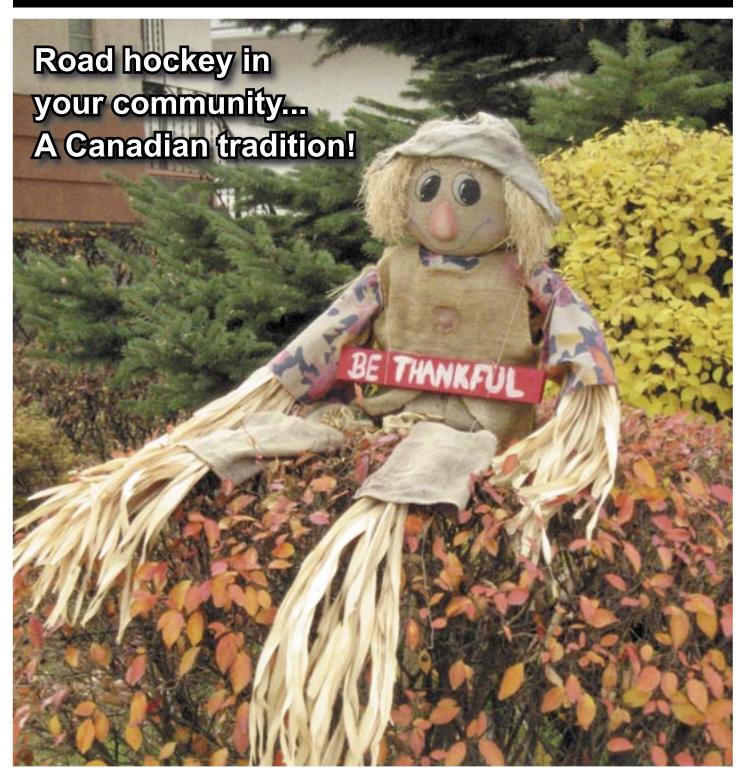
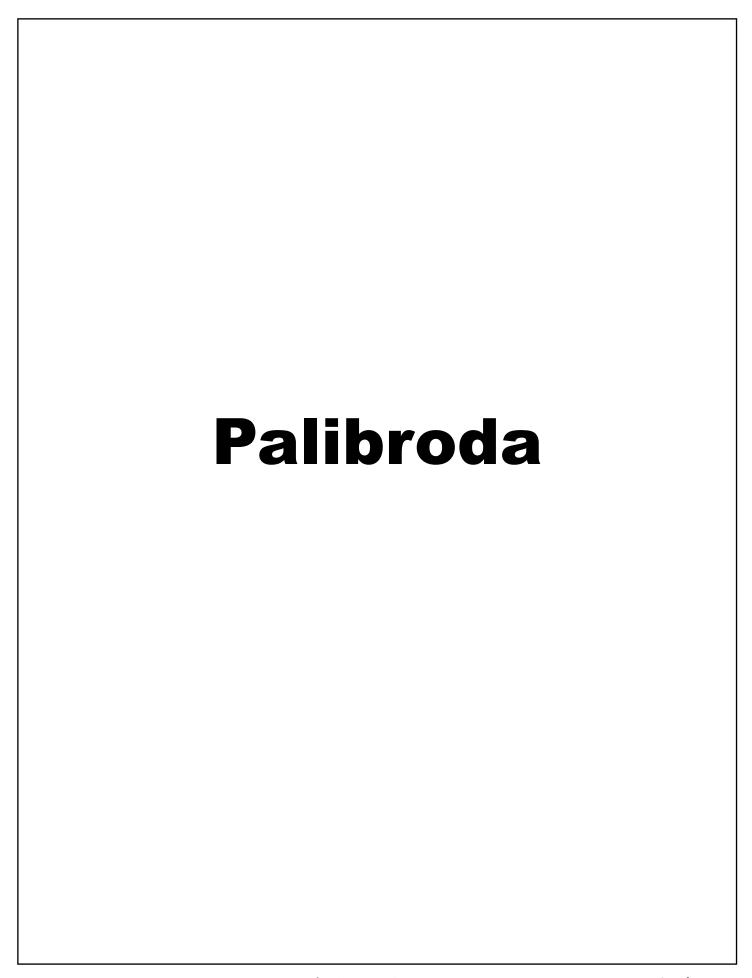




NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESCENT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION





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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To submit to the Community and Block Watch email list contact Penny Smith at smithpenny@shaw.ca

The Crescent View is published 10 times per year, free of charge, by Ellis-Evans Design Ltd for the Crescent Heights Community Association. The Crescent View is distributed to all households within Crescent Heights by your neighbours.

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Letters and submissions from community members are always welcome. Please mail or drop off at the Hall mail slot at 1101 - 2nd Street NW, Calgary, Alberta T2M 2V7, or submit materials via email to elizhancock@shaw.ca

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Opinions expressed in the *The Crescent View* are not necessarily those of the Crescent Heights Community Association or of the publisher.



Visit us online!

