

President's Notebook

Thoughts Turn to Autumn

By John McDermid

Well there's the hard frost that's finally touched Crescent Heights in the Autumn of 2008, just a week or so ago as I write this. So the gardens are to bed with the help of residents blessed by several weeks of fine weather in September and October to make all ready for Winter. It's never certain that we can get done what needs doing before the snow flies, but this early autumn has been a fine one.

And so our thoughts turn, as they did last month, to what our Annual Crescent Heights Christmas Party might look like. Once again, please mark your calendars for December 13th and let us know if you might be able to help out. The Christmas Party has become one of the watershed events on an annual basis, and we need as many hands as possible to make it light work.

The format of the party has yet to be finalized between the two models now in recent memory: last year's event was a little different than previous years, with the food and drink a little more informal than the Turkey with trimmings that we did in previous years. In addition, the focus was more on a family skating party

that ran through the afternoon. As we continue to consult our returning volunteer corps, we'll see what direction we want to go this year and let everyone know in good time. If you can volunteer in some capacity or have a strong preference as to which way we should structure the event, please contact me at (403) 277-8653.

On October 1st the new Fourth Edition of A Community Guide to the Planning Process was launched at the Parkdale Community Centre. A couple of Crescent Heights residents attended and brought home copies of the Guide, which is an invaluable and concentrated tome on the role of individual residents and community associations in the ongoing process of urban redevelopment.

CHCA's Traffic and Planning Committee, under the capable leadership of Joe Nagy, continues to be our most active advocacy committee, meeting on the first and third Tuesday of each month when we have Development Permit applications or other Traffic and Planning issues before us. Contact Joe if you'd like to be included on the T&P e-mail list.



Thanks to the City of Calgary and the Federation of Calgary Communities, especially Bob van Wegen, the FCC's Urban Planner, for facilitating wideranging community input (including ours) into the updating and refining of the Fourth Edition. You can view it online as a PDF at www.calgarycommunities.com/FCCServices/Guide/thePlanningProcess/Web.pdf.

On October 15th, just as I sat down to write this item for The View, I had a message from Charles Starke, the City of Calgary's Project Manager for the new Emergency Operations Centre, set to begin construction soon on the site of the old Rotary Park Legion Recreation Branch (the Blue Building in Rotary Park). As many of you will recall, Charles has been a key individual in the City's finally aetting it right in the area of public engagement and ongoing consultation in the planning and construction of major public buildings. I spoke with Charles this morning and we had a conversation about some elderly poplar trees that will have to come out on the south side of the site adjacent to the east-west power line that runs through the park, just north of the playground. Due to the proximity of the new building's footprint, it is not expected that these mature trees would survive, so the remedy prescribed by the Parks department is to



The Crescent

The Crescent View is published 10 times per year by Flexys Systems Publishing for the Crescent Heights Community Association. The View is distributed to all households within Crescent The View is Heights by your neighbours.

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271-4101

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Distribution Manager Diane Altwasser 276-7118

Circulation

276-1831

Sharon Anderson-Marr (NW) Elizabeth Hancock

245-3331

(NF - North of 8th Avenue)

Opinions expressed in the View are not necessarily those of the Crescent Heights Community Association or Flexys Systems Publishing Ltd.

For community and hall information visit www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/ crescent.htm

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Autumn cont. from cover

replace them with four trees of a longerlived species, probably ash or green ash. In addition, the EOC, in cooperation with Parks, will relocate some 20 trees from the existing EOC/Legion site to other areas in Rotary Park, some of which will replace a few of the 40-odd trees, planted in 2001 under the Forever Green program, which did not survive. That summer 2001 tree planting was one of the first activities I enjoyed as an active member of CHCA, despite having lived here for almost 20 years at the time. Under the Parks Department's supervision, we unwrapped root balls, tickled the roots, dua a little extra depth in the pre-backhoe-dug holes and seated all those trees. I worked that day with Glenna Blackbourn, our former View Editor, and we've been friends ever since. But I digress: the short answer is that we'll lose these two older poplars from the Park, but they will be replaced by four new trees and some twenty to be relocated, so it seems like a fair deal and a reinforcement of the New Dawn of City departments working together and getting it right in areas important to communities.

