



FALL 2004 VOL. 28 NO. 4

THE CORDOVAN

The Newsletter of the Cordova Bay Association

Plaza clean-up draws unexpected legal action

IN THE LATEST development in the slow-moving clean-up of the gasoline-contaminated Cordova Bay shopping plaza, Shell Canada has filed a civil suit against Chevron and the owners of Your Family Food Mart.

A Shell Canada spokesperson explains that the surprise action is a formality to protect the company's legal rights and does not impede efforts to resolve the issue in a cooperative manner.

Shell Canada has been working since 2001 to clean up underground pollution from the former service station on the north-west corner of Doumac Avenue and Cordova Bay Road. At the same time Shell has been trying to determine whether another former gas station site across the road on the shopping plaza property could be adding to the contamination.

If this is the case, Shell argues that Your Family Food Mart, which owns the plaza, should share the cleanup costs.

The civil suit means that if the shopping centre is found responsible in the future, Shell can recover some of its costs.

Brenda Ferguson, a realtor who represents the owners, recently accompanied them at a meeting with Cordova Bay Association directors to document the frustrating delays they have experienced in proposals to rebuild the shopping centre. Saanich council approved the plan in 1999 but until the site is cleaned up or "remediated" the development is stalled. Ferguson added that the food mart cleaned up its site 20 years ago, and if contamination still exists it must have happened more recently.

Growing community frustration is shared by Saanich council which recently granted Scotia Bank a two-year extension permitting use of its temporary trailer until the new plaza is built, with one councillor commenting that this was the last extension likely to be approved by the municipality.

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CORDOVA BAY 55 + ASSOCIATION

New society gets off the mark with activity programs for the community

THE COFFEE PARTY held on July 27 at the Beach House was a huge success. A total of 118 people attended to view the plans of the new addition to Cordova Bay School, and express their interests in future programs and activities.

Memberships in the Cordova Bay 55 Plus Association are now available at a cost of \$40 per person. This first membership will cover the period up to December 31, 2005. New members may send their cheque, made out to the Cordova Bay 55 Plus Association, to 5135 Cordova Bay Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Y 2K1.

Before the addition to Cordova Bay School has even begun, the association is offering several new programs in available accommodation.

Sept. 14 (Tues). Drop-in meeting at the Beach House, 5110 Cordova Bay Road, opposite McMorran's restaurant, 10-00 a.m. to 12 noon. This is an opportunity to meet your neighbours and exchange ideas for future programs.

Sept. 28 - Nov. 9. Weekly drop-ins every Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 12 noon at the Beach House.

Sept. 22 (Wed.) 10 a.m. - 12 noon. On the Go Again. Weekly meetings for older residents to socialize and take part in small group discussions with resource people in the areas of physical, intellectual, social and emotional health. Transportation available. Phone 382-3151 (Saanich Silver Threads) to register for On the Go Again. Meetings are held in the Cordova Bay area and presented as a Silver Threads outreach program. \$2 per session.

October 5 to November 9 Stretch n' Strength 50+. Learn safe effective stretching .

and strengthening techniques while using weights and tubing.

Beginner (No. 141937) Tuesdays
Oct. 5 to Nov. 9, 1-2 p.m. \$22/6 (members)
\$28/6 (non-members).

Ongoing (No. 141938) Tuesdays,
Oct. 5-Nov. 9, 2:15-3:15 p.m. \$22/6
(members) \$28/6 (non-members).

Location: The Beach House, 5110
Cordova Bay Road.

To register, phone Saanich Common-
wealth Place, 727-5300.

Watch our for future programs in-
cluding dance, yoga and T'ai Chi.

Volunteers Needed

The Public Relations Committee is looking
for volunteers to help with the following
tasks:

Telephone members about upcoming
programs

Help produce the newsletter

Distribute posters around the neigh-
bourhood

Liaise with the Program and Fund-
raising Committees

Help with advertising, information
and distribution

If you are able to assist with any of
these tasks or are willing to help in any way
please phone Daphne at 658-4030.

We now have a website :
cordovabay55plusassociation.clubvpa.com
which is accessible through Google or other
search engines, or via [www.clubvpa.com/
pub/index.asp](http://www.clubvpa.com/pub/index.asp) if you have difficulty.

Haliburton Farm project goes to public hearing

THE public hearing into the rezoning appli-
cation to create the Haliburton organic farm
is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14 at
7:30 p.m. in the municipal hall council
chamber, 770 Vernon Avenue.

