Windsor Park Community Newsletter

December 2012

Message from the President…

Christmas Carol Sing

The carol sing will be on Sunday afternoon, December 23. Come on out for the live music, homemade treats and company of friends and neighbours. Please see inside for details. I would like to especially thank Ronnene Anderson, Chelsey Cabaj, Marilynn Gaa and Sarah Nyland for organizing the event this year.

Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious by...

shoveled sidewalks! My apologies to the bard, but it's time to help your neighbours by keeping your walks free of ice and snow. If some of your neighbours aren't as active as they used to be, why not help out by clearing their walks, too? If you feel that you might need some help with your shoveling, the Society of Seniors Caring about Seniors (780 465 0311), the Lifestyle Helping Hands Seniors' Association (780 450 2113), and the Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (780.423.5510) can all link seniors with snow-shovelers who charge reasonable rates. Icy walks? Sand is available from the sand box by the ice rink. The City of Edmonton requires that sidewalks be cleared within 48 hours after the snow stops falling. Should a snowbound sidewalk bar your way, you can call the City at 311 to register a complaint.

Ice Rink

My thanks to Bob Koch and his rink maintenance team of local young adults for keeping our rink in top condition every year. Please assist them by leaving the rink area when they come to do their work. If you would like to book the rink for a regular time each week or for a special event, please contact Bob directly at 780 761 3313 or bob.koch@shaw.ca

Park Redevelopment Update

Have you hugged a park redevelopment committee member today? You should, as they are doing a simply marvelous job! We have a beautiful shelter, a toboggan hill that is already well used, a teaching/community gathering area and, soon, walking paths through the lovely north park area! With a little luck -- please keep your fingers and toes crossed -- our latest grant application will come through, and a spray deck will be installed next year: made glorious summer, indeed.

Thanks, a Welcome and an Opening

I am very grateful to Russ Makar for his years of service as WP treasurer. He has ably managed the finances through the complicated park redevelopment process. Thank you so very much for your work on our behalf.

I would also like to welcome our new treasurer, Scott Delinger. Scott has been our webmaster for many years and I look forward to working closely with him in his new position.

Unfortunately for all of us, Gabriella Makar is also stepping down as social director. Thank you so much Gabriella for organizing the WP socials. The summer picnics have been simply amazing! If you are interested in helping to organize social events in Windsor Park, please contact me at the coordinates below.

Why the heck did they do that?

The first part of our infrastructure renewal is complete, and there are a few places where things did not work quite as we thought they would. For example: a major bike route with no curb ramps! If you have noticed problem areas, please let me know so that we can bring them to the City's attention.

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these block canvassers...

Thanks to a host of intrepid volunteers, our annual door-to-door membership drive is largely wrapped up – just a few more blocks left to report in, and then we'll tally up. If you renewed your membership this year, many thanks – the community league greatly appreciates your support! If we missed you at the door, never fear – you can obtain your 2012-13 membership on-line, at www.efcl.org, or from Janet Millar, at 780.433.1270 or jlmillar@shaw.ca. To all the canvassers, kudos and warm thanks – your efforts are a big part of what keeps our community connected!

Nine years

This is my ninth year as president. I have enjoyed myself and found the work interesting, rewarding and, delightfully often, a lot of fun. I did have an excellent replacement lined up for the elections held at this year's AGM, but, unfortunately for Winsor Park, his employment circumstances changed such that he will now be spending a good deal more time out of country. I have agreed to stay on to maintain continuity until neighbourhood renewal and park redevelopment are wrapped up. However, because it is time for new leadership and fresh ideas, and because I have a few other logs in the fire that require more of my attention, this will be my last year as president. And what means is that we will need to have someone else step forward to take the reins next year. I will be staying on as past-president and building manager, and others will happily maintain their positions on the executive, so there will be experienced and knowledgeable people on hand to support the next president.

Do you care about Windsor Park? Do you have ideas on how we can make Windsor Park a better place for all? Would you like to see my ugly mug taken off the local currency? Please contact me at the coordinates below.

Even MI6 doesn't know...

The super-secret code to allow you to use the hall wireless is the building address number repeated twice: 1184011840.

