WESTEND SENIORS ACTIVITY CENTRE OBSERVER September 2018



Overflow parking is available in the west lot of Beulah Alliance Church.

Shuttle service will be available to and from Beulah Alliance Church for the Gala provided by





Sign up for our BRAND NEW E-Newsletter



Stop by the front desk and sign up for our E-newsletter.

One lucky person will win a FREE 2019 membership for signing up! Draw date September 1, 2018.

This is different than our Observer and will be emailed out periodically.

It will give you the latest updates with links to important resources.

9629-176 Street, Edmonton, AB T5T 6B3 / Ph: 780-483-1209 **WWW.Weseniors.ca**

Staff Undate

Janice Monfries left her position as Executive Director of the Westend Seniors Activity Centre on July 31, 2018. We thank her for her services over the last 19 years and wish her well in future endeavours.

The Board has hired a recruiting firm AVIDEXEC to recruit our new Executive Director. Haidong Liang will serve as Interim Executive Director until the position is filled.

Jay Pritchard, WSAC President

Executive Director's News

On August 1st, 1978, Edmonton Self-Starter Organization was formed by Harry Farmer as a Drop-in and activity centre for people 55+ to make friends and become engaged and active. 40 years later, Westend Seniors Activity Centre (our name changed in 2002) has become an inclusive community hub that is changing everyone's perceptions of what a senior's centre can be and what it means to be 55+.

A huge thank you to our talented Administrative Supervisor - Sabine Burgess, who has served our organization for 16 years. She has designed an incredible timeline and video that will be shown at our 40th Anniversary Gala to remind everyone how many great Presidents, Board Members, Volunteers, Members, and Staff have contributed to the past, present and will continue contributing to the future of this wonderful organization. The timeline posted on the back cover of this newsletter highlights our 40 years of excellence.

Westend Seniors Activity Centre is always a leader in the seniors sector and we will continue being the pioneer organization to provide all levels of programs and services to meet our diverse seniors' needs. One way you can help us to understand your needs is to communicate with our capable and dedicated Board. In addition, our diligent staff are very approachable and are willing to listen to your questions, suggestions, concerns and criticism. We will work hard to provide you with answers, feedback, assistance and solutions as much as we can. Please look for a staff member wearing a name badge and/or a green lanyard with ID whenever you need assistance.

Westend Seniors Activity Centre embraces the digital world to serve you better. Please sign up for our brand new E-Newsletter and 'LIKE' us on Facebook. We will be working very hard to engage with our members, staff, local businesses and friends on different topics. And remember to check out our YouTube videos because "Connecting with others never grows old!"

On a side note, I hope you enjoy the \$1 coffee in our Community Cafe. I would like to propose for the second Tuesday of each month, we start a "Toonie Tuesday". You can choose to pay \$2 for coffee, one for yourself and one for your friend or even "pay it forward" for the person behind you. It is not mandatory and it is just a way to show your kindness to your friends or other members here at the centre! In our Centre, we believe "Senior Centres = Friends for Life!"

Haidong Liang, Interim Executive Director

Meet and Greet with Board Members and Staff September 18, 2018 @ 10:30 am in the Community Café

Members are welcomed to attend and ask questions about Board, Staff, programs, projects, and services. One major topic for this meeting: what are your expectations to a new Executive Director.

PROGRAM NEWS

Alex Boisclair left her position as Program Coordinator of the Westend Seniors Activity. We wish her well in future endeavours.

Fall registration started on August 13 this year and we had record breaking numbers. In the course of one day we had over \$18,000 in program registration for fall classes! This included many new people registering online. This is great news for our centre as we continue to explore ways for people to access us online and offer an easier program registration options to our members.

With over 100 programs to choose from there is something for everyone. We anticipate our centre to be busier than ever this coming fall. Therefore, it is important to be respectful of the space and time in which you are taking programs in. We ask that all members leave the room the way it was found so that it is ready for the next program. Please ensure you are exiting the program space in a timely manner so that we can make sure that all of our programs continue to run as scheduled. If you do wish to socialize with other members after class, the café is open daily with fresh coffee and refreshments.

Evening Programming

Westend Seniors will now be open <u>Tuesday</u> evenings starting on September 11 We will be offering these activities at night on top of our regular day programing.



Evening Drop-in Jam Tuesdays from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Music fills the soul! Slam 'n' Jam with the best of 'em! Come join the fun and strum along with whatever instrument you fancy! New members are always welcome.

Pickleball Evening Drop-in Tuesdays from 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm

It's not tennis or table top, it's PickleBall without the pickle! Tighten up your sneakers and ready, steady your paddle. All levels welcomed and new members encouraged.

Essentrics – Stretch & Tone

Tues, Sept 11 – Oct 16 (6 wks) from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Cost: \$58

Tues, Oct 23 – Nov 27 (6 wks) from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Cost: \$58

This is a full body workout that rapidly changes the shape of your body through a dynamic and fluid combination of strengthening and stretching. The technique develops lean, strong and flexible muscles, with immediate changes to your posture. Perfect for men and women of all fitness levels, this program rebalances the body, prevents and treats injuries and unlocks tight joints. ***Yoga mat required.**

Intro To Line Dancing

Tues, Sept 11 – Oct 23 (7 classes) from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Cost: \$42 Tues, Oct 30 – Dec 11 (7 classes) from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Cost: \$42

Heel Toe, Heel Toe, Round Shuffle & Here we go! Another exciting session of line dancing for you country & regular folk. It will be a class where the fun never stops & you won't realize you've exercised until the class is over. Open to anyone & certainly welcoming everyone.

Mindful Yoga & Breathing (Pranayama)

Tues, Sept 25 – Oct 30 (6 classes) from 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm Cost: \$45 Tues Nov 6 – Dec 11 (6 classes) from 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm Cost: \$45

Mindful yoga is normally done in a very slow manner with full awareness. Pranayama is generally translated as breathing techniques and is the extension of Vital energy or life force to each and every cell of the body utilizing our breath in different ways to vitalize the body and nourish our mind. The result is mental calmness and clarity and the effect is seen on the body. ***Yoga mat** *required*

PROGRAM NEWS OVER 30 DROP-INSI

ART

Art Sessions Crafters Corner Paper Quilling Photo Club Woodcarving Woodworking



BRAIN FITNESS

Book Club Photo Club Genealogy Spanish Conversation **Toonie Talks** Writing Circle



CARDS & GAMES

Billiards Contract Bridge Cribbage Euchre **Practice Bridge** Scrabble **TLC ACBL Sanctioned Bridge** Whist



Fitness Room Badminton Biking Group Carpet Bowling Pickleball Walking Group



MUSIC

Open Jam Sessions The Silvertones Ukulele Circle



SOCIAL

Birthday Parties Potluck Supper New Member Welcome Tea

SUPPORT GROUPS Circle of Friends Social Circle of Friends



ALL TOONIE TALKS ARE \$2

FINANCIAL WORKSHOP SERIES

Emerging Markets Investing Fri, Sept 14 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

International Markets Investing Fri, Oct 12 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Growth vs Value Investments Styles Fri. Nov 9 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Cannabis Investing Fri, Dec 14 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

HEALTHY LIVING & NUTRITIONAL SERIES

Body Position & Posture Fri, Sept 7 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Nutrition – Healthy Eating & Canada Food Guide Fri, Sept 21 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Learn The Truth About Hearing Aids Fri, Oct 5 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Understanding Your Medication Fri, Nov 23 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SPEAKER SERIES

Privacy, Law & Technology Tues, Sept 18 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Backvard Wildlife in Northern Climates Fri, Oct 19 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Technology & the Aging Adult Fri. Nov 2 from 10:00 am – 11:30 am

GENERAL INTEREST SERIES

Choosing The Right Executor Mon, Sept 17 from 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Gambling in Alberta Thurs, Sept 27 from 11:00 am - 12:30 am

Service Canada in the Community Tues, Oct 9 from 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

What's on your Travel Bucket List? Wed, Sept 26 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

PLEASE PICK UP OUR FALL PROGRAM GUIDE OR VISIT weseniors.ca to find out more...





PROGRAM NEWS OVER 70 DIFFERENT CLASSES TO CHOOSE FROM

ART

Build Your Own Tree Ceramics Coloured Pencil Workshops Fun & Free Style Acrylic Paining Watercolour Classes Redesigning Jewellery Christmas Card Making Art of Bunka



LIFE LONG LEARNING

Art History Birds In The River Valley Drama DVD Lecture Series French Handy Dandy Workshop Spanish Writing Courses



COMPUTERS, TABLETS & PHONES

Avoiding Roaming Fees Smart Phone Security Online Shopping Safety Windows 10 Mastering Your Phone Computer 101 Working With Photos IPad Class Kijiji Android Phones



One on one Computer or Tablet Tutoring

MUSIC

Music Lessons Choir – Westend Singers

DANCE

Ballroom Ballroom & Latin Beyond Basics Round Dancing BeMoved Gentle BeMoved Clogging Line Dancing



TAI CHI

Qigong & Hunyuan Taiji Foundations & Hunyuan Taiji



MINDFUL WELLNESS

EFT – Tapping for Emotional Freedom Ho'oponopono Mindfulness & Meditation Zen Trilotherapy Meditation

YOGA

Yoga for Arthritis Yoga for Balance & Well-Being Develop Flexibility Through Yin Yoga Mindful Yoga & Breathing Gentle Yoga Intermediate Yoga Yoga for Parkinsons Pilatoga Restorative Hatha Yoga Structural Yoga Therapy For All

FITNESS

Dance Fit

BellyFit Sage Cardio Salsa

Zumba Gold

Zumba Gold Chair



Essentrics: Release, Rebalance & Renew Essentrics – Stretch & Tone Fitness is Fun Fit For Life MOC Barre Mobility Moves Interval Strength Training One on One Training On Pace with Parkinsons Seated Stretch & Strength Small Group Training Stretch & Strength Seniors Stretch Total Body Circuit Total Fit

PLEASE PICK UP OUR FALL PROGRAM GUIDE OR VISIT weseniors.ca to find out more...

Seniors Helping Seniors Toolkit – Week 1





Walk 3 days - for 30 minutes each time.

- 10 minute warm up light effort
- 10 minute brisk walk moderate effort
- 10 minute cool down light effort

STRETCHING Add the seniors stretch

routine to your cool down when possible.

DAY 1 EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS



Chair Lean Backs - 3 sets of 10 reps

- Sit near front of chair with arms across chest
- Tighten your abdominal muscles
- Slowly lean back to a comfortable angle, where you feel your muscles working, but are not in any pain or discomfort
- Slowly come back to the start position



- Seated Leg Straighten 3 sets of 6 reps, each leg
 Sit in chair with feet rested lightly on floor
 Slowly extend one leg in front of you, but DO NOT lock your knee
- Toes pointed toward ceiling
- Hold for 2-3 seconds
- Slowly lower leg back down



Standing Knee Bends – 2 of 10 reps, each leg

- Stand using a chair to balance
- Bend your knee backward as high as you can
- Hold 2-3 seconds
- Slowly lower leg back down



Standing Side Leg Raise – 2 set of 10 reps, each leg

- Stand using a chair to balance
- Slowly lift one leg out to the side
- Keep your back straight and face forward
- Keep your standing leg slightly bent
- Hold for 2-3 seconds
- Slowly lower leg back down

Standing Hip Extension – 2 sets of 10 reps, each leg

- Stand using chair to balance
- Slowly extend your leg backward, keeping your knee straight
- Keep your back straight and facing forward
- Keep your standing leg slightly bent
- Hold for 2-3 seconds
- Slowly lower leg back down

Toolkit Created by Haidong Liang, Ph.D. & in partnership with







Seniors Helping Seniors Toolkit – Week 1

DAY 2 EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS

	Seated Hip March - 3 sets of 10 reps, each leg • Sit in chair with feet flat on floor • Lift your knee as high as comfortable • Slowly lower • Alternate lifting each knee for a total of 10 lifts on each leg
r (Î	Calf Raises – 3 sets of 10 reps • Stand with feet shoulder width apart using a chair to balance • Slowly raise onto your toes • Hold for 2 seconds • Slowly lower heels to floor
r (Î	 Heel Stands – 3 sets of 10 reps Stand using a chair to balance Raise up on heels by lifting toes towards ceiling Hold for 2 seconds Lower toes slowly back to floor
	Overhead Press – 2 set of 10 reps • Sit in chair with feet flat on floor, shoulder width apart • Hold weights at your sides at shoulder height with palms facing forward • Raise both arms up over your head, keeping a slight bend in elbows • DO NOT lock your elbows at the top • Hold for 2 seconds • Slowly lower arms
	 Seated Rows With Band – 2 sets of 10 reps Sit in chair with feet flat on floor Place middle of band under your feet and hold each end of the band in each hand, palms facing upward Relax your shoulders Pull back both elbows until your hands are at your hips Hold for 1-2 seconds Slowly lower back to start position

Dr. Haidong Liang is the author and project lead for this Seniors Helping Seniors Toolkit. He is an exercise specialist and gerontologist who has studied and served seniors since 2002.

Haidong devoted all of his three degrees to Physical Activity, Recreation and Gerontology:

- Doctor of Philosophy in Leisure, Recreation and Gerontology University of Alberta
- Master of Arts in Tourism, Information Technology and Gerontology University of Manitoba
- Bachelor of Recreation Management & Community Development and Gerontology University of Manitoba

Haidong was also the sessional instructor for the *Physical Activity and the Aging Adult*course at the University of Alberta. "I firmly believe that the prevention of health problems and illness is more important than treatment and medicine."

VOLUNTEER NEWS

WSAC Ambassador Program



WSAC Ambassador Program Information Meeting! Wednesday September 5, 2018 at 2:00 pm.

We are recruiting volunteers to be ambassadors. These positions could involve the following:

- Attending fairs or events at other organizations to provide information on WSAC;
- Acting as a greeter at the centre for various events directing people to various activities in the building and answering questions;
- Helping out with Toonie Talks greeting presenters, directing them to rooms and helping them set up (getting laptops, moving chairs etc.);
- Spending time at the centre being a "friendly face" chatting with people in the café who may be new and sitting on their own, helping out with tours; and
- Attending New Member Teas to encourage people to feel welcome and answer questions

If you are interested in finding more ways to help out at the centre, please come to the meeting September 5th.

Attention all kitchen volunteers! Meeting Thursday, September 27 at 1:30 in the Cafe

We would like to have a quick meeting with you all to reconnect after the summer. We will be chatting about various things to do with the kitchen such as volunteer scheduling and new health and safety regulations. We also want to hear from you! This will be an opportunity for you to share any ideas for meals, baking or theme lunches you would like to see or to bring up any concerns you may have. There will be coffee and some snacks for everyone to share in. Hope to see you there.

Volunteer Surveys will be coming out in September. This year we will do them through Survey Monkey and you will receive them through email. If you are a volunteer with the centre, please check to make sure the front desk has your updated email address. If you would prefer a paper copy, they will be available September 4 at the front desk. We value you greatly as volunteers and want your opinion on your volunteer experience at the centre. I hope you will share your thoughts with us.

Drive Happiness



WSAC is partnering with **Drive Happiness** to help find volunteers for this very important service.

DRIVE HAPPINESS–SENIORS ASSISTED TRANSPORTATION Main Office 10740 19 Ave. 780-424-5438, <u>drivehappiness.ca</u>

Volunteer Drivers Needed: If you enjoy visiting and like to drive, they would love to hear from you. Volunteer drivers make their own schedule and select where they will drive. They offer a small reimbursement towards gas and vehicle wear and tear. Even two hours a week can change a senior's life. Call 780-424-5438, ext. 3 for details.

Drive Happiness will be attending our volunteer fair Aug 30 if you would like to find out more.

TRAVEL TRIPS



Reynold's Alberta Museum Friday, September 28 Cost: \$60 members, \$70 non-members Bus Departs at 9:30 am & Returns at 3:30 pm

The Reynolds-Alberta Museum is a dynamic exploration of our province's mechanical heritage. The Museum interprets the impact of technological change in transportation, aviation, agriculture, and industry from the 1890s to the present. Ticket includes admission to the museum with a welcome orientation and coach bus transportation. Lunch is available for purchase at Cruiser's Café at an additional cost or members may bring their own bagged lunch, if desired. Please purchase tickets at the front desk.

> Shumka Dancers Matinee Performance Thursday, October 4 @ The Jubilee Auditorium Cost: \$22 member, \$27 non-member Bus Departs at 9:00 am & Returns at 12:00 pm



Join us for an outing to watch the Shumka Dancers special matinee performance. The theme this year is Telling Stories through Dance: *Mosquito's Wedding*. Mosquito's Wedding is a new, family focused dance theatre production about a mosquito and a fly. Several insect characters from different regions of Ukraine will be featured and the dance, musical composition, sets, costumes, and props will be associated with these ethnographic regions. The cost of this trip includes your performance ticket and school bus transportation. Ticket **Deadline is Monday September 10**.



River Cree Casino Trip Wednesday, November 21 Cost: \$10 for members & \$15 non-members

Bus *Departs* at 10:30 pm and *Returns* at 3:00 pm Transportation, Lunch, a gift and \$5 voucher. Please pre-purchase tickets at the front desk.

KITCHEN NEWS

We are delighted that you have selected our WSAC Community Cafe. On behalf of the entire Kitchen team we extend you a very warm welcome!

The kitchen offers a selection of freshly home-style made meals on daily basis including healthy breakfast, tea and coffee, hot meals, sandwiches, soups, salads, desserts, in house made pies, cookies, and Cakes, and fresh frozen soups for sale to enjoy at the comfort of your home

Should you have any desire to have any specific meal, please do not hesitate to contact us in the kitchen and we will be willing to accommodate your request!

As a compliment from the kitchen program, I offer a free sample of the menu of the day for our first time visitors.

Weekly featured Hot Lunch

Variety Frozen Soup Sales!!! Tuesday Sept 4 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Cinnamon Coffee Cake, Apple Honey Cake with Coffee (Combo) Monday Sept 10 from 9:30 am -10:30 am, as priced

Lemon and Rosemary Chicken (Pollo Arrosto) Garlic, lemon, and rosemary enhance simple, juicy roast chicken. ...Wednesday Sept 18 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, Price \$8.00

Yogurt Marinated Beef Skewer with Roasted Seasonal Veggies Friday Sept 28 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, Price \$8.00

We would like your feedback. We will be doing surveys in September.



Murder Mystery - Murder Under the Big Top Saturday, October 20 from 4:30-7:00 pm Tickets \$10



There are no spectators in the big top only participants! Each guest will be involved in the investigation as their own character and will receive a detailed character description 2 weeks before the event along with some background information on the party. This will give you time to familiarize yourself with the theme. Upon arrival, the host will read an introduction and explain how the afternoon is to proceed. You will spend the afternoon chatting with other guests in character until the unthinkable occurs - A MURDER! You will now need to find out more info from the other carnies and circus performers to try and find out who the murderer is. This will be a fun filled evening of mystery, food and great company. Tickets include your murder mystery package, circus themed dinner and beverages.

Remembrance Day Service & Luncheon Friday, November 9 Service 10:30 am – No Charge Join Us for lunch afterwards in the Café: \$8



Join us in remembering the sacrifice of our fallen soldiers & the contribution of our veterans – all the men and women who served and continue to serve our country.



Baby Shower & Tea for Hayley & Baby Henry Thursday, September 20 @ 2:00

Due to the early arrival of baby Henry the shower in June was postponed.



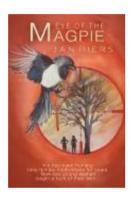
Please join us to congratulating Hayley & Max & welcoming their sweet baby boy.



Library News

Jan Piers

(WSAC member) and author of the book Eye of the Magpie.



Eye of the Magpie is thriller is set in the area west of Edmonton and is based on current real life events of the far too many missing and murdered indigenous women. The fictional story follows two young women who suspect that there is a serial killer in their community and despite the danger become involved in uncovering his identity.

You can follow Jan at http://authorjanpiers.blog/ or on Instagram @authorjanpiers or contact her at authorjanpiers@gmail.com. Birthday Party September 19 @ 2:00 pm Join us for cake & ice cream



FREE for Members Celebrating Their Birthdays! \$2 for guests

Thank you Ken Wiancko for the ice cream

save on foods

& Rose Boucher for the cake donations

Choir

Meet Fridays from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (followed by social coffee) Starting September 14 *"The Westend Singers" – Where singing comes from the HEART!*

A social group of dedicated singers, welcomes YOU next season! This group welcomes new members. No experience required, just a love of singing and having fun. Our mission is to entertain at various seniors' residences. We also have a concert at the centre in mid-May. If you are interested in joining, feel free to drop by for a visit.



Committee Meetings Travel Committee

- Tuesday, September 11 @ 11:00 am Special Events
- Thursday, September 13 @ 9:30 am **Planning & Maintenance Committee**

- Thursday, September 13 @ 1:30 pm

Board Meeting

- Thursday, September 20 @ 9:30 am





1978

Founder & President Harry Farmer 1978-1985

Edmonton Self Starters Organization.

Certificate of Incorporation as a non-profit organization

1978

1983 and become engaged and active. centre for people 55+ to make friends Edmonton Self Starters Organization was formed as a Drop-in and activity



Sod Turning – membership continues to grow

1991 Flu Clinic

ENGAGEMENT

1996 Drop-in Centre established at Meadowlark Shopping Centre Ider Bolder Better."



Learning & Living Symposium is an annua

at Meadowlark Shopping Centre

2008

tradition that keeps growing every year

Entertainment Silent Auction 50/50

Trade Show Exhibits



where heartfelt knitted items are given to children, Cross Cancer, wards at hospitals

Annual intergenerational celebration

Mavie's Mitten Tree

Expands & moves to Westmount Mal and Armed Forces Ider Bolder Better."

2002 Westend Seniors Activity Centre. Memberships continue to rise Edmonton Self Starters Organization changes its name to

with The Terra Losa Community Association Westend Seniors Activity Centre has outgrown its location and starts talks

2004 EXPANSION sod turning & construction

2005 Westend Seniors moves to its new location 9629-176 Street







2005 Older Bolder Better 7 " is held at our centre

2007 2006 EXPANSION Community Cafe **MEMBERSHIP DOUBLES**

EXPANSION walk out basement

2011 myseniorcenter

2012 **PROGRAMS DOUBLE**

2013 EXPANSION Fitness Room addition

2013-2016 More programs & more members

2017 NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH

2018 ANNIVERSARY Increasing Healthy Aging

& Reducing Isolation for 40 years