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Cordova Bay has many links to pioneer days

By Bea Johnson

THERE ARE LIKELY some of you who do not remember when the North and South Saanich Agricultural Society held the annual fair on East Saanich Rd., just down the street from the Prairie Inn, situated on the corner of Mt. Newton X Rd. and East Saanich Rd. The site is in itself a landmark of pioneer fame and it's here that the Saanich Pioneers operate the Log Cabin Museum and Archives.

The cabin was built through volunteer labour and dedicated by Premier Tolmie on July 1, 1933. This was an occasion of great importance for the Pioneer Society as the group had been formed in 1922, when an anniversary party had been such a success in bringing friends and neighbours together that the Society decided to regroup. Through this reformation came the desire to have their own building, where they could socialize and create a place to display and store the important memorabilia of the pioneer families. Today the cabin provides a wealth of archival genealogical information of our pioneers through its artifacts and pictorial displays.

Though Cordova Bay was off the beaten track from the direct route to the Saanich Peninsula there exist numerous connections between the Cordova Bay community and the Saanich Pioneers' Society.

This connection is evident through John Carmichael who was born in Scotland, immigrated to Iowa and then to Victoria in 1886. He purchased Section 32 at the north end of Cordova Bay where he built a house called "The Cedars". His granddaughters Norma Sealey and Jane Thomson have played a significant part over the years for the Saanich Pioneer Society.

The Cordova Bay street name Walema

originated from the initials of three of the Carmichael children. The senior Carmichael became the municipal clerk, then the assessor and also the justice of the peace. His son Walter married Evelyn Nimmo, thus the connection.

Another pioneer was Josiah Bull who was born in England in 1864 then came to Canada in 1887. He first worked on the McRae farm in Cedar Hill then purchased 40 acres on what is now Cherry Tree Bend. His granddaughter Shirley Lee lives just down the highway from her grandfather's place and actively works for the log cabin. Shirley's parents, George and Annie Bull Robinson, were well known for the seed farm and nursery on Brookleigh Rd.

When Elk Lake School opened in 1898 the first teacher was Miss Gladys Butler, daughter of Captain Butler whose descendants are well known throughout the Peninsula. Maurice Butler is the past president of the society and Miss Butler was his aunt. A current member, Margery Fraser now living in the village, has ancestors from the Norman Morison era.

We hope that we have rekindled your awareness of the connection you possess to the pioneers and extend an invitation for you to explore further. The museum is open to the public Saturday and Sunday from noon until 4 p.m. We are also open for archival research and tour groups on request. For further information call Bea Johnson at 658-8347

References for this article taken from "Sea-Lake" by Anne Pearson and from the log cabin files.

CBA opens new web site

THE Cordova Bay Association's new web site offers a wide range of information on community affairs and the make-up and role of the association. It's available at www.cbasn.com or by searching for Cordova Bay Association on the various search engines such as Google.

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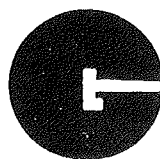
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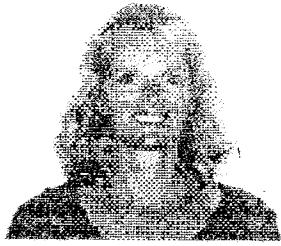
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Don't shut out the Shut Ins!

By Susan Zerb

YOUR Cordova Bay neighbours need your help! At Saanich Volunteer Services Society, we know people that are isolated from the beautiful community that you call home.

Help us help your Neighbours!

We need volunteers to provide companionship and drives to appointments, visiting, reassuring phone calls, gardening and any number of activities. SVSS has a roster of over 800 clients residing throughout Saanich.

Presently we dispatch volunteers from other neighborhoods to help individuals in Cordova Bay stay in their own homes and enjoy independent living. Independence is great, but not if it leads to isolation.

Something as simple as walking a neighbour to one of the stores in the Village can make a huge difference in their well being. We need your help to make sure all of the members in the community have an opportunity to enjoy its benefits.

Those of you who have worked so diligently on creating the Cordova Bay 55 plus Society are well aware of the benefits of volunteering and socializing. A sense of purpose and knowing you made a difference pays endless dividends.