Find out more about Crescent Heights by visiting...

www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/crescent.htm

President's Notebook

by John McDermid

I reported here last month on the continuing planning cycle for the Crescent Heights Community Garden. Since the initial survey of residents adjacent to the site, and the voicing of a single objection to the location, a number of other nearby residents have voiced concerns. For all the contentious issues we have faced in Crescent Heights over the years, the selection of a site for a brand new community garden seemed for all the world like a non-issue. A community garden to be located on public reserve land contentious? Contentious like apple pie, motherhood and fresh vegetables, one would have thought. In the coming weeks we will consult further with our committee members, the CHCA board and our City of Calgary advisors and hope to finalize our recommendations so that the off season planning and design work can continue. The work of wreaking havoc upon a community is never done, it seems, but we keep our shoulders to the wheel.

Speaking of a community beset with havoc, we have received numerous calls from residents in the south-south-east corner of our community, an area adjacent to Edmonton Trail at and near the foot of the hill, where Meredith Road, Marsh Road and First, Second and Third Avenues NE rise up from Edmonton Trail. On August 29 I took a big stack of the September issue of *The View* and headed down there. I met a few people on my walk and I have had telephone conversations with others in the area who believe that the clean-up of the downtown core may be coming at the expense of SSE Crescent Heights residents and an apparent spike in residential Break and Enters, some of them of a fairly brazen kind. I've been through the area plenty of times, sometimes on foot but usually in the car, but never up and down the avenues house-to-house. There are some pretty sketchy properties and dodgy characters in the area, too. The nicely kept houses, newer multi-unit buildings and the zillion dollar views of Meredith Road tend to be somewhat isolated amid a lot of decrepit properties. As the Clean to the Core program pushes problems outward and East Village redevelopment gathers momentum, trouble's direction seems to be starkly Across the River and Into the Trees.

Don't even talk to them about it in Bridgeland-Riverside.

But Bridgeland-Riverside has talked to us, as well as to our friends the Meredith Road Rangers, who in turn have had very productive meetings with City Officials, the Calgary Police Service, Bylaw Services and other agencies with a stake in the area and what goes on there. I had the pleasure of attending a September 7th planning meeting for an upcoming event and will also attend BRCA's next monthly board meeting. Planning is well underway for a joint Community Safety Fair set for the afternoon of **Sunday, October 3rd at the Calgary Italian Club.** You will probably hear of this event through other channels by the time this issue of *The View* reaches you, but do consider dropping into the Safety Fair for a focused look at the issues that are increasingly affecting the quality of life in Crescent Heights. All the agencies that will be part of the solution will be on hand to provide

- Continued on page 5

Heal Bridge

PROGRESSIVE OPTOMETRY

Pilling

President's Notebook, cont. from page 3

information and answer questions. Once again, many thanks to the Meredith Road residents for their perseverance and tenacity in pressing the issues with the relevant agencies. Residents of Discovery Point, Holly Park, Holly Point and the new Vue condominium have been very proactive in identifying and documenting issues in the area. The magnificent views are not just of the cityscape: it seems residents of the south-east edge of our community can also look out and watch the commandments being broken *seriatim*.

Part of the sense of isolation that Crescent Heights residents of this area have expressed may stem from the geography of the area: all but one of the roads are cul-de-sacs, opening only outward onto Edmonton Trail, so the "inward" direction to the rest of Crescent Heights (friendly, vibrant, *kempt*, for the most part) is not really there. The terrain is steep (believe me!), *The Crescent View* delivery coverage has been lacking in recent years and the area is "unorganized territory" from the perspective of Crescent Heights Community Block Watch. Calgary Community Block Watch will be well represented at the Safety Fair as well, as will the sleeping giant of our own Block Watch program. Our program's founder, Keith Johnson, used to deliver *The View* in the area, but since Keith relocated to the Okanagan Valley some years ago, *The View* coverage has dropped off and Block Watch has fallen dormant here (as it has in other communities), but this might be just the opportunity to re-activate our program right here at home. Have you got what it takes to be a Block Captain?

So if you are a Meredith Road, Marsh Road or First, Second or Third Avenue resident and you see me stumbling around with a big bag of the newsletter, please say hello. I will bring some Block Watch materials as well so everyone can understand what the program is and what it isn't. If you live in one of the multi-unit buildings in the area (where we can't gain access in many cases, and sometimes are unwelcome) give me a call and we will make every effort to get the *The View* everywhere it's wanted in the south-south-east.

What we've had here, is failure to communicate.

On a brighter note, the summer's work has wrapped up on the brilliant mural on the construction boarding at the Emergency Operations Centre construction site in Rotary Park. We had hoped to have a construction progress update for this issue but that will have to wait until next time. Meanwhile, take a stroll through Rotary Park and enjoy the bright colours and designs of the mural, especially on the south side. For anyone with an axe to grind in respect of the mural, please call the City of Calgary: we had nothing to do with it beyond hearing of the idea some eighteen months ago and naively thinking it might be a good idea.

Over and out.

Newsletter Editorial Deadlines

There are new deadlines for submitting articles/events to *The Crescent View*.

