

The Crescent
View

March 2012



NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESCENT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

***Join the House Party
of the Century!
See inside for details.***

Photo: Deb Burton



Palibroda

Crescent Heights Community Association

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

Member of the Federation of Calgary Communities (FCC)

Volunteer Board of Directors

President	John McDermid	277-8653
Treasurer	Daniel Dang	355-0058
Secretary	Anne Underwood	277-0249
Planning	Darlene Jones	
Traffic	George Wowk crescentheightstraff@gmail.com	
Parks	Dave Dearborn	
Business Liaison	Daniel Dang	355-0058
Hall Operations	Dan Shield	
Block Watch	John McDermid	277-8653
Environment	Vacant	

Volunteer Managers and Police

Hall Rentals	Marlene Zaharichuk	804-5600
Hall rental inquiries will be answered in two to three days		
Communications	Penny Smith smithpenny@shaw.ca	
Playgroup	Stacie Banks stacie_banks@yahoo.ca	670-6872
Memberships	Jonathan and Alison Martin curmudgeon9@shaw.ca	
Rink Manager	Tim Edwards	606-9303
Block Watch	John McDermid	277-8653
Comm. Liaison Officer:	Dominique Laporte District 3, #3241	567-6300

**To join 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

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

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Visit us online!

For community
and hall information
please visit:

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

President's Notebook

by John McDermid

March is Membership Month

March 20 is the first day of Spring. The City of Calgary and the Federation of Calgary Communities also declare March to be Community Association Membership Awareness month. A very warm thanks to all of our members who renew their memberships on an annual basis. It is important to our community association for a number of reasons, but perhaps especially this year, as we anticipate a renewal of our lease with the city, our current one having expired at the end of 2011. We are currently operating under the extension of the terms of that lease and look forward to working out a new arrangement with the city in the coming months. Our great good friends in Rotary Park, the Rotary Park Lawn Bowls Club, will very likely enter into their own arrangement with the municipality, which was not an option a number of years ago when we struck a sub-lease agreement with them due to lower membership numbers for RPLBC than the city required at that time.

A solid community membership base is always a good position to be operating from when negotiating with the city, so if you'd like to renew early or aren't a member but think you might like to be, fill out the form found elsewhere in this issue of the View and send it along to the hall. Your membership will be mailed or hand-delivered to your door.

Back in the 1980s and 1990s, my wife and I would always renew our membership when reminded to do so, but we were frequently lapsed CHCA members as well. It was just about ten years ago that CHCA developed a more active membership renewal strategy. As I remember it, Dawn Loucks and Carol Voyt developed a recall routine by which expiring memberships were reminded of the upcoming renewal, and the program has worked very well for CHCA as membership responsibility passed from volunteer to volunteer, from Carol to Anne Underwood, from Anne to Wendy Hopkins and Bobby Baum, and most recently to Jonathan and Alison Martin. Jonathan and I go back a number of years to when we were colleagues in our workplace, and renewals are very slickly processed these days by my collecting them at the hall and delivering them just down the block to the Martins. An occasional lunch at Fiddler's Courtyard helps us sort out operational details of our membership recall and renewal system, and a steady flow of renewals primes the pump. So for March Membership Month, please consider signing up and signing on if you are not already a member of our community association. Also a special thank to those residents who occasionally make a donation to CHCA in conjunction with their renewals. These cash infusions are always welcome and remind us of the special relationship of trust we enjoy with our members.

Building Safe Communities

As one of three communities selected city-wide to participate in the pilot program Building Safe Communities, CHCA had a very successful organizational meeting at the hall on the afternoon of Sunday, February 5. About 18 residents turned out to identify some key issues and irritants that affect our sense of safety and personal comfort in our home community. Community Liaison Officer Dom Laporte was a valued participant, making many key points about the current state of affairs in Crescent Heights from a CPS perspective. As a once proud Block Watch community, I felt compelled to identify myself as the person who ran our Block Watch Program into the ground.

- Continued on page 5

PECEK

**stella
dot**

**Need
help?**

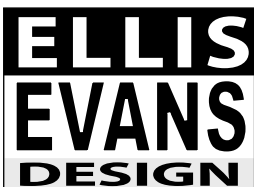
**Check
the
Classified
Ads**

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THE CRESCENT VIEW

is the official newsletter of the
**Crescent Heights
Community Association**

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We publish ten issues per year in each
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**CASH
CHEQUE**

President's Notebook cont. from page 3

Barb Payette of the Federation of Calgary Communities facilitated the meeting and marshaled our long list of live issues that affect a sense of community safety. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey at the Federation's website: if you Google calgaryarea.com with Crescent Heights Survey, you're right there and it only takes a few minutes to complete. If you weren't able to join us on the 5th (and we did hear from a number of people who were interested but away when the kick-off meeting went ahead), there will be ample opportunity to become involved in the coming months. Among the most encouraging threads of discussion at the meeting was a desire for a more pro-active stance toward social disorder of many kinds. Where the old Block Watch and Block Parent programs (now both retired) were more reactive, the buzz on February 5th tended toward a much more "out-there" and edgy approach: participants actually moving out into the community, watching for problems, acting as resources for fellow residents, building community resilience rather than just waiting for bad things to happen. It is impossible to say what shape our Building Safe Communities will ultimately take, but with even a few dedicated volunteers armed only with cell phones and flame throwers, who know what safety we might wreak? Onward! Onward crime busters!

Winter Den for Betsy

On advice of counsel and in an effort to further avoid a course of conduct that would lead to certain incarceration, volunteers involved in attempting to secure cold weather storage for our Bobcat skid-steer loader have nothing to report this month. The City of Calgary has been enormously unhelpful to us in our efforts thus far in our attempts to provide but a little shelter from the storm.

Rotary Park Update

In late January, David Finch and a few motivated residents met with Greg Stewart, the individual chosen by the city to facilitate the Master Planning process for Rotary Park. In light of recent upsetting developments in the park, many residents continue to be concerned about Rotary's current and future state. While we await the meeting notes from that session and our next steps, David kindly provided the following encouraging update:

"Our meeting was very constructive. Greg knows the internal system of the City and as a community member also is fully aligned with the community feedback from the December meeting. As a designer, Greg is preparing conceptual drawings for March, based on the output of the December meeting. The next step will be to have a first round review with the broader committee and then open it for full community consultation. Our shared goal was to have some of the major issues dealt with this spring and summer."

Also in respect of Rotary Park is a planned update and information session about the Emergency Operations Centre. The dates under consideration are March 6th and 8th, the venue is to be determined, but possibly the event could take place in the lovely new Rotary Park Lawn Bowls Clubhouse (wouldn't that be nice?). The session is intended to update progress of the EOC almost on the very eve of its commissioning, as to dispel some

misunderstandings in the community arising from a Concept Drawing in circulation, which does not illustrate the essential secure perimeter of the facility that is now taking shape in the park. With any luck, we may even get an advance peek or an update on the public art component that will be a striking addition to the EOC itself. Watch our CHCA e-mail list for updates as to date, time and place as these particulars firm up.

April is AGM Month

It is almost upon us again: we are eyeballing Thursday, April 26, as a possible date for this year's Annual General Meeting: pencil it in if you would and plan to join us for a review of a very active 2011, the presentation of our audited financial statements and a look forward at our plans for the coming year. There will be fine wine and exquisite fromage, laughter and mirth, hard questions and steely glares. And don't forget to join or renew before the 26th because you can't do so on the day of the AGM. We may have a board vacancy or two as we go into this year's AGM (that lemon on my left, for example), so if you think you might want to be a part of an unfacilitated yet very productive CHCA board, drop us a note and we can welcome you to a board meeting before April to have a look-see at how we roll. Until next time . . .

Newsletter Editorial Deadlines

The Crescent View is published ten times per year.

Deadline: The 10th of each month for the following month. For example: To be published in the June issue, the deadline is May 10. Special September issue deadline: August 5 (to accommodate all the 'back-to-school' material).

The July/August issue is combined into one publication and so is the December/January issue. The deadlines for these two issues are June 10 and November 10 respectively.

Please email your articles or event listings, as an attachment in MS Word form, to Elizabeth Hancock at elizhancock@shaw.ca.

Thank You

A special "thank you" to Ms. Karine Rietjens for her recent contributions to the CHCA. Your support is very much appreciated!

A special "thank you" to
Susan Cullen and Andrew Hawkes
for helping to deliver *The Crescent View*.

Your volunteer efforts are
very much appreciated!

