

President's Notebook Planning for Christmas

By John McDermid

As I sit down to write this for the December issue, planning is well advanced for our 2008 CHCA Christmas Party, set for Saturday, December 13th. Sharon Anderson-Marr has stepped forward to take the lead organizational role and has already assembled a gimcrack team of volunteers, some old hands, and some new, to make the event a success. See elsewhere in this issue for details from Sharon.

I've managed to talk my way out of the kitchen and into a position behind the bar (finally!), but a scheduling conflict with our event and my wife's firm Christmas party this year means I'll have to cut out shortly before the end of our party. If there is anyone out there who could join me behind the bar and stay until closing, please give me a shout. Rest assured that it's not a big commitment of time, as our party is not a late-running event, it being more kid-focused like last year's (and we all know that the little ones don't drink all that much, especially with Santa right there watching!).

It should be a great event: all we need are a few more able bodied volunteers and some colder weather to give us ice to skate on.

And of course, we know that cold weather alone doesn't make great ice: that's the job of Tim Edwards and his dedicated crew of flooders and groomers and snow shovellers, our human Zamboni crew. Many of these guys were out at the rink on November 1st to reinstall the rink boards, which this year for the first time rest on a sturdy 2 x 6" base plate. The boards went up in record time, and it appears Tim has been back more than once putting some finishing touches to the bracing. Thanks to all the fellows that came out on November 1st to move the panels into place, fabricate some new bracing, lay down the base plates and screw it all together. I even managed to get out there myself, mid-morning albeit, after the heavy lifting was done.

Thanks also to Rhonda Kohlen for a delicious lunch just as we were winding down. Sometimes food just tastes better

in the fresh air and that was certainly true that Saturday noon. Now for some cooler weather to support the ice-making effort!

On November 4th, Joe Nagy's Traffic and Planning Committee welcomed area residents, our regular T&P members, and two representatives from Cohos Evamy Architects, who in turn represent the new owners of the Tigerstaedt Block in the 900 block of Centre Street North. The last time the site was under discussion, the proposed development was bound and determined to rise to six storeys, presenting significant massing and shadowing issues to adjacent residents to the east, just as other buildings have done in the Centre Street corridor north of the Tigerstaedt site.

The actual form of the current proposal has yet to be presented in any detail, but the Cohos Evamy people listened intently to concerns expressed and made very encouraging comments regarding a mixed-use development (retail, commercial and residential) that would
Cont. page 3.



Crescent Heights Community
December Fest
Family Skating and Pizza Party

Saturday, December 13th
4:00 pm at the Community Hall
Please RSVP by December 9th

See Inside For Further Details

The Crescent View

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 Heights by your neighbours.

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

Crescent Heights Community Association

1101 - 2nd Street NW
Calgary, Alberta T2M 2V7

Volunteer Board of Directors

President	John McDermid	277-8653
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Block Watch	John McDermid	277-8653
Past President	Connie McLaren	230-0224

Committees

Hall Rentals	Marlene Zaharichuk	804-5600
Hall rental inquiries will be answered in two to three days		
Playgroup	Lisa Simic	685-9367
Memberships	Jonathan and Alison Martin	
Babysitting Co-op	Robin Strathdee	276-8610
Rink Manager	Tim Edwards	606-9303
Block Watch	John McDermid	277-8653

Inquiries and comments can be emailed to
chcaboard@hotmail.com

Member of FCC

Community Liaison Officer: Dominick Laporte
District 3, #3241 284-3393

Community and Block Watch e-mail list
contact George at 2day@telus.net
or John at johnmcdermid@shaw.ca

Christmas cont. from cover

be sensitive to the neighbourhood context. They went as far as to indicate that they do not wish to build a mere large box on the site, and that height and mass would be shifted toward the north and west corners of the site, and present "four fronts" of a building, rather than a highly finished front, less thoughtful sides, and a forgotten rear. Also discussed were possible enhancements of the north-south lane on the east side of the site to improve and enhance the building's interface with adjacent low-rise residential. From all we heard, we look forward to seeing the next phases of the proposal, which seems to be much more progressive than the last one we were presented with a couple of years ago.

Residents of 2A and 3rd Streets NW continue to be plagued by the City's continuing foot-dragging on restoring alley-side garbage collection, which had been interrupted this past summer, forcing residents to take their garbage to the front street for the last several months. Now that the new east-west lane is rounding into shape, with curb cuts poured and two of the three segments of the new lane paved, the problems that interfered with alley-side garbage collection are eliminated, and we have been informed that service will be restored to the lane.

