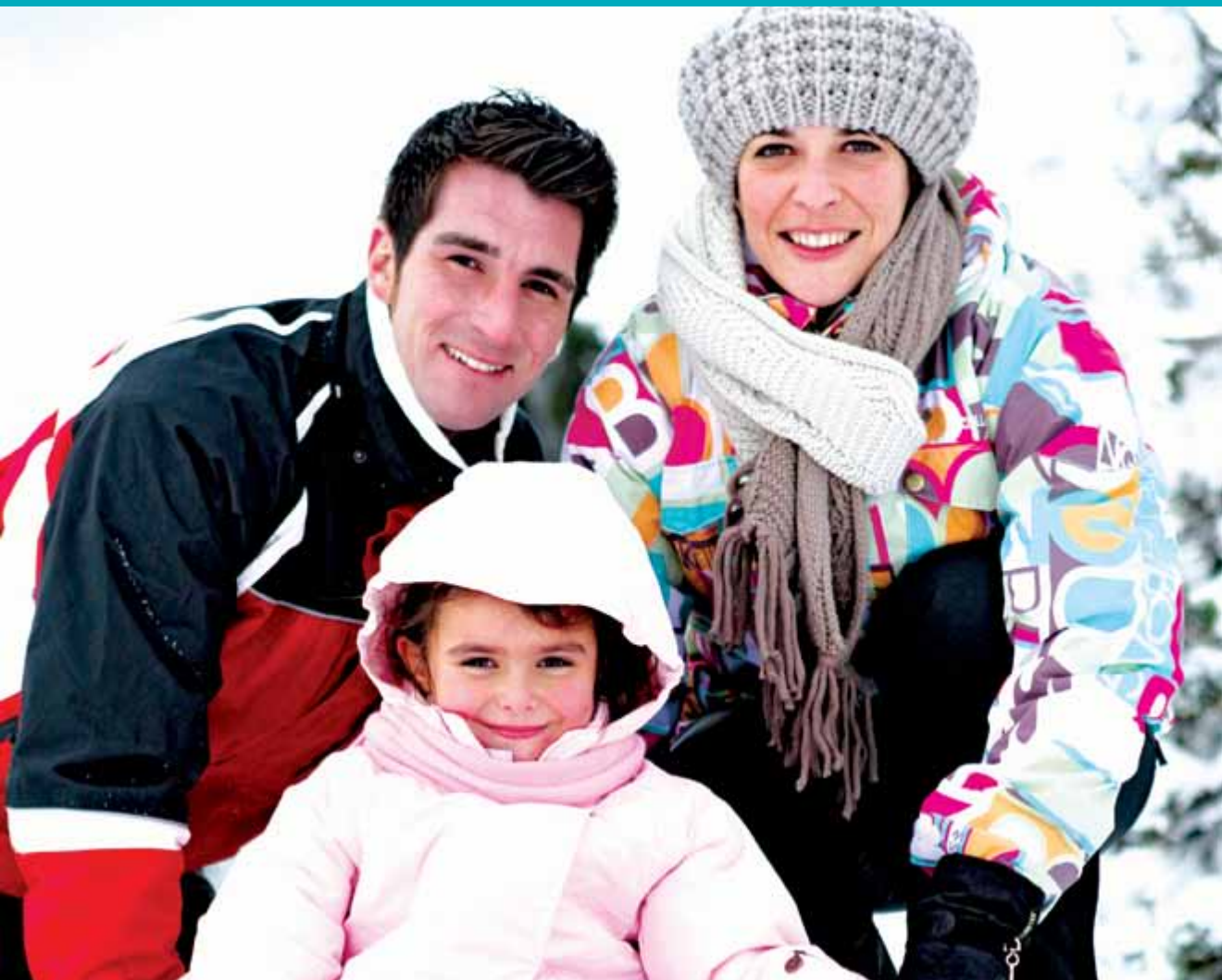


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BRAIN GAMES

SUDOKU

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6		8		7		2		

FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 15

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre	403-253-5250
Alberta Health Care	403-310-0000
AHS Addictions Hotline	1-866-332-2322
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Calgary HEALTH LINK 24/7	811
Calgary Police – Non Emergency	403-266-1234
Calgary Women’s Emergency Shelter	403-234-7233
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Kids Help Line	1-800-668-6868
Child Safe Canada	403-202-5900
Distress/Crisis Line	403-266-4357
ENMAX – Power Trouble	403-514-6100
Poison Centre - Alberta	1-800-332-1414
HOSPITALS / URGENT CARE	
Alberta Children’s Hospital	403-955-7211
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Rockyview General Hospital	403-943-3000
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South Calgary Urgent Care Health Centre	403-943-9300
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OTHER	
Calgary Humane Society	403-205-4455
Calgary Parking Authority	403-537-7000
SeniorConnect	403-266-6200
Calgary Kerby Elder Abuse Line	403-705-3250
Alberta One-Call Corporation	1-800-242-3447
City of Calgary	311
Social Service Info & Referral	211
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AHS Public Health Forum Invite

Alberta Health Services (AHS), in partnership with Alberta Health, is initiating conversations across Calgary and Central Zones to look at the delivery of health services in 2031 and beyond.

A public blog on AHS' website invites all community members across both zones to share their perspectives and participate in conversations about how healthcare could be structured in 15 years.

The blog site builds upon in-person meetings that have taken place across both zones through late November and early December. These included visioning sessions, smaller group workshops and meetings that involved community members (including individuals typically under-represented in formal engagement activities), health partners and stakeholders. They were asked to examine ways to co-design and co-deliver a sustainable, quality health system that promotes healthy communities and provides appropriate access to services, programs and facilities across Alberta.

