

● The Crescent View

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESCENT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

April 2012



Annual General Meeting

April 26, 7pm at the Hall



McHugh Bluff Spring Clean-up

April 21st. See inside for details.

Photo: Emily Taylor

Palibroda

Crescent Heights Community Association

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

Member of the Federation of Calgary Communities (FCC)

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Letters and submissions from community members are always welcome. Please mail or drop off at the Hall mail slot at 1101 - 2nd Street NW, Calgary, Alberta T2M 2V7, or submit materials via email to elizhancok@shaw.ca

Opinions expressed in the *The Crescent View* are not necessarily those of the Crescent Heights Community Association or of the publisher.

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President's Notebook

by John McDermid

April is the Cruellest Month

Even though spring will soon be upon us, April is sometimes a difficult month as it is typically the month in which a number of annual commitments converge, not the least of which is our Annual General Meeting (currently scheduled for April 26, don't miss it!). There is a flurry of activity behind the scenes that annually emerges as our Audited Financial Reports for the previous calendar year-end. It can be an intense time, especially for Treasurer Daniel Dang. This is the time that each and every transaction from the prior year is scrutinized and every related document submitted for inspection and tracking. The reward, as it has been these past ten years or so, is a clean bill of financial health and a fresh slate upon which to undertake the next cycle of programming and other activities.

This year the run up to our 2011 year end was made a little more interesting than usual by the almost simultaneous requirement to bring our Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission reporting fully current to 2011 Q4. Following a very busy year of casino revenue spending on hall initiatives, Treasurer Daniel Dang mounted an enormous effort to bring us completely current in our reporting to AGLC. While we can become preoccupied on a project-by-project basis with simply ensuring that expenditures are strictly within the approved use of proceeds terms agreed upon by CHCA and AGLC, we can also get behind in our reporting responsibilities. Thanks again to Daniel for getting us fully up-to-date in our gaming revenue reports and cleared to go forward on our next round of facility enhancements and improvements.

Building Safe Communities

The inaugural Crescent Heights meeting of the pilot program Building Safe Communities went ahead on February 5, and our follow-up meeting was held on March 4. About 14 residents attended the follow-up to do further work on the key issues and familiar themes that affect our sense of safety at home in our community. The survey I noted in our last newsletter is still available at the FCC website, takes only a few minutes to complete and will help us with further planning and implementation efforts. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey: Google calgaryarea.com with Crescent Heights Survey and you're right there. Meanwhile, and with profound thanks to Barb Payette for making it available to us so quickly following our last meeting, here are some of the major ideas and concerns that were identified. The next steps, with the involvement of as many community members as possible, will be to establish priorities and identify the areas in which we can take immediate action to improve our day to day quality of life. In order to conserve space and compress our findings for this forum I have pared and shaped the long list of ideas as follows:

Community Involvement Initiatives

Community contacts/community Survival Guide; Sharing support group/resources; Localized community functions (smaller streets); Block parties; Getting people walking, talking, hanging out on their front yards; Buddy strolls – connecting and putting eyes on the street – identified/purposeful buddy strolls; Tea Parties; Meet and Greet sessions; Multi-Block Party; Church and Business involvement; High School involvement – invite to CA events, publish school events in CA newsletter, recycling potential through CHHS ongoing bottle drives; Roving CHCA involvement; Positive Initiative generator; Lemonade stand within an area of the community; Reinforce valuable

- Continued on page 5

Holy Smoke

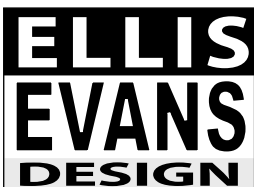
Opti- mum

Spanish School

THE CRESCENT VIEW

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**Crescent Heights
Community Association**

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**CASH
CHEQUE**

President's Notebook cont. from page 3

renters and help in their landlord fights; Individual owner awareness—locks and door frames, how to secure home, personal safety; Boxes of Nine to understand, know and record who lives around you; Communication and engagement at all functions through all media and personal connections.

Community Improvement Initiatives

Additional litter receptacles; Dealing with derelict properties; Abandoned cars; Trim hedges from sidewalks; Lawns cut; Reporting derelict properties through community Derelict Property Box or anonymous reporting through CA; slum landlords; Vacant properties; Absentee landlords; Bicycle lanes; More traffic calming; On street parking – Edmonton Trail; Making community/streets/neighbourhoods more walkable; Enhanced lighting for individual properties and public spaces; Enhanced Snow and Green Angels; Blue bins: Resume debate on whether to put out refundables or not; Engage CH high school in its ongoing bottle drive to divert available bottles to high school and make Crescent Heights a poor territory for collectors; Construction Issues - Multiple sites on one street; Garbage flying out; call company or 311 with street address.

Crime Prevention Initiatives

Citizens on Patrol (aka CHOP – Crescent Heights on Patrol); eyes on the street; Variations of former program; Connections to exercise, young moms, seniors; Graffiti; More police and/or pedestrian presence during non-peak hours 8:30 – 11:30 am; 3:15 – 4:30 pm.

So that's one version of our big brain dump as to the nature and range of concerns first identified in February, then further discussed, groomed and grouped together in March. A number of people have expressed interest in Building Safe Communities but have not yet been able to attend either of our preliminary sessions, but this is no bar to your having input and active involvement as the program begins to take shape. If any of these familiar themes resonates with you, let us know and help us develop responses. We will be planning a further session to establish priorities and identify our next steps, and we'll publicize that meeting by e-mail messages to our larger CHCA list, the similar CHCBW (former block watch) list and the list we are developing under the new BSC pilot. We hope by the time we report next that our BSC list will be the main e-mail list, and will always be free to join and will be moderated so as to reduce

or eliminate unnecessary e-mail traffic. For those of you more inclined to just grab the flame-thrower and venture out among 'em, off you go. Our boots are thunder.

