



Windsor Park Community Newsletter



February 2012

Message from the President...

University Relations

As many of you are aware, the South Campus Neighbourhood Coalition has taken the University of Alberta to court over procedural matters arising from the University of Alberta's conversion of the old Balmoral curling rink into a research facility to produce radioactive isotopes for medical uses. The Windsor Park Community League was not part of, nor privy to, any aspect of the legal action.

Edmonton Clinic Health Academy

The grand opening of the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy (the "lego" building on 114th Street) was held on January 18, and I attended on behalf of the WPCL. The building has been in gradually increasing use since September and it was exciting to have the opportunity to see students and staff at work in one of the most beautiful buildings on campus. If you haven't already, please take the time to walk through it. The use of windows and staircases is marvellous to behold and, almost – almost – makes up for all the construction-related traffic issues.

General Services Building

For the past number of years, the residents neighbouring the University of Alberta's General Services Building have had to endure the 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week noise of an ad-hoc, server cooling plant that was constructed next to the GSB. In 2008, the U of A tried installing an acoustic barrier to reduce noise levels but, unfortunately, not with any success.

We have continued to apply polite pressure, and they are now in the process

of decommissioning the cooling plant and plumbing the servers into the north campus's central cooling system. We are very grateful to affected residents, for their patience as we worked through this issue, and to the U of A, for spending \$1.5 million to correct the problem.

The Old Athletic Field

The U of A will be closing the surface parking lot on the corner of 87 Avenue and 116 Street. Half of the lot, the part next to the community, will be restored by grassing and landscaping. The other half, the part next to the Butterdome, will be used as a materials lay-down area for the construction of the new Physical Activity and Wellness (PAW) Building, which is to be located just east of the Butterdome. Construction of the PAW Building is scheduled to begin as soon as June of this year. Following the PAW project, the lay-down area will then be used during the proposed re-cladding of the Butterdome.

The completion of these two projects could well result in the old athletic field finally being made whole and functional again. However, there are proposals being kicked about for a 50-meter pool that would extend over the north part of the field, and the U of A is also looking for areas where it can add more student housing. The old athletic field and the space north of the Windsor Park Car Park are two of many areas in North and South Campus under consideration. We have been assured that any new housing would be low-level and not another Lister Hall.

We have advised the U of A that a green and well used athletic field would make for a beautiful west entrance to the North Campus. Here's hoping that this message strikes home.

Infrastructure Renewal

Is no news good news? I am not sure it is, in this case. We have yet to hear any response to our suggestions regarding the City's infrastructure renewal plans for our neighbourhood. The City administration has released a report to a City Council subcommittee and the report contains some clauses that could be viewed as sympathetic to our situation. I will be speaking to the committee on the matter and hope to have the chance to further press the administration for a favourable response. I will relay any news and updates by email. If you are interested, and not already included in my email distribution, please contact me at the coordinates below and I'll add you to the list.

Unofficial Guesthouses

It looks as though another unofficial guesthouse has started operating in Windsor Park. I am aware of two which provide accommodation for out-of-town day patients attending the Cross Cancer Institute. While the first is run discreetly and respectfully, the same cannot be said of the second. The City of Edmonton has strict regulations governing the setting up

and operation of guesthouses and we have decided to notify the City of their existence and have them regulated accordingly.

Park Redevelopment, Part Deux

I am pleased to announce that we will be receiving a Community Facilities Enhancement Program grant from the Alberta government in the amount of \$100,000. While this grant was provided to fund work undertaken last year, we didn't receive notice that our application was successful until December. The monies will be gratefully received, and will enable us to do additional work in 2012. Though priorities are yet to be set, we will be looking at some of the following: paths, plantings, picnic shelter, etc.

Unfortunately, we did not qualify this year for the City of Edmonton's aquatic facilities program. This means the planned installation of a splash park will not proceed this year, and, as we were relying on dirt moved during splash-park excavation for the purpose, the sledding hill will also be delayed.

Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or comments you might have. I can be reached at 780-433-1270 or jbcollier@shaw.ca

John Collier



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Community League Executive



Title / Role	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
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Casino	Betty Millar Melita Allan	9303 Sask. Drive 9308 Edinboro Rd	439-0130 484-8132	
Building Rental	Ivy Neuhaus		433-2623	
Building Manager	Dave Austen	9023 Sask. Drive	439-2612	
Central Area Council/Planning	Elaine Solez	8711 Sask. Drive	431-0292	
Landscaping	Marilyn Gaa	9318 Edinboro Rd	432-7660	
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Rink Maintenance	Bob Koch		761-3313	bob.koch@shaw.ca
Soccer	Joseph Lee Son	11906-87 Ave	988-2951	jleeson@web.ca
Social	Gabriella Makar	9127-118 St	430-1313	
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Playschool News

The Windsor Park Co-op Playschool offers two morning programs:

- ◆ 3-year-olds on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- ◆ 4-year-olds on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



Our teacher has an ECE degree, and our emphasis is on learning through play, with seasonal themes, topics like health, safety, and nature, and related field trips.

For more information, call 780 439 0919.

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Karate and Yoga Classes in the Belgravia Community Hall



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**for more information
contact Ken or Jennifer at
kenanjen@shaw.ca
780 707 3693**

The Northern River Karate School
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Wild Life Pests

Small Animals

You may legally trap pest animals such as skunks, porcupines, squirrels, ground squirrels, magpies, and crows on your own property.

Traps for porcupines, skunks, and squirrels are available from the Animal Care & Control Centre located at 13550 - 163 Street. You are responsible for returning the trap if an animal is NOT caught. Animal Care & Control Officers will pick up any trapped animal.

- Humane wildlife traps are available for up to two weeks for a \$75 refundable deposit.
- Payment may be made by VISA, MasterCard, or debit for immediate refund upon return of the trap. Cash payment refunds can take up to 4 weeks. Cheques are not accepted.

Plans for building your own magpie and crow trap are available from Alberta Agriculture
[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3496](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3496)

There are also many qualified pest control businesses in Edmonton. Look for them in the Yellow Pages under "Exterminators."

Large Animals

Large animals such as moose, deer, coyotes, and even the occasional bear or cougar in the city are the responsibility of Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officers.

Call the Edmonton district office at 780-427-3574, or the coyote information hotline at 780-644-5744.

Your Guide To Avoiding Coyote-Human Conflict brochure can be seen at http://www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/ParksRecreation/AvoidingHumanCoyoteConflict.pdf

What to do if you encounter a coyote

To prevent coyote attacks on humans, modern wildlife management focuses on 'aversive conditioning'. This practice tries to change an animal's behaviour by making every human-coyote encounter unpleasant for the animal. This method only works if we all respond to coyote encounters aggressively. If a coyote does approach, make it feel unwelcome. They should not feel comfortable around us.

- Take These Immediate Steps
- Respond to its presence aggressively by making yourself appear large; wave your arms overhead, or shove long objects like a walking stick toward the coyote.
- Throw rocks, sticks or other objects to scare it away.
- Carry a whistle and blow it to startle the animal.
- Carry dog spray in areas highly frequented by coyotes.
- Shout in a deep voice and maintain eye contact.
- Do not turn away or run. This may trigger a natural predator/prey instinct and might encourage the coyote to chase after you.
- If the coyote continues to approach, back away slowly and move toward buildings or human activity.



Valentine Smiles

Q: What did one snake say to the other snake?

A: Give me a little hug and a hiss, honey.

Q: Why did the banana go out with the prune?

A: Because it couldn't get a date.

Q: What is a ram's favourite song on February 14th?

A: I only have eyes for ewe, dear

Q: What is a vampire's sweetheart called?

A: His ghoulish friend.

Q: If your aunt ran off to get married, what would you call her?

A: Antelope.

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CASINO VOLUNTEER WORKERS

Our Windsor Park Community League Casino is scheduled for Friday March 9th and Saturday March 10th, 2012 and is being held at the **Palace Casino – West Edmonton Mall.**

We still need a few volunteers for positions on Saturday, March 10th and back up for both days.

Proceeds from the Casino will be used for building upkeep, playground upgrade, rink repair and joint School/League projects. Some funds may also be given to other charities.

