

the belgravian

may 2014

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Belgravia Community Hall:
11540—73 Avenue

Between issues, and for links to other resources discussed herein, visit:

www.belgraviaedmonton.ca

Facebook:
facebook.com/belgraviaedmonton

BCL is a member of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues - learn more at: www.efcl.org

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As Promised: Plans for Our New Hall!

Keven Taft, Hall Renewal Committee Chair

Imagine a hall where parents can have a yoga class while their preschoolers are in playschool. Imagine a hall where cooking classes and chilli bake-offs are held in a large up-to-date kitchen. A hall where seniors can gather, while children are in a program downstairs. A hall you book for family gatherings or group events. A hall that is accessible and energy efficient.

Imagine watching a soccer game, bringing your grandkids to the playground, or playing a game of shinny, and having access to a washroom.

That's the plan for the renewed Belgravia Community Hall.

Belgravia Community Hall has served our community for 60 years. But the hall is bursting at the seams, doesn't meet today's building

standards, and is unable to fill our community's needs. In 2012, the Belgravia Community League formed a "Hall Renewal Committee," which met with users, held community workshops, tested concepts, and worked and re-worked budgets. Now the building plans are ready.

Here is a quick description to help you understand the plan:

- The foundations and walls of the current hall are sound and will be kept, with proper insulation.
- The building will be expanded toward the rink, providing more space on both floors.
- A new roof will be installed, providing better drainage and insulation, and ready for future solar panels.
- Children's programs will be

continued on page 2...

from the editor's desk...



Happy Spring! I know we're all happy to have (hopefully) seen the last of snow, and are embracing our longer days. Make sure to move your cars off the road as the street sweeping begins, and watch the gravel when taking corners on your bike! In this issue you will find lots of exciting news having to do

with our hall renewal and the fundraising that goes along with it. We're going to have a hall to be proud of, and one that will get much more use for years to come. But, only if we all come together to make it happen. Let's do this.

In addition to the hall, I invite you to turn to page 8 for our other BCL updates and also, to mark your calendars for Sunday May 25th. It's Belgravia bike day (see below)!

Lastly, our new BCL website is up and running. Keep in touch between newsletters at belgraviaedmonton.ca.

concentrated on a secure lower level, which will be expanded and completely remodelled.

- A welcoming entry to the upper level will lead to a meeting and activity room, a new and much improved kitchen, and smaller rooms and offices.
- There will be accessible washrooms on both levels.

Have a look at the brochure that is included with this newsletter, or visit the community league's great new website at belgraviaedmonton.ca, where you will find a link to the brochure.

The Belgravia Hall Renewal Committee includes Kathy Brodeur-Robb, Michael Cohen, Kathy Goble, Kevin Klein, Dale Rowe, Jonathan Sharek, and is chaired by Kevin Taft.

BELGRAVIA BIKE DAY

Sunday, May 25, 1 - 3 p.m., school tarmac



Bike safety and obstacle course by Pedalheads. Meet at 1 p.m. for a group ride in the river valley.

advertising in the belgravian

Full Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page
7.5"w x 10"h	10"w x 5"h	3.75"w x 5"h
BCL Member: \$75	BCL Member: \$45	BCL Member: \$25
Non-Member: \$100	Non-Member: \$60	Non-Member: \$35

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Belgravia Community League Contacts

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End of World Chair	Therese Gaetz	therese.gaetz@shaw.ca

Hall Renewal Details: Raising the Money, Together

Kevin Taft, Hall Renewal Chair

We're well on our way, but your participation is essential. After working closely with architects, engineers, and a construction estimator, we expect this plan will cost \$1.15 million. The league already has \$300,000 in the bank, and we're pursuing municipal and provincial grants totalling \$600,000. **That means we need to raise \$250,000 from the broader community.**

We are asking you to join with us to contribute to today's fundraising effort. All support is welcomed, no matter how small or large. Contributions can be spread over two years.

Businesses can contribute in a big way too. We're working with a local engineering firm to cover the costs of excavation and earthworks. Others are beginning to step forward too. Think about how your business can help make it happen. All contributions are welcomed and will be properly recognized.