Rotary Park Update

We reported here last month that in late January, David Finch and the Rotary Park Committee had met with Greg Stewart, the planner/designer and Crescent Heights resident selected to facilitate a Master Planning process for Rotary Park. Since then, it has been determined that Rotary Park is perhaps an unlikely candidate to benefit from a Master Plan, and that the more prudent course might be to pursue a more straightforward remediation plan for the park, there being established a great many intensive uses of the park already entrenched in the park's respective "rooms". On the understanding that a master plan is perhaps better suited to the blank slate of a future greenfield regional park, most of the space and the competing or cooperative uses are already fully allocated for in Rotary, so perhaps best to not develop a long term plan that would then sit unfunded; better instead to make use of available Parks funding to mitigate some of the unintended consequences of last fall's paving spree. I'll let our friend David Finch provide the very encouraging details of where we are so far in fixing Rotary, elsewhere in this issue of the View. Suffice to say that impressive remedies have been identified for almost all of the more egregious situations arising late last year in the park. I have met Greg Stewart and have touched the hem of his garment. You should too. We are currently identifying a date to roll out the current remediation plan and will make it known as soon as we arrive at the date, time and venue. If you were upset at the wrongs inflicted upon Rotary Park last year, you will be delighted to see the remedies emerging.

EOC Update

March 6th was finally settled upon for the project review and progress update, and the Calgary Fire Department and CEMA turned out in force to provide updates on the new Emergency Operations Centre in Rotary Park. Interested residents were able to meet and participate in a lively Q&A session covering every aspect of the development and its

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Newsletter Editorial Deadlines

The Crescent View is published ten times per year.

Deadline: The 10th of each month for the following month. For example: To be published in the June issue, the deadline is May 10. Special September issue deadline: August 5 (to accommodate all the 'back-to-school' material).

The July/August issue is combined into one publication and so is the December/January issue. The deadlines for these two issues are June 10 and November 10 respectively.

Please email your articles or event listings, as an attachment in MS Word form, to Elizabeth Hancock at elizhancock@shaw.ca.

A special "thank you" to
Cathy Balderston
for helping to deliver
The Crescent View.

Your volunteer efforts are
very much appreciated!

illusionz

About U

Hughes

Calyx is coming!

Calyx Distinctive Arts presents its 23rd semi-annual Exhibition and Sale of original artworks by local artists on Saturday April 21 and Sunday April 22, 2012, from 10am - 4pm, at the Crescent Heights Community Hall at 1101 - 2nd Street NW.

Free Admission, Free Parking, Free Draw.

Artists will be in attendance to discuss artworks and techniques in painting, printmaking, sculpture, jewellery, metalwork, woodwork, ceramics, glass, fibre and more. Different artists will be participating each day, so please attend both days. There is normally a line-up of customers waiting for the doors to open at 10am, so come early for the best selection!

For more information please visit our website at www.calyx.ca



Crescent Heights Spring Soccer Program

Coach Donna is back again this year! Soccer will start Tuesday, May 15

This is a six-week program where participants will learn basic techniques, ball skills, drills and game play. Emphasis is on fun!

Ages 4-5: Tuesdays 6:00 - 6:30 pm

Ages 6-7: Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:15 pm

Ages 8-12: Tuesdays 7:15 - 8:15 pm

Groupings/times may change depending on interest.

Location: Crescent Heights Community Hall

Parent volunteers are welcome!

Cost: \$25.00 (plus an additional cost for those who require jerseys)

Registrations open until April 24th

To register contact: Marie Evans phone 403-230-4516 or email marieevans@shaw.ca

Please ensure that your Crescent Heights community membership is up to date.

Rethinking Elections:

An Opportunity for Building Our Communities

The 2012 Alberta Provincial Election is fast approaching. For 28 days, we can expect politicians to reach out to us by every imaginable form of media. Campaigns end up being about all manner of things: leadership, issues, personalities, values, catchy slogans and gaffes. Less related to the politicians, however, is the fact that elections can also be about enhancing our local communities.

Our city, province and country have been carved up into all manner of wards and constituencies for various electoral purposes. On a day-to-day basis, however, what really drives our civic life is the multitude of smaller community volunteer organizations. Whether it is school parent associations, minor sport associations, or any number of other service organizations, community life in Calgary runs on volunteers. Volunteers want to meet new people, try new things and implement new ideas. Some would-be volunteers may just want to know how and where to get started.

The democratic importance of elections, the need to connect with thousands of voters within a short period, and the significant budgets with which to work, make election campaigns an exceptional training ground for the development of volunteers. Many of the skills that are required to mount an effective political campaign can later be applied within any community organization. Furthermore, regardless of which political party you decide to support, campaigns staffed by local volunteers who already have a stake in the life, work and recreation of their communities are more likely to be campaigns conducted with a level of civility in which we can all take pride.

The voter turnout in the last Alberta Provincial Election was a dismal 40.6%, the lowest in our Province's history. Let's hope that Albertans will be more motivated to participate in this year's election. Perhaps the best way for that to happen will be through greater community involvement in the campaign itself. Remember, no matter which candidate wins the election, broad community involvement in the campaign will enhance the volunteer base that drives our local recreational and service organizations. Long after the election is over, these organizations will continue to serve our communities, year-round and right next door. Hopefully, they will be doing so with more skilled, confident and connected volunteers.

by Don MacDiarmid

President's Notebook cont. from page 5

sometimes rocky road to date. Concerns were expressed about the eventual remediation of the west end of the site, where construction and trades trailers have occupied more park space than was anticipated. But as work proceeds apace toward an autumn 2012 commissioning and occupancy, it was good to take a look back over the project's protracted timeline. Architect Vivian Manasc was on hand to answer questions and re-assert the essential secure nature of the facility, which has been accomplished without compromising the lines of the new building or creating a bunker-like structure in the park. There appears to be some further resolution required in respect of parking access and availability as between the EOC and its immediate neighbour to the north, the Rotary Park Lawn Bowls club, but we expect that can be sorted out to the mutual satisfaction of the parties once the west end of the two sites are cleared and evaluated. The permeable parking surface at the EOC's east end may provide appropriate cues and a viable solution for the occasional-use parking stalls still required for RPLBC. Is this your year to learn to lawn bowl right here in our own back yard? Check out the RPLBC web-site and see if you might want to join or assemble a new team for one or another of the evening leagues. This will be the first full season of use for the lovely new clubhouse, and a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a refreshing glass of beer as the sun slants low over the greens. Please replace your divots if you can lift them.