If you can volunteer contact:

Betty Millar,
9303 Saskatchewan Drive T6G 1A3
Phone 780 439 0130
eamillar@shaw.ca

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Master Composter Recycler Program

Learn to make fun things like compost tea, worm bins and lasagna gardens – and how to build better communities too!

About this time last year I noticed an ad for the **Master Composter Recycler Program** (MCRP), offered by the City of Edmonton. I confess my interest was purely selfish. Compost, I knew, was great for gardens, but my home compost bins were sorry piles of semi-rotten vegetables, liberally laced with coffee grounds, and topped with fall leaves. Somehow the rich dark “black gold” that was supposed to magically appear - hadn’t. Here was my chance to find out how to compost – and for free! Learning about recycling was appealing too – though I was already a, some would say, fervent recycler and pretty sure I’d ace that part of the course. I checked the MCRP web site, and without thinking too much about it, submitted my application form.

After the first class I realized that the program is much more than learning how to compost, and not just a crash course in waste management. It is all about how we can each make Edmonton a greener and better city. The classes included terrific presentations by local experts and MCRP graduates. We learned a lot about garbage –how we can save energy and the environment (as well as money) by reducing the amount of garbage we produce. We learned about what makes a “livable” city. Some of the sessions were workshops (my favourite - the day we made worm bins and watched demonstrations of different composting system); others were field trips (the Edmonton Waste Management Centre is truly impressive). Most importantly, we learned about the many City of Edmonton resources for waste management and sustainable living, and how to help promote these resources in our own communities.

This year’s Master Composter Recycler Program runs on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and all day Saturday, from April 10 through 28. **Apply before March 7, 2012.** Check the MCRP web site at: www.edmonton.ca/mcrp or call (780) 496-5991 for more information and the online application form.

Jeff Allen Art Gallery Strathcona Place Senior Centre 10831 University Ave.

Undulations –The Series Artist Linda Blezard

January 27, 2012 - February 22, 2012
Reception February 8, 2012 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Long Beach near Tofino on Vancouver Island is one of the artist’s favourite natural areas. The power of the wind, the incoming clouds and the waves on the beach are all inspirational forces for Linda. She starts off painting a realistic land or seascape and then the inner spirit takes over. This results in abstracts portraying endless motion which in part is achieved by the light and unusual colour. Linda paints with oils and often uses other materials to create interesting textures.

“C. W. Jefferys...His Lines Made History”

February 24, 2012 to March 28, 2012
Reception March 14, 2012 6:30 – 8:30 PM

C. W. Jefferys was a highly regarded artist and historian with illustrations in over 700 books . He was also a mentor to the Group of Seven and has works of art in Ontario Art Gallery and The National Art Gallery of Canada. Because of his accomplishments, his home in Willowdale, Toronto has been declared a National Historic Site and a school in Toronto dedicated to the arts has been named after him. This is a rare opportunity to view oil paintings, pen and ink drawings, watercolours and other media by a renowned artist. Thanks to C. W. Jefferys Allen, Director of Strathcona Place Senior Centre for providing the paintings and memorabilia of his grandfather.

**Best viewing hours 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
and 3:00 – 4:00 PM**

Centre is open Monday through Friday 9:00
AM – 4:00 PM
Call 780-433-5807

Food Security Outreach at Garneau United Church

For the past five or six years, Garneau United Church has been the centre for food bank services for the surrounding community. Garneau, in cooperation with Knox-Metropolitan, St. Paul's and Pleasantview United Churches, distributes a range of foods including vegetables, bread, rolls, and tinned foods, on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Groceries are donated by neighbouring stores such as Safeway, the Italian Bakery, and Wild Earth Foods. Produce is also obtained from the Edmonton Food Bank. Volunteers pick up the food in advance.

Each congregation is responsible for one Saturday a month - taking turns on the inevitable fifth Saturday! Garneau has a core group of about ten people who report for duty at 8:30 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month to bag the bread and apportion out salads, soups, and cooked foods to make for even distribution.

