



Despite threatening skies, the first-ever Blueridge Movie Night was an unqualified success with more than 150 people plus a few dogs showing up to enjoy a free flick on a large screen at McCartney Park. Backed by the Blueridge Community Association and a host of volunteers, and supported by more than 21 local businesses, large and small, the association hopes to do a repeat performance next summer (with a little help from our Blueridge friends.) (See story page 8) Photo: Elmira Nazar

Oct. 17 is Voting Day — Have YOUR Say!

By Gary Ley

Blueridge Community Newsletter Editor

Our municipal government is responsible for most of the government services we see and use every day — from the police and fire services that keep our community safe to the parks and trails we all use to snow removal in winter and the pace of housing development.

While the federal and provincial governments may get all the headlines, it is the District of North Vancouver that has the greatest daily impact on Blueridge residents.

It is vital that the Mayor and Council hear and know the concerns of those of us lucky enough to live in the District, and the easiest and most effective way to let them know what we think is to vote.

Unfortunately, voter turnout in the last municipal election in 2022 was a dismal — and embarrassing — 23.6 percent, more than 5 percent lower than the very poor provincial average.

Voting Day is **Saturday, Oct. 17**, with Blueridge Elementary our polling station.

Advance voting is available at the District Hall (355 West Queens) from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Oct. 7th, 10th, and 12th, and at the Parkgate Community Centre on Oct. 10 and 12.

"But I don't know who to vote for?" many people say.

On **Thursday, Oct. 8th, at 7 p.m.**, the Blueridge Community Association is joining with the Seymour and Deep Cove community associations to host an all-candidates meeting at the Mt. Seymour United Church. Come along and ask a question or just listen to the candidates working to earn your vote.

If you care about our neighbourhood and living in North Vancouver please get out and vote!



Changing Seasons in the Garden

by Emilie Currie

September is such a lovely month in the garden. There's still plenty to harvest from the summer garden, while cooler-weather crops are coming into their own. Tomatoes, peppers, beans, zucchini, cucumbers, and herbs may still be producing, alongside carrots, beets, potatoes, kale, and other hardy vegetables.

It's a great time to enjoy the garden's bounty while everything is fresh. Roast a tray of root vegetables, make a big batch of tomato sauce, toss fresh herbs into salads and soups, or turn extra cucumbers and beans into pickles. If you have more than you can eat, freezing or preserving some of the harvest is an easy way to enjoy a little taste of summer later in the year.

As the days get shorter, keep an eye on the weather and harvest tender crops before the first frost. Many hardier vegetables can stay right in the garden for weeks longer, giving you plenty of opportunities to keep enjoying your harvest. September is all about slowing down, gathering what you've grown, and making the most of the last generous days of the growing season.

Opening a new chapter for the Blueridge Community Association

At the Blueridge Community Association's (BCA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on May 12, an important change was made to how the BCA is governed.

After many years of operating under a single chair, the association has transitioned to a collaborative leadership model featuring three co-chairs. This team-based approach reflects the board's commitment to shared leadership and expanding opportunities for our neighbourhood.

As part of this transition, longtime chair Eric Godot Andersen has stepped down from the role after more than 30 years of dedication and service to Blueridge. Eric will remain involved with the board as Past Chair, continuing to offer his experience and support.

The BCA is grateful for Eric's many years of leadership and service. His efforts have played a significant role in shaping the active, welcoming community that Blueridge is today, and the board thanks him for the strong foundation he leaves behind.

Each of the his sucesors bring bring a wealth of experience serving the community:

Elmira Nazar - A board member for the past three years, Elmira heads up our volunteer coordination and has previously served as a dedicated member of the Blueridge Good Neighbour Day planning committee for a number of years.



Elmira Nazar

Mahnaz Fardghassemi - A board member for the past six years, Mahnaz has managed the communication team and has helped drive various neighbourhood projects.

Toby Barazzuol - Serving five years on the board, Toby has consistently brought his expertise to the communication team throughout his entire tenure with the BCA.

Together, the new co-chairs offer a wonderful blend of innovation, organizational strength, and energy. The board believes this new structure will provide greater flexibility and spark new opportunities for the association and the broader community.

While this new governance model will be evaluated before the next AGM, everyone involved looks forward to its continued success.

The three co-chairs are honoured to step into these roles and are fully committed to building upon the association's past achievements while keeping Blueridge strong, connected, and welcoming for all.

We wish Mahnaz, Elmira, and Toby every success in their new roles and look forward to this positive new chapter for the BCA!



Mahnaz Fardghassemi



Toby Barazzuol

Jack and Joe: Clearing the way for life in Blueridge

By Mike McCardell

*H*is name was Jack. Many of them were Jack. Or Joe. They worked together but did not see each other and it was too hard to talk so they really worked alone.