The Crescent View is published ten times per year. The July/August issue is a combined-months issue as is the December/January issue. The deadlines for those issues are June 10th and November 10th respectively.

Other than September, articles/events for the Crescent Heights newsletter are now due on the 10th day of each month. Articles for the September issue are due on August 5th. Please email your articles, as an attachment in word document form, to Elizabeth Hancock at elizhancock@shaw.ca.

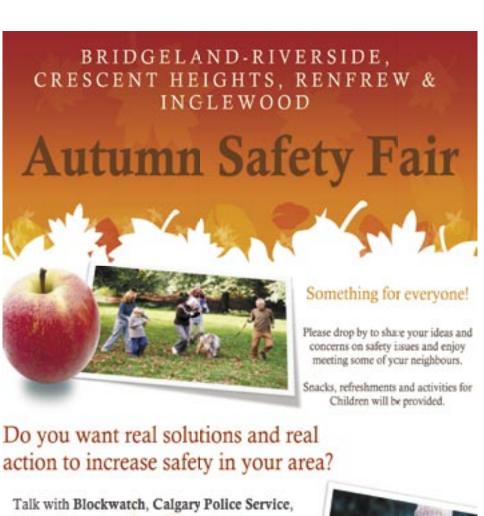
A special "thank you" to Michael Willman

for helping to deliver *The Crescent View.*Your volunteer efforts are very much appreciated!

Thank you to the four North East newsletter carriers who recently volunteered to take on extra routes -- Charlotte and Tristin and, Cindy and Tony. We really appreciate your help!

Higgins

Dawe RE



Talk with Blockwatch, Calgary Police Service, Calgary Homeless Foundation and others to discover solutions to your safety concerns.

PLEASE JOIN US:

Date:

Sunday, October 3rd, 2010

Time:

1pm to 3pm | Calgary Italian Club

Where:

416 1st Avenue NE





UTB

Crescent Heights Community Garden - News 2010-09

Our community garden is moving forward

After a brief hiatus over the summer, the planning committee for the Crescent Heights Community Garden is kicking into high gear. In August, a survey was sent to a number of residents close to the garden asking for feedback. A big thank you to everyone who submitted comments to the team – they are a valuable addition to the planning process and will help shape our community garden.

The next step in the process is to sit down with our garden designer, Christiane Martin, and draft the design plan for the garden. Once the big picture has come together we will publish the garden design in the View and solicit feedback from the community. Then the garden team will get down to the nitty-gritty details such as what materials to use on the pathways, where to purchase soil, finalizing the irrigation plan, and drafting a budget.

We are very excited about our garden, as an integrated part of the existing green space, the garden will add to the vitality and sustainability of our community. It will be a gathering place for residents of the neighbourhood, whether you are getting your hands dirty or just relaxing and meeting your neighbours. Thanks to the Crescent Heights Community Association and Alderman Druh Farrell, who have been very supportive of the project in its early stages.

If you are interested in joining the planning committee or would like to share your thoughts with the team, please email us at crescentheightsga rden@gmail.com.

Hughes

Build Art

City of Calgary

Emergency Operations Centre Update

by Elsie Ross

East Crescent Heights residents will soon once again have access to 1st Street N.E. which has been blocked off since last fall due to a sinkhole in the middle of the road. The road between 5th and 6th Avenue N.E. was closed following the collapse of the east shoring wall on the City's \$54 million Emergency Operations Centre which is currently under construction at the north end of Rotary Park. Road reconstruction should be complete by the end of October, according to Darell Bell, manager, building infrastructure for the city. "It has taken us quite a while to stabilize the soil so we could start work on the road." he said.

Work on the centre had been underway for only a few weeks when the wall collapsed. To stabilize the hole during design work on a new shoring wall, contractors hauled in 4,000 cubic metres of gravel which now will be hauled back out. Bell said a geotechnical evaluation done on the site determined there was some groundwater "which is pretty typical wherever we build" but did not come across any underground streams. "There was a survey done, there was an analysis done, we knew there was water there, it was just that the soil conditions were not what we expected," he said. "Geotechnical is not an exact science," according to Bell. "It does sample bore holes on the site so it doesn't pick up everything." A shoring wall is designed to contain the soil, he said. When the excavation started, "we started to see the groundwater causing the soils to move and shift on that east wall."

Although construction on the east side of the project was shut down until March, work continued on the west side of the site. However, due to the soil problems on the east side, the city has had to go down an additional ten feet on that side to a total depth of 55 feet for the foundations that will underpin the building. "Even though the building itself has not changed, the foundation depth has changed because of the soil conditions on the east side of the hole," said Bell. Although initially there were concerns about the effect the sinkhole would have on the nearby apartment building, it appears to be unscathed, he said. "We monitored the apartment building for multiple months and there has been no movement at all and our independent consultants found no evidence of shifting or anything to do with the sinkhole," he said.

Notwithstanding the collapse of the wall, the project is still on track for substantial completion (move-in) April 30, 2012. "When you build a project of this magnitude, you always build in a contingency for time," said Bell. "All that contingency is gone; we have used it all up on the sinkhole.

