swann

Canzonet

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A Message from your Alderman Druh Farrell

From little things, big things grow. As the New Year approaches I would like to celebrate some of the special projects volunteers have started in their neighbourhoods. Although each of these projects began as something small, many needing assistance from the Ward 7 office and the City, they have created friendships and partnerships that go far beyond the task at hand.

The Chinatown murals started out as a graffiti abatement program but have become a celebration of culture and community, and a discovery of laneways and other hidden gems. The Bow to Bluff project in Hillhurst Sunnyside began as a plan to clean up a neglected pedestrian and transit corridor that's grown into a wildly successful design and public engagement model, gaining international attention and resonating throughout City Hall. The playgrounds in Dalhousie, Hillhurst, and West Hillhurst have been incubators for new friendships and new ideas. The Highwood outdoor pool mural, Banff Trail espalier orchard, outdoor movies in East Village, Eau Claire skating party on the lagoon, Mount Pleasant fire pit nights, and Brentwood outdoor concerts have all brought neighbours together to make Calgary a better place.

Winter is the perfect time to gather with family and friends, and is perfect time to talk about how to revitalize your community. It could be as simple as arranging a snowman building contest, or as involved as creating a "Snow Angel" program that pairs up seniors with neighbours willing to shovel snow. The possibilities are endless.

Be bold, be daring, and choose to create positive change in your neighbourhood! If you require advice or assistance for a community led project please don't hesitate to contact me.

News from Druh Farrell

Druh Farrell attended our AGM this year as she has for many years now. She spoke of the success in closing the Savory Lodge motel in Motel Village and the poor roll-out of the 10th Street bike lane. There was a brief Q & A ... here is the summary:

Q. When will the four-car expansion happen at Lion's Park LRT?

A. This should be happening very soon; it only requires extension of the platform

Q. Why did The City have to buy the Cecil Hotel to shut it down and not the Savory Lodge?

A. Calgary Police were using the Cecil as a sting operation site for quite some time. This was not an option at the Savory as the Savory is situated adjacent to a residential neighbourhood; Council needed to intervene more directly. Because the associated costs are extraordinary for fighting crime as was seen at the Cecil, the City eventually bought the property though for far too much. There will hopefully be better coordination between the City and the Police in future such cases.

Q. What does a contextual permit mean?

A. If the development fits in the envelope the permit gets approved without review from neighbours or the Community Association. Please see the article: Contextual Single Detached Dwellings: Defined in this issue of the Beacon.

Q. With the new snow routes, where do you park if your house is on a snow route, in particular 19th Street?

A. Calling 3-1-1 will help citizens find a good place to park. Kevin Taylor – The City should relax parking restrictions when the snow routes are put into effect. Druh – Good point, she will take that idea back with her.

Q. There are some developments in HHHB which are well beyond the ARP (Area Redevelopment Plan); it seems unacceptable what the developer is getting away with. What can be done?

A. Send Druh's office emails and they will get involved wherever they can. The City is trying to flag problem developers. It is important to note that most developers follow the rules.

Q. Is there a policy on how many new developments are allowed on one block?

A. No, if the area is zoned for the development, the homeowners have a right.

Get in touch with Druh Farrell! Her assistant, Carol Ames, can be reached at: ward07@calgary.ca



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 be viewed online at www.hh-bh.ca. We are planning on adding improvements to the site over the coming months.

Happy books

by Kari Brown

I was forced to stage a Happiness Coup in my bookclub. The sad facts follow. It started out innocently with Rohinton Mistry's *A Fine Balance*, which broke our hearts. On its heels came *Oscar and Lucinda* by Peter Carey, Karen Connelly's *The Lizard Cage* and *The Maytrees* by Annie Dillard. When a selection was unavailable, and Dave Egger's *The What is the What* looked like the replacement, I snapped. I couldn't bear any more unhappy characters running around in my head! That's when I staged the Happiness Coup.

Here is one of the happy books we've enjoyed in my book club:

One of the funniest scenes I've read in years happens at the beginning of *Come Thou Tortoise* by Jessica Grant. Our heroine Audrey is a well meaning, mentally challenged young woman flying back to St. John's, Newfoundland to see her injured father. Audrey is suspicious of a male passenger who is reading a Shirley Maclaine book. Then she notices that he has a gun. Audrey disarms the man and locks herself in the bathroom. It is the Air Marshall's bad luck to run into such a formidable opponent!

This novel reminds me of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* by Mark Haddon. An offbeat narrator with a persistent nature and unique way of looking at the world solves a mystery. The second intriguing voice in this book is Winnifred, the tortoise from the title. Winnifred is Audrey's pet, and fills the reader in on all the important points that Audrey neglects to mention. I recommend this book to people who like zany families like the ones you find in Miriam Toew's novels.