If you have any question or concerns on these, or any other, issues, please feel free to contact me at

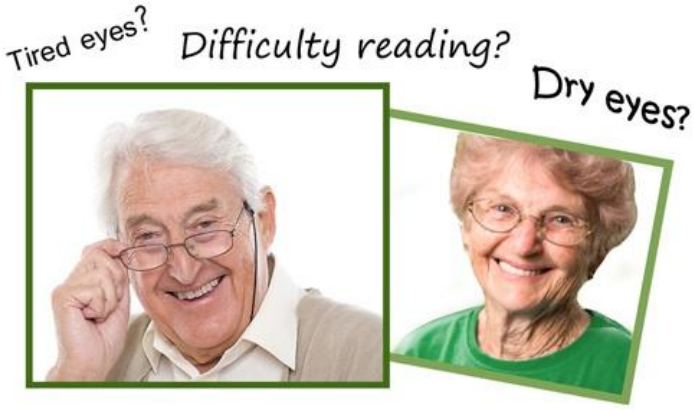
jbcollier@shaw.ca

780.433.1270.

John Collier

President	John Collier	8620 Sask. Drive	433-1270	jbcollier@shaw.ca
Vice President	John Wilson	8915-120 St	432-1042	jaydee.uu@ualberta.ca
Secretary	Ronnene Anderson	8738-117 Street	433-8632	anderpep@telusplanet.net
Treasurer	Scott Delinger	8908-116 St	439-2912	scott@altadel.com
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	
Bottle Drive Road Side Sign	Sheri Samuels		433-3741	
Membership	Janet Millar	8620 Sask. Drive	433-1270	jlmillar@shaw.ca
Newsletter Editor	Jean Frost	11626 Edinboro Rd	433-7472	jean_frost@yahoo.com
Nursery School			439-0919	
Parking Program	Evan Foster	8731-120 St.	433-0646	esfz24@shaw.ca
Rink Maintenance	Bob Koch		761-3313	bob.koch@shaw.ca
Soccer	Joseph Lee Son	11906-87 Ave	988-2951	jleeson@web.ca
Social				
Webmaster	Scott Delinger	8908-116 St	439-2912	scott@altadel.com

WIRELESS PASSWORD for the park is the building address repeated twice: 184011840



* Full Alberta Health Care coverage on eye exams for age 65 and over
* Free adjustments on all frames
* Free lens cleaner/cloth (1/person, limited quantity)
* Walk-ins welcome!

Call Dr. Kelsey Ford today to book your eye exam!

LENDRUM EYECARE

5822 - 111 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 3G1
780.437.1409

The Story of Holiday Waste

The holiday season is one of the most festive times of the year, creating opportunities for more shopping, decorating, gift giving, and of course unwrapping. The sad thing is that much of the seasonal gift wrap, decorations, and packaging that is part of the holiday season are *not* recyclable in the City's blue bag and blue bin recycling program.

Remember to *'Know Before You Throw'* this holiday season and keep the following items out of your household's blue bag or apartment's blue bin:

- Tree ornaments
- Styrofoam
- Christmas tree stands
- Plastic lawn decorations (including inflatable displays)
- Metallic gift wrap
- Christmas lights

On the bright side, the City makes it easy to reduce your holiday waste by recycling natural Christmas trees. For residents with curbside waste collection, when the holiday season is over, you can put your tree out with your regular garbage & recycling, and the city will collect it. Watch for media updates announcing dates and directives for this year's Christmas tree roundup. If you live in an apartment or townhouse with a recycling and/or garbage bin, you must take your tree to an Eco Station or Recycling depot. Trees placed beside your garbage or recycling bin will not be collected. All collected trees go to the Edmonton Waste Management Centre for composting.

For Eco Station and Recycling Depot locations, and for the rest of your seasonal and year round waste "what goes where?" questions, the City's website (**www.edmonton.ca/recycling**) provides a comprehensive list of different types of material and how to properly dispose of them.

TALES Edmonton

TALES Edmonton is hosting free, monthly storytelling gatherings called "Tellarounds" which are open to the public. Come to tell or listen. We welcome

- storytellers and listeners aged 13+
- newcomers to Edmonton
- students
- anyone interested in folktales, family stories or historical tales.

We meet on the second Monday of each month (September - June) 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Parkallen Community Hall, 6510 - 111 street. Please bring indoor shoes.

Questions? Please contact Marie-Anne McLean at 780-667-8250 or email talesedmonton@hotmail.com

Please help us spread the word by passing this information on to your friends, colleagues, clients, teachers or any others who may be interested.

M. Jennie Frost

Lost Young Orange Cat

We lost 'Toast' on October 15. He is an affectionate male orange tabby, quite small as he is only 18 months old. He has a tiny voice. Much as we fear the worst, we hope he has found a home with someone. If you know of his whereabouts, please contact us at 780 433 7472. Thanks. Jean Frost.

Smiles:

Q: Why was the Saami herder given an umbrella?
A: Because of the rain, dear.