River and Pathway Clean-up

Finally this month, our faithful service in the annual River and Pathway Clean-up has finally paid off: we now take the express lane through registration and orientation and are able to collect our supplies, instructions, documentation and the Annual T-shirt without spending an entire evening sitting through the orientation session. Mark your iPads for Sunday, the 6th of May, and we'll gather again at the Starbuck's on Memorial Drive and Edmonton Trail, from there to strike out about 10:00 am, make our way west along the river and pathway, to wrap up by 1:00 pm. As many of you have enjoyed in the past few years, recent practice is to cap the event with a visit to the Fiddler's Courtyard, where cooling beverages effectively cut the dust of the clean-up. We hope than many of our returning crew members will make it out once again on May 6th, and there is always room for newcomers. Contact me for further information at 403-277-8653. See you down by the river, but at the AGM first.



We're on the Web!

If you would like access to the newsletter
on the web, you can visit

<http://www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/crescent.htm>

and you will see The Crescent View PDF
underneath the Block Watch Logo.

Pinnacle

Ed trail Pharmasave

Gutter Doctor

PECEK



McHugh Bluff Spring Clean-up

April 21st, 9:30 - 11am

**Between 1st
and 7A Streets**

**Bags, gloves,
refreshments provided**

**Meet at 4th Steet and
Crescent Road NW
at 9:15am**



**stella
dot**

Rotary Redux

by Professor Z

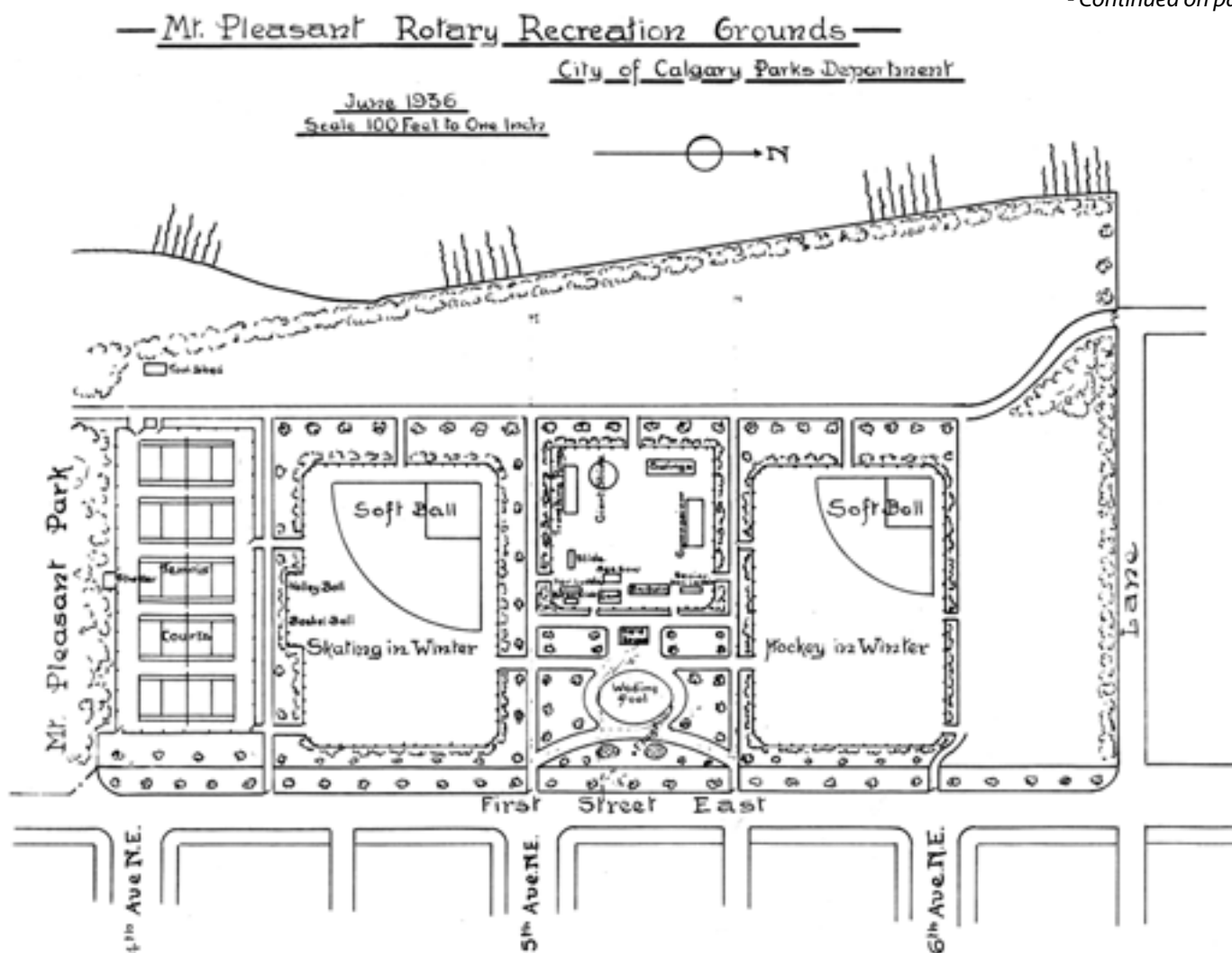
Faithful *Crescent View* readers will have observed that Rotary Park has received more than its fair share of ink in recent years, with Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) construction finally drawing to a close, with the new Spray Park now in operation and, less happily, with the furor precipitated by the overnight appearance of a plethora of paved park pathways. So it might be timely to retrace our footsteps to the first part of the twentieth century when the park itself was in its formative stages.

