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Dear Brentwoodians,

Driving in the Dark

Daylight saving time is now permanent in Alberta, despite the results of a 2021 referendum rejecting the move and despite warnings from experts in psychology and education about negative effects, especially on younger people (https://vancouversun.com/opinion/op-ed/opinion-how-permanent-daylight-saving-time-could-affect-schools).

While some Albertans may welcome the chance to squeeze in some additional evening golf games during shoulder season, another reason to be wary of the change is the fact that most of us will now be commuting to work and school in darkness for most of the winter. I walk my son to the bus stop at Northmount and Charleswood most mornings, and even on bright summer mornings I witness a constant stream of close calls and near-misses at that intersection. Drivers turning right without slowing down or stopping, drivers running yellow lights, drivers making dangerous left-turns, drivers failing to slow down for the 30 km/h zones. Shifting the chaos of the rushed morning commute into an extra hour of darkness heightens the risk of accidents and the likelihood of tragic consequences—and that is without even considering the snowstorms that will inevitably strike as we move into the winter months.

Drivers have a legal and moral obligation to take care when driving in the dark mornings, and to be extra vigilant about pedestrians of all ages, especially now that many people are bundled up in dark-hued winter coats and hats. Plan to stop at crosswalks even before you can see if someone is about to cross and take extra care when turning left or right.

Voting Turnout

As I write, the big news in Alberta is the recent referendum on a number of issues, including the possibility of a vote to secede from Canada; and the big news internationally is the mid-term elections in the US. Regardless of one's views on the outcomes of either of these elections, Albertans should be proud of how seriously they take their responsibilities as voters. The reported 49% turnout south of the border, for a highly visible and consequential election, has been touted as one of the highest in a century. In contrast, the Alberta referendum on October 19 saw 70% of eligible voters cast their ballots (and the 2023 provincial election had a 60% participation rate). Whether we feel more positive about our votes making a difference; or whether we have a heightened sense of civic engagement over our US neighbours, it is a good thing that Albertans seek to make their voices heard.

Photo Contest

The Bugle is looking for Brentwood's best amateur photographers to provide cover images each month. If you have a great snap of our neighbourhood saved on your phone or posted on your social media feed, send it in for a chance to be featured on the cover of an upcoming issue! Photos must be 300 DPI or higher (i.e. from a newer model phone or good digital camera), 1600 x 2400 pixels minimum size. If submitting pictures of minors, please make sure that you have direct, express permission to submit the picture from a parent or guardian. Send your photos, or any questions, to bcabugle@telus.net.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Jucker,

Editor, Brentwood Bugle

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Brentwood Sportsplex Public Skating
Mondays: 10:00 to 11:30 am
September 14 to December 21, 2026
January 4 to March 22, 2027

Wednesdays: 1:30 to 3:00 pm
September 9 to December 16, 2026
January 6 to March 24, 2027

No Public Skating Dates:
December 23, 28, and 30, 2026. February 15, 2027.
No public skating on statutory holidays
Cost: $1.00 per person (pay at the office)
Public skating only—no sticks, pucks, sleds, or strollers. We do not supply skating assistance equipment. Anyone under the age of 18 must wear a helmet.

Brentwood Cares—Little Food Library and More!
With your donations and support, we continue to stock the Brentwood Cares Little Food Library twice daily, for use by people of all ages and circumstances, from elders to students.
Unopened, sealed items can be dropped off in the library itself or in the box beside the door at 3624 Boulton Road at any time. Hats off to Brentwood for your continued support!

Liza and the Brentwood Cares Team

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https://brentwoodcommunity.com/2024/11/21/cps-community-safety-guide/

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MLA: Luanne Metz (Calgary-Varsity): Calgary.Varsity@assembly.ab.ca; 403-216-5436.

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CPS Community Police Officer: Constable Reinders: pol4241@calgarypolice.ca; 403 428-6342.





Off the Bookshelf

by Rosemary Brown

Over the past two months, Chapters and Chat has delved into Indigenous horror fiction. I had not been aware that such writings existed but as an art form it is alive and well—with good reason.

