



March 29, 2013

## You're invited!

### Next South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association Meeting

Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm

Victoria College of Art, Bank and Leighton

Meet your neighbours and find out what is happening and what is important to the community. Maybe there will be cookies!



This beautiful spring flower, the pink fawn lily (use your imagination) will be blooming soon. Its white cousin is already gracing our parks with its upturned petals and yellow centre. Take a walk in a wild park and look for hidden treasures!

Drawing by Alice Drengson

## Calling all neighbours!

The South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association is looking for a new November newsletter editor. It involves putting out a call for contributions, formatting the result and putting in your personal touches...pictures, articles, design. Fun and rewarding! Total commitment is 2-3 hours per year. Please contact Liz Hoar at [lhoar@shaw.ca](mailto:lhoar@shaw.ca) if you would like to try your hand at this task.

## ATTENTION! Looking for a Jubilee Urban Farmers coordinator!

The Jubilee Urban Farmers are a forum for urban gardeners and food producers in the Jubilee neighbourhoods to get together and learn from peers. Started by Denise Dunn in 2010, the Jubilee Urban Farmers (or JUF) meet on a monthly basis to trade information, seeds, and learning for the purposes of improving local food security and backyard bio-diversity. JUF is our neighbourhood's chapter of the Victoria Urban Farmer collectives which include Gorge Tillicum, Vic West and Quadra-Hillside.

JUF's current coordinator Heloise Nicholl is resigning her post due to some big life changes. So we're looking for a new coordinator to take the helm! The role simply involves setting up meetings at a member's garden location and providing a small amount of email coordination among members.

If interested in this role, please contact Heloise at [heloise.nicholl@gmail.com](mailto:heloise.nicholl@gmail.com)

Is your garden having encounters with deer? Why not share ideas on deer deterrents with fellow gardeners at JUF? Below, tulips cut short by hungry deer last week on Fell St.



### PLANT INVADERS

A number of plants that are invasive in natural areas can be found in gardens in the South Jubilee neighbourhood. Some of these are planted as ornamentals and others have invaded on their own. The following is a short list of some of the most pervasive.

**Holly:** This familiar Christmas icon was introduced from Eurasia as an ornamental. Its seeds are spread by birds and sprout wherever they fall. It readily invades natural areas and replaces native vegetation, competing for light, nutrients and moisture.

#### Spurge Laurel



Laurel-leaved Daphne or Spurge Laurel: This invasive daphne is an evergreen shrub that grows in shady locations. It spreads easily and is very common in our neighbourhood. It is also common in natural areas where it is targeted for removal.

**Scotch broom:** This bright yellow shrub is a common sight in our area. It can be removed by cutting at ground level when it is in full bloom.



A new invader has been spotted in the Victoria area. **Buffalo Bur** (*Solanum rostratum*) is a plant from the Nightshade Family and originates from the Great Plains region of the US. Buffalo Bur is an annual, with spiny leaves, flowers and stems, that grows up to two feet tall. Flowers bright yellow, 2.5 cm across and with 5 petals. Once this plant gets established it spreads quickly and is a health risk due to the sharp spines. A single plant can produce 8500 seeds each year. If you find it, notify the municipality where it is located.

### Tree Petition

A frustrated neighbour has been hounding city parks to replace the 3 London plane trees that grow in a triangle in Redfern Park. The parks technician designed the landscaping with a vision of large canopies shading the walkways. From the beginning, the SFNA suggested choosing a different species. As they grow, these trees create an increasing amount of shade which is now hampering efforts to have a food garden in the adjacent properties. Eventually they could be 100 feet tall with a spreading canopy of 50 feet across. Over the last 3 years, as the situation in the gardens deteriorates, they have tried to get the city to replace the trees with a species that is more appropriate for a location that is immediately adjacent to the east side of people's properties. Currently the trees shade the yards for a full half day in the height of the growing season.

Many veggies are grown in these backyards: lettuce, collards, kale, chard, raspberries, strawberries, garlic, peas, beans, spinach and more. It has been very frustrating that the city has not cooperated at all.

With the growing season upon us there is hope that the situation can be rectified soon. The SJNA suggested a tree petition. This petition is now with Ron George, our neighbourhood coordinator.

### Plastic Recycling

2nd Saturday of every month

Next plastic and electronics recycling is Saturday, April 13th 10am – noon Victoria College of Art parking lot (at Leighton and Bank Street) We'll take hard and soft plastic, styrofoam, gable top cartons, tetra paks, foil-lined bags, mixed papers, batteries, compact fluorescent bulbs, electronics and small appliances. We charge a small fee to cover the cost our recycler (ReFuse) charges us for picking up and processing our recycle material.