



The Blue Grass Rattler

Serving the communities of Blue Quill, Skyrattler, Blue Quill Estates and Sweet Grass

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

NOV-DEC 2014

Blue Quill
Community
League

bqcl.org

11304 25 Ave
Edmonton AB
T6J 5B1

780-438-3366

Office Hours:

Mon—Fri
8:30 am —
1:00 pm

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We Need You!

Annual General Meeting November 13th

Did you have fun at Party in the Park? Do you enjoy skating on the outdoor rink? Do you participate in the programs at the hall? Do you like this new community newsletter?

If so, then we need your help. All of these fun and recreational activities are made possible by a small group of volunteers on the community league board. It's these individuals that ensure the BQCL hall and grounds are maintained and kept busy with activities. We need 13

volunteers who want to make a difference where



One of these seats is waiting for you!

they live and ensure that the community league can still continue to enhance the life of its residents.

The community league's annual general meeting is coming up on Thursday

Nov. 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs loft at 11304 25 Avenue. All residents of Skyrattler, Sweet Grass, Blue Quill and Blue Quill Estates are welcome. Please join us for this annual review where we will decide what capital projects to pursue this next year, elect board members and hear a special presentation. Wine and cheese will follow the meeting. For more information, check out the website bqcl.org, or call the office at 780-438-3366.

Party in the Park a Huge Success!

Everyone who attended would surely agree that the Party in the Park on September 13th was a lot of fun and a wonderful opportunity to meet neighbours and listen to great music from local artists. See more photos on pages 6 and 7.



BQCL Programs & Events

English Lessons—starting in November



Improve Your English:

Small classes: 4 – 8 people

- * Comfortable environment
- * 6 week course
- * All levels welcome
- * Adult English

- * Student directed course
- * Flexible times and dates
- * Speaking practice classes
- * Learn Canadian culture
- * Adults, Kids and teens

Call the BQCL office to register: 780-438-3366

Mark Your Calendar!

*Blue Quill
Community League
AGM
Thu Nov 13, 7:00 pm*

*Skyrattler Future
Forum
Thu Nov 20, 6:30 pm*

*Vendor's Fair &
Children's Christmas
Party
Sat Dec 6*

*Christmas Party
Sat Dec 6 7:30 pm*

Cooking—starts in December

Join local cookbook authors and former bakery/catering company owners Dagmar Kuehn and Christina Lofthaug for a night of culinary delight. Sit back and relax while we prepare a gourmet meal. Enjoy the food,

learn tips and tricks, and enjoy the leftovers the next day.

Menus change monthly. December will feature Christmas baking and you will leave with enough squares, cookies and confections to share

with family and friends.

For more information on the cooking classes please visit the Community League website at www.bqcl.org, or call 780-438-3366.

Belly Dancing Seniors Yoga

October 2, 2014–
November 27, 2014

Level 1 or Level 2 @
6:30pm-8:00pm \$120
for BQ Member/ \$145
for Non-Members

To Register call Vanlee-
(780) 907-0477 or BQ at
(780) 438-3366

October 29, 2014-
December 17, 2014

Wednesdays from
10:00am to 11:00am

To Register call the BQ
Office at (780) 438-
3366

Christmas Party

Dec 6, Doors open 7:30
pm. See poster on page 5
for more information.

Vendors Fair

Come shop BQ's Vendor
Fair!

9:00am to 3:00pm

December 6th, 2014

Tables are \$30, Please
register in the BQ office!

Let your kids have fun with
crafts and games and a
visit from Santa, all while
you shop the vendor fair!
9am-3pm

Skyrattler Future Forum

Are you a resident of Sky-walker? If so, you may be interested in attending the upcoming Community Future Forum, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm on Thursday, November 20 at the Blue Quill Community Hall.

Skyrattler is a dense, established neighbourhood of mixed housing which has recently come under pressure from potential infill developments. The SNA can represent

the full community perspective. - Blue Quill Hall (11304 25 Ave), Thursday November 20, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM. For more information, please contact skyrattler2012@gmail.com.



