

**Issue # 70, Member Edition
April 2026**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that Spring is upon us, a casual glance out your window and into to your garden is proof that:

- A) Things may be growing and progressing as hoped.
- B) You may need to trim back, reconfigure or maybe even get rid of some plants that, at one time, you thought were exactly what you needed.
- C) You may need to consider adding new plants that you realize might be better.
- D) You need to take the initiative to chat with fellow gardeners and listen to what experts (those who know a little more than you do) have to say about this hobby that you share...you just never know what you might learn and what might inspire you.
- E) As a member of our community, by putting effort into learning more and making some decisions about the green space around our own house, our

I have decided that our relationship with our garden is a wonderful, not to mention a very seasonally appropriate, analogy for the CHCA Board of Directors and our membership. Consider this:

This year, during our almost monthly board meetings, we are taking the time to review our five-year Strategic Plan. We have been happy to see that some of our goals and subgoals are progressing as hoped. We have realized that some of the goals set out in the 2025 Strategic Plan may no longer be pertinent, realistic or of high priority at this point in time, hence the need for an axe or at least a darn good pair of scissors.

Additionally, we are reviewing and editing our Policies & Procedures Manual, which has been in draft form for a couple of years and, unfortunately, did not quite make it to the top of the priority list last year. We have definitely been doing some trimming back, reconfiguring and getting-rid-of. We've also realized that, much like our garden, there are some noticeable gaps that need something new.

Finally, we have been preparing for our **Annual General Meeting, which will take place on Wednesday, April 8 (6:30 for dessert, coffee/tea and mingling; 7:00 for the meeting)**. This is a chance for you, our CHCA members, to chat with fellow members and hear from those who likely know a little more about Cedar Heights than you do...you just never know what you might learn and what might inspire you. As a member of CHCA, by putting the effort into learning more and being part of the decision making process when it comes to our organization, our association will be something to admire and be proud of.

We humbly yet enthusiastically invite you to take off your gardening gloves and carve an hour or two out of your year to join us on April 8. It is a relatively small commitment on your part, but greatly appreciated by the greenthumbs who are doing our best to support the growth and success of Cedar Heights Community Association. Please join us if you can and help our garden grow!

This month's quick but heartfelt thanks go to:

- **Karen Probert & Wayne Hamaguchi** for generously volunteering their time and lending their expertise to fill out the roster for our Audit & Finance Committee
- **Karanne Lambton** for humbly volunteering to be our Grant Researcher/Writer.
- **Elli Chambers, Melanie Dyer & Peter Blacklock** for organizing and hosting an extremely fun and highly successful National Oreo Cookie Trivia Night
- **Dean Wallace & his enthusiastic and talented team of volunteers** who are planning a spectacular Motown Memories event on April 18. I hope you already have your ticket!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

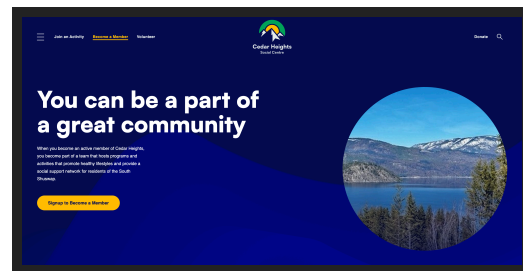


ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday April 8th

The doors open at 6:30 for dessert, coffee/tea and mingling. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

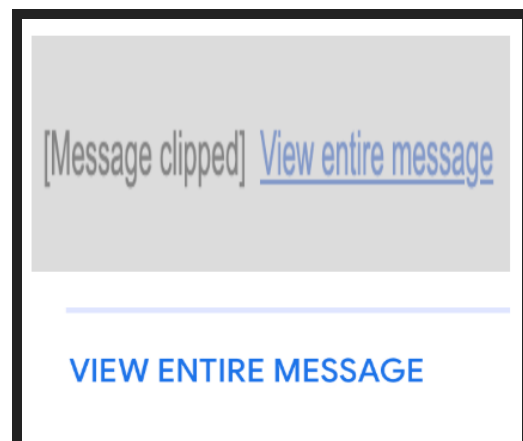
It's time to renew your membership for 2026! If you already renewed thank you for your support. If not you can now do this quickly and easily online. Click on the link below, or come into the office on Tuesday and Thursdays 1-3 pm starting January 6th.



