

News & Views

University of Victoria Student Family Housing Newsletter



The Family Centre
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Hours for July

Mondays 12:30pm - 5:00pm
Tuesdays 9:30am - 4:00pm
Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:30pm

Weekly events for July



Monday afternoons:

Baby Talk Group
12:30pm-2:30pm



Monday afternoons:

School Age Play Time
3:30pm - 5:00pm



Tuesday mornings:

Storytime and Coffee Klatsch
10:00am - 12:00am



Tuesday afternoons:

School Age Play Time
2:00pm - 4:00pm



Wednesday mornings:

Playgroup in the Park
10:00am - 12:00pm
At the Big Playground



Friday evenings:

Knitting Night
7:00pm - 9:00pm
(July 4th and 18th)

Welcome • Willkommen
Bienvenue • Bienvenida
Benvenuto • Welkom

Vandalism, Loitering and Theft

There have been a number of school age children entering the apartment buildings lately. These children do not live in the apartments and have been involved in undesirable activities such as marking the walls with graffiti, unplugging the washers and dryers, and riding skateboards in the hallways.

In an incident that may or may not be related, a tenant has had their bike vandalised, and parts stolen, from inside the secure area of the apartment buildings.

Residents of Family Housing should also be aware that several cars have been illegally entered in the past few weeks. The cars were easy to enter as the doors were unlocked. In most cases the contents of the glove compartment were emptied and spread about the car. Some car owners had small change stolen, and others had larger items taken such as a cellular phone. Due to the nature of these incidents, Campus Security believes that children may be responsible for the thefts.

Campus Security and Saanich Police have been contacted about the aforementioned incidents and are keeping reports. We can all help by keeping an eye out for suspicious activity.

Bike Rodeo

Hey Kids! Come and join in the fun and learn safe cycling skills! Campus Security presents Bike Rodeo 2003. This is an event for children 6 to 12 years of age. It will be held on July 5th, from 10:00am - 12:00pm, in parking lot #2, which is located behind the Campus Security Building. Preregistration for this event is preferred. Please call 721-8981 for more information or to register. Bike and helmet mandatory for all participants.



Submissions to the News & Views

Items for the newsletter may be sent via e-mail to the editor Katherine Tevaarwerk (klt@uvic.ca), and will be included on a first come, first served basis. Please limit your submissions to a maximum of 250 words, and include a name and contact address. Please note that due to incompatibilities between the many extant versions of the software, Microsoft Word (.doc) attachments will not be accepted. **Deadline for Submissions - 20th of each month**



Martha On Summer Study Leave

Martha will be away for the summer months of July and August. (Well, not too far away. Just over the other side of Ring Road being a full time student.) We are very lucky to have Anika Sekhon with us for the summer. Anika was a social work practicum student with us this year and will be working at the Family Centre in July and August to keep the door open. Drop by and say hi to her some time! The hours of opening will be slightly reduced. In July and August the Family Centre will be open on Tuesdays from 9:30am - 4:00pm, and on Wednesdays from 9:30am - 12:30pm.

Reduced Services for Summer

There will be no Good Food Box or Clothing Exchange during the summer months.

Follow Up: Student Family Workshop

As a result of the Workshop held in April with the office of Equity Issues, a report on student families is to be drafted. The Office of Equity Issues has provided some funding to assist with the research and planning for the report which they hope to have completed in September 2003. The report will be circulated widely when completed. A second workshop is planned for the fall, tentatively called *Student Families - the next steps?* This workshop would follow from the first one by looking at some of the issues raised. We would like to invite the broader community as well as university staff, faculty and students. Keep an eye out for more information later this summer.

Jane P. Brett, Secretary, Office of Equity Issues

Nursing Students Monday Programming

For the month of July, the nursing students, Nadine and Antoinette will be offering some extra programming on Mondays.

12:30pm - 2:30pm: New Parents! Come and join our Baby Talk discussion group! This is an informative time to learn about issues affecting you and your baby in the early months. It is also a great opportunity to get out of the house and connect with other parents with babies. Any

parents with new babies (under 1 year old) are welcome!

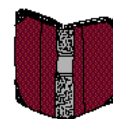
3:30pm - 5:00pm: We will be having an extra school age play time on Monday afternoons for the month of July. All children between the ages of 6 and 12 are welcome to join us for fun activities.

(School age children are also welcome on Tuesday afternoons from 2:00pm - 4:00pm throughout the summer.)

Storytime Storyteller Needed

Do you love to read books to children? We need a new storytime volunteer! Francine, our beloved storytime volunteer who has been with us for a year now, will be moving to Vancouver this summer to further her studies in education at UBC.