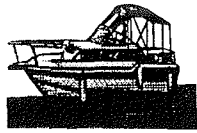
Statistics prove that active, involved people live longer and experience improved mental and physical health. Frequent client feedback reinforces the difference that SVSS volunteers make.

We want to provide rides and socialization for isolated Cordova Bay people! Check us out at **HYPERLINK** "<http://www.saanichvolunteers.org>" call Ilona at 595-8008 or email ilona@saanichvolunteers.org. Your help will make a difference to one of your neighbours!

Susan Zerb is Executive Director of the Saanich Volunteer Services Society.



**SAFE
BOATING**



By Patricia Sparks, *N.* Member of the Canadian
Power & Sail Squadrons. 658-8614

Little Zero rock claims yet another victim

I DO BELIEVE that you are all going to get tired of hearing about Little Zero Rock. Unfortunately, this shoal has once again claimed another victim. An elderly couple, who told me that they had gone through the area hundred of times before, were the recipients of the rock's fury when their vessel was holed in the stern after the propellers struck the rock and were pushed up into the hull. Their 70' classic cruiser, *Claymore*, was built by renowned Sidney naval architect William (Bill) Garden in 1969. The *Claymore* is an example of the 'rumrunner' school of his work, very sleek, very fast and drawing only 2 ft. of water.

Cordova Bay area residents watched as the *Claymore* was rescued by a salvage team who used a sling and air bags to secure the stern of the cruiser. Very low in the water, it was then towed to Philbrooks Boat Yard in Sidney with only the forward deck and cabin roof area visible upon arrival. The end was not yet in sight as when the boat, nestled in the cradle and now more than half way out, was being hauled forward the weight of water still inside broke through the chines with the ear-splintering sound of the wood cracking open. My heart sank for both the owners who were watching the operation and for the boat that had come so far.

At the risk of being tedious I thought I would resubmit an article I wrote a few years

ago, pointing out that chart reading is of the utmost importance.

Chart datum is the plane of reference for soundings, and in Canadian waters is usually low low water (LLW). This means that if a rock is stated on the chart as being awash, then it is awash at low low water. When the tide rises, it will be concealed under water. (Always check the Chart Title Block for datum reference and your tide tables for the height of the tide).

Some examples of symbols on charts:

***(24)** — the asterisk indicates a rock which covers and uncovers (dries.) The line under the number shows that at chart datum the rock will be 2.4 meters (8 ft) above water level. At a 2.4 meter (8 ft) tide it will be awash, above 2.4 meters (8 ft) it will be covered.

+ — is an underwater rock at a depth of 2 meters (6 feet) or less, dangerous to surface navigation. This rock is always underwater at a zero or greater tide.

:+: — is a rock awash at the level of chart datum. At zero tide, this rock would be just at the surface of the water.

3 or **(3)** — shows a rock or islet which does not cover. The elevation may be in feet or meters and is above the higher high water level (HHWL). If the number cannot be put on the rock symbol, then it will appear alongside the rock in brackets. Note that because it is an elevation above HHWL the number will not be underlined.

Anyone for bridge?

THE popular bridge group meeting at St. David's Church Hall at 1:00 p.m. every Thursday has room for more players. Cost is only \$2 per game, with membership of New Horizons also available at a small extra cost. Phone Shirley Kelly (479-7352) or Wally McGregor (658-8956) for details.

Claremont student Joshua Stephenson describes a five-year-long commitment that bro

Mountain adventures eventually lead a young Sco

THE TWENTY boys who camped at Brownsea Island could not have known that their camp would become the launching point for a movement that would sweep millions. It's hard to believe that this tiny camp on an island less than a mile wide at its greatest diameter was to create one of the largest youth organizations in the world.

On that day, July 26th, 1907, 20 boys became the first Boy Scouts. Today the Scout movement has matured from that small group in Britain to 28 million registered scouts worldwide in 216 countries. This movement continues to gather strength and momentum all over the world and yet in Canada it seems to be reaching its demise.

The spirit of Scouting actually lies in camping, hiking, friends, and in international travel and not in knot tying. For some reason Scouts in Canada are known as people who tie knots, sing around campfires, and recite the Scout Promise randomly. This is by no means so. Scouting has taken me on top of mountains, down into the earth, through rapids and white-capped rivers, across oceans, into open water, and all over the world but has yet to sit me down and teach me to tie knots or sing around a campfire.