<https://www.cedarheightscommunity.ca/become-member>

VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE

We have heard that some people don't know that they are not seeing the whole newsletter. Please check the bottom of your newsletter to see if you have a message like the ones you see here. All it takes is a quick click and you will see the whole thing. After all, you don't want to miss the Community Spotlight, it might be you!





Mark your calendar! Connect with friends! Have fun!
But read beyond this section for more details!

 Cedar Heights Social Centre

Motown Memories

Saturday, April 18
Doors Open at 6:30

Cost: \$30 for members / \$35 for non-members

*Join our Cedar Heights-trained cover groups
in your 1960's Motown-era attire*

*Mid-evening light Tasty Temptations
will be served*

*Tickets go on sale March 3rd for members (with a guest)
Open to non-members March 10th
Sales close April 14th.
Tickets can be purchased online at
<https://www.cedarheightscommunity.ca/whats-happening/events-listing>
or in person at the Centre office Tuesday or Thursday from 1 - 3.*

If you love music from that era, cool dance moves, Cedar Heights-inspired activities and a taste of theme food, don't wait until the cut-off date of April 14th.

We have a cap on ticket sales to leave the space you need on the floor to have fun. It's time to find clothes from the 60s and 70s, we know you have some tucked away in your closet or check out the local thrift stores.

Don't miss this fun event! **To buy online click [HERE](#). Or come into the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays 1-3 pm.**

INDOOR ACTIVITES

Ukulele Madness

Apr 1

TIME: 2:00 p.m. every Wednesday

FEE: Drop in \$3

FUTURE DATES: Apr 8, 15, 22, and 29th



If you have ever wanted to get started playing an instrument and have always put that crazy idea off to one side—**DELAY NO LONGER!** Beginners are always welcome and we have people willing to put time into getting you ready to join in. One of the highlights of this spring season will be learning songs from Broadway musicals—some you will recognize and some which will be totally new to all of us. Don't want to mess your fingernails with the ukulele---No Problem---we welcome people who just want to sing.

Apr 2**TIME:** 1:00 pm every Thursday**COST:**

\$3 drop-in for members

\$5 drop-in for guests

FUTURE DATES: Apr 9, 16, 23rd
and 30th

We are looking for more players so if you have never carpet bowled before no worries, there are lots of people to show you the ropes. Any questions email Angie at: iluvit67@yahoo.ca.

Euchre - Apr 7

Drop in for some friendly games of euchre on Tuesday, March 10th and Tuesday, March 24th at 1:30 pm. No experience required....there are plenty of players who can help you through the learning period.



Try out our three-player euchre games which offer a diversion from the regular games. Sign in and your name will be entered for a cash door prize draw at the end of the season.

COST: Drop in fee \$3 for members \$5 for non-members.**DATES:** Tuesday Apr 7 and April 21**TIME:** 1:30 pm**Doghouse****Apr 10****DATE:** Every second Friday**TIME:** Doors open 6:30 play starts at 7:00 PM**COST:** C.H.C.A. members - \$3
Non-members - \$5

Players of all experience levels are welcome. Lessons available each night. If you have any questions, please call Vicki at (250) 675-2141.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Pickleball - Open for Play

A huge thank you to everyone who came out to powerwash the pickleball courts. You can see from the photos how much cleaner they are now. *Special thanks to Darcy Leach who provided two power washing machines and attachments.*

The courts are now open for play & we held our first round robin play on Monday morning, March 23rd. *The mild weather enabled us to open the courts 2 weeks earlier than last year.*

If you haven't already purchased your CHCA membership, now is the time so you can buy your pickleball sports passes and reserve the dates and times you want to play.

