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 www.riverbendcommunity.ca



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in & around your community schools

École St. Cecilia School

New Year means new activities for École St. Cecilia School students.

Christmas may be over but students at École St. Cecilia School are geared up for our Epiphany celebration. Students from each class will share a 'Galettes des Rois', or Kings' Cake, which is a French tradition where students select a piece of pie and hope to find a figurine which will make them 'King for a day'.

Later in the month, our grade 2 students will take a field trip to Telus Spark while our grade 6 students will be part of an experiential learning project focused on the Mars Landing. Students in kindergarten to grade 2 will 'lace-up' for our in-line skating unit.

The end of the month will see École St. Cecilia School transformed into a dance hall for a glow-in-the-dark Family Dance. The annual dance is a favourite event for students' families to get together and catch up after the holidays, as well as mark the half-way point of the school year.

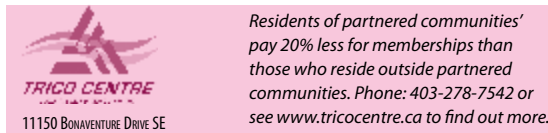
Interested in having your child attend École St. Cecilia School?

Mark your calendar for our Information Evening on March 1, 7 p.m. and our Open House on March 8 from 1-3 p.m.

École St. Cecilia School is a French Immersion Catholic Elementary School for children from Kindergarten to Grade 6. The school serves most communities south of Glenmore Trail and east of McLeod Trail.

Mapleridge Cooperative Preschool

December was a very exciting month for all the children at MCP. Our class Christmas parties were a big success, filled with songs, treats and a special visit from dear old Santa Claus. This month, our children will learn about the wonder and beauty of winter!



Residents of partnered communities' pay 20% less for memberships than those who reside outside partnered communities. Phone: 403-278-7542 or see www.tricocentre.ca to find out more.

January at Trico Centre

Trico Centre for Family Wellness is a non-profit, community-owned and operated recreation facility. Our memberships are affordable and our programs are family-friendly. With a membership, you can work out in the fitness centre, take more than 70-drop-in fitness classes a week, use the gymnasium, swim, skate, or play shinny, plus you get 20% off our fun, active registered programs.

Residents of communities partnered with Trico Centre (yours!) pay 20% less for a Trico Centre membership with presentation of a community association membership or payment of the Community Support Fee (which is sent to your community association.)

A new session of registered programs starts in January 9 – check the Program Guide or www.tricocentre.ca.

Price Freeze

• Breathe a big post-holiday sigh of relief: recession-busting price freeze in effect at Trico Centre on memberships, admissions, and program fees. No increase until September 2016.

Adults

- Registered adult programs starting in January: Cardio Dance, Barre Stretch & Release, Core Fusion Barre, TRX Flow, Mindful Relaxation, Trim and Tone, Strong is the New Skinny: Weight Training for Women by Women, Fit 101 for the Absolute Beginner. Workshops include Foam Roller Workshop, Peek Week what? Strength & Conditioning Clinic: Jumps, Throws, and Agility, Yoga Nidra.
- Cool new program: Strike It Cardio Drumming: Free Demo class on January 6 from 7:30-8:30pm.
- January is a great time to get back to the fitness centre – more than 70 drop-in fitness classes every week included in membership.

Older Adults

• Registered multi-week programs starting in January include Balance Builders, Bone Builders, Chair Yoga, Sore Joints Training. Workshops and clinics include Foam Roller Workshop and Strike It for Seniors!

Families

- Registered family programs; Family in Motion, Family Yoga, Mindfulness for Youth & Parent, Family YogArt, Prenatal Fitness, Mommy & Me Barre, Mommy/Daddy & Me Aquafit, Mommy & Me Fitness.
- Family Night: Sunday Night is Family Night – swim from 6 to 8pm and/or gymnasium from 6-7pm. Free for members; non-members \$3 per person.