The first book, *Zegaajinn*, is a collection of short stories. In Anishinaabe one of the meanings of the word *Zegaajinn* is scary story, an appropriate title for the book's offerings.

In the introduction one of the writers begins with an academic discussion on the origins of horror fiction but then simply says that scary stories have been around since storytelling began, especially among Indigenous communities. He points out that these stories usually took the form of cautionary tales, designed to keep children and adults safe, especially when interacting with the natural world around them. They were about the retribution one would face from natural and supernatural forces if one ignored the teachings of the Elders and or contravened reciprocal obligations with elements of the natural world.

This contemporary collection of scary stories continues to serve as cautionary tales but within a modern context. Unlike other members of the book club, I found the first two stories hard to get into but after that these stories drew me in. They were quite gripping and in each the tension mounts as one knows that the main character will meet a grisly end. Some of the endings are a surprise as in "Black Silk Suit". One of the most dreadful stories was "The Keeper of the Bones", based on the horrors of colonization.

The next book we read was the full-length novel *The Only Good Indian* by Stephen Graham Jones. Drawing on references to the supernatural deer women found in stories of many Indigenous cultures, Jones tracks the lives and ends of four young Blackfeet men, friends and hunting companions, over a ten-year period.

One winter day they head out searching for elk. They deliberately flouted the rules about not entering the hunting grounds reserved for Elders. Once inside they slaughtered several elk, more than they could carry back, including a pregnant young doe. They also cut up the carcasses in a wasteful manner. Local law enforcement caught them and forced them to throw the meat back.

Subsequently two of the men left the reserve and two stayed, but no matter where they were, they and their family members were caught in a web of grisly retribution for contravening hunting protocols. The book does not make for easy reading and at the same time is hard to put own until the end.

The theme of vengeance as enacted by the elk woman is central to the novel as is the way the cycle of revenge is finally broken by the then daughter of one of the men. This comes after a harrowing chase scene at the end of the book. I will leave it to the reader to find out how she does this and to ponder on the nature of vengeance in our world. We had quite the discussion in the book club about this issue.

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The Nutcracker

In 1892 Tchaikovsky premiered his third ballet, "The Nutcracker" in Saint Petersburg, and while in recent times it is know globally and considered a Christmas tradition for many people, the ballet was not well-loved upon release. In fact, it did not gain popularity until closer to the 1950s when companies began performing it annually, marketing it as a Christmas feature.



Brentwood Sportsplex Celebrates 50th Anniversary

by Lee Hunt





Fifty years ago this month, the initial construction of the Brentwood Sportsplex was completed, followed by the Grand Opening in January 1977.

I recently had an opportunity to speak with Steve Dietrich who has been the Arena Manager at the Sportsplex since 1983. Steve estimated that the Sportsplex took most of a year to build. Much of the fundraising was done through debentures, with each Brentwood family being asked to consider purchasing one debenture for $100. Some 765 Brentwood families and 61 organizations and businesses did just that. The latter group included many Brentwood hockey teams, the Brentwood Old Timer Hockey team, plus Cubs and Scouts. On the business side some still familiar names appeared as donors: CIBC, Calgary Coop, Northland Village, Nu-West, and Shaganappi Chev Olds. Ten years later, a "Notice of Redemption" in the October 11, 1986, edition of The Calgary Herald announced that the debentures could be redeemed for "the principal thereof and accrued interest thereon". That accrued interest was 6%.

With the money in place, the Robertson Contracting Company could proceed with the project. Many residents also put in what Steve called "sweat equity": some of these people were specialized electricians, carpenters, and gasfitters. Others simply learned how to be good with a hammer! Steve also told me that many teens on community hockey teams were recruited to work on the new building.

Though the upstairs hall was built at the same time as the rink, only the rink opened in 1977. The initial seats were "cast offs" from the Stampede Corral, while the current seats came later from the Stampede Grandstand. A generous Brentwood family that wished to remain anonymous, bought some 250 seats at a price of $25 each and donated them to the Sportsplex. In the early days, the ice was scraped and flooded using a Ford tractor (see photo). Two more modern Zambonis were used prior to the arrival of the current one.

