

NEWS & VIEWS

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR STUDENT FAMILIES AT UVIC



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Unforgettable; That's What This Is

By Dave Nagel

The more things change the more they stay the same. At least that's how it seems to me, particularly upon returning to Victoria circa eight years ago after leaving this "shorts and flowers in February" utopia some 20 years ago. I find it both familiar and alien to visit some of the places that I habituated in my youth (age zygote to 18), some of which I'd like to share with you now.

The first is a place to play, and what better location for UVic and surrounding families than Gyro Park. The octopus, salmon, and serpent have been there so long that my mother recalls climbing the concrete beasts as a child herself, a fact that probably requires further investigation. As children we would, as I often do with my kids, stop in at *For Good Measure* to stock up on dried fruit, penny candies and almonds before we scampered down to the beach.

Heading out from Gyro, up Cadboro Bay Rd. then winding through the Uplands you'll find yourself at Uplands Park; a haven for dog walkers then, and still today, so watch your step. Continue southwest along the coast line and you'll find the comfort of Willows Beach, and the Oak Bay Tea Room from which the Kiwanis Club has served fries, hot dogs and the like for years on end.

Continue along the coast and skip forward to Dallas Road, which used to be a lot of fun in storm season, dampened though in 'modern' times by a reinforced and extended beachfront. Traversing along Dallas Rd. you'll eventually, without meaning to, bump in to Beacon Hill Park, clearly one of the crown jewels of the Victoria proper region. This park used to (cont'd)

Family Centre Weekly Programs

Monday – Family Learn and Share	10:00am-12noon
Monday – Make and Take	7:00-9:00pm
Wednesday – Under 5 Playgroup	10:00am-12noon
Wednesday – After School Club	3:30-5:00pm
Friday – Under 5 Playgroup	10:00am-12noon

In addition to weekly programs, the Family Centre is open Monday (9:30-12), Tuesday (11-3), Wednesday (9:30-3:00) and Friday (9:30-12). For more information contact the Family Centre through Facebook or by email at familyc@uvic.ca.



Find us on Facebook

have one of the coolest zip lines a kid could imagine before the bubble wrap police got their hands on parks and started to legislate safety before exploration. Regardless, the new park at Beacon Hill, along with the raving mad peacocks and ravenous ducks make a trip well worth your while.

Finally, if the harsh temperate rain forest climate has you down head in to the Royal Museum and get a glimpse of a living, breathing Woolly Mammoth! Well, it's neither living nor breathing but it is there, and pretty cool. Lastly, if any of these places sound interesting, just type them into Google Maps and you can find directions by foot, bicycle, car, bus, or hot air balloon; whatever suits your fancy.

Celebrate National Child Day

National Child Day is celebrated in Canada on November 20 in recognition of the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It is the perfect time for young Canadians to express themselves and shape their own future. For more information visit <http://www.unicef.ca/en/take-action/article/celebrate-national-child-day-2014>

Remembrance Day

November 11th is Remembrance Day. It is a day to remember and acknowledge the efforts and sacrifices made for peace around the world.



A New Report Explores the Evolution of Fatherhood

The “*Give Love, Get Love*” report published by The Involved Father and Gender Equity Project details the experiences of fifty-three fathers in communities across Ontario and explores changes in fatherhood. The findings of the study include:

- “Involved fatherhood has benefits for children, mothers and fathers. Fathers indicated that they feel more emotionally connected to their children and prioritize their children and family over other aspects of their lives. Fathers indicate that their involvement results in greater co-parenting and greater emotional attachment between partners.”
- “Many fathers are actively finding ways to counter the traditional gender stereotypes. In their roles as fathers they are providing opportunities to their children and making choices for their children that allow the children to exist outside of the stereotypes that are often associated with boys and girls.”
- “Fathers in this study indicate that their involvement with their children promotes gender equality. Fathers are role modeling gender equality with their children and understand the importance of having conversations about equality with their children. Fathers in this study also suggest that a change is occurring in relationships, where equality is more present within their relationships than ever before.”

Some cool stats about Canadian Dads:

- 3.8 million — Fathers with children under 18 living with them, as of 2011
- 29 — Percentage of fathers who took parental leave in 2011
- 21 — Percentage of male lone-parent families in 2011 (growth of single-parent families was more than twice as strong between 2006 and 2011 for men than for women: 16.2 per cent versus six per cent)
- 11 — Percentage of two-parent families with a stay-at-home dad, as of 2010

For more information about the study and it's results visit

<http://www.keepingintouchbc.com/2014/09/30/fatherhood-report-explores-evolution-fatherhood-canada/>



Introducing Ju Hyun

My name is Ju Hyun Jung. I am currently doing my 3rd/4th year in Child and Youth Care at UVIC and will do my 3rd year practicum until April in Family Centre.