Q: What do you call a reindeer with no eyes?
A: I have no eye deer.

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.

Professional Piano Instruction

- 15 years experience, B.Mus.
- Warm, patient approach with children
- Focus on process-based learning
- Sound pedagogical and technical background
- Accepting beginner to advanced students

McKernan/University area

780 424 3385
or email: kochr97@gmail.com

Need an ELECTRICIAN?

Call Rob - Master Electrician @ 780 433 3837

Residential electrical work including Service Changes.

Reasonable Rates

DAVE RICHARDS

Neighbourhood Journeyman Carpenter General Contractor

Complete Residential Renovations including Plumbing and Electrical

No Job Too Small References

Phone 780 886 6005

Karate and Yoga Classes in the Belgravia Community Hall

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays (11540-73 Avenue)

One month of free classes**!**
Free Karate uniform on enrollment!
for more information contact Ken or Jennifer at kenanjen@shaw.ca 780 707 3693
The Northern River Karate School **is a non-profit association**
Get Fit, Feel Great!
www.ThreeBattles.com

Lendrum Pottery Group

Christmas Sale
Saturday December 1, 2012
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
11335 – 57 Ave., Edmonton, AB
(Entrance off 113A St.)

Pottery for all tastes at reasonable prices.
Dishwasher, oven and freezer safe.
Free coffee

Edmonton Christmas Bureau

Since 1940, the Christmas Bureau has had one mission: to provide a festive meal to Edmontonians in need at Christmas time. The families, seniors and individuals we assist receive more than a meal - it's Christmas with hope and dignity and the knowledge that there is support from the community. The Christmas Bureau is non-denominational and accessible to all Edmontonians in need.

Each year all of Edmonton comes together to ensure that Edmontonians in need receive a festive food meal at Christmas time. Our goal for 2012 is to provide a festive meal for 65,000 Edmontonians in need. This year we need to raise $1.8 million to pay the bills.

Donations can be made online at christmasbureau.ca year round; by calling 780 421 XMAS (9627); by texting Christmas to 45678 for a $10 donation; by texting Hamper to 45678 for a $5 donation; at any City of Edmonton Fire Hall, Servus Credit Union or ATB branch from November 12 to January 19; or at our donations desks at Bonnie Doon Mall, Commerce Place, Kingsway Mall, Londonderry Mall, Southgate Centre or West Edmonton Mall from December 1 to December 24.

Without the 800 plus volunteers giving just over 9,000 volunteer hours in six short weeks, the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton could not provide a festive meal for 65,000 Edmontonians in need. It is these volunteers who give of their time, energy and compassion that ensures the tradition of sharing and caring is alive each Christmas. To volunteer, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 780 414 7682 or visit our website at christmasbureau.ca/volunteer.

Honourary Campaign Chairperson, Kevin Lowe, sums it up best – "It takes an entire community to ensure that the tradition of sharing and caring continues and that no one is left behind at Christmas time. With your support, all Edmontonians will have the opportunity to celebrate with a festive meal at Christmas time."

Sunday Showcase Matinee Series Edmonton Symphony Orchestra Winspear Centre for Music. December 2, 2012, at 2 pm.

Two Warszynskis - mother and son – take centre stage as featured soloists on violin and piano" under the direction of **Lucas Waldin.**

Tatiana Warszynski (ESO violinist) – violin solo

Mikolaj Warszynski – piano solo

The performance will start with music from the opera "Ariodante" by Handel, followed by beautiful movements from Wieniawski - II Violin Concerto, Mendelssohn - Concerto for Violin and Piano, Mozart – Piano Concerto No. 27. And finally the fabulous Symphony No. 2 by Schubert will conclude the program.

For tickets please call the Winspear Box Office: 780 428 1414, toll free 1 800 563 5081, or buy in person at #4 Sir Winston Churchill Square (99 St & 102 Ave). Visit edmontonsymphony.com for current concert information.

GARNEAU UNITED CHURCH ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CALENDAR 11148 84th Avenue (The Ashbourne Chapel)

1st Sunday of Advent: December 2
Theme: **Hope**
10:30 am Service of Worship with Communion
2nd Sunday of Advent: December 9
Theme: Peace
10:30 am. Service of Worship
3rd Sunday of Advent: December 16
Theme: Joy
10:30 am. Church School Christmas Pageant & White Gift Sunday
Community Carol Sing: Tuesday, December 18
7:00 pm. Ashbourne Chapel
Gather with us to sing your favourite carols, enjoy Christmas stories for young and old, and participate in the joy of the season. Hot spiced punch and Christmas baking.
4th Sunday of Advent: December 23
Theme: Love
10:30 am. Service of Worship
Christmas Eve: December 24
7:00 pm. Candlelight Lessons and Carols with Communion
1st Sunday after Christmas: December 30
Theme: New Year, New Beginnings
10:30 am. Service of Worship

AN AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
We are a welcoming congregation committed to seeking justice and peace in God's world. We open our doors to all people in our community regardless of sexual orientation, gender identification, race, ethnicity or abilities. Garneau is a member of Affirm United within the United Church of Canada.

