
CHELSEA GARDENS

Newsletter

JULY 2021

SPRING AT LAST!

We were sure glad to see the end of what felt like the longest winter ever. After four months of being required to limit our social contacts to members of our own households, when we were told on March 30th that we could visit outside in groups of up to ten, we were positively giddy with excitement. This called for a celebration!

Our social committee rose to the challenge and organized a chicken potpie dinner on a take-out basis for April 16th. They even arranged good weather for the occasion.



Dave and Lois Pritchard took advantage of the new rules and hosted a dinner party on their patio with guests Elaine Saunders, Nancy Wright, Ann Gorrill and Simone Tait. Simone and Ann were being so sure to maintain their social distance that we couldn't get them into the picture.

We all appreciated this break after the isolation of the winter but Arvilla Schneider had another reason to celebrate. She won the 50/50 draw and finished the day \$227.50 richer.

A cup of baking soda in your bath will sooth itching skin caused by hives, insect bites or poison ivy.
Used in a gargle, it will ease the pain of a sore throat..

A VIRTUAL SUN RUN?

The Sun Run normally looks like this:



Talk about a super spreader event! Last year it was canceled completely but we have become quite good at adapting and saving what we can of our normal activities so this year the Sun Run went "virtual." No, we didn't get together on Zoom but instead were invited to do our 10 kilometers individually at a location of our choice and then report our times. Registered participants received a Sun Run t-shirt and a medal. Barb Gregg signed up the Chelsea Walkers team which included Barb, Jan and Ron Bergman, Yvonne Brennan, Renate Cheetham, Eileen Krukowski, Carole Lazar, Cathy Lockwood, Diana Pedersen, Marie Steen and Gladys Zemianski.

Bob and Cathy Hurley, Cher Gleitman, Doug and Kath McLeod and Keith and Anita Thompson were our other Chelsea participants.

In the kitchen, a baking soda solution can be used to sweeten your coffee maker or remove milk rings from a glass.
To extinguish a fire pour baking soda on it straight from the box.

MAKING NEW FRIENDS

When you are a very little girl and find yourself staying for a couple of weeks in a complex where there are no resident children and very few visitors, who will be your friend? This was the problem twenty-month-old Jasmine Clark



encountered when she and parents Blake and Famina came to stay with Grandma and Grandpa for a couple of weeks this past spring. Lucky for Jasmine it wasn't long before she met Murphy. He was happy to be her friend.

When Murphy's mum, Cathy Lockwood, took him home, Jasmine and her dad decided to celebrate the nice visit they'd had by decorating a

rock and putting his name on it. When it was finished, they left it at the curb along with a bowl of water so he would see it next time he came by. Now though there are very few children on the streets of Chelsea Gardens there are lots of dogs so Jasmine started to wonder if she could find even more friends. She and her dad made a sign inviting any canine neighbours to leave their names if they too would like it painted on a rock. The trend really caught on. No dog wanted to miss out on this. Within the week, the display outside of Amir and Fatma Nanji's townhouse (#267) looked like this:



LOOKING FOR SOME FUN FOR YOUR LITTLE ONES?

With family visits once again being permitted, we hope to see some other children around Chelsea soon. Unfortunately, the swimming pool, which has always been a big attraction, is not likely to be available to them this summer. If you're looking for another kid friendly activity to share check out the **Forest Friends' Walk & Play** in the green space around TH #202. This is a place where nature meets fairy tale face-to-face! No appointment necessary. An adult must accompany the child. Contact Margy Jalbert at margyjal@gmail.com and she will e-mail you a guide to the activities or you can pick the guide up from the umbrella stand by her the front door.

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If you have any suggestions, or would like to submit articles or photos for future newsletters, phone Carole Lazar at 778-565-7488 or contact her by e-mail at lazarc@shaw.ca.

Submission guidelines, and an on-line version of this newsletter can be found at

www.chelseatoday.org

WHY?

These visitors to our koi pond are cute as all get out but why on earth would Mom bring them on the long and treacherous walk from their nest site at the Newton Pond over to Chelsea?