In the early nineteen twenties, the City had been fortunate to acquire large tracts of land at bargain prices due to depressed real estate conditions. And so it was that in 1924 six acres of bald prairie between Centre Street and 1st Street NE were obtained from the McArthur Estate, land that would come to form the backbone of a new public space. A 1924 aerial view of the vicinity shows nothing in the way of development, and the only obvious signs of public use are the many crisscrossing pedestrian trails. Shortly thereafter, efforts were made to plant trees and shrubs in the park; the 1927 City Parks Annual Report section on Mount Pleasant Park (as the area was then known) discusses the cutbank on the south side of the park: *"If growth can be established here this area will be transformed from what now appears to be an ugly scar when viewed from the centre*

of the city to an object of real beauty." About the same time a stairway to Centre Street from the hilltop was constructed following the approximate path as the present one, and in 1928, a small children's playground was established. That same year, water supply lines were installed, and more trees, shrubs and annuals were planted.

The year 1931 was a pivotal year in the development of Rotary Park. At the southwest end of the park, the stairway from Centre Street was rebuilt and now followed a more aesthetic winding path up the hill from street level. Earlier that year, Parks Superintendent William Reader had met with some representatives of the Calgary Rotary Club, who had requested his involvement with a new civic project in which they wished to become involved. The Rotary project committee, who amongst their members numbered such luminaries as Nat Christie and former mayor F.E. Osborne, had funds available to build a "model" playground, but their preferred location was the Bridgeland area. Instead, Reader suggested Mount Pleasant Park as it was the largest and most centrally-located park the city had available for such a purpose. The Rotary Club concurred and after receiving the City's blessing, Reader prepared a design for not only the playground but for two adjoining athletic fields. Work began in the

- Continued on page 13



Lukes B

Rotary Redux cont. from page 11

spring of 1931 and by the end of September about \$4500 of the \$8500 budget had been spent. The playground itself was fenced and contained three distinct areas: a boys' section, a girls' section and to the east a wading pool with ornamental fountain. Playground equipment included a sandbox, regular and baby swings, two horizontal ladders, two slides, travelling rings, and a "giant stride" with an enclosed shelter nearby. The Rotary Recreation Grounds, as they came to be known, encompassed the tennis courts to the south and extended north to the site now occupied by the EOC, while the parkland to the south of the tennis courts would continue to be maintained as an ornamental park. In fact, judging by the recorded numbers of annuals and perennials planted in the park in the early years, the entire area was then a lot more "ornamental" than it is now!

The Rotary Park project was a real coup for the 'hood as it was the first of a number of similar projects undertaken by Rotarians in Calgary; by 1941 there had come to be seven such Rotary recreation grounds in existence. Many local residents came to use the name "Rotary Park" rather than "Mount Pleasant" to refer to their entire district, which extended south of 8th Avenue NE to the brow of the hill.

Beginning in the thirties and for quite a number of years thereafter, most playgrounds in Calgary were supervised during the summer months and attendance was recorded. For just one year (1933), supervision was by males only, with preference given to the ranks of the unemployed. That year Rotary Park required two supervisors for the period beginning in mid-July until closure in mid-September. Attendance was recorded as 12528 versus 11186 for Riley Park, which also had a pool. The two adjoining playing fields, one to the north (now the EOC site) and the other to the south of the playground were used in the summer for baseball and in the winter for hockey and skating. Six baseball teams were organized in 1933 and not only was First Aid instruction on offer to children in the summertime but so too were more passive recreational activities (e.g., basket weaving). In 1933, the Parks Department's Annual Report mentioned that three tennis courts had been built on the grounds and the Mount Pleasant Tennis Club came into existence at about the same time. The member-financed clubhouse still standing would later be erected in 1953, with subsequent additions coming in 1962 and 1976.

1935 saw the construction of the pathway running eastward from Centre Street to the top of the hill at 2nd Avenue; it would be this same pathway which was so rudely "de-constructed" last year. In 1936, a rockery wall at the base of the Centre Street stairs was built using twenty eight truckloads of material, no doubt making good use of the three thousand hours of relief labour then allotted to the park.

In 1937, two additional tennis courts were constructed to bring the facilities up to their present complement. At the extreme north end of the park, grading and loaming work started that year in order to prepare the area for future use as a lawn bowling venue. It's unclear however as to exactly when the site was first used for that purpose as the war intervened and as the Canadian Legion Lawn Bowling Club did not become established in the area until 1956. Other park activity in 1937 saw the planting of

over 11000 annuals and perennials, and the pruning of over 494 trees and 728 shrubs in Rotary Park. Although it would seem that the Parks Department's attention to many of our community parks has gradually declined since that time, park activities during the thirties relied heavily on relief labour. Parks budgets had been slashed as the thirties rolled on and although management were given no choice but to rely on this free labour source for both maintenance and capital expenditures, Reader noted in his reports that this forced reliance on inexperienced help had often caused its own set of problems.

Throughout the balance of the 1930s and into the early 1940s, the Rotary Recreation Grounds consistently ranked at the top for attendance when compared with similar Calgary facilities. Thereafter however and into the 1950's and 60's, Rotary's popularity diminished, as like developments came online in numerous other communities. Too, following the war, the flight to the suburbs had begun, and inner city communities like Crescent Heights were seen by many as less attractive places to raise a family.