Residents are still waiting as of mid-November, however, and there is now discussion about the city's curb-side recycling program, to commence next spring, specifically whether both garbage and recycling can be collected in the lane. Larger vehicles for the new residential recycling program may be an even tighter fit for the narrow alleys in the area, but if they can't fit up the alley, it might prove even harder for them to safely execute a u-turn at the top of these streets, where full closures are just now coming into effect.

The problems of short-cutting traffic in the immediate area is also making itself felt, as some motorists stacked up in traffic in 16th Avenue North cast their gazes southward toward three inviting bail-out routes. Watch this space for future developments as we work with the City to identify measures to reduce unwanted cut-through traffic in our residential lanes, while maintaining access for area residents.

On behalf of CHCA, I attended the Federation of Calgary Communities' Annual General Meeting on November 29th. The Federation is an increasingly vital and valuable resource for Calgary Community Associations, and the CHCA has long been a loyal member. In 2009, the Federation will enjoy full Civic Partner status with the City of Calgary, and the new Board of Directors elected last month appears to be a strong and capable group, with just the professional qualifications and varied skill sets to take the Federation to the next level. My good opinion of the FCC was in no way influenced by my having come away this year with a wonderful bottle of wine as a door prize (Chateau Pibran 2003 Pauillac, in case you were wondering, Mr. Smith).

We continue our discussions and are very close to concluding a sub-lease agreement with the Rotary Park Lawn Bowls Club to permit them to proceed with plans to build their lovely new clubhouse on the site of the original (now long derelict) clubhouse in Rotary Park. Hardly the time of year, I know, to be talking of lawn bowling, when in the same item we wish for colder weather for skating, but the lawn bowling community in Calgary is in transition.

Because some facilities are thought to be under-utilized, the City casts its gaze upon all of the facilities on a city-wide basis, and begins to think of consolidation, rationalization, and maybe clawing back a little choice inner city land. Our Community Association fully supports the Rotary Park Lawn Bowling Club as it continues to promote the sport for recreational and more competitive bowlers alike. Come the spring, I will have become a member of two clubs, our beloved Rotary Park here in Crescent Heights, and also Inglewood, where my team, the Myrmidons, continues to strike fear into the hearts of other teams in our Wednesday evening league. When the season starts again next year, we'll continue to encourage residents to give it a try right here in our community. The Rotary Park Lawn Bowling facility is truly one of the jewels in the crown of this increasingly remarkable inner city park.

We hope to see many of you at our Christmas Party on December 13th, and wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

It Takes a Village...

Crescent Heights Babysitting Co-op

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 once-a-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 non-refundable 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 co-op 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 Wednesday from 10:00 to 11:30 am. Any parent or caregiver can bring their children to the Community Association Building for some indoor play. It's an opportunity for children to play and moms to meet and socialize with their neighbours. The hall is a large sunny open area to run around in and there are plenty of toys to play with. Moms with babies are also welcome to come out and just chat with others.

If you would like to join us, you must be a member or purchase a yearly membership for \$20 to Crescent Heights Community Association.

Playgroup will not run on December 24th or 31st, but will resume on January 7th. or more information call Lisa Simic (403) 685-9367.

Rosedale Playschool Silent Auction and Night Out

Rosedale Playschool will hold a silent auction and evening out on Saturday February 7th, 7:00 pm at Q Haute Cuisine 100 La Caille Place SW.

Enjoy an evening out with neighbours and friends! Everyone is welcome. There will be a wonderful variety of items for silent auction bidding in support of the Playschool, as well as a cash bar. Limited number of tickets are available.

Please contact Michelle Lombardo by phone at 403-277-0018 or by email at misiachick@hotmail.com.

Sudoku

			5		4			
7	4						5	3
5		8	3		7	1		4
	3			8			9	
	2		6		9		4	
9		4	2		3	5		6
	6	7	9		2	8	1	
2	5						6	7
			7		6			

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 elizahancock@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.



Children's Skating Program

We will be offering our winter skating program again this year on our community rinks and we are very pleased that Michelle Ferguson will be back instructing.

The program starts Sunday, January 4th and runs for six weeks (weather permitting) at the Crescent Heights Community Rinks. Cost is just \$25.
Cost: \$25

Parent & Tot (age 3-5 years)

Come have fun on the ice with your preschooler. Instruction incorporates basic fundamentals in a fun way so that kids overcome skating apprehension. A parent is required to be on the ice with his/her child. Sundays, 11:00 to 11:30 am.

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.