Please join your friends and neighbours as we create a hall we can all enjoy for decades to come!

For more information contact Kevin Taft at kevintaft@belgraviaedmonton.ca or Kevin Klein at vicepresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca.

Send a cheque to Belgravia Hall Renewal at Box 52202, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2T5 or contribute online at belgraviaedmonton.ca.

50 families at \$5000 each? That would be Amazing!

To reach our goal of \$250,000 there need to be some sizable contributions. Here are four families who have committed \$5000.00 each, and their reasons why.

Michael Cohen and Susan Andrew: "When we moved to Belgravia we hardly knew anyone. Our two kids went to playschool at the hall, and soon we were all making friendships that will last a lifetime. That wouldn't have happened without the hall. But it needs to be modernized. Renewing the hall will be a big boost to the neighborhood."

Kathy and Ken Goble: "We started by committing \$1000 to hall renewal. When we thought about it more we raised it to \$5000. That's a lot of money, but this neighborhood is worth it to us, our children and grandchildren. It's like a small town in the middle of a big city, and we want to keep that small town spirit. A renewed hall will have a long-lasting impact on everyone in the community."

Kevin and Nicole Klein: "We're fairly new to Belgravia, but it's clear that this is where we want to live and raise our family. We just had our first baby, a beautiful little girl. She'll need a place for playschool, Brownies and skating lessons, and we want a place where we can meet other families and share friendships. Right now the hall is stretched to its limits and needs some real work. When it's renovated everyone in Belgravia can enjoy it more."

Jeanette Boman and Kevin Taft: "Between the two of us we've lived in Belgravia for ninety years. Yikes! We've seen how important the hall is to this community. A lot goes on there every day, morning to night. But people get turned away because it is booked up. And it bothers us that people who have trouble with stairs can't use it. It's supposed to be a hall for everyone. It needs to be renewed for so many reasons and we really want to help make it happen."

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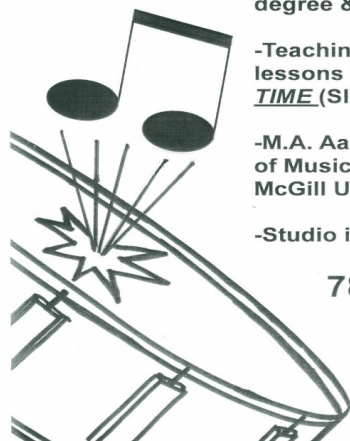
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Bicycle Helmet Safety



Head injuries are a leading cause of serious injury and death to children on bicycles*. Most injuries occur when a cyclist suffers a fall, strikes a stationary object, or collides with another cyclist, or pedestrian. Remember – it's 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