A bit more on the historical development of the north reaches of the park. During the late 60's, the bowling greens were used by both the Royal Canadian Legion No. 1 Branch Bowling Club and the Army and Navy Club, who used the same clubhouse on the west end of the site, but played on separate sections of the green. The two clubs amalgamated and in 1973, the Legion and the City jointly constructed the Rotary Park Recreation Centre, which also served as a lawn bowling clubhouse until it was torn down in 2009 in preparation for EOC expansion. By 2009 however, the resident lawn bowling club had long since distanced itself from its connection with the Legion and a name change was felt to be in order. In 2011, a new clubhouse was erected in the same vicinity as the 50's structure and it is from these palatial quarters that the Rotary Park Lawn Bowls Club now holds forth. And I would be remiss if I didn't mention that the congenial executive committee of the RPLBC extends a hearty welcome to anyone interested in finding out more about their sport, which now has a much wider demographic appeal than you might think.

And so we introduce the last player in our Rotary Park historical production. At the end of the Second World War, Calgary's population surpassed the 100,000 mark, and in response to the growing need for a more sophisticated fire alarm and dispatch system, a city-wide centralized dispatch centre was constructed to the south of the spot where the new lawn bowling clubhouse now stands. Initially a brick-clad one storey building, a second storey was added in more recent years when functions expanded to include EMS and 9-1-1 services. During the 90's, the facility commenced operations as the City of Calgary Emergency Operations Centre and construction of the new EOC facility, which incorporates the 1948 structure to a modest extent, began in May 2009.

References: *City of Calgary Parks Department annual reports 1915-1955; sketch of Rotary Recreation Centre (1936) by William Reader and held at Calgary Corporate Archives; Mount Pleasant Tennis Club website (mountpleasanttennis.com); Rotary Park Lawn Bowls Club website (rotaryparklawnbowls.com); Calgary EOC website; U of C airphoto collection- 1924, 1950 and 1958; Rotary Club Special Project fonds at Glenbow Archives*

Donair Stop

st alphon- sus

Motive Action

Calgary Children's Choir

The Calgary Children's Choir will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary May 11-13. All Alumni are welcome to participate in our Reunion Weekend. Please see www.calgarychildrenschoir.com for more information.

Alderman's Message

I am pleased to report that significant progress is being made on the issue of cost of growth, particularly growth in new communities. As Calgary's population is forecasted to double by 2076, with half of this growth targeted for new development on the city's edges, the discussion around who pays for the necessary services has become urgent.

Residents in the new communities will require City services such as police and fire, transportation and transit, water servicing, recreation, and libraries. The amount needed to service this growth is \$10 billion over the next 10 years.

City Council now recognizes how important it is that growth should pay for itself, rather than rely on support from existing taxpayers and ratepayers. Cities across North America are grappling with similar challenges and many are looking at Calgary's proposed model with interest.

The City is designing a groundbreaking framework that seeks to achieve walkable neighbourhoods with easy access to transit and amenities, while ensuring a logical and equitable approach to funding the necessary City services. Given that a new community can take up to 45 years to start paying for itself, it is critical that we adopt a more sustainable model.

On April 11 the new Framework for Growth and Change will be discussed at the Standing Policy Committee on Planning and Urban Development. You can present at the meeting, or email your letters in advance to cityclerk@calgary.ca. Check druhfarrell.ca for more information.

Alderman Druh Farrell

Community Liaison Officer Monthly Report

Crime Statistics for the Community of: CRESCENT HEIGHTS

Offence	JANUARY 2012	Year to End of Selected Month
Break and Enter - House	1	2
Break and Enter - Shop	0	1
Break and Enter - Other	0	0
Theft of Vehicle	1	2
Theft from Vehicle	5	7
Vandalism	2	6



Submitted by: Community Liaison Officer Dominique Laporte, District 3, #3241, phone 403-567-6300.

Rotary Park – Finding a Natural Solution

As everyone in the community is aware, historic and heavily used Rotary Park saw some radical changes last fall. Community reaction was swift, vocal, and universally negative. Following a rapidly organized open house and outreach to the City of Calgary, however, we are feeling optimistic that we can find a more natural solution to managing park traffic and facilitating its multiple uses.

The changes that raised the community's ire are well known. The paved path from the park down to Centre Street was removed; the pretty red shale paths around the park were paved over in ugly black asphalt; two wide strips of new asphalt that have been described as highways cut across the park's diagonal; and an imposing six foot fence was added around the new splash park, cutting off access not only to the splash park, but to the bathrooms and picnic tables next to the playground.

City officials have explained the reasons behind these changes. The Centre Street path came out in response to a complaint that the old path was dangerous. The pathway paving was a routine maintenance project. The splash park fence is required in City rules to protect the expensive equipment from vandalism. However, all of these changes were made unilaterally without any community consultation or input, a fact which City officials have openly acknowledged and for which they have apologized. Both the community and the City have now decided to look forward rather than backward and to use this as an opportunity to renew the park.

In December, we held an open house to generate ideas for renewal of the park. The community input coalesced around three clear themes: (1) We need access to Centre Street for those unable to use the stairs, such as families with strollers; (2) Black asphalt should be minimized and open park play spaces preserved; and (3) The new splash park and playground should be unified into a single accessible family space, ideally without high fence barriers. However, the central theme emerging from the open house was that any incremental changes made to the park are part of a larger vision.

From this process the City appointed Greg Stewart, an architect and project manager to lead the development of a plan for the park. Not only has Greg proven to be an innovative designer and an excellent listener, he boasts the additional credential of living in our community and using the park himself on a regular basis.

Working with our Rotary Park Planning Committee, Greg is developing an attractive holistic conceptual design for the park. This design is based on three key principles: recognition that the park is first and foremost a natural space; recognition that the park has multiple uses; and recognition that pathways and trails must be developed in a unified manner. Working within the restrictive City guidelines for pathways, trails, surface materials and fencing, Greg's plan promises to make the park both more attractive and more functional.

The Rotary Park committee is looking forward to sharing the conceptual design for broader feedback from the community. Our current plan is to hold an open house in early April for consultation. This will contribute to finalizing the design. Greg anticipates that, subject to community support, construction could start within 90 days and be completed this summer. The City is not always known for its speed, but in this case we offer them kudos for stepping up, acknowledging mistakes and taking the lead in moving forward. Specifically we'd like to recognize Greg, Alderman Farrell and the CHCA board for their support in turning a negative into a positive.