Most of the clients have places to live, but lack resources to purchase sufficient food. At least one homeless person is a 'regular'. His nights are often spent behind Tim Horton's or Mac's. Others may be immigrants or on AISH. One previously independent family became users when the wife suffered a serious heart condition and her husband had to give up his job to care for her and their children. A few clients come from as far away as Blue Quill; others cross over the High Level Bridge. Some have said how much they appreciate the informality as opposed to the necessarily more regimented Edmonton Food Bank. They do sign in with their names and the number of persons (adults and children) who will share what they obtain. On a typical Saturday there may be from 30 to 60 individuals, but the number of people with whom they share may amount to two or three times that many.

Chairs are set out so people can sit until the opening time arrives while enjoying coffee, snacks and welcoming conversation.

When the time comes, the line-up is organized so that the same people do not always get first choice. If food items are available in quantity, such as bread (white bread goes first), there may be no limitations. When all have been around the tables once, they can wait for a second chance on what's left. As the food disappears, clean-up begins. Some of the men now stay to help with the cleaning. Left over food is delivered to the Mustard Seed Church or stored for future use.

The project began with seed money from the national United Church. That source has now run out. Most recently, the Garneau Community League made a sizeable donation. In addition, members from the four congregations and the community make donations of money or in kind. Some of the money is used to reinforce the need for protein based foods. For example, there is an 'egg day' each month, and on the last occasion 21 dozen eggs were distributed.

Recently the statistics for 2011 were released. The number of guests who signed in was 1877, representing 3362 adults and 1611 children for a total of 5138 served. The average per week was 36, representing 65 adults and 41 children for a total of 99 persons.

All but three of the volunteers from Garneau are over 70 years of age, so some younger, stronger community volunteers would be most welcome. For anyone who might be interested in volunteering or donating or wishing further information, call Garneau United 780-439-2501 -(leave a message) or email garneauuc@shaw.ca. You may also contact John Wright 780-433-5962 or jwright@shaw.ca.

John & Shirley Wright

Q: What did the duck say when he bought lipstick?

A: Put it on my bill.

Q: What's in the middle of a jellyfish?

A: A jelly button

Game On!

Sign up for outdoor soccer registration on now

Even though we are in frigid thirty below temperatures as I write this, we are already chasing the cold away with dreams of spring and soccer. Yes the outdoor soccer season is in full swing in its planning and I would like to note a few dates for our young players.

The outdoor season will—weather permitting—run from April 30 to June 28, 2012 and we are hoping to have a greater presence with more players on the fields this year. We saw 85 players compete in 2011 on four U6 teams, three U8 teams, one U10 team and a U14 team culminating with a soccer Jamboree the week after the season ended. This year we will look to build on the past successes with the continued assistance of our parents.

Outdoor registration for the 2012 year will again take place in two parts:

1. **Pre-registration on-line via www.swemsa.com.** You must complete the pre-registration prior to the in-person registration.
2. **In person registration and payment on Saturday, February 25 from 11 am to 2 pm** at the Windsor Park Community Hall—please bring two copies of your on-line registration and payment on this day.



Please remember, that you need a Community League Membership in order to register. Contact Janet Millar at jmillar@shaw.ca to purchase your membership.

Payments for the 2012 community outdoor season are as follows: U6 - \$85; U8 - \$90; U10 - \$100; U12 - \$105; U14 - \$110; U16 - \$115 and U18 - \$125. In previous years, parents have indicated that the soccer jersey is a great keepsake of the season and often becomes the favourite go-to shirt in their child's closet. Given this, this year's fee includes the cost of a jersey, which players can keep at the end of the season.

For players interested in trying out for the competitive SWEMSA team, SW Sting, please visit www.swstingsoccer.com for more info and tryout dates. Competitive soccer is more intense, involves more practices and runs until the end of July. If players try out for Sting and do not make the team, they are welcome to play community soccer. In order to do that, they must register for community soccer (as noted above with on-line pre-registration and in-person at the community hall) and note on their form that they are trying out for Sting. Forms will then be held until after the Sting team formation.

Both SWEMSA and SW Sting have recently updated and streamlined their websites and information about the community and competitive programs.

I would like to thank all those who have already offered to assist in the upcoming season from coaches, to referees, to Jamboree planners, etc. and I look forward to seeing everyone in the warm sunshine of early May.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at jleeson@web.ca or 780-988-2951.

Joseph M Lee Son Windsor Park Community Soccer Coordinator