The point I'm trying to make is that Scouting is not only about knot tying at all, it's a journey that you have the choice to take. It's hard to believe that at the age of 10 this decision of whether to join Scouts or not will take a young man or woman upon a road of adventure, friendship, love, and patriotism or on another road.

During my first year in Scouting my first hike was on Comox Glacier. Basically I thought that it would be a drive in. We would get in cars and drive to the camp site, camp for a day then leave. Actually it was 10.5 km hike

over what was considered rough terrain. The first part of the trail was tough and the other Scouts had never talked to me before. I was kind of out of the loop. However, once I started struggling on the trail they encouraged me to go on and even carried some of my excess luggage.

We laughed and had a great time though we did run out of water and the trip was rough, sometimes we had to maneuver around boulders and thick forest. However we made it to base camp. We were all tired but stayed up far later than we should have, just talking and having snow ball fights. The next day (very early and tired) we tackled the glacier. We had to wear sunglasses to avoid snow blindness. Although there was snow on the ground the weather was not at all cold; in fact it was cool, a perfect temperature for doing a strenuous hike.

I will admit that I truly felt like giving up near the top but then a golden eagle was spotted. We all took this as a sign of good luck so we carried on. At the top the view was breathtaking: 6,430 feet up and we could see massive mountains all around us. However none were nearly as impressive as the one we just climbed.

The one experience that proved to me that Scouting was adventurous, entertaining, and educational was at Camp Parsons just outside Seattle.

Camp Parsons is an American Boy Scout camp which has the goal of teaching basic Scouting skills and providing a challenge to everyone. At this camp we were inspected every morning for cleanliness. We were up early, eating well, and getting to our activities on time. Some activities included canoe battles, woodworking, marksmanship and snorkeling for a few examples.

ought him friendship and challenge—and changed his life.

out to a proud Scottish experience



That year was indeed a good one, memories to live with forever. I truly thought that I had reached the very pinnacle of life, that all things great and good had already happened to me. However, Scouting and life have a way of surprising you with what wonders still lie in store.

In all my five years of Scouting the one event that I remember most is Blair Atholl. Blair Atholl is a city in the heart of Scotland that every two years hosts an international jamborette. Scouts from all over the world assemble and interact with each other.

My Scout group was introduced to the idea by our Scout leader, Dr. Brian Carr-Harris (Alias: Scouter B). As soon as he had a strong group of young men together he would head across the sea. This last trip (having ended in early August) proved to be the greatest success yet. 13 young men and two young women took off from Victoria International Airport dressed in their best to represent their country for 35 days. The 35 day trip started on July 2 at Victoria International Airport at 9 a.m.. A trip through London, Paris, Bath, York, Edinburgh and many other places leads to the major 10 day camp at Blair Atholl. It would be my pleasure to explain all the happenings of Blair Atholl, however I know I can do it no justice. Activities are amazing, some cycling trips and camping trips lasting days. Archery and Zorbing are offered. It is a gathering to show the true strength of Scouting, something you must be present to feel and understand.

I can't express with written words the feeling that overcomes you when you stand among strangers and know that you are friends. I cannot say the overwhelming feeling of patriotism that comes when people murmur your country's name at your approach. I cannot even begin to explain the feeling you will have when you see 1,000 others under 13 different flags with a single goal to reach, your goal.

Scouting is an organization that changes lives and offers adventures and friendships to last a lifetime. Without Scouts I never would have been able to appreciate the beauty of nature around me as I do now. I never would have fired a single round from a rifle nor have learned the immense responsibility that such a weapon carries. I never would have found so many friends from so many countries. I never would have seen the soil of Scotland.

I think back to how much my Scout group has given me and I realize that I cannot repay even half of what Scouts has given me. What Scouts really gave me was a place to be myself and a place to challenge myself.

I cannot emphasize enough how much this organization has impacted and forever changed me or the countless others like me. What startles me is the fact that Scouts Canada is seeing a declining enrolment.

How can such an organization that can be so impacting and unforgettable be in peril of not existing? Then it strikes me. There are some miracles that can only be truly appreciated in hindsight. Scouting is something that is only miraculous when we realize where we would be without it.

I never wanted to join Scouts. I was talked into it by a friend. Today I realize what would have befallen me if I had simply declined. All the skills, memories, friends and loves that I found would never have been in my life and the thought of that is more than any man can bear.

If adventure and exploration are any young man's hobbies, if friendship and patriotism are the goals he seeks, he should join the Scout movement and bring on the adventure.