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by Alan Bradley has hit fame on the bestseller lists. It's a solid, traditional mystery with an unusual heroine, 11 year old Flavia, who loves chemistry and lives in the requisite crumbling English mansion. What makes it fresh is the appealing heroine. It's like Nancy Drew for adults! Although mysteries don't always make for great discussions in book clubs, everyone enjoyed Flavia's spirit. She has since returned in *The Weed That Strings the Hangman's Bag*, *A Red Herring Without Mustard*, and *I Am Half-Sick of Shadows*. The library's bookcds are delightfully read by Jayne Entwistle. If you listen to them while cleaning the house, it will sparkle because you won't want to stop!

We have a new blog for Louise Riley Library at <http://calgarypubliclibrary.com/locations/louise-riley>. We're going to share more of our favourite books. Our resident reading expert has offered a challenge. If you write down the last 3 books you enjoyed as a comment on our first blog post, he will recommend another book you might like!

Happy reading!

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: admin@hh-bh.ca



Hounsfield Heights-Briar Hill Community Christmas Potluck Dinner

Friday December 9
6 pm – 9 pm

Louise Riley Library Meeting Room

Everyone welcome, bring your friends and neighbors.

Please RSVP by December 7th to Tejinder at 403-383-7029 or sidhutp@shaw.ca

Please indicate what you are bringing

Louise Riley Library

1904 - 14
Avenue NW

Hours

Monday - Thursday from
10 am - 9 pm

Friday & Saturday from
10 am - 5 pm

Sundays
12 pm - 5 pm

At *your* Library

December 2011

Baby it's cold outside - Let's stay in and read a book!



Did you know that you can have storytime – anytime? Just visit www.calgarypubliclibrary.com and check out the Kids page! Here you can access *Storytime – Anytime*, *TumbleBooks Kids*, and *Scholastic Bookflix*.

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

Register in person, by
calling 260-2620 or
online at
www.calgarypubliclibrary.com

E-Books: A Library On the Go: Are you curious or confused about e-books? Library staff demonstrate and answer questions regarding how to download an e-book using OverDrive. *Thursday, Dec 8, 7 - 8 pm*

Christmas Puppet Show: Join Gail Gregory of Tales, Tunes, and Puppetry for a puppet show featuring some festive Christmas stories. Ages 5 to 8. *Saturday, Dec 17, 10:30 - 11:15 am*

Gaming for Kids: Bring your friends and enjoy video games with the Nintendo Wii. Ages 7 to 12. *Thursday, Dec 29, 2 - 3 pm*

The Library will be closed on December 25 & 26

See you soon at the Louise Riley Library!

www.calgarypubliclibrary.com



Snow route parking bans



This winter, Calgary will implement Snow Route parking bans for the first time in our city's history. This program will touch every community in Calgary and will impact all drivers.

The Snow Route parking ban by-law was approved by City Council in October 2011. Since then, the program has undergone a number of adjustments in response to issues that were brought forward by aldermen and businesses groups.



The City has heard feedback from citizens and some communities concerned with the Snow Route parking bans in their areas. These concerns are being monitored closely, and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis after we experience the first few Snow

Events. This will enable drivers to adjust to the new program and will ensure The City has accurate information regarding parking impacts and driver habits.

Snow Events are declared when five centimetres or more of snow accumulates on city streets. Snow Route parking bans will be in effect for 72 hours, but may be extended or lifted early based on road conditions and the status of snow clearing operations.

The information below contains some key updates regarding the new Snow Route program:

Overnight parking bans in the downtown core and Business Revitalization Zones

- o While most Snow Route parking bans will be in effect for 72 hours when a Snow Event is declared by The City, some high density business areas will only have an overnight ban to accommodate parking during regular business hours.
- o Specific Snow Routes located in downtown or in business revitalization zones (BRZ) will be in effect from 9 pm to 6 am when The City declares a parking ban.

Free overnight parking in City-owned lots

- o The Calgary Parking Authority will offer free overnight parking from 9 pm to 6 am in all their lots when Snow Route parking bans are in effect. Lot locations can be found on the [CPA website](#).

Development of an [interactive Snow Route map](#) on [Calgary.ca](#)

- o There is now an interactive Snow Route map on [Calgary.ca](#) that allows citizens to find Snow Route locations in their community.
- o There is also a listing of Snow Route locations available on [Calgary.ca/snow](#).

