



# Blueridge Community News

## **School closures**

*By: Eric Andersen*

We have all been reading with sadness that the North Vancouver School District 44 is considering closing one or more of the local elementary schools, Blueridge, Seymour Heights or Plymouth.

Although the most affected parties will, obviously, be the children and their parents a school closure will also affect the rest of our community.

It is not the BCA's place to take a position when it comes to the education of the children in our community, as this is what the local PAC's are for. However, since the whole community will be affected it is only reasonable that we take a position when/if the time comes to decide on closing on either of the elementary schools at Blueridge or Seymour Heights.

A school works somewhat like the heart of a community and particularly in our area where we have no shopping area, library or office buildings there is nothing else situated right in the middle of the community than our two schools. If the education of our children has to cease at either of the two schools one should not automatically decide to tear down the buildings and sell the land to the first interested party.

The list of activities a school property can be used for may include (but is not limited to): daycare, kindergarten, pre-school, seniors' hub, seniors' programs, youth programs, community meeting rooms and places, adult education, health centers, various types of other schooling (including private, film, police etc), sports center etc. Nobody from School District 44 or any politicians know what the situation will be like in our area in 30, 50, let alone 100 years from now. There may be a strong need for schools at the time, or other uses of public land may be in high demand.

It would appear to be a very bad solution to sell this public land when the community may be able to benefit from it, even if the school(s) were to close.

This is not the BCA's position (but strictly my own), however, this important blow to our community will definitely continue to appear on our agenda, until we know what will happen to the school and the school property. Please let us have your views!

## **Blueridge Creek Revitalization Project**

*By: Laura Wells*

The Blueridge Creek Revitalization Project has begun! The United Nations has declared 2010 "The Year of Biodiversity" and with this in mind, we, as a community, can endeavour to create and maintain biodiversity in our neighbourhood.

We have a lovely little park situated between Sechelt and Derbyshire Way that has lost it's diversified plant life due to the encroachment of invasive plant species such as Ivy, Holly, Daphne, Periwinkle and Blackberries. We have garbage and treated wood polluting Blueridge Creek which is a stream that supports fish that need protection. The Skunk Cabbage which is a native species is being spoiled along with Huckleberries, Salmonberries, Native Brambles, and ferns of various kinds.

Join neighbours on April 17th from 9 am to 12 noon to do a clean up and planting of the Park. Also on September 11th from 9 am to 12 noon we will do a fall cleanup. The North Vancouver District staff will be present.

If there are any individuals interested in further information or want to help before April, feel free to contact Laura Wells 604 929 5968 or Rhoda Irwin 604 929 1384.



## **The Riverside Terrace Development Proposal**

*Submitted by: Lesley Brooks*

The Riverside Terrace development proposal will be going to Council on Monday, 03/15. This proposal has been discussed for many years and a well-attended public information meeting took place in November of 2010. Many neighbouring residents are opposed to this project for various reasons and will no doubt want to attend Monday night's Council meeting. Please go to the BCA website <http://members.shaw.ca/blueridgeca/> Latest News for a link to their petition which, if you are interested in signing, you can return to one of the local residents, Leslie Brooks – e-mail address: ['lesley\\_brooks@hotmail.com'](mailto:lesley_brooks@hotmail.com)

## **Bear bins now available!**

*By: Christine Miller  
North Shore Black Bear Society*



The District of North Vancouver is now selling bear-resistant garbage containers for people who have to store their garbage outside. Go to our Municipal Hall at 355 West Queens Road to purchase it, and the bin will be delivered to your house within three working days. Expensive? Yes. They sell for \$199, but they provide a solution for residents who want to prevent their garbage container from becoming a bear-feeding station. Minimizing odours in the garbage continues to be our responsibility and securing the bin is essential if bears are accustomed to obtaining food in your yard. Check out [NorthShoreBears.com](http://NorthShoreBears.com) or call 604.317.4911 for suggestions to help you achieve success with this product or to obtain information about how to modify your current Schaeffer bin. And remember, it is important to submit sightings of bears and bear attractants to the North Shore Black Bear Society at 604.990.BEAR(2327) or on our website.



## **Annual General Meeting**

*By: Eric Andersen*

The Blueridge Community Association's AGM will take place on May 11 at 7 PM at the Blueridge Elementary School (in the library). Please come out and join us. We are always looking for new interested members of our community. Our meetings are held every second month and we try to make them as interesting as possible by including guest speakers. At our 05/11 meeting we will have a presentation by the North Shore Streamkeepers which should make it worthwhile attending for everyone living in Blueridge/Seymour Heights. The only way a community can be effective and democratic is by having an active and well-supported community association. We hope that you can join us and can assist us with some of our present projects, such as the Blueridge Creek Park clean-up and the preparation for Blueridge Good Neighbour Day.

