

The Crescent
View

May 2010

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESCENT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



**Crescent Heights Community
Clean-up
Saturday, May 22nd**

Palibroda

Crescent Heights Community Association

1101 - 2nd Street NW
Calgary, Alberta T2M 2V7

For community and hall information visit
www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/crescent.htm

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**Opinions expressed in the *The Crescent View* are not necessarily
those of the Crescent Heights Community Association or of
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www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/crescent.htm

President's Notebook

by John McDermid

I sit down to prepare this View item just a few weeks prior to the Crescent Heights Community Association Annual General Meeting on April 27. By the time you read this, the 2010 AGM will have come and gone and we will have some new board members to welcome aboard.

Past, Present and Future

Word arrived last month by e-mail from Doug Cass at the Glenbow that they have just put the Glenbow's inventory of Crescent Heights Community Association records on its website. It can be accessed at <http://www.glenbow.org/collections/search/findingAids/archhtm/crescent.cfm>. It appears to be quite a collection of documents from the mid 1940s through the early 1970s, when the former Crescent Heights Community Club was wound up, only to be resuscitated a few years later as the Crescent Heights Community Association.

The City of Calgary's Community and Neighbourhood Services, Social Policy and Planning Division, has just released its recently updated Community Profiles. The data is a little dated, as the principal source of the information is the 2006 Census of Canada, but it gives us the most recent snapshot of the composition of our community and some interesting perspectives. Evidently more recent data have been included where possible as well. For example, the population of our community grew 5.7% from 2004-2008, although it decreased slightly from

2007 to 2008. Over 30% of our community population moved in or out or relocated within the community between 2005 and 2006. The largest single age group in Crescent Heights is the cohort (love that word) between 25 and 34 years of age, at 26.5% (where city wide it is only 16.4%). We had about 6% more people living in low-income household in 2005 than the city as a whole, at 20.6% as opposed to the city-wide figure of 14.2%.

Unemployment rates in our community are lower for the youth contingent (ages 15-24) at 3.3% compared to the city wide rate of 8.6%, although for ages 25 and over the rate is slightly higher than the city average of 3.2%, at 3.9%. We seem to be a community of rugged individualists too: of the population over 15 years of age, 52.3% never married, while the city wide value is 35.6%. In Crescent Heights 31.7% are married while the city wide value is 49.7%. We seem to be very representative of city wide values in terms of the distribution, by age, of children living at home: 25.6% of Crescent Heights kiddies are under six and 33.6% were between six and 14 years of age.

And we're a pretty well educated community too: 36.9% hold a University degree as opposed to the city average of 25.3%. Crescent Heights is ethnically diverse community: China is the leading country of origin for immigrants settling in our community with 16% of the immigrant population, followed by 9.2% originating in Sudan.

- Continued on page 5

**Hughes
House**

**Western
Marketing**

Cliche

Skinny Fish

President's Notebook, cont. from page 3

Where we live and how we live within the community is revealing as well. While one might think we are a community of single family homes, the density afforded by the existence of many multi-unit buildings is a reality in Crescent Heights. Single detached homes comprise only 29.1% of the housing stock, while apartments and condominiums constitute a whopping 67% of private dwellings. Of the total private dwelling 45% are owned, while 55% are rental units. Among renters, almost 35% spend more than 30% of household income on shelter, compared to the city-wide average of 39%. Occupied private residences that require major repair comprise 8.7% of the homes in the community (compared to 4.9% in Calgary as a whole), and a walk down most streets and avenues in our community makes it pretty easy to spot those. Perhaps some of those 55% of commercial landlords doing business here could get busy and improve their neglected rental properties for the general benefit of our residents and our community. The full data set can be

viewed online at City of Calgary Community and Neighbourhood Services; click on Social Research, Policy and Resources, then on Research and Resources and Community Profiles. There it is: warts and all.