Registration for the 5th Tsartlip Group is at 7:00 p.m., September 14 at the Cordova Bay United Church hall.



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**Girl Guides of Canada
Guides du Canada
Sealake District**
By Jeannie Cosgrove
District Commissioner

The District Commissioner bids farewell with thanks

IF YOU MISSED the spring registration at the beginning of June, there will be a fall registration for the 2004/2005 Guiding year at Cordova Bay United Church from 6:00 to 7:00 pm on Monday, September 13.

If you live in the Cordova Bay/Broadmead area, you may want to register your daughters for an exciting year of fun and friendship in: Sparks (5 & 6 year olds), Brownies (7 & 8 year olds), Guides (9 to 11 year olds) or Pathfinders (12 - 14 year olds).

Girl Guides is a vibrant and dynamic organization for girls, with women leaders, which challenges girls to reach their potential and empowers them to give leadership and service. The activities are designed to be active and fun while they practice skills and learn teamwork. Come and see us if you have any questions about Girl Guides of Canada.

Guiding has a very wise policy in that an individual can only fill a position for five years before they need to move on to other challenges. I am now at the end of my term as District Commissioner (DC) of Sealake District.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the amazing women who took on leadership roles while I was Commissioner:

Bonnie Zale, Elizabeth Wong, Brenda Walt, Pam Trealeven, Cathy Steele, Sally Staples (Holmes), Terri Smith, Nancy Sine, Deb Shurrie, Linda Sawchuck, Claire (Princess) Rowley, Margaret Ross, Val Robinson, Heidi Rachlin, Carolyn Poulin, Lesley Porterfield, Sandra Neve,

Sarah Neil, Cheryl Murray, Jill Milkert, Tammy Lucas, Susan Lee, Joanne Kukat, Sandra Jorgensen, Stephanie Jarvin, Carol Jaenen, Brenda Howells, Lynn Hooper, Barb Hogg, Celina Ho, Nancy Henderson, Laura Heaney, Alison Chan, Allison Buna, Magi Braaten, Barb Bennett, Nicole Beltgens, Carol Baxter, and Sandy Anderson.

All of these ladies gave a great deal of their time and energy so that the girls would have an interesting program each week. If you see any of these ladies, thank them for their contribution in enhancing our community.

I also want to thank all of the parents and grandparents who supported the girls and Sealake District by helping at the meetings, being treasurers or cookie coordinators, storing equipment as well as all those other little tasks that help an organization run smoothly.

Currently, there is no replacement waiting to jump into my boots as DC but we will look at other flexible ways to get the job done, so the girls have a place to grow and enjoy the sisterhood of Guiding.

—Jeannie Cosgrove, 658-5687

Early art and craft fair meets gift-giving needs

ONE OF THE earliest craft fairs of the season, the "On the Ridge Art and Craft Fair" at Cordova Bay United Church Hall is a successor to the 24-year-old Country Art and Craft Fair formerly held at Prospect Lake Community Hall.

To be held on Saturday, November 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the fair will offer the work of more than 24 artisans selected by jury, plus special foods, folk art, watercolors, wooden bird houses and much more.

Classical guitarist Brad Prevedoros will entertain while you are shopping or enjoying a delicious home-made soup lunch. An entrance fee of \$1 will go towards the Open Door Inner City Ministry and the church's women's group.

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KIWANIS CLUB
 OF CORDOVA BAY

By EDWIN HIPSEY

**New executive takes
 office this month**

WITH THE LOVELY warm weather the summer season commenced at rather a slow pace with a good portion of our members away. Those that were around managed to keep the wheels turning and at our annual general meeting the incoming executive was elected.

Paul Garman was voted in as president with Jeff Wright as vice-president. Dave Osborne remains as secretary and Dave Poge takes over as treasurer from Al Willman. Paul will carry out his duties as best he can, juggling between the club and his job aboard the Coast Guard ship. This will mean that Jeff will learn the ropes rather quickly.

We were able to support a number of groups including Child Find Canada, Rainbow Kitchen, Camp Thunderbird, Greater Victoria Public Library reading program, Women's Transition House, Riding for the Disabled, Bibles for Missions, and a scholarship for Claremont High School student Patrick Grace.

The new children's playground recently completed by Saanich Parks at Lochside Park is being enjoyed by many children and parents alike. We are very proud that we were able to help provide this facility to Cordova Bay.