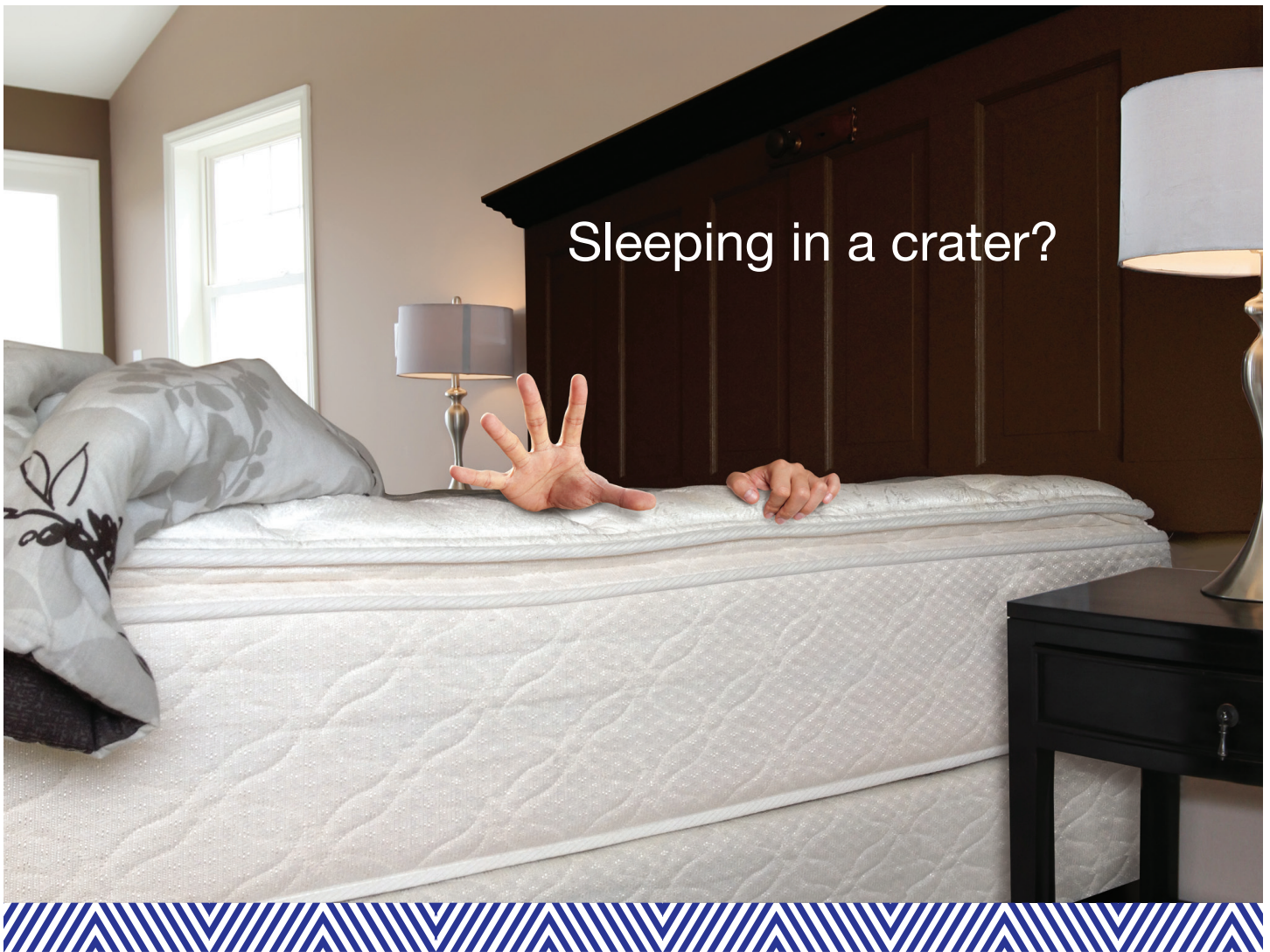
- Allow children to assist when buying their helmet. Cyclists who choose their own helmet are more likely to wear them;
- Start the habit early. Young children learning to ride tricycles need to wear helmets;
- Parents must lead by example: always wear your own helmet when cycling.

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.

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<http://www.parachutecanada.org/iniurv-topics/item/wheeled-activities1>



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Belgravia School Scheduled to Receive Modernization

Michael Janz, Ward F Public School Trustee



I was excited to hear that Belgravia School was one of the schools selected for modernization in the last round of announcements from the Province of Alberta. Details as they are forthcoming will be communicated with the school and on www.epsb.ca.

This is exciting news for the students of Belgravia School, the staff, and we hope the neighborhood will share in the joy!

Our District requested \$2.2 million for an Essential Upgrade to Belgravia School in the 2014-2017 Capital Plan. On January 21, 2014, Education Minister Jeff Johnson announced approval of the project without specifying a dollar value. Some renovations were completed on the building in the 1990s, including: some

window, flooring and lighting replacement; and a new library, music room, dropped ceilings, exterior stucco, staff washroom and kitchen, and FM sound systems.

A 2010 provincial building audit recommended replacement of the heating and ventilation system including the main boiler, as well as interior doors and millwork, the main electrical switchboard, roofing and drains, the installation of a new fire detection and alarm system, and other components. Final scope and cost of improvements will be determined upon the completion of an analysis of all building components, and approval of the final project scope and budget by Alberta Education.