Children & Youth

• Registered programs including skating lessons, swimming lessons, dance, sport, gymnastics, active play, and yoga for tots to teens.

your COMMUNITY business of the month

The Park Kitchen

Quarry Park - Riverbend Community

Fun. Fresh. Local. In 2014, brothers Tony and Jason Balakas opened The Park Kitchen and Bar. Calgary natives with over 30 years of combined experience, the Balakas brothers radiate expertise and enthusiasm for food and hospitality. This type of passion is immeasurable and unmatched in the industry: a trifecta of extensive food and beverage knowledge, front and back of house experience and a comprehensive understanding of running a community oriented restaurant.

Décor that features rustic brick, birdcages and floral textiles encompass a breathtaking olive tree that serves as the focal point in the inviting atmosphere reminiscent of a childhood picnic in the park. The inviting atmosphere serves as the perfect place for family dinner or date night but also caters to corporate events and private parties. With the ability to accommodate up to 300 people, they strive to create the perfect experience for any occasion. Management happily customizes menus for special occasions and organized parties.

The Park is about getting back to basics with a twist by fusing locally bought products with a modern attitude to design and a creative take on classic favourites. Most menu items are designed gluten free and with allergies in mind to ensure a delectable experience for all. They strive to accommodate all dietary needs and every palate.

Winning Calgary's first Wingfest this summer is just one of the Balakas' accolades since opening The Park in 2013. Participating in charitable and local events such as The Remington Race for Pace and The Quarry Park Stampede Breakfast are just a few of the events the Balakas brothers support as independent small business owners in Calgary. On Monday nights they also feature

Paint Nite so that you can enjoy great food and service while exploring your creative side!

Whether you fancy their exquisite Ahi Tuna Tacos, from-scratch Lobster Mac and Cheese, their infamous Surf & Turf burger or the Certified Angus Beef Tenderloin, they possess a diverse menu for all taste buds to savour. The Balakas brothers have created an environment that fosters values in hospitality and a passion for food. At The Park, they pride themselves on excellent hospitality which means that the friendly and knowledgeable staff looks forward to your visit! They hope to see you soon!

Visit www.parkkitchen.ca or on Twitter @theparkcalgary and on Facebook www.facebook.com/parkcalgary.



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www.parkkitchen.ca

IN & AROUND CALGARY

EMS: Sledding Safety

Alberta Health Services, EMS, would like to remind parents and children of some basic sledding safety tips as the winter season continues. Sledding injuries can result from collisions with stationary objects, such as trees and rocks, or with other people on the hill. Unprotected falls can result in injury if you lose control at high speeds. Everyone is at risk – especially children. Have a fun and safe trip on the toboggan hill by following these simple reminders.

Equipment

- Ensure your sled is in good condition. Do not use sleds with broken parts, sharp edges, or splits in the material.
- Currently, there are no helmets designed specifically for sledding. However children should wear a properly fitted helmet designed for high impact collisions, such as hockey, cycling, or climbing helmets.

Hazards

- Avoid hills that are too steep, or too icy – you can lose control very quickly.
- Choose hills free of obstacles such as trees, rocks, utility poles, or fences.
- Be mindful of clothing that contains drawstrings, or loose clothing, such as scarves, which can present a choking hazard if they become caught or snagged.

Plan ahead

- Dress warmly in layers and anticipate weather changes.
- Consider bringing extra sets of gloves and toques to exchange wet garments for dry ones.
- Take breaks to warm up out of the cold.
- Ensure frostbite hasn't affected any exposed skin.
- Even when properly protected from the elements, the finger tips, toes, ears, the tip of the nose, and other high points on the face such as the forehead and cheek bones can be affected by frostbite.
- If frost bite has occurred, treat it by first removing the individual out of the cold environment. Gently warm the affected skin by placing a warm hand over it or by placing the affected part in warm water (not hot; ~41°C max.) until re-warmed.

Pet Safety—Keep Your Pets Indoors This Winter

Humans are not the only ones who need to keep warm during the winter months. Your pets do too. Although they might be covered in fur, your pet can still fall ill during the colder months or even get frostbite when temperatures drop below freezing. But have no fear, here are a few tips on how to keep your pet warm this winter.

Keep your pet indoors. This is the number one way to keep your pets safe and warm in the winter. For dogs, take shorter walks when the weather is severely cold. A good rule of thumb is to go out with them and when you're ready to come in, chances are your dog is too. If your dog must stay outside, make sure she has proper shelter and a source of fresh water at all times, and make sure her water cannot freeze.