It may seem to be a bit early, but we are trying to prevent a repeat of residents of Cordova Bay being unable to purchase the excellent Kiwani Christmas cakes because of the rush to buy them when they go on sale. To avoid this disappointment please phone Mickey Stevens at 727-3625 to order your cakes in good time. Now is not too early! We will deliver your cakes in the Cordova Bay area.



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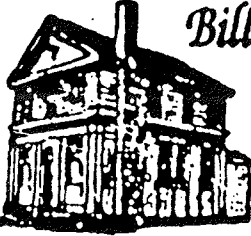
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Phone: 658-8111. Fax: 658-8431
E-mail: elkklbap@telus.net
The Church by the Lake



Our desire is that Elk Lake Baptist Church be a place where people feel accepted, experiencing God's love and care and the love and care of the community, finding a place where they can make their own special contribution.

Regular Sunday Services

10:00 a.m. Christian education for all ages (starting mid September).
11:00 a.m. Worship service.

Visitors are welcome at all of our services

Some regular events at Elk Lake Baptist Church are:

On the first Thursday of the month a 60 More or less group meets for lunch, a presentation on a topic of interest and help to seniors and some spiritual input. The cost is \$3.50 and everyone is welcome.

There is also a Men's Breakfast every third Saturday of the month at 7:30 a.m. This is a time for fellowship among men while enjoying the day's special from talented cooks.

There is also an Art Club for anyone interested in developing their artistic abilities. This group meets every other Saturday at 9:30 a.m. in the old church hall. Beginners are welcome and some art instruction is available.

If you are interested in participating in any of the above programs or would like more information about our church, please phone 658-8111 or fax us at 658-8431.

Cordova Bay School addition contract awarded to Farmer

SAANICH municipality has awarded the major contract for the Cordova Bay school extension to Farmer Construction Ltd.

Work on the \$786,000 extension, designed to house the new Cordova Bay activity centre, is scheduled to begin this fall, according to Saanich's director of recreation Ken Kreiger. Completion is expected by late spring or early summer.

Farmer Construction will act as construction managers, responsible for budget control, supervising the completion of detailed designs and the issuing of calls for tenders from sub-trades.

Saanich Volunteer Services plan annual auction and police choir concert

UNIQUE gifts, one-of-a-kind international collectibles and a huge selection of gift certificates will be a feature of Saanich Volunteer Services Society's annual silent auction planned for Saturday, October 2.

Running from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre at 3220 Cedar Hill road, the event provides funding for neighbourhood volunteer services all over the municipality.

Admission is free and the building is wheelchair accessible. For more information phone Susan at 595-8008.

A second fund-raising event takes place later in the month at the Salvation Army Citadel, 4030 Douglas Street.

The renowned Victoria Police Choir performs at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 23 with admission by reserved tickets at \$12 each.

Call 595-8008 to reserve your tickets to enjoy a delightful evening of music while supporting your neighbours who need volunteer assistance to live independently.

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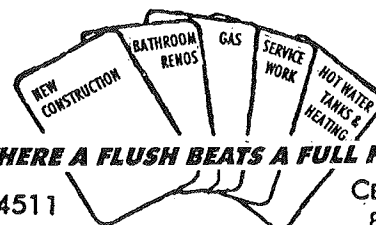
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813 Claremont Avenue**

**Ministers: Rev. Anna Constantin
Rev. Larry Scott**

**Choir Director/Organist: Pat Shumka
Phone: 658 5911 – Fax: 658 5937**



E Mail: office@cbunited.ca Website: www.cbunited.ca

An invitation is extended to individuals and families to become a part of our inclusive faith community. Click on our web site for a tour of family, youth and adult activities.

Church office hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY - 10:00 a.m.

Join us for thoughtful and music-filled worship.

Sunday School classes resume on September 12.

We have Youth Groups for Pre-Teens, Junior High and Senior High.

All Youth are welcome!

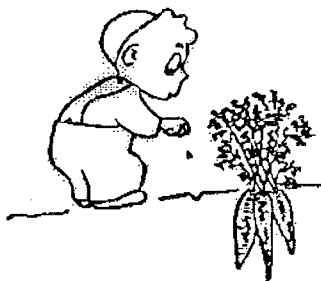
Programs begin September 18th. Check our website for updates!

For more info, contact Anna Constantin anna.c@cbunited.ca



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