We have had initial overtures from a prospective (and reputable) developer for the site of the Tigerstaedt Block. This is of course the row of buildings between 8th and 9th Avenues north on the east side of Centre Street. The last proposal entertained by the T&P Committee last year was for a six-storey building requiring a re-designation under the former Land Use By-law.

The current proposal, though not yet presented in detail, indicates a four storey, mixed-use structure that would see ground floor commercial retail, with the upper floors dedicated to a mix of commercial and residential. As much as many elements of the existing singlestorey structured are well loved in Crescent Heights, the condition of the buildings is such that their continued use as small scale commercial properties is limited. We'll keep you well posted on this important potential redevelopment rounds into shape in the coming months.

Some 18 or 20 people gathered on the mezzanine level of the CHCA Hall on October 10th to attend our first-ever Scotch Tasting Event. Organized by Anne Underwood and David Hobill, our quests sampled five single malt scotch whiskies from Lowland to Speyside, and then on to the fighting whiskies of Skye and Islay. A beautiful range of assorted nibbles was on hand to accompany the beautiful range of whisky, and was enjoyed by all, including shortbread, oatcakes, chocolate and some very opinionated cheeses. But the real show-stoppers were the buttery savoury pastries prepared by David and Anne's daughter, Astrid. Many thanks to your efforts for this excellent and informative event. It was a brisk evening and made for a bracing and wobbly walk home for a few of us who stayed on to drink clean up.

The next such event, whose timing is tricky for timely inclusion in this issue of the View, is a second Wine Tastina event on November 7th. At press time this is forming up as a tasting of Italian IGT wines from the Tuscany area, typically referred to as Super Tuscans. As Joe advises, these are "wines made from non-traditional grapes in a modern style; or, French grapes using Australian techniques made in Italy." Should be a pleasant evening of great wines and tasty snacks at a planned cost of \$40 per person. Join us if you can, and sign up to the CHCA e-mail list for further details prior to the event.

Let it snow.



It Takes a Village... Crescent Heights Babysitting Coop

The Babysitting Co-op continues to expand. We have lots of new members this year, and a whole crop of kids under the age of five. The Co-op is a not only a great network for babysitting; it is also an excellent way to meet new people, make play dates, and ensure that you have a safety net if you should ever need short-notice or emergency care. If you are new to the neighbourhood or the city, and especially if you don't have family nearby, the Co-op can be an invaluable resource! Come join us at our next monthly meeting – we look forward to getting to know you.

How it works:

 Using a system of chits, members arrange and exchange babysitting amongst themselves on an as needed basis.

 All members and their families (all adults in the home) are required to participate in the Block Parent program and go through the Calgary Police Service's security screening process.

 Moms (and dads!) can attend the oncea-month informal evening meeting (sans kids) to get to know one another. Meetings are held the last week of each month between September and June rotating at various members' homes. It's a great place to talk about parenting challenges, neighbourhood news, new things in your life, and enjoy munchies and wine.

 Community Association members in good standing pay a \$25 nonrefundable fee to participate.

And voila! Your own local Mary Poppins(es) can give you a few hours to yourself.

If you would like to see if joining the coop is a venue for you, information on the meeting date and place can be obtained from Robin Strathdee at (403) 276-8610.







Crescent Heights Playgroup

Crescent Heights Playgroup meets every Tuesday from 10:00 to 11:30 am. Any caregiver can bring a child who lives in Crescent Heights and/or is a current member of the Crescent Heights Community Association (Yeaarly Fee \$20). Bring slippers or indoor foot wear (the floor is cold), snacks and drinks.

The hall is a large open area for children to run around in and there are plenty of toys to play with.

Mothers with babies are also welcome to come out, meet and socialize with other mothers in the community. For more information call Lisa Simic at (403) 685-9367.

Neighbours Seeking Neighbours

- ✓ Do you have a three to five year old?
- ✓ Are you free in the afternoons?
- ✓ Do you and your kids like the outdoors and adventures?

I am looking to find some neighbours to get together and hang out with. Please contact Carolyn at carolynhorwitz @shaw.ca.

Mendelssohn's Elijah

The CCOS Calgary Chinese Oratory Society will be performing Mendelssohn's Elijah on Saturday November 15th during the evening worship service, 7:00 pm at Sharon Lutheran Church (210 - 10th Avenue NE). A freewill offering will be taken. This choral group has performed Handel's Messiah and a number of other works.