E-mail notification available on [Calgary.ca](#)

- o Citizens can quickly and easily subscribe to e-mail alerts on [Calgary.ca/snow](#).
- o E-mails will be sent to inform citizens whenever a Snow Route parking ban is expected, in effect, lifted or extended.

Smart phone app – with Snow Route parking ban “push” notifications

- o The City of Calgary Road Conditions app will be launched in early December and is designed to help Calgarians plan their commute during winter storms. Real-time information will be provided on plow/sander locations, road conditions and traffic cameras.
- o This app has the added feature of notifying citizens anytime a Snow Route parking ban has been advised, declared or lifted.

We need your support to make this program a success. You can help us make our roads safer and more driveable this winter by ensuring your car is not parked on a Snow Route during a parking ban. Become familiar with the Snow Routes in the areas where you live, work and visit. Be aware of the weather and understand that if you are parked on a Snow Route this winter and a parking ban is declared, you will have to find alternate parking.

Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill

Youth Badminton

Get in on one of Canada's fastest-growing sports – competitive badminton!

For players ages 9 - 12
(beginner level)

For players aged 12 – 15 yrs
(intermediate level)

Space available for 12 players per level



Winter Session 2012:

Mondays Jan. 30 5:30 - 7:00

Wednesdays Jan. 25 5:30 - 7:00

(10 lessons)

Cost: \$100.00
with HHBH community membership
\$120.00
for non-community members
(if you have not purchased a
membership since April 2011)

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

Registration:

Online starting November 26, 2011

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



**For information call:
Lorne Cowan
Phone: 403-289-0921
Email: lorne2@telus.net**

Take a swing at Adult Badminton

By Lorne Cowan

Did you know there's an ongoing adult badminton program at the community hall every morning, Tuesday through Friday?

The program runs 9 am to 12 pm with a \$4 drop-in charge and \$1 fee for birdies each time (up to a maximum of \$3 each half-year session).

Matches are played as doubled and when the match is finished, the next four players go on.

We have beginners and fun games on Wednesdays and Thursdays, while on Tuesdays and Fridays the more advanced players square off. Pick a time that suits your schedule and skill level and join us!



Ladies' Indoor Soccer

Fun, Recreational, Social, Non-competitive
First half hour - warmup and drills.

Second half hour - scrimmage

When: Thursday nights
8 - 9 pm
Jan. 12 – Mar. 1, 2012 inclusive (8 weeks)

Where: HHBH Gym

Registration: January 12, 7:50 pm, HHBH Gym
HHBH membership required

Cost : \$40 for all 8 sessions

Contact: Kitty Jones for more information
kittyjones@shaw.ca


A brief description of Contextual Single Detached Dwelling (CSDD) building permits



Terry Woods

Recent bylaw changes have streamlined some aspects of the development permit application process to include a special review guideline called Contextual Single Detached Dwelling (CSDD). The purpose of this category of development is to streamline the permit application process for both the city and the home owner/developer. CSDD proposals are not discretionary in that they do not require any relaxations of current bylaws. They conform to all land use bylaw rules and can be approved without community inputs or appeals.

A CSDD permit is a 'Permitted' use, which means that the plan meets all the city land use bylaws. For this category there are no bylaw relaxations allowed of any kind (no matter how small). That means that measurements for lot coverage, height, as well as front, side and rear yard setbacks - all must meet the bylaw rules. Also, a comparison with the homes on either side of the new development is considered in terms of scale, height and setbacks. If a new CSDD proposal meets these very strict criteria, it will be approved and cannot be appealed.

There are advantages to this process. For the developer it means faster approvals. For residents, it means they can be assured that the development will be relatively modest in relation to the houses on either side of it and there cannot be any relaxations of the land use bylaws. If a developer wants any bylaw relaxations for a project the plans are classified as discretionary and must be circulated to the community for comments and the 'blue notice' goes up to notify the community.



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- Laser / Phototherapy
- Customized Exercise Therapy
- Prenatal & Pediatric Chiropractic

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- Tendonitis / Arthritis
- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Sprains/Strains
- General Wellness Care





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\$40 per issue	1/4 page
\$60 per issue	1/2 page

Prospective advertisers should contact admin@hh-bh.com



Emergency
Medical
Services

Cold weather safety

Alberta Health Services EMS responds to many cold weather related emergencies every winter. Simple actions such as dressing appropriately and anticipating sudden weather changes can help keep you both warm and safe this season.

Frostnip

- Frostnip occurs when skin is extremely cold, but not frozen. It commonly affects the ears, nose, cheeks, fingers and toes.
- The skin appears red but also turns to white when pressed. It may feel numb to the touch.
- When treated promptly, frost-nipped skin will heal without complication.
- Gently re-warming the affected area in a warm environment is advised.