And what of the future? The Federation of Calgary Communities and the City of Calgary Neighbourhood Services are interested in learning about how you feel about living in your neighbourhood. To this end, a survey has been developed and can be accessed by following the link below. The City has offered an iPod and a number of family passes to city facilities as draw prizes to those individuals who fill in the survey and provide their email in the last question. All information received will be collated by community and distributed to each association that takes part except for any identifiable information regarding respondents. The City and FCC ask that all responses be completed by June 30, 2010 and the draw will occur shortly after that date. Access the survey here: [http://](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NJRH3V8)

www.surveymonkey.com/s/NJRH3V8

View timing for May might be tricky to promote the River and Pathway Clean-up on Sunday May 2, but I will be contacting many of our "usual suspects" who return year after year to help with the clean-up. We will meet just before 10:00 am on that first Sunday in May at the Starbucks a memorial drive and Edmonton trail, from there to make our way westward to the curling club. Hope to see you there as many hands make light work. Also don't forget our community clean-up in association with City of Calgary Bylaw Services and Solid Waste Services, written up in the last issue of the View by Daniel Dang. The trucks will be at the hall on the morning of May 22, the Saturday of the long weekend, so you can get your cleanup work done at the start of the Victoria Day weekend and then kick back and reward yourself with a frosty beverage. The rest of the weekend is yours to enjoy. Then it will be practically summer.

Crescent Heights Community Archives at the Glenbow Museum



We have just put our inventory of the Crescent Heights Community Association records held by Glenbow on our website.

It can be accessed at <http://www.glenbow.org/collections/search/findingAids/archhtml/crescent.cfm>

Douglas E. Cass, Director, Library and Archives - Glenbow Museum
dcass@glenbow.org

Massive Garage Sale!

Where: 1000 Centre Street North
Rogers Insurance Parking Lot

When: Saturday May 29, 2010 from 9-3pm
Support L'Arche Calgary.

Huge deals on everything! Items of every kind-household, books, sporting goods, toys etc.

Spring cleaning has begun and everything must go!

A special "thank you" to
Nancy S. and Nicole E.
for helping to deliver
The Crescent View.
Your volunteer efforts
are very much appreciated!

Business Membership

**The CHCA would like to recognize
business members in good standing:**

Chinook Glass and Screen • Sharon Lutheran Church
The Care Group • Video Game Trader • Golemme & Associates Inc
St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Support Your Community!

Keeper

UTB

Crescent Heights – A Great Place to Live!

by Lisa Evers, 231 – 9 Avenue NW

I wrote an article back in 2009 and thought I would give an update. We're one of those who bulldozed our old house (read as Money Pit!) after years of trying to renovate.

We built our own design on the lot. Well, we've been happily living in our new house since December 2, 1008 and still have a few things left to do, but all and all, things are done. It was a long hard road as we did a lot of the finishing ourselves, but it was also very rewarding. We were even able to get the sod in at the very end of fall 2009 thanks so much to wonderful neighbours, Mirissa and Ron Goldberger and Gary from down the street, without you we would have never made it before the snow flew!

Which leads me to the point of my article. It's not just the beautiful area we live in with its mature trees and beautiful, well-kept homes, it's the people. I really think that having great neighbours is the high point of living in Crescent Heights. I just want to say thank you for your patience while we went through our build. We truly do appreciate it.



Relay For Life

The Canadian Cancer Society Relay For Life is an inspiring event that gives you and your community the opportunity to celebrate cancer survivors, remember and honour loved ones lost to cancer, and fight back against the disease.



This 12-hour, overnight, non-competitive event involves teams of participants who take turns walking or running around a track. The event opens with the Survivors' Victory Lap, where cancer survivors walk an inspirational first lap. Luminaries are lit during a moving ceremony at dusk. Their light pays tribute to loved ones and provides motivation and encouragement to participants all night long.

Money raised through Relay For Life funds the most promising cancer research, support programs for people living with cancer, comprehensive cancer information, prevention initiatives and advocacy for healthy public policies.

Calgary will host two events this spring:

Calgary North	Calgary South
Cardel Place	Calgary Rugby Union
June 5	June 18

For more information or to register as a team, survivor or volunteer, please visit cancer.ca/relay or call (403) 205-3966.