Over the 50 years, there have been many additions, expansions, and replacements. Some of those included a 1986 lobby expansion, the 1992 addition of more dressing rooms and storage rooms, in 1998 the installation of a lift, and in 2000 the addition of the east parking lot to hold 100 cars. Steve especially lauded the efforts of then Alderman Dale Hodges in helping to make the new parking lot possible.



As the rink aged, equipment needed to be replaced—a new condenser, a new compressor chiller, flooring, and toilets. The latest replacement is the new electric outdoor sign. Steve is thrilled that his 43 years of annually climbing up on the roof to repaint the former plywood sign have come to an end.

But the Sportsplex is not limited to the rink. The upstairs Hall has a fully operational kitchen so has been the site of numerous weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and meetings over the years. Last month it again hosted a large seasonal craft sale. In the past it has served as a home to Bridge and Scrabble players. At one time, monthly seniors' teas were held there. Now the Daisies

Academy Day Care rents the space from the Brentwood Community Association on weekdays, so it continues as a lively spot. I'll have more to say about the Sportsplex Hall in my January 2027 article.

In the meantime, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Brentwood Sportsplex, we salute all of those who have contributed to it over the years—be that through money, construction prowess, administration, or participation in activities. We appreciate and thank you all.

Holiday wishes to all *Bugle* readers and all the best in 2027.





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Brentwood Co-op Redevelopment

by Melanie Swailes

There are major changes coming to the Brentwood Co-op area. Truman Homes has purchased the site and is proposing a new TOD (Transit Oriented Development) project, or a TOC (Transit Oriented Community) as it is also sometimes now known. Because most people are familiar with the term TOD, and because that is used in City of Calgary documents, TOD will be used in this article.

What is TOD? It is a way of building that puts more houses, stores, and services near train or bus stations, making it easier for people to use public transportation. By planning residential development close to the LRT station, residents are more likely to use transit options and this in turn should increase ridership and help to support Calgary Transit services.

The Brentwood TOD area has had a Station Area Redevelopment Plan in place since 2009 to guide proposed redevelopment: it sets the guidelines for aspects such as the height of buildings, the transition to adjacent residential homes, public realm space, landscaping, etc. One of the central concepts is "Areas of Change" and "Areas of Stability". Areas of Change are the locations where redevelopment is welcomed and where significant opportunities exist to achieve the vision of a major regional node and liveable community. Underutilised parcels of land, including the many large surface parking lots and low-density commercial uses, are areas where significant change can occur. Areas of Stability include established residential communities surrounding Brentwood LRT. The character of these places will remain the same…

Basically, there are areas where development makes the most sense—around the LRT Station, close to amenities (groceries, retail, commercial), and close to large facilities (the University of Calgary) while retaining the existing character of other areas of Brentwood. The challenge lies in how to accommodate new development within an established community. This is where you have the chance to provide your feedback.

Truman has proposed a redevelopment which would allow for:

- Building heights ranging between 6 to 30 storeys, aligned with the Brentwood Station ARP 38-90m maximum building height.
- Up to a maximum of 1,550 new homes.
- Approximately 55,000 square feet of commercial / retail space along a new commercial high street.
- Approximately 0.7 acres of new public park and open space.

Regarding the Co-op gas station and the Wendy's drive-thru, they will not be part of the new development. While some area residents have commented that they would like to retain them, unfortunately, they are not compatible with a TOD area: the goal of a TOD is fewer vehicles, and the City is unlikely to support a gas station and drive-thru. Another redevelopment challenge is potential shading on Blakiston Park: some shadowing is inevitable, so the tallest buildings have been located closer to Brentwood Blvd and Crowchild Trail (rather than closer to the park). The Commercial High Street runs through the middle and should ultimately extend from Charleswood Drive to the existing Co-op area; this is the area which should be walkable and attractive to pedestrians.