We will miss her very much! Francine says that she has found the work extremely rewarding. It's also a fabulous way to gain experience working with children, and lots of fun.



Family Centre Holiday Closures

The Family Centre will be closed on Tuesday, July 1st for Canada Day, and Monday, August 5th, for BC Day.

Knitting Night

Knitters of all abilities are welcome on July 4th and 18th from 7:00pm - 9:00pm.

Campus Community Gardens Update

The Community Gardens are busy these days with people planting, harvesting, watering, and weeding. As there is no formal authority that presides over the upkeep of the gardens, things sometimes get very messy up there. If you have a plot at the community garden, you might want to keep the following in mind.

Garbage: Although there is a garbage bin up at the gardens, there is no garbage removal service. Please take any and all garbage that you bring to the garden home with you and dispose of it there.

Rocks: If you remove rocks from your garden, please don't leave them lying in the grass, as they not only become a hazard for others, but may get caught in the lawnmower.

Lock Number: Most of us have a hard time remembering the lock number so it has been written in black felt, on the upper right corner of the message board that stands in the gardens.

Hoses: The hoses have been set up so that everyone can have access. Please do not take them apart and reconnect them.

Weeds: If you remove any weeds or greenery from your garden, please tidy it up by composting it. Organic matter that is left to lie around becomes a good habitat for insects and other creatures, not all of whom are desirable.

As Trina no longer has a plot at the community gardens, she has turned over all information regarding the gardens to Martha at the Family Centre. If you have any questions regarding the gardens, please contact Martha at 472-4062, or familyc@uvic.ca.



Signed Up For Pharmacare Yet?

Did you know that you could be saving a lot of money on your prescription drugs? As of May 1st, the BC Pharmacare system has been revised so that those who need the most assistance will get it. Many students will now qualify to have a substantial portion of their prescription costs covered. For example, a family with a net income of less than \$15 000 will have 70 percent of their drug costs covered with their very first prescription. In order to qualify, you must complete a registration and consent form. This can be done by phone at **1-800-387-4977**, or online at <https://pharmacare.moh.hnet.bc.ca>. Talk to your pharmacist to find out more.



ESL Summer Camps

Summer Camps for Youth who are new to Canada! The Intercultural Association is offering camps for youth from 12 to 18 years of age. Make new friends! Have a good time! Get to know Victoria! Practice your English! July 7th to August 8th, 1:00pm - 4:00pm at Pearkes Recreation Centre. Cost: \$125. There are also separate ESL classes from 9:30am - 11:30am. Registration forms are available at the UVic Family Centre or call Tuyen Pham at the ICA, 388-4728, extension 123. ESL summer camps for 8 to 12 year olds are being offered through Saanich Recreation. Call 388-6664 for more info

Science Venture Camps

Summer time is science time at UVic!

Science Venture offers

week-long science and engineering, and technology day camp programs for students entering grades 2 through 8.

Campers enjoy a week of hands-on activities, group challenges, building projects, university lab tours, science experiments, and interactive games led by science and engineering students at UVIC. These camps are designed to increase the interest in Science of today's youth. For more information go to www.scienceventure.uvic.ca.



Thanks and Bye Trina, Chris and Jonah

Trina Allinotte, Chris Chapman and their son Jonah moved out of Family Housing in June. Trina and Chris were both involved in the community, through the Family Centre and the Community Gardens, and volunteered much of their time. We thank them very much for all their work, and wish them the best of luck.

UVic Family Housing Alumni Club

We are starting a UVic Family Housing Alumni Club! For now, all this means is that if you know of someone who used to live here that would like to write an article for our newsletter, pass on the word about it. They may want to write and tell us when they lived here, who was in their family, any special memories and what they are up to now. To launch off our Alumni Club we have a submission from Joanne Dallas, who is currently living in Alaska:

The Smith/Dallas family was a member of UVic Family Housing from November of 1997 until June 2002. While there my husband, Christian Smith, attended UVic, where he received his PhD in Biology. Christian and I had two daughters born there: Lilly, in November of 1997, and Rose, in September of 1999. We were an active part of the Family Centre, enjoying the social and intellectual outlets it offered such as playgroups, culture club, and singing and storytime. Christian was offered and accepted a job in Anchorage, Alaska. We moved North, and have settled into a different lifestyle. There was no organization in Anchorage like the Family Centre, which made settling into a new place more difficult. As we arrived in summer, we tried going to the parks in the neighbourhood to meet people, but they were deserted. Then we learned that everyone goes camping in the summer in Alaska all the time. The city is devoid of residents except for tourists. In September, Lilly started preschool and that was where we were able to meet people and make friends. We have survived our first Alaskan

winter although everyone says it was a very untypically mild one. We lived through temperatures of minus fifty Celcius, we went skating on the lake by our house, we built many snowmen and an igloo, and we went tobogganning many times although we were careful to call it sledding because no one knew what we were talking about when we said tobogganning. Lilly and Rose went for a mush dog ride, and we became very comfortable driving in the snow. We had to sell our big 75 Nova because it couldn't drive in the snow, and we are now the proud owners of a Honda with studded tires. We have had moose in our backyard eating the trees and flowers, much like the deer do in Victoria. We have lived through a maximum of four hours of daylight per day and we're now up to twenty-one hours of daylight. It has been a neat experience with lots of changes. We still daydream about Victoria everyday and found the spring especially depressing when we remembered all the flowers that were blooming there when our backyard was still full of snow. We also miss all our friends there so much, and the convenience of being able to go down the hall to the Family Centre, or out to the park when we were feeling lonely or overrun with troubles. There was guaranteed to be someone there to listen and chat with. We realize now what a special community it was and how lucky we were to experience it for a little while.

Joanne Dallas

Marine Day at Witty's Lagoon

Marine Day is a yearly special event with CRD Parks. Held at Witty's Lagoon Regional Park in Metchosin, this celebration includes guided beach explorations, scuba divers bringing up sea creatures, live displays, close-up views of harbour seals, musical theatre, beach bingo and more. A fun day for all ages. For more information call 478-3344



Moss Street Paint-In

Over 10 blocks of sculptors, painters, photographers and mixed media artists working on location along Moss street, from the Art Gallery down to Dallas road. Everyone is welcome to this free event, on Saturday, July 19th, from 1:00pm -4:00pm. For more information call 384-4101.

Luminara

Luminara Victoria is a day and evening event at St. Ann's Academy and Beacon Hill Park, held this year on July 26th. There is music, performances, activities, and a spectacle. You can be a part of the event by bringing your own lantern and dressing in costume. The lantern light-up is at dusk at Beacon Hill Park. For more information call 388-4728 or visit www.luminaravictoria.com

Summer Reading Club

Greater Victoria Public Libraries run a summer reading club for children between the ages of 6 and 12. The programme is free and registered club members receive a reading record to help them track their summer reading. Children collect stickers and prizes for reading books. There are also weekly draws, game sheets, and special events like magic and puppet shows, wizardly drama workshops, animal drawing and animation crafts. Registration begins June 27th at all Greater Victoria branch libraries.

BC Transit Family Travel

Did you know that with your U-Pass you can take your children on the bus for free? Children 12 and under ride free any-time when accompanied by a parent or guardian. This only applies to adults using a monthly pass, DayPass, ProPass, U-Pass, or BC Bus Pass. Up to four children can travel with one adult.



Saanich Neighbourhood Playground Programs

Saanich offers summer playground programs for children aged 5 1/2 to 11 years of age. All children must have attended kindergarten to be eligible to attend. The programmes run Monday through Friday from 9:30am -3:00pm with options for extended care starting at 8am and from 3:00pm-5:00pm. The programmes are well supervised by staff that have all received training. Themes, costumes and songs are incorporated into daily programming. The cost for a 5-day week is \$42, but drop-in day passes are also available for \$15 per day. The location of the nearest playground programme is Reynolds Park, 3930 Reynolds Road. To register, contact any Saanich Recreation Centre. The phone number for the Gordon Head Recreation Centre is 477-1871.

Art Escapes

Have fun this summer with art! Expand your skills and plunge into your creativity. Experiment with your own unique expression through art.



Mixed Media: July 5th, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- exploring collage design, embellishing

Mixed Media Part Two: July 6th, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- exploring texture, transfers, finishes, tissue paper

Art Stamping: July 23rd, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- working with inks, embossing, chalks, bleaching

Art Stamping Part Two: July 24th, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- working with felts, watercolour techniques, powder pigments

Art Journalling: August 2nd, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- combining word and image, journalling techniques, art ideas

Art Journalling Part Two: August 3rd, 11am - 3:00pm

- altered books, board books, tea books, accordion books

Art Papers: August 9th, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- create your own beautiful art papers from different materials

Art Papers Part Two: August 10th, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- embellishing papers, marbling

Creative Expression: August 23rd, 11:00am - 3:00pm

- explore and discover your own unique creative expression

Karen Wallace, a Family Housing alumnus, is a Victoria artist and art instructor. She leads workshops in creativity, body image, art therapy, dreams, and Tarot. Karen is a registered art therapist in private practice with adults and children. She is a generous, dynamic, and creative teacher who shares her excitement for the pursuit and exchange of new ideas and methods. To register for any of the above courses, contact Karen at 380-4946 or kwallace@islandnet.com