



FAIRFIELD GONZALES
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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FAIRFIELD GONZALES Observer

FGCA PROGRAM GUIDE & COMMUNITY NEWS

March to August 2016

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www.fairfieldcommunity.ca

1330 Fairfield Rd. Victoria BC V8S 5J1

place@fairfieldcommunity.ca 250-382-4604

Image created by many community members, facilitated by Carolyn Knight,
& compiled by Joan Cahill as part of the FGCA's Fairfield Stories Community Mural Project



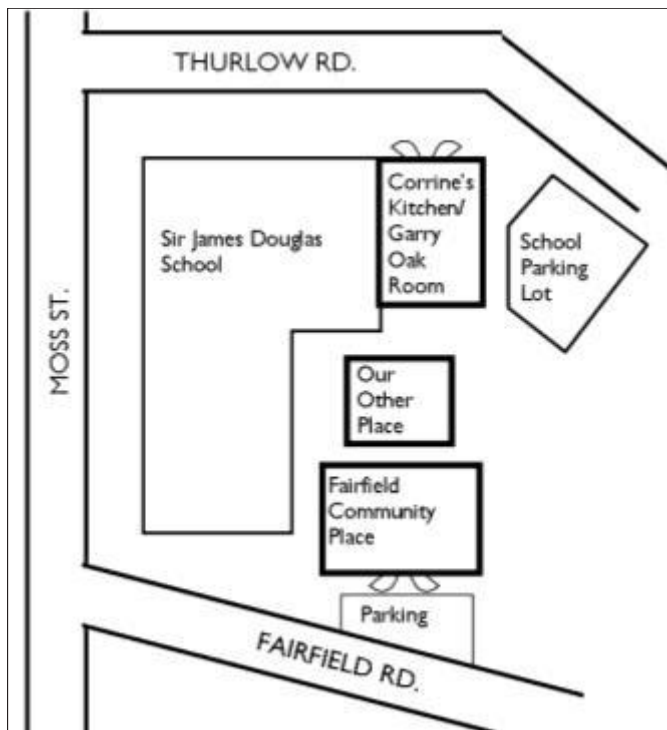
FAIRFIELD GONZALES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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CONNECT WITH US....

- 1330 Fairfield Road, Victoria BC, V8S 1L6
- 250-382-4604
- www.fairfieldcommunity.ca
- place@fairfieldcommunity.ca
- Facebook.com/FairfieldGonzalesCommunityAssociation
- @Fairfield_Comm



WHO IS THE FGCA?

The Fairfield Gonzales Community Association (FGCA) is a charitable society established in 1975 by a group of dedicated residents. We are governed by a Board of Directors and provide services to over 20,000 users annually. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life where we live. The FGCA runs Fairfield Community Place, a neighbourhood hub for programs and services, at 1330 Fairfield Rd. Drop by and see us!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Monsour President	David Allison	Wayne Hollohan
Doug Tolson Vice President	Maureen Connolly	Kelby MacNayr
Susan Snell Treasurer	Ron Cox	Heather Murphy
Anne Tomyne Secretary	Scott Davis	Ted Relp
Lynn Beak, Past President	Barbara Edwards	Jason Taylor

BECOME A MEMBER: Membership is free and perpetual for anyone who lives or owns a business in Fairfield Gonzales. Send your name, address, and email to place@fairfieldcommunity.ca

WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Don Monsour, President, FGCA Board of Directors

It's hard to believe that it's been four short months since I took on the job of President of the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association. So much has happened at the Association and in the community that I would not be surprised to hear if it had been four years!

On January first we said goodbye to Executive Director Joan Kotarski. Joan was with the association for nineteen years as its very talented, and dedicated leader. A testament to her impact was the many community members, staff, and supporters who came to her retirement celebration to honour her commitment and wish her well in the future. We are fortunate to have a three member team of Co-Executive Directors who has stepped in to fill Joan's shoes. Thomas, King, Kristina Wilcox, and Vanya McDonell have made the leadership transition almost seamless, as the day to day operations never missed a beat.

In the wider community, we have seen a perfect storm of issues arise in the past few months. A large and controversial development pro-

posal at Cook and Oliphant Streets, the City's Biketoria plans for bike lanes in our neighbourhood, and the rapid implementation of transitional housing in the Mount Edwards building have all required the FGCA to respond quickly to concerns from the community. We encourage all residents to join as members and stay connected with Fairfield Community Place, as we work to keep our community informed and engaged in these times of change.

The FGCA's Board of Directors are your representatives in the community. If you want to learn more about what we do, please try to attend at least one Board meeting a year to get a sense of who we are and how we work together to improve our community. Fairfield Gonzales is a large and diverse neighbourhood. The issues that face us are complex. This requires us to be thoughtful, to listen to our members, and to always work in the best interests of the community. We are here to serve you, and I am always available to chat about your hopes and your concerns.

MEET THE CO~EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Vanya McDonell



Kristina Wilcox



Thomas King

We are thrilled to be taking on the position of Co-Executive Directors of the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association. The three of us strongly believe in providing quality, accessible service to the community. Our combined backgrounds in community development, childcare, education, recreation, and youth services have made us see first-hand the difference that these services can make, and we look forward to working with the residents of Fairfield and Gonzales to build a better, stronger, healthier community for all who live, work, and play here.

~ Vanya McDonell, Kristina Wilcox, and Thomas King, Co-Executive Directors

Info & Registration 250-382-4604

We accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express. Walk-in registrations may also be paid during office hours with credit card, cash, cheque or debit.

OFFICE HOURS

9:00am—4:00pm Monday to Thursday
9:00am—6:00 pm Friday
9:00am—3:00 pm Saturday
CLOSED—Sunday
We are closed all statutory holidays

Registration is on a first come, first served basis. All fees must be paid in full at the time of registration in order to confirm a space in the program. All programs are subject to change, and programs with insufficient registration are subject to cancellation. If a program does not have a minimum number of participants registered five working days prior to the program's start date, the program may be cancelled and a full refund or credit will be issued.

Early Childhood

Recreation

SPORTBALL

SPORTBALL - PARENT & CHILD 16 MONTHS - 3 YEARS

Sportball Parent & Child programs focus on physical literacy and social exploration as toddlers learn fundamental sport skills and participate in creative motor games, in 8 different popular sports. Children are challenged according to their individual skill level and grownups are taught techniques to help toddlers refine motor skills while developing social skills. Sportball maintains a one-parent-per-child ratio policy to ensure that focus is kept on helping little ones practice and progress.

Thursdays, April 7 – May 12
9:45am-10:30am 6/\$84

Thursdays, May 19 – June 23
9:45am-10:30am 6/\$84

SPORTBALL - MULTI-SPORT 3-5 YEARS

Refine, rehearse, repeat. Multi-Sport classes are the heart of the Sportball programming. Coaches focus on the basic skills common to all sports, like balance, coordination, stamina, and timing, in a fun, supportive, non-competitive setting that emphasizes teamwork. Each class focuses on one of 8 different popular sports: hockey, soccer, football, baseball, basketball, volleyball, golf, and tennis.