Roger & Angie



GOLF

Stay tuned for an e-mail later this month regarding the golf course. We are looking at an opening date around April 15th, but as usual that depends on the weather.

2026 Grounds Construction Activities

Winter never really arrived this year leading to early activity by the Pickle Ball folks, thanks to the efforts of Roger Lambert and Angie Shaw, our new pickle ball coordinators. The first week in March saw some temporary nets set up and avid players out weeks earlier than has ever happened before.

There will be significant construction activity in the area of the pickle ball courts and on the golf course as soon as the road bans come off. The courts will be re-surfaced. A walkway from the 1st tee box on the golf course will be built to eliminate a major tripping and falling hazard for both our groundskeeper and our golfing visitors.

New Outdoor Activity - Skeet Golf



After much deliberation by your Board of Directors, Cedar Heights has decided to introduce a brand new sport to the community, not to mention the province....perhaps even the country. Skeet golf!!

The concept is simple. Run a Zip line from Area 7 to the end of the pickle ball courts. Hook Team member #1, a “catcher” into the line with a large fishing net. Place the three remaining team members, the “golfers” with a 9-iron and a line-up of golf balls on Tee Boxes 2, 3 and 5. On an agreed upon signal, the catcher is released and the golfers shoot away.

Scoring is simple.....one point for each ball caught in the fishing net and a three-point deduction for any ball that hits an exposed body part. It's a game that will improve the hand-eye coordination of the catcher and will surely reduce the set-up time for the golfers from 2 minutes and 49 seconds to one second.

A somewhat risky venture you might think. Not according to our insurer to whom we have paid a piddling \$23,499 annual premium for this activity. There is a minor limitation to the coverage.....it only covers “major” injuries such as those arising from the catcher being knocked off the line and suffering a 20-foot fall. *This is referred to in the policy as the 'Garry Spearman peril'.* Minor repairs

advising any catcher who gets a minor nick to take a tumble so the Spearman peril will come into effect.

The other modest change to the grounds is that we are going to rip up the two western most pickle ball courts. This will be the Zip Line landing area. The alternative was to move Tee Box 3, but the Board felt that would be an undue burden on our ten or so golf members. Golf tradition is tough to break! Not to worry...that decision will be relayed to our court re-surfacing contractor in due course and will allow us to re-direct the savings to construction of towers for the Zip Line.

Undoubtedly there will be some sceptics and maybe 100 or so pickle ball players who will feel they were left out of the decision-making process. Sorry 'bout that! If you want your concerns to be allayed or if you just wish to heap praise on the Board, come on out to the Annual General Meeting on April 8th.

And remember, as well, that every one of you can contribute to similar ground-breaking, exciting and sure-to-be-popular initiatives, simply by volunteering to join the Board. As a new board member, you too can help us put exciting activities such as this into action.

FOLLOW UP ON FUND RAISERS

BLIND BAY VILLAGE GROCER CARD PROGRAM



Did you know that if you buy a grocery card from Cedar Heights, the Village Grocer donates 8% of the value of the card to our association? ***For example; if you buy a grocery card for \$100 we get \$8 from BBVG.*** A \$100 card lets you buy \$100 of anything for sale in the store.

This is a great little fundraiser as it doesn't cost you a dime but it provides the Centre with additional funds. This program raised over \$5000 in a previous year

We sell these cards at most of our events in various denominations so keep your ears open for any pop-up sales of BBVG cards that might take place at Cedar Heights!

Otherwise, you know you can always purchase the cards at the office (Tuesday and Thursdays from 1:00 till 3:00 pm). Please note that only cheques, cash or debit are accepted for payment.

We thank you for your support!



"The most precious thing I have to give is my time."

- Silvia Hartmann

Kiosk Greeters

If you missed your chance to be a Walmart greeter, don't despair you can be an ambassador for Cedar Heights. You will be receiving an e-mail in the next couple of weeks about volunteering for kiosk duty.

If you enjoy talking to people and can spare the time for a few shifts a month, this is for you. Unlike Walmart you can pick the days and times that work for you and you won't get a T4 so you won't have to pay any additional tax.

Our success in filling these spots with volunteers will save us several thousand dollars....and we are counting on you to help yourselves out. It is your money after all!

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Cynthia & Peter Blacklock

This couple is such an integral part of Cedar Heights and our community I'm not sure what we would do without them.

There would certainly be a lot less music, theatre productions, writers workshops, radio plays, art, dancing, singing and laughter. It would certainly not be much fun!

Peter spent his career as a teacher, administrator, writer and actor and Cynthia worked for numerous credit unions in BC prior to their retirement in Blind Bay. I think the only thing that Peter stopped doing was teaching school as he completed his work writing a musical production about the life of Emily Carr, wrote numerous shows for Shuswap Theatre and wrote and directed dinner theatre productions at Haney Heritage Village. In his spare time he also plays the keyboard with our local band Island Fog.

Cynthia discovered how much she likes to paint and their home is filled with her bright and beautiful paintings from their travels and things that catch her eye. You will often find Cynthia preparing meals or helping friends and neighbours who are having some health issues. They both love to travel and have a passion for art and music and regularly attend plays, art exhibitions and musical events.

Board of Directors and Cynthia with her background in finance did the books at Cedar Heights.

I'm sure they have volunteered for every event at the Centre over the years and continue organizing our much loved **Shed Parties and Art on the Green.**



They believe everyone should have a chance to experience the joy of singing and playing music. Peter started the **Ukulele Orchestra** and for many of the members this is the first time they have ever played an instrument and they are having a lot of fun! Peter's **Seniors Theatre** group at the Centre gave people who have never acted a safe environment to learn new skills, exercise the brain, meet new friends, and build social networks. If we add in exercise the body and have fun, this could be our new mission statement for Cedar Heights!

Our community would be pretty dull without this creative couple so we hope they are around for a long, long time.

FOLLOW-UP ON FUN

Chinese New Years - Feb 28

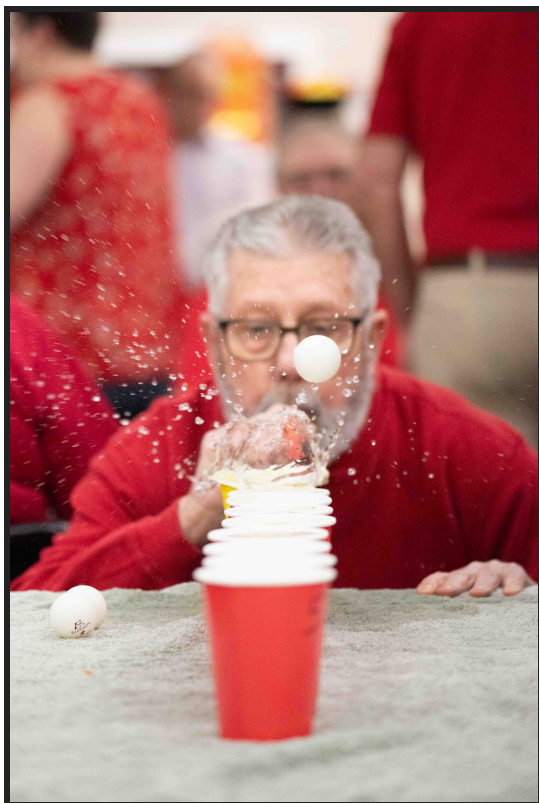
The Year of the Horse was celebrated at Cedar Heights by 80 participants who spent an evening of good cheer, good food and remarkable displays of dexterity in a series of games and activities that were designed to use up items such as the 8 boxes of sugar cubes that had been purchased in the Year of the Sugar Shortage in 1997. Participants exhibited unique talents in developing their own rules for games that had been tightly prescribed when they were designed....and the evening was so much better for it.

basis of her exhaustive knowledge of un-important things.

Jade Buffet supplied the food and Sara Schreiner captured people in action.....the results of which you will see in some of the accompanying photos and in our improved website. We thank both of them.