"We are exploring new, innovative ways to structure and deliver care," says Lori Anderson, Senior Operating Officer at the South Health Campus. "It's important that we work together because the healthcare model of the future involves more community-based services and shared opportunities between AHS and community partners."

Projections of health service delivery in 15 years show an increase in older demographics and more chronic health conditions.

"In the healthcare system of the future, the emphasis needs to be more preventative with proactive measures that will keep all Albertans, including our children and grandchildren, healthier," says Larry Albrecht, Chair of the Prairie Mountain Health Advisory Council. "It's also expected that health services will be more community-based."

Opportunities for community member input will continue throughout the year-long planning process. The feedback and ideas will contribute to informing a high-level health system strategy proposal, which will be further developed in 2017.

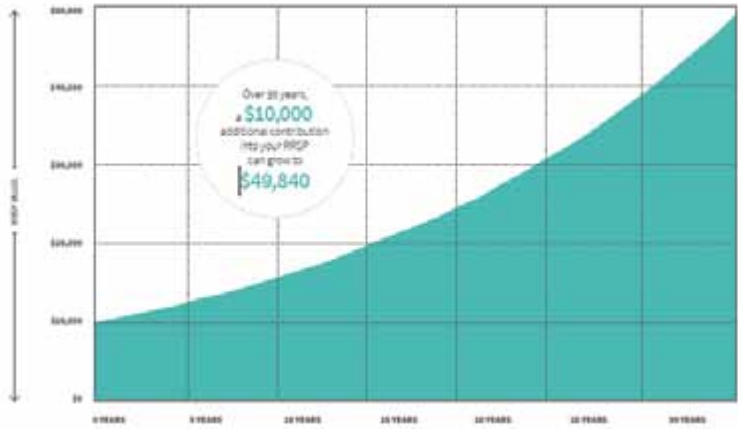
AHS is currently focusing long-range planning efforts on Calgary and Central Zones. Similar planning in Edmonton Zone is ongoing. Long-range planning for North and South Zones will follow. For more information on how you can be involved, please contact community.engagement@ahs.ca or join the conversation at www.ahs.ca/longrangeplanning.

*Being deeply loved by
someone gives you
strength, while loving
someone deeply gives
you courage.*
- Lao Tzu

The benefits of maximizing your RRSP

by Janine Rea, BA Economics

They say you can't make up for lost time - but that's not necessarily the case with contributions to your registered retirement savings plan (RRSP). Canadians are allowed to carry forward unused RRSP contribution room until the age of 71. So, if you didn't maximize your RRSP contributions in past years, you can still take advantage of the opportunity to invest more than your annual contribution limit this year, make up for shortfalls in past years, and take advantage of a large tax deduction - all at the same time. Maximizing your RRSP contributions is one of the best strategies to build the retirement you deserve and dream of.



