

Fifty-Five Plus News

October 1, 2020

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www.townofws.ca/55plus

BREAKING NEWS

CONTACTS:

Recreation Programmer

Jen McEachen
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Ext. 2

None of us anticipated that the Club closure would be this long. Physical distancing is disrupting our sense of community. Socialization is extremely important with our demographic: in fact, it is crucial for seniors' sense of well-being. We can counter social isolation simply by picking up the phone or sending an email.

Reception Desk

905-640-9992
Ext. 1

Jen and Allie have been busy setting up some virtual programming for the fall. There will be a variety of classes, including watercolour painting, chair yoga, Scattergories, Stretch 'n' Core, Zumba and Trivia. These will be instructor-led but only offered on a virtual basis. There will be a fee to cover the cost. More details will be available shortly.

Winter Hours:

Closed
until
further
notice.

Registration for these classes will be announced shortly, as soon as the information is available on the website.

Barb is working on reimbursements for the March lunch that had to be cancelled. If you registered for classes or workshops, the funds are currently being held to your account. You can use them if you choose to take one of the virtual classes, or you can request a refund.

FROM THE 55+ STAFF WORKING GROUP

No meeting of the 55+ Club Staff Working Group has been scheduled for October. In view of recent developments with provincial guidelines, it appears increasingly unlikely that our members will be meeting in person anytime soon. The Town has been notified that their New Horizons grant application was successful. These funds will go towards staff for programming support, translation, workshops and monthly special events, a Zoom account, a video camera with tripod and editing software as well as a laptop, all for the exclusive use of the 55+ Club.



PET PARADE

Do you have a really cute picture of your pet? Would you consider sending it to share with others in the November newsletter? Hoping to get a couple of dogs, a couple of cats, and maybe some unusual pets. We all need something to brighten our days! Please send your photo to jen.mceachen@townofws.ca.



COSMETICS COLLECTION

After much deliberation, it appears we are going to have to cancel our annual collection of cosmetics for women in shelters. We don't have access to our building as a collection point, nor do we have available our wonderful receptionists who looked after all the sorting and packaging. The disinfection issues involved were the last straw. It's most unfortunate because the need is even greater but for this year we find ourselves unable to assist.

SMILES



An elderly Scot lay dying in his bed. While suffering the agonies of impending death, he suddenly smelled the aroma of his favourite scones wafting up the stairs. He gathered his remaining strength and lifted himself from the bed. Leaning on the wall, he slowly made his way out of the bedroom and with even greater effort, gripping the railing with both hands, he crawled downstairs.

With laboured breath, he leaned against the door-frame, gazing into the kitchen. Were it not for death's agony, he would have thought himself already in heaven, for there, spread out upon the kitchen table were literally hundreds of his favourite scones. Was it heaven? Or was it one final act of love from his devoted Scottish wife of sixty years, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man?

Mastering one great final effort, he threw himself towards the table, landing on his knees in rumpled posture. His aged and withered hand trembled towards a scone at the edge of the table when it was suddenly smacked by his wife with a wooden spoon ...

"Hands off!" she said. "They're for the funeral!"



BIRTHDAY PEOPLE

Carolyn Ratcliff, Claire Reid, Dixie Sellers, Doris Harvey, Gert Brugger, Lois Marshman, Jill Mossop, Nancy Boll, Margaret Crowley, Carm Giunta, Muriel Smillie, Margery Snider, Ab Van Dusen, Alan Whittaker, Jane Whitwell, Kay Wolfe, Vera Arlet, Ilankarani Balasingam, Jim Beer, Pamela Boyce, Cheng Liang Du, Sharon Hewitt, Wendy Hodgson, Lorna Hogg, Kathy Johnstone, Grace Luk, Riccardo (Rick) Paci, Juta Silmberg, Gnaneswary Sivarajah, Kanmany Thirunauakkaarasu, Pushparanee Thulasithasan, Nancy Wolfe. Celebrate!



DID YOU KNOW?

Micole is preparing a “return to activities survey” to see what activities people would like to see happening. Please fill out the survey so that the Town knows what they can offer. The Survey Monkey links are:

English version: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SXT8H67>

Simplified Chinese version: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7VRFRYH>

Tamil version: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6J27LTY>

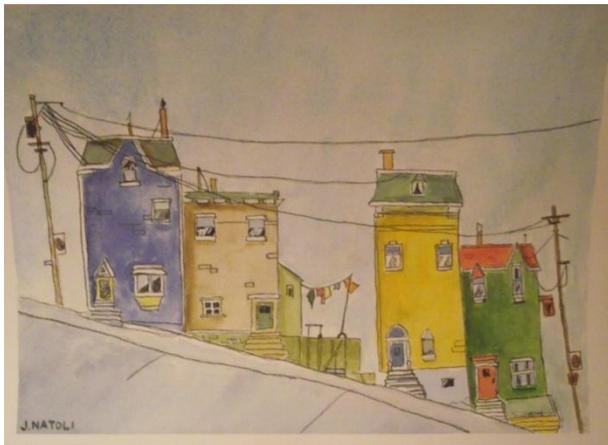
This particular Thanksgiving is going to be an unusual one. For most of us, it will be a virtual Thanksgiving. Perhaps it’s appropriate to give thanks for all that we have during this pandemic: we have food, we have shelter, we have public health officials doing their best to keep us safe, we have the telephone and internet to contact our friends and family. We’re very blessed!

You’ll find more wonderful paintings from our drop-in art group in our virtual art gallery! Many thanks to the artists for their kindness in sending these photos in. If you see a particular painting that you would like to own, kindly contact the artist to see if it is available for sale. Enjoy!

OUR 55+ VIRTUAL ART GALLERY



Marg Skinner



Joan Natoli





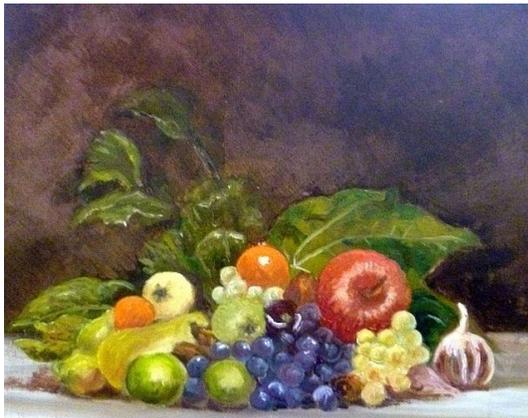
Fanny Andersen



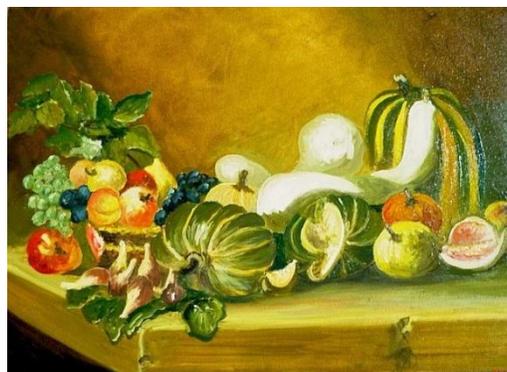
El-ann Hines "Polar"



Sandra Brown



Andy Skinner



DAYS OF OCTOBER



Happy Thanksgiving to all!



Happy Halloween to all you trick or treaters!