DISCOVER CASWELL HILL AT ART IN THE PARK

by Raeanne Van Beek

Five summers ago two things happened that had nothing to do with each other, yet were sort of similar (in a quirky kind of way). Art in the Park was in its infancy. I also had an infant.

I didn’t go . . . Oh, I’d seen the posters depicting an artist’s easel sitting in the park on a sunny day and for a brief moment, I’d felt a flicker of interest, but the thought of bringing a baby to an haute art event lost its appeal quickly. Three years later I found out just how wrong I was . . .

Far from an haute event, Art in the Park is a free family festival without a hint of stuffiness. With lots for adults and children alike, there is plenty to see and do.

Art in the Park features a main stage, artist’s village and market, children’s arts festival, food concession, and community tent. In honour of Saskatoon’s centennial, the festival has been expanded this year to include an exhibit of heritage homes studied by Caswell Community School’s grade 5 students and a festival booklet.

Festival-goers will be delighted with the main stage entertainment. This year’s line up includes returning favourites Eileen Laverty and Wilma, as well as newcomers to the festival, singer songwriter Ricasso, Irena Smith & Georgia Chappell, and Tyrone Tootoosis. Hoop dancers Lawrence Roy & son will share the stage with this talent. Curtis Peeteetuce, actor, writer, musician, and current artist-in-residence at the Saskatoon Public Library, is this year’s master of ceremonies.

Shakespeare’s Shadows theatre troupe will perform mid-afternoon. The local Mayfair Public Library’s storytelling tent and a free book exchange in the community tent will round out the festival’s literary arts component.

The artist’s village and market will again feature artwork and handcrafts by local artists. This year’s village will include pottery, hand crafted jewelry, paintings, and graphic art, to name a few.

In the children’s festival area, performers and play leaders will engage children and adults alike in creative and imaginative play. Sweet Pea the clown will do a show and bring her parade dragon. Activities will include storytelling, crafts, games, face painting, and other interactive opportunities such as the Me Ta We Tan Aboriginal Program, and the SaskTel Mendel Art Caravan.

Before the opening ceremonies, a pancake brunch will be held at 10:30 am at Christ Church Anglican, a well-known heritage site in our community. At 11:45 am, a procession led by the North Saskatchewan Regiment Pipes and Drums will usher festival-goers to the park.

The festival is funded through a grant by the City of Saskatoon and Saskatchewan Lotteries. For more information or to book a free table to sell your artwork please call 343-7626 or 652-7580.

Art in the Park Festival
Sunday, September 10, 2006
12 pm – 6 pm
Ashworth Holmes Park
Avenue D N. & 31st Street W.

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Y OUR CASWELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Programming:
Glenn Dougan 665-5563
Maxine Kinakin
Tracy Ridalls 653-5669

Soccer:
John Nicholson 683-0849

Civics:
Joseph McHattie 242-2053
Lenore Swystun 653-2385

Meeting Times and Places
The Caswell Community Association meets at 7:00 pm on the second Wednesday of every month (except June and July) at Christ Church Anglican, located at 512 28th Street West.

Newsletter:
Tracy Ridalls 653-5669
Raeanne Van Beek 652-7580
Events:
Raeanne Van Beek 652-7580
Community Coordinator Caswell School:
Donna Blunt 683-7166
City of Saskatoon Community Consultant:
Jodi Fick-Dryka 973-3381

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Caswell Hill is cleaner thanks to the hard work of dedicated volunteers and sponsors. On May 27th, residents volunteered to pick up debris, old building supplies, and unwanted household items from our streets and back alleys.

The event began at 10:00 AM in front of Caswell Community School where volunteers gathered for a needle safety demonstration by Jacqui Barclay. A display by the Saskatchewan Environmental Society offered environmental education and awareness. Clean-up efforts were aided by the Got-Junk team, QUINT representatives, Saskatoon Curbside Recycling, and participants from the Youth Works program. Dump passes, provided by the City of Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services, enabled disposal of items unable or unfit for recycling.

A well-attended free community barbecue wrapped-up this successful event. The barbecue, hosted by the Caswell Community Association, was held in appreciation of volunteers throughout our neighbourhood.

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to all the volunteers and sponsors, including those mentioned above as well as the Meewasin Saskatoon Credit Union Clean-up Campaign, Safeway on 33rd, Dairy Queen, and Christie’s Mayfair Bakery. This year’s Clean-up would not have happened without their support.

Jan Fidler has coordinated delivery of the Caswell Hill newsletter for the past several years. She has recently retired from this position and we will soon be on the lookout for a new coordinator. Jan and her husband Rod are dedicated volunteers, helping out with many community projects, such as our recent community clean up. Thank you Jan for your many years of service!