These RRSP investment assumptions - \$10,000 investment per year on January 1st, at a gross rate of return of 8.0% over a 30-year period. The rate of return shown is used only to illustrate the effects of the compounding growth rate and is not intended to reflect future actual or potential investment results.

Utilizing all of your RRSP contribution room now can make a big difference to your future retirement lifestyle.

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Trivia

Black History Month



The 21st Black History Month is celebrated this February, it was formally recognized following a motion introduced in the House of Commons by the first black Canadian woman elected to Parliament, the Honourable Jean Augustine.



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the
food of love,
play on.**
- William Shakespeare

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Drop in for activities, storytimes, and more this Family Day. Everyone's welcome to join in the celebration happening at these community libraries:

Country Hills | Crowfoot | Fish Creek | Saddletowne | Shawnessy | Signal Hill

February 20, Noon- 5:00 pm | No registration required.

#Read150

Canada 150—read 150 books in 2017! Pick up your free Great Reads 2017 reading guide from any community library in Calgary. It's chock full of incredible reading recommendations for every member of your family. Visit calgarylibrary.ca to find out how you can be entered to win great prizes just for reading!

Bill's Book Café with Evan Woolley

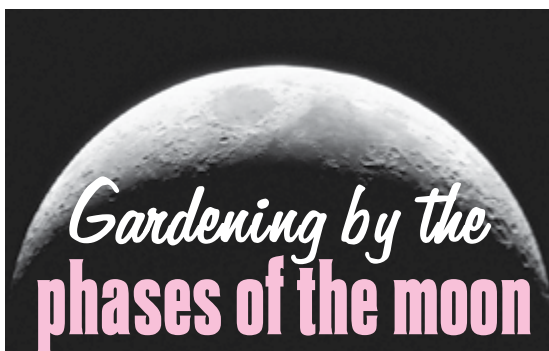
All Calgarians are welcome to join Bill's Book Café! Library CEO Bill Ptacek and City Councillor Evan Woolley host a lively discussion of *The Sisters Brothers* by Patrick deWitt.

Alexander Calhoun Library
Friday, February 24 | 7:00 pm



Valentine's Trivia

Based on retail statistics, about 3 per cent of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets.



Gardening by the phases of the moon

February 3 First Quarter (waxing)

Moonlight is strong, encouraging leaf growth. It is a good time for planting, especially two days before the full moon. Take cuttings from plants you wish to propagate. Fertilize as close to the full moon as possible.

February 10 Full Moon (waning)

As the moon wanes, the energy is drawing down. Strong gravitational pull but moonlight is decreasing putting energy into the roots.

February 18 Last Quarter (waning)

Decreased gravitational pull and moonlight. A resting period. Take cuttings from plants you wish to propagate. Dry herbs, flowers and fruit. If you want to control growth or encourage rooting, perform the necessary activities during the waning moon.

February 26 New Moon (waxing)

Increasing moonlight, lunar gravity pulls water up encouraging plant growth and proliferation. Grafting, transplanting, re-potting, and watering. Gather herbs used for essential oils. Oil content is more concentrated at this time.



CALGARY WILDLIFE

The Common Redpoll A Winter Migrant to Alberta

Article by J.G. Turner
Photo by J. Burns

The Common Redpoll is an energetic, little songbird with a flaming red cap, black throat, whitish rump and streaked back. This songbird a highly sociable, noisy, chattering bird that travels in large flocks of several hundred birds. It is one of the finch family's most northern breeders and is found circumpolar.