View Delivery Help Required

Volunteer carriers required for the Crescent View!

- 2nd Avenue NE between 2nd Street and the Hill
- 4th and 5th Avenue NE between 2nd Street and Edmonton Trail
- 1st Avenue to 4th Avenue NE between 3rd and 4th Street, bottom of the hill

Interested volunteers are encouraged to call Diane Altwasser at 276-7118 or email koblukm@telus.net.

Call for Articles

Crescent Heights View and Rosedale Reporter

To improve our communication network, we are now able to include articles, activities and events in the Rosedale Reporter as well as our own Crescent Heights View. This will ensure that everyone in our two communities will be kept up to date of current activities, and will ensure that course offerings for both communities will be 'a go'.

Articles/events for the Crescent Heights View are due on the 15th day of each month. Please email your articles (as word documents), to Elizabeth Hancock at elizhancock@shaw.ca. Please send any digital photos (scanned at a minimum 300 dpi) as an attachment to the email and be sure to send a caption and any names of people who are in the photo. Everyone deserves their 15 minutes of fame...

Articles/events for the Rosedale Reporter are due on the 10th day of each month. Please email articles only (as word documents), to Bill Waddell at wadellb@telusplanet.net.

Winter Container Planting

By Glenna Blackbourn

When we see the first snowflakes fall, we know for sure our gardens are sleeping for the winter. Now is the time to make use of some of the pruning we have done at the end of the season. Dogwoods have beautiful, colorful branches. Spruce trees also supply the added greenery we crave this time of year and their freshly fallen acorns provide texture and their own color. There are rugosa roses that hang onto their plump rosehips, Echinacea that still have their colorful dried flowerheads, and dried ornamental grasses that will add needed height and interest to your winter container.

The container itself should be winter proof, such as a fibre or hardy plastic container that is completely dry and clean. You will need to add some weight to the bottom to prevent your new creation from blowing over in the winter winds – extra bricks, rocks or small pieces of cement will do nicely. On top of this, add some small gravel to within one inch of the top of the container. You can then ensure that any branches you use will have a firm hold to dig in to and your new container will look fabulous all winter long.

Adding branches that have berries will not only entice birds, but will add to a natural

Library News

Louise Riley Library, located at 1904 14th Avenue NW, are open Monday to Thursday, 10:00 am to 9:00 pm, Friday and Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sundays noon to 5:00 pm. Programs are free with a library card. Register in person, by calling (403) 260-2620 or online at www.calgarypubliclibrary.com.

Homebound Readers

Customers who are unable to visit the library due to illness or disability can arrange to have a library volunteer regularly select, deliver and exchange materials. This free service is available to customers who live in their homes, continuing care centres, auxiliary hospitals, or seniors' residences. To arrange homebound library service call (403) 260-2702.

Baby and You for Moms

Topics include infant crying, sleeping, toys, games, health, nutrition, and community resources. Co-sponsored by look. Fresh cedar or spruce bows from the garden centers also add a burst of fresh green. During Christmas, adding your own ornaments will add sparkle and interest throughout this charming season.

Make sure your container is the proper scale to the surroundings you want to place it in. If you have a small space, a narrow, elongated container with some taller branches will look stunning. A larger space will require a larger container, thus larger branches and greenery. Just remember that if you choose a squat container, your plantings should be squat also. Emulate the shape of your container and your arrangement will be noticed!

Keep an eye on your plantings to make sure they look fresh and you'll be surprised at how many people take notice of your special container. Remember to do your containers in groups of three or five; just like you would plant perennials in your garden. Not only is this pleasing to the eye, it provides a strong sense of balance and cohesiveness which will get your containers noticed time and time again.

Happy winter planting! Making your own winter container will make your home so much more welcoming and interesting.

the Calgary Health Region. Ages twoi to nine months with a parent/caregiver. Wednesdays, November 5th to 26th.

Drop-In Family Storytime

Drop in for stories, songs, and fingerplays the whole family can enjoy. Ages two to five with a parent/caregiver. Fridays until December 5th, 10:30 to 11:00 am.

On the Loose with Dr. Seuss!