Thursdays, April 7 – May 12
10:30am-11:30am 6/\$84

Thursdays, May 19 – June 23
10:30am-11:30am 6/\$84

SPORTBALL - SOCCER

Develop skills and learn new techniques focusing on soccer. Children are taught fundamental concepts of gameplay including throw-ins, dribbling, trapping, passing, goalie skills and more. Non-competitive programs promoting confidence, self-esteem and teamwork for those kids looking for fun, not competition.

2 - 3 YEARS
Wednesdays, April 27 – June 15 8/\$112
5:15pm-6:00pm (+\$15 jersey fee)

Wednesdays, July 6 – August 24 8/\$112
5:15pm-6:00pm (+ \$20 jersey & ball fee)

4 - 6 YEARS
Wednesdays, April 27 – June 15 8/\$112
6:00pm-7:00pm (+\$15 jersey fee)

Wednesdays, July 6 – August 24 8/\$112
6:00pm-7:00pm (+ \$20 jersey & ball fee)

Summer Camps

SPORTBALL

SPORTBALL- MULTI-SPORT SUMMER CAMP 3 - 5 YEARS

Keep kids moving all year long! Sportball half day camps help kids refine, rehearse, and repeat in the off season, with plenty of skill-focused play, creative exploration, and fun. Camps are run indoor and outdoor depending on location and weather. Please send a nut-free snack, water bottle, hat and sunscreen each day.

Monday-Thursday, June 27-30
9am-12pm \$112

Monday-Friday, July 4-8
9am-12pm \$140

Monday-Friday, July 11-15
9am-12pm \$140

Drop-ins

PARENT & TOT

BIRTH – 5 YEARS

An opportunity for young children and their caregivers to meet and play in an informal atmosphere with toys, books and crafts. Snack provided.

Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. By donation

LAUGH, LEARN....THEN LUNCH!

BIRTH – 5 YEARS

Step out of our regular drop-in for a brief discussion on parenting issues with other caregivers while your children continue to socialize in our parent & tot drop-in. Then everyone gathers for a simple soup & bread lunch.

Begins Thurs Oct 1st
Thursdays
10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. By donation

KINDERGYM

WALKING – 5 YEARS

A time for preschoolers and caregivers to play and learn together in a fun, positive environment. Gym equipment is set up, upon which children can explore.

Begins Monday Sept 28th
Mondays
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. \$2 - LIFE cards welcome

BABYWEARER’S MEET-UP

The FGCA is pleased to be hosting a weekly babywearing meet up at our centre. Join other parents and caregivers on Friday mornings for an opportunity to learn safe and fun ways to wear your baby. Explore the benefits and variety of options that exist in a positive and relaxed environment. All are welcome and experienced babywearers will be on hand to answer questions, offer advice, or help you work with your desired carrier.

Fridays
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Free

L.I.F.E. PROGRAM

LEISURE INVOLVEMENT FOR EVERYONE

The L.I.F.E. Program provides a combination of annual credit and program savings to be used toward recreation programs and services. Eligibility is based on household income.

For more information contact:

Preschools

FIVE POINTS PRESCHOOL

3 - 5 YEARS

Children learn through play. Play provides children with opportunities to explore, investigate, and practice skills. Children build knowledge through hands-on experience or through the direct manipulation of objects and materials.

The emphasis in our program is on process learning. We provide this by offering choices within a framework, facilitating problem solving, redirecting and encouraging independent exploration of the environment.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday \$170/month
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. + \$30 one time
Sept - June administration fee

15 children
2 Early Childhood Educators
Children must be able to toilet independently.
Eligible families may apply for government subsidy.

CONTACT

fivepoints@fairfieldcommunity.ca
or 250-382-4604 for more information

MOSS ROCK PRESCHOOL

3 - 5 YEARS

Our goal at Moss Rock Preschool is to provide educational opportunities of exploration in a vast number of areas, such as nature, community, art and social interactions.

Our focus is heavy on exploration based learning in a warm, diverse and nurturing environment. We pay close attention to the choices preschoolers make and, with that, continue to create an evolving program that best suits the children's' individual needs.

Monday to Friday 2 days a week \$180/month
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 3 days a week \$240/month
Sept - June 4 days a week \$310/month
5 days a week \$375/month
+ \$30 one time administration fee

18 children
2 Early Childhood Educators
Children must be able to toilet independently.
Eligible families may apply for government subsidy.

CONTACT

mossrock@fairfieldcommunity.ca
or 250-382-4604 for more information



School Age

Drop-ins

CHILL ZONE GRADES 5 TO 8

Stop by after school for crafts, games, baking, art, and more....got an idea? —bring it! Our space features comfy couches, craft supplies, books, games, sports equipment, a Wii and Xbox Station, and a computer with internet access.

Thursday and Friday
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sep - Jun
By donation

Programs

YOUTH ZONE GRADES 5 & 6

The Youth Zone is an after school program where YOU have a say in what we get up to! Games, art, cool projects, cooking, baking, sports, awesome out trips – this is just the beginning. The Youth Zone is a fun and safe space for you to hang out with friends and develop your confidence and independence. Here you'll get to build skills, explore new territory, nurture your creativity, learn from community mentors, develop leadership and a sense of empowerment. Our space features comfy couches, craft supplies, books, games, sports equipment, a Wii and Xbox Station, and a computer with internet access.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sep - Jun
\$100/month

CONTACT: youth@fairfieldcommunity.ca

YOUTH LEADERSHIP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The FGCA Youth Leadership Program is an engaging and empowering youth-led program for high-school students. Throughout the school year, participants will plan and lead activities for the FGCA's Jump N Start programs at George Jay Elementary and Central Middle School, and participate in fun social opportunities as a group.

Fridays
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sep - Jun
By donation

(Possibly other days, to be determined by group)

CONTACT: youth@fairfieldcommunity.ca

HEADWATERS COLLECTIVE AGES 13-19

The focus is community activities based in restorative action: an interwoven web of feminism, creative self-expression, social justice, environmental justice, and community engagement, all of which youth strongly agreed that they “want more time and space” for in their lives.

- Eat meals together and discuss topics including feminism, sexuality, multiculturalism, and social justice
- Have free time to hang out with friends in a youth-oriented, safer space with craft supplies and dedicated staff support
- Go on out trips where we explore nature and do volunteer benefit work in the community
- Share our life experiences, self care practices, and learn new skills
- Create job opportunities for ourselves for a fair and environment-based economy
- Use our creative awesomeness to engage our community in all of the above

One of our beliefs is that everyone's voice deserves to be heard and that everyone can positively contribute, so we will continually work to create a safer space where everyone is welcome and encouraged to be them selves without obstructing the needs of others. This means that discrimination of any kind will be compassionately addressed.