Fun Facts:

- You can find the Common Redpoll from April through September in the Yukon, Northwest and Nunavut Territories, and even across into Newfoundland and Labrador. The Common Redpoll migrates south into the lower Canadian provinces in late autumn.
- In Alberta, we are likely to see the Common Redpoll in the winter when they might forage as large groups in weedy fields or small tree lots.
- Sightings can be scarce when there are winter food shortages in their normal wintering range. This forces them to go even farther south, a behaviour called an "irruption." Common Redpolls tend to exhibit this irruptive behaviour every second year to match the production cycle of catkins on birch and alder trees.
- The Common Redpoll's normal breeding range is on the Arctic tundra or in boreal forests. The female nests low down in dwarf willows, spruce, birch, alders, and small shrubs, where the male brings her food.
- This songbird likes the small high-energy seeds of birch and alder trees and can eat 42% of their body mass every day!
- When in a large group, the Common Redpoll often moves frantically on the ground in their search for seeds to eat.
- When it is extremely cold or food is scarce, the Common Redpoll can store some seeds temporarily in a stretchy part of their oesophagus (diverticula). They will knock seeds down, fly down to scoop them up,

then find a sheltered and safe spot to shell and eat the seeds at their leisure.

- If you want to attract them to your yard you can plant birch trees, but we city folks are most likely to see them at a backyard feeder in the winter where they favour nyger seed offerings.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild bird or animal in distress, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at 403-239-2488, for tips, instructions and advice, or look at the website at www.calgarywildlife.org for more information.

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Jenna	15	403-242-1605	Yes
Mackenzie	15	403-208-2122	Yes
Megan	17	403-968-8187	Yes
Michaela	16	403-630-7348	Yes

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 - Excessive blinking, rubbing of the eyes, grimacing or squinting.
 - Covering or closing one eye.
 - Tilting the head or unusual posture.
 - Losing place while reading.
 - Using a finger to maintain place while reading.
 - Omitting or confusing small words when reading.

Children should have their first exam between six and nine months of age, and again between two and five years of age and once a year after starting school.

Doctors of optometry are primary health providers that help diagnose, prevent and treat diseases and disorders affecting the visual system. Certain health conditions are often first detected through an eye exam.

Dr. Steve Alfaiate, OD

IN & AROUND CALGARY

February Is Heart Month

Do you know the signs and symptoms of a heart attack and what to do if someone experiences these? Knowing can make the difference between life and death. Recognizing and responding immediately to the warning signs of a potential heart attack can significantly improve survival and recovery.

February is Heart Month - take the time to be heart safe and learn how you can reduce your risk.

Know the signs of a heart attack
(Any, or all, of these signs & symptoms may occur)

- Chest discomfort described as crushing, squeezing, pressure, or heaviness;
- Discomfort that moves beyond the chest, such as the shoulder, arm, neck, or jaw;
- Shortness of breath, sweating, or nausea and vomiting.

- Reduce your risk**
Heart attack risk factors include:
- Obesity*
 - Sedentary lifestyle*
 - Smoking*
 - High cholesterol*
 - Age / gender
 - Family history
- Speak with your doctor about how to treat your modifiable (*) risk factors and learn to be heart safe.

- What to do when seconds count**
- Call 9-1-1 immediately. Early treatment can greatly reduce heart damage and make the difference of life and death;
 - Treatment starts the moment EMS arrives. Paramedics can provide oxygen, start an intravenous and perform an electrocardiogram (ECG);
 - Paramedics can also administer important medication(s) in the early minutes of a heart attack to lessen heart damage;
 - During transport, EMS will share information with the hospital, so definitive treatment can begin immediately upon arrival;
 - Take a CPR/AED (automated external defibrillator) course. Training is widely available from many reputable organizations. It's easy, inexpensive, and only takes a few hours.

calgary reads Writings on Reading

Sharing books and loving feelings!
In February, with the celebration of Valentine's Day, thoughts turn to love and other kind feelings. February 14th is also International Book Giving Day which is a volunteer-led initiative that aims to get books into the hands of as many children as possible.

- Three ways you might celebrate International Book Giving Day:**
- Gift a book to a child in your life
 - Leave a book in a waiting room or at a bus stop for children to read (and keep)
 - Donate a new or gently-used book to a local hospital, shelter or to Calgary Reads Book Bank that helps get books into the hands of Calgary children who have few or none of their own at home.

Our Favourite Book of the Month
This book is a beautiful way to help children understand their feelings. Borrow a copy from your school or public library and get cozy with your family and talk about and share your feelings.

In My Heart: A Book of Feelings by Jo Witek (Author), Christine Roussey (Illustrator)



Sometimes my heart feels like a big yellow star, shiny and bright. I smile from ear to ear and twirl around so fast, I feel as if I could take off into the sky. This is when my heart is happy.