The project is also on budget. "The original cost was \$54 million and it is still \$54 million," he said. The additional costs associated with the failure of the shoring wall and the additional costs of required for underpinning the building are now in the hands of the city's insurance companies. "As far as the city of Calgary is concerned, our costs remain the same because it is all covered by insurance." The city also was fortunate in the timing for its tender which went into the market in 2009 when the market was still

soft, resulting in "very good prices," said Bell. "Our package is done and our prices are firm."

Although the project cost is \$54 million, when the project was initially presented to the community prior to design completion, the estimated cost of the Centre was between \$12 and \$15 million, said John McDermid, president of the Crescent Heights Community Association. At that time, the city's plans provided for a building 2 ½ storeys below ground to accommodate permanent employees involved in emergency planning along with additional officials from different departments in the event of an emergency. Much of the building was to be underground to minimize the effect on neighbouring residents and on the park. However, the city later decided to add additional floors below ground for backup computer servers and as a result the Emergency Operations Centre will have about 4½ storeys below ground. McDermid said he doesn't know what effect that had on the final price tag.

It wasn't raining on Sept 12th

By Sharon Anderson-Marr

Headline material for September 2010! The afternoon of Sunday, September 12th was pleasant as the Garden & Parks team of Wanda Weber, Jennifer Pannett and Sharon Anderson-Marr set up the tables at the community hall for the plant exchange. As often happens for these events, a couple of people were waiting for the event to begin. However total turnout was very low.

2010 was a bit of a discouraging summer, gardening-wise. Sporadic sun and very cool nights slowed growth down considerably. Although perennials generally do just fine when they are planted in the fall, gardeners need to be enthused and we weren't feeling quite so positive this year.

However, the wonderful thing about gardening is that THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR! Now is the time to make your plans for next year's garden, whatever that looks like. It may be large sweeping beds or creative pots on a balcony – the enjoyment is the same. Happy planning and see you next year at the spring plant exchange.

Rosedale Playschool Fall Activities



Rosedale Playschool started in the middle of September! Our classes are full of smiling faces, and we are looking forward to an exciting school year! Our Lead Teacher and Program Director, Mrs. Rachel, has an exciting year planned. A special welcome goes out to our returning teacher Mrs. Els, who has returned to her Assistant Teacher role after a year in Holland.

Mark your calendars for our second annual "TINY TREASURES SALE" on October 16th, located at Wild Rose United Church!

A Fong

It's Time To Renew Your Residential Parking Permits

This is a reminder that Residential Parking Zone M permits expire October 31st, 2010. You may obtain your year 2010/2011 permits beginning September 1st from the Calgary Parking Authority. Your permits may be renewed in one of the following ways:

- 1. The permit may be picked up at our office at the address listed below. The bylaw requires that you present a valid ALBERTA vehicle registration for each vehicle requiring a permit, showing the correct address within the restricted zone as well as a copy of some other proof of address, such as a cable or utility bill. PLEASE DON'T FORGET YOUR VEHICLE REGISTRATION!
- 2. If you wish, you may mail or fax a photocopy of your entire valid vehicle registration(s) along with a copy of some other proof of address, such as a cable or utility bill (Drivers' license does not fax well). We will mail your permit to you. See address and fax number below. Be sure to allow enough time for mailing.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO RENEW YOUR PERMITS IN A TIMELY MANNER IN ORDER TO AVOID RECEIVING A PARKING VIOLATION.

CALGARY PARKING AUTHORITY 620 – 9 Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 1L5

Phone: (403) 537 7000, Fax: (403) 537-7001 Business Hours: 8:00am-4:15pm Monday-Friday





Garden Grace

Crescent Heights Playgroup

BOOOO! In October the playgroup will be giving the kids a chance to dress-up and enjoy some Halloween fun – Wednesday, October 27th. We will be planning some silly scary activities for the kids on that day, so bring your costume! No nuts please in any Halloween snack you may choose to bring.

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 there 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 10 am -11:30 am

Where: At the Crescent Heights Community Center

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 if the weather is nasty, and snacks for your kids.

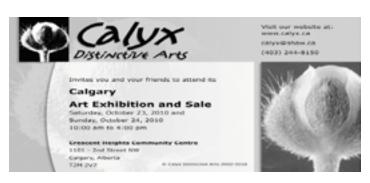
Questions? Contact Stacie Banks at 403-670-6872 or stacie banks@yahoo.ca

Calyx in Full Bloom

Calyx Distinctive Arts, an artists' collective that has made the Crescent Heights Community Centre its home since inception, celebrates its 10th anniversary and 20th art show this October. From its humble beginnings with 16 artists participating in a one day show, Calyx has grown to feature over 50 artists in each two day show every spring and fall.

The name 'Calyx' - ca-lyx (ka'liks) means 'the outer protective covering of a flower' and symbolizes an organization that protects and nurtures budding artists, supporting them to bloom to their full potential.