Frostbite

- Frostbite is when skin becomes so cold, the skin and underlying tissue freeze completely.
- It may look white and waxy and will feel hard to the touch.
- Treatment begins with removal from the cold environment and placing the affected area in warm, *not hot*, water (about 41°C) until re-warmed.
- Seek further medical attention as required.

Hypothermia

- Hypothermia is abnormally low body temperature (less than 34°C as compared to normal body temperature of about 37°C).
- People suffering hypothermia may act inappropriately with uncharacteristic stumbling, mumbling, and fumbling, as their body temperature continues to lower.
- Early recognition and prompt medical attention is crucial. Left untreated, hypothermia may progress to coma and death.
- Call 9-1-1. Don't forget to protect yourself from the factors that originally lead to the patient's situation.
- Gentle re-warming should start as quickly as possible including: removal of wet or constrictive clothing, covering with blankets or sleeping bags, and protecting the patient from further heat loss (wind, moisture and contact with cold surfaces).

www.albertahealthservices.ca



Emergency
Medical
Services

Yielding to emergency vehicles

Time is the enemy in any emergency. You can help police, fire and EMS get to the scene quickly and safely by following the rules of the road. It's important for motorists to understand how to safely yield right of way to emergency vehicles with lights and siren activated so that everyone stays safe.

What to do when an emergency vehicle approaches with lights and siren activated

- If you're in the middle of an intersection when an emergency vehicle approaches with lights and siren activated, clear the intersection.
- On a one or two lane road, motorists should move to the right side of the road and stop. Remember to signal.
- On a road with three or more lanes, motorists should move to the nearest side of the road and stop. If driving in the centre lane, move to the right side of the road and stop. Remember to signal.
- Come to a complete stop and wait for the emergency vehicle to pass. Shoulder check for more emergency vehicles (there is often more than one) before re-entering traffic flow. Remember to signal.
- Remember, emergency vehicles may need to use any available road space to maneuver. This may include the use of shoulders and left hand turning lanes to pass other traffic.

While driving on the road

- Drive defensively at all times. Be attentive to sirens of emergency vehicles and be prepared to yield the right of way.
- It is the law for motorists to slow down to at least 60 km/hour (unless a lower speed is posted) when driving in the lane next to where an emergency vehicle is stopped.
- Do not break the rules of the road in order to give right of way to an emergency vehicle. This could include proceeding through a red light or making an illegal turn. Actions such as these jeopardize all motorists in the area.
- Do not drive on or block the shoulder of highways if emergency vehicles require it for access. Instead, wait for the emergency vehicle to pass before merging safely back in to the flow of traffic.
- Always leave plenty of space between your vehicle and an emergency vehicle in case it should stop suddenly.

www.albertahealthservices.ca

Responsible gifting fosters responsible pet ownership

It cannot be denied that a roly-poly puppy or a wide-eyed kitten wrapped in a bow is an adorable sight at any time of the year. However, we've probably all heard stories of people who unexpectedly received a cat or dog as a Christmas gift or for a special occasion but weren't prepared for the impact that the pet had on their lifestyle, time and finances.

When a cat or dog is given as a gift, all too often after the initial excitement wears off, people realize that the cat or dog doesn't fit their lifestyle. Sadly, the pets that were given as well intentioned gifts are either abandoned or taken to shelters.

With the holiday season fast approaching, Animal & Bylaw Services strongly encourages you to give Animal Services' gift certificates instead of cats or dogs. We believe that choosing a pet is an important personal decision. Owning a pet is a responsibility for the lifetime of that animal and therefore, time and care should be taken when entering into a decision. Purchasing a gift certificate provides the potential pet owner time to choose the cat or dog that best fits their home and lifestyle.

Not only are Animal Services' gift certificates available in any denomination, they don't have to be used solely for adopting a pet. They can also be used for the purchase of cat or dog licences. All cats and dogs residing in Calgary must be licensed at three months of age.

Responsible gifting ensures that an adoptable cat or dog from Animal & Bylaw Services is welcomed into a home that wants and has prepared for a new pet. Gifting in a responsible way will help to lessen the number of unwanted animals in our city and will encourage your loved one to be a responsible pet owner.

For more information on our gift certificates, adopting an animal or licensing a pet, call 3-1-1, visit calgary.ca/animalservices or visit the Animal Services Centre at 2201 Portland Street S.E., during regular business hours.



