

Come Celebrate the Silver on Blueridge Good Neighbour Day

By Nicole Parfitt

Blueridge Good Neighbour Day is fast approaching! On **Sunday, May 25**, we celebrate our community with family, friends and neighbours. And this year is special as it is our 25th anniversary, so our theme will be “silver” to commemorate a quarter century of memories.

A dedicated group of volunteers have been working hard to confirm plans for the day, including some traditional activities, and some new ones too. Below are some highlights and important updates. We have also devised a handy map, being delivered with this newsletter, to help you navigate your way around what has become a pretty major event on the Blueridge Elementary school grounds.

Parade

The day will start with a parade down Berkley, but it's anything but your typical parade because you get to be IN the parade! So decorate your bikes, scooters, strollers, or anything with wheels, and join the parade! The parade will start down the road at 10:45 am sharp, so please meet at the corner of Berkley and Hyannis by 10:30 am. Everyone is welcome!

Event Info

Following the parade, the festival gets underway at Blueridge Elementary School and this is where the fun REALLY begins. We'll have activities for the whole family: inflatables, train rides, crafts, a chess tournament, pickleball, live music, a beer garden, food trucks, community tables, a cakewalk, a pie-eating contest, and so much more! For more event information, including times and updates on what's happening this year, check out our website: blueridgeca.org/blueridge-good-neighbour-day



Beer Garden

We are very happy to have our beer garden space back outside, next to the live music stage. We will be serving up a large selection of drinks - come and enjoy a beverage with your neighbours and friends. As always, the beer garden will be 19+ and ID will be required, so please plan accordingly (and drink responsibly)!

Silent Auction

The event this year will feature another amazing silent auction. Money raised from the auction helps pay for the event and keeps the cost of activities free, or very affordable. Our auction is already open, so you can start bidding on items before the day of the event: <https://new.biddingowl.com/BDND2025>.

We can always do with more donations. If you know of a business that can donate, please reach out to bgnd@blueridgeca.org and we will connect you with our silent auction team!

Volunteers

This event wouldn't be possible without countless volunteers giving their time to help. You can help with setting up for the event, being part of the clean-up crew, or volunteering at different activities throughout the day. You can help all day or for just an hour. Find out more about how you can help by emailing volunteer@blueridgeca.org.

Cakewalk

Calling all bakers! A perennial favourite of BGND is our cakewalk and we are looking for donations of cakes, donuts, cupcakes or other delicious baked goods. We are happy to receive home-made and store-bought. For more information please contact Martina at bgnd.cakewalk@gmail.com.

We hope you can join us to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Blueridge Good Neighbour Day at Blueridge Elementary School on Sunday, May 25.

Here comes the Sun & Music at the Giles

Summer is coming, so it's time to head over for some mellow music at Don and Roxie Giles' place.

For the sixth year, the couple will be hosting again their Garden Concerts series in their backyard at 1969 Arroyo Court.

"Please mark the dates and email Roxie (roxiemusic2017@gmail.com) to secure a place in the garden," says Roxie. "Bring something to eat and drink; we will provide everything else."

Here is their tantalizing summer lineup:

- Sunday, July 6th: 4-6 pm Soul singer, CAYLA BROOKE, accompanied by Bill Sample (keyboards), Buff Allen (percussion) and Miles Hill (bass). .
- Saturday, July 19th: 4-6 pm CAM WILSON and friends. Violinist Cam Wilson has been a fixture on the Vancouver music scene for the past three decades; recognized as one of the most versatile violinists.
- Saturday, September 6th, 4-6 pm MARCUS MOSELY, accompanied by Diane Lines (keyboard) and Tim Porter (guitar). Member of the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame, Marcus Mosely was recognized for his tireless community work, awarded the BC Achievement Foundation award (2024).

Tickets are \$40 per concert or \$110 for all 3 shows. Pay by e-transfer or cheque-in advance. Any questions? email Roxie, please.



Dates to Remember!

Blueridge Community Association AGM

**Tuesday, May 20
Canlan Sports, 7 p.m.**

Blueridge Good Neighbour Day

**Sunday, May 25, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Blueridge Elementary School**

Blueridge FUNDation Submission Deadline

Monday, Sept. 1

**World Rivers Day
(and Blueridge Creek cleanup project).**

Sunday, Sept. 28

To sign up: write to sus.mueller@gmail.com

Desperate for a Night Out? Blueridge Sitter Directory at Your Service!

Need a sitter for that rare night out? A tutor to get little Johnny through Math with flying colours? Or someone to babysit your cat, dog or parakeet for a few days? You have come to the right place!

The Sitter Directory has been operating for a few years now and by all accounts, users have been happy with the service. You can check for available sitters at www.blueridgeca.org. Meanwhile, you can also feel good giving a young person a chance to learn to be responsible minding someone's loved ones, as one of our stars, Ava Cortiula will tell you. A Blueridge scholarship recipient, Ava has stepped down from her role as she is away at university but writes about her time babysitting and tutoring:

"Being on the Blueridge sitter and tutor directory was an excellent experience for me! It connected me with my neighbours and allowed me to meet and help other Blueridge residents. The directory also provided me with work experience and helped further develop my leadership skills."

"I would strongly recommend (young people) joining the directory to any responsible, neighbourly individuals because it provides flexible work and allows you to be involved in the community. So please think of these resources next time you feel that you need a baby-, pet- or house-sitter or a tutor for your kids."

Do people really know what we do?

A Primer on the Blueridge Community Association

By Eric G. Andersen, BCA Chair

At the Blueridge Community Association (BCA) Board, we often ask ourselves: Are we any good at selling ourselves and what we do? Do residents of Blueridge and Seymour Heights know and understand all the activities the BCA has been involved in over not just years but decades? Here for the benefit of our readers is “BCA 101—A Primer.”



Eric G. Andersen

All our activities—our entire raison d'être—are based on community building. The most prominent example is Blueridge Good Neighbour Day, coming up this year on Sunday, May 25, for the 25th time. This and more will be discussed at our AGM on May 20. We're honoured to have District of North Vancouver Mayor, Mike Little, as our guest speaker that night. You are most welcome to come to our AGM, which gets underway at 7 p.m. in the Seymour Room at Canlan Sports (the hockey rink at the bottom of Berkley).

We make liberal use of our continuously updated social media (Facebook and Instagram) but those are just two among many channels. Does everyone know that we work hard to get the word out about our numerous and varied activities in other ways? Here's a quick list of the ways we do it:

- Blueridge Community News, our hard-copy newsletter volunteer-delivered thrice yearly.
- Blueridge Bulletin, our monthly e-newsletter to which everyone can subscribe.
- Blueridge Brochure on the *blueridgeca.org* website which is constantly updated.

Most of our residents—and many who live in other communities—know about Blueridge Good Neighbour Day, but how many know that there are many other ongoing activities that happen all year long?

For instance, we have an annually awarded scholarship that was increased to \$750 last year. Our 'Project Community' group purchase deals give residents exclusive discounts from many businesses. The Blueridge Sharing Garden, across from Seymour Heights Elementary on Carnation, is where many locals have been happily getting their hands dirty growing vegetables for several years. And the Blueridge Business Directory at *blueridgeca.org* now boasts 24 products and 41 services.

The examples of our active community building don't end there. We also espouse community values by administering our Blueridge Spirit Award on a rotating quarterly basis, where one deserving recipient picks out yet another to honour. This award highlights the kind of wonderful people who live here and their good deeds. Occasionally we also look to recognize worthy people for our Outstanding Neighbour Award. The BCA continues to fundraise once or twice a year through Purdys Chocolate's fundraising program.

The BCA offers baby, pet, and house-sitting services and lately tutoring on our website at *blueridgeca.org*.

New residents to Blueridge & Seymour Heights are met and welcomed to the neighbourhood by our Blueridge Good Neighbour Greeting Team. These new residents are sometimes featured in our newsletter and Blueridge Bulletin.

For the last number of Christmases, our Blueridge Cares Committee has managed to raise money for gift cards and goodies for local families who applied to get a helping hand before Christmas.

Every year we join the stream clean-up tradition on World Rivers Day on the fourth Sunday in September.

The BCA has recently launched the Blueridge FUNDation (a deliberate variation on foundation). Its purpose is to financially support small local initiatives that benefit the entire community.

The BCA has representatives on a handful of local committees on the North Shore to ensure that Blueridge's interests are well represented. We have also staged two very successful Diners en Bleu, al fresco (open air) dinner parties, held just before COVID put a damper on things. We hope that this great event will resume, hopefully next year, if a resident committee comes together again.

We are constantly looking for new initiatives and activities that we can start in our community and which will benefit everyone living here, so if you have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out and tell us about them! You can reach the BCA through *info@blueridgeca.org*. By the way, everyone who lives in Blueridge and Seymour Heights is a member of BCA.

Hopefully this summary helps you to appreciate BCA activities. We urge you, your children, and your friends and neighbours to explore the many possibilities.

We hope this summary helps you to appreciate the BCA's activities.



BCA PROJECT COMMUNITY GROUP PURCHASE DEALS

**Cove Blades
Blueridge Residents
Receive 20% off all
sharpening jobs over \$100**



www.coveblades.com
604-210-8180 (Erik)
erik@coveblades.com

- Kitchen knives
- Scissors
- and more...

All pricing and drop-off procedures can be found at www.coveblades.com

Discount offer from March 1 - May 31, 2025

One time \$5 off: \$45 -> \$40
Monthly (most popular): \$30 -> \$27.50
Quarterly: \$40 -> \$37.50
Bi-Weekly: \$25 -> \$22.50



Mr. Can Clean
604-308-9040
booking@mrcanclean.ca
www.mrcanclean.ca

We have opened our Thank You pricing to BCA subscribers. That means two spotlessly cleaned garbage or organics bins with a pine-scented finish (bears dislike the smell of pine) for an amazing rate!

Use coupon code "BCA" at checkout for one time cleans or take advantage of special BCA subscription rates

Discount offer from May 1, 2025 - September 1, 2025

**20% off spring exterior home
cleaning services**

Services Include:
Pressure Washing
Window Cleaning
Gutter Cleaning
Soft Washing



Filth Fighters
604-341-7498
www.filthfighters.ca
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Fully insured, satisfaction guaranteed, & fair pricing. Windsor alumni-owned, going on 5 years in business, proudly serving Blueridge! Local references available upon request.

We battle grime & restore your home's shine! Schedule your free consultation with the Filth Fighters today!

Please call the Filth Fighters to claim your Blueridge discount

Discount offer from May 1 - June 30, 2025

**Blueridge Residents:
Receive 20% Discount Off
Interior & Exterior Detail Packages**



SoapnShine
778-989-5895
boston@soapnshine.ca
www.soapnshine.ca

SoapnShine Mobile Detailing is offering Blueridge Community residents an exclusive 20% discount on all interior & exterior detailing packages—for any vehicle size! Our professional mobile detailing service brings top-quality cleaning and care right to your doorstep.

Enjoy a spotless, showroom-quality clean while saving big. Don't miss out—book your appointment on our website today using:
PROMO CODE: "Blueridge"

Discount offer from March 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025