

The Yarrow Newsletter

February 2024

Brought to you by The Yarrow Volunteer Society

Visit Us Online
yarrowcommunity.com



Yarrow Community Happenings

The Yarrow Newsletter is published 4 times annually (Feb, May, Sept & Dec)

Send Feedback/Suggestions to:
Carol Bell 604-823-6324
carolb02@telus.net
Deadline for next issue
May 10, 2024

View past issues at our website.
yarrowcommunity.com



Upcoming Events

AGM YRA & YVS Feb 27
Yarrow Days Meeting Feb 28
Spring Supper March 9
Repair Café April 13 (school)
Plant Sale April 27
Yarrow Days! June 1&2

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This issue is focused on the Annual General Meeting for our two neighbourhood community societies. Please plan to attend on February 27th. The Yarrow Ratepayers Association is a charity that owns and manages our Community Centre. Yarrow Volunteer Society fosters community spirit by hosting community events and amenities. Details on the meeting below.

We have three of our own events coming up shortly. Join us for supper on Saturday March 9th. We'll be cooking up a storm. Helpers always welcome at 6pm the night before. Peel some carrots and potatoes while catching up on the local gossip. **Spring Supper Page 7.**

Celebrate Easter in a unique Yarrow way on Good Friday March 29th. A 2.5 km walk starts at Yarrow Mennonite Brethren Church, 41995 Yarrow Central anytime between 9am and 4pm. **Easter Story Walk Page 6.**

April 13th Yarrow Community School is hosting their second annual Repair Café. Are you handy? Let Sally know & sign up to help. Are you better at breaking things? Drop by with your handiwork. **Repair Café Page 12.**

Biggest Little Plant Sale In The Valley is Saturday April 27th. Please drop off your donations all day Friday the 26th. Seedlings, seeds, roots, trees, anything green is welcome. **Plant Sale Page 4.**

Yarrow Days is our biggie event for the year. Join in the fun of helping to plan it. Next meeting is February 28th in the Southside Room at the hall. More details **Yarrow Days Page 14.**

Poof—running out of room. Don't forget to attend the AGM

↓
YARROW RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
& YARROW VOLUNTEER SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Yarrow Community Centre 4670 Community Street
Tuesday February 27 2024— 7PM

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Yarrow Days, Tree Lighting, Ways & Means, Hall Report
Question and Answer period (2 question limit per person)

COMMUNITY REPORTS

Library, Waterworks, Firehall, RCMP
Question and Answer period (2 question limit per person)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

six nominees to Yarrow Ratepayers Assoc. – two year term
five nominees to Yarrow Volunteer Society - two year term
Question and Answer period (2 question limit per person)

REFRESHMENTS



Yarrow BC

YARROW COMMUNITY SCHOOL



The phone is ringing steadily with people booking **facility rentals**, if you are interested please call Sally Lum with inquiries.

Office number is **604-823-0257** or email at sallylum@shaw.ca

LICENSED CHILDCARE PROGRAMS – Puddle Jumpers Daycare - Group Daycare for children 30 months – 5 years. Jelly Beans Preschool - Licensed 3 and 4 yr. old programs. Qualified, experienced and fun teachers. After-school Care – Out of school care for school age children. Full and Part time rates available. **All programs have waitlists for this year but do keep this in mind for future planning.**

YARROW FAMILY PLACE – Meets Tuesday mornings 8:15 – 10:15am in the multi-purpose room at the school. Parents and Caregivers with young ones at home are invited to join this free, drop in gathering.

CRAFTS WITH CLEO (and Her Friend Jess!) – Crafts For Tots age 18 months – 3 years. Tots and their adult will join Jess and Cleo for a simple craft and a little snack. Free! Must pre-register as spaces are limited. Monday mornings, 9:30-10:30am. registering now for the upcoming a Spring session. Please call Sally to find out more or sign up for one of the fun classes!

BABYSITTER TRAINING COURSE - SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH. Girls and boys age 11 and up (or turning 11 soon) can register for this one day Red Cross Babysitter Training course. \$65/per Forms are available at the school or on our website under Community School programs. Space is limited and always fills up.

AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB – Yarrow Community school is **sponsoring** a free after school science program for kids in grades 1-3. Science World and UFV science students will be here for 5 Thursday afternoons before Spring Break having fun with a variety of science experiments and games. If all goes well we may be able to host a similar program for the kids in grades 4-6 later this spring so be sure to watch out for more info. Feel free to call Sally with any questions.

REPAIR CAFÉ - Saturday April 13th 10am-2pm. in the multi-purpose room and courtyard at the school. This is a world-wide program run by volunteers to help you fix household items, saving you money and diverting things from the landfill. Bring in your lawnmower for a spring tune-up, get your bike road/trail ready with a tune-up, maybe you have a fan that doesn't turn on, a light that stopped working? ...Jewelry, Clothes Mending, Electric Yard Tools...? Bring it in and let the volunteers have a look! Call Sally if you would like to volunteer to help with this initiative or if you want to know what you can bring to the Repair Café

YARROW SENIORS

REFLECTIONS.

Yarrow Seniors reflects the personalities and interests of its individual members therefore the more seniors who come and join us, the more we all benefit. We learn from one another. We listen to new stories. We participate in new games and activities. Large groups don't necessarily reflect the makeup of their individual members. We on the other hand are a small enough band of seniors that anyone who comes is valued and appreciated. We just enjoy coming out on a Wednesday to have lunch together (we bring our own bag lunches) and enjoy some table games.

RETROSPECTIVE. This past season we also enjoyed a concert at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre as well as a Christmas dinner held at Rivers Restaurant in Yarrow. One of the local churches invited us to enjoy a wonderful Christmas dinner as well.

AN INVITATION TO YOU: Please consider joining us at 12 noon every Wednesday in the Seniors Lounge at the Community Hall. We would be delighted to have you. **Call Bev at 604-823-7232** if you have questions. If you are unable to bring your own lunch and come at 12 noon, then you could come around 12:30 or thereabouts. That's when we start playing games. We hope to see you!





A Christ Centred Community

We meet on Sundays at 10am for our Worship Service. Please join us in person or on Facebook live.

Kids Sunday School and discussion/coffee time in the basement follows.

Please go to our website yarrowmbchurch.org or call the office for more details on what's happening throughout the week and for future events.

Office:

Lisa Eby – office@yarrowmb.org
yarrowmbchurch@gmail.com
 41995 Yarrow Central Rd
 604-823-6622
www.yarrowmb.org

Yarrow Canadian Reformed Church

We would love for you to join us! Worship services are every Sunday at 10:00am and 2:00pm

www.yarrowchurch.ca
 604-490-2125



Services Led by
 Pastor Jeremy Segstro

42285 Yarrow Central Road

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 Canadian Reformed Church

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Join us in person each Sunday at
 10AM or online through
 Facebook or Youtube!

42479 Yarrow Central Rd.
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*For details about upcoming events,
 please check out our Facebook,
 Instagram, and website
yarrowalliance.org*

Questions? Contact the office:
 42228 Yarrow Central Rd.
 Phone: 604-796-2101
 e-mail: info@yarrowalliance.org

Adult & Teen Challenge
 Come and have chapel with us!

 **CHILLIWACK MEN'S CENTRE**
ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
 PUTTING HOPE WITHIN REACH

Every Tuesday evening at the
 Chilliwack Men's Centre
 4166 Eckert Street

Hear dynamic music and a variety of guest speakers every week!
 Chapel starts at 6:30pm
 Questions? call Mike Lee 6043789745
www.teenchallengebc.com

Yarrow United Mennonite Church

4336 Eckert Road (604) 823- 4451
yumchurch@shawbiz.ca www.yumchurch.com

"Come let us go to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways so that we may walk in His paths." Micah 4:2 Pastor: Darnell Barkman





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required to file a tax return. Here are some important
dates to mark down as we start to gather receipts and
tax slips!

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Victoria Kuit
Certified Accountant

604-798-0366
vicki_kuit@hotmail.com

February 19th 2024
first official day we can file taxes.

February 29th 2024
last day to contribute to your 2023 RRSP

April 30th 2024
personal income tax returns are due.
After this you are considered late and if you owe, the
penalties and interest compound daily.

June 17th is the due date for small business taxes,
however to ensure no interruption of your child tax, GST
or any other benefits you should consider April 30th
2024 your deadline as well.

Reminder- any pharmacy, dental office, optometrist, etc
can all provide a print out for you of your medical write
offs.

See you all very soon! My office will be open the
third week of February 2024 and any questions in re-
gards to taxes can be emailed directly until then.
vicki_kuit@hotmail.com



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Hello Neighbours and Fellow Yarrowites!

We are the Klassen Real Estate team. We live and work in the neighbourhood and wanted to introduce ourselves should you need any real estate services.



Our job is to help clients sell their homes for the best possible price in the shortest amount of time. We also help buyers find their perfect home at affordable prices.

We provide many other services such as current market updates, professional in sights and information about the buying and selling process.

Our family has sold more than **4000** homes in the Fraser Valley. Don't hesitate to give us a call if you have any questions or would like some real estate advice.

Victor 604.615.9969 Alanna 604.615.9959 Sheldon 604.615.8010

 Follow us on facebook.com/klassenteam

Our local office is open Monday to Friday 8:30am -4:30pm and weekends by appointment. Drop in at your convenience or give us a call any time. We'd love to see you!



o. 604.490.2020 | e. info@klassenteam.com | w. klassenteam.com



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Yarrow: How One Community Harnessed the Power of Beauty to Become Joyfully Sustainable, Part 1 By Michelle Superle

Oh hi, Yarrow!

It's your friendly neighbourhood Joymaker here—Michelle Superle—with an update on our community initiatives to make this place the most sustainably beautiful town in the world...

We've come a long way since the November 2023 newsletter, when I first shared my inspiration and ideas for bringing more joy to Yarrow sustainably. We've made a great start in 2024!

Between January 6 and February 2, the combined efforts of volunteers from around town, kids from Yarrow Community School, collaborators at Fox & Thistle Mercantile, support from the United Way, and delivery through my 20 Harvest Challenge have resulted in:

- 2 velvet mushroom workshops
- Oodles of upcycled velvet mushrooms—some for the makers to take home, some for decorating the park
- 5 Sustainable Makers group sessions
- Collaboratively created Enchanted Woodlands public art installation for “Joy to the Park”
- 1 pilot mini Joy Museum in Yarrow Community School
- Demo displays in the lobby and glass case
- 8 large garbage bags full of salvaged holiday wrap, cards, gift bags, and bows (all occasions)

Sorted and repurposed by the Yarrow Girl

Guides, using 11 large garbage bags full of used gift-giving items that were donated/delivered to Fox & Thistle Mercantile Birthday and all-purpose items available free from Fox & Thistle—stop in to get yours when you have a last-minute gift to give (instead of driving to the dollar store!)

Christmas items donated to Chilliwack Freecycle

That's a LOT for one little town in one little month. It certainly was a Joyful January around here! And by the time you read this, you'll be able to see the next round of sustainable beauty—the collaboratively created Love Your Neighbour public art installation for the February version of “Joy to the Park”.

So much joy! One of the most joyful experiences for me was seeing the range of creations produced by Yarrowites of different ages, stages, and abilities. There are so many different variations on joy and enchantment on display at Pioneer Park.

To that end, the winning sustainable makers for the Enchanted Woodland display are:

- Bonnie Sigaty for a creative kid's contribution
- Olivia Fricker for an upcycling adult's contribution
- Solomia and Tanya for a joyful family's contribution

You might encounter them enjoying their prizes—gift cards for Fox & Thistle Mercantile—next time you're visiting our friendly neighbourhood supplier of sustainable fashion and household goods.

Speaking of sustainable fashion, be sure to join a Yarrow Sustainable Makers session in March and April. You'll learn how—and experiment with trying—to upcycle pre-loved clothing into beautiful new additions to your wardrobe that will bring joy both to you and to mama earth.

Come to the Yarrow Ecovillage on Fridays from March 8th through April 12th. All supplies and snacks provided thanks to a Local Love Microgrant from the United Way.

If making isn't your thing, you can still join us to *celebrate* sustainable fashion at the Yarrow early Earth Day event. On Saturday, April 13th, come to Yarrow Community School to get your household items fixed at the

Repair Café

enjoy a snack and collect rewards when you drop off the bag of litter you've picked up around town during the community cleanup

explore the whys and hows of sustainable fashion, plus admire the fashion creations produced by the Yarrow Sustainable Makers group

Hope to see you soon!

Easter Story Walk

Good Friday.

March 29, 2024

EXPERIENCE THE JOURNEY TO THE CROSS AS YOU WALK THROUGH YARROW.

THE WALK IS ABOUT 2.5 KM AND BEGINS AT YARROW MB CHURCH. OPENING IS AT 9AM AND ALL STATIONS CLOSE AT 4PM. MAPS WILL BE PROVIDED.

THIS COLLABORATIVE EXPERIENCE FEATURES CREATIVITY AND ARTWORK FROM OUR COMMUNITY.



The
YARROW
FAMILY
PLACE



Hosted by Volunteers of:
Tuesdays 8:15 to 10:15
am Multi Purpose Room
Yarrow Community School
Bring a healthy snack to
share



Spring Supper

Saturday March 9th

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

At the Community Centre
4670 Community Street

Juicy homestyle meatloaf

Baked ham

Mashed potatoes with mushroom gravy

Cole Slaw

Creamed corn

Garlicky green beans

Maple glazed carrots

Cheese scones

Angel cake with blueberries & whipped cream

Butter tarts

Jello

Adults \$15 Kids under 12 \$

Tots under 5 free

Prep Party

Friday March 8th
6:00 pm
Kitchen at the
Community Centre

Bring knives
(And gossip)



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Time for a new brochure?

We haven't published a brochure since 2019. The Yarrow Volunteer Society had assisted the Yarrow Business Development Society with its production over the years. Would you be interested in supporting this initiative for 2024?

A full colour bifold has room for 16 business card sized ads, 20 if we leave out the map. Cost was well under \$100 for each contributor last time and early quotes indicate this should still be the case.

Copies are distributed to the tourist bureaus in Chilliwack and Abbotsford as well as at Abbotsford Airport. We have them in the holders on the bulletin board at the Community Centre too.

Give Carol a shout if you would like to get involved in this project. 604-823-6324 carolb02@telus.net

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Biggest Little Plant Sale In The Valley

Saturday April 27th
Yarrow Community Centre
4670 Community Street
9 AM to noon

If you have a special plant on your wish list, please let us know.
Rita
604-309-1263 rbot12shaw.ca
Carol
604-823-6324 carolb02@telus.net

Donations gratefully received all day
Friday April 26th.
Drop off at the north deck
Trees, perennials, annuals, seedlings, indoor plants
Garden implements always welcome too
Please mark your donations so we know what they are

We've had a request for everbearing raspberries. If you have a patch, please consider potting up some runners for at least one neighbour to share.

Perennials like berries, rhubarb, hostas, peonies are always needed at the sale.

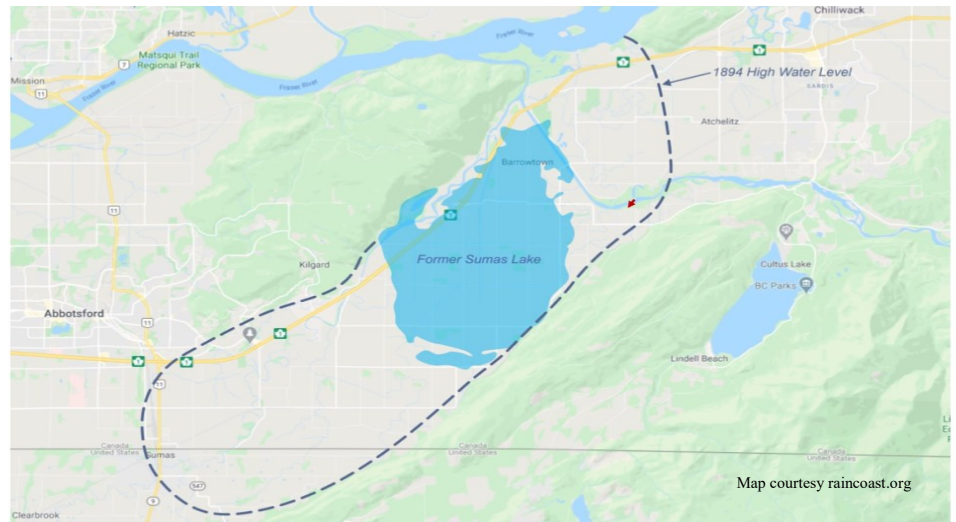


Before there was even a province of BC, this patch of land that we call home played a role in the colony's development. The Fraser River Gold Rush in 1858 brought a tsunami of prospectors to the west coast clamoring for a route to the mother lode in the boom town of Yale.

Sumas Lake covered 42 square kilometers (10,000 acres) of the valley floor with wetlands surrounding even more area. This prohibited road building on the south shore of the Fraser River.

Native trails and fur brigade routes were improved to form the Yale Road. It left the docks in Brownsville (Surrey) heading east and south through Arnold, up what would later be named Majuba Hill, then east to Vedder Crossing and onward to the gold fields.

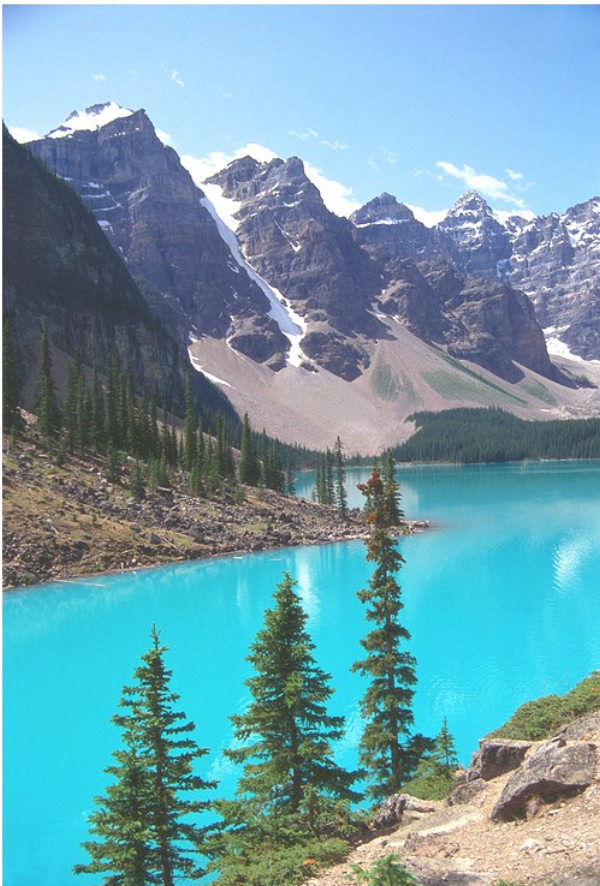
There was a waystation named Yarrow as early as 1858. Arnold had a wagon wheel repair shop which was critical infrastructure for the times. A section of the wagon road (improved for all-weather travel in 1875) has



been preserved and is accessible from Majuba Heritage Park where Wilson Road meets the train tracks south of the four-way stop. It's been a few years since I hiked it. I was agog with thoughts of stagecoaches rumbling along with another 70+ kilometers to go and of the long-ago miners treading the same steps, essentials for life on their backs, with hope in their hearts. It's a humbling experience that makes

one appreciate the amenities we take for granted and the hardiness of the folks who "paved the way".

The idea for this article was sparked by a deeply researched essay about the (current is the 8th) Vedder bridge written by Merlin Bunt, a genuine local historian. Find him as Chilliwack Historical Perspectives on Facebook. Thanks too to Judy Meints who recommended Merlin's essay.



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Yarrow Petro-Canada 42221 Yarrow Central Road 604-823-4200

Yarrow Days Planning Meeting Wednesday February 28th 7pm Southside Room Yarrow Community Centre

Want to get involved? All welcome. Do attend to share your ideas or to step up to help.

Dance will be held at the hall this year. Under tents in the park behind the building. Chicken dinner catered by Simply Savory. Tickets will be on Eventbrite by early March once the band is confirmed.

Theme is "The Great Outdoors!" Parade starts at 10am Saturday June First. We are on Mother Nature's doorstep here in Yarrow. How do you celebrate the great outdoors? Get ready to wow us with your parade float. New for 2024—a boat show is in the planning stages.

New for 2024: Caps and lapel pins. We hope to have the tee shirts ready for pre-sale at the Friday Farm Market so you can wear your new duds to Yarrow Days.

Volunteers needed for the parade, dance, and concession. Got a couple of hours to spare on June first? Small town events like ours are becoming increasingly rare. Let's make this year's Yarrow Days the best one yet!

HomeMastersTeam.com



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Gert

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Mark Andersen



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YARROW LIBRARY
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Yarrow Hours
 Tuesdays, 9 – 6:00 pm
 Wednesdays, 9 – 4 pm
 Thursdays, 1 – 8 pm
 Saturdays, 10 – 2 pm

Crafternoons

Come to the library to craft, a drop in craft program suitable for ages 5+ or parental assistance.
 Thurs Mar 14 3:30-5 – Easter themed craft
 Thurs Apr 11 3:30-5 – Spring themed craft
 Thurs May 9 3:30-5 – Flower/Mother’s day themed craft.

Book Title StoryWalk Schedule (title switch weather dependant)



Month	Book Title
Feb	Froggy gets dressed
Mar	5 busy beavers
April	I Like Myself
May	TBD

Take a pic and tag us on social media with @FVRLYarrowLib & @ReadLearnPlay



Scavenger Hunts

Feb 6-17 Find all the hearts in the library and win a prize!

March 16 – April 1 Have an Easter egg Scavenger hunt in the library and win a prize!

Storytime at the Library

Every Wed morning from 10am-10:30am
 Storytime prepares children to read through fun interactive stories, songs and rhymes.



Spring Break LEGO Club at the Library

Wed March 20th and 27th from 3-4pm

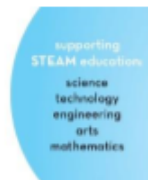


Love LEGO? We provide the LEGO, you bring your imagination! Come play, experiment and create. LEGO Club is a fun afternoon program for all.

Yarrow Library Book Club

Ages 19+. Come enjoy tea and snacks and some book club discussions facilitated by library staff. The Library supplies the book titles. Call the library for more information.

3rd Thursday of every month from 6:30-7:30
 Feb 15, Mar 21, Apr 18, May 16



Explore FVRL’s lending collection – see website for all items

- Radon detectors
- Thermal leak detectors
- Sunshine Lamps
- Ukuleles
- Puzzle Cubes
- Energy Meters
- Nature packs
- Disc Golf and much more!



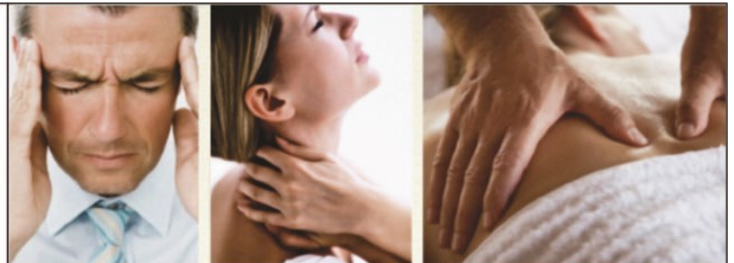
"The Great Outdoors!"

Massage improves circulation of blood and lymph which benefits your brain, heart, kidneys, skin and immune system.

When you're immune system is working optimally you are less prone to many types of illnesses including colds, flus, and various upper respiratory infections.

Massage can reduce muscle stiffness and tension. When muscles are tense and tight it can impair our ability to move which can interfere with simple activities of daily living.

Massage enhances our ability to sleep. Deep restorative sleep is better for the brain, level of energy and one's overall health.



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