**Gardens'
Grace**

EED

**Renfrew
Bingo**

Gutter Doctor

Why Do We Need a BRZ for Crescent Heights?

by Daniel Dang

Bordered by the major transportation corridors of Edmonton Trail, 16th Avenue and 4th Street NW, Crescent Heights is further divided into two halves by Centre Street which, in itself, is another major traffic corridor. One only needs to walk along these busy streets during the afternoon rush to be convinced that these are major transportation arteries connecting the downtown core and suburbia.

Centre Street North has always been designated as a major corridor by the City of Calgary. There is a development setback of 3.81 meters on either side of the street – just in case the street needs to be widened – to accommodate future traffic demand. Similarly, Edmonton Trail has a development setback of 5.18 meters on either side of the road for the same purpose. This requirement has caused much uncertainty and hampered future new developments along these corridors. However, for the time being, we are being rewarded with wide sidewalks which give the extra space to buffer pedestrians from the dusty and noisy traffic.

Over 45,000 vehicles travel Edmonton Trail and Centre Street each day. The peak times are of course, morning and afternoon rush hours, which combined with the lane reversals on Centre Street, limiting on-street parking during these times, bringing significant challenges to local merchants. However, outside of the morning and afternoon rush hours, there are opportunities for a somewhat normal commercial environment that are quite conducive to the development of a BRZ in Crescent Heights.

The challenges of current businesses in Crescent Heights

Due to the fragmented land ownership along the Centre Street, by mostly smaller family owned enterprises which have been 'doing the same thing for many years', there has been little incentive nor room for major commercial redevelopments along this corridor. Similarly, along the length of Edmonton Trail, except for the area between 6th and 8th Avenue North, little has changed for the past 20 years. In the late 1990's, the City's closure of Centre Street Bridge for a year-long rehabilitation process did not help either.

Given that the typical businesses located along these corridors draw from a much larger geographical area than Crescent Heights and Bridgeland/Renfrew and the elimination of on-street parking during the afternoon rush hour, the availability of adjacent side-street parking is a necessity to sustain any resemblance of a healthy business environment. Furthermore, without an effort to revitalize, or 'rethink the business opportunity', the commercial businesses in Crescent Heights will continue to flounder for many years to come. The recent closure of the Second Cups franchise reminds us all that we need to remain active in building a suitable local business environment that will attract the right type of businesses.

Three major office centres in Crescent heights are home to businesses employing 100's of people from outside of our community each day. Most use public transportation to and from their office, outside of the occasional

lunch at local eateries, there is little incentive for them to explore local business. Those fortunate enough to have a parking spot for their vehicles zoom right by the local shops, forever distracted by the myriads of traffic signs and signals along these busy traffic corridors. Other than contributing to the increase in local traffic on our already constricted roads, they presently contribute little more to the local business scene. Having a lively retail environment will help to capture the interest of those coming to work in our community.

A BRZ should help to attract more desirable businesses to Crescent Heights

It has been said that the first three laws in business is location, location and location. The Centre Street North Corridor is some of the most prime real estate in Calgary. Similarly, commercial land along Edmonton Trail has been garnering significant interest, particularly with the commercial node at about 7th Avenue North. Due to our proximity to the downtown core, and the ease of access via major traffic routes, within the last decade, many more professional services firms have setup shops along the Centre Street Corridor. The measurable increase in pedestrian traffic along this busy corridor attests to the growth of the business sector in our community.

However, due to the City's continued vision of using these thoroughfares as major North/South transportation corridors, not much more have been put into re-developing the local business environment. Other than the recent talks of revisiting the Area Redevelopment Plan (as part of the discussion of the TigerStaedt re-development), it is largely left up to the community and the local businesses to take the lead in this venture and develop a pedestrian-friendly, retail oriented corridor and to help attract and retain successful street-front operations that help to revitalize the area and attract additional businesses to the area.

The basic elements of a successful BRZ

An attractive retail environment will help to attract additional shoppers and businesses to the local area. The underlying need is a critical volume of pedestrian traffic that will support existing retail merchants and attract future merchants to the area. Within a short walking distance, we have an excellent assortment of local eateries which will cater to any diverse flavour and requirements, from business lunches to fine family dining. In addition, local pubs and coffee shops double duty as meeting places for office workers during the day and destinations for local hangouts after work. However, the combination of daytime crowds from local businesses and evening groups from local residents are not sufficient to sustain these wonderful establishments which have also called Crescent Heights their 'home'. They also depend on other patrons outside of our community to help maintain vitality and growth.