There will be activities at lunchtime on weekdays, weekday evenings (6-8pm), and some weekends
Feb - Jun
By donation

CONTACT: collective@fairfieldcommunity.ca

Summer Camps

SPORTBALL MULTI-SPORT SUMMER CAMP 6 – 9 YEARS

Keep kids moving all year long! Sportball half day camps help kids refine, rehearse, and repeat in the off season, with plenty of skill-focused play, creative exploration, and fun. Camps are run indoor and outdoor depending on location and weather. Please send a nut-free snack, water bottle, hat and sunscreen each day.

Monday-Thursday, June 27-30
1pm-4pm \$112

Monday-Friday, July 4-8
1pm-4pm \$140

Monday-Friday, July 11-15
1pm-4pm \$140

CONTACT: 250-382-4604 to register

FGCA SUMMER CAMPS 5-12 YEARS *must have completed kindergarten*

Come and join us at the Place for a fun-filled summer of adventure and exploration. Each week of our summer program will be themed based on varying activities programmed by our group leaders. Our summer experience goal is to branch out to engage our kids in local community projects. The kids will be just as much a part of planning their activities as the leaders. If reasonable, groups will be divided based on interests. With the help of the leaders, the kids will be able to create a summer that is perfect for them. The possibilities are endless! Registration information can be found on our website at www.fairfieldcommunity.ca.

Monday-Friday	July 4-8	Every camp runs 8:00am - 5:30pm
Monday-Friday	July 11-15	
Monday-Friday	July 18-22	
Monday-Friday	July 25-29	
Tuesday-Friday	Aug 2-5	Camp fees will vary \$160-\$190/week
Monday-Friday	Aug 8-12	
Monday-Friday	Aug 15- 19	
Monday-Friday	Aug 22-26	

CONTACT: camps@fairfieldcommunity.ca
or 250.382.4604 for more information.

SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS 9-14 YEARS

A FUN program of full of summer activities, cool projects, awesome out-trips, sweet chillaxing where YOU have a say in what we get up to. Come join us!

Dates & times TBA

CONTACT: youth@fairfieldcommunity.ca

Out of School Care

We offer licensed care for children who attend Sir James Douglas & Margaret Jenkins Elementary Schools.

Emphasizing fun, safety and fair play in a positive environment, our licensed before and after school programs are play-based and child-focused in nature.

Our staff view children as individuals with their own ideas, cultural beliefs, abilities and interests, and strive to provide a safe and stimulating environment.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. 5 days a week \$100/month
DROP-IN \$5.00/day, based on availability

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

2:50 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 5 days a week \$300/month
3 days a week \$250/month
2 days a week \$200/month
DROP-IN \$5.00/day based on availability

BEFORE+AFTER SCHOOL CARE

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. 5 days a week \$365/month
2:50 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 3 days a week \$300/month
2 days a week \$240/month

CONTACT:

Fairfield (Sir James Douglas) Out of School Care
250-382-2065 ffosc@fairfieldcommunity.ca
1330 Fairfield Rd, Victoria BC, V8S 5J1

Margaret Jenkins Out of School Care
250-592-8800 mjosc@fairfieldcommunity.ca
1824 Fairfield Rd, Victoria BC, V8S 1G6



Adult

Fitness & Health

ZUMBA

ZUMBA
Join us for one of the fastest growing Latin dance-inspired fitness crazes across the world! People of all ages are falling in love with its infectious music, easy-to-follow dance moves and body-sculpting benefits. Come dance to the rhythms of Salsa, Merengue, Mambo and other Latin beats. This is a fitness class you will not want to miss!
Mondays, April 4 – June 13 (no class May 23)
5:30pm-6:30pm 10/\$80
Mondays, June 20 – August 29 (no class August 1)
5:30pm-6:30pm 10/\$80

ZUMBA – FAMILY FRIENDLY
Sign up for this session and bring your child(ren) - kids under 16 are free! (Maximum 2 kids per paying adult)
Join us for one of the fastest growing Latin dance-inspired fitness crazes across the world! People of all ages are falling in love with its infectious music, easy-to-follow dance moves and body-sculpting benefits. Come dance to the rhythms of Salsa, Merengue, Mambo and other Latin beats. This is a fitness class you will not want to miss!
Wednesdays, April 6 – June 8
6:30pm-7:25pm 10/\$80
Wednesdays, June 22 – Aug 24
6:30pm-7:25pm 10/\$80

ZUMBA – TONING
It's an exciting, Latin inspired, dance 'n tone program. This is the original dance-fitness class taken to the next level. **ZUMBA® TONING** is an innovative muscle training program with the addition of light weight toning sticks. We provide the 2 1/2 lb, sand filled toning sticks, which are very similar to maracas. In a relatively short period of time, this challenging workout helps in building coordination and muscle endurance. Now that you've worked on your lower body rhythm, it's time to perfect the upper body! The NEW and exciting Zumba toning program is designed to offer the participant a safe, yet effective total body toning workout! This class is open to everyone, no previous dance or ZUMBA® class experience necessary.
Tuesdays, April 5 – June 7
6:45am-7:45am 10/\$80
Wednesdays, April 6 – June 8
5:30pm-6:30pm 10/\$80
Fridays, April 8 – June10
6:45am-7:45am 10/\$80
Wednesdays, June 22 – Aug 24
5:30pm-6:30pm 10/\$80

ZUMBA 15-15-15
Love ZUMBA TONING and love ZUMBA but want to take it to another level??? Why not try ZUMBA 15-15-15? It is a combination: 15 minutes Zumba Toning, 15 minutes Zumba and 15 minutes Zumba Core and we finish with cool down and stretching. Zumba Toning combines targeted body-sculpting exercises and high-energy cardio work with Latin-infused Zumba moves to create a calorie-torching, strength-training dance fitness-party. Zumba Toning is the perfect way for enthusiasts to sculpt their bodies naturally while still getting in shape and having a total blast!. You will use weighted, maraca-like Zumba Toning Sticks or light hand weights (up to 3lbs) to enhance rhythm, build strength and tone all the target zones. This class can also include older adults who wish to do a slower Zumba workout minus the weights and the Zumba Core is designed to strengthen your core and sculpt your abs within a solid total workout.
Mondays, April 4 – June 13 (no class May 23)
6:30pm-7:30pm 10/\$80
Mondays, June 20 – August 29 (no class August 1)
6:30pm-7:30pm 10/\$80

YOGA

YOGA – PRENATAL YOGA
A class designed to provide a balance between strength, focus and flexibility in a supportive community setting. We will learn how to open the pelvis, help strengthen the back to support the extra weight of pregnancy and build endurance for childbirth. Safe for all stages of pregnancy!
Wednesdays, April 13 – June 15
1pm-2:15pm 10/\$110
YOGA - IYENGAR BEGINNERS
The Iyengar approach to Hatha Yoga encourages a balance between flexibility, strength and endurance. Emphasizing correct body alignment and precision; enjoy a sense of well being and increased relaxation.
Tuesdays, April 5 – June 14
11:00am-12:30pm 11/\$121
Tuesdays, April 5 – June 14
7:00pm-8:00pm 11/\$121
YOGA - IYENGAR INTERMEDIATE
The Iyengar approach to Hatha Yoga encourages a balance between flexibility, strength and endurance. Emphasizing correct body alignment and precision; enjoy a sense of well being and increased relaxation.
Tuesdays, April 5 – June 14
5:30pm-7:00pm 11/\$121