While we have great need in the new communities of our city for school facilities, it is important that we invest in the community schools and centers that we already have. I hope to see further investments of this nature as a complement to city revitalization efforts in years to come.

For these and other public education announcements, please subscribe to my monthly newsletter on www.michaeljanz.ca.

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May Ever Active Update

Kim Kelly, Ever Active Parent Chair



Bike Day

Join us for this collaborative event with BCL on Sunday, May 25 from 1 to 3 p.m. on the school tarmac. There will be a booth on bike safety and an obstacle course for playschoolers! As well, some parent volunteers will lead a trail ride.

CTV News

Belgravia Ever Active was proud to be featured in a health segment by Susan Amerongen on April 10! Our walking school bus and adventure club were featured. There are almost 100 Ever Active schools in Edmonton and we hope that this news piece inspires others to become Ever Active schools.

Bannock and Games

Our Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 classes enjoyed their morning to cook and eat bannock on March 21st. They also participated in some outdoor games. The

other grades participated in snowshoeing and cross-country skiing in February.

Adventure Club

Thank you to the City of Edmonton for lending us four kicksleds. Most of our students got to push and ride these fun sleds during Adventure Club and phys ed. Kicksleds are very popular in Scandinavian countries. We hope to borrow them again next year, as they were such a hoot!

Healthy Fundraiser with Billyco Junction

Please see the BCL website for registration forms to order tasty fruits (8 weeks), vegetables (15 weeks) or a 4-week summer sampler! A portion of your payment is **donated** to Belgravia Ever Active!

Zumba

Our students and staff shook their booties on March 24 during a Zumba class. The staff impressed us with their team coordination and the Grade 6 boys wowed us with some gangsta moves. A great beginning to the day!

Running Club

Congratulations to all who participated in the Running Room Games at the Butterdome in February and Klondike Relays in April!

Anniversary Sale

Lendrum Eyecare is turning two!

Help us celebrate on Saturday, May 10, 2014. We will have the entire Michael Kors and Bebe collections on sale (including sunglasses!) and will be introducing the Chloe line.

20% off a complete pair!



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Update from your Belgravia Community League Board

Jeanette Boman, BCL President

1. Check out our **new BCL Webpage** at belgraviaedmonton.ca! Just launched the middle of April, it is the place to go for the latest information about the community league and events in Belgravia. You can subscribe to it and get automatic updates as they are posted. We have over 360 BCL members and 155 webpage subscribers. We want to promote the webpage so that our members and the community-at-large subscribe to it. Much like the *Belgravian* Newsletter is distributed to everyone with a mailbox in Belgravia the webpage is available to all as well.

2. Our **Made in Belgravia** series continues on **the last Wednesday of every month**. (For each session there is a small cover charge: BCL member \$5; non-member, \$10)

Jessica Jackson's first session in February attracted 15 to a demonstration on how to make your own moisturizing lotion with ingredients you have at home. If you see a few more people walking about the neighbourhood with soft beautiful skin, it may well be they were one of the participants at Jessica's session!

John Murray and James Hendrickson taught a group of 20 people how to make beer at our second Made in Belgravia session on March 26. We discovered we have a thriving local group of beer makers in Belgravia that evening. Keep an eye out for our first Belgravia Beer Tasting Festival this coming October complete with bratwurst and buns!

All Things Ginger is the third Made in Belgravia session on **April 30, 2014** at the BCL Hall (7-9 pm). Jane Zaiane's interest and love of ginger is legendary for those who have been lucky enough to sample her culinary skills. As advertised on the BCL webpage: *Sit back and enjoy a wide variety of recipe samples, all vegetarian and made with ginger, from appetizers to desserts. Jane and her family use about 5 kg of ginger, fresh and dried, annually! After tasting some her creations,*

Jane will send you home with copies of her favorite recipes.

The **May 28th** Made in Belgravia session will be devoted to the **bread makers** and want-to-be bread makers in Belgravia. Come to the hall, 7-9 pm and be prepared to knead some dough and taste the results!

3. While Belgravia is slated for densification, the community league wants to make sure it is done in a manner that '*respects, enhances and strengthens the area's local character and sense of place*' (McKernan-Belgravia Station Area Redevelopment Plan, 2013). Two property searches were undertaken by the BCL on houses each with anywhere from 7-10 vehicles parked around the properties. So many vehicles attached to any one house create problems for neighbouring homes that also require some parking space, not to mention having to live beside what can become party houses as well. In a RF1 zone, three (3) unrelated people are allowed to live in a single family dwelling. Given the number of vehicles associated with each house, the BCL asked the City to investigate the properties. Each property owner, neither of whom live in Belgravia, has been issued a violation notice because of having more than the allotted 3 unrelated people living together. They have been given deadlines to either cease using the properties in this manner or apply for the appropriate development permit to operate as a Lodging House. The application in turn requires a neighbourhood notification process.

Because it may be difficult for people to inquire about possible misuses of neighbouring properties, the **BCL can undertake** this task for residents who might appreciate the community league's support in keeping Belgravia a community in which families in all stages can expect a certain quality of life. Let us know if the BCL can ever be of assistance to you in this way.



Summer Camp Program 2014

Belgravia Out of School Centre is excited to offer care for your children this summer!:

We are conveniently located in the Belgravia Community League Hall, 11540 - 73 Avenue, have access to a wonderful playground, within walking distance to a wading pool and several other great playgrounds. Field trips will be planned weekly, daily activities, sports, cooking and art, and science projects.


Our camps are available for elementary school aged children (your child must have completed kindergarten and be going into grade 1). Our staff are Government certified, have first aid and lots of enthusiasm!

Monday – Friday; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

If you require care for the summer months and would like to explore the summer camps at BOSC, please contact:

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Whitemud Equine Learning Centre Association

As a part of the extensive efforts of the Whitemud Equine Learning Centre Association (WELCA) to replace their aging facility with a new equestrian facility, WELCA is seeking City Council support for a phased approach to construction. Phase I includes:

- an integrated Phase I and II design;
- construction of a new building with 1800 square metre riding arena with spectator seating for equine programming, stalls to accommodate 37 horses, administration and classroom areas
- demolition of existing arena, stalls, classroom and administration area and associated land reclamation once the new structure is completed
- project construction schedule spring 2015 to spring 2016
- Phase I total cost of \$7.6 million with funding sources of \$4 million from the City and \$3.6 million from WELCA (\$2.5 million funding secured through Edmonton Social Enterprise Fund)
- Consulting firm hired by WELCA to project manage Phase I
- City of Edmonton to provide project oversight

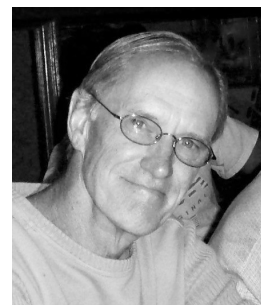
Completing Phase I will ensure that the operations of Whitemud Equine Learning Centre can continue in a safe and efficient manner. Once this phase is completed, WELCA work on strategies for pursuing funding for Phase 2 to realize their complete vision.

On Sunday, May 11, 2014 from 1:00-4:00pm, WELCA will have a display showing the site and conceptual plan for Phase 1 of the proposed Redevelopment Plan. The display will be set up in the historic Keillor Log Cabin and offers an opportunity for the community to provide feedback on the plans. WELCA staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer your questions. Materials presented at the open house will also be posted on WELCA's website at www.welca.ca

Comments will be accepted until June 1, 2014. Please contact Diane David at [780.435.3597](tel:780.435.3597) or diane@welca.ca if you have any questions.

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Photo from our recent Made in Belgravia Beer Session



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Open House at the A.L.E.S. Heritage Stable Museum

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11 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

6647 – 118 Street NW Edmonton
South Campus, north of the Saville Centre

Fascinating artifacts, tales of the
University Farm and home-baked refreshments!

FREE event – everyone welcome!