Please watch the park for flyers posted with details about the open house.

*David Finch, Chair
Rotary Park Planning Committee*

CHCA Community Hall Activities and Events

April Community Calendar

03.....	CHCA Traffic & Planning Meeting 7 – 10pm
10.....	CHCA Board Meeting 7pm
17.....	CHCA Traffic & Planning Meeting 7 – 10pm
21.....	Calyx Art Show 10am – 4pm
22.....	Calyx Art Show 10am – 4pm
24.....	CHCA Traffic & Planning Meeting 7 – 10pm
26.....	CHCA Annual General Meeting 7 – 10pm



April at the Hall

SUNDAYS:	Pentecostal Church Public Service 10am – 12pm
MONDAYS:	Fitness Class 5-7pm, Info? Call Lana 403-999-5373 Dance and Fitness 7:30 - 9:30pm
TUESDAYS:	Open Dance Class with Ms. Emily 4 - 7pm
WEDNESDAYS:	Fitness Class 6:30-7:15am, Call Lana 403-999-5373 CHCA Playgroup 10 – 11:30am Bible Study 5 – 7:30pm Tai Chi 7:30 – 9:30pm
THURSDAYS:	Fitness Class 5:30-8pm, Info? Call Lana 403-999-5373

For more a more detailed Hall Calendar and for event and activities contact information please visit:

<http://www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/calendar/diary.asp>

Sunridge Mall

UTB

Good Food Box Program

Wild Rose United Church is proud to be a depot for the Good Food Box program. The schedule has recently changed for 2012 please see below;



2012 Good Food Box Order and Delivery Schedule South of 16 Ave/ West of Centre Street

Order Deadline	Delivery Date (Wednesday's)
April 24th before 10:00am	May 2nd
May 29th before 10:00am	June 6th
June 26th before 10:00am	July 4th
September 11th before 10:00am	September 11th
October 16th before 10:00am	October 16th
November 20th before 10:00am	November 28th



Three sizes of boxes are available: Small \$20.00, Medium \$25.00 and Large \$30.00

Please phone: 403-277-5576 to order your box.

Please note that cash and order must be received prior to the order deadline and if mailing please submit order 4 days prior to deadline. Thank you!

**BRIDGE
DENTAL**

AM Property

WCM

310 DUMP

CHHS Alumni 10th Annual Golf Tournament

The Crescent Heights High School Alumni will be holding the 10th annual Crescent Heights Alumni Golf Classic at The Canal at Delacour Golf Course, June 19. There will be lots of prizes, a great golf course, excellent steak lunch and an opportunity to meet with many graduates and friends of Crescent Heights. For more information and an entry form e-mail chhsalumnigolf@shaw.ca

Volunteer Information Meeting - The Volunteer Information meeting for the 100th Anniversary of Crescent Heights High School is scheduled for 7pm on April 25 in the teachers lounge at the school. This meeting will outline the many volunteer positions need to make this a memorable event. The committee is currently in need of a Public Relations Specialist who could lead a group in contact with the media in Calgary and other areas. There are also positions available for those who have an interest in working in the Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter, Linked In and others.

Contacting Crescent Heights High School Alumni Association - The alumni website is www.chhsfriends.com It has information regarding on-going activities and a registration form that can be filled in. This registration will put you on file to receive e-mail regarding current events. If you want general information or information regarding the CHHS Alumni Golf tournament please e-mail chhsalumnigolf@shaw.ca.



APPLY NOW

Are you a budding musician?
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AXE |  |  |  | CALGARY



Bicycle Helmet Safety



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

Getting informed

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

Getting started

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

Getting the right fit

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

Cecilia Low

WCM

National Volunteer Week

April 15 – 21st, 2012 is National Volunteer Week and The Federation of Calgary Communities wants to say thank you to community volunteers across Calgary for all the work you do to help improve neighbourhood life in Calgary! The community association network is the largest collective volunteer movement in the city, with more than 20,000 volunteers strong! We thank you for 'being part of it!' Whether you're on the Board of Directors, help put together this very newsletter, flood the ice rink so kids can play hockey, help with program registrations, your time and dedication is greatly appreciated.

It would be hard to find a single Calgarian who wasn't impacted by the hard work of community associations and their volunteers and for that we thank you!

Women In Need Society

Clean out your closets and clean up your community!

Several Calgary community associations hold Community Clean-up events each year to help their residents clean out their homes. In addition to having electronics recycling and paper shredders onsite, a few have invited The Women In Need Society (WINS) to be present as well.

WINS is a local charity who operates four, donation-driven thrift stores in Calgary in support of our programs and services to help women and their families move ahead from poverty to self-sufficiency — Free Goods Referral, Family Resource Centres and Thrift Stores, and our WINS Employment Program.

At your Community Clean-up we could have our WINS trucks onsite to pick up donations of gently used clothing, housewares, and furniture for our stores. We could also have volunteers on-hand to answer any questions and to help your residents move items out of their vehicles and into our trucks. This is a great opportunity to support the clean efforts of your residents and also help keep good quality items out of the landfill. It's also a great opportunity to help a local charity.

If you would like more information or would like to schedule WINS into your community event, please feel free to contact Robyn Jackson, Fund Development & Community Relations Manager at (403)255-5102 x 233, or by email at rjackson@womeninneed.net.

Celebrate Historic Homes

Join the House Party of the Century!