I am from South Korea. I have parents and one younger brother in Korea. I miss them so much as I am living away from my family.

I moved to Victoria last June. I completed my diploma of Early Learning and Child Care at Bow Valley College in Calgary. I have experience working with children in the child care centre about three years. I love working with children and that is what I want to do in my whole life. I believe I can make a big difference in their lives by educating and advocating for them.

I am very happy to do my practicum in the Family Centre and to have great time with all of you!

Introducing Maryah Allen

My name is Maryah Allen; I am currently in my third year of study at UVic. I am working towards a Bachelor's Degree in Health Information Science. I have joined the Family Centre in a work study position for the year and couldn't be more excited to be a part of this community.

I am an Island girl, having been born and raised in small town Nanaimo. I am driven by my passion for adventure and helping others. This year I became a Vikes Cheerleader and I am loving the challenge. I really enjoy meeting new people and forcing myself to think out of the box. I come from a split family with three younger siblings; a sister, step-sister and step-brother and have been involved in supporting school and community programs for most of my life. My child and youth care experience has been extremely rewarding. Can't wait to meet everyone!



Get Your Vote On

General Election Day in British Columbia will take place on **Saturday, November 15, 2014** from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. On November 15, 2014, eligible voters will be voting across the province. For example, in Saanich we will elect a Mayor, eight Councillors and 11 School Trustees. You can vote if you are age 18, a Canadian citizen, a BC resident for at least six months immediately before the day you register to vote and a community resident for at least 30 days immediately before the day you register to vote. For those of us at UVic voting in this year's municipal election just got a bit easier. Thanks to a multi-year campaign by the UVSS, advance polls for Saanich, Oak Bay and Victoria are coming to UVic. Students, faculty, staff and other eligible voters can cast ballots on **Thursday, Nov. 6 from noon to 4 p.m. in the SUB Michele Pujol Room.**

Programs and Events

Family Learn and Share

On Monday mornings from **10am-12noon** the Family Centre hosts a drop-in program for families to interact and learn from one another. Each week there is a designated focus topic and facilitator. Please contact us by email, phone or Facebook if you have any questions or suggestions.

Wednesday and Friday Playgroups:

Families are welcome from **10:00 am to 12:00 pm** to enjoy an engaging morning full of activities. Our goal is to provide children with a rich environment in which they can learn through play. Expect engaging activities in the main room, along with free play in the toy room. A healthy snack for all to share is provided with coffee and tea for the adults. Engage in some adult conversation and be a part of the warm, friendly atmosphere. Story time with songs and stories, as well as outdoor play as the weather allows. We try to squeeze in many important favorite elements in a short time, while still being flexible to follow the lead of the children.

After School Club:

School Aged Kids (Grades 1-6) are invited to the Family Centre's After School Club on **Wednesdays from 3:30 - 5:00 pm**. We will be doing a variety of activities each week. These might include outdoor games like soccer, tag, and croquet, as well as puzzles, projects, board games, talent shows and crafts.

Mom's Time Out!

Do you need a 'time-out'? The Family Centre is open on **Monday nights from 7-9pm** for women to get together, have a cup of tea and chat. Feel free to come for half an hour or stay for the whole time. If you don't have children – don't let the name deceive you! You are more than welcome. (Note: Nursing infants are welcome.)

Book Club:

The Family Centre has a book club that meets on **the third Thursday of each month** to discuss a novel chosen by the group. If you enjoy reading and would like to get together with others please come along. To find out more join our Facebook group or send us an email at familyhousingbookclub@gmail.com.

Community Events



Drop-In Family Story Time

Nellie McClung Library

November 4, 11, 18, 25 10:30-11:00pm

For young children and their families; children under 3 must be accompanied by an adult. Fun-filled stories, songs, rhymes, and puppets. No registration required.

Coast Capital Free Swim

Gordon Head Recreation Centre

November 15th, 7:00-8:30pm

Bring your friends and family for a free swim at the Gordon Head Recreation Centre. Play pool games and activities with a fun leader in the pool. Chance to win prizes.

Island Farms Santa Light Parade

Government Street (from Belleville to Chatham Streets)

November 29, 2014, 5:45-7:00pm

Bring the family to this festive, annual parade to celebrate the holiday season. Enjoy an array of dazzling floats and marching bands that travel along the magically lit Government Street from Victoria's Inner Harbour to Chatham Street. Meet up at the Capital Iron parking lot for delicious free treats courtesy of Island Farms.

Duck Day

Sunday, November 30, Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Swan Lake Nature House

Some dabble, some dive, but they're all ducks. We'll explore the amazing adaptations ducks have for living on the lake and discover who's who in the duck world.

(drop-in anytime) Admission by donation.