Avalon

**Renfrew
Auto**

Centex

Good Food Box Program



Wild Rose United Church is proud to be a depot for the Good Food Box program. The schedule has recently changed for 2012 please see below;

2012 Good Food Box Order and Delivery Schedule South of 16 Ave/ West of Centre Street

Order Deadline

March 13th before 10:00am
April 24th before 10:00am
May 29th before 10:00am
June 26th before 10:00am
September 11th before 10:00am
October 16th before 10:00am
November 20th before 10:00am

Delivery Date (Wednesday's)

March 21st
May 2nd
June 6th
July 4th
September 11th
October 16th
November 28th

UTB



Three sizes of boxes are available: Small \$20.00, Medium \$25.00 and Large \$30.00

Please phone: 403-277-5576 to order your box.

Please note that cash and order must be received prior to the order deadline and if mailing please submit order 4 days prior to deadline. Thank you!

CHILDS HAVEN

**Garden
Grace**

**Cal
Seedy**

WCM

**AM
Prop**

Alderman's Message

Calgary's balmy winter weather has many of us dreaming about spring, sipping a drink on a patio or turning the soil in the local community garden.

Pop-up Patios

Cities across North America are transforming some of their on-street parking spaces into restaurant patios and tiny parks. I first discovered these types of pop-up cafes and parklets while visiting Halifax for a conference, but soon learned that they are becoming commonplace in cities across Canada. Depending on the location, the low-cost seating areas can be movable, to be used during slow traffic times of the year or removed to allow for snow clearing, or more permanent, incorporating gardens and other landscaping. Built to add public space and increase street safety, Calgary will be piloting the first pop-up cafe this summer on the West side of Vendome Cafe in Sunnyside. The pilot project has garnered a lot of interest from commercial districts around the city, and we are now entertaining a list of interested businesses.

Community Gardens

Community gardens and orchards are cropping up in neighbourhoods across Calgary. Proven to be great ways to bring neighbours together and contribute to local food production, gardens and orchards are an easy way to make a healthy difference. If you are interested in starting a community garden or orchard please contact my office, at 403-268-2430 or ward07@calgary.ca, and we will point you in the right direction.

Alderman Druh Farrell

7th Street Update

The City has reviewed the specifications of the stairway project and the ongoing construction by the Parks Department at the McHugh Bluff area and more specifically, the options for pedestrian/cyclist connectivity improvements at 7 Street and 9A Street N.W. At this time, Parks has constructed a granular trail at 9A Street that reaches the bluff. By spring 2012, a new wood staircase will be constructed at 9A Street, but the alignment or final location has not been selected. When evaluating these projects, the geotechnical surveys must be taken into account because it provides an assessment of slope stability and safety limitations within the area of work.

While an alignment for a wood staircase at 7 Street NW was proposed for construction in spring 2012, the project has now been postponed until updated pedestrian and cyclist traffic counts can be completed. In order to ensure the accuracy of these counts, certain variables have to be in place, including the completion and alignment of the 9A Street NW staircase and the opening of the Peace Bridge. Once the data has been collected, we will proceed with engaging the surrounding communities regarding pedestrian and cyclist options for 7th Street NW, likely in the spring of 2013. For now, the pathway will remain open and unmaintained.

Area residents have asked many questions regarding maintaining and upgrading the existing 7th Street pathway, please review the FAQ sheet below for more information.

FAQ

What is the difference between a 'pathway' and a 'trail'?

"Pathway" Pathways make up a system of city-wide linear networks that are open for recreation and transportation purposes (no cars). Pathways are classified as either Regional or Local and are typically hard-surfaced (asphalt, concrete, brick, etc). Local pathways are a minimum 2.0m wide, and Regional pathways are a minimum 2.5m wide. Paved pathways should not exceed a maximum incline of 8%.

"Trail" Trails are constructed linear paths with a granular surface (gravel, dirt, woods chips, red shale, etc.) generally located in natural areas. Trails are often formed to minimize impact on the natural environment. Trails are a secondary system to pathways and are typically under 1.5m in width and with an incline of 5-10% (If greater than 10% switchbacks or stairs are often used in combination).

Why can't the pathway be upgraded to a proper 'pathway' or 'trail'?

The 7 Street "pathway" does not actively fall under either definition because the incline or grade at several points is too steep and the width too narrow to safely meet City of Calgary Parks specifications. Over the years it has been degraded to a point that makes it difficult to maintain a safe standard of usage.