New Eco-Friendly Bags

The Calgary Public Library is playing their part in helping to make us a plastic bag free world with rich purple eco-friendly bags for just \$1.25 at any library locations.

Stocking Stuffers

Thinking of giving a friend or family member a book, CD or DVD for Christmas? Why not all of them? A recent survey showed that the average Calgary Public Library customer takes out \$750

Group A for Beginners (5 years and older)

This group is for kids who are comfortable moving on the ice by themselves without parental/adult assistance. Kids will work on skills such as balance, forward movement and stops. 11:30 am to noon.

Group B

(5 years and older)

This skating class is for the young skaters who are confident skating forward, are able to stop, ready for backwards skating and new challenges. Noon to 12:45 pm.

**Please note that because Group A and Group B are skill-based, the instructor may make changes between the class lists based on abilities.

worth of materials throughout the year, so stop by the Library and pick up a gift certificate for a Library card today!

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.

It's Magic

Join Richard Rondeau for 30 minutes of magic tricks that are sure to astound you. Tuesday, December 30th, 2:30 to 3:00 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 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!



Calgary Grassroots Hockey League

The Grassroots Hockey League is an alternative hockey league that was created to give children aged four to 14 an opportunity to play ice hockey in a fun, non-competitive and affordable environment. The league requires minimal time and financial commitment versus traditional minor hockey leagues, and is open to all skill levels. Basic skating ability is required, and beginners are welcome!

Details:

- played on outdoor ice only
- league runs January 7th to March 1st pond hockey style approach / no stats / no pressure / no worries
- played at various community locations around the city (see website) but games are scheduled between neighbouring communities
- equipment requirements can be found on the Grassroots website
- fees are \$100 plus GST

Registration

All registrations are processed online through the website at www.grassrootshockey.ca. You can pay

by cheque or credit card. Fees include program participation, a Grassroots jersey to keep (for new players) and a special 'family event' pond hockey tournament (Saturday, January 17th)

Age Groups and Program Times:

(not all programs are offered in every community – please see website for location and times)

- 4-5 year olds
Wednesday Night 5:45 to 6:30 pm
Saturday Morning 9:30 to 11:30 am (a 45 minute block within this time period)
- 6-8 year olds
Wednesday Night 6:30 to 7:30 pm*
Saturday Morning 9:30 to 11:30 am (a one hour block within this time period)*
- 9-11 year olds
Wednesday Night 7:30 to 8:30 pm*
Saturday Morning 9:30 to 11:30 am (a one hour block within this time period)*
- 12-14 year olds
Thursday Nights 7:00 to 8:00 pm

*Offered at Rosedale

For more information about the Calgary Grassroots Hockey League please visit www.grassrootshockey.ca or call (403) 244-PUCK.



December Fest Planned for Saturday, December 13th

To celebrate the season, a family skating and pizza party will be held at our Community Hall (1101 – 2nd Street NW) on Saturday, December 13th. The fun will begin with skating (weather and ice permitting!) at 4:00 pm. Hot chocolate and cookies will be offered to 'keep the wolf from the door'. At 5:00 pm the party moves inside the hall where pizza and soft drinks will be served. Wine and beer will be available for the adults, at a nominal cost.

For dessert, we are asking that you bring something to share, if possible. In the spirit of this event (keeping things simple), please keep these desserts simple – finger food would be wonderful.

Anything not devoured that evening will be taken to the Women's Centre for the enjoyment of the women who take advantage of this great resource facility. The Calgary Women's Centre offers women a place for support, connections, and community.

Please bring whatever dishes, cutlery and glasses you may need for your family.

December Fest is free to members of the Crescent Heights community. Out-of-community guests are welcome as well, for a nominal fee of \$5 for adults (children are free). Membership forms are available

in the View, in case you are not currently a member. Forms and fees can be mailed in prior to December 7th or dropped off at the party itself.

In the spirit of giving, we are asking you to consider bringing a new, unwrapped gift for a child aged birth to 18 for distribution through the Women's Centre annual Christmas gift program. This program provides women in need the pleasure of selecting a present for their child from items provided by generous people like you.

As always, to run these events, we do need some volunteers to: set-up, decorate, clean-up, operate the bar, etc. If you can lend a hand, please contact Marion Whiteley by e-mail at mr-whiteley@hotmail.com or by phone at (403) 453-2569.

To ensure that we have sufficient food, please RSVP by December 9th to Sharon Anderson-Marr (e-mail sandersonmarr@shaw.ca, phone (403) 276-1831) specifying how many adults and children from your family will be attending.