Calyx directors, graduates from the Alberta College of Art and Design BFA program, developed their unique business model as a hybrid between gallery style and artist run shows, offering both art makers and art buyers the best of both worlds. This is a juried show and the work is of exceptional quality. As a result, customers line up before the doors open to be first to view and purchase artworks from the amazing selection displayed. A unique feature of this show is that it is actually two shows in one - a different show with different artists each day! Local residents have commented, when the Calyx show is set up at the Community Hall, that the hall has never looked better. And the CHCA gets spin off benefits too. Since Calyx shows the Hall to great advantage, several Calyx customers have subsequently booked the Hall for their own weddings or parties. Calyx also provides labour to upgrade the Hall after each rental, leaving the Hall in better shape after the show, than before it.

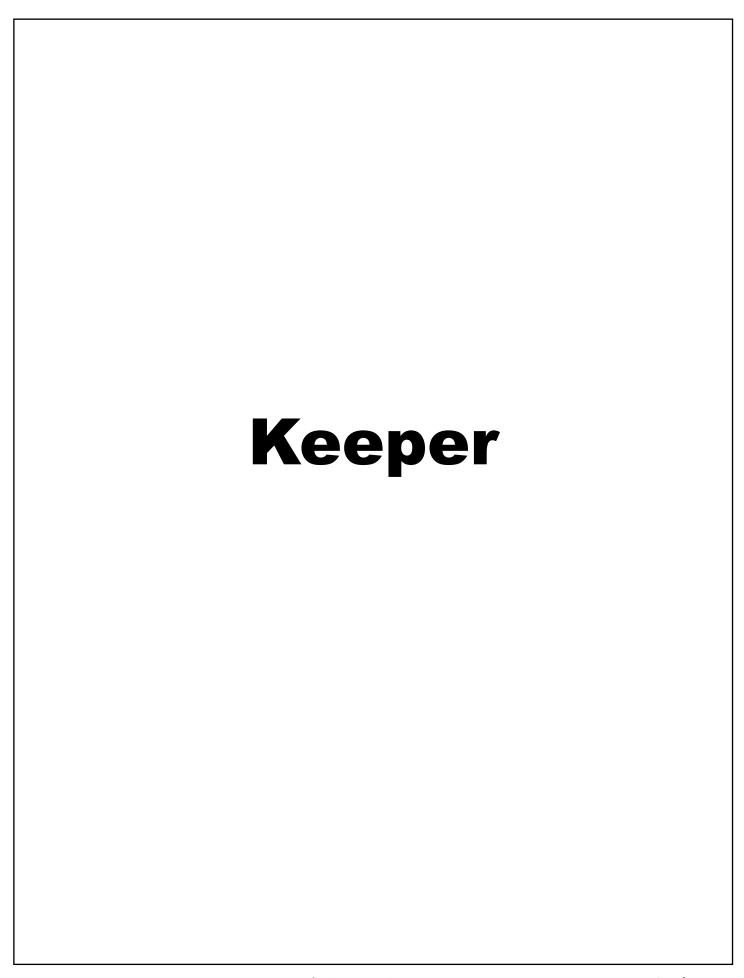


At all Calyx shows, the artists are in attendance so that customers are able to talk to them about their artwork. Prices are reasonable, as is the commission structure, so the result is that everyone gets a good deal - artists and customers alike! The Calyx show has developed quite a following with a growing mailing list comprised of people from all areas of Calgary and surrounding communities.

The Calyx directors would like to thank their customers - many local Crescent Heights residents as well as Calgary city-wide residents for their continued strong support!

Please join us at the Crescent Heights Community Hall on October 23 and October 24 from 10 am until 4 pm to help us celebrate 10 years of bringing great art to the community of Crescent Heights and a wider Calgary audience. Admission is free, there is plenty of free parking, and you can enter to win exciting door prizes. For more information, please visit our website at www.calyx.ca or call 403-244-8150.





Renfrew Auto

Dru Farrell

Massage Heights

Western Nail Spa

310 DUMP

Sunik

Wild Rose United Church

That chill in the air is upon us which means that Wild Rose United Church is in full swing with events and programs, including many interests and options for individuals and families of all ages.

Wild Rose always loves a party and kicked off the fall with a celebration. We began with participation in the Pride Parade in downtown Calgary on September 5th. Despite the rainy weather, many still participated to show their support. We pride ourselves on our role as an affirming church in your community we are committed to welcoming and embracing individuals from all backgrounds.

This fall we continue to offer a variety of programs that center around the three main pillars of our church's plan: We want to be a community that offers a radical welcome to all; progressive Christian theology; and a commitment to social justice.

Feel free to join us for any of our events and programs over these winter months which include:

- A fundraising concert by Michael Hope on Sunday, October 17th at 2pm at the church. Michael is currently in his 29th season with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and is one of Calgary's most respected artists. Further information on Michael can be found at www.michaelhope.net. Tickets are just \$20 per person (children free) and can be obtained by calling the church office at 403-277-5576.
- Our Fall Supper, featuring a wonderful turkey dinner and great company, will be held the evening of November 6th. Tickets will be available from the church office two weeks before the event by calling the church office. Be sure to get yours before they sell out!
- Rainbows is back at Wild Rose! Sunday afternoons, Rainbows will once again be offering courses consisting of 7-week sessions. Rainbows offers education and skills to help children. The sessions foster emotional healing for those grieving the loss from a life-altering crisis such as separation, divorce, death, incarceration and foster care. If your children may be interested in the program please contact the church office.
- Do you eat adequate vegetables and fruit to maintain good health? The Good Food Box is a program to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables

Gutter Doctor

for a very low cost! A single box of 20-25 lbs of produce is \$15; a medium box of 25-30 lbs of produce is \$20.00; a large box of 30 -35 lbs is \$25. If interested please contact the church office for deadline dates or to place your order.

The church also offers a wide range of ongoing spiritual development courses for children, youth, and adults. Feel free to come by the church to find out programming that may meet your needs or visit our new website at www. wildroseunited.ca and click on our calendar of events for further details.

Langevin School Playground

The Langevin Parent Society is fundraising for a new playground structure to be opened Summer 2012. The current playground is approximately 19 years old and in needed replacement. As a committee we want to provide a more up-to-date place for our children to play thus encouraging a more active lifestyle in the children at Langevin. Since Langevin is a K to 9 School, we also want to provide a play area that will promote an active lifestyle for all ages of students.

Playhouse Raffle: Handcrafted 8' X 8' X 6' tall Child's Luxurious Playhouse will be raffled off. Prize includes a \$250 Gift Card for Toys R Us and a \$250 Gift Card for RONA so that you can customize your child's dreamhome. Total prize valued at over \$5000.

Draw Date: November 16, 2010 Location of Draw: Langevin Parent Society Meeting held at Langevin School Library. Tickets are \$3 each or 4 for \$10

Prize includes delivery of the Playhouse or should we say Dream house by Chariot Express to your home within Calgary limits. If you are interested in purchasing tickets please contact the langevinplayground@gmail.com. All proceeds will be used to build the new Langevin School Playground.

We would like to thank Chariot Express for their backing of our project. *Prize may not look exactly like shown.

Animal & Bylaw Services

No Cost Spay/Neuter Program: Benefitting Calgarians and their pets

As responsible pet owners already know, spaying or neutering your pets increases the likelihood that they will enjoy good health and a long life. It also helps to reduce pet overpopulation and the thousands of homeless and unwanted animals that end up in shelters every year. The City of Calgary Animal & Bylaw Services is proud to fulfill phase three of a commitment made to Calgarians to assist in controlling the cat overpopulation problem in our city. Phase three is the start up of our no-cost spay/neuter program for low income Calgarians.

This program follows the first two phases which were the implementation of the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw in 2007, making cat licensing mandatory, and the grand opening of the new Animal Services Centre Clinic in 2009. Since the opening of the clinic, spay and neuter surgeries have been performed by our in-house veterinarians for our own adoptable animals. This soon expanded to include cats through the Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP). All operational costs for the clinic are completely funded through cat licensing.

Starting this fall, Calgarians will be able to submit an application to qualify for free spaying or neutering of their cats or dogs. Application forms and eligibility requirements will be available on-line at calgary.ca/

animalservices or by calling 3-1-1 and having applications mailed out. Pet owners can also come in person to the Animal Services Centre at 2201 Portland Street SE. to obtain their application form.

To request the assistance of an interpreter or to be connected to the No Cost Spay/Neuter Program Administrator, citizens can call 3-1-1.

Animal & Bylaw Services believes this important step will help Calgary continue to be known as a city of best practices. Working together with our Responsible Pet Ownership Group partners, we continue towards the vision of a city where all animals are wanted and humanely treated.

Help for Seniors

The City Links Employment Preparation Program, of The City of Calgary, Seniors Services Division, is currently accepting new clients for Light Housekeeping, Yard Maintenance and Snow Removal services.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Be 65+ years of age
- Have household income below current Low Income Cut-Off rate (LICO) e.g. one person (\$22,229), two persons (\$27,674), three persons (\$34,022), four persons (\$41,307)
- Own, co-own or rent property at or above the lowest subsidized housing rate
- · Own no other property
- · Live in the residence
- Have no other able bodied person living in the home who could provide services
- Have no other community support available to help, and not reside in a community where a Family & Community Support Services home maintenance program is available
- Current waiting period is 1 to 3 months depending upon service(s) needed
- Clients are requested to provide cleaning products for housekeeping and garbage bags for yard work services

For more information, call the City Links main switchboard at (403) 974-3112

Addressing the Problem...

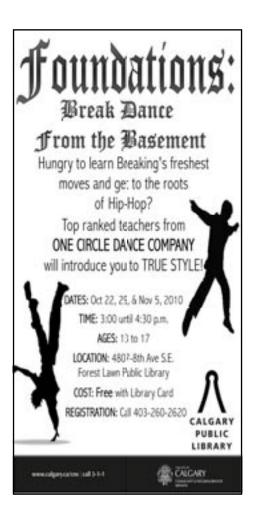
Often times, when members of Community Services & Protective Services or Alberta Health Services/Emergency Medical Services respond to a call, time is of the essence. When accessing a property from an alley, the difficulty comes when addresses are not clearly displayed at the back of the home. It is even more difficult in areas where houses are built in close proximity to one another.

For your safety, please be aware that under the Community Standards Bylaw, your address must be clearly displayed at the back of your property, if adjacent to an alley or public walkway. Calgary Fire, CPS and Animal & Bylaw Services appreciate your support and assistance.



Connections

BRIDGELAND DENTAL



Kevin Taylor

Doggy Wood

A Fine Balance



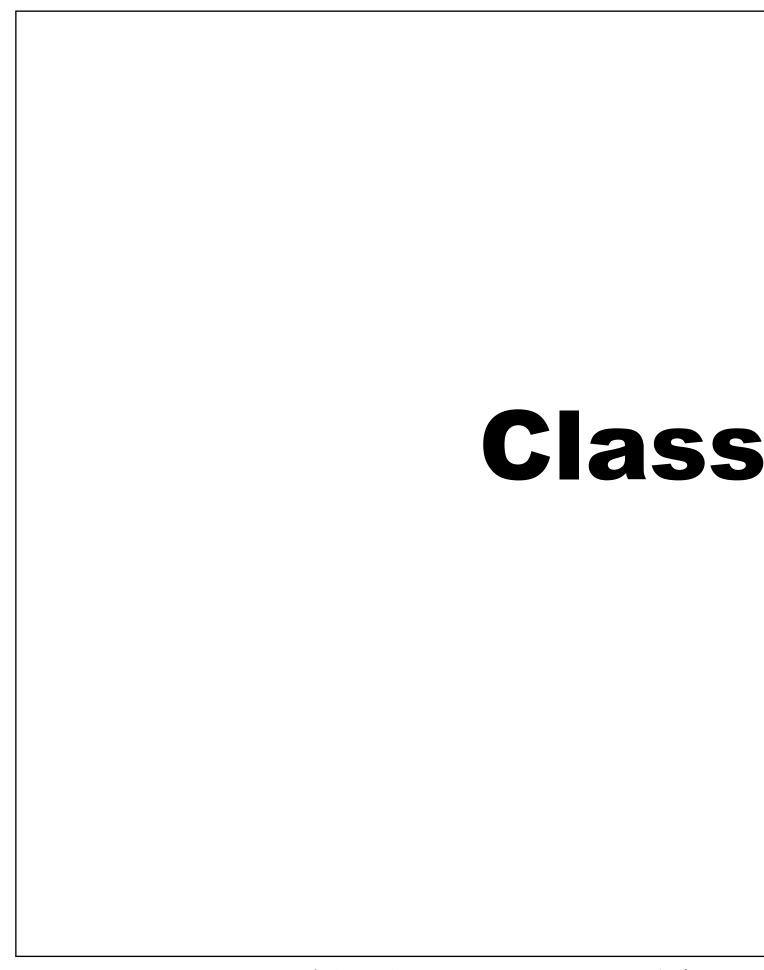
Join our *Crescent View* enRoute Challenge!

Take a pic at school, at work, around town, with family, with friends, with a celebrity... just about anywhere!

Send your pic to: ellisevansdesign@shaw.ca

Rory L. with the BIG mudcat in Dunnville Ontartio. Watch out Rory!

Dawe Cafe



ifieds

GREENING UP!

The Green Economy - Are You Getting "Stuffocated"?

by L. Burton-Scheer

When someone asks you, "What would you like for your birthday?" do you ever cast a baleful eye around your little world and secretly think, "It would actually be nice to be RID of some of this dang 'stuff' I have accumulated over the years!"

Enter – The Green Economy! Thinking of a 'Green Economy', it's easy to jump immediately to the environment. While safeguarding the environment is important, a green economy is really about much more. A green economy is a relationship-driven economy. It is largely about meeting our needs in a regenerative way, where money and matter function as a means to an end, and where resources remain within the community. A green economy is a value-based service economy, driven by the end-use of its participants. It meets individual and societal needs while remaining stable and localized, strengthening the community both financially and socially.

Rather than the continuous accumulation of dollars and cheap 'stuff', the focus of a green economy is on supplying quality goods and increasing end-use value. We see industrialization and globalization returning increasingly unsatisfactory, destructive and wasteful results - both to human communities and ecosystems, (think oil spills, cattle genocide, egg recalls, substandard products and work standards, etc.) Wise communities are beginning to take a more serious look at the benefits of finding creative alternatives and developing a localized, green economy. The post-industrial age is one in which we can begin to embrace sustainability and human happiness over 'stuffocating' accumulation.

Health trumps wealth. Think about this: Local businesses contribute much more to the economic health of a community. In addition to spending more money at home, community controlled-companies are far more committed to maintaining a healthy local environment and a happy client base. Distribution of goods and services is more efficient and energy costs are kept local. This localization makes a lot of sense.