What happens next? At this stage, it is only the Land Use Rezoning which has been applied for, and it will likely go to Council in the spring of 2027. At this Outline Plan stage, the relevant considerations include the maximum building height, the buildable floor area, the location and design of public open spaces, the street connections and the permitted or discretionary uses. It is only at the future Development Permit stages where the number of units, unit typologies, parking, building design, architecture, etc. will be considered.

The success of any large-scale development depends heavily on attracting optional trips. What makes you want to go to a destination? Not just a place where you have to go for an appointment or to pick up groceries, but rather a place where you want to walk around and explore. Elements such as plantings, trees, public art, attractive facades, wide sidewalks, benches or a place to meet and linger. What matters most to you?

Take a look at the information and drawings on the Brentwood Crossing website. https://www.brentwoodcrossing.ca/.

Provide your feedback to the Truman team, the City of

Calgary, Councillor Kelly's office, and to the Brentwood CA.

Sign up for updates and plan to take part in future engagement sessions. This will be a very significant redevelopment so please get involved.

If you are interested in community planning and redevelopment issues, we welcome new members to join us. Please contact the BCA for more information at office@brentwoodcommunity.com or at 403–284-3477.

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News from the Friends of Nose Hill

by Anne Burke

I was contacted by a PhD Student at the University of Calgary who is training to become a forest therapy guide. His research is on the use of nature in cancer care, and he plans to provide some to patients and participants at Nose Hill Park. He intends to be mindful and have minimal human impacts on the land and the rough fescue grasses. He wants to avoid off-leash areas and others with a lot of thistles. Forest therapy is a legitimate, research-backed wellness practice for reducing stress and improving mood, though it is considered preventive or complementary care rather than a medical cure. While forest therapy is a structured, clinical intervention aimed at specific health challenges, forest bathing is a general mindfulness practice for stress reduction.

Calgary's first official trail at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary was certified by the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy (ANFT). The loop offers five unique stations that guide you on a sensory exploration of this peaceful natural area. Community walks are seasonal and guided two-and-a-half-hour programs are in local wilderness spaces like Griffith Woods Park. The Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) engages deeply with nature-based healing through Indigenous medicine walks and local health partnerships. The school integrates immersive nature experiences primarily through traditional Indigenous healing frameworks. Organized by the CSM Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement office alongside the Calgary and Elbow River Healing Lodge, University of Calgary medicine walks take place at Nose Hill Park. Led by Indigenous elders, these walks guide medical students through the natural environment to explore the collection, application, and meaning of traditional plant medicines, blending medical education with ecological connectedness.

This article is for informational purposes only. For medical advice or diagnosis, consult a professional.

Brentwood Development and Transportation Committee

Where to Learn More

For many years, most of the Development Permits (DPs) received by the Brentwood Community Association were for basement suites, commercial signage, renovations or additions, and retail/commercial applications, such as Northland Mall or new restaurants at Brentwood Mall. The Development and Transportation Committee (DTC) was able to keep up with the applications and submit a detailed review and response.

That has changed. When blanket rezoning was in effect, the DTC received 7 applications for multi-unit buildings, some of which are now going through an appeal process at the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB). In the past year, the DTC has also received 8 applications for Backyard Suites, plus 5 applications for new homes (replacing an existing home). We've noticed a trend towards larger units (backyard suites with 3 bedrooms) and larger homes (much greater square footage and up to 10m (32 feet) in height. Those building forms are likely to have a greater impact on the homes next door, so it's important to provide feedback if there is a concern. Once the DP is approved, there is a 21-day appeal period, and after that, the project can go ahead.

However, our group has reached its capacity and we simply can't be as thorough as we'd like on each application. Our role may have to shift so that we can teach or empower you to provide your feedback directly to the city and the file managers. You have an opportunity to get involved in the redevelopment of the Brentwood Co-op site, the new Calgary Plan and the new Zoning Bylaw. All of these are large-scale items which will have an impact on our community. The more you know, the better the feedback that you will be able to provide.

These are some of the important websites that will help you keep up to date on what's happening:

Brentwood Community Association

Check out updates and events, check out the Development and Transportation Committee website (work in progress). https://brentwoodcommunity.com/.