It's important to remember that cold cars can pose a significant risk to your pet's health. Leaving your cat or dog in the car is just as dangerous in winter as in the summer. Limit car travel to only that which is necessary, and don't leave your pet unattended in the vehicle.

If you lose your pet during the winter months, do not delay. Call 3-1-1 to see if Animal Services has picked up your pet. If not, file a lost pet report with Animal Services.

For more information about pet safety please call 3-1-1 or you can visit us on our Facebook page or on Twitter @yycbylaws.

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of each month for the next month's issue



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- **February 1 to 29 - YYC Hot Chocolate Fest:** Participating restaurants and cafes across Calgary each create a signature hot chocolate and try to win Calgarians' hearts — the hot chocolate with the most votes takes home the title of Calgary's Best Hot Chocolate. www.yychotchocolate.com
- **February 3 – Calgary Flames vs Carolina Hurricanes** at the Saddledome 7:30 pm. www.calgaryflames.com
- **February 5 to 20 - Lord of the Flies:** Remarkably true to the novel in spirit... the theatre lends itself particularly well to the ritualistic aspects of the story - chanting, dancing, marching, forming a circle round the victim, stamping out a fire. You end up feeling you have seen a fable of infinite implications enacted in a little room. www.storybooktheatre.org
- **February 12 – Calgary Hitmen & Red Deer Rebels** face off at 7:00 pm at the Saddledome. www.hitmenhockey.com
- **February 12 to 14 - Block Heater: A Winter Music Extravaganza:** There's a new music festival in Calgary over the Family Day long weekend. More than 20 artists perform at three Inglewood venues over three days. www.calgaryfolkfest.com
- **February 12 to April 17 - Suite Surrender:** Mistaken identities, overblown egos, double-entendres, and a lap dog named Mr. Boodles round out this hilarious riot of a love note to classic farce. www.stagewestcalgary.com
- **February 21 to 22 - Spinosaurus: Lost Giant of the Cretaceous:** Meet Spinosaurus, the largest predatory dinosaur yet discovered and hear the incredible story of how this prehistoric giant was almost lost to science, before being brought back to light with the help of a remarkable young paleontologist. www.artsccommons.ca
- **February 26 - Calgary Hitmen vs Royals** at the Saddledome 7:00 pm. www.hitmenhockey.com
- **February 27 – Calgary Flames & Ottawa Senators** face off at 8:00 pm at the Saddledome. www.calgaryflames.com
- **February 28 - Night With the Stars:** This year, Theatre Calgary's annual fundraiser has an otherworldly theme. This gala takes participants to a different galaxy. www.theatrecalgary.com

calgary reads

Calgary Reads: Writings about Reading

Family Literacy - it only takes 15 minutes of fun!
January 27th is **Family Literacy Day** across Canada and we hope you'll take part in literacy-building activities with the children in your life! Just 15 minutes a day can help develop long-lasting literacy skills in children and strengthen the literacy skills of adults too.

Spending time reading, talking, singing and playing together helps parents and caregivers build positive, strong bonds with their children.

Here are some fun ways your family can mark Family Literacy Day:

- **How was your day today?**
Have your child write notes (sticky notes are always a big hit) or keep a journal about their day... and you do the same. Note fun things and new experiences. Then share the updates with each other in the car, on transit, during dinner or when getting ready for bed.
- **Have a game night to celebrate Family Literacy Day**
Gather your family's favourite board games and decide which ones to play. Take turns reading the instructions, game cards or keeping score. Perhaps decide to make game night a weekly event. It's a great way to come together and build skills while having fun!
- **Build an obstacle course**
Engage the whole family in building an obstacle course in the family room or a spot like the basement. Use pillows, furniture, toys etc. Then together, draw and label a map showing how to navigate the course.
- **Lights out, talk on!**
After bedtime stories with your child, turn off the lights and stay and chat. Take turns making up new endings for the stories you just read... or come up with ideas for the character's next adventure!

Thanks to ABCLifeLiteracy.ca for the fun ideas adapted here.