YOGA - IYENGAR SUPPORT AND RESTORE
Join us for an hour of gentle yoga in the Iyengar method. A practice to support and restore.
Thursdays, April 7 – June 16
12:30pm-1:30pm 11/\$99

YOGA – YIN
This session will target the main joints of the body (hips, back, and shoulders). Classes are kept at a peaceful and mindful pace to allow deeper exploration of poses and cultivate greater somatic awareness. Yogic poses are maintained mainly in a seated or reclined position from 3 to 5 minutes. Practices are supported with guided meditative and relaxation techniques, including breath-work. Suitable for all levels.
Thursdays, April 7 – June 9
5:00pm-6:15pm 10/\$80

YOGA – YIN THE MOMENT WORKSHOP
Participants will be guided through complementary and synergistic postures to assist in accessing more challenging 'peak' postures. This workshop will deliver the tools and tones of a Yin yoga practice, offering eastern philosophy, meridian awareness, as well as breath instruction. Printed materials are included and students will be encouraged to take notes; peak poses will be explored both in theory and practice.
Friday, May 6
6pm-8:30pm 1/\$30

YOGA – GENTLE YOGA AND SOMATICS
Moving through key postures of a gentle yoga practice this class will draw upon reconnecting mind/body through somatic exercises. Applied somatics is movement education rooted at the center of awareness - your awareness. Using mindful movement techniques in our yoga practice we hope to achieve better posture off our mat as well as, an enhanced yoga practice. Our focus in this 10 week session is to harmonize muscular tone to support optimal structure and function within the body.
Thursdays, April 7 – June 9
6:30pm-7:30pm 10/\$80

YOGA – TENSEGRITY REPAIR SERIES
All levels welcome to this unique yoga practice developed by Gioia Irwin. Done with ease and repetition these movements seek to restore the connective tissue allowing optimal sliding and hydration between the muscle layers.
Wednesdays, April 6 – May 4
9:15am-10:15am 5/\$40
Wednesdays, May 11 – June 8
9:15am-10:15am 5/\$40

QI GONG

SPRING FOREST QI GONG
Spring Forest Qigong (SFQ) is a simple, efficient and effective method for helping you heal physical and emotional pain to enhance the quality of your life and the lives of others. Anyone and everyone ~ regardless of ability, age or beliefs can practice the techniques of SFQ and become healthier and happier.
Wednesdays, April 20 – June 22
6:00pm-7:00pm 10/\$100

Drop-ins

BADMINTON
Join our group of enthusiasts for an evening of co-ed badminton. Bring your own racquet. Birdies provided.
Tuesdays (during the school year)
(school gym)
8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. 1/\$3.50

PUBLIC COMPUTER & PRINTER
We have a computer and printer available for community use to access the internet, email and word processing
Monday to Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Free, fee for printing



SIGN UP EARLY TO ENSURE YOUR COURSE RUNS! SIGN UP LATE AND WE PRO RATE!

Registration 250-382-4604

Special Events & Activites

Fairfield Gonzales Community-Wide YARD SALE Saturday, May 28th 9-1pm

~HOST A YARD SALE

~RECYCLE AT ST. MATTHIAS

~DONATE GOODS TO THE FGCA RUMMAGE SALE
OR SALVATION ARMY

~SHOP FOR DEALS

event@fairfieldcommunity.ca

3RD ANNUAL FAIRFIELD GONZALES COMMUNITY~WIDE YARD SALE Saturday, May 28th, 2016 from 9am-1pm

It will soon be time to clean out your basement, closets and garage, and above all benefit your community. The Fairfield Gonzales Community Association's third annual **Community-Wide Yard Sale** will take place on Saturday, May 28th, 2016.

Individuals or clusters of neighbours will be able to register their yard sales, get on our comprehensive Yard Sale map, and be eligible for curbside pickup of unsold items after the sale ends. What a great way to meet your neighbours and contribute to your community. Last year, we had almost 50 yard sale participants in and around Fairfield.

Yard Sale Tables will also be available to rent at several locations. Stay tuned for details!

Donate/Recycle/Dispose

Large (and small!) household items can be donated to the Salvation Army on the day. Look for their truck parked in front of St. Matthias Church (Richmond & Richardson). They will also swing by most registered yard sale participants to pick up unsold items after the event.

You can visit the monthly plastics, recycling depot and bottle drive at St. Matthias Church from 9am-11am on May 28th. Got general junk to dispose of? The Junk Box can be contacted (before or after the event) to dispose of trash for a discounted fee to registered yard sale participants.

For more information, call the FGCA at 250-382-4604 or email event@fairfieldcommunity.ca

VOLUNTEER FOR US

Learn more: [email place@fairfieldcommunity.ca](mailto:place@fairfieldcommunity.ca) or call 250-382-4604

Moss St Market Booth Volunteer

The Fairfield Gonzales Community Association is looking for outgoing individuals or groups to volunteer at our Moss Street Market Booth this summer. Saturdays, from early May through October, between 10am-2pm, enjoy the market vibe and music as you meet community members and talk about the FGCA's offerings and programs. You can lead anything from easel painting, bubble making, to collage, card-making or simple sewing/appliqué projects. Your creativity and ideas are welcomed! Contact: event@fairfieldcommunity.ca

Community Event Host

The FGCA hosts several community-building events throughout the year, such as Poetry and Performance Open Mic nights, Food For Thought dialogues, and more. We need some help with simple things like putting out chairs and making tea. If you love being social and working as part of a team, we want to hear from you!

Observer Newspaper Writer

The FGCA Observer Newspaper team is looking for enthusiastic volunteers interested in writing, journalism, editing, and formatting for a community newspaper.

Got a green thumb?

Our long-time volunteer is retiring from maintaining the front garden at Fairfield Community Place, and we're looking for someone who loves to garden to take his place.

Fairfield Food Forest Volunteer

Join the FGCA Community Garden Committee and volunteer for our garden work parties. We're looking for enthusiasts to join our core group as well as more 'friends': people with time, tools or skills to lend! No garden experience necessary. Contact fairfieldcommunitygardens@gmail.com for more information.

CLOTHING SWAP

Bring along your beloved but outgrown items to exchange for new duds, or come empty handed & fill up a bag! Free!

Please bring items in clean and gently used condition. Clothing will only be accepted during the event hours and all remaining items will be removed by end of event for donation to charity.