This forum will be focussed on the future - what do we want our community to look like in 5 years? 10 years? 20 years? Through facilitation

provided by professional staff of the Alberta government, our intention is to collectively describe what we would like SNA Skyrattler to look like in the future, through recording and respecting all

opinions. Our focus will be on the our central park space, including potential infill housing and park enhancement opportunities, and Taylor College (CDI) which is also being looked at as a potential development opportunity.

Come out, let us know your thoughts and join with us so that the SNA can represent the full community perspective. - Blue Quill Hall (11304 25 Ave), Thursday November 20, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM. For more information, please contact skyrattler2012@gmail.com.

**Skyrattler
Future Forum
Thu Nov 20th
6:30—9:00 pm
Blue Quill
Hall**

11304 25 Ave

All SNA Skyrattler residents are encouraged to attend!

Surplus School Site Development update:

The City of Edmonton hosted a round table forum at the Blue Quill hall on Oct. 22nd to discuss the possible re-siting of one of the developments in Blue Quill Park. There were several city professionals in attendance to answer questions and collect ideas from local residents about the proposed Senior's housing and First-time

Homebuyers Program development on Blue Quill Park.

The City was looking for particular feedback on whether the developments should be situated next to one another on the north side of the park. This forum was part of the City's planned public engagement plan. If you missed the forum you can provide

input at edmonton.ca/surplusschools. Keep your eyes on future newsletters and our web site as more details will follow about next steps in the process.

This forum only addressed the two sites in Blue Quill; there has been no recent communication from the city regarding the SNA Skyrattler site.

bqcl.org

Memberships in the Blue Quill Community League

Family: \$35
Individual: \$25
Senior: Free!

Membership includes reduced rental hall rental fees, use of any community league ice rink, free swimming at Confederation Pool Sat & Sun 4:30—5:30 pm

Purchase your membership at the hall, any weekday between 8:30 am and 1:00 pm. Memberships can also be purchased prior to the AGM on Thu Nov 13

Great neighbourhoods are more than infill housing

Communities must maintain a voice

Taken from www.efcl.org/great-neighbourhoods-are-more-than-infill-housing, with permission from the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues

"Buildings alone do not create great neighbourhoods." This was a common theme expressed by several community people speaking to City Council regarding the Infill Roadmap meeting, August 19.

Community people and housing developers acknowledged that infill housing could be key to bringing more people and life to established neighbourhoods. There is no doubt that infill housing has the potential to bring more children to populate schools, more people to support local businesses, use local services and recreation facilities, and bring more volunteers to support the work of community leagues.

Nevertheless, just making it easier to do infill housing will not lead to quality neighbourhoods.

Attracted to what's already established

The EFCL's position—presented at the meeting by Bev Zubot, EFCL Planning Advisor—pointed out the importance of maintaining and enhancing

public amenities such as schools, recreation facilities, and aesthetic, pedestrian friendly streets. Private redevelopments should be focused on properties which presently have a negative influence on the neighbourhoods, properties such as derelict housing, vacant lots, dying shopping areas and contaminated gas station sites. Ideally, the redevelopments would be neighbourhood driven. Where there is a slow uptake from private developers, a non-profit redevelopment agency could undertake the development work.

Benefits of a compact city

Dr. Jones, Acting Director of the City-Region Studies Centre, encouraged the city to continue to listen to citizens. By continuing this type of engagement, he believes people will have a chance to figure out for themselves the benefits of a more compact city, and enable them to envision how they would accomplish this in their own neighborhoods. By encour-

aging positive conversation, city residents and city administration can begin to work together to create great neighbourhoods for everyone. In the end, that's what we are all striving for.

Folks, the conversations have just begun, so let's make sure we are all a part of it.

The Infill Roadmap accepted by Council on August 19 focused on improving communications and changing regulations and processes to make it easier to build infill housing. The challenge for all of us is to ensure that the bylaw changes and future redevelopments foster all the elements of a great neighbourhood.

If you want a voice in what happens in our city and community, and stay apprised of what other communities are doing, consider joining the Blue Quill Community League as an executive member. Come to the AGM on November 13 (7:00 pm at the community hall) or contact president@bqcl.org for more information.