Last year a few of our concerned residents escorted a whole family home after their visit. They even

had some help from our local R.C.M.P. as they stopped the traffic on 138th Street to make way for ducklings

This year, when this family was first spotted at about 10:00 A.M. one rainy morning, word went out immediately. A small group of volunteer rescuers were there to help but Mama duck was having no part of it. She and her young ones were having too much fun. Morning turned to afternoon. People had other commitments. It wasn't until about three that it looked like maybe they were ready to leave. But there was a problem. The ledge of the koi pond proved to be too high for three of the seven ducklings to navigate. Ken Thorburn and granddaughter, Arianna Moss, came to the rescue and created a ramp. It took a bit of time but finally the whole family was on solid ground. And then they decided that it had been such fun that they all jumped into the pond again. As the afternoon went on, the ducks again came out of the koi pond. This time they visited the stream between there and the clubhouse, went back into the pond and then waddled down for a dip in the lower stream bed too. Finally, Ken had to leave. (Dinner time maybe?) When he checked some time later, they had gone. They have since been seen at the Newton Pond. How they managed to cross that busy road during rush hour we may never know.

IN THE NEWS!

Renate Cheetham (TH 238) was given an Outstanding Athletic Performance award by B.C. Athletics for her record-breaking one-mile race walking performance at Bear Creek Park this past September. (Reported in the Surrey Now Leader, April 19, 2021.)

Sharon Hendrix (TH 303) worked with Mark McKinney of Valley Direct Furniture to decorate the Langley home which will be a prize in the Home Town Heroes Lottery. (Reported in the Vancouver Sun, May 15, 2021) Sharon is new to Chelsea but has been a guiding force in the re-decoration of our clubhouse entry way too.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME?

Thursday, May 13th was a perfect day for a game of golf. The sun had broken through the light cloud cover but its heat was moderated by a gentle breeze. What could make for a better

first game of the season? Why a **hole-in-one!**



Congratulations to Gladys Bittner who aced the 15th hole at Langley Golf and Banquet Centre.

TAKING TO THE STREETS FOR CANADA DAY

What a welcome celebration! It almost felt “normal” Our record-breaking hot spell and our covid restrictions both eased up just in time for Canada Day and residents took full advantage of that.

Most of the planning had taken place while the restrictions were still in place so we weren’t all together but the Social Committee allowed individual households to reserve tables and canopies to use at their own places so the streets were lively. Our Chelsea Dancers followed the decorated golf cart Encouraged by this performance, many others joined in.



Meanwhile, volunteers sold 50/50 tickets and accepted donations for the Surrey Food Bank.

Our boxed chicken dinners were ready for pick-up at 5:00 or 5:30 and our 50/50 prize winners were announced soon after. Yvonne Brennan

walked away with \$281 while Don McKenzie won for the second year in a row and went home \$370.00 richer.

The Food Bank collection raised \$2,223.00 in cash and cheques as well as 3 boxes of food.

NEWCOMERS?

We tried to reach out to those Chelsea residents who have moved here since the pandemic was declared but it was a bit of a bust. It seems our newcomers are more likely to step forward for a photo shoot when we ply them with wine and goodies at a newcomers’ welcoming party than they are to arrange individual Covid-friendly photo sessions for a virtual gathering. (We had hoped they would let us take their photos so we could then post to our website with a bit of an introduction but they were too bashful.)



One new resident, though he is shy at times, did step up to the plate...or should we say to the log. Meet **Scooter**. Scooter is a red-eared turtle and is a new resident in our koi pond. He was the first of a threesome to arrive. Watch for our next edition where we hope to be able to introduce his companions, Thelma and Louise.

NO CHANGES HERE:



Our social lives may be limited but the work activities have carried on as usual. A good thing too, given these geysers that spouted in a couple of places when the sprinkler system was turned on. Our thanks to our dedicated sprinkler crew: Norm Reid, Murray Hill, Fred Halcro, Bob Poole, Ed Brennan, Diane Brugger, Ron Plankeel, Jim Parker, Mike Williams and Barry Miller. They had it all up and running again in time for the drought we had in late June.