

REMINDER

Annual General Meeting

March 9

It's the perfect way to learn what has transpired over the past year, take a peek into the future, catch up with neighbours, and take advantage of the opportunity to win great door prizes. And, it's all without needing to book a babysitter.

Wednesday, March 9
7:00 to 8:30 pm
Royal Gardens Community Hall
4030-117 Street

The door prizes include an Apple iPad, gift cards for our new Stone & Wheel Pizzeria and Square 1 Coffee Shop, plus a manicure/pedicure gift card for Anava Esthetics (under new ownership)!

There will be a children's fun room, snacks and finger food, beverages and wine and beer.

Immediately following the AGM, there will be a question/answer period regarding Restricted Covenants for those who are interested.

See you there!

It takes a good listener to hear the opportunity in an every day conversation and as we chatted Lisa suggested that the play would be a great project for our Aspen Gardens community in the following summer and so "It's Just a Dream" came to be.

The following August, in the summer of 2011, twelve aspiring young performers aged between 5 and 12 came together for rehearsals, three times a week. The "camp" culminated in an early evening, outdoor performance at the end of the month - a magical evening attended by around 75 local residents who enjoyed picnic suppers while the players played.



March 2016

ASPEN news

Making the neighbourhood you want to live in!

One Midsummer's Night - it began in the bleachers

By Richard van Oosterom

It began in the bleachers at Confederation Recreation Centre.

Lisa Hauser and I were among the parents watching their sons play hockey. Our conversation somehow turned to music and children and I mentioned to her an adaptation of "A Midsummers Night's Dream" that I had recently completed while I was teaching music at the Garneau University Child Care Centre.

Other than Puck someone else must have been working their magic too as there were no mosquitoes in the audience! Perhaps it was Shakespeare's spirit - "Let me not to the marriage of true minds admit impediments" - that was busy at the box office on our behalf!

The adaptation, to me, had always been crying out to be turned into musical theatre and now the script has had twelve new songs added to it. In addition there is incidental music and a new name to distinguish the old play from the new musical and so "One Midsummer's Night" was born.

A year ago I reunited with Rosalind Thomas-Clark (TC Squared: New Theatre Outside the Box and Boston Arts Academy in Boston, MA). We had worked together on a number of projects in New Zealand and had last been together at the Watershed at the Bristol Arts Centre in England in the early 1980s.

This summer, from late July to the end of August, Ros will be in Edmonton to direct a five-week summer music theatre camp for 5 - 12 year olds (Grades 1 - 6) which will end with this year's young performers performing the musical "One Midsummer's Night" on stage at the Arts

continued...

Barn at the Edmonton Fringe Theatre Festival. Wow! An international director leading a local summer camp!

Ros is no stranger to fringe theatre, being a veteran of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. As most expenses will be covered by the cost of being in the camp, the young performers will also share the benefits of the ticket sales. (How many summer camps have a "cash back" element to them?) No we're not selling cars!

It won't all be hard work, though. When not rehearsing, participants will be outside

playing soccer and tag, etc. as well as doing arts and crafts. We will be making our own very simple sets for the show.

For a small theatre project that began in our own community this is a very exciting development.

Thanks to Lisa, for listening, to the Aspen Gardens Community League for "giving it a shot" and thanks especially to the actors and actresses who first helped breath life into the project in the summer of 2011.

To find out more about "One Midsummer's



Night, 2016" visit www.mauranuumusic.com or call Richard at (780) 437 2391.

A Message from Councillor Walters

With oil prices falling, money seems to be top of mind for everyone these days. City Council just came through the very tough process of establishing our first ever three-year Operating Budget. We also had to face the reality that Edmonton is becoming an increasingly expensive city to run.

Many people who have contacted me recently feel that the City should be doing more to control internal costs, and they are correct. But we also have to consider how the Edmonton region is functioning as a cost driver for Edmonton.

Providing services to residents from outlying areas drives up costs for Edmonton. While we are always happy to welcome our neighbours, we need to ensure that this

provision of services is reciprocated equally amongst all of our regional partners. We also need to ensure that Provincial grant funding and the regional funding model adequately recognize Edmonton's central role in the region.

Thinking regionally is just smart planning. We continue to work with our neighbours to develop better transit planning, because a better synchronized transit system benefits everyone, both in terms of service and in terms of costs to the City.