The new look of our newsletter is thanks to Inkspot Graphix. Inkspot opened their doors on Avenue D North in October of 2004. Inkspot Graphix, who offers full printing services and graphic design, donated their services to design the new banner and layout debuting in this issue of our newsletter. Thanks Inkspot! You can check them out at 127B Avenue D North or call them at 244-7768.

2006 Community Clean Up Barbecue
ECO-ARTFULLY LIVING IN CASWELL HILL

The Saskatchewan Environmental Society (SES) and the Mendel Art Gallery have partnered on a project to raise awareness about the environment and artfully living. In this pilot project, the SES and the Mendel have committed to “adopting a neighbourhood” in Saskatoon. Community Associations were encouraged to submit applications to become “adopted” and to focus their submission on their community’s commitment to issues of: youth, diversity, environmental protection, active citizenry, and artful living. The lucky Saskatoon community chosen for the summer of 2006 was Caswell Hill!

Through the Adopt-a-Neighbourhood program, the Saskatchewan Environmental Society (SES) has focussed some of its eco-friendly programming in Caswell Hill. The SES Hike & Bike Challenge kicked off in June. The Hike and Bike Challenge is a week long campaign promoting the use of active transportation such as cycling, walking and other ways of getting about using your own energy. The Hike & Bike Challenge helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase individuals’ physical activity levels. Several presentations on climate change were given at Caswell School and two public teams from the Caswell/Mayfair communities participated.

SES’s Pesticide Reduction Campaign was entirely in the community of Caswell Hill. Volunteers from the SES surveyed Caswell Hill residents about their pesticide usage and encouraged residents to go “pesticide-free” for the summer. SES also checked in with those residents over the summer to see how being “pesticide-free” was going and to offer solutions on any problem pests. Of Caswell Hill residents surveyed, 57% never use pesticides. 90% of those surveyed agree that pesticides are detrimental to human health and 86% know that pesticides affect the environment negatively as well. 73% of residents surveyed agreed to not use pesticides for this growing season and to display a SES pesticide-free lawn sign to demonstrate their commitment. SES also held a “Get Growing Naturally” lecture in June at the Mayfair Library to answer questions about how to deal with weeds and ants pesticide-free. A follow up survey with Caswell Hill residents will be done in September to see how the trial went and to see if they will commit to keep growing naturally.

SES also offers energy conservation assessments to small businesses and non-profit organizations. These assessments identify potential upgrades that reduce energy consumption in their building, which helps the environment and saves money. Also special retrofit loans are available from the Saskatoon Credit Union and the Saskatchewan Office of Energy Conservation through this project. Ideas for local Caswell Hill businesses and organizations were suggested at a Community Association meeting in the summer, but if anyone in Caswell Hill has suggestions for a business or organization that would like to take advantage of the program, please contact the SES.

SES has also offered its expertise to do speaking engagements on a wide variety of environmental issues to any Caswell Hill community and/or school groups; or to have the SES display at any community event. For more information on this project, call the SES office at: 665-1915.
**CASWELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FAQ’S**

Q: What kind of stuff do you do?
A: Caswell Community Association organizes programs and events for our community. We advocate for our community on civic issues, zoning, development etc. We have monthly meetings where we deal with community issues and concerns, we report what we’ve been working on, make decisions, and plan for the future good of our neighbourhood. We each contribute at our own pace and learn as we go.

Q: Are you a church group?
A: No, we are a group of people who live in the neighbourhood interested in improving and enriching the quality of life of people in Caswell Hill. We were elected at the annual general (AGM) meeting in September and we do this on a volunteer basis. We often meet in the churches in our neighbourhood because we do not have a designated community centre and the churches generously offer to provide space for meetings, programs, and other events.

Q: How does that work?
A: Each September we have an AGM where we elect new members to the board. We are incorporated as a non-profit organization and have a consultant from the City of Saskatoon who provides advisory assistance.

Q: I’ve been thinking about maybe getting involved…
A: That’s great. Just indicate your interest at the AGM, or you can talk with someone at the community tent at Art in the Park, and we’ll help you get started. There are lots of ways you can contribute.

**NEWS FROM CHRIST CHURCH**

Planning is now underway for our fall concert series. Watch the signboard out front. The season’s opener will be an exceptional opportunity to hear one of Canada’s finest contemporary music groups, “Final Fantasy” as they perform an entire show of original work. This will be on September 15th. Another concert’s in the works for September 16th. Both will take place on a new stage in the church in addition to a lineup of classical and contemporary concerts. The Centre Stage will be a great platform for community music and theatre. Planning for the church’s 100th Anniversary next year has begun so look for more events!