DEC 6TH

Live Band
9 - MIDNIGHT
BLUE QUILL HALL

AT *Blue Quill*
COMMUNITY LEAGUE
CHRISTMAS PARTY!
CANDICE RYAN & THE SILVER HAMMERS



Party in the Park

If you didn't make it to the party on September 13th, here's what you missed!

If you were there, hope this brings back pleasant memories.





Watch for information on next year's Party in the Park in the coming months.



Rent our Hall

Did you know?
Community League members get discounts on hall rentals

The Main Hall and Kitchen can be rented for \$425.00 per day, or \$75.00 per hour. **BQCL members receive discounted rates of \$325.00 per day and \$40.00 per hour!**

o/audio hook-ups, satellite, blu-ray player). This space can be rented on a weekday evening for \$85.00 (non-member) or \$75.00 (member). Weekend rental rates are the same as other rooms in the hall (\$75 per hour for non members and \$40 per hour for members).

hours. An extra \$50 fee applies if the ice needs to be cleaned/flooded beforehand. The flooding will need to be coordinated with the schedule of the rink attendant.

Smaller rooms can be rented for \$75.00 per hour. **BQCL members receive discounted rates of \$40.00 per hour!**

A \$500 Security Deposit applies to all rentals.

The outdoor rink can be rented by BQCL members only. A rental fee of \$50.00 per hour applies for a minimum of 2

The upstairs loft at BQCL is an ideal meeting space as it can accommodate up to 60 seated and has tables, chairs, a sink and full A/V services (projector, screen, laptop vide-



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Community Hall
780 463 7911

www.elci.ca

twitter.com/enjoylifechurch



What does Community Mean to You?

It is very easy to get caught up in the hustle-bustle of life and find personal or family schedules filled back to back with events, meetings, work shifts, appointments and visits. We leave our homes to tend to these things and return at the end of the day ready to flop on the bed and get a good night's sleep before repeating the cycle.

But how often do we go outside to enjoy a chat or drink with our neighbours? The benefit of a community is that it brings together people from various walks of life, varying backgrounds, diverse cultures, and different age groups. The one common thread is that everyone has decided to live in the same general area and, therefore, share similar concerns related to quality of living.

We are fortunate that Edmonton has a system that inherently encourages citizens to gather in their communities and closely interact with their neighbours. It is the community leagues that I'm referring and, as a lot of you know, this system is very unique in all of North America. The City is broken up into about 150 different communities that each have a community league comprised of volunteers from within the community. The leagues run programs, maintain community-accessible facilities and

provide a means of communicating with the local residents about issues pertinent to their community.

I have lived in Blue Quill for 13 years and fortunately been involved with the Blue Quill Community League for the last six years. I can personally attest to what it feels like to be part of the community. I have met so many great people and learned so much about the area we live. I have organized community events, represented the league at City meetings, met with local politicians, set up fitness programs at the community hall, met with various cultural groups, been interviewed on local cable channels, responded to emergencies at the hall (fire alarms, power outages, rave parties), chaired community forums, sponsored local youth groups, published newsletters, hired staff and motivated a group of volunteers.

The words on this page can't begin to describe the rewarding experiences I've had and the trusting friends I have made while interacting with my community. That's what Community means to me.

I encourage you to get involved with the community league. Start by coming to the Annual General Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 13th, at 7:00 p.m. It will be upstairs in the BQCL hall at 11304 -

25 Avenue. You will meet your neighbours and learn what's been happening in the community. There will be a wine and cheese wrap-up.

This article was written by Andrew Happer, president of the Blue Quill Community League and provides his personal views on living in a community.

There are numerous vacancies on the BQCL Board. Please consider getting involved!