For lists of great children's books by age and resources to help your child develop critical literacy skills and a joy of reading, visit calgaryreads.com.

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Keep Your Paws Warm!

walks rinse and dry your pet's feet if you suspect he has walked through chemicals.

Some dogs just can't tolerate cold paws no matter what you do. Consider booties for these individuals. Booties and mukluks come in all shapes and sizes for dogs. It is important that the boot breath and not compromise the blood flow to the paw. Most animals readily tolerate comfortable well-fitted boots. Online pet stores and local pet stores carry an array of boots for dogs. If you have a large active pet that will need heavy-duty boots you may want to consider custom-made footwear.

Along with their fur keep your pet's nails clipped. In our winters nails may split as your pet goes in and out from the cold and damp and nails may benefit from supplements such as omega fatty acids or fish oils.

My old Labrador would push through the roughest ground cover on the scent of a bird, but in the city he had very sensitive feet and could not tolerate rock salt on his paws at all. Nor would he tolerate boots. I used a paw wax on his feet. Applied to the pad these waxes seal the paw and protect the skin from ice and chemicals. They also protect the pads from cracking with dryness as the dogs go in and out. As long as your dog tolerates his feet touched the paw waxes are very easy to use. Vaseline is a cheap alternative but lasts only a short time outside and can pick up unwanted dirt adhering to the paw.

New products are always coming on the market. Check with your veterinarian and don't forget to protect the rest of your pet from the cold by keeping them well groomed. A clean well-groomed coat insulates from both cold in winter and heat in summer better. Finally remember, like us, as dogs become elderly or arthritic they may require more protection from the elements than they did in their prime. Be as conscious of a senior pet potentially slipping on the ice as you would be of an elderly relative.

Jennifer L. Scott, D.V.M.

Well we are about to enter the heart of winter when we see temperatures of minus 20 degrees and lower outside and I don't want to walk my dog, although he is always ready and willing. Most dogs are amazingly well equipped to deal with the cold weather, but not every breed or individual can deal with this kind of cold without precautions.

When dogs first walk on the cold snow you often see them limp or hold a paw up as they run around. Then given some time they seem to become more comfortable. A dog's pads are equipped with a very effective heat exchange system. Once the paw's blood vessels adjust to the cold, and as long as the pad is dry and healthy, the average dog can tolerate most very cold surfaces. Smaller dogs tend to be less tolerant than large breeds. There are exceptions. Dogs with long guard hairs and thick downy undercoats like shepherds and huskies do fine, but dogs with short fine fur like Dobermans have little tolerance for cold. Fortunately stores now stock doggie coats from your basic knitted sweater to fine sartorial splendour depending on the taste of the human companion.

Some people believe a mat of hair over the dog's foot pads will protect them. Not true. Matted fur and excessive hair tends to stay wet, collect ice balls, and hold chemicals such as de-icing agents and salt against the skin. A dog's paws will adjust to the cold more effectively if the hair is kept reasonably short and clean. After



DOG WALKING SAFETY



Happy January from Calgary Humane Society!

Each year when the cold and snow arrives we start getting a lot of questions at the shelter about winter dog walking safety. How cold is too cold? Does my dog need boots? Should dogs wear coats?

Going for a walk, even in cold winter weather, is an important form of exercise and mental stimulation for dogs, but as the mercury starts to drop going for a run may sometimes require a bit of extra planning!

How cold is too cold to walk the dog? Different breeds of dogs will have very different tolerances to snow and cold. If you have a husky there is a pretty good chance you don't have to worry much about the cold, whereas a chihuahua will become too cold very quickly. Generally animals with thick coats are much more hardy in cold weather, but there are also individual differences. If your dog has arthritis or back/neck problems, they may get a bit sore as the temperature drops. If you are concerned that cold weather is causing problems with your pet, we recommend booking an appointment with your veterinarian.

How do you tell if it's too cold? Well if your dog is holding their paws up or shivering they are too cold and would probably rather be inside. If your dog is running in circles and leaping into snow banks then they are fine to keep enjoying their time outside. If your dog becomes cold easily, or if there is a risk of frostbite, opt for several short walks instead of one long walk.

