



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Little Brick House Development Proposal - Serious Investor Wanted

Connie McMillan who recently moved to 93rd Street from the south side is looking for a business partner to purchase, renovate and operate the Little Brick House as a tea room and country store. She has approached both the municipal and provincial governments for funding to restore the exterior to its 1906 appearance (leaving the addition) and has lots of creative ideas for the tea room. Riverdalians have talked about the need for a convenience store/gathering spot in the neighbourhood for some time. If you have money to invest, and share her vision, please call Connie at 438-4202.

City's Rowland Properties For Sale

During the pre-Christmas rush, big white signs magically appeared along Rowland Road offering three vacant lots for sale. Over the holidays we dutifully called 496-6000 to enquire after details, but the City's real estate folk are away for the holidays, so we have no word on price.

According to the ARP, the lots are zoned RF2* like the bulk of Riv, allowing at maximum a duplex, so it will be interesting to see if there's a pushing of the envelope to bring us something similar to the tall, townhouse units you see along 98th Avenue in Cloverdale.

-Allan Shute

THE RIVERDALIAN deadline
for the January issue is
Friday, Jan. 25th.

CORRECTION

Apologies to **Tanya and Nick Gillan** of 87th St who created and hosted the haunted house enjoyed by many Riverdale trick or treaters. The *Riverdalian* mistakenly credited Riv Pres Rocky Feroe with developing the haunted house. Tanya and Nick have lived in the neighbourhood for a little over a year and a half. Last year they created a spooky house that kids talked about for months. This year, they pulled out all the stops and with the help of neighbours and friends, converted it to the infamous Haunted House on 87th St. They have begun a tradition which they thoroughly enjoy so they say that next year's house will be even better!

-Rhea March

Concerned about Alberta democracy?

If you have an interest in investigating and discussing the state of democracy in the province these days, there is a brand-new e-mail broadcast list you can join. It's run by former Edmonton-Highlands MLA Dave King. Sign up by going to <http://www.topica.com/sysmsg/?cid=1.GiTieNGnb.ETMTbGbn&p=ConfSub011>

You needn't fill out the form you'll see when you go there. That's for if you want to run a Topica broadcast service yourself.

-Allan Shute

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Daytime break-in attempt foiled

Riverdale Neighbourhood Watch received news that a possible burglary was thwarted December 4 thanks to an alert neighbour. Around 5 p.m., a Riverdalian heard suspicious sounds

outside his home in the middle block on 89th Street. Upon investigation, he discovered that a rear window had been broken on the house beside him. No one got inside, and it is believed the perpetrator fled the scene when the neighbour appeared. Police were called, and they said there had been similar attempts in the area lately.

Ramona Cook at the corner of 92nd St at 101A Ave. noticed someone suspicious around her garage one evening around 10:00 p.m. when she was dutifully getting rid of the compost. When she called out, someone took off running. Ramona cut across her yard, came upon a second youth and tried to clock him with a full compost bucket. If it had been empty she thinks it would have been on target. One was a long legged youth with a dark down (quilted) jacket; the other one was too far away to see without her glasses. Police were notified immediately and came down promptly to check things out.

Riverdale Neighbourhood Watch reminds you to keep an eye out at all times of day. If you see anything suspicious like strangers hanging around, looking over fences or going into other

Riverdale Community League

MEETING

Monday January 7, 7:30 pm

At the Hall

AGENDA

Bylaws

Please attend to vote for the new
bylaws

AT THE HALL

people's yards, call the Police non-emergency line at 423-4567. Should you see a crime in progress against a person, or a house, car or garage being broken into, call 911 immediately. You might practice dialling these numbers in the dark, so you needn't turn on your light and give away your position. They are both fairly easy, but you need to familiarize yourself with your dial. When you practice, make sure you don't pick up the phone's receiver or push your talk button. Cell phones and cordless models are handy to have around the house as they allow you to keep watch while speaking to the police. Please keep in mind the purpose of Riverdale Neighbourhood Watch is to provide eyes and ears for the police department. Do not be tempted to interfere with the person committing the crime for obvious safety reasons. Simply call the police and keep tabs on unfolding events. Riverdale Neighbourhood Watch is based upon the time-honoured principle of "neighbours watching out for neighbours."

While We're on the Lookout...

Once again vandals have managed to damper the holiday spirit. A plastic Nutcracker decoration was stolen from a home on 89th St just after Christmas. This is not the first time he has "walked" away from his home. Thankfully last time someone found him and he was returned no worse for his adventure, unlike his partner who was injured beyond repair. Hopefully, someone will notice this unusual fellow hanging around and help him find his

way home. If you see a 3' tall red and white plastic Nutcracker please contact the Riverdalian at 426-4384 or rivrdaln@telusplanet.net. No questions will be asked if he can find his way home.