The same can be said of growth. As fast as Edmonton's outward growth has been, some of our neighbours are growing just as quickly, and in all cases less densely than Edmonton. To plan for the future,

Edmonton has to both model for and work with neighbouring municipalities on responsible development.

This focus on residential density needs to coincide with development of industrial land, which forms an important (and currently underutilized) part of the City's tax base, a part that can take pressure off of the residential tax base.

The push for regional efficiency and collaboration is driving much of our work on the Capital Region Board and with the City's Annexation negotiations. Enhanced collaboration between regional partners will ensure that everyone shares in the costs and the benefits of Metro Edmonton's resources and success.

Community Input: Amenity Area Review & Buildability of Garage and Garden Suites

The City of Edmonton is looking for Community League input on two zoning bylaw projects: Amenity Area Review and Buildability of Garage and Garden Suites. Amenity Area regulates the amount of space that any given development must set aside for private and communal passive and active recreation purposes.

A meeting has been booked at the Commonwealth Community Recreation

Centre (11000 Stadium Rd NW), Multi-Purpose Room #4 on March 14 from 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Garage and Garden Suites are self-contained dwellings located in a building separate from a single detached house, typically at the rear of a single family lot. The Zoning Bylaw team has been tasked with exploring the range of challenges experienced in the application and

development processes for Garage and Garden Suites.

The City will be having discussions on these two projects at the Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre, Multi-purpose Room 4, from 6:30pm to 9:00pm on Monday, March 14, and invite EFCL and Community League input to inform the preparation of draft Zoning Bylaw amendments.



Community Bulletin Board

Community league members who have a homegrown business, have something to sell, are having a sale, or have a service to offer can post information here. The deadline for submitting information is the 18th of each month, and must be kept to a maximum of 30 words. And, you **MUST** include your community league membership number to have the posting included in the newsletter.

We will also be including thank you notes and announcements and announcements from all residents. Submissions should be sent to communications@aspengardens.ca. There is limited space so posting will be at the discretion of the Communications Director.

Puerto Vallarta Timeshare for sale: Studio + VillaPlus; 6 persons occupancy; Gold Season, Floating Week, every even year. Moderate price; reasonable offer considered. Contact Nicole 780 4374141 or nkunzle@shaw.ca.

Beautiful, three bedroom house and yard in our neighbourhood is available for short-term rental this June and July at a very reasonable rate; perfect if you are displaced during renovations this summer or have family in town for an extended visit. Offer open to community members, friends and family only. Email aspensummer2016@gmail.com

"One Midsummer's Night", July 25 to August 28. A full day music theatre camp for Grades 1 - 6 performing at the 2016 Fringe Theatre Festival with international director Rosalind Thomas-Clark. Visit www.mauranumusic.com or call Richard van Oosterom (780) 437 2391.

Petrolia Seniors' Group (55+)

Invites YOU to come to enjoy LUNCH and a PROGRAM

The **third Tuesdays (except July and August)** 11:45 a.m. (sharp) to 2:00 p.m.
at **Greenfield Community Hall 3803 - 114 Street**

March 15th – Dr. Gary Faulkner, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital

"Rehabilitation of ill and injured patients"

April 19th - Joachim Hengge- "Reflections of Syria, Its People, Its Culture"


May 17th - Judy Dube, GANG (G'mothers of Alberta for a New Generation)

"Reflections from the Uganda National Grandmothers' Conference."

In addition enjoy another **"outing"** during most months

For more information or to **CONFIRM** your attendance **Call:** Nick @ 780-435-1045 or Betty @ 780-434-0711

Play **Bridge** Wednesdays – 12 - 3 p.m. (Call: Joan –780-436-1434)



Not receiving the newsletter monthly?

If you are not receiving the newsletter monthly either in hard copy or through email, you may be on our "do not deliver" list. If you want to ensure you receive a copy each month of publication (September to June), let the Communications Director know your preferred method of delivery. We can provide by email only, print only or send through both methods.



LEAGUE **contacts**

Aspen Gardens Community

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The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 20th of each month.
Send submissions to Jan Archbold at **communications@aspengardens.ca**.

In the event of a building emergency at our community hall, please contact **Harold Bens at 780.434.6073**.