DMap

The development map; shows all recent DPs, including drawings of current applications; lists the contact information for file managers, deadlines for submissions, etc. https://developmentmap.calgary.ca/.

My Property Map

Shows Building Permits, zoning, property details. https://maps.calgary.ca/myproperty/.

The Land Use Bylaw

Find all the exact details for each Zoning category (example the required setbacks, maximum heights, lot coverage, etc.) The City of Calgary Land Use Bylaw 1P2007.

Take A Free Course

The Federation of Calgary Communities (FCC) offers free courses on Planning and other topics, either in person or online. https://calgarycommunities.com/our-workshops/.

Check Out The FCC Planning Information Online

https://calgarycommunities.com/urban-planning/.

Check The City Of Calgary Engage Website Regularly

Check this website regularly to stay up-to-date and submit your feedback when there are opportunities. Most Engage topics have their own link to sign up for updates. Sign up for topics that interest you. https://engage.calgary.ca/.

If you can spend a bit of time familiarizing yourself with those websites, then when there's a Development Permit next door to you, you'll have a better idea of how to respond.

If you are interested in community planning and redevelopment issues, we welcome new members to join us. Please contact the BCA for more information at office@brentwoodcommunity.com or at 403–284-3477.

by Melanie Swailes

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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no-cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

FALCONER HANDYMAN SERVICES LTD: New decks, fences and repairs. Stucco patching, re-stucco, foundation parging, interior and exterior painting, flooring, drywall, concrete, landscaping, and renovations. No job is too small. Fully insured. WCB and BBB member. For free estimates, please call Wes at 403-809-3644 or email handyfalconer@gmail.com.

PAINTER SERVICING BRENTWOOD: Experienced Calgary Painter - Transform your space with precision and style! Our professional painting services bring life to your home. Skilled in interior and exterior projects. Affordable rates with top-quality results. Contact Jonathan for a free estimate at 403-561-4338. Your trusted choice for a fresh, vibrant look. www.fivestarpainting.com.

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Top #5 Team in the Year of 2025

SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!

CAMBRIAN HEIGHTS—CUMBERLAND DRIVE.....SOLD for 100% of asking price
BRENTWOOD—BULYEA CRESCENT.....SOLD for 97% of asking price
CHARLESWOOD—MORLEY CRESCENT.....SOLD for 96% of asking price

ON THE MARKET

4824 CLARET STREET NW (CHARLESWOOD)

This substantial renovated bungalow pairs timeless curb appeal with a complete, modern style and the added benefit of a new constructed CARRIAGE HOUSE on top of the TRIPLE CAR GARAGE. The main home showcases a classic brick exterior with a charming front archway, while inside, nearly every element has been updated. A brand new triple detached garage, offering ~800 sqft of additional living space! The LEGAL suite features its own open-concept kitchen, large waterfall island with breakfast bar. This is a unique opportunity to own a turn-key renovated home with a high-quality legal suite.

Asking $1,128,000 mls# A2352888

611, 355 NOLANCREST HEIGHTS NW (NOLAN HILL)

Bright and beautifully finished townhome in the heart of Nolan Hill. Open concept main floor, where the kitchen takes center stage with quartz countertops, a stylish backsplash, stainless steel appliances, and an island with a breakfast bar. Upstairs, carpet underfoot leads to two generously sized bedrooms, each with its own ensuite. The single attached garage brings extra versatility with a bonus room at the back. Quick connections to Stoney Trail, Shaganappi Trail, and Sarcee Trail, downtown Calgary.

Asking $416,880 mls# A2344900

99 CLARENDON ROAD NW (COLLINGWOOD)

This bungalow sits on a 60 ft x 115 ft lot in Foothill Estate (Collingwood), and features a vaulted ceiling in the kitchen, dining room, and living room, creating a bright and spacious feel. The main floor offers three bedrooms and a den, including a primary bedroom with a 3-piece ensuite. The basement includes two additional bedrooms and a large family room, providing plenty of space for family and guests. A double attached garage adds convenience and extra storage. Close to all amenities.

Asking $1,090,000 mls# A2354930

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