Good neighbours clear the snow

With the onset of Calgary's winter, it is time to remind ourselves how the buildup of ice and snow on city sidewalks can literally leave some people housebound. Older adults, those with mobility issues or parents wheeling strollers or walking with young children, may find it too treacherous to venture out if neighbours are not diligent about clearing the ice and snow. All of us can help make walking in our communities safe for everyone if we work together and follow the regulations set out in Calgary's Street Bylaw.

Property owners are responsible for clearing all sidewalks adjacent to their property. This means removing all snow and ice down to the bare concrete within 24 hours after the snow stops falling. If, as a property owner, you do not live at the residence, it is important to work with tenants or arrange for a contractor to clear the snow. The property owner is ultimately responsible for snow clearing under the bylaw. For any ice that is difficult to remove, a de-icing mixture is available at fire halls or Roads depots. Please bring your own container.

When clearing the snow from your sidewalk, please remember that snow from a public sidewalk can be put onto the road or boulevard, but snow from private property cannot. Large mounds of snow in the street can impede the flow of traffic, limit driver and pedestrian visibility and hinder Blue Cart and Black Bin collection.

Sidewalks also need to be clear of obstructions such as electrical cords. When plugging in your vehicle, make sure you don't place an electrical cord on or over any portion of a street.

Have you considered being a Snow Angel? It can be a challenge for some residents to shovel and clear their sidewalks. The Snow Angel campaign encourages Calgarians to be good neighbours by helping older adults and others in need with their snow removal. All you have to do is adopt someone's sidewalk this winter and keep it clear.

Let's remember that snow, ice and obstructions on our sidewalks can result in serious injuries and can cause those with limited mobility to be confined indoors. Be a good neighbour and clear the snow.

To access the City of Calgary Street Bylaw, visit calgary.ca and search "Street Bylaw" or call 3-1-1.



The City of Calgary Recreation is celebrating its centennial in 2012! January kicks off the celebrations with an ode to Skating and Hockey, our favourite winter pastimes. We invite you to get active and join us for a free public skate near you:

Hockey Day in Calgary	January 1	11:00-2:00 p.m.	Olympic Plaza
Adult Shinny	January 1	12:00-1:30 p.m.	Village Square Leisure Centre
Free Public Skate	January 1	12:30-2:00 p.m.	Village Square Leisure Centre
Free Parent & Child Shinny	January 1	1:45-3:15 p.m.	Southland Leisure Centre
Free Adult Shinny Hockey	January 1	12:00-1:30 p.m.	Southland Leisure Centre
Free Public Skate	January 1	2:00-3:30 p.m.	Southland Leisure Centre
Free Public Skate	January 13	7:45-10:00 p.m.	Jimmy Condon Arena
Free Public Skate	January 18	9:30-11:00 a.m.	Murray Copot Arena
Free Public Skate	January 22	12:15-1:45 p.m.	Optimist Arena
Free Public Skate	January 22	2:00-3:30 p.m.	Stew Hendry Arena

Did you know that Calgary's first skating rinks were built in 1913?

To learn more about the history of recreation in Calgary or to attend our numerous special events being held throughout the year, visit www.calgary.ca/rec100. City of Calgary Recreation – a century of achievement and a future of possibilities.



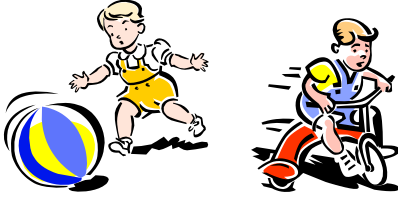
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**Hounsfield Heights / Briar Hill (HH/BH)
TOT'S TIME PLAYGROUP**



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

Come check us out!!

- When: Mondays, 9:30 - 11:30 am
 Where: HH/BH Gymnasium 1922-14 Avenue NW
- North of Louise Riley Library
 - 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 Rebecca or Tania at
 HHBHtotsttime@hotmail.com



**Family Drop-in
GYM TIME**

Free for HHBH Community
 Association Members Only

Fridays 6:30 - 8 pm

Bring your neighbours.
 Play badminton/volleyball/basketball.



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Please call Tejinder Paul Sidhu 383-7029
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3 Lines Free

This area is intended as a free service to community residents (no business ads please). Please keep submissions to about 15 - 20 words, and don't forget to include your name and contact info. Parents must make submissions for children under 16.

Reminder:

Residential Parking Zone W permits expire December 31, 2011. Permits can be renewed at the Calgary Parking Authority office or via mail or fax

620 - 9 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2P 1L5
 Phone: 403-537-7000 Fax: 403-537-7001
 Business hours: 8 am - 4:15 pm (Mon - Fri)



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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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