At present, only a few commercial developments in our community have adequate on-site parking for their patrons. Those businesses without

- Continued on page 11

**Hobo
Camp-
er**

**Progressive
Optometry**

**Rotary
Park**

Sunik

**Rob's
Yard Care**

Why Do We Need a BRZ for Crescent Heights?, cont. from page 9

customer parking have to depend on adjacent street parking to compete for their patronage, since the prized parking resources are zealously protected by those businesses which are fortunate enough to have them. Customers are seldom allowed to leave their vehicles while they quickly stop into adjacent businesses. If customers have to the 'private parking' arrangements then this is not conducive to future development of a BRZ, in fact, they are down-right disruptive.

Adequate public parking has always been a challenge for local businesses, one that is further exacerbated by the elimination of on-street parking during the rush hours along Centre Street. Crescent Heights and our residents have been very accommodating to allow short-term parking on the side streets for the half-blocks adjacent to the commercial thoroughfare. Much more additional parking is required to help fill the chronic vacancies in the local commercial space, whose prospective tenants have cited the lack of sufficient parking as the key drawback to relocating into our community and helping to contribute to the success of local businesses. However, it has always been a long-term fear of local residents that increasing of additional local parking spaces will also increase local vehicular traffic that have continued to negatively impact the neighbourhood. Not necessarily. Here, we can learn from the experiences of other BRZ initiatives in this City. How can we provide additional parking for local businesses? How would it affect our community and adjacent residents? What would the BRZ look like? When and how long would it take to get this going?

Where would the boundaries be? How can you participate in the formation and operation of a Crescent Heights BRZ? These are only a few of the specific questions as it relates to a local BRZ for our community and we will examine these in greater depth with the next article.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor should be brief and must include the writer's name and contact information. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Newsletter Deadlines

There is a new deadline for submitting articles/events to The Crescent View.

Articles/events for the Crescent Heights newsletter are now due on the 10th day of each month. Please email your articles, as an attachment in word document form, to Elizabeth Hancock at elizhancock@shaw.ca.

The Crescent View will still be published ten times per year. The July/August issue is combined as well as the December/January issue. The deadlines for these two issues are June 10th and November 10th respectively.

The View has a new look -- what do you think?

Please send feedback or comments and suggestions to the editor at: elizhancock@shaw.ca or mail or drop-off at the Hall 1101 – 2nd Street NW, Calgary, AB, T2M 2V7.

All replies will remain private and confidential



The Crescent View is published ten times a year and is available for pick-up at Gardens' Grace on Edmonton Trail, as well as The Urban Baker, Boogies Burgers, Subway, Joshua Tree, Crescent Heights Convenience, Second Cup on Centre Street, Center Convenience, Just-In Liquor, Peter Pan Convenience Store, Lamda Centre, New Asian Market, Video Game Trader and St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

The Crescent View is delivered by volunteers to all households but it is very hard to deliver to condominiums or apartments due to building access, etc. If you would like to have enough copies for units in your condo or apartment building, please call our distribution manager Diane Altwasser at (403) 276-7118.

If you would like access to the newsletter on the web, you can visit www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/crescent and you will see *The Crescent View* PDF underneath the Block Watch Logo.

Newsletter carrier needed for the SE side of Crescent Heights. Route will involve delivering the newsletter to the area around Marsh Road, Meredith Road, 2nd and 3rd Avenues. Mostly condos and apartments buildings and this involves just dropping a bundle on the front steps of the buildings.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Diane Altwasser at 403-276-7118 or kobluk@telus.net.