You can contact the BCA via our e-mail ([Blueridge@shaw.ca](mailto:Blueridge@shaw.ca)) or visit our website (<http://members.shaw.ca/blueridgeca/>)

## **Block Watch Statistics**

*By: Eric Andersen*

Since our newsletter of April 2009 the following residential break and enters were reported in the Blueridge/Seymour Heights area through the end of February, 2010:

04/04	3100 Mount Seymour Parkway
11/12	2200 Swinburne Avenue
01/24	1600 Orkney Place (attempt)

However, a lot of vehicles have been broken into – particularly on/around Emerson. Please make sure that you LOCK your vehicles, even if parked in your own driveway.

If you are not already part of Block Watch please consider joining this group of volunteers. You can get further info by contacting Ms. Jayne Brownlow @ 604 985 0800.

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Blueridge Good Neighbour Day 2010 !**  
**Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2010!**  
**10 AM – 2 PM**



Bring your family and friends and come and celebrate with your community! The theme this year is **Environmental / Community Superheroes!** Dress up as your favorite superheroes or create your own with our Environmental theme! Need some ideas? ... Recycling Man ... Compost King... Mr. Reducer.... Waste-Less Woman... Go Green Girl... Biodegradable Boy!!!! We can't wait to see what you come up with!!! Prizes will be awarded for best costume!

**AND As always, Volunteers are welcome !**

We need your help!! So if you are interested in volunteering on our committee, **OR** if you are able to help out on the day of the event, please contact

**Sandra Hastings at 604-929-1784**

**DONATIONS ANYONE???**

We are also accepting donations of any kind for our Super Silent Auction! Please contact us if your company or business would like to get involved to support this wonderful community event!! You in turn will be listed as a Proud Sponsor which provides terrific recognition and good will for your business! Thank you!!!



Blueridge Community Association presents...

## **A SUPERHERO POSTER**

## **DRAWING CONTEST!!!**

**Design a poster for our 13<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**Blueridge Good Neighbour Day!**

Contest is open to all **students** who live in the Blueridge area.

Please submit your entry at your school's office in our "Blueridge Poster Contest" box. One Entry per person please!

**Deadline is Friday May 14<sup>th</sup> , 3pm.**

### **Criteria:**

- Event Theme: **Environmental / Community Superheroes!**

(examples: Recycling Man, Compost King, Mr. Reducer, Waste-less Woman, Go Green Girl and Biodegradable Boy!!! Get Creative! It can also be of someone who does a super job in our community!)

- Poster Size: Standard 8 ½ x 11 inch white paper

- Event Title: Blueridge Good Neighbour Day 2010

- Date / Time: Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> , 10 am ~ 2 pm

- Information you may also want to include in your drawing:

\*Parade departs top of Berkley at 10:00am, winding its way down to Blueridge Elementary School for fun festivities, food and great local entertainment!!! Come and join the celebration with your family, friends and neighbours!!

- Print your first & last name and your street name on the **back** of the poster in **pencil** so we can acknowledge you- please don't put your name on the front!!

**Questions? Please contact Christine at: [ccoles@nvsd44.bc.ca](mailto:ccoles@nvsd44.bc.ca)**

All appropriate entries will be posted at the event. One black & white and one colour poster will be selected for distribution in our neighbourhood to advertise this event.

## **A big "THANK YOU" to all our sponsors/silent auction donations at the 2009 Good Neighbour Day....we could not have done it without you!**

3 P Natural & Exotic Meats	Dykof Nursery	North Vancouver District
Angel Restoration	Fruition Day Spa	North Vancouver Recreation
Arms Reach Bistro	Gold n Bronze Tanning	Commission
Barb Wilks	Grouse Mountain	Northlands Bar & Grill
Blueridge Cove Animal Hospital	Jefferies Dry Cleaner – Dollarton	Northlands Golf Course
Blueridge Massage Therapy	Judy Killeen	Parkgate Bean Around the World
Brian Rybchinsky	Kostas Taverna – Parkgate	PGS Marketing
Bur-han Lawn Care Services	Laser Dome Plus - Dollarton	Ravens Pub
Can Land Ice Sports	Little Caesar's – Parkgate	Red Tom-Bo Restaurant – Dollarton
Cindy & Company Hair Salon	M & M Meats – Parkgate	Safeway– Parkgate
Cineplex - Park and Tilford	Maa Yoga	Save On Foods – Park and Tilford
Coast Mountain Electric	Mad Science	Seymour Creek Golf
COBS	Mary Kay	Seymour Fitness
Crystal Water Spa Basket	McNeney & McNeney Barristers & Solicitors	Seymours Pub
Dave Mokie, electrician	Mike and Michelle Alford	Shoppers Drug Mart
Deep Cove Canoe & Kayak	Mike Minchin Prudential	Starbucks Dollarton
Deep Cove Physiotherapy	Mona-Vie Distributors	Success Dog Grooming
Dial-A-Movie – Dollarton	Mystic Wardrobe	The Bridge Between Pub
District of North Vancouver	Nails By Ariel	Time Out Source for Sports
Dr McKay Optometrist	North Shore Credit Union	Vancouver Water Ski Club
	North Shore Medicine Clinic	White Spot - Park and Tilford