BQCL Board Members	
POSITION	NAME/EMAIL
Acting President	Andrew Happer president@bqcl.org
Vice-President	Travis Ball vicepresident@bqcl.org
Treasurer	VACANT
Secretary	Tim Battle secretary@bqcl.org
Past President	VACANT
Civics	Neil Dunwald civics@bqcl.org
Facilities	VACANT
Fundraising	Richard Hughes fundraising@bqcl.org
Memberships	VACANT
Programs	VACANT
Publicity	VACANT
Social	VACANT
Sports	Janice Quinn sports@bqcl.org

Advertise in the Blue Grass Rattler

To advertise in the Blue Grass Rattler, call 780-438-3366 or email bqcladmin@bqcl.org

Deadline for the January issue is December 10th

The Blue Grass Rattler is a local community newsletter published five (5) times per year that provides news and details of events, programs and civic issues. It has a circulation of 5000 and is direct delivered to homes in Blue Quill, Blue Quill Estates, Sweet Grass and Skyrrattler. Advertisements are accepted according to the rate schedule below with

priority given to local businesses and organizations. The newsletter is published and circulated by the Blue

Quill Community League who maintains editorial control and reserves the right to limit advertising as required.

SIZE	(width x height)	RATE
1/8 page	(3.5" v 2.25")	\$60
¼ page	(3.5" x 4.75")	\$100
½ page	(7.5" x 4.75")	\$180
Full Page	(7.5" x 10")	\$300
Back Page	(7.5" x 10")	\$350



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Mondays starting Jan. 6th or Thursdays starting Jan 8th

9am–10:30am

\$130/ for 11weeks

For more information or to register please visit our website!

www.EdmontonPreschoolMusic.com or

Classified Ads

WANTED: I am a Greenfield resident that commutes to work on the LRT. I am hoping to rent a space in Blue Quill, whether it's in front of someone's house, in a parking stall or in their driveway. Plug-In Optional. I am willing to pay \$50/month. From 8am-6pm M-F. I am looking for a spot somewhere within two or three blocks of Century Park LRT station. Please contact Jennifer at jen.nolan@outlook.com

166th Blue Quill Scouts

Beavers-Cubs-Scouts-Venturers

Runs mid-September to the end of April at the Blue Quill Hall

Beavers: Tuesdays 6:30pm-7:30pm

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GET INVOLVED WITH US! **Help A Senior!**

LHHS is urgently seeking Volunteer Drivers

LHHS is a non-profit whose aim is to help seniors remain in their homes and lead independent lives.

We provide transportation to medical appointments, grocery shopping, and recreation to seniors in the SW area of the city.

A couple of hours a week makes a difference!



Volunteer drivers are provided gas reimbursement
Call **780.450.2113** for more info



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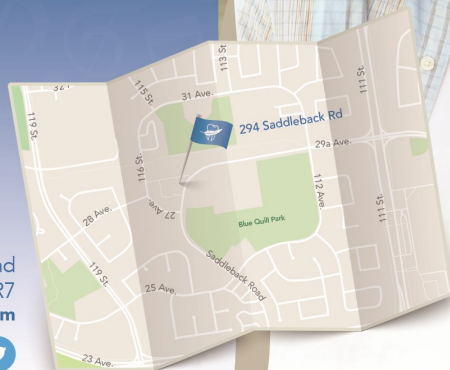
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JOIN US FOR A WEBINAR THIS FALL:

Helping Seniors Move with Dignity

There is so much involved in helping a family member move out of a home they have lived in for decades. It takes patience and it takes a plan! Join us Wednesday, November 12 @ 7:30 pm

Moving Up!

Feeling squished in your current house? There reasons you need more space probably won't shrink, so maybe now is a good time to make a move. Learn from the pros and cons of Buying first vs Selling first. Join Us Wednesday, November 19 @ 7:30 pm

How to Hire a Realtor

While we hope that SCHMIDT will always be your 1st choice in real estate, we understand that your friends and family may want to meet a few Realtors before making a choice. Learn the Top 5 Questions Sellers Must Ask as well as 15 more to help Sellers customize their search. Attendees will also receive our Realtor Interview Guide.

Join us Wednesday, December 3 @ 7:30 pm

If you're part of our VIP Club you'll have received an email invitation for this event already. If not, just get in touch with me at Travis@WeSellEdmonton.com and I'll email you the link so you can register. By the way, Blue Quill isn't just a place where I work, it's where I live! I know the neighbourhood well and am committed to maintaining and improving the value of Blue Quill real estate. Curious about the value of your home in today's market? Let's chat!

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