Happiness, sadness, bravery, anger, shyness . . . our hearts can feel so many feelings! Some make us feel as light as a balloon, others as heavy as an elephant. In My Heart explores a full range of emotions, describing how they feel physically, inside. With language that is lyrical but also direct, young children will be empowered by this new vocabulary and able to practice articulating and identifying their own emotions.

Calgary Reads helps children learn to read with confidence and joy. This includes helping children in Calgary to have their own books at home; supporting parents and caregivers to help their child develop literacy skills; and engaging businesses and the community to make reading a priority. Explore our website for ways you can support our work. You'll also find resources to help your child develop critical literacy skills and the joy of reading: calgaryreads.com



Succulents & Cacti

Barbara Shorrock

If you are growing plants indoors, there is a good chance you already have a succulent or two. Perhaps you have cactus or aloe. The word “succulent” comes from the Latin word “sucus”, meaning juice or sap. This category of plants has leaves or stems (and sometimes roots) that are thick and fleshy to enable the plant to store water to survive dry conditions. It is a huge family of plants that originate from many parts of the world ranging from desert to forest. All cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti. Many of them flower, such as *Schlumbergera*/Christmas Cactus, which only flowers at Christmas if forced in a greenhouse environment. In our homes, it blooms according to hours of sunlight, typically October-November and again less vigorously in early spring. After it is finished, it should be given a rest and pruned or re-potted. I have several that are decades old who are pruned annually. They are given a light fertilizing and maybe top dressing when new growth appears, because they live in the same pot year after year.

Another popular indoor succulent is *Sedum Morganianum*, also known as Burro Tail or Donkey Tail. It has long rope-like stems heavily laden with plump juicy leaves that can grow up to 6 ft. long. A mature plant will be very heavy, and needs to be hung from a good hook that

will support the weight. If you cannot turn it regularly, it will grow on the sunny side and need to be secured to its shelf (I find wire coat hangers useful). These plants do not tolerate transplanting, as the leaves fall off with the slightest touch, so choose your pot wisely when the plant is small. There are many different varieties with leaves from tiny to huge, and if you have outdoor sunny space that is sheltered from the wind and hail, they will enjoy living outside in the summertime. Remember, though, that they are tropical and cannot tolerate cold temperatures, so must move inside in the fall.

We all have some sort of Hen and Chicks in our gardens: small ground-hugging fleshy succulents in rosette form of the *Crassulaceae* family. You will often find them labelled as genus *Echeveria* and *Sempervivum*, among others. The “hen” is the main parent plant, and the “chicks” are the offsets or baby plants, which are attached by a not very sturdy stem. A good strong rain will knock the baby off, allowing it to roll down the slope and come to rest where it will put down roots and start a new colony. These are probably the most shared plants in the gardening community, as some varieties are hardy to our climate and propagate easily. There are many others that come from warmer and drier climes, such as Central and South America and Africa, that make interesting house plants because of their beautiful shapes. Plant them alone, or together in a shallow pot in a sunny window, and they will reward you with years of slow growth and the occasional bloom on a long willowy stalk. The most important thing to remember about growing succulents is that their original home is typically arid. The quickest way to kill your new succulent or cactus is to water it weekly on the same schedule as your other house plants. Root rot is deadly. During the winter season when daylight hours are short, these plants need watering only monthly, or at the most every two weeks. Soak the pot and then leave it until it is totally dry; never let it sit in a saucer of water. And do not fertilize until the days are longer and you see new growth. When re-potting (some of these babies come from the nursery in very tiny pots) use either a commercial cactus medium, or regular potting medium mixed with perlite (1:2). Perlite is good for drainage; Vermiculite is like a sponge and holds water. Horticultural sand will also work. Enjoy your succulents; how many things do we have in our lives that thrive on neglect?