The sun was rising and Jack and Joe went into the woods, picked out their next tree, a giant cedar, and drove their double headed axes into the bark about shoulder height.

They cut a slice almost a foot deep in the wood then drove an iron brace into the hole and jammed a board into it. Then they climbed on the board.

The boards, they called them spring boards, stuck out about three feet and were about ten inches wide. Just big enough to hold a pair of boots. Now stand still while swinging your ax.

Their tree, all the trees, were about five hundred years old. But the forest was different now. No birds, no bears, just the sound of chopping.

Half way through the day they climbed down and ate dried salmon and bread they had brought and drank beer they had filled in a canvas bag. They drank about a quart each.

Then they climbed back up.

Sometimes they had two levels of boards so they could cut higher. The sawmills did not want the rotting insides of the trees.

In the afternoon they used a saw that was eight feet long, pulling it back and forth while standing on the boards. Just before sunset the tree started to crack.

That was when they jumped. But the ground was covered with branches. It was easy to twist a leg while the tree was falling and if you were still there, well there was a job opening the next day.

Others came to saw the giant into pieces and oxen pulled them out to a trail where they would be slid down to the water.

And the next day Jack and Joe cut down another one. That tree was on what would become Whitman Avenue. The skid road that it slid down became Berkley.

Below them, down the hill, the trees were all gone, clear cut. Powder monkeys put dynamite under the stumps and blew them up. The tops of trees shattered by others falling on them were set on fire. The air was not clean.



Trees had been coming down around here for ten years. It was now 1905 and they were told this job was coming to an end. People were going to live here. More than 20,000 ancient giants had been cut. Most of them floated to the sawmill at Moodyville. That is where the grain elevators are now on the Low Level Road.

And if you go into the woods, or around Blueridge Park, or maybe your own front yard, you may see a stump with small vestiges of holes in it. Those were probably, at least possibly, cut by Jack, or maybe Joe.

Mike is a TV journalist, author and a long-time Blueridge resident

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Editors: Michael Bernard & Gary Ley



August 8th: ME & G, with Tom Arntzen, Miles Black and Buff Allen proved to be one of the largest Backyard Concert Series features this summer with 65 people happy to lounge to the music in Roxie Giles' back 40. She hopes to pull off a repeat performance for an eighth year next summer,

Diner en Bleu — A Great Blueridge Tradition Returns

By Gary Ley, Newsletter Editor

About 100 people enjoyed a beautiful evening on June 20 on Arroyo Court when Dîner en Bleu returned after a seven-year absence. There were games, music from the Windsor Band jazz trio, a fabulous performance from three dancers from Seymour Dance, lots of laughs, meeting friends old and new — a great time was had by all!

Covid cancelled the last event for 2021, then this year four Arroyo Court residents decided to take on the challenge of resurrecting it. Thanks to Roxy Giles, Ngaio Huber, Jill Ley, and Tammy Sharp and the many others who helped out.

Thanks to Jim and Ruth Hanson for providing wine for each table, to Stong's flower shop Stems for the beautiful rose plants, Safeway Parkgate for the special Blueridge cupcakes, and to Blueridge Elementary, Seymour United Church, and Irwin Park School for supplying the tables, chairs, and tablecloths.

Also thanks to our prize donors — Bryan Rosin, Mahnaz Fardghassemi, Claudi Bautista-Artiga, Heather Gall, Tammy Sharp, Boston Mac, Julia Keresztes, and Farzana Jaffer Jeraj.

What a fun evening, let's hope it happens again next year. It won't happen without volunteers. If you'd like to step up and do something for the neighbourhood, please contact volunteer@blueridgeca.org.



Blueridge Creek Cleanup

Susanne Mueller

For the past eight years, Blueridge has come together to participate in World Rivers Day. On Sunday, September 27th, people all over the world head to rivers and creeks to clean up garbage to support fish, wildlife, and the community. We will focus on our small creek that flows from Derbyshire Way to Carnation St. Every year we collect a surprisingly large amount of garbage.

We are looking for volunteers who want to support the creek by picking up garbage in a designated area at 9am for about 30-45min. In return you get all the good feelings for doing something helpful for our environment. Feel free to meet afterwards at 2620 Bronte Dr. for coffee/tea and snacks. Gloves and bags for the cleanup can be provided.

Send me an email if you are able to join, and I'll send more information. sus.mueller@gmail.com



BLUERIDGE CARES Is Coming!

By Carolann Fraenkel

Yes, school has just started up, the stores are full of witches, skeletons and black cats; but some of us are already looking ahead to Santa! It's time to start getting ready for Blueridge Cares again, and every successful effort has to start with early preparation.