The troupe from Calgary Young People's Theater is back with 45 zany minutes in the crazy world of Dr. Seuss! Join us for this free performance, exclusively at the Calgary Public Library. Ages five to 11. Saturday, November 22nd, 10:30 to 11:15 am.

Parent and Child Book Club

Explore some of the best children's novels with your child, then meet for a lively discussion of the book and author. Ages nine to 12 with a parent/caregiver. Tuesdays, November 4th and December 2nd, 7:00 to 8:30 pm.



Hey! Where can I pick up a copy of this GREAT newsletter?

The Crescent View is published monthly and is available for pick-up at Gardens Grace on Edmonton Trail, as well as The Riverside Coffee House, The Urban Baker, Pints & Half Pints, Boogies Burgers, The Country Kitchen, Subway, Joshua Tree, Crescent Heights Convenience, Second Cup on Centre Street, Center Convenience, Peter Pan Convenience Store, Lamda Centre and New Asian Market

The View is also delivered by volunteers to all households, but is very hard to deliver to any condo's or apartments due to building access, etc. If you would like to have enough copies for units in your condo or apartment building, please call our distribution manager Diane Altwasser at 276-7118.

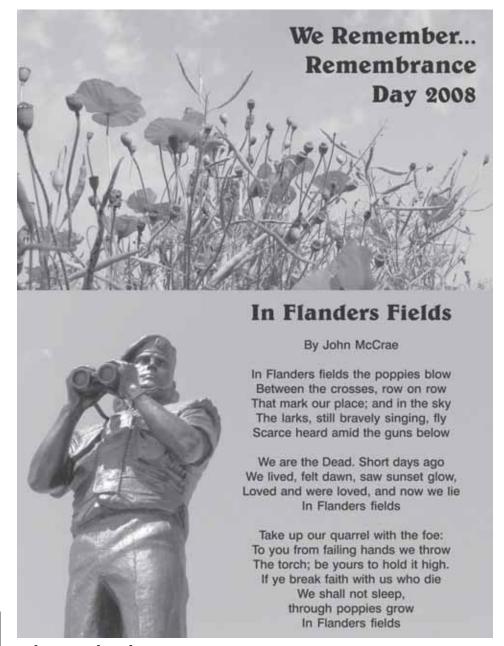
If you would like access to the newsletter on the web, you can visit www.calgaryarea.com/nw/ crescenthts/crescent.htm and you will see the View PDF underneath the Block Watch Logo on the right side of the screen.

Business Membership

The CHCA would like to recognize business members in good standing:

Alan Yiu of Edward Jones • Annie's Book
Company • ATB Financial — North Hill
Chinese Christian Wing Kei Nursing Home
Association • Chinook Glass and Screen
Crescent Heights Baptist Church • Don's
Hobby Shop • Intercept Security Corporation
Metz Law Office • Mykonos Greek
Restaurant • RE/MAX Central — Bob Dawe,
Agent • Santorini • Sharon Lutheran
Church • St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox
Church and Cultural Centre • The Care
Group • North Hill Mazda • Peter's Drive-In
Video Game Trader • Wild Rose
United Church

Support Your Community!



Shovel That Snow!

With the arrival of winter and the accompanying snow and ice, the issue of personal safety is paramount in everyone's mind. After a snowfall ylaw Services receives hundreds of complaints about sidewalks that haven't been shoveled.

Seniors, handicapped persons, young mothers with strollers and even dog walkers find it difficult to navigate the sidewalks when they become treacherous. Service providers such as mail carriers, meter readers and delivery people also find their work to be more of a challenge. Taking the time to clear the snow and keeping extension cords from crossing the sidewalks help to combat the icy surfaces and ensure everyone's safety. It is also

part of being a good neighbour!

Property owners are responsible for clearing all sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours of the snow being deposited. ISidewalks must be cleared down to the bare concrete. With the freeze and thaw that comes from our welcomed chinooks, ice can form quickly. For icy spots that are difficult to clear, homeowners can purchase commercial ice-melting products or take a container to the nearest fire hall to pick up a sand and salt mixture.

Be a respectful and thoughtful neighbour. Shovel your snow and encourage others do the same. It helps keep everyone safe.