-Mandi Wisheu

Full Moon Folk Club at the Riverdale Hall

The **Lionel Rault/Tim Williams** November 30th concert was a rare and magical musical treat. The House Band got the near capacity hall crowd warmed up with some hot picking on cool tunes and kept everyone in stitches with their good humoured, spontaneous banter. Lionel was next up and he spun a set of pure magic. Humble to the core, Lionel is not only a gracious and talented singer/song writer, but the man plays a guitar like nobody's business. Music isn't Lionel's only claim to fame for he has a gift for telling a story with a wit as sharp as it is poignant and this event was no exception for this homegrown Edmonton legend. His sidesplitting humour had the audience in stitches as he introduced his songs with the tales of the road that inspired them. His performance was nothing short of brilliant and to hear him play and sing in an unplugged sort of setting was an absolute privilege.

This was my first time seeing Tim Williams perform live but it won't be my last. I was first introduced to Tim through CKUA Radio, (which by the way, is THE BEST radio station on the planet!). Any expectations I had of Tim were quickly surpassed as he dazzled the room with the depth his talents.

Travelling with an arsenal of vintage instruments (six and twelve string guitars, slide guitar, banjo-guitar and mandolin), a vast repertoire of blues, rags and original songs, and an evenings worth of anecdotes ranging from the hilarious to the historical, Tim's performance delighted every ear in the house.

And, just when I thought it couldn't get any better, Lionel joined Tim on stage for the last few numbers and they closed out the evening together. A perfect ending to a perfect night!

-Rhea March

Polar Cup Indoor Soccer Tournament

Edmonton is home to the largest indoor soccer tournament in Canada, held each year between Christmas and New Year's. Many Riverdale children participated:

Morghain Gibbons and the U16 Raiders girls took the silver in their medal round. The U14 Boys Storm, featuring **Andrew McGregor** and **Stirling Wood**, won silver. The highlight of a suspense-filled shootout came when Andrew scored the winning goal in a 2-1 game that saw 12 players from each team shoot! Peter Dreimanis scored for his U14 Raiders team in his first game since breaking a thumb earlier this fall. **Neil Wiley's** U12 Raiders team took silver and **Dustin Chok's** Storm team (keeper Dustin was in Hong Kong at the time) took the gold. **Raina Malcolm** and **Katrina Petrosky** played for the U12 Girls Storm.

Apologies to any participant not



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mentioned, please drop the *Riverdalian* a line at cccole@telusplanet.net a line and let us know how you did and we'll spread the word in next month's issue!

Rink Shack Is Open For Business

Thanks to **Gordon Coxson** and his small army of volunteers, the new Riv Rink Shack is now operational!! **Dean** from 92 St and his volunteers have been working hard at maintaining an excellent ice service - so all we need now is lots of skaters and of course more volunteers!!

The highest priority is to complete the downstairs with the bathroom and toilet first on the list. Anyone with a toilet or vanity they want to donate, can give Gord a call at 425 1767. We will be working on the upstairs as time and energy permit, with current needs for a 34" outside door for the back door. Plans call for a wrap around deck overlooking the rink, that will improve the appearance and add functionality to the upstairs "multi-purpose facility". This year's Spring Work Bee in May will be dedicated to the exterior and landscaping around the new shack.

Gord is hosting a winter evening work bee every third Wednesday of the month. So mark your calendars! We hope to see many of Riv's handy-people at **6:30PM** on **January 16**.

-Terry Anderson

Thin Ice Safety

Each winter season, ice-covered water presents a dangerous hazard to Edmontonians. For everyone's safety, please remember not to go on the ice when the DANGER - THIN ICE signs are posted. When the ice is at least 6 inches thick, the DANGER signs will be covered or removed by The City. The City does not flood, shovel or maintain these areas. Avoid inlet/outlet areas of

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lakes during the winter season, as they are dangerous due to water movement. Please remember these tips:

Avoid playing on or near ice along creeks, ponds or along the North Saskatchewan River.

Stay near well-lit areas so you are able to see where ice may be present. If someone falls into the ice, call 911. Do not go onto the ice and try to pull them out.

Free Indoor Public skating

Public skating and shinny hockey schedules will be available on line through the City of Edmonton web site. www.gov.edmonton.ab.ca Access schedules through the "Today in Edmonton" link.

City Tobogganing Areas

Bring the family, a thermos of hot chocolate and enjoy the fresh air and tobogganing at:

Argyll Park - 83 Street & 63 Ave.

Emily Murphy Park - Emily Murphy Park Road & Groat Road

Gallagher Hill - 95 Ave. & 97 Street

Government House Park - Groat Road and River Valley Road

Jackie Parker Recreation Area - 50 Street & 45 Ave.

Laurier Heights - 139 Street & 78 Ave.