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CALENDAR 11733 87TH Avenue

December 16: 10 a.m.
Rebecca and Her Donkey
A Special Christmas Play featuring Jasper, the live donkey!

Christmas Eve: December 24: 7:30 p.m.
Family Service

Christmas Day: December 25 10 a.m.
Christmas Day Service

Come, whether your faith is strong or weak, whether your hhope shines brightly or is dimmed.
Come, for all are welcome at the feast of love.
We hope you will join us during this Advent and Christmas Season.

SWEATER SALE
OPEN HOUSE

Windsor Park Community Hall
11840 - 87 Ave.
Saturday, December 8, 2012
9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

hand knit scarves, hats, vests, sweaters,

(custom orders available)

MINKHA

PRICES $25.00 - $350.00
Minkha is a women's knitting cooperative.
Save the Children Canada volunteers assist the Bolivian knitters by marketing the sweaters on a non-profit basis.
Linda Haswell 780 436 5732

www.minkhasweaters.com

Managing Growth in Mature Neighbourhoods

How do we enable residential growth while keeping the traditional character of our mature neighbourhoods? There has been much discussion of late about the desire to encourage residential growth within Edmonton's existing neighbourhoods rather than continue the pressure to expand into undeveloped farmland on our periphery. To do this we need to find ways to encourage infill growth that is in keeping with the mature neighbourhoods of our city.

Although many people support the idea of increasing the density within our existing city, when change happens next door it can still be alarming. The Mature Neighbourhood Overlay (MNO) was created to ensure that resident development in mature neighbourhoods follow the traditional character and design of the surrounding area. The Residential Infill Guidelines (the "Guidelines") provide direction to developers, communities, City administration and City Council about new residential development in established neighbourhoods. The Guidelines do 2 things, they set out where increases in density will be allowed, and they create design criteria to make sure that when, say, semi-detached houses and townhouses are allowed, they follow a set of architectural rules that will ensure that they fit in well with their existing neighbours. Both of these documents were built on substantial consultation with communities.

Although the City has been following the MNO and Guidelines for the past few years, they have never been built into the zoning bylaws. Proposed changes to our zoning bylaw will mean that many of the provisions of the Guidelines will now be enshrined in the bylaw.

The proposed changes also offer another new option: Instead of having to build a duplex or semi-detached home on a single lot, you can take that same 50 foot lot and subdivide it and build two single detached houses. This option will allow residential growth in existing neighbourhoods (particularly friendly to young families) while maintaining the single detached character of mature neighbourhoods. There also are a number of other changes designed to encourage sensitive infill without jeopardizing what makes the neighbourhoods special to begin with.

Ben Henderson
ben.henderson@edmonton.ca
780-496-8146.

Shining a Light on Zoning Changes & the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay

Much public debate has occurred in the past three weeks about the City's proposal to change the Zoning rules for residential development. The City justifies the changes by saying we need them to implement the 2009 ***Residential Infill Guidelines*** and we need them to allow a 50' wide side-by-side duplex lot to be divided into 2 single family lots … so 2 houses replace 2 houses (a "2-for-2" exchange). The 2009 ***Guidelines*** involved 3 years of extensive community and development industry consultation and are generally accepted as reasonable exceptions. The "2-for-2" exchange idea has had no community consultation, but nevertheless seems to be a reasonable exception too.

So, if the 2009 ***Residential Infill Guidelines*** and the "2-for-2" exchange idea are reasonable, why the concern? The concern is that the proposed Zoning changes will do not do what they say they'll do.

Touted as merely implementing infill guidelines that already exist, and as merely allowing 2 single dwellings to replace 2 duplex dwellings, the proposed changes look innocent enough. However, the proposal comes in the form of an omnibus bylaw that not only fails to accurately implement the ***Guidelines*** but also contains scores of unrelated changes never publicly identified or justified. The proposal represents the most radical changes to Edmonton's residential Zoning rules in more than 50 years; all done with no involvement of the citizens who will be affected by them.