Stay tuned for next year's celebration. We may change the activities but the laughter will carry on and you can see from the photos we all had a lot of fun.







Oreo Cookie Trivia Night - Mar 6

Do you know what Lady Durham did when she was in the Shuswap? Over 50 of your neighbours know the answer. Why? Because they enjoyed an evening of Trivia on March 6th.

Led by Quizmaster Peter Blacklock, hosted by Elli Chambers and with technical support from Cynthia Blacklock and Donna Domenichelli it was an evening full of fun, food, friends and facts.

Congratulations to the winners, The Mouskateers! They went home with you guessed it,Oreo cookies!

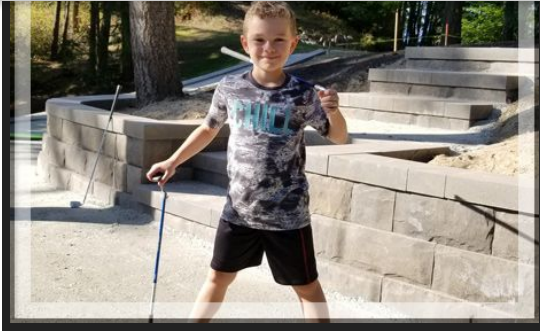
Thank you to Dean and Shelley Wallace for all their help with organizing the abundant and absolutely amazing food donated by the participants. Gosh, the food alone was worth the price of admission!

Plans are afoot for another Trivia night this fall. Stay tuned.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

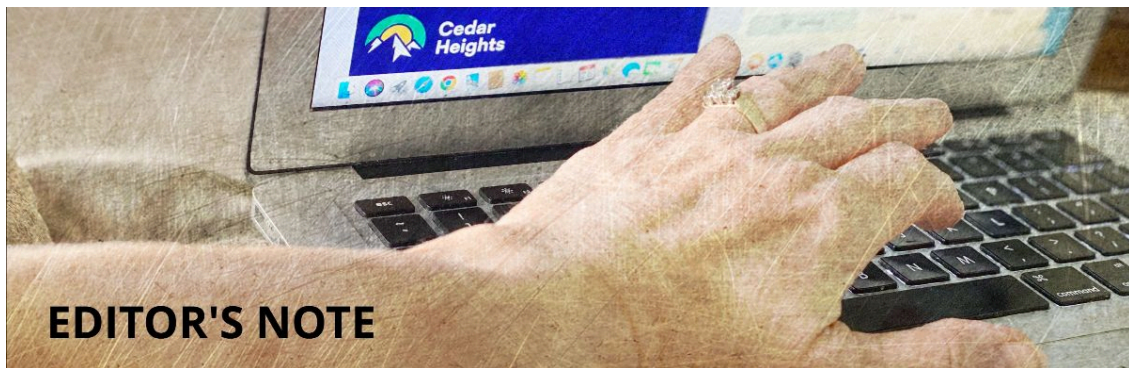




Community Website: Stay updated on [news and events](#) by visiting our [website](#).



Contact Us: Have questions or suggestions? Reach out to us at info@cedarheightscommunity.ca or [\(250\) 675-2012](tel:(250)675-2012).



Well March came in like a lamb, but certainly went out like a lion. If you're like me on sunny days at this time of year I start to check out the garden and see if my tulips are coming up and start buying seed packets.

I once had a client who was over 100, and he told me his garden kept him going as he needed to be around to look after his plants. After he died, this couple left their acres of beautiful gardens to the City of Surrey with enough funds to hire gardeners to look after their legacy. Me, I'm just hoping the trees we planted on our property will survive us and provide much needed shade for the next owners.

We know our members are anxious to get out on the golf course especially as the pickleball folks have started playing, but it depends on the weather. Blair, our greenskeeper tells me if the greens are still frozen and we walk on them they get damaged. So if we have warmer nights and lots of sunshine, it could be sooner than we think.

Happy April Fools Day!

Lynne Lowes at: ekxpat@gmail.com

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