Variable Veggies

By Glenna Blackbourn

Another season in the veggie garden has come to an end, and with the temperature falling to minus 4 near the start of October, only a few hardy souls remained - those left being mainly underground! We planted a few different seeds this year fennel, bush beans, carrots, beets, chard, spinach, a variety of lettuces, zucchini, butternut, spaghetti and patty pan squash. We also bought small starter plants of celery and brussel sprouts.

Our first planting was May 17th. The weather was warm, the sky was blue and we were happy to have our hands in the soil once more; what a perfect planting day. But, Calgary weather proved to be king, and the garden didn't fare so well this year. Too much rain, not enough rain, too hot, too cool - the usual culprits.

We also tried something new, something called square foot gardening. We divided our plots up into two square feet, and planted one type of seed per one section. We had 12 two foot sections to fill. This proved to work well, probably because we were constrained to plant 40 bush beans instead of 100. It made you consider how much food you really do eat as the yield from one of those sections is plenty for two people. Believe me, by the end of the summer we were starting to take on a green hue we were

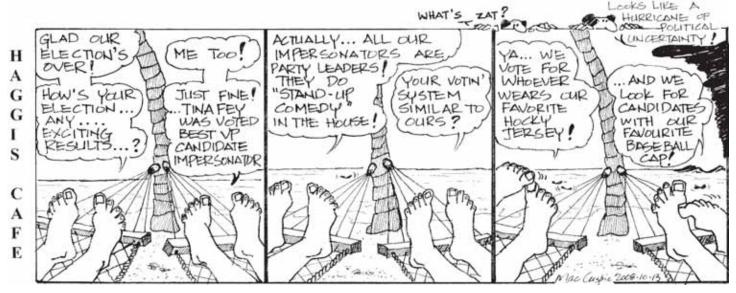
eating so many fresh greens. What's for dinner tonight dear, oh, more chard/ arugula/spinach/beet greens/lettuce? Yum. Bring it on!

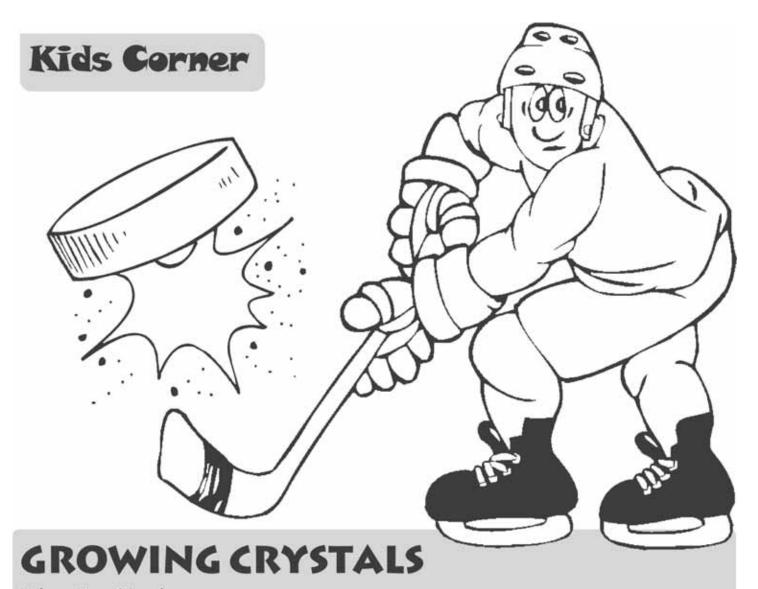
During the growing season the garden looked like a patchwork quilt. All the different ruffled foliage, stem colors, flowers and large cabbage leaves on the Brussels sprouts looked really intriguing. The zucchini flowers filled us with a mix of dread/happiness, depending on how many flowers were on each plant. We had

our feed of patty pans and zucchini, and one lonely butternut, but the three spaghetti squash were hit with frost and never made it any further than being 4" long. The Brussels sprouts were a big hit - both in size of plant and in yield of sprouts. We finally put them to bed on October 10th, even though they were still producing. I'm sure if our season was longer, we'd have sprouts until December! A very hardy and very cool looking plant.