Why can't asphalt or gravel be poured on the pathway to improve the conditions?

With the slope conditions at this location and the standards for pathway design and construction the existing slope would need to be significantly altered in order to accommodate a pathway built to current standards. The construction would require the clearing of all the existing vegetation, major re-grading of the slope and construction of structures such as retaining walls in order to create a safe alignment for the pathway. The cost of this work would be prohibitive and the impact on the existing environment would be significant.

Why can't the existing pathway be snow cleared in the winter?

The existing pathway is too steep, narrow and uneven to allow for snow clearing equipment.

From the office of Druh Farrell

Community Liaison Officer Monthly Report

Crime Statistics for the Community of:
CRESCENT HEIGHTS



Offence	JANUARY 2012	Year to End of Selected Month
Break and Enter - House	1	1
Break and Enter - Shop	0	0
Break and Enter - Other	0	0
Theft of Vehicle	1	1
Theft from Vehicle	2	2
Vandalism	3	3

Holy Smoke

Centennial celebrations announced for Crescent Heights High School

The Crescent Heights Alumni Group has announced the dates for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Crescent Heights High School. The events will start with registration on Friday, May 15, 2015 and continue all weekend. Visiting, food, photos and musical presentations by past and current students will be featured. Registration will be available in the near future.

Volunteers required for the Centennial event

The organizing committee for the celebration will be holding an information event for prospective volunteers April 25, 2012 at 7:00pm in the teachers lounge at Crescent Heights. There are numerous positions that need to be filled in order to have a successful reunion. At the present time the committee is in need of a Public Relations Specialist that could lead a group in making contact with various media in Calgary. Another important position that needs to be filled is for an Information Technology person who can create a website and who can use social net working to make contact with former CHHS students.

Contacting Crescent Heights High School Alumni Association

The alumni website is www.chhsfriends.com. It has information regarding ongoing activities as well as a registration form that can be filled in. With this information an individual can be contacted via e-mail regarding events. E-mail can be sent to chhsalumngolf@shaw.ca to volunteer for the anniversary committee or to receive answers to any questions.



About U

Fostering safe communities...

Property Addressing

- All property addresses must be clearly visible from the street.
- Property owners must ensure that addresses are clearly displayed at the back of the property if that property is adjacent to an alley or public walkway.
- A well-displayed address greatly assists emergency services such as Calgary Fire and Alberta Health Services – EMS.
- It also helps city operations such as Waste & Recycling and Animal & Bylaw Services to provide services more efficiently.

310 DUMP

Calgarians to Celebrate their Historic homes this Year

Join the house party of the Century!

Is your house 100 years old (or thereabouts) - built in 1914 or earlier? If so, it's time to celebrate your home's place in Calgary's history - and your role looking after it.

Calgary Century Homes is a citywide celebration commemorating homes constructed during Calgary's first building boom. Owners and residents are invited to share details and stories about their house, particularly during Historic Calgary Week 2012, Friday, July 27, through Monday, August 6th.

For that week, participants will receive a free kit to help them create a Century Homes yard sign with historic photos and information such as stories of former residents, special events that happened there, a description of the home's style and original features. During the celebration they will hang a banner to identify their home as a Century Home and display their yard sign to the public.

Throughout the year participants will receive information on how to research their home's history, including workshops. There will be opportunities to share stories on a website and to network with other residents and admirers of Century Homes.

Want to sign up as a participating house? Please contact Crescent Heights Community Coordinator: Jacelyn Benner at jacelynbenner@shaw.ca or 403-466-7906.

**Not sure if you live in a "Century Home"?
Want to learn more about your home?**

Find out how to determine your house's age and explore its past at a free workshop:

"Research the History of Your House"

Saturday, May 12, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Local History Room of the Calgary Public Library (Central).

Register online at calgarypubliclibrary.com or by calling 403-260-2620

Visit the following websites to download brochures and get information on do-it-yourself research:

http://www.calgary.ca/_layouts/CoCIS/GSASearchresults.aspx?k=guide%20to%20researching%20building%20history

<http://calgarypubliclibrary.com/Media/CHF/2011-1933-Heritage-Triangle-Online.pdf>

The Calgary Century Homes project is headed by volunteers from a variety of partner organizations, including the Calgary Heritage Initiative Society (CHI), Calgary Heritage Authority, City of Calgary Heritage Planning, The Federation of Calgary Communities, Calgary Public Library Community Heritage & Family History, and Hillhurst-Sunnyside and Cliff Bungalow-Mission Heritage Committees.