Should dogs wear boots? If your dog has been trained to wear boots, they can be helpful to protect paws from

cold and ice melt chemicals. Boots can be distracting and annoying to a dog that isn't used to them, so if you do decide to use boots a slow and positive introduction to them is vital.

If you are not using boots for your dog then some extra vigilance is needed in the winter time. Many types of ice melting chemicals are toxic and can also cause burns to your dog's paw pads. When encountering possible ice melt on walks, encourage your dog to walk in the snow or (if you have a small dog) lift them over patches of ice melt. When you return from winter walks, be sure to wipe your dog's paws well to keep them from licking any salt/ice melt off their feet. If you are purchasing ice melt for your own property, invest in a pet-friendly version! Pet friendly ice melt won't burn paws and is non-toxic.

What about a coat? Does my dog need one? If you have a small dog or a dog that gets cold easily then a jacket could be a great idea. Choose a jacket that is the right size and one that doesn't restrict your pet's movement.

What other winter hazards could my dog face outside? Antifreeze. Just a few sips of antifreeze can be lethal to a pet, so keeping this winter chemical far away from curious noses is an absolute must. Keeping your pet on leash is the best way to make sure they stay out of winter chemicals. If you are purchasing antifreeze, look for brands that have bittering agents added. Antifreeze is naturally sweet, so some companies now add these bittering agents to prevent pets from drinking it.

From all of us at Calgary Humane Society, we wish you a safe and happy January!

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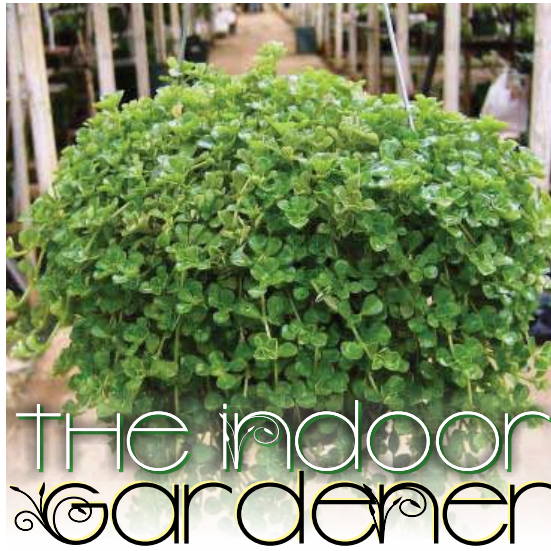
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THE indoor Gardener

by Cindy deJager

SOLEIROLIA HELXINE (Baby's Tears)

A Baby's Tear Plant is a delicate looking house plant that resembles a mat or carpet of tiny green leaves as it spreads over the sides of its pot. Baby's Tears plants, which originally came from Corsica and Sardinia, have tiny round or bean-shaped leaves that grow on thin fragile stems. Baby's Tear houseplants can be used as table plants or small hanging plants.

My mother had this plant under a table lamp when I was a child, and I can still remember being irresistibly attracted to the tiny, fat leaves. I just bought myself a plant recently – you don't see them very often in the stores and I'm not quite sure why.

To be really successful with this plant it requires bright indirect light and only enough water to moisten the soil. Mist this little plant often because it needs more humidity than we have here in Calgary.

Soil:

I have read that it gets tiny white flowers in the spring but I have never seen one in bloom.

The Baby's Tear is a non-poisonous houseplant.



Bohemian Waxwing: Visitor from the North

By: Katie Fisher

Photo: Niket Sura

As the snow sets in and sunlight runs at a minimum, we prepare ourselves for what might feel like the longest months of the year. Many of the pretty songbirds have flown south for warmer climates, however, our friend, the Bohemian Waxwing, will at times, fly south to us from the north to escape some of the harshest conditions.

The Bohemian Waxwing is a medium-sized songbird who is brownish gray in colour, equipped with a black mask, a yellow tip to tail and a crest on top of his head. He earns his name from the nomadic movements of the winter flocks; much like the inhabitants of Bohemia who live unconventional lifestyles or like the lives of gypsies. He does not hold breeding territories like other songbirds, simply for the reason the fruits he enjoys to snack on are abundant, but only available for short periods of time. Unlike songbirds, the Bohