THE GAZETTE



September Gazette 2025 Editor: Marlene Abney

General Manager: Heidi Hodgins

Assistant Administrators: Marlene Abney & Tara Jackson Janitor: Russ Saunders Custodians: Leslie Hall & Brandi Enni

GOWARD HOUSE

2495 Arbutus Rd. Victoria B.C. V8N 1V9 250 477- 4401

gowardhouse.com

administration@gowardhouse.com



President's Message

Well, it is September already, so I hope everyone has enjoyed a great summer and the beautiful weather that we have had!!

In July, we hosted a terrific <u>Music in the Park</u> with over 450 attendees - the largest yet - with thanks to Saanich for facilitating the amazing band and singer Stephanie Greaves. It was great to see so many up and dancing the evening away!

As Fall begins, activities at Goward House go back into high gear with our existing programs and some potential new programs planned as well. Have a look through the Gazette for further information, in addition to occasional emails you may receive which provide updates on our activities.

We will also be commencing a series of presentations and speakers covering a wide range of topics - and hope you will join us. The first one is **Thursday Sept 11** on Pole Walking, and then we shall hear from one of our valued neighbours - the Shelbourne Community Kitchen - on **September 27**, about the good work they do in our community.

Also in September, we will be sending out a survey to our membership asking you for ideas and suggestions for programs and activities at Goward House. We want to be responsive to our members and appreciate your input.

Don't forget our Tea Room is open so do drop in for a coffee/tea and possibly a sandwich or goodie. Feel free to bring some friends and potential new members of Goward House!

I shall be hosting my <u>President's Corner</u> on Tuesday **September 9** at 1:00 in our living room and would be delighted to welcome you there to hear from you and respond to any of your questions.

Finally, there is still one more BBQ coming up on **September 11**- do pre-register, and come join us on our deck to enjoy some delicious burgers!

See you at the House!

Mary Collins, President

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday September 9th - 1:00 pm - President's Corner with Mary Collins in the Living Room.

Thursday September 11th - Welcome Back BBQ.

Pole Walking presentation @ 2:00 pm.

Tuesday September 16th - 11:00 am - Kitchen Volunteer meeting.

1:00 pm - Guided Walk in Haro Woods with **Deborah Dickson**.

Monday September 22nd - 2:00 pm - **Shelbourne Community Kitchen** presentation @ 2:00 pm.

Tuesday September 23rd - 11:00 am - Front Desk Volunteer meeting.

1:30 pm - Goward House Social Circle in the Living Room.

Thursday September 25th - 2:00 pm - Money Matters with Pam Katunar. The topic is Estate Planning.

Monday September 29th - 2:00 pm - Honourable **Diana Gibson**, MLA for Oak Bay-Gorden Head and Minister of Citizen's Services.

Thursday October 2nd - 10:30 am - Somatics Movements Demo. This is a free presentation.

Monday October 6th - 2:00 pm - **Grandmothers for Africa** presentation.

Tuesday October 7th 1:00 pm - President's Corner with Mary Collins in the Living Room.

Monday October 20th - 2:00 pm - MAID, Dying with Dignity. The topic is Moving Forward.

Monday November 10th - 2:00 pm - **Tim** & **Diana Schaffter** presentation on Living in North Korea as World Citizens.

Monday December 1st - 2:00 pm - Tricia Baldwin - Dean, Victoria Conservatory of Music.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are always looking for members to add to our roster of volunteers and for special events. If you are able to help or want more information, please email Marlene at marlene@gowardhouse.com or call 250 477-4401.

<u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</u> - We are looking for a Front Desk volunteer on Fridays from 10:00 - noon and also noon - 2:00 pm every other week. Please let us know if this interests you.

<u>HOT LUNCH & PANTRY PROGRAM</u> - Chefs and bakers needed! We need cooks who want to share their culinary talents with our membership. Meals are first served as hot lunches, then fill our freezers with take-home suppers and baking.



Welcome Back BBQ

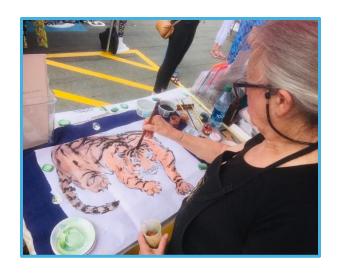
Thursday September 11th from 11:30 am

Join us for our last BBQ of the season. Please sign-up and pre-pay at the Front Desk by noon Monday September 8th.

See you there!

Goward House will be closed **Monday September 1**st for Labour Day and **Tuesday September 30**th for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

New This Fall



Chinese Brush Painting Lessons Taught by artist Barb Mekelburg

The course will be an introduction to basic materials, techniques and topics with a focus on traditional subjects such as bamboo, orchid, plum blossom and chrysanthemum. May include additional short demos on quick studies such as fish, pine, small figures, and Barb's favorite animals.

Fall Course – 8 classes, Thursdays 1:00 - 3:00.

September 18th – November 6th. Please see instructor bio below.

Members \$120.00 Non-members \$150.00 (space limited)

Barb Mekelburg

Barb Mekelburg was a career adult educator at colleges and universities in Manitoba and BC who turned to art in retirement.

After an introduction to Chinese brush painting by a potter in 2009, Barb embarked on a self-directed study that led to illustrations in books, artistic labels on cottage industry products such as soaps and jams, and menus for a start-up restaurant in Wales. Her blogspot (https://followmybrushmarks.wordpress.com) has connected her with brush painting aficionados around the globe.

While a member of the Goward House Chinese Brush Painting group as well as another at the Monterey Rec Centre in Oak Bay, she has delivered brush painting workshops and demonstrations on such subjects as bamboo, horses, tigers, pigs, rats and mandarin ducks. In 2019 Barb painted deep in one of this province's most treasured Ancient Forests near Prince George as part of "Art in the Forest", a celebration of both creativity and the subjects that inspire so many creators. Another highlight of her painting experience was to paint in Victoria's Inner Harbor with the Victoria Chinese Business Association at the annual Chinese Dragon Boat Festival in 2022.

Moving to Victoria in 2010, Barb studied with local brush painting enthusiasts Andy Lou, John Nip and Nenagh Molson. Her Chinese brush painting art has been displayed at numerous venues such as the offices of Seniors Advocate, the Orchid Society of Victoria's annual show, the Cedar Hill Rec Centre and at annual shows at Goward House and the Monterey Rec. Centre.

While Barb taught online courses (and even online instructors!) she prefers in-person, hands on instruction when it comes to art.



Arts & Crafts



CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING

Chinese brush painting is believed to be one of the oldest continuing artistic traditions in the world. It is the traditional art of painting on rice paper or silk with a natural animal-hair brush and ink. Paintings can be monochrome or coloured and typically depict animals, birds, flowers or scenes from nature. Our Chinese Brush Painters meet on Wednesdays from 9:30 - 1:00 pm. Curious about Chinese Brush Painting? Come meet our artists to learn more. (A blue ticket is required.)



DROP IN ART

Come and join our Drop-in Art group Wednesday mornings. Bring your brushes and paint and create your masterpiece in whichever medium you prefer.

Drop in anytime from 8:00 - 11:30 am. and enjoy the company of like-minded artists. (A blue ticket is required.)



PORTRAIT PAINTERS

This creative group meets on Tuesdays from 1:15 - 4:00 pm. We supply the easel, and you supply your talent!

This group is always looking for models. If you would like to model, please contact group leader Vicki Postl - vpostl@telus.net (A blue ticket is required.)



PAPER QUILLING

Paper quilling is the art of cutting paper into long thin strips, rolling and pinching the pieces into different shapes, and then gluing the shapes together to form decorative art. Paper quilling projects can be used to decorate cards, boxes, gift bags, picture frames, or even be made into 3D stand-alone art pieces.

If you would like to try quilling, join this friendly group on Mondays from 10:00 - noon.



CRAFTING

If you enjoy crafting such as knitting, felting, crocheting and embroidery, drop in on Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3:30 and join our Crafters Group. It's all about crafts and social time with this lovely group of crafters.



Portrait Models Needed!

Our Goward House Portrait Painters are always looking for models. The artists meet Tuesdays from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Sit in a comfy chair and relax as the artists paint you at repose.

Models may take one of their portraits home. Please contact Vicki Postl at vpostl@telus.net

(portrait shown is courtesy of artist Gordon Smith)

SPECIAL INTEREST



GOWARD HOUSE CHOIR with Phil Robbie

Our very own Goward House Singers meet Fridays from 1:15 - 3:15 pm in the Lower Hall. Talented choir director, Phil Robbie, leads the group through an eclectic repertoire of music. Come out and give it a try, meet new friends, and sing your heart out. (A blue ticket is required.)



SOCIAL BRIDGE

Goward House hosts Social Bridge every Monday & Thursday afternoon. You don't need a partner to participate. If you enjoy playing Bridge and socializing, join this fun group from 12:30 - 4:00 pm in the Arts & Crafts Room on Mondays and the Sun Room on Thursdays. (A blue ticket is required.)



ADVANCED FRENCH CONVERSATION

Parlez-vous Français? Why not join this lively group of Goward House members for a social get together.

Conversing in French, you will enjoy a wide variety of topics and practice your language skills at the same time. The group meets Tuesdays from 1:00 - 3:00. (A blue ticket is required.)



ADVANCED SPANISH CONVERSATION

Habla Español? Many of our Goward House members are multilingual. Those who enjoy speaking Spanish meet Friday mornings for some light conversation and social engagement. Conversing in Spanish, you will enjoy a wide variety of topics and practice your language skills at the same time. Join the group Fridays from 10:30 - noon. (A blue ticket is required.)



iPHONE & iPAD CLUB

Looking for some tips on expanding your use and understanding of these devices? Please join club leader Leah Freedman every **FIRST Monday** of the month from 10:00 - 11:30 am. Free for members.

Pre-registration required. Please let us know you will be attending by calling the front desk @ 250 477-4401.



MAH JONG

Mah Jong players meet every Tuesday from 1:00 - 4:00 pm in our Sun Room. Join in on the fun with other enthusiasts. Beginners are welcome! (A blue ticket is required.)

BOOK CLUB with Susan Gilberstad



The next Book Club will be Thursday September 18th from 1:30 - 3:00 pm. The title for this month is **Intermezzo** by **Sally Rooney**. Please source your own copy of the book. A blue ticket is required.

New participants are most welcome!



President's Appeal

Our annual President's Appeal fundraiser is coming soon. This year our project is **refreshing and refurbishing the Lower Hall**. Your mail-out package will be available for pick-up at the Front Desk **Friday, September 5**th. Please save us a stamp and pick yours up at the Front Desk.

Thank you!

CRAFT FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

GOWARD HOUSE CRAFT FAIR - Nov. 15^h - 16th (and Friday Nov. 14th for Tea Room prep). We need volunteers for cash handling & kitchen. Volunteer hours can be on one day or both days or even just part of a day.

Please look for sign-up on clipboards found in the Lobby and Lower Hall soon.

Or, please email Marlene - marlene@gowardhouse.com or call 250 477-4401.

Calling all VENDORS for Craft Fair 2025!



Table rentals are still available for our Craft Fair November 15th & 16th

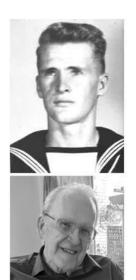


large table (8') -- \$80

small table (4') -- \$45

Please email Heidi at goward@shaw.ca. Craft Fair table rental forms are available at the front desk or by email.





BEAM, Bruce Melton September 17, 1936 - June 27, 2025

Bruce was born in Creston, BC, to Daisy and Melton Beam. Bruce is survived by his loving wife Eleanor of 60 years, brother Bob (Barb) and sons Bud (Sandy) and Herb. Grandchildren, Codi, Josh and great granddaughter Emma. Sister-in-law Irene Holbrook and brother-in-law Brian Malley and many nieces and nephews. Bruce grew up in Creston and learned to hunt and fish with his father who hunted for a living. That was the time when every Canadian woman had to have a fur coat, especially a muskrat fur coat. Bruce would use the skills learned from his father and was always a successful hunter and fisherman.

Bruce joined the Navy when he was 17 and served for 10 years. After a business career he retired and spent 15 years volunteering at the cancer Lodge on Richmond Road portering patients to and from the Cancer Clinic. At one point Bruce bought a commercial greenhouse from Dang Bark and carried on growing Traditional Chinese vegetables. Bruce made many friends in the Victoria Chinese community that are still valued friends today.

During the years Bruce and Eleanor travelled extensively making many long-term friends along the way in England, Australia, Hong Kong, Europe and Taiwan. Several winters were spent in Palm Springs with Brian and Sharon Malley (Eleanor's sister and brother-in-law). Being true Canadians, they travelled across the country to St. John's Newfoundland. Enjoying the food, people and culture of Newfoundland along with 'Screech' and 'kissing the cod.'

Sincere thanks to the staff at Veterans Memorial Lodge at Broadmead for the exceptional care he received while there. Also, thanks to Irene for her dedication in visiting Bruce regularly with treats of fresh fruit and the paper.

GOWARD HOUSE SINGERS with Phil Robbie



The Goward House Singers are accepting new members during the first 3 weeks of September. Give us a tryout for a couple of weeks to see what you think. We sing some great songs that you'll remember from your past and we have lots of fun doing it. We'll have 8 weeks of practice in September & October and several concerts during November & December. If you like the practices, you'll love the concerts.

Fridays from 1:15 - 3:15 in the Lower Hall. Choir is a blue ticket activity.

To learn more, have a look at our website - GowardHouseSingers.ca

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Wednesdays are Duplicate Bridge Day at Goward House. Led by **Jim Brackenbury**, participants meet at 12:15 in the Lower Hall. This is a very dedicated group of serious players.

For more information, please contact administration@gowardhouse.com. We are happy to arrange for you to discuss participating with Jim Brackenbury's guidance. (A blue ticket is required.)





Somatic Movements Course - Awakening for your Body

A special 8-week course on Thursday mornings.

October 9th - November 27th

Thursdays 10:30 am - 11:30

Pre-registration and payment of \$64.00 required.

A class/demo will be held <u>Thursday October 2nd from</u> 10:30 - 11:30 am. Please join us for this FREE class.

Wake up and tune into your body for spring with a gentle somatic movement practice. By practicing specific proven movements and focusing on various areas of the body we can improve our posture, overall flexibility, reduce muscle tension while regaining the joy and ease of physical movement.

Participant Barb Turner comments, "At the start of the first session, I jokingly said, I'll know that Somatics works if I can get up from the ground without leaning on something. My mobility improved so much that within a couple of sessions I was getting up from the ground unassisted. I call that success!"

This eight-week series will

- Awaken your connectedness to your body
- Enable you to discover how you hold tension in your body and how you can release it
- Guide you through a series of gentle, slow and enjoyable movements designed to help you relax key muscles and increase flexibility
- Result in an increased sense of ease and balance in your body
- Provide you with the tools and motivation to make somatic movements part of your ongoing wellness program

Jen is an ESMTT (Essential Somatics ^R Movement¹ Teacher in Training). For many years I had felt unbalanced in my body but could not find out why. In 2023 I found Essential Somatics and then began studying with founder Martha Pederson. I am excited to have found a practice that explains what is happening in my body as I age and gives me movement tools to combat the effects of everyday life and injury. I am thrilled to share this with others.

SHELBOURNE Community

Shelbourne Community Kitchen Presentation

with Executive Director Kim Cummins

Join us on September 22nd to learn more about food insecurity in Victoria, the Shelbourne Community Kitchen's many programs, the positive impact they are having in the community, and how you can get involved!

Monday September 22nd @ 2:00 pm

Please pre-register at the font desk.

Kim Cummins is the Executive Director of the Shelbourne Community Kitchen, a warm and welcoming neighbourhood food centre, that works to lower barriers to healthy food for more than 1,700 adults and 800 children who are living on low income in our community. Individuals and families come to The Kitchen to prepare and share healthy meals together in The Kitchen's Food Skills Programs; access nutritious food through their Pantry Program; work together to grow food and build skills in their Garden Programs; and connect with other community resources while becoming resources for one another.



Introduction to Classic Nordic Style Pole Walking

with Linda Schaumleffel

Thursday September 11th at 2:00 pm

Join us to learn about the wide-ranging benefits of Nordic Pole Walking!

Linda Schaumleffel, a former Olympic rower and Physical Education teacher will discuss why some exercises are better than others for lifelong fitness. She will outline the 3 steps of learning that participants use in Nordic lessons and why the correct technique is essential.

FREE for members \$10.00 for non members

Please pre-register at the front desk.

After teaching high school Physical Education at Oak Bay, competing in the 1976 Montreal Olympics in rowing, and needing 16 years to heal herself from a car accident and Traumatic Brain Injury, Linda delights in helping others to create and maintain lifelong fitness. In 2012 the Universe conspired to unite Linda with Dr Klaus Schwanbeck from Berlin, in his quest to teach people in Canada the revolutionary fitness activity of Nordic Walking. Since then, Linda has taught over 2700 people to Nordic Walk. Her own fitness continues to astound those around her. Currently Linda works with the team at Hidden Victoria and leads History Walking Tours for the guests arriving on the Cruise Ships.

Linda is offering a 3-week course for interested members of Goward House. There will be an opportunity to register for the course at the end of the presentation. Course fees are \$60.00 with a minimum of 8 registered required. Payment will be to directly to Linda.

The course runs 3 consecutive Tuesdays – September 23rd, September 30th and October 7th from 1:30 – 3:30 pm.

Inquiries - Linda4success@shaw.ca

WEDNESDAY LUNCH SPECIALS

Wednesday September 3rd - Vegetable Lasagna Wednesday September 10th - Shepherd's Pie Wednesday September 17th - Russ's Perogies Wednesday September 24th - Butter Chicken



(Lunch specials are available while supply lasts. Items not sold day of may be available for take - out.)

Haro Woods Guided Walking Group

Please join Goward House member **Deborah Dickson** on a guided walk through Haro Woods. Deborah was instrumental in the preservation of Haro Woods over the last few decades.

Did you know that Haro Woods is the last urban forest in East Saanich? Have you seen the Owl nests? History shows that this land has been used by humans and four-legged animals for centuries. This green corridor provides refuge for urban animals and migrating birds to move safely through our community.

The next walk will be **September 16th at 1:00 pm** weather permitting. Please meet in the lobby at Goward House. The walk through the woods is on accessible trails, for all ages, and transit is available on Arbutus Rd.

Free for all, all welcome.



MONEY MATTERS with Pam Katunar

First Fall session of Money Matters is Thursday September 25th at 2:00 pm

The topic is estate planning, executor and trust services with guest Benjamin Buckingham.

Hosted and presented by Heart Wealth Management of Raymond James.

Money Matters is FREE. Please pre-register at the front desk.

Dying with Dignity



Monday October 20th @ 2:00 pm

MAID: Moving Forward will outline the ways Medical Assistance in Dying has evolved since its first implementation in 2016. This 45-minute presentation will leave ample time for audience questions.

Free, all welcome.

Please pre-register at the front desk.



"Bidding in the 21st Century"

Thursday October 16th to Thursday December 11th, 2025 9:30 - 11:30 am

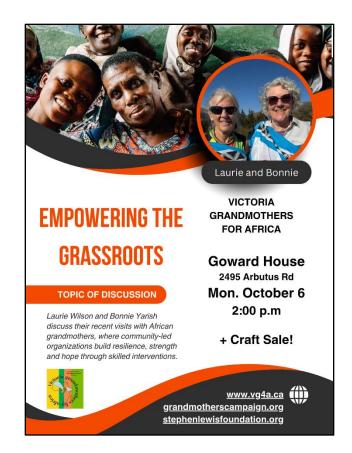


Jim Brackenbury will teach this nine-week course at Goward House on Thursday mornings, 9:30 to 11:30 am. The course will introduce students to modern bridge bidding based on the most recent "Standard American" textbooks from the ACBL. The Bidding course is aimed at students new to contract bridge or students who want to return to the basics for a refresher course. There is a requirement for a textbook, to be purchased directly from the instructor: "Bidding in the 21st Century".

Registration opens Tuesday September 2nd at 10:00 am. Fees are \$90 for Goward House members and \$120 for non-members. The required textbook can be purchased directly from the instructor. (Please let the front desk know if you require the textbook, at the time of registration.)

Goward House would like to extend a very warm welcome to new members:

Kristine Chadwick, Bernice Cherney, Bette Kirchner, Joan Lord, Robin McMillan, Donald Miller, Bev Lambeth, Jennifer O'Halloran, Patricia Panteleyev, Dianne Pendray, Anne Schau, George Winn, Laura Whittaker & Monica Winn.



Grandmothers For Africa Presentation

Monday October 6th 2:00 pm



Please join **Bonnie Yarish** and **Laurie Wilson** as they share their trip experience in Africa and their charitable work for the **Grandmothers for Africa** campaign.

Please pre-register at the font desk.

This presentation will share two of the effective, holistic Stephen Lewis Foundation partner organizations visited in South Africa. Audience will get to know two truly grass roots organizations (supported by the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign) who know and understand their community and its needs and respond with tremendous skill, care and devotion to improvement and recovery. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity to check out some of the beautiful items created by our Crafts team for sale.

FUNDRAISING - How Can You help?

You can help raise money for Goward House by loading a **Fairways** or **Pepper's** card. Fairways cards are available at the Front Desk. Once you have your card assigned, please visit customer service at a Fairway Market and have it loaded with any amount you would like. For Pepper's, please see a cashier and ask them to load a card with the charitable potion going to Goward House. A 5% percentage of the value of the cards goes to Goward House! Thank you to all the members who help raise these funds by participating.

Barry's Bottle Recycling donated a whopping \$300.00 for July & August. Thank you, Barry for your continued support volunteering for Goward House! If you have returnable containers you'd like to donate, please call Barry at 250 888-9963. Proceeds to Goward House! We would also like to thank Barry for securing a donation of buns for our BBQs from the Lion's Clubs of Victoria. Thank you, Lions Clubs of Victoria.





MONTHLY DRAW FOR A FREE BEVERAGE PUNCH CARD

Submit <u>any</u> of your used punch cards for a chance to win a FREE beverage card in our monthly draw. Simply write your name and phone number on the back of your card and give it to a kitchen volunteer or a staff member. Draws are done the last day of each month. **GOOD LUCK!**

Our July punch card draw winner was **Maggie Easton** & our August winner was **Lee Frank**. Congratulations!

Activity Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Strength & Balance 9:00 – 10:00	Line Dancing 9:30 – 11:00	Drop in Art 8:00 – 11:30	Qigong & Mobility 9:00 – 9:45 Tai Chi Form 9:45 – 10:15	Yoga 9:30 – 10:30 (returns September 5 th)
Quillers 10:00 - noon	French Conversation Adv. 1:00 – 3:00 (returns September 9th)	Chinese Brush Painters 9:30 – 1:00	Strength & Balance 12:00 – 1:00	Spanish Conversation Adv. 10:30 – noon (returns September 5 th)
iPad & iPhone Club 10:00 – 11:30 (moved to July 14 th) (please pre-register)	Mah Jong 1:00 – 4:00	Duplicate Bridge 12:15 – 4:00	Social Bridge 12:30 – 4:00	Choir 1:15 – 3:15 (returns September 5 th)
Social Bridge 12:30 – 4:00	Portrait Painters 1:15 – 4:00 (returns September 2 nd)	Crafters 1:30 – 3:30	Book Club 1:30 – 3:00 (returns September 18 th)	
Meditation 2:30 – 4:00				

GOWARD HOUSE SOCIETY

Board of Directors: 2025-26 Committees

COMMITTE	E	DIRECTORS			
FACILITY		Allan Davies, Lee Frank, Mary Collins			
FINANCE		Mary Collins, Lee Frank, Allan Davies (& Heidi Hodgins)			
KITCHEN		Barbara Sawyer, Joy Olesky			
PERSONNEL		Gail Branton, Lee Frank, Mary Collins			
PROGRAM		Mary Collins, Barbara Turner, Barbara Sawyer			
PUBLICITY & OUTREACH		Barbara Turner, Mary Collins			
VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERSHIP & FRONT		Gail Branton, Joy Olesky, Lee Frank			
DESK					
President: Mary Collins	Vice-President: I	Barbara	Secretary: Gail	Treasurer: Lee Frank	
	Turner		Branton		

We acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the neighbourhood of Cadboro Bay lies, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

"Scene" Around Goward House - Music in the Park 2025