CHCA Community Hall Activities and Events

March Community Calendar

06.....CHCA Traffic & Planning Meeting 7 – 10pm
13.....CHCA Board Meeting 7pm
20.....CHCA Traffic & Planning Meeting 7 – 10pm
27.....CHCA Traffic & Planning Meeting 7 – 10pm

March at the Hall

SUNDAYS: Pentecostal Church Public Service 10am – 12pm,
Yoga 4 – 5pm for info call Angela 403-276-1720

MONDAYS: Fitness Class 5-7pm, Info? Call Lana 403-999-5373
Dance and Fitness 7:30 - 9:30pm

TUESDAYS: Open Dance Class with Ms. Emily 4 - 7pm,
for info call 403-875-7465

WEDNESDAYS: Fitness Class 6:30-7:15am, Call Lana 403-999-5373
CHCA Playgroup 10 – 11:30am,
Bible Study 5 – 7:30pm,
Tai Chi 7:30 – 9:30pm

THURSDAYS: Fitness Class 5:30-8pm, Info? Call Lana 403-999-5373

For more a more detailed Hall Calendar and for event and activities contact information please visit:

<http://www.calgaryarea.com/nw/crescenthts/calendar/diary.asp>

Take the Mayor's Challenge ...

3 Things for Calgary asks all Calgarians to:

1. Think about 3 Things you can do to make Calgary better. These things could be for your street, your neighbourhood or for the entire city. The 3 Things you do are up to you. What are your skills and passions? What issues are important to you and what can you do about those issues to make Calgary better?

2. Do those 3 Things.

Whether your 3 Things are large or small, every action you take to make Calgary better makes a difference. And if you have more than 3 Things you want to dive into, then do them!

3. Encourage 3 more people to do the same.

This part is so important. You might already do so much for your community, but others might not yet be living up to their potential.

Find out more at www.3thingsforcalgary.ca



Pinnacle

Sunik

Joy of Life

The Best Pet Ever!

Immortalize your pet in print! It's FREE!

E-mail a pic to ellisevansdesign@shaw.ca and include a short message (50-75 words) explaining just why your pet is the best ever.

We'll place your nomination in the newsletter and your pet will be famous!

Also, if your pet is nominated you could win a **FREE PRIZE PACKAGE** courtesy of **DOGGYWOOD!** Please include a phone number or email address to receive your prize package.



Introducing Luna (lunaroo). She is a little ray of sunshine that brightens each and every day. Her eyes alone will melt anyone's heart. She is the perfect partner no matter the situation and will take on any challenge put in front of her. She loves hiking in the mountains or scrambling a summit. Her favourite games are hide and seek or tag. *Reagan*



Join our **Crescent View enRoute Challenge!**

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

Send your pic to: ellisevansdesign@shaw.ca

The Crescent View in Ocho Rios, Jamaica - Darryl G.



Opti- mum

No Limit Yoga

Hughes

March is Community Association Membership Awareness Month!

Did you know there are more than 20,000 volunteers in the community association movement in Calgary? It's the LARGEST collective volunteer movement in the city! There are also more than 156,000 Calgarians who are members of their community association. Be part of it!

The Federation of Calgary Communities is proud to once again promote March Community Association Membership Awareness Month. We encourage you to take a few minutes this month to find out what your community association can do for you! It's easy and you'd be surprised at the many benefits and options available to you as a neighbour.

Community associations are so much more than organizations offering programs and services such as youth soccer or evening yoga to residents. For example, this newsletter was created and produced by hard-working volunteers from your community association! Each month they put this together to let you know what great things your community has to offer. Community associations are the voice for community life; working with City Council on planning and development issues in Calgary. Do you want to take part in what goes on in your neighbourhood? Have a say and get involved! Many community associations also work closely with many local businesses to offer discounts and benefits to their members.

Throughout this month-long event The Federation of Calgary Communities will be working closely with the 149 community associations in the city to promote the many benefits of belonging. Each community association is different so find out what yours can do for you today!

Engage. Belong. Inspire. Be part of it!

For questions or more information on March Community Association Membership Awareness Month please contact Rebecca Dakin with The Federation of Calgary Communities at (403) 244-4111 ext. 204 or communityrelations@calgarycommunities.com

Doggy Wood



Louise Riley Library

1904 14 Ave NW

Monday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sundays 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
www.calgarypubliclibrary.com

Programs are **FREE** with your library card.

Register in person, by calling 260-2620 or online at www.calgarypubliclibrary.com

March 2012

Curious? Come to the Library to find out!

Live to be 100! In 2012 the Calgary Public Library celebrates its 100th birthday! We want to build a healthy vibrant future together so throughout 2012 watch for special adult programs that are offered at all library locations on the theme of "Our Healthy Future."



Your Future in Your Genes: Learn how science is increasingly able to forecast your health with your own genetic information. Presented by Dr. Wei Wu from the University of Calgary. *Monday, Mar 19th 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.*

Almost that time again...

Tax Clinic At Your Library: Drop-in for free, one-on-one help with your tax return. First-come, first-serve. In partnership with the United Way of Calgary and Area. Please note that there is an eligibility requirement based on income. *Saturday, Apr 07th 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

MONDAYS at your library...

Come every Monday at 2:00p.m. for 50+ Coffee and Conversation, meet new people, participate in engaging conversations, attend presentations on topics of interest and hang out with our all-around nice guy Tyler! Tyler is great at recommending fantastic books for your next good read – so come put him to the test!

50+ Coffee & Conversation: Join us *Every Monday* for coffee, conversation and presentations of interest. Ages 50 and up. *Mondays, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.*

Your Future in Your Genes: Learn how science is increasingly able to forecast your health with your own genetic information. Presented by Dr. Wei Wu from the University of Calgary. *Monday, Mar 19th 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.*

Protect Your Health: The Facts About Heart Disease and Stroke: Understand the risk factors for, and warning signs of heart disease and stroke. Presented by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta. *Monday, Apr. 16th 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.*

FRIDAYS at your library...

Drop-in Family Storytimes Every Friday! Come join the fun – learn a new song or finger play, experience a flannel story, cuddle up for a sweet story & check out some other great books to share at home!

FAMILY FUN at your library...

Family Games Day: Race your mom on Mariokart, and then challenge Grandpa to a game of chess with our huge chess set! Ages 7 and up with a parent/caregiver. *Wednesday, Mar 28th 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.*

Fancy Storytime: Come dressed-up, and listen to stories all about Fancy Girls. Ages 3 to 5 independent of a parent/caregiver. *Thursday, Apr 19th 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.*

See you soon at the Louise Riley Library!

**Area Event and
Resource Guide**

Community

Connections

**Area Event and
Resource Guide**

Sunridge Mall

Bridge Dental

Pan for Gold

The Earth Science for Society Exhibition (ESfS) will be held from May 13-15, 2012, at the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre, located in the heart of Downtown. ESfS is a public outreach program of GeoConvention 2012:Vision, Canada's largest gathering of Earth Science professionals.

Last year's event was a great hit! Over 900 people attended ESfS on Mother's Day and 2,000 enthusiastic students from local schools participated on Monday and Tuesday. Ten schools have already signed up to attend this year. "Extremely well done - amazing activities and organization. Thank you so much for a great time!" - Visitor



At this year's exhibition, participants will have the opportunity to pan for gold with Yukon Dan, find hidden treasures and take part in many other exciting hands-on activities.

Don't miss the Family Event on May 13th, 2012! We will be giving away cupcake coupons to the first 100 mothers and we have many other giveaways and draws for the whole family. Admission is FREE! For more information visit www.geoconvention.com/esfs



We're on the Web!

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

Classifieds

New Program for Seniors!



THE CITY OF
CALGARY
Proudly serving a great city

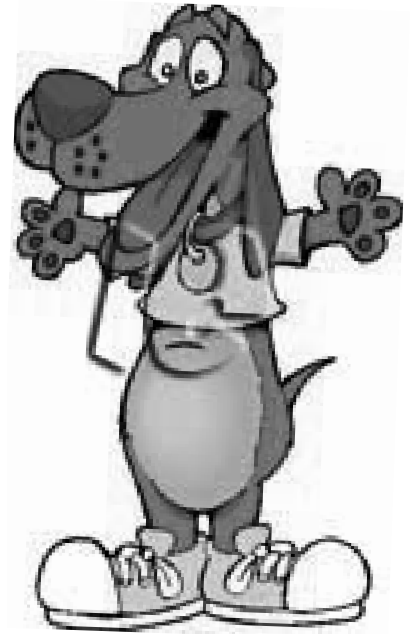
Animal & Bylaw Services is proud to announce the launch of our “Seniors for Seniors” program: a new cat and dog adoption program aimed at connecting mature cats and dogs with people age 60 and over. This program offers seniors a 60% discount on adoption fees when adopting a “senior” cat or dog (8 years or older).