How can a green economy work in Calgary? Here are some ways we can begin to green-up our city's economy:

- 1. Ensure that your largest expenditures, such as home purchases keep money in the community. Rent from local landlords or finance your purchases through local financial institutions.
- 2. Trade in kind many resources for buy, sell and trade are easily accessible through the internet. Complementary currencies abound in many parts of the world, and Calgary is no exception. By utilizing 'Calgary' dollars, you can keep local services and businesses thriving, while saving money.
- 3. Sharing is one of the very first skills we learn, and for many, it brings real joy. Begin to think of borrowing as the 'new' buying. For large ticket items such as cars, or rarely used items, sharing is a terrific cost-saving alternative.
- 4. Buy local! Wherever possible, make a deliberate effort to support local businesses. Sometimes, we'll use \$5 worth of fuel just to save \$.50. Be aware when hunting bargains how much you are forfeiting in terms of time, distance, and supporting the people in your own community.

If you are interested in investigating green economy further, here are some websites to get you started:

http://www.livingeconomies.org

http://urbanhabitat.org/node/507

http://www.greeneconomynet.ca

http://calgarydollars.ca

Mount Pleasant Playgroup Invites You to Join Us!

Mount Pleasant Playgroup still has openings in our playgroup on Monday morning (9:30 am – 11:30 am), as well as Tuesday and Thursday afternoon playgroup (12pm-2pm).

Why join our playgroup?

- We have a spacious, permanent facility with a great selection of toys and tables for crafts and snacks;
- · We are nut free:
- · We have organized snacks and crafts;
- It's an opportunity for you to meet other parents and have your kids play with other kids between the ages of 0 and 5ish;
- There is a babies-only area where the babies can crawl and explore;
- We are close located in the lower hall of the Mount Pleasant Community Hall, 602 22 Ave NW Calgary, AB;
- We are low cost \$37.50 per family per session (there are two sessions: Fall and Winter). To join the playgroup, you must also be a member of the Mt Pleasant Community Association (\$15 per family living in Mt Pleasant;

\$25 per family living outside Mt Pleasant);

 We have great parties! Halloween, Christmas and Year End – all free to members.

Upcoming Events:

In October the playgroup will be having its annual Halloween Party for the kids, with dress-up, games, craft and lots of fun!

Our Mission:

Playgroup's mission is to provide a pleasant, supportive environment in which parents, caregivers and children can gather socially in an informal setting.

This parent run co-operative thrives entirely due to the voluntary participation of our member families, based upon their individual needs, talent and time.

Find out more:

- Visit our website at www.mpca.ca go to the activities tab and then to Play Group
- Drop in any day of the week from 9:30 am to 11:30 am to see what it's like. Ask for the keyholder or a board member or contact: playgroupregistrar@mpca.ca.

Off the Shelf

Book Review by Judith Umbach

Lightning
By Fred Stenson

The junction of the north-south trade corridor and the east-west Canadian railway was Fort Calgary – and still is.

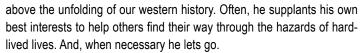
In *Lightning* Fred Stenson has interpreted our local history by using the wider context of the American and Canadian west - a story that is one history separated by a border and contrary views of how the west should be settled. Calgary is not the centre of *Lightning*; it is the future we are living. To the characters in *Lightning* the common names are ones that have now faded: Virginia City, Fort Benton, Fort Macleod.

We are introduced to Doc Windham, an experienced, savvy cowboy who moves from job to job - well-respected by cowboys and ranchers. His earlier, wilder days unroll in his memory as he ponders his present circumstances. He loved a girl, drank his share and gambled. Strangely, most of his gambling was in bowling alleys, an unexpected feature of frontier towns, and he was the sharpie.

A natural leader of his friends (some think he is too full of advice), Doc signs up for a long cattle drive into the new Cochrane Ranch in Canada. The road is the sequence of rivers and valleys that leads to Fort Benton,

then to Fort Macleod and finally to the Cochrane Lakes. As we join in the careful herding and leading of the cattle to the new enterprise, the smell of brush and sounds of cowboy life envelope us.

Doc cares for his friends, a theme that resonates even



Frontier ethics truncate his work on the Cochrane ranch, and a new love entices him to work for a bad rancher who embodies every half-baked British romantic notion of frontier life. The juxtaposition of an ethical life lived in a raw, hard world and a privileged life of false values is the setpiece for our empathy for Doc Windham and the foundation for the best in our Western spirit.



Support your Community!

Buy Your Membership Today

Crescent Heights Community Association Membership Application Form

Please mail this form with your cheque to:

membersinp Applicat	C.II.C.A.	
Voting (Residents)	L 11/490)	1101 - 2nd Street NW Calgary, Alberta T2M 2V7
☐ Single (\$10) ☐ House	hold (\$20)	☐ Senior (\$5/per person)
Non-Voting (Business and Non-Res	idents	
☐ Associate (\$20) ☐ Busine	ess (\$50)	
Names :		
Address:		Postal Code:
Phone:	En	nail:
☐ Yes, Send Me Community Emails	☐ Yes, Send Me Block Watch Emails	
☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal	Date	Amount Enclosed \$