Jane's Walk in Belgravia: 'Walk-ie Talk-ie'

JANE'S WALK is an event that takes place annually on the first weekend of May to coincide with Jane Jacobs' birthday (1916-2006). These walks have taken place in 90 cities in 20 countries worldwide and are growing!

Jane Jacobs is known for her focus as an urban activist, encouraging people to get out to explore their neighborhoods and to meet their neighbours. Please visit the website to learn more: www.janeswalk.org

Belgravia had its first Jane's Walk in 2013 – a wonderful group of about 35 people, aged 3 to 73! Let's keep the momentum going... new features will be shared this year.

The **Belgravia: 'Walk-ie Talk-ie'** will be on Sunday, May 4th at 2pm. The meeting place will be the Belgravia's Arts Park at 74 Avenue & 115 Street NW. Remember to dress for the weather as the walk will be about 1 – 1 ½ hours long.

See you there!

Susanne Rowe
Jane's Walk Leader

Green & Gold Community Garden

A local garden with global impact



Keen to learn about gardening in Alberta? Want to eat fresh produce grown using organic gardening practices? Interested in helping socioeconomically marginalized women in Africa to make better lives for themselves and their families? Please come and join us at the Green & Gold Community Garden.

This will be the sixth year for the Green & Gold Community Garden, on the University of Alberta's South Campus. The garden is a collaborative project of the School of Public Health and Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences. It is run by volunteers and all of the proceeds from donations for garden produce are sent to the Tubahumurize Association for women in Rwanda.

We're always looking for more help at the garden. You don't need to be affiliated with the university - most garden volunteers are from the neighbouring communities and we range in age from teenagers to seniors. You don't need to be an experienced gardener either - both novice and experienced gardeners are welcome. If you don't like gardening, but would still like to help in other ways (promoting the garden, donating seeds or garden tools) please contact us at:

E-mail: gsgarden@ualberta.ca / Phone: (780) 492-9079 / Web site: http://bit.ly/greenandgold_garden

Or, if you don't want to garden, but would like to receive the garden e-mails this summer (to let you know what produce is available during the garden market hours that week) please sign up to our garden listserv at:

<http://www.mailman.srv.ualberta.ca/mailman/listinfo/gsgarden>

Bottle Drive

To benefit
Belgravia School
and
Belgravia Cooperative Playschool

Saturday, May 10

**Please mark your calendar
and save your
recyclable beverage containers
for us!**

Place containers in front of your house
by 9:00 AM



*Thank-you for supporting
our community school!*



An Art Installation in Belgravia

People are waiting for more sun and more tokens of the warm season! In the meanwhile, *Gracious Goods Cafe* hopes to brighten people's mood by images of flowers and other colourful things. Owners of the *Cafe* invited me to exhibit my paintings of lilies, irises, orchids, and others in April and May. It is an exciting time for me, when my new and kept-at-home work is exposed to public. Welcome!

For more information, see http://members.shaw.ca/svetlana_t/

End of the World Update

Terese Gaetz, EOTW committee chair

The EOTW held a meeting at the Belgravia Community Hall on April 2, 2014. In addition to four of the committee members, two park rangers were also in attendance. The park rangers told the committee about a special operations task force that has been formed to deal with five problematic areas in the city, one of which is The End of the World. Their mandate is to try to minimize the traffic to this site by ticketing people they find there. Because they only have five areas of parkland to monitor, they feel they can have an increased presence there. During the week of April 7 – 11, I saw them at EOTW no fewer than 4 times.

While we are happy that the City has recognized EOTW as a priority in enforcement, we feel there is still much to be done. In the long term, simple enforcement is

not the answer; priorities can too easily shift, and funding for this special operations task force can dry up. On April 16, the committee will be meeting with Councilor Ben Henderson and are hopeful that he will agree to take some more long-term action. Whether that action is to take down the pilings that are propping up the cliff, or to reinforce them and make the space into a more open accessible place has not been determined. The committee is open to hearing what the City thinks is possible.

In the meantime, we still need to contact the authorities when we see problems. Call the Edmonton City Police at 780-423-4567, using either the address, 7450 Saskatchewan Drive, or the police file #13455606.



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