Don’t miss the Pancake Brunch on Art-in-the-Park day… Sunday, September 10th at 10:30 AM. Our regular worship service will be held earlier at 9:00.

Sponsored jointly by Christ Church and Trinity Lutheran, a monthly Sunday pot-luck lunch and Sunday school for kids from 3-12 as well as adult education opportunities will begin in late September.

For more information contact Christ Church at 242-0165, Email: christanglicans@sasktel.net, or go to our website at http://christch.sasktelhosting.net.

Office hours are Mon.-Fri. 9:30-12:00.

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CASWELL’S CHOICE FOR ADOPT-A-NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

After an exciting community brainstorming session, facilitated by the Mendel Art Gallery’s Alexandra Badzak and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society’s Allyson Brady, Caswell Hill community members choose five main ideas for their Adopt-a-Neighbourhood legacy program. With over 25 people in attendance, the meeting took place on June 29th at Christ Church on Ave. E in Caswell Hill.

The Adopt-a-Neighbourhood program is part of the Mendel Art Gallery’s centennial project entitled Naked City. The goal of the project is to explore the unofficial history of Saskatoon as well as to celebrate its many communities. Adopt-a-Neighbourhood is an innovative pilot program whereby a selected neighbourhood (in this case Caswell Hill) forges a deeper relationship with two important Saskatchewan institutions the Mendel Art Gallery and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society. With an objective of creative, sustainable living, the neighbourhood participates in eco-based workshops and campaigns with the Saskatchewan Environmental Society as well as the creation of a public, eco-artwork (legacy project) with the Mendel Art Gallery.

“I think people often think public art equals bronze sculptures, so I was pleasantly surprised when (with very little encouragement) the Caswell Hill community choose ideas for the legacy project that were definitely outside of the box!” remarks Alexandra Badzak.

The top ideas were generated from the nominal group process — a consensus building activity that asked the community members to think about what elements of Caswell Hill they could be proud of, what elements were a challenge and what areas in their neighbourhood deserved attention. From that wide scope, over 50 ideas were developed and debated. As Allyson Brady said, “Caswell came up with so many incredible eco-friendly / community-based ideas for the legacy project that they now have a great archive of art-based activities to choose from in the years to come.”

These ideas were then taken back to the Mendel where feasibility research was conducted and presented back to the Caswell Community Association. Members of the committee were please to choose the concept of two sculptural markers that will be situated in key areas of Caswell. The community can use these markers as poster boards to announce upcoming events as well as artworks that reflect the spirit and mark the boundaries of Caswell Hill. The next stage in the process is to choose an artist to work on the project. This artist will work closely with the community to come up with a meaningful and exciting design.

As part of the Adopt-a-Neighbourhood project, Caswell Hill has had the opportunity to book the SaskTel Mendel Art Caravan at the summer art camps and for the upcoming Art in the Park Festival.

“Our hope is that the Mendel can form a lasting bond with Caswell Hill and that Caswell Hill residents get to know and feel comfortable with the Mendel Art Gallery and its many fabulous programs” – Alexandra Badzak, Head of Public and Professional Programs, Mendel Art Gallery
“If I were to identify with a community it would be Caswell.” So says Adrian Stimson, Caswell resident, nationally known artist and, currently, curator-in-residence at the Mendel Art Gallery. Stimson has lived in his Caswell character home with his partner Happy, an interior designer, and their ‘enthusiastic’ chocolate labs, Fergus and Heath, for the past three years.

Originally from the Siksika Blackfoot First Nation, Stimson lived in Calgary for a number of years and in fact moved from Calgary to Saskatoon. “Believe it or not people do move from Alberta to Saskatchewan.” Stimson continues, “Calgary was ultra-consumerist and every conversation was about money.” Obviously Stimson did not want this, as his next stop was a four-month stay at Sweet Earth, an environmental community where he lived off the land and off the grid. Eventually Stimson made his way to Saskatoon and to Caswell. “I had a number of friends who lived in Caswell and we just decided this was the perfect community. The people are generous and friendly and it still has a sense of community – it’s a little bit small town with lots of unique character homes.”

Stimson, a painter, attended the Alberta College of Art and Design before coming to Saskatoon to complete his MFA in performance and installation art at the University of Saskatchewan. Stimson describes his identity as an artist as “something that has always been there . . . the creativity was always there.” More importantly, Stimson’s art is deeply connected to the communities in which he lives and works. In fact it seems like community is his most important and enduring theme as throughout our interview we never strayed far from that topic. Stimson believes that community is about connection. He is dismayed by the turn in our culture towards ‘cookie-cutter’ communities and mega-malls, which he views as “terribly uninteresting spaces . . . that are a slow, deliberate attempt to stop people from connecting.”