Blueridge Cares is a big part of what makes our neighbourhood great. It's a program designed to help Blueridge families who may need a little extra something at the holidays or during a difficult time. In the past, we have supported new immigrants who needed warm clothing, neighbours who couldn't afford gifts for their children, parents who needed diapers for new babies, families who asked for warm blankets and many more requests. Our goal is to bring smiles to children and families at the holidays.

We're looking for some new helpers this year. Could you do any of these things?

Coordinate our Purdys Chocolate campaign - sign up with Purdys, take orders, arrange for chocolate pick up from neighbours.

Donation coordinator - speaks to local businesses to get support for our families. We can give you a letter of introduction - just talk to the local businesses you frequent, they want to help. In the past we have had help from grocery stores, nail salons, restaurants, pet stores and many more

Suggest and speak to neighbours who could use a little cheer. Do you have an elderly neighbour who doesn't get many visitors? (maybe a tin of nice tea and some flowers would make their holiday bright) A new family in the neighbourhood who might need help figuring out things in our area? Someone who would really appreciate a little something to show we're thinking of them? Send your ideas to blueridgecares@blueridgeca.org.

More information about Blueridge Cares will be in the Blueridge Bulletin (our monthly email) and on our website (blueridgeca.org), and our Blueridge Facebook and Instagram pages as we get closer to the holidays.



Blueridge Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Update

By Nicole Parfitt

The Advisory Council is made up of every parent and caregiver at Blueridge Elementary. Together we help foster communication among families, the school and the school district. We also seek to enrich our children's school experience through events, programs, and fundraising and most importantly build school spirit and a strong sense of social responsibility. For the coming year, we're putting special emphasis on the last piece, bold a connected, caring and inclusive school community where everyone feels they belong and has a role to play. Whether you volunteer at an event, attend a council meeting, share an idea, or simply show up and get involved, you are part of BPAC!

We're kicking things off with our annual Welcome Back BBQ on Thursday, Sept. 24 at the school. It's a great opportunity for students and their families to reconnect with friends, meet new families and catch up with teachers.

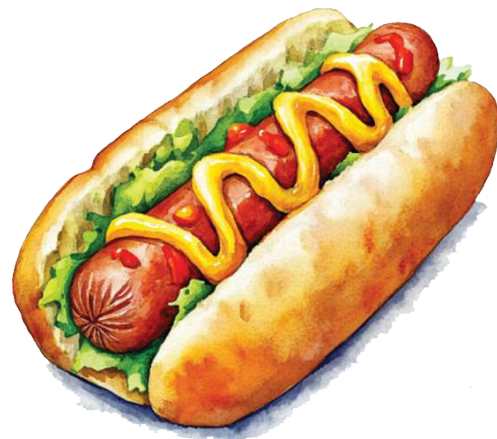
We are always looking for new volunteers. We'd especially love to hear from parents with kids in the younger grades (K-3) who can help us build a strong volunteer community for the years ahead. You can give your time as it works for you! Many roles don't require daytime availability.

Calling all Halloweenies!

Bruce Bourdon

Even though the sun is still "hot, dog" days of summer are getting shorter. Let me be "frankfurter" with you. Before one knows it, schools will be in, thanks will be given, and ghosts and goblins will start appearing on front lawns! On October 31, don't be a loser, be a "wiener" and show up at 2122 Whitman Avenue for an Oscar (Meyer) winning treat. "Mustard" up your courage and "ketchup" with friends and neighbours. We are certain you will "relish" this longstanding Blueridge tradition. "Bun"dle up in your costume and step up to the cauldron starting at 6:30 pm and continuing as long as 300 dawgs last.

Many thanks to the Blueridge Community FUNDation for supporting this Halloween event.



Four Blueridge Artists show their work at Canlan!

By In-Ah Mellor

We are delighted that four artists from the Blueridge community—In-Ah Mellor, Shannon Taylor, Leticia Broadhead and Sunny Cho—will be exhibiting their work as part of the North Shore Art Crawl this year. For one weekend, this familiar neighbourhood venue will become an art destination, giving Blueridge a chance to see original work created by people who live among us.

The Art Crawl, which has a parallel event in Vancouver, is more than simply looking at art work. It's an opportunity to meet the artists, talk to them about their work, hear stories behind what they create, and perhaps even discover a piece you would love to take home. North Van Arts created the Crawl to make local art accessible and to build connections between artists and the communities in which they live and work.