Through the “Seniors for Seniors” program, our goal is to help enrich the lives of both pets and people by sharing the benefits of adopting an older companion animal. Not only does adoption give a deserving animal a much needed home, the adopter can benefit from increased opportunities for exercise, socialization and companionship. The love of a pet has also been linked to health benefits such as lowering blood pressure, triglyceride levels and cholesterol. A furry companion can also help to combat loneliness.

When well taken care of, senior cats and dogs can be a source of love and companionship for many years to come. Older pets are great for first-time pet owners or people who do not have the time or energy to deal with frisky puppies or kittens. Most senior animals are house-trained and likely have already received obedience training. In addition, when you adopt a senior cat or dog, there are no surprises when it comes to his size or personality, making it easier to know if the pet will be a good fit in your home and for your lifestyle.

The 60% discount offered through the “Seniors for Seniors” program results in a cost of \$60 to adopt a senior cat and \$80 to adopt a senior dog. The adoption fee includes a vet check, vaccinations, spay or neuter surgery, a microchip, a six-month City of Calgary licence and a bag of food.

Help us to connect the wonderful senior cats and dogs at the Animal Services Centre with loving and caring forever homes! For more information about the “Seniors for Seniors” program call 3-1-1 or visit calgary.ca/animalservices to view all of our adoptable cats and dogs.



Comix

Off the Shelf

Book Review by Judith Umbach

The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet

by David Mitchell

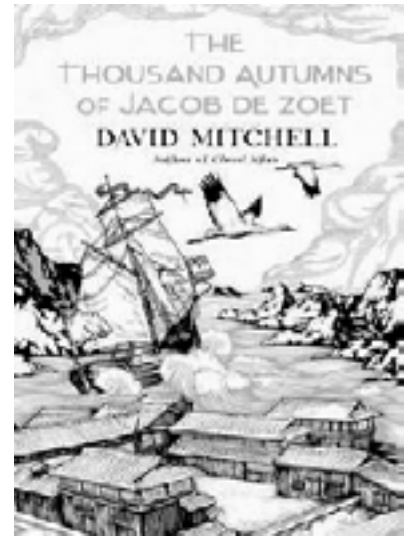
In *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet*, David Mitchell steeps us in the exotic civilization of eighteenth century Japan. The enclosed, stifling culture struggles to benefit from, without absorbing Christian Dutch trade, while fending off military acquisitiveness from alien nations.

The novel's microcosm is peopled by Jacob de Zoet, a newly arrived clerk cum accountant from Zeeland, Orito Aibagawa, a midwife whose unusual training spans the Japanese society and the Dutch trading enclave, and Uzaemon Ogawa, a translator with a sometimes-open mind. Although nominally a love-triangle, their innate politeness and the harshness of their various circumstances throw these characters off the paths of their choosing into the overwhelming grinders of official power and imperious private interests.

Orito Aibagawa is whisked away from her fragile world of learning. Jacob de Zoet is trapped on the artificial island ceded to the Dutch traders. Trusted by his once rival, he can only imagine the quest of Uzaemon Ogawa, who abandons his once-treasured home life to rescue Orita Aibagawa before she is destroyed completely by a ritualistic, obsessive fate. As in any world, the characters pursue their decisions and actions in ignorance, upsetting each other's well-laid plans.

The setting of *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet* plays a dominant role in the novel. The enclosure of the Dutch trading company squeezes our imaginations into narrow streets, dark warehouses and fetid living quarters teeming with traders, their slaves and the imposed Japanese guards. The scene shifts to a monastery, no less stifling in its quiet, contemplative position on an isolated mountain-top. Then, as the quest unfolds, we struggle along the icy paths of winter and clamber up mountain roads, frightened by other travellers in the damp wayside inns. Is this freedom?

Perhaps we all yearn for what we cannot have.



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