Like many others, Stimson views Caswell’s diversity as one of its most persistent and positive qualities. He believes that everyone in a community has a skill set that can be utilized to create a lasting contribution. Anyone and everyone contributes to a community and Stimson believes that instead of embracing the fear of the other as we are so often encouraged to do, we need to instead ask ourselves “How do I change myself to be inclusive and progressive to create a space for other people to contribute more fully?”

Stimson’s answer to that question can be found, in part, in his most recent collaborative exhibition now on display at the Mendel Art Gallery. The Live/Live exhibit is partly a question to the viewer. “Am I living live?” Stimson explained that while the installation was influenced by him it was really a place where other community members could both contribute and showcase a collaborative vision. He describes the process as a layered approach using the research that he collected on environmental issues and eco-activism, combined with a First Nations’ worldview and incorporating the artistic and practical sensibilities of the local community. Many of the people involved in the project are youth who contributed the photography, welding and carpentry that are so integral to the work. Stimson, with obvious pride, explained to me as we toured the installation, “Artifacts just flow. Everyone came together and got in there and did it. The most beautiful things happen when you allow people to stand in their own power.”

Sadly Stimson will be moving south at the beginning of September, though not too far away. Stimson and his partner have purchased a property on 20th Street in Riversdale. “I needed studio space and Happy needed office space so it really made sense to make the move.” Despite the positive aspects of moving to a larger work space Stimson still expressed regret at leaving his self-described “nest” saying, “My experiences in Caswell have been wonderful.”

The Live/Live installation will be on display until September 18th at the Mendel Art Gallery.
Come join us every Thursday morning at 10am for our Community Walking Group.

Every walking group begins with a short educational session focusing on leading a healthy lifestyle.

The Medicine Shoppe

For more information, please call 931-2999

Art in the Park
a festival of art and entertainment

be there.

main stage
artist's village and market
children's arts festival
literary arts festival
artful architecture
community tent
food concession
free admission & activities

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*Local art & pottery
*Light catering for up to 25 people (48 hours notice please)

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Open Monday to Saturday; Closed Sunday
"YOU CAN HAVE YOUR CAKE AND EAT IT TOO!"

by Tracy Ridalls

Theresa Paton and Gloria Chatelaine have a serious passion for cake. The two women, sisters from Northern British Columbia, originally opened Cakes G’lore on Avenue B South, sharing their location with the now defunct FUDE. They have been operating from their current 33rd Street location for the past 2 years and have found that business just keeps growing. Citing the junction of 33rd Street and Idylwyld as “easy access to pretty much anywhere in the city” they described this location as optimal and when searching for a new site never even considered moving their business from the West-side of Saskatoon. “We love the West-side and we both live here anyway so it seemed really logical to stay.” Says Gloria, “It’s very rewarding to be somewhere where it’s so friendly. For instance when Christie’s stopped making cakes they phoned us and said they were going to start sending business our way!”

Gloria made her character cake debut with a creation for her daughter’s first birthday but always had a dream that one day she would be able to create cakes for people professionally. Thankfully Theresa’s love of chocolate proved to be a natural fit with Gloria’s love of baking and Cakes G’lore was born. Now with over 300 specialty cake pans and 3000+ digital photos of cake creations in their repertoire the only limitation is their imagination and, occasionally, the laws of physics. “There was one time someone wanted a cake with Tigger bouncing on his tail without any kind of supports. That’s just not possible.” Theresa and Gloria explained to me that they have to take into consideration how a cake will be cut and how it can travel not just if it can be baked. “Sometimes we have to say no but it’s not without a lot of thought and consideration.”

Judging from the examples on their Cakes G’lore wall of fame, it’s easy to understand why people get the impression that anything is possible. From a cake shaped like a 9-hole golf-course complete with a fairway, rough, water-hazard and sand-trap, large enough to feed 200 people to a swimming pool cake that includes a tiny family created entirely of icing floating on the waves it doesn’t seem like they have to say no very often. As Theresa explains, in a lot of ways these cake creations are really “food art” and cake as a medium “allows you to be creative without limitations.” For both women their proudest moments come when they see the reactions of their customers. “We try our darndest to give the customer what they want.” As Gloria explains “We both really relish the fact that [our cakes] are all baked fresh to order for you specifically. This helps to keep us unique.”

Besides elaborate theme cakes, Theresa and Gloria also make wedding cakes, sheet cakes, cheesecakes, cookies and ‘shooter cakes’ which are cakes drenched in liqueur. They offer cakes in 10 different flavors, including classic favourites such as dark chocolate, vanilla and marble as well as more unusual flavours like cherry and mocha. With 15 different filling options and ranging in sizes from miniscule to gigantic they can easily fulfill your specialty cake needs. Although Theresa stresses that they are not a last minute cake shop. Because of the attention to detail that many of their cakes require they encourage customers to order well in advance of their event. For regular cakes 5 to10 days is sufficient notice but for something like an elaborate wedding cake, 6 months in advance would not be unheard of.

Cakes G’lore is located at 210-33rd Street West – 373-2253.
Registration is Tuesday, September 12, & Wednesday, September 13, 2006, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at Caswell Community School, 204 30th Street West. No membership fee is required to participate in programs. Contact Glenn Dougan at 665-5563 for more information. Caswell Hill Community Association honours other community association memberships.

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<td>Mighty Mites &amp; Mega Mammas &amp; Papas</td>
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SAFER COMMUNITIES.....

Your provincial government has introduced:

- More Police
- New Prosecutors
- A Missing Persons Task Force
- A Gang Suppression Strategy plus Prevention and Intervention to keep kids out of gangs
- Seizure of Criminal Property and Criminal Enterprise Suppression legislation
- Pawn Property Recording legislation: mandatory reports to police about all property brought into pawn shops.
- Saskatoon Break & Enter Strategy: B&E’s down 17% in 2005 and Auto Thefts down 7%!
- Ability to More Easily Shut Down Houses and Buildings Used for Illegal Activities (e.g. drugs, prostitution, solvent abuse, unlawful alcohol sale or consumption). You can call toll free 1-866-51-SAFER to report illegal activity. Your report is kept confidential.
Caswell Hill Community Newsletter

Sunday, Sept. 24, 5:30 PM
Christ Church Anglican, 515 28th St. W.

Potluck followed by Meeting

Everyone living in Caswell Hill is encouraged to come
Childcare provided for children age 3+

Presentations by:
Mendel Art Gallery
Good Food Junction Grocery Store

Notification of Bylaw Amendments

Proposed bylaw amendments to be voted on at Caswell Hill’s upcoming Annual General Meeting:

Original Bylaw
There shall be an annual meeting of the Association each year in May or June.

Amended Bylaw
There shall be an annual meeting of the Association each year in September.

Rationale – Changing this bylaw will reflect our current practice.

Original Bylaw
Executive Council meetings, General Meetings, and Special meetings shall be chaired or co-chaired (a Chair and Co-Chair share the chairing duties of the meeting), in rotating fashion, from members of the Executive Council. Each Council member shall be given an opportunity to chair or co-chair at least one meeting per term. Likewise, secretarial duties for each meeting shall be rotated from members of the Executive Council, giving each member an opportunity to be secretary for at least one meeting.

Rationale – If bylaw 4.01 is amended (below), this bylaw (1.06) is no longer necessary.

Original Bylaw
The Executive Council shall consist of no more than 14 elected Executive Council Members. Responsibilities and duties shall be shared by Executive Council members and include, though not be limited to: Indoor programming; Outdoor programming; Special Events; Volunteer Coordination; Civics Issues; Safety Issues; School liaison; Communications; Newsletter Production; and Newsletter Distribution. The Community Consultant, Community Development Branch, City of Saskatoon shall be an Ex-Officio member of the Executive Council.

Amended Bylaw
The Executive Council shall consist of no more than 14 elected Executive Council Members. Positions shall include Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Members at Large. Responsibilities and duties for the Members at Large positions shall be shared and include, though not be limited to: Indoor programming; Outdoor programming; Special Events; Volunteer Coordination; Civics Issues; Safety Issues; School liaison; Communications; Newsletter Production; and Newsletter Distribution. The Community Consultant, Community Development Branch, City of Saskatoon shall be an Ex-Officio member of the Executive Council.

Rationale – This change will allow for more flexibility in the roles that members at large can take on while still maintaining a consistent organizational structure.

Original Bylaw
The fiscal year of the Association shall be May 1 to April 30.

Amended Bylaw
5.02 The fiscal year of the Association shall be August 1 to July 31.

Rationale – This change will reflect our current practice.

Original Bylaw
5.06 The Executive Council shall call a special general meeting to approve any single expenditure over $1000.

Amended Bylaw
The Executive Council shall call a special general meeting to approve any single expenditure over $1500.

Rationale – This bylaw has not been changed in a number of years. This incremental increase is necessary due to rising costs.