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8	6	9	3	2	4	1	7	5
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7	8	2	9	5	3	6	1	4
9	4	3	2	1	6	5	8	7
1	5	6	4	8	7	9	3	2
2	3	7	6	4	9	8	5	1
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6	9	8	1	7	5	2	4	3

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Real Estate Stats

Last 12 Months Elbow Valley

MLS Real Estate Sale Price Stats

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
December 2,016	\$1,695,000	\$1,500,000
November 2,016	\$1,609,950	\$1,482,500
October 2,016	\$1,147,000	\$1,142,000
September 2,016	\$1,274,450	\$1,192,570
August 2,016	\$1,099,000	\$1,040,000
July 2,016	\$2,899,000	\$2,550,000
June 2,016	\$1,095,000	\$1,050,000
May 2,016	\$1,474,500	\$1,375,000
April 2,016	\$1,299,000	\$1,337,500
March 2,016	\$1,092,000	\$1,070,000
February 2,016	\$1,699,000	\$1,525,000
January 2,016	\$1,675,000	\$1,600,000

Last 12 Months Elbow Valley

MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Stats

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
December 2016	2	3
November 2016	7	6
October 2016	7	2
September 2016	8	6
August 2016	6	3
July 2016	3	1
June 2016	6	7
May 2016	7	6
April 2016	8	3
March 2016	6	6
February 2016	4	3
January 2016	7	0

To view more detailed information that comprise the above
MLS averages please visit **elbow_valley.great-news.ca**



Plantar Fasciitis

Causes and Treatment Options

By Dr. Alma Nenshi, Family Chiropractor

Chronic foot pain is no fun, and can spoil your enjoyment of life. One of the most common causes of pain in the feet, affecting nearly two million people yearly, is plantar fasciitis, an inflammation of the plantar fascia ligament that connects the heel bone (calcaneous) and the toes. This ligament is composed of fibrous bands of tissue, and runs along the entire bottom of the foot supporting 26 bones, 33 joints, 107 ligaments and 19 tendons and muscles during standing and movement. Plantar fascia may become inflamed when tiny tears occur in these delicate tissues.

The most common symptom of planar fasciitis is a burning or aching pain on the bottom of the foot in the mornings, often near the heel. The pain tends to decrease with activity, but may recur after periods of walking or standing. Half of people diagnosed with plantar fasciitis say that their pain is constant; 90% say that it hurts when they press on the area around the heel.

There are many potential causes of plantar fasciitis. Overuse during exercise or physical activity is one of the most common, and athletes who run, jump, or perform other repetitive movements that put pressure on the feet are prone to this condition. It may also be caused or aggravated by arthritis and diabetes, especially in the elderly. Wearing the wrong shoes or shoes with little or no arch support or cushioning can put strain on the tendons and, over time, cause plantar fasciitis symptoms. Improper footwear is even more likely to be a cause if you have flat feet, high arches, overpronation, or underpronation. Being overweight can also place additional strain on your feet that can lead to foot, ankle, knee, hip and back pain symptoms.

Whatever the cause, plantar fasciitis can take all the fun out of walking or even moving around easily. More important, it is a condition that should be diagnosed and treated early, before it becomes more serious. Traditional medical treatments tend to focus on reducing the pain (via anti-inflammatory medications such as ibuprofen or more serious pain relievers) and alleviating pressure on the heel. Unfortunately, this regimen does not address the potential causes of the disorder. For many, chiropractic adjustments of the feet and related joints (in addition to traditional approaches such as icing and avoiding for a time the movements that seem to exacerbate the pain) may help to restore a proper range of motion, and thus remove the cause of the problem.

More advanced computer technologies like our GaitScan measures how you walk or run and can provide valuable data for the accurate diagnosis and treatment of your symptoms. Custom orthotic therapy is often covered by health insurance plans. Our modern slim but supportive custom inserts are not only comfortable and fit easily into your shoes, but they outperform popular over-the-counter cushion inserts by both relieving pain and preventing future occurrences of it. Combine this with appropriate lifestyle modifications, anti-inflammatory diets and Frequency Specific Micro-current therapy that clinically reduces inflammation and pain while healing scar tissue, tears and adhesions in the fascia, and you've got a recipe for success!

Of course how quickly these therapies may provide relief depends on each individual case, but relief can be found. Mention this article to receive a free computer GaitScan assessment and consultation to help you diagnose the root cause of your plantar fasciitis symptoms (\$50 savings!)



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