

South Jubilee News

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November 2012

A THANKSGIVING STORY

Right after Thanksgiving weekend, during the youth check-in portion of our weekly house meeting, I asked Mitchell House residents what they'd done on the holiday. Our newest resident, who'd been with us for about a month, said he'd gone to a dinner, and so I asked where. He gestured across the street, and said "with the people over there." I was a little perplexed, as the young man moved into Victoria from some distance away, and knows very few people in the whole city, let alone the neighborhood. "The people we helped with the BBQ," he added. "They asked me in for dinner."

I realized he was talking about the people who organized a recent community BBQ, who live in the house almost kitty-corner to our youth home. They'd requested set-up and break-down assistance from our guys for the event, which took place two weeks earlier and drew dozens of residents to Redfern Park for hot dogs and home-made pie. "You mean you were walking by, and they just asked you in?"

"Yeah. They said to come on in and have dinner with them. It was pretty fun."

For me, this was significant on a couple of different levels. For one thing, many of the youth we support have little - if any - family contact, and holiday feast times can be reminders of their lack of community connection. For another thing, here was a teenager of First Nations heritage - very kind and peaceful, but with a football-player's build, who might elsewhere be looked upon with suspicion or fear, being welcomed into a near-stranger's house for dinner. To me this reflects the best of what a small housing organization like ours can bring into the lives of otherwise alienated and isolated youth:

Finding warmth, trust, belonging, and yes, a good meal - just a block away from home.

This certainly reminds us how much we, the residents of Mitchell House, have to be grateful for.

Thank you South Jubilee!

by *Graham Kelly*

SOUTH JUBILEE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

VICTORIA COLLEGE OF ART
1625 Bank Street
Monday, November 12, 2012
7:00pm—9:00pm

Agenda

1. Vote for new logo based on logo contest submissions.
2. Discussion of issues residents have with Redfern Park
3. Letter about 'Kasapi park' (empty lot at bank and Leighton)
4. Local business news
5. Neighbourhood crime report
6. Any other business residents bring to the meeting

If you live in the South Jubilee Neighbourhood as a home-owner or renter or if you own a business in the neighbourhood, please come to the meeting.

PLASTIC RECYCLING 2ND SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Next plastic and electronics recycling is
Saturday, November 10th
9am - noon

Victoria College of Art parking lot (at Leighton and Bank Street)

Check out our website for more information on what we collect (<http://southjubilee.ca/recycling.html>). There is a small charge for the collection as we have to pay ReFuse for picking up the plastic and electronics.

Our hours are changing in December to 10am-noon. The hour from 9 - 10 am has not been busy lately so we're going back to our old hours.

Even if you don't have any plastic, drop by for a chat. It's a great place to catch up with neighbours. Shellie Gudgeon, our city councillor, often sets up her tent and dispenses treats. She's happy to discuss any city issue you might have.

THE MAYOR OF SOUTH JUBILEE?

If you live in the vicinity of Redfern and Leighton you may have noticed a big fluffy ginger cat hanging about. Dexter is handsome, gregarious and tends to walk into your house. He might even snack on spare cat food, if it's around.

When Dexter first sauntered into our home, much to the horror of our cat, everyone was immediately charmed by his friendliness and lack of concern for privacy. After Dexter had come to visit a few times, I decided to call the numbers placed on Dexter's tag. And so I got talking to Dexter's owners and learned the tall tales of this eccentric cat.

Dexter used to live on Haultain, where he routinely visited the village businesses, knew all the neighbours, and wisely used the cross walk to conduct his daily constitutionals. A local artist did a beautiful painted portrait of him and he was known as 'the Mayor of Haultain'. One day, the Mayor went missing. Posters went up everywhere and everyone started talking. I received emails alerting me of his absence. Even CFX radio picked up the story.

Three weeks later, Dexter was found out on Interurban Road, in front of a vet clinic. He was meowing loudly. Dexter never explained how he got to Interurban Road, so owners Doren and Marny were left guessing about his grand adventure.

I am happy to report Dexter now lives on Amphion Street. When I talked to Doren, he said I was around 'the fourth neighbour' who had called. Looks like Dexter is still knocking on doors looking for our votes. Seems we may have to rename him 'the Mayor of South Jubilee'.

So a plea from Dexter's owners and cat owners in general: If you see one of the neighbourhood cats hanging about *please* don't feed them. South Jubilee cats are well loved and don't need five meals a day. In the interest of keeping their home feeding schedule in check, give those imploring furry faces a pass. Felines like Dexter will make it home faster, where good grub is waiting.

If you find a stray that's obviously lost and in poor health, please give the Victoria SPCA a call at 250 388 7722. If you want to feed your very own cat for a lifetime, contact our neighbourhood cat foster organization V.O.C.A.L at voiceofconcernforanimallife@shaw.ca

by Heloise Nicholl

FERN STREET PARK OPEN HOUSE

There will be an open house to discuss equipment for the Fern Street Park Playground on Tuesday, November 6 from 6pm—8pm at the Sundance Elementary School gym -1625 Bank Street. Although Fern Street Park is in North Jubilee, city planners are now considering North and South Jubilee as one area called 'Jubilee'. Go to <http://southjubilee.ca> and click on the 'Fern Street' link under 'What's New' for more details.

CITY LEAF PICKUP

Boulevard leaf collection is scheduled to start in the Fernwood/Oaklands/Jubilee area on November 26. Leaves can be placed in loose piles or in tied, clear, 100% compostable bags at the curb. There is no limit to the number of bags or leaf piles you can set out. **If you use bags, they must be clear and 100% compostable not plastic.** Before you put your leaves on the curb, you might consider composting them for your garden. Go to <http://southjubilee.ca> and click on the Leaf Pickup link under 'What's New' for more information.

REMEMBER THE WEBSITE !

Our website, <http://southjubilee.ca>, is kept up-to-date with information about meetings and recycling plus any happenings in the neighbourhood.

If you missed a newsletter or are interested in what happened at the last meeting, the most current version of the newsletter and minutes of the last meeting are usually available under the 'What's New' heading on the home page. Old copies of newsletters and minutes are available on the Newsletter page .

NEIGHBOURHOOD BBQ

Maybe you noticed that we didn't have StreetFest this September. For those of you who are new to the neighbourhood, StreetFest is our annual neighbourhood get together, with food, music and kids' entertainment. This year there just weren't enough volunteers to get the party happening so instead, Heloise Nicholl organized a kind of impromptu neighbourhood BBQ in Redfern Park on September 30th. She baked 8 (yes EIGHT) pies and rallied some volunteers from Mitchell house to help set up the tables and barbecues. A couple of volunteers kept the hotdogs cooking and Shellie Gudgeon, our councillor, scooped the ice cream onto the delicious pies (all made from local fruits).

Thanks Heloise for all your hard work and thanks to Mitchell House, Shellie and others who volunteered their time. Maybe we can make Streetfest happen next September.