JOIN THE REPAIR CAFE FAIRFIELD

Repair Café Fairfield is a neighbourhood initiative that promotes repair as an alternative to tossing things out. The initiators organise a Repair Café periodically at the Fairfield Community Place (1330 Fairfield Road). Residents of Fairfield and surrounding areas can bring their broken items to fix them on the spot with the help of voluntary repairers. Repair Café Fairfield could use more handy volunteers in the area. Join us!

Repair Café Fairfield is looking for local residents with different skills who can be present as repair experts during the Repair Café meetings. We are especially looking for people who are handy with:

clothing / textiles bicycles electrical appliances furniture / wooden objects

And who enjoy sharing their knowledge with their neighbours. As a new initiative, we are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to form the Repair Cafe Fairfield Organizing Committee. Positions include: Food Coordinator, Materials and Sponsorship Coordinator, Publicity and Space Coordinator. In addition, we are also looking for people who wish to fulfil the role of Host / Hostess at the meetings. You provide coffee and tea, welcome visitors and serve as a contact point for both visitors and repairers in the Repair Café. We could also really use people who are particularly adept with **Computers/Internet/Social media**. We are looking for someone to help us with our website and to, for example, make Repair Café Fairfield more present on Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms.

Want to know more about the Repair Café? Email repaircafeairfield@gmail.com



FAIRFIELD GONZALES
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

the place to connect

1330 Fairfield Rd. Victoria BC V8S 5J1 place@fairfieldcommunity.ca www.fairfieldcommunity.ca

FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY PLACE IS YOUR PLACE

Come join us here at the Fairfield Community Place on the last Monday of the month for board games, guitar jamming, book clubs, video games, and free computer access. This is your opportunity to get connected with the community by sharing a space with like-minded individuals. We welcome new ideas so bring your creativity and energy. All ages are welcome and by donation.

Mondays, April 25, May 30

6:00pm – 8:00pm, By Donation



GOOD FOOD BOX

The **Good Food Box** is a non-profit alternative fruit and vegetable distribution system. The focus is first on making good fresh food affordable and accessible, and second on providing locally grown food to participants. Anyone can order a box – the more people participate, the better the program becomes.

Pick-up every other Wednesday, 3:30-5:30pm
at the FGCA 1330 Fairfield Rd.

Order online (min 1week before) www.thegoodfoodbox.ca
or at Fernwood NRG, 1240 Gladstone Ave. 250-381-1552 ext.100

Good Food Box is a non-profit alternative fruit and vegetable distribution system. Boxes are available for pick-up or delivery every second Wednesday. We purchase the highest quality produce and

ensure variety, freshness and affordability. We prioritize locally grown, unsprayed produce with a focus on seasonal fruits & vegetables. Good Food Box is a project of the Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group (Fernwood NRG), a non-profit organization based in Fernwood, Victoria. Fernwood NRG is committed to creating a socially, environmentally and economically sustainable neighbourhood. Good Food Box is brought to you by your community, lovingly packed and delivered by volunteer community members and is meeting shared goals for sustainability, food security, social justice and health.

FAIRFIELD FOOD FOREST

The Fairfield Food Forest is located in Porter Park, near the intersection of Kipling and Thurlow. Come by and see what our hard working Garden Committee has been up to!

SATURDAY APRIL 23TH

"Plants & Animals" 9:00am-12:00pm This work party will focus on getting the remaining plants planted, the existing plants fed, as well as adding a few annual understory plantings that come our way. We'll also install a few cages to keep our animal friends away from our tender plantings. Please bring water & gloves if you have them (we'll have a few extra pairs). Snacks will be provided. Email us to get more details.

Blog: <http://fairfieldcommunitygardens.blogspot.com/>

Email: fairfieldcommunitygardens@gmail.com

Facebook: Fairfield Community Gardens



ROCK THE ARTS PUPPET SHOW

Rock the Arts Puppet Company is bringing their **Superhero Showdown puppet show** to Fairfield Community Place on **SUNDAY MAY 29TH!**

Co-sponsored by the FGCA and Puppets for Peace festival.

Check them out online:
facebook.com/Rock.the.Arts.Puppet.Company

Adult

Arts

MUSIC

AFRICAN HAND DRUMMING (LEVEL 1)
Have you ever wanted to learn to play music in a welcoming group setting? It's a fun way to unwind and energize while meeting new friends! African drumming has proven health benefits, and is easy for anyone to learn at any age. No need to own a drum. New students can sign up at any time (classes are pro-rated from start date). Beginners are welcome and drums are provided. Award-winning instructor Jordan Hanson uses a progressive, easy-to-follow teaching style. Each new student receives a 24-page handbook & instructional DVD for playing along at home. www.drumvictoria.com
Tuesdays, July 5 – August 16
7:00pm-8:15pm **7/\$112**

AFRICAN HAND DRUMMING (LEVEL 2)
For students who have taken LEVEL 1 for at least one year, and are comfortable playing bass, tone and slap notes. Develop your sense of timing, polyrhythm, and syncopation. Learn traditional solo phrases and rhythmic breaks. www.drumvictoria.com
Tuesdays, July 5 – August 16
8:15pm-9:30pm **7/\$112**

LANGUAGE

SPANISH FOR BEGINNERS I
An introduction to the basics. Learn grammar, pronunciation, reading and writing, as well as common idioms and expressions. Cultural traditions and context from Latin America are taught. Students will be able to use what they have learned to travel in Spanish-speaking countries and have FUN learning Spanish this way! (Textbook "Learn Spanish the Fast and Fun Way by Gene Hammet" not included in price)
Wednesdays, April 20 – June 22
7:00pm-9:00pm **10/\$90**

Food

CHEESE MAKING WORKSHOPS

MOZZARELLA
Learn to make hand stretched mozzarella cheese in only 30 minutes! This class will explore rapidly acidified cheeses verses culture ripened cheeses. In this taste, touch and feel demonstration you will learn how to make your own fresh mozzarella cheese and learn some creative and unique ways of serving and eating it. Class includes instructions, sanitation guide and mini cheese making kit to produce over 4 lbs of cheese in your own home. Join Paula Maddison who has been making and teaching cheese making for over 5 years. Paula's classes are comprehensive, and a lot of fun, demystifying that cheese making is complicated and requires owning a cow! Paula is a self-taught cheese maker and her years of experience will help you become a cheese maker too!
Sunday, April 3 **10am-12pm** **1/\$65**
Saturday, June 11 **10am-12pm** **1/\$65**

FETA
Learn to make Greek style Feta cheese! Join Paula Maddison who has been making and teaching cheese making for over 5 years. Paula's classes are comprehensive, and a lot of fun, demystifying that cheese making is complicated and requires owning a cow! Paula is a self-taught cheese maker and her years of experience will help you become a cheese maker too!
Sunday, April 3 **1pm-3pm** **1/\$65**
Saturday, June 11 **1pm-3pm** **1/\$65**