Is your home 100 years old or thereabouts, built in 1915 or earlier? It's time to celebrate your home's place in Calgary's history, and your role in looking after it and ensuring its future. Century Homes Calgary is a citywide celebration commemorating homes and communities constructed during our first building boom a century ago. Owners and residents are invited

to share details and stories about their house, particularly during Historic Calgary Week in the summer of 2012. Throughout the year, participants will receive information on how to research their home's history, including workshops. There will be opportunities to share stories on a website and to network with other residents and admirers of Century Homes. Materials will be provided to help you and your neighbours celebrate your home's "birthday". Sign up your own home, or if you want to be more involved we are looking for community coordinators and have other volunteer jobs too. There is lots of information online at www.centuryhomes.org. You can also phone the Federation of Calgary Communities at (403) 244-4111 and ask about Century Homes.

Bike Blow Out

It's time to start thinking spring!

Two Wheel View is interested in putting together a "Bike Blow Out" in each of the four quadrants of the city this spring. At these one day events, community members of all ages would be able to get their bikes fixed and ready to ride, donate their old bicycles to the organization and learn more about riding in Calgary. With the collaboration of various community partners, the possibilities for activities and ways to engage the community at these Bike Blow Outs are endless. We have a lot of volunteers who are eager to tune up their mechanical skills by giving back to the community!

We are currently looking for communities and partners to help us organize these events and get people out to them. This is where you come in! If you are interested in working together to get the communities you work in a Bike Blow Out, please contact Laura Istead at (403) 880-3111 or admin@twowheelview.org as soon as you can to start the discussion!

www.twowheelview.org Like Us on our Two Wheel View Facebook Page!

ANIMAL & BYLAW SERVICES
Partnering with Calgarians
calgary.ca

Spaying or Neutering your Pet

Benefits and Beyond

When you choose to own a cat or a dog, you are making a commitment to care for that animal for the duration of their life. Proper care for your cat or dog includes not only providing food, shelter and exercise, but also licensing your pet and acting as a responsible pet owner by spaying or neutering your cat or dog.

Research has shown that spaying or neutering cats and dogs has benefits for the pet, the owner and the community. For example, spaying or neutering:

- Reduces or eliminates disease, infection and cancer of the reproductive system, increasing the likelihood that your pet will enjoy good health and a longer life.

- Reduces pet overpopulation and the thousands of homeless and unwanted animals that end up in rescue organizations and shelters every year.
- Eliminates crying, howling, nervous pacing and frantic attempts to get out and find a mate.
- Reduces or eliminates inappropriate spraying in males and heat cycles in females.
- Results in more social and affectionate pets that are calmer and more content to stay at home.

Since cats and dogs reach sexual maturity at approximately six months of age, it is recommended that pets are spayed or neutered prior to this age. Consult your veterinarian to discuss what the optimal timing is for your pet.

Two assistance programs are available in Calgary. The City of Calgary Animal & Bylaw Services

operates the No Cost/Spay Neuter program which provides free spaying or neutering of cats and dogs owned by low income Calgarians. The MEOW Foundation offers the Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) to help low income cat owners with the cost of spay and neuter surgeries.

By spaying or neutering your pets, you help to ensure that all animals are wanted and have a home. For more information about the No Cost Spay/Neuter program, visit calgary.ca/animalservices or call 3-1-1.



Fostering safe communities...

Graffiti

- Graffiti makes citizens feel unsafe.
- When graffiti is left in a community, it suggests to vandals that residents don't care.
- Graffiti left unchecked attracts more graffiti and other forms of vandalism and crime.
- You can help prevent graffiti by following the 3Rs: RECORD, REPORT, REMOVE.
- RECORD the address where graffiti is located.
- REPORT the graffiti by calling 3-1-1. If you see graffiti being applied, call 9-1-1.
- REMOVE any graffiti from your property within 72 hours.
- For information on graffiti resources, call 3-1-1 or visit calgary.ca.



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HOME & GARDEN

THE GROWING SEASON IS SOONER THAN YOU THINK!



by Elspeth Kirk

When we're caught in March, the ongoing winter, even a mild one, makes it hard to imagine that planting season is right around the corner. The avid gardener has already been combing through seed catalogues and searching seed sites online, but there's still time to order seeds and start flowers and vegetables for transplanting in anticipation of warmer weather and longer days arriving.

There are several things to think about when planning a garden. A mix of bulbs, trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals can fill the yard with colour from May to October. So, that's a good place to start – what is your major colour scheme? You can go with a very formal look, choosing only one or

two related colours, such as an all-white theme, or a "warm" colour scheme of yellow, gold and orange or perhaps a "cool" colour scheme of blue, lavender and purple. Or you can mix warm and cool by adding accents of colour. When considering a typical city lot and its modest dimensions,

it's best to choose no more than three main colours plus a neutral shade of silver or white. Keep in mind the curb appeal of your home and make sure the plants complement or accent the siding, brick and trim colours.

Once a colour theme is chosen, some foundation plantings of trees and shrubs set a backdrop for everything else. Trees and shrubs offer colour in the form of spring blossoms and fall leaves, as well as the various greens

of evergreens. Many shrubs even look great when they drop their leaves in the fall, as the bark colour stands out brilliantly such as "Bud's Yellow Dogwood" (yellow stems) or "Siberian Pearls Dogwood" (red stems).

Once planted, perennials allow the home gardener to have flowers that, with a bit of care, visit us every year. Given Calgary's climate, only plants labelled Zone 2 or 3 are consistently hardy enough to survive year over year. Half of the fun of perennials is the anticipation of seeing the first shoots of green break through the earth, knowing that a burst of colour is soon to follow. Unlike annual flowers, perennials tend to have a static time each year when they bloom and then fade. It's important to choose a selection of early, middle and late blooming varieties so that flowers are always arriving on the scene.

Annuals fill in the garden with shape and colour and, as long as old blooms are removed (dead-heading), they will continue to flower all season. The varieties are endless and it may prudent to make choices with water conservation in mind. For ecological as well as economic reasons, saving water makes sense. The city of Calgary offers an excellent resource on their web page regarding water-wise plantings. Just type YardSmart into the search engine on the Calgary site www.calgary.ca and you can find excellent lists of "Annuals and Perennials" and "Trees and Shrubs" which are well suited to local gardens in hardiness and drought-resistance. Who knew that native plants could look so good and be so easy to tend?!