We were happy with the varieties of lettuces we tried this year. Some did well in the heat, some did better in the cool weather, so we had lettuce until the very end of the season. The fennel never grew at all, even after replanting. The shallots didn't fare so well and the bush beans made a very poor attempt at growing this year. The spinach grew too quickly in the early heat then bolted right away. All in all, a season of learning for us novice veggie gardeners. With another season over, the beds prepared for next year, we are already deciding what we will attempt to coax out of our gardens in the spring.







What You Need

Granulated Sugar Glass Jar Thread Paperclip

Straw

Food Colouring (optional)

It's fun and easy to grow your own Crystals!

On the stove, bring two cups of water to a boil. Add a half cup of sugar, stirring constantly. Once all of the sugar is dissolved, keep adding more sugar until no more will dissolve (the water is now saturated with sugar). For coloured crystals add a few drops of food colouring to the water.

Let the water cool, and then pour into a glass jar. Tie a paper clip to one end of the thread. Drop the paperclip into the jar, and tie the other end of the thread to a straw. Balance the straw over the lip of the jar.

Leave the jar sitting on a sunny windowsill and watch the results. As water evaporates, crystals will start to grow on your thread. Over a period of days you will see the crystals grow.



Medium - Ages 9-12

Adult Help



Recycle!

City of Calgary Recycling Depots are located at

Confederation Park

2807 - 10th Street NW (North Side of the Rosemont **Community Centre Parking Lot)**

North Hill

1901 - 16th Avenue NW (East Side of the Mall Parking Lot)

Bridgeland

7 - 11th Street NE (Rehabilitation Society Parking Lot)

Renfrew

16th Avenue & Russet Road (Renfrew Athletic Park)



Fall into Efficient Home Heating

Courtesy Climate Change Corner

The air has turned crisp with the crackle of fall and getting out from under the covers can send a shiver up your spine in the morning. But before you crank up the thermostat, take a moment to make sure that you're heating your home in the most efficient manner possible.

Say Hello to a High-Efficiency Furnace

High-efficiency furnaces, generally those that are more than 90 per cent efficient, can reduce fuel costs by up to 30 per cent over a conventional furnace. All furnaces sold in Canada are rated on their energy efficiency and have an EnerGuide label. The higher the number on the label, the more energy efficient the furnace is. Furnaces with electronically commutated motors (ECMs) can also help save large amounts of energy.

Seal Sneaky Air Leaks

The small cracks and holes in a home can add up to an opening that is big enough for a large dog to crawl through. So check walls, windows and doors for drafts and seal them up with weatherstripping and caulking.

Warm up Your Windows

Conventional single-pane windows, even when closed, allow up to one-quarter of the heat in your house to escape. Double-glazed, low-emissivity and ENERGY STAR® qualified windows are more efficient. Applying a thin plastic film over the entire window and frame with a window insulation kit is an inexpensive way to improve conventional single-pane windows.

Insulate, Insulate, Insulate

Insulate everywhere - the roof, floors, walls, and the basement. Insulation is rated in terms of its resistance to heat flow, called an R-value. The higher the R-value, the more effective the insulation is.

Let the Sun Shine In

Take advantage of free heat from the sun. Open drapes on western and southern exposure windows to help the sun warm your home during the day and close all blinds at night to help reduce heat loss.

Program Your Thermostat

Install a programmable thermostat that automatically turns the house temperature up or down when you get up, go to bed and go out. For every degree you turn the temperature down, you can save two per cent on your heatina bill.

For more ideas and information about energy efficiency, subscribe to a free online newsletter, Enerclick. Visit www.ClimateChangeCentral.com, call Climate Change Central toll free at 1-866-609-2700, or send an email to contact@climatechangecentral.com.

| Crescent Heights Crescent Heights Community Association Membership Application Form | Please mail this form with your cheque to C.H.C.A. 1101 - 2nd Street NW Calgary, Alberta T2M 2V7 |
|---|---|
| Voting (Residents) ☐ Single (\$10) ☐ Household (\$20) ☐ Senior (\$5/g | per person) |
| Non-Voting (Business and Non-Residents Associate (\$20) Business (\$50) | |
| Names : | |
| Address : Post | al Code: |
| Phone : E-mail: | |
| ☐ Yes, Send Me Community Emails ☐ Yes, Send Me Block Watch Emails | |
| ☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal Date Amount Enclosed \$ | |