Mill Woods Park - 23 Ave. & 66 Street

Rundle Park - 113 Ave. & 29 Street

Whitemud Park - Keillor Road and Fox Drive

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SOCIAL NOTES

Steve Richardson, Bonnie Owen and son **Evan Collins** have returned from a marvelous month down under in Australia. They managed to do a little bit of everything-- surfing, rock fishing, sightseeing in Sydney, hiring a caravan on the beach, trail riding for Steve and of course skateboarding for Evan. Australia has skateboard parks in every neighbourhood so Evan was able to skateboard everyday! After ten days in the Blue mountains it was time to come home -as Bonnie put it "it was hard to come back to the cold, but we still like home the best!"

Thanks to **Rhea March** and all of the volunteers who assisted at the New Year's Eve party at the Hall. A standing room only crowd of Riverdalians and friends had a great time, eating, drinking, mingling and dancing to the music of Hot Cottage while the younger set did crafts in the Miller Room. Great job Rhea!

Sunday Afternoon Free Swim

for Community League Members

Hardisty Pool 1:15 - 2:45 p.m

10535-65 St.

Bonnie Doon Pool 3:30 - 5 p.m.

8648-81 St.

Show your membership card for free admission.

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A Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary to **Greta and Amos Skinner** of 87th St. On the last day of 2001, friends, family and well-wishers gathered at the Riverdale home of their son **Doug** and his wife **Jane** to celebrate the Skinner's sexagenarian relationship. Greta and Amos are a vital link in the Harry and Mary Taylor dynasty of early Riverdale which now spans five generations, many members of whom remain in the district. The young-at-heart couple still occupy the home they built just after the Second World War where they raised their three children: **Douglas, Carolyn and Barbara**. Congratulations!

Sue Hodge and Jozel Campbell Lemire along with former Riverdalian **Carline Lemire Steele** entertained a crowd of family and friends Sunday December 16. It was their first soiree, a public performance to celebrate the amazing work they have been doing at the Hunter Gates Academy of Physical Theatre. The program included individual pieces written and performed by Sue Hodge, collaborative efforts that included acrobatics, mask work, stage fighting, comedy and dramatic sketches written and performed by the students. Anyone interested in enjoying this type of theatre should mark March 20th on their calendar, when the Academy presents its next soiree to the public.


Best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Jim Major** following surgery earlier this month.

Murray and Richard Wood will be featured in an upcoming television commercial for Big Sisters and Big Brothers.

Courtney Grotski of 87 St. celebrated her 8th birthday in fine style-- she and her friends toured the neighbourhood in a horse-drawn sleigh! After her party the sleigh made it's way over to the hall and took more kids and their folks around the dale after the rink work bee.

A big Riverdale welcome to **Ed Donszelmann & Shelley Honey** who have just bought into one of Cliff Street's finer addresses. If you're familiar with the south side night scene, Ed owns and operates Savoy, one of the classiest bars on the Great Whyte Way, and is a valued employer of the district's youth.

Christmas is a great time for people-spotting in Riverdale. Spotted this year visiting their families in the dale were **Tamsin Shute** home from Vancouver, **Cameron Taylor** visiting

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from Washington, DC and **Solana Anderson** home for the holidays from university in Toronto.

A belated congratulations to 92 Streeters **Donna Johnson and Colin Young** on the birth of their first child. **Alexa Johnson Young** was born way back before Hallowe'en on October 29th and is now snug and cozy in her Riv Coop home with a happy mom and dad.

CLASSIFIEDS

Coming Soon!! A Workshop for Riverdale Youth (and Friends) dealing with Career Ideas and Personality Type. This is for youth ages 17 - 24 to be held one Sunday in February, Date TBA at the Riverdale Hall. To register or for more information call Sue Anderson at 425-5950

For Sale 20 gal. established aquarium, covered, lights, filter, inserts, heater, gravel, rocks, plants, suction cleaner, dechlorinator, breeding tank, food and fish \$149. Call Chris or Kate 423-4388.

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Creating Wealth Seminar. Contact Ralph or Eileen at 424-1544 for your complimentary guest pass.

The Riverdalian is the monthly (except August) newsletter of the Riverdale Community League (RCL). It is produced and distributed by volunteers, as a free service to members of the community. If you have news, please call **Catherine Cole** at 424-2229, or e-mail her at cccote@telusplanet.net.

To place an ad, contact **Adam Wisheu** at 426-4384, or e-mail him at rivrda1n@telusplanet.net. Deadline for the February issue is January 25.

Thank you to those who contributed this month: **Susan and Terry Anderson, Terri Johnson, Rhea March, Connie McMillan, Bonnie Owen, Allan Shute, Keith Wiley, Mandi Wisheu,** and to **Al Skognes, Aaron Contois** and the delivery team.