The changes are far too numerous and far too complex to describe in this format, or frankly even in a Public Hearing. A sample

though can be described. The most disconcerting changes are those that seem minor, but have extreme consequences. They range from redefining how height is determined so no clear standard applies, to weakening decision-making criteria so housing types now directed to appropriate places might be built everywhere. They pervert the “2-for-2” exchange idea by allowing a “4-for-2” exchange, and impose a suburban medium density standard in low density areas by increasing development potential for some houses by 60% more than presently allowed. They range from subtle changes to definitions, to allowing entirely new land uses like apartment-style student housing on single family lots where they were never before allowed. They increase allowable floor area for smaller lots by more than 10%, and delete architectural and compatibility guidelines for infill houses.

Consequences affect public processes as well as physical form. They would remove existing safeguards, checks and balances that apply to certain kinds of City staff decisions by giving staff ambiguous and overriding powers, depriving affected neighbours of their current rights to be told about and to appeal such decisions.

According to the popular news media, the main public issues are the addition of front driveways in areas where rear lanes exist in mature neighbourhoods, and the protrusion of garages into the front yards with no clear limits on size. While those issues are real, they are just the tip of the iceberg.

In 2001, the City enacted special zoning rules - the “Mature Neighbourhood Overlay” (MNO) - specifically for established communities to halt the intrusion of large suburban car-oriented homes on smaller lots, popularly dubbed *monster homes*. The MNO rules encouraged new development but at the same time ensured it would not erode the traditional features and characteristics that define the quality of the host neighbourhood. Four main objectives were established so that new development:

- is sensitive in scale to existing development;
- maintains the traditional character and pedestrian-friendly design of the local streetscape;
- safeguards the privacy and access to sunlight for adjacent properties; and
- provides a formal way for applicants and neighbours to talk about a new development well before it is too late to make adjustments.

The proposed Zoning change will weaken, and in some cases eliminate altogether, almost all of those MNO rules. It will do this by ensuring new buildings are significantly misaligned, encroaching haphazardly into the existing front yards and disrupting the traditional streetscape. It will allow garages to dominate the fronts of buildings, a design that epitomizes late 20th century suburban homes. It will allow partially pedestrian-oriented blocks to become fully car oriented, with driveways replacing lawns. It will allow buildings to obstruct sunlight and reduce privacy for abutting neighbours, and it will render feedback from affected neighbours ineffective.

The City’s proposal abandons the idea of preserving Edmonton’s traditional mature neighbourhood streetscapes, opting instead for a suburban style streetscape. It abandons the idea of encouraging cooperation, opting instead to continue an adversarial approach, pitting neighbour against neighbour.

The proposed Zoning changes for how Edmonton shapes its residential communities are the most radical ever considered in 50 years. The most disturbing aspect of this initiative is that it contains over a hundred changes that have never been endorsed by City Council and have never been discussed with the communities that will have to live with them. Maybe now they will be; it’s just the right thing to do.

Brian J Kropf is a Registered Professional Planner in Alberta and has held several senior positions within his profession, both provincially and nationally. He is a former City of Edmonton Director of Planning Services, is a co-author of the Zoning Bylaw and was the lead writer of the 2001 Mature Neighbourhood Overlay.

The UPS Store®
ON CAMPUS

- COPY • PRINT
- 3 MONTHS FREE MAILBOX RENTAL, PRIVATE, SECURE, 24/7 ACCESS, w/ STREET ADDRESS, PACKAGE RECEIVING *w/ 12 mo. contract
- 4.9¢ /page volume copy
- ONLINE: store457@theupsstore.ca

780-757.6877; 8507-112 Street (Newton Place)

Everyone is invited to the

Windsor Park Christmas Carol Party

Sunday December 23, 2012

2 till 4 pm

In the Community League Building

Carol singing, live chamber orchestra under the direction of Lillian Upright, story telling by Jennie Frost, refreshments

Admission Free, Donations to the Food Bank will be appreciated

Volunteer musicians who would like to join the orchestra
(with one hour of practice just before the concert)
are most welcome and should get in touch with
Sarah Nyland (780 433 2211) or sarah.nyland@gmail.com

More Smiles

Q: What do you call ten Arctic hares hopping backwards through the snow together?
A: A receding hare line.

Q: What kind of math do Snowy Owls like?
A: Owlgebra.

Q: What sits on the bottom of the cold Arctic Ocean and shakes?
A: A nervous wreck.

Q: What did the detective in the Arctic say to the suspect?
A: "Where were you on the night of September to March?"