Many homeowners are including vegetables in their garden plans. There are so many colourful and edible plants that even a small city lot can produce some great salads and side dishes. A mixture of various green and red leaf lettuces makes a great display. Or plant a row of Scarlet Runner beans along the fence and enjoy the red flowers and the veggies. Fresh herbs supply lovely aromas as well as greenery and blooms and can be used immediately or dried or frozen for use over winter. Happy gardening!



BrokerLink

Sunik

Renfrew Auto

The Best Pet Ever!

Immortalize your pet in print! It's FREE!

E-mail a pic to ellisevansdesign@shaw.ca and include a short message (50-75 words) explaining just why your pet is the best ever.

We'll place your nomination in the newsletter and your pet will be famous!


Also, if your pet is nominated you could win a **FREE PRIZE PACKAGE** courtesy of **DOGGYWOOD!** Please include a phone number or email address to receive your prize package.



“Colby”

Best Pet Ever Nominee!

Hello, my name is Colby. I was born in Cartersville, GA and I was flown into Calgary thanks to Little Mutts Rescue! I can be a shy girl with people at times but when I'm not hanging out with my best buddy Russell (the cat) I lovvvvve playing with other puppies in the dog park. I like to unwind when I get home by watching animal planet snuggled up with my favorite baby. **Carmalita H.**




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10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Crescent Heights Community Centre
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Calgary, Alberta
T2H 2V7

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Community C

Connections

Classys

Connecting Seniors to Resources in Calgary

Calgary Seniors' Resource Society provides programs & services that help seniors remain living independently in their own homes as long as possible. In addition to assisting with critical needs like housing, pension & benefit applications, CSRS also provides transportation to medical appointments and, companionship and social support through programs like Escorted Transportation and Friendly Visiting.

To access CSRS programs and services, you simply need to call our office at (403) 266-6200 and speak with our receptionist. Eligibility criteria and wait times will vary between programs. If for some reason we are not able to help you, we will do our best to find out who can and connect you with them.

If you suspect a senior is at risk, please call the 24/7 Seniors Help Line (run in partnership with the Distress Centre) at (403) 264-7700. Trained volunteers are standing by to answer your call and will ensure your personal information remains confidential. Your concerns will be forwarded to the CSRS SeniorConnect Outreach Social Worker, who meets with seniors and helps connect them to the community support services they need.

SeniorConnect

Free education sessions teach groups, businesses and individuals to

recognize the signs and symptoms that a senior may be at risk and how to report their concerns via a 24 hour seniors help line. The SeniorConnect Outreach Worker, who is a registered social worker, then follows up with the senior and connects them to community resources. To book a SeniorConnect training session or for additional information, please contact CSRS at (403) 266-6200.

Calgary International Children's Festival

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteering with the Calgary International Children's Festival is Simply Fun! Join our amazing community for 5 days of inspiration, imagination and excitement by signing up as a volunteer! We are looking for volunteers aged 14+ to help in various capacities such as craft-making, ushering, and Artist Hospitality, among other exciting opportunities.

Please check our website at www.calgarychildfest.org under Volunteer Opportunities for specific volunteer positions.

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator for any further questions at volunteers@calgarychildfest.org or by phone at 403-294-7414 ext. 4.

OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR IMAGINATION!

Comix

Off the Shelf

Book Review by Judith Umbach

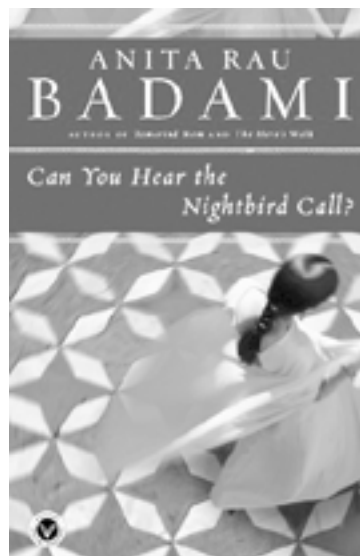
Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?

by Anita Rau Badami

In *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?*, Anita Rau Badami starts off gently – a rivalry between sisters. Sharanjeet wins the suitor. To her surprise he whisks her off to Canada, land of cold and of strange customs. Still, as a resourceful woman, she transforms herself into Bibi-ji, proprietor and den mother to the many Sikhs who look for better lives in Vancouver.

Nimmo is a child survivor of the dreadful partition of the Indian sub-continent. Always poor, she eventually creates a family of her own with the loving Satpal and three well-loved children. As the outward sign of her dedication to home and family, she keeps her tiny rooms in Delhi scrupulously clean.

Tension builds ever so gradually, almost unnoticeable except in the gut. Humorous interludes disguise the turmoil of social interactions amongst disparate immigrants and with those in faraway homelands. Inevitably the new Canadians paint a veneer of prosperity to impress their families back home, yielding unforeseen consequences. And where is home? Where you live or where you once lived? Who is owed loyalty? Your neighbours or your “kind”?



Can You Hear the Nightbird Call? is a history lesson for Canadians of all origins. It lulls the reader into empathy with characters who drift into or who choose undesirable actions to protect their personal identities, even while they struggle to know who they really are. Coincidentally, I was reading a biography of the Gandhi family at the same time as Badami's novel. The story and the history converged at the point of the siege at Amritsar and the assassination of Indira Gandhi. The novel carries us on to the dreadful Air India disaster, a Canadian disgrace because of the government's very slow recognition of the passengers as not Indian but Canadians who adhered to the Sikh faith.

Support your Community!

Buy Your Membership Today

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 : _____ **Email:** _____

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

☐ **New Membership** ☐ **Renewal** **Date** _____ **Amount Enclosed \$** _____

TD Waterhouse

Keeper