Sunridge Nissan

Bob Dawe & Associates



(403) 276-SOLD
7 6 5 3

Bob Dawe
Bob Dawe & Associates

**Granato
LS**

**Fitlife
Fitness**

N O W O P E N



LICKETY
SPLIT



RELAX
CAFÉ

4th ST. @ 25th AVE. NW

Water Solutions

Sharon Lutheran

Jenny's

Heritage Deco

A. J. Samis and his House on the Hill

by Professor Z

Adoniram Judson Samis (whom we'll refer to as "AJ" for brevity's sake) was an early resident of the Crescent Heights area, and was a well-known figure in Calgary politics during the first two decades of the twentieth century. Like so many others, he and his family immigrated to Western Canada in the late 1800's seeking better prospects. Prior to their arrival in Canada, the Samis family had resided on a farm in the US, at Platte River near Omaha NB, although they had earlier been Ontario residents. The family settled near Olds, where AJ's father, Reverend Herbert Samis continued to farm on a full-time basis and to preach on Sundays. The Samis family were staunch Baptists and AJ was given his formidable first name in honour of a famous 19th century missionary to Burma.

AJ's first employment away from the family farm was that of a teacher at Morley AB, where he supplemented his income there as a correspondent for the Calgary Herald. The newspaper business evidently continued to appeal to him; he subsequently purchased a printing press and thereafter established a newspaper known as the "Olds Oracle". In 1904, AJ leased out his printing business and moved to Calgary, where he became involved in real estate. His first foray into politics occurred in 1906, when he campaigned unsuccessfully for the position of alderman. One year later, a by-election was held and this time AJ's political aspirations met with success. (It should perhaps be mentioned here that the role of alderman in local civic politics at that time was an unpaid position.) AJ was to serve as alderman on three separate occasions: 1907-1909, 1911-1913 and during 1916. His other public role was that of City Commissioner for which he served during 1913-1914 and in 1922.

During his time in public office, AJ championed a number of causes. He was well-known as a crusader against prostitution and was instrumental in obtaining \$50,000 in funding from the Carnegie Foundation to establish Calgary's first public library, which still stands today in Central Park. AJ promoted the construction of a railway to Lake Chestermere and was a strong advocate of municipal ownership of public utilities as well as civic government by commission. He also had a strong interest in taxation, and took a dim view of the tax exemptions then in place for certain privileged persons and corporations. By almost any standards, AJ would be considered a "straight shooter"; his sister in fact once chided him by relating publicly that his wildest escapade ever was popping corn.

Mention was made previously of AJ's involvement in real estate. His earliest such development was that of a modest duplex on 8th Avenue downtown. A more significant investment occurred in 1909 when the five storey sandstone-trimmed Samis Block was constructed at 330-8 Ave SE at a cost of \$75,000. The building's location- a block to the west of the St Louis Hotel on a site now occupied by the Calgary Municipal Building- was selected in anticipation of its future proximity to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway's planned passenger depot on the old Fort Calgary site. The Grand Trunk Pacific became over-extended and construction of the depot never transpired. AJ originally intended to lease the property to upscale commercial interests, but with the lingering economic malaise which set in



Photo courtesy of the Calgary Public Library, Community Heritage and Family History Digital Library

after the onset of World War One, the general class of tenants occupying the establishment gradually deteriorated- in concert with the whole region east of Centre Street- and it became instead a second class rooming house. Moreover, the building was heavily financed, and AJ was often forced to supplement mortgage payments with the stipend he earned as City Commissioner.

AJ had purchased a residential land parcel- comprising seven city lots- on the North Hill in the Mount Pleasant area, which today forms part of the south-eastern region of Crescent Heights. (As mentioned in an earlier article, the neighbourhood north of Rosedale now known as Mount Pleasant was referred to as West Mount Pleasant in 1912.) The street address of Samis' property was 312 Mount Pleasant Boulevard, a site south of 1st Avenue NE now occupied by the Holly Park condo complex. Other than the "Samis" connection, the area has a historic context dating back to the city's inception: the location is known as that from which Inspector Brisebois of the NWMP and his F Troop first surveyed the Calgary environs in August 1875 prior to descending to the flats at Riverside, fording the Bow and going on to establish Fort Calgary. (No, not that F Troop, Larry Storch fans!)