FROMAGE BLANC & BOURSIN
Paula Maddison and been making and teaching cheese on Gabriola Island for over 5 years, her classes are fun, informative and delicious demystifying the idea that you need a cow to make your own cheese! Come on out and learn this lost art form, start your own tradition to pass down to your family members.
Learn the art of making your own delicious cheese! Fromage Blanc is probably one of my favorite cheeses to make and eat because it is so versatile; there are so many applications for this cheese. I call it my "blank canvas". Fromage Blanc is a French style cream cheese. You can use it just as that, cream cheese, incorporate it into cream sauces, use it as a dip, bake with it, stuff pasta with it, and make Boursin with it. Join me in playing with some Fromage Blanc and learn lots of creative and unique serving ideas....best part is: Eating the cheese made in class!
Saturday, April 23 **10am-12pm** **1/\$65**

BRIE
Learn how to make your own Brie! Join Paula Maddison who has been teaching the lost art of home cheese crafting for over 4 years and learn how to make your own Brie cheese at home. This is a demonstration style, taste, touch, and feel class where Paula will take students through the process of ripening traditional Brie. Advanced cheese making techniques are discussed and cultures and ingredients to make your own at home are included. Paula demystifies the process of making your own home made cheeses. Her classes are comprehensive, fun and the best part is...you get to enjoy the cheeses made in class. Brie is an easy cheese to make and so delicious!
Saturday, April 23 **1pm-3pm** **1/\$65**

SIGN UP EARLY TO ENSURE YOUR COURSE RUNS! SIGN UP LATE AND WE PRO RATE!

Registration 250-382-4604

Facility Rentals

250-382-4604
info & bookings

www.fairfieldcommunity.ca
for FAQs & photos

Tables and chairs are included with all rentals. All rooms are wheelchair accessible including washroom facilities.

GARRY OAK ROOM *(pictured below)*
An open, multi-purpose room with large windows. 1500 square feet, 80 people can be seated or 100 standing. Sound-system and microphone included. Located adjacent to the Sir James Douglas School, access is from 1335 Thurlow Road.

RATES
\$50 Hourly
\$150 Half day (9am-3pm or 4pm-10pm)
\$250 Full day (9am-10pm)
\$50 To add Corinne's kitchen to rental, if available



CORINNE'S KITCHEN
A 900 sq. ft. commercial kitchen with 12 person seating around large, stainless steel counter. Gas grill and oven, electric cooktop, commercial fridge and sanitizer. Accessed through shared foyer with the Garry Oak Room.

THE PORTABLE
This self-contained space is perfect for meetings, workshops or rehearsal space. Windows let light in from two sides overlooking Porter Park. It is available until 2:30 pm daily, evenings after 6 pm and all day weekends.

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE ROOM
The large room that we use for Out of School Care faces south making it a very sunny and warm meeting place. Suitable for gatherings of 20 -30 people and is available for weekend and evening events.

FAMILY ROOM
A bright comfortable room suitable for small gatherings of 20 people, available during evenings and weekends. It has a small living room type corner and adjustable tables. Large windows face west.

RATES
FOR ROOMS OTHER THAN THE GARRY OAK
\$30 Hourly (2 hour minimum)
\$25 Hourly (for a 3 – 5 hour rental)
\$150 Flat rate for 6 or more hours

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CONNECTION

By Jessie Gill, Community Development Assistant

THE FGCA HOSTS A MEETING TO BRING TOGETHER VICTORIA'S PRIVATE SYRIAN REFUGEE SPONSORS

Over the last six months, there has been a united surge of interest in helping with the Syrian refugee crisis. In the fall of 2015, with the federal election looming, no one could be sure if the government's plans would include settling more refugees in Canada. Inspired Victoria residents decided to take matters into their own hands, forming a number of private refugee sponsorship groups. The collectives, called "constituency groups" are each working with the local Sponsorship Agreement Holders (The Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria and the Anglican Diocese) to privately sponsor refugees. The end goal for each group is to successfully bring over a Syrian refugee family or individual, and to support them for one year as they settle into their new life in Victoria. As of January 2016, there were roughly thirty constituency groups working with the Inter-Cultural Association, and the same number associated with the Anglican Diocese.

This past autumn, with the new school year upon us, many of our program users found themselves connecting and reconnecting with other members of the Fairfield-Gonzales community. Within weeks of our programs starting, three different sets of parents from the Moss Rock Preschool community had discovered that the other families were also undertaking private refugee sponsorships. Although the newly connected individuals managed to catch quick conversations in passing, sustained exchanges were difficult due to busy schedules and commitments.

As a community association, it is within our mission statement to collaborate with community members to identify and act on their needs. For the persons involved with the refugee sponsorship process, it was clear that a place and time for extended connection was needed. Collaboratively, amongst staff and community users, it was decided that the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association would host a meeting to bring together as many Victoria-based constituency groups as we could. We set an agenda and picked a date in late November, hopeful that other constituency

groups would also see the value of such a meeting. The meeting objectives were focused on connection, resource sharing, and collaboration.

Word of the meeting was quickly disseminated via e-mail; how widely our invitation spread, we did not know. On meeting day, we were pleasantly surprised to host approximately fifty Victoria residents, each ready to share stories, experiences, concerns and ideas. The meeting brought together members from roughly thirteen constituency groups. Church and Synagogue based groups, community groups and groups with family connections to Syria were all represented at the meeting. The atmosphere in the room was passionate, proud and empowering.

Emily Hull, of the "Friends of Syria -Victoria" group attended the meeting with one of her fellow group members. "We found [the meeting] really valuable as it was an opportunity to recognize faces in the community that are involved in sponsorship," Emily said. Emily and her group were also introduced to another attendee, Moustafa Jammal, from the Masjid Al-Iman Mosque. Moustafa invited the "Friends of

Syria- Victoria" and other groups to visit the Mosque. Many Constituency Group members were pleased to connect with a representative from the local Mosque.

Present at the meeting were groups at all stages of the sponsorship process. Some constituency groups were waiting to welcome their families by year's end, whereas other groups were seeking additional members and funds to launch their sponsorship process.

With the New Year upon us, we are already aware of the arrival of privately sponsored families to Victoria. It is a new experience for both sponsors and the sponsored. Hats off to the local sponsors who have shown initiative, care, and persistence in the face of this global crisis.

If you are inspired to connect with any of the local constituency groups, have items or funds to donate, or want to get involved, we encourage you to get in touch with the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria or the Anglican Diocese.

You can also visit the following website for more info: refugeesforvi.wordpress.com/

EXPLORE FAIRFIELD'S ARTIST STUDIOS

Saturday, May 7 & Sunday, May 8, 2016 11am - 4pm



fairfieldartistsstudiotour.com

The Fairfield Artists Studio Tour is an annual self-guided tour that provides art-lovers an opportunity to meet local artists, tour their studios and view their work while exploring the beautiful neighbourhood of Fairfield.

The free, weekend-long community event is on May 7 & 8, 2016 from 11am to 4 pm. It is a celebration of the rich variety of art

being created in Victoria. Established and emerging artists open their studio doors to the public to display their fine art including painting, pottery, glass, jewellery, textiles and photography.