We hope to see you and your family on the 13th! Please encourage your friends and neighbours to join us making this a real community event!

Cold Weather Illness

Courtesy Calgary EMS

Your actions in identifying and reacting to the signs and symptoms of cold related illness can significantly reduce the chance of life or limb threatening emergencies. Prevention is simple, effective, and by far preferable to treatment. Dress appropriately for the weather conditions and anticipate sudden weather changes. Wear warm, inner insulating layers combined with wind and water proof outer layers and don't forget to wear a toque – a significant percentage of all body heat lost is through your head!

Frostnip is defined as the incomplete freezing of the skin. It most commonly affects the ears, nose, cheeks, fingers, and toes. It appears as red skin which blanches white when pressed. The skin affected may feel numb. Removal from the cold environment while gently re-warming the affected area effectively treats most cases of frostnip. When treated promptly, frost nipped skin will heal without complication.

Frostbite is the complete freezing of the skin and underlying tissues. The affected area may appear white and waxy and feel hard to the touch. Treatment begins with removal from the cold environment and placing the affected area in warm, not hot, water (~41°C) until re-warmed. Seek further medical attention as required.

Hypothermia is defined as abnormally low body temperature (<34°C). Victims may act inappropriately – stumbling, mumbling, and fumbling, as the body's temperature continues to lower. Early recognition of these signs and symptoms is key to providing the earliest intervention possible. Left untreated, hypothermia may progress to coma and death.

In cases of Hypothermia, handle the patient very gently. Protect yourself from the factors that lead to the patient's predicament. Simultaneously call 9-1-1 and remove the patient from the cold environment. Attempts at passive re-warming should be initiated: remove wet or constrictive clothing, cover with blankets or sleeping bags, and protect them from sources of further heat loss (wind, moisture, or contact with cold surfaces).

Kids Corner



Quick Tip:
Make colourful images
out of coloured paper
or construction paper!

Vary the width
and length of your
paper strips to create
different levels in
your artwork.



QUILLING

Hard
Ages 9-12

What You Need

Thin Strips of Paper (5 mm - 2 cm wide)
White Glue Unsharpened Pencil
Paper Paper Plate

Quilling is a FUN
way to create
Three Dimensional
Images!

Wrap strips of paper tightly around the pencil to create coils.

Pour white glue onto a paper plate. Dip the edge of the coils in the white glue, and press firmly on your sheet of paper to create a picture or pattern.





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)



Holiday Safety

Courtesy Calgary EMS

Calgary EMS reminds residents that the holiday season can bring about hazards for children as well as pets. Take time to have a safe holiday.

Toys and Gifts

- Be sure any gifts you give young children will not present a choking hazard, and cannot get caught in their ears or nose.
- Avoid toys with small parts that can be pulled apart or broken off.
- If you are giving toys to several children in one family, consider their age differences and the chances that younger children will want to play with older kids' toys.
- Never leave toys on stairs or other high traffic areas where they can cause preventable falls and injury.

Candles

- Use sturdy candle holders that will not easily tip over.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children at all times.
- Keep burning candles away from trees, decorations, and wrapping paper.
- Never leave candles unattended, or within reach of children.
- If candles are used in a centerpiece be sure they don't burn low enough to ignite the decorations.
- Cut candle wicks short to prevent a high flame.

Plants

- Small children may think that holiday plants look good enough to eat, but many plants can cause severe stomach problems and some may be toxic.
- Plants to watch out for include: mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry, and amaryllis.
- Poinsettias are not toxic. However, they are not edible, either. If ingested, they may cause nausea and vomiting.
- If you suspect someone may be poisoned contact the Alberta Poison Centre at (403)944-1414 for advice, or dial 9-1-1 for emergency medical care.

Safe Driving Habits

The City of Calgary Emergency Medical Services would like to remind everyone about the importance of safe driving habits this winter.

Allow more time for all driving maneuvers – stopping, changing lanes, passing, or crossing an intersection. In addition, being a responsible party host, or guest, should include appropriate choices concerning serving and consuming alcohol. Use designated drivers or other transportation alternatives– do not drink and drive!

There is no place you need to be that is worth risking your safety or the well being of others. Enjoying the holiday season starts with arriving safe and sound.

Crescent Heights Decemberfest is FREE for Community Members!

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/per person)

Non-Voting (Business and Non-Residents)

- Associate (\$20) Business (\$50)

Names : _____

Address : _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone : _____ E-mail: _____

- Yes, Send Me Community Emails Yes, Send Me Block Watch Emails

New Membership Renewal Date _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____