AJ and his wife Anna constructed a two and a half storey, 4000 square foot brick home- photo attached- on their building lot in 1912, at the height of the real estate boom. The house was built in Foursquare style and featured a quartet of large white pillars out front plus dormers and a "widow's walk" at the peak. Due to financial constraints, construction of the home was never fully complete while AJ and his family lived there.

As a proponent of Thomas Mawson's vision for Calgary, AJ was interested in promoting the development and beautification of the North Hill escarpment, but had to be mindful of any perceived conflict of interest in view of his position at City Hall. Following the construction of the Centre

Street Bridge in 1916, however, AJ took it upon himself to direct that garbage be trucked in to the area south of Rotary Park as excavations necessitated by bridge construction had left an unsightly scar on the local landscape. Although AJ at one time envisaged a "Rainbow Drive" arcing from the north side of the bridge over the hill east to the Langevin Bridge, he was fully aware that this would never occur while he was in public office as the value of his own property would be seen to be positively impacted by any such development. The garbage trucked in to the area formed the foundation for Samis Road, which AJ saw as a compromise, and which never attained its present state of development until long after his departure. The road continues to benefit the many residents of the Rotary Park area who would otherwise be forced to travel farther up the hill for access.

The Samis family, including their two sons, resided in the property until the winter of 1922-23 during which, following AJ's final (unsuccessful) campaign for the City Commissioner position, and no doubt due as well to his ongoing battles with poor health not to mention his financial woes, he departed for Los Angeles, where he and his wife would spend the rest of their lives.

And what became of their "House on the Hill"? Immediately after AJ and Anna's departure, their residence functioned as a children's shelter for a number of years. By the mid 1930's, one Albert Long and his wife Dorothy came to reside in the home; the Longs continued to live there until the late 1960's. The home was demolished in 1974 and construction of Holly Park commenced not long after.

References: *Samis Family History-Glenbow Archives; Calgary Public Library-Community Heritage and Family History; A.J. Samis biography-City of Calgary Archives; Henderson's Directories*

**Area Event and
Resource Guide**

Community

Connections

**Area Event and
Resource Guide**

TNHT

MCF

**BRDIELAND
DENTAL**

Cooking Class at Your Finger Tips

A Review of Cooks Illustrated Magazine by George Day

This is a unique magazine with *More Than Recipes*. It also has techniques, quick tips and equipment reviews. Cooks Illustrated is printed in the US on a bimonthly basis. I give it four stars out of five.

I have used this magazine and their website for two years. The recipes are well written with lots of additional information and pictures. Each recipe article can be up to two pages in length, the first half talks about what they are trying to achieve, what they tried and what they settled on. The recipes are laid out well, with sidebars about technique and best brand ingredients. Being a US publication, all measurements are imperial and lots of name brand ingredients may not be available in Canada.

Looking at the recipe for Indoor Pulled Pork (Jan/Feb 2010), they talk about getting that smoked flavour – adding liquid smoke to the brine and smoked paprika to the dry rub. Along with the pork, they give three different recipes

for sauces. The same issue has recipes for Chicago Pizza, Red Beans and Rice, Cream Cheese Coffee Cake (four stars) and Thai Chicken with Basil (five stars).

The *More Than Recipes* part:

Notes from Readers: (lots of questions and answers), Quick Tips (i.e. freeze lemon grass then grate instead of chopping), Kitchen Articles (i.e. Keeping a Cleaner and Safer Kitchen) and Equipment Reviews (i.e. May/June 2010 -large saucepans Best Buy 4 Qt Cuisinart MultiClad Unlimited \$68 in the US).

Kitchen Notes: mainly cooking techniques with some equipment reviews. In the January 2010 issue, saving over-proofed dough, electric pressure cookers, boiled water – measure before or after boiling, acid test for egg whites and cutting cabbage. Also it provided a good guideline for salting meats before cooking. Did

you know that salting will result in a juicier cut of meat?

Cooks Illustrated costs \$6.96 in Canada, I pick-up my copy at Co op or Safeway. This is an educational cooking magazine, be sure to read the recipe fully and watch the prep and cooking times as some planning is necessary.

If you enjoy the magazine, a good supplement is their website www.cooksillustrated.com \$35 US for a year. It has the full magazine online, how to videos and past issue searches.

A parting comment, they give greater importance to taste over health. They do not shy away from butter or cream but usually use only the amount needed for taste (exception is bread pudding, too much fat for me). The recipes have no nutritional information.

Overall this is a very good magazine and you can keep learning with each issue.

**Renfrew
Auto**

Avalon

The City of Calgary Parks celebrates 100 years

by Donna Sinclair, Marketing Advisor, The City of Calgary Parks



The City of Calgary Parks is celebrating its 100th anniversary with many free events and programs planned. All Calgarians are encouraged to participate.

One activity that is sure to interest children through to seniors is Parks' 100th anniversary Geocaching challenge. Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. Participants seek to locate outdoor hidden containers, called geocaches, and then share their experiences online. There will be one-hundred geocaches hidden throughout City parks. Calgarians are encouraged to take part in this challenge and explore Calgary's incredible park system. Twenty-five geocaches will be released each month from May until August and there are many prizes to be won for participating. If you don't have a GPS unit, don't worry. In order to make it possible for everyone to participate, there are GPS units available to be signed out through The Calgary Public Library, and there are GPS apps for smart phones that can be used as well. Details can be found on the Parks website at calgary.ca/parks.

Another fun celebration happening throughout the summer is some music in the park events. From June-September, there will be one music event

in a park in each of the four city quadrants. Music will range from children's songs to rockabilly, so be sure to check the Parks website for details on where your favourite music will be played. Looking for something special to do with Dad on Father's Day? The first music event will be held at Baker Park on June 20 – it's the perfect way to spend the day with Dad. These events are free and open to everyone.

A new twist on the park experience comes this year in the form of ephemeral (temporary) gardens. Popular features across the world, these gardens enhance the park experience by transforming them into uniquely interactive spaces. Opening in late May at Olympic Plaza, six Celebration Landscapes will fill the park. They are amusing, engaging, and fun. Take a stroll down to Olympic Plaza and look for pink gophers, soaring birds and large foam trees.

Calgary has amazing parks and outdoor spaces. Share your favourite park stories, experiences, and favourite photos on Parks' Facebook page.

Details will be updated at calgary.ca/parks throughout the year.

Help Yourself, Help Others

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403.452.0880



Federation of Calgary Communities Fundraiser

On June 3, 2010 the Heebie-jeebees an internationally acclaimed, award-winning comic a cappella group will be performing at the Vertigo Theatre to help raise money for the Federation of Calgary Communities, an organization that works to support Calgary's community associations. Tickets for the event are \$25 and can be purchased through the Federation's office 403-244-4111 or the Federation's website calgarycommunities.com.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy a fun night out at a reasonable price, while supporting a great cause!

The Heebie-jeebees
LIVE
at
The Vertigo



Crescent Heights Playgroup

Spring is here and we have sprung into action at playgroup, so come and join us! The playgroup's aim is to provide caregiver/parent supervised unstructured free play for pre-school aged kiddos (0-4 years). We love to see babies and encourage moms to come for some social time, even if their babes are not 'playing'. There is a great variety in languages and cultures in the group and new members are ALWAYS welcome. The group isn't just about play; it also gives both moms and caregivers a chance to see other adults and get to know the community.



When: Wednesday 10am -11:30am

Where: At the Crescent Heights Community Hall

Cost: FREE to Community Members and Associate Crescent Heights Members (folks outside Crescent Height are welcome to join for 20\$/year)

Who: Parent and/or Caregiver with any number of children at any age – babies included.

What to Bring: There are toys and books at the center, so just bring yourselves, indoor shoes for running (especially with all the mud) and snacks for your kids.

Questions? Contact Stacie Banks at 403-670-6872 or stacie_banks@yahoo.ca

Support your Community!

Buy Your Membership Today

Crescent Heights Community Association Membership Application Form

Please mail this form
with your cheque to:

C.H.C.A.

**1101 - 2nd Street NW
Calgary, Alberta T2M 2V7**

Voting (Residents)

- Single (\$10) Household (\$20) Senior (\$5/per person)

Non-Voting (Business and Non-Residents)

- Associate (\$20) Business (\$50)

Names : _____

Address : _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Phone : _____ **Email:** _____

- Yes, Send Me Community Emails** **Yes, Send Me Block Watch Emails**

New Membership **Renewal** **Date** _____ **Amount Enclosed \$** _____

Classifieds

Rosedale Playschool

Starting on April 24th we will be working outside on the Children's Garden. The community is welcome to come out and participate (and bring the kids). Activities will vary depending on the project du jour. We'll start with cleaning up the yard (weather permitting) and then move on to adding dirt, edging, and the move on to planting and installing features. We'll continue every Saturday after April 24th from 10:00-12:00 (bring your own shovel). The kids will be growing seedlings inside to plant outside at the end of May as well as a few other projects. Anyone interested in helping us maintain the garden over the summer, or working with the playschool garden committee should get in touch with us via our email address, rosedaleplayschool@gmail.com or phone 403 282 2721.

In addition, we are having a Spring Fling on Saturday, May 15th from 9:30 - 11:30 in the Wildrose Hall. We welcome families from the community and alumni to come and join us for some fun. There will be face painting, bouncy house, arts and crafts and games for all to enjoy. Admission is \$10 a family.

Neighbourhood Survey

The Federation of Calgary Communities and the City of Calgary Neighbourhood Services are interested in learning about how you and your community residents feel about living in your neighbourhood. To this end, a survey has been developed and can be accessed by typing in the following link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NJRH3V8>

The City has offered an I-pod and a number of family passes to city facilities as draw prizes to those individuals who fill in the survey and provide their email in the last question. All information received will be collated by community and distributed to each association that takes part except for any identifiable information regarding respondents. We ask that all responses be completed by June 30, 2010 and the draw will occur shortly after this date.

Fourth Annual Crescent Heights Community Cleanup

**Victoria Day Long Weekend,
Saturday, May 22, 2010**

This year's Crescent Heights Community Clean-up is scheduled for 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Saturday, May 22, 2010. That falls on the Victoria Day long weekend, a week earlier than previous years events, which have been traditionally held on the weekend after.



For those in who are new in Crescent Heights, the Community Clean-up event is meant to help you de-clutter and dispose of larger items and/or yard waste which are not picked up by your weekly garbage disposal trucks. It also helps to save our residents from making less efficient individual trips to the land-fill, and save you from the disposal charges there-in. It is an event funded by Calgary Animal and Bylaw Services, Calgary Solid Waste Services, Crescent Heights Community Association and powered by the tremendous volunteers of Crescent Heights.

In prior years, the half-day event has collected up to 10,000 kg of solid waste from our community. Last year, with the participation of Technotrash Alberta, an electronics recycling component was added to our event, we removed an additional 3,500 kg of hazardous electronics for safe disposal under the guideline of the Alberta Recycling Management Authority.



Our event this year will again be held at the Crescent Heights Community Association Hall parking lot. We will again have three packer trucks from the Calgary Solid Waste Services, and the Electronics recycling will be provided by Technotrash Alberta.

Look around your house and yard for items which are no longer needed, and clean-up to make some additional space! Items in good condition can be saved for our small-scale re-use / exchange area at our event, where various treasures have been put to good use by community residents. Items remaining at the end of the event will either be donated to charities or disposed of. So make it a point to come out to this event, never know you may find one of those rare paintings that are worth a fortune. At the very least, you will have fun meeting your fellow Crescent Heights residents, and our dedicated group of community volunteers.

This year, we will have the participation of the Calgary Interfaith Furniture Society to help provide used furniture in good condition to those in needs around Calgary. Gently used items in good condition will be accepted for donation to this worthwhile initiative. Please look around to see if there's something in your house that you no longer use, and may benefit those who are less fortunate.

All items will be accepted for disposal, except: tires, household chemicals, home appliances, propane tanks, paint, liquids, metals and glass. Even if we can't help you dispose of the items you bring, we will be able to give you directions on where to have them properly handled and safely disposed of.

If you can help out at the day of the event, or for additional information on the event, please call Daniel at 403.355.0058 or 403.829.8178. See you there!

CMP