Bring the kids, invite some friends and make a day of it. Start here (at 2411 Mount Seymour Parkway) and then continue your Crawl to discover some of the many other creative spaces across the North Shore. Admission is free for the Canlan Event which runs from 11 am-5p.m. on both weekend days,

Blueridge Good Neighbours Day 2026

Many thanks to our generous sponsors:

- Chemtrade Logistics
- Harris & Brun Law
- In-Ah and Michael Mellor
- Jon Dykstra
- Neptune Terminals
- Penfolds Roofing & Solar
- Seymour Golf & Country Club
- Special Times Out-of-School Care
- Stong's
- The Co-operators — Melnyk Financial Planning & Investments
- The Sequence Group
- Westview Electric



And to those who donated to our auction and raffle — 3-D Basketball; Allan McGavin Sports Medicine Clinic; Always Together Keepsakes; Arc'teryx; Aspire Naturopathic Health Centre; Auto Magic Detail Centre; B Fit Personal Training; Bean Around the World; Berry Family Childcare Society; Blended Blooms Floral design; Blueridge Physio; BlueShore Financial; Bosa Foods; Canlan Ice Sports - North Shore; Capilano Suspension Bridge; City Soda; COBS Bread — Park & Tilford; CRUDO; Dave Maquignaz; Deep Cove Music; DJJ's Wedge Pizza; Dykhof Nurseries; Elemental Movement; Fawcett Insurance; Forbidden Vancouver Walking Tours; Fresca Clean/Aventura Property Services; Fresh Skin Lab; Genesis Hair Studio; Horizon School of Music; Jardin Deep Cove; Jim and Ruth Hanson; MEC; Kim Cairns; Laserdome Plus; Little Pink Door Boutique; Lonsdale Place Veterinary Clinic; Lucky Fingers Pizza; Lynn Valley Ecology Centre; Manchester Mechanic; Mary Kay; Meat the Butcher; Moja Coffee; Monika Art Studio; Mount Seymour Optometry; Nadeen Neary Fitness; Nellie's Clean; North Shore Girls Soccer Club; North Vancouver Recreation & Culture; Northlands Golf; North Shore Emergency Management; Odlum Brown; Old World Fudge; Osteria Savio Volpe; Pierina InteriorDesign/Visual Design Build; Popeye's Supplements; Rankin Notary; Route 99 Handyman Service; Sabrina Wellness Practice; Scratch Kitchen; Sea to Sky Powerwashing; Seymoure Dance; Sussex Insurance North Vancouver; The Hive; the Richter family, the Sauve family; Time OUT Source for Sports; TOCA North Vancouver; Triassic Optics; Tupper Trucking & Excavating; Twig + Owl; Vancouver Canadians; Vancouver Young Actors School; Vitality Fitness Blueridge; Rand French.

Important Dates

- Oct. 3-4:** North Shore Art Crawl-Four Blueridge artists at Canlan Sports.
- Oct. 8:** All Candidates Municipal election meeting @ Mount Seymour United Church at 7.00 PM
- Oct. 17:** Municipal Election Day @ Blueridge Elementary School and other eligible voting locations at 8.00 AM
- Oct. 20:** Cozy Night @ Canlan Sports at 7.00 PM
- Oct. 31:** Halloween (Hot Dogs) @ 2122 Whitman at 6.00 PM
- Nov. 17:** Cozy Night @ Canlan Sports at 7.00 PM
- Date TBA:** Brainstorming session @ Canlan Sports
- Date TBA:** Blueridge Cares deadline @ 2520 Hyannis Drive

Blueridge & Seymour Heights First-Ever Movie Night a Box Office Hit

By Mahnaz Fardghassem

About six months ago, an idea started brewing at the Blueridge Community Association: what if we hosted a free outdoor movie night on a large screen for our community? We pitched the concept to our neighbors across Blueridge and Seymour Heights, and from the enthusiastic response it was clear we must bring it to life! After months of planning, coordinating with vendors, and gathering volunteers, it happened! Despite a stormy forecast leading up to the weekend, the clouds parted just in time. On Sunday, Aug. 23, the BCA hosted a showing of the critically acclaimed and audience-loved film, *The Wild Robot*.

It was a bit chillier than usual for a late August evening, but that didn't stop our amazing

neighbors from coming out. More than 150 residents gathered on the lawn bundled up in hoodies, wrapped in cozy blankets, and packed-in with snacks and warm drinks. The energy was fantastic, and watching the film together under the open sky made for an unforgettable evening.

Events like this only happen when our community comes together, and residents from throughout Blueridge truly delivered. What made the night even more special was our volunteer response—we actually had more volunteers step up to help than we needed! Also heartening was the response from local businesses. Please support them with your patronage.

We look forward to bringing Movie Night back next summer!

Movie Night Sponsors



PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH!!

The BCA is on these social media sites, follow your favourite.

 Facebook: Blueridge Community Association

 Instagram: Blueridge__Community

Web: www.blueridgeca.org

Email: info@blueridgeca.org • newsletter@blueridgeca.org