The Fairfield Artists Studio Tour attracts a large group of talented artists and hundreds of visitors who can be seen walking, cycling and driving around the

neighbourhood in search of inspiring art and the people who create it. Most artists will be offering their works for sale at a broad range of prices. Visit our map page to plan your route and find pick-up locations for free tour brochures with maps with artist information.

We look forward to welcoming you to our studios.

An advertisement for Duttons Real Estate. It features a photo of two men, Ole Schmidt and David Logan, standing in front of a house. Ole is on the left, wearing a dark jacket, and David is on the right, wearing a suit and glasses. The background shows a two-story house with a chimney.

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Ole & David

Ole Schmidt
ole@duttons.com

David Logan
david@duttons.com

DUTTONS & CO REAL ESTATE LTD.
394 MOSS STREET | 250-383-7100
WWW.DUTTONS.COM

An advertisement for Carole James, MLA. It features a photo of Carole James, a woman with short blonde hair, wearing a light-colored blazer. The background is a light blue gradient.

Carole James, MLA VICTORIA-BEACON HILL

Honoured to serve you in our community

COMMUNITY OFFICE
1084 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8V 3K4
250-952-4211
Carole.James.MLA@leg.bc.ca
www.CaroleJamesMLA.ca

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Jessie Gill, Community Development Assistant

In November and December of 2015, the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association (FGCA) Streetlife committee hosted two fantastic food security events. These events, called “Food for Thought” welcomed everyone and anyone with an interest in food growing, food preparation and preserving, and community food sharing. Each event began with an engaging presentation. Speakers included a local farmers, an author, community builders and backyard gardeners. Both events roused inspiring conversation and idea sharing amongst those who attended.

The first event, which launched the pilot series, welcomed Natalie Chambers, author of “Saving Farmland: The Fight for Real Food”. Natalie and her husband, David, are the owners of the 27-acre Madrona Organic Farm on Blenkinsop Road. The farm has a rich family history; David’s grandparents, being the original owners of the farm, bought in 1952. Natalie’s talk at the Food for Thought event prompted passionate discussion. Natalie introduced issues surrounding farmland, ecosystems, and biodiversity. Following the engaging presentation, the intimate

audience split into smaller groups and openly shared their thoughts, ideas and ways to increase food security right in our community.

The second event, in early December, had local Fernwood residents share their experiences with the audience. Grace and David Gerry share a love of food growing, preserving and community. In Grace’s presentation, we learnt how they have brought their community together, often using food as a key connection tool. Their journey of community building using food began with a neighbourhood hot soup event. For thirteen years now, Grace and David’s hot soup event has connected neighbours and friends, both new and old. In the second part of the presentation, David took the floor. He shared how he has creatively transformed their small outdoor space into a food producing oasis. The audience was lucky enough to sample some goumi berry fruit leather. What a tart and delicious treat!

The next Food for Thought event is a dinner and discussion, scheduled for Friday, May 13th.

To help out with this exciting initiative or to learn more about it, call 250-382-4604 or email place@fairfieldcommunity.ca

CENTRAL’S GIFT TO THE HOMELESS

By Portia Lafond and Saje Volpe, Central Middle School students

Sometimes you feel best when helping out. You might feel best helping friends, family or the entire community. Central Middle School students feel at their best when they can do community projects to help with those in need.

They have seriously committed to helping out the Fernwood and Fairfield community in many ways with the help of their teacher Mr. Barwin.

In February 2016, Central Middle School hosted a dinner for My Place homeless shelter located in the Boys and Girls centre across the street from Central Middle School. Central grade 8 students have been fundraising and receiving donations since the beginning of January to gather food and other things the homeless might need for their stay across the street from Central Middle School.

They have dedicated school hours to create short documentaries and web sites during and outside of school to spread awareness for the homeless people. Central students believe that giving and helping out is very important.

This isn’t the only community project Central students have done; they have helped donate thousands to the Syrian Refugees that came to Canada and also had a banquet night with performances and treats to fund the Syrians as well.

In conclusion, “The gift of helping is the best gift to give.” All of Central Middle School is hoping that everyone will accept the homeless like they have and will look at them another way with more respect and understanding.

ART AT THE PLACE:

LOCAL ARTWORK DISPLAYED HERE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

By Jessie Gill, Community Development Assistant

As you step into the Fairfield Community Place, you may notice a display of colourful, intriguing and often locally inspired artwork. These displays are part of a largely volunteer initiated project called “Art at the Place”. With such a diverse community coming through our doors, any artist that shows in our space gets great exposure. Hundreds of people pass through these doors during the artists’ two month exhibition. Art at the Place transforms the space into something truly special.

Over the last two years, we have displayed the work of numerous local artists, each remarkably individual in style and medium. Whether you are inspired by watercolour representations of iconic local scenes (Robert Amos), playful textiles, prints and paintings (Annie Nazarian), or vibrant acrylic west coast landscapes and wildlife portraits (Lisa Riehl), our exhibitions always promise something unique. Each artist welcomes the public to an opening reception, where admirers can get to know the artist, share food and conversation.

The FGCA plays a supportive

role in this wonderful initiative, though much of the behind the scenes work is done by one especially dedicated volunteer, Diane Salmon. Diane, who is a self-described art lover, seeks out new artists to show in our foyer every two months. Diane is a fantastic curator, who is enthusiastic, warm and definitely knows how to pick Art at the Place exhibitors.

Showing in March and April of 2016 is Suzanne Heron, a passionate, community driven artist. Suzanne Heron’s opening reception will be on Saturday, March 12th from 11am-1pm at the Fairfield Community Place (1330 Fairfield Road). Be sure to join us!

Are you an artist? If you are interested in exhibiting your work at the community centre, please get in touch by e-mailing: fgcacurator@gmail.com

SUZANNE HERON
Opening Reception
Saturday March 12th
11am-1pm
Fairfield Community Place
1330 Fairfield Rd.



VENI, VEDI, VICI

ITALIANS IN 1800s VICTORIA

By Annamaria Bamji

ZARELLI, DIEGO (TONY)

A much more flamboyant member of the Zarelli family, Diego, or Tony, left his imprint in Victoria too (like his brother Giuseppe).

It was very difficult for Americans to pronounce some Italian names so Giuseppe became John, Giovanni, Joseph and so on. As for Diego to become Tony, well, it was very easy to remember. For us historians, well ... that is another matter.

To continue. He was born 7th April 1860 (and the month of April was his lucky month) in Carolei, a little town near Cosenza, South of Italy. As a young man he went to work in France where he stayed for six years. He left France in April 1887 for New York. Then he went to Pittsburgh. His first job there earned him \$57 (wow). He then went to Laurelville Ohio where he stayed a while and then he went to Tacoma, Washington, where he left in April to come to Victoria where he remained.

Like his brother Giuseppe, he worked very hard and became not very rich but wealthy. No, not in the sewers or the groceries business but in the SHOESHINE establishments.

His first shoeshine stand was at the Brown Jug, at Fort and Government, a place owned by Mike Powers. After two months he moved to the Pritchard House run

by Billy Stevenson, at the corner of Government and Yates. He gradually built up his business in Trounce Alley, until he became the “shoe shine king”.

He had a very nice way to see life.

He refused to give credit and the walls of his establishments were covered with signs that his son Duke found in his travels: Like “I have trusted many to my sorrow, so pay today: I will trust tomorrow”.

He worked seven days a week and if asked if he went to church that morning he replied that when he died and was sent to hell, the devil will say to him: “Hello Tony, what the hell are you doing here?” He was named Tony by a Tacoma friend who shared with him the joy of the saloons. Maybe his real name was Antonio?

He married Rosaria, whom he remembered from back home, and they had three children: two sons, Duca and Gisberto and one daughter, Delina.

At his death in 1943 at age 82, his hair had a little grey. He credits this to his home-made wine. The wine seems to be getting the better of the taxes.

N.B. In 1875 La Repubblica (an Italian Newspaper) reported the two brothers (Giuseppe and Diego) were mentioned as “uomini d’affari di successo in America”.

N.B. Up until few years ago, the same shop in Trounce Alley was selling shoes. Coincidence?

THE JOY OF LAWN BOWLING

By Cathy Korpela and Mary Forster



Springtime! The sun is shining, birds are singing and the grass is green. It's time to go out to play. Why not try lawn bowling?

Lawn bowling is an inexpensive and enjoyable way to get exercise outdoors. It is a sport for life enjoyed by people of all ages; it helps you to maintain strength and flexibility of limbs, sharpens the mind and develops hand-eye coordination. The lawn bowling club is also an excellent place to meet people, especially if you are new to the neighbourhood.

The game of bowls could be described as a cross between bocce and curling. Play consists of two teams of singles, doubles, triples or fours. Like bocce, it begins by

throwing a smaller ball, the "jack" to the end of the bowling green or rink. Players throw their "bowl" (different from bocce "balls" because of a built-in bias that creates a curve in its trajectory) to the jack. Bowls closest to the jack score points for the team.

The Victoria Lawn Bowling Club (VLBC), located on the east side of Beacon Hill Park at Cook St. & Park Blvd. (near the tennis courts and children's playground) has been a connecting point and central hub of activity for the communities of Fairfield and James Bay since 1909.

During the season from April to October, the club is open for bowling seven days a week and some evenings. Bowlers may

participate in a drop-in draw each afternoon, and/or join a morning or evening league. VLBC holds several club tournaments each season and builds community by hosting interclub tournaments—all open for public viewing. In 2015, the club hosted a very successful first annual South Island Bowling Organization (SIBO) \$1,000 International Pairs Tournament, with bowlers coming from U.S.A. and Vancouver, as young as 16.

Membership in the Victoria Lawn Bowling Club offers unlimited bowling, plus winter activities in the clubhouse (bridge, cribbage, book club, mahjong, and social events). Bowling lessons are offered at the beginning of each

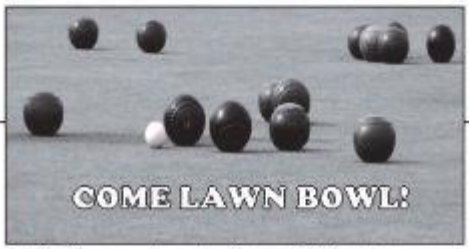
season. The club has a plentiful supply of bowls; participants may wear comfortable coloured sports attire. All that is required is flat-soled shoes to protect the greens.

Club facilities are also available to members and non-members to rent for private or social functions. Learn more at www.victorialbc.com

You are invited to try lawn bowling at the Victoria Lawn Bowling Club's open house on the weekend of April 9-10, 2016, from 1 to 3 p.m. If you don't try it, you will never know what you are missing!

OPEN HOUSE
April 9 & 10, 2016 from 1 to 3pm
Coffee, tea & treats will be served.

Victoria Lawn Bowling Club



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Victoria BC V8V 4Z8 www.victorialbc.com

(East side of Beacon Hill Park, near the tennis courts and children's playground)

OLIVE STREET LIBRARY

By Vanya McDonell



Ollive Street Library opening photos by Leslie Lord and Diana Rowles

Those 'in the know' realize that Olive Street in Fairfield is a hotbed of community-building energy. In the last issue of the Observer, we re-published an article from the nineties about how a group of residents had saved Olive Street common from redevelopment. So it was no surprise when, prompted by that article, resident Leslie Lord got in touch to let me know about the latest project for the residents there. 'Free Little Libraries', or 'Book Boxes', are popping up all over the neighbourhood, and Olive

Street residents have opened their very own Olive Street Library. They worked together on all aspects from planning to installation, and even hosted a celebration and ribbon-cutting ceremony to inaugurate the library.

"I love that we live in an area where we can get to know our neighbours. It makes life so much richer," says Lord about the place she has called home for many years. Where will the next book box in Fairfield Gonzales pop up? Maybe on your street!



YOU GOTTA TRY DRAGON BOATING!!

Team "Momentum" is looking for senior men interested in the fabulous watersport of dragon boating. A mixed team (men-women) practicing on the Gorge waterways, they enjoy the challenges and camaraderie of this sport. Men aged 50 and over, with or without experience will be welcome. For further information please contact Team Co-Captains Holly Rhodes, hsrhodes@shaw.ca or Penny Stewart penny.stewart@shaw.ca

Team "Vic Vixens" is recruiting ladies for their all women team, also practicing on the Gorge. Any age, with or without experience will be welcome, although they are mainly a 50+ group of active, fit women. For further information, please contact Team Captain Debby Sollway djs06@shaw.ca

And for men and women over 55, there is another great opportunity to be engaged in dragon boating. The BC Seniors' Games Society will sponsor paddlers clinics to introduce all aspects of the sport. Classroom and in-boat training sessions will be held on March 26 and April 3, free of charge. For further information on this venue, please contact Keith Tomlinson dktd@islandnet.net

AD SPACE AVAILABLE

To inquire about advertising opportunities, contact Vanya
vmcdonell@fairfieldcommunity.ca
250-382-4604



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250-363-3600

Murray.Rankin@parl.gc.ca

Office hours:

Tuesday to Friday

10am to 4pm

CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Become a member.

Who can be a member?

If you live or own a business in Fairfield or Gonzales, you can sign up to be a member.
It's free and perpetual!

What does membership mean?

Membership means you can vote for our Board of Directors and on issues that affect the association, you will receive news about what we're up to, and we will send you neighbourhood-specific updates too! The more members we have, the better we can represent our neighbourhood.

Sign me up!

Just email the info below or send us this completed form:

Name:

Address:

Postal Code:

Phone:

Email:

Don't live or own a business in the neighbourhood,

but still want to connect?

Just send us your name and email and we'll subscribe you to our e-news!
You can unsubscribe at any time.

Where do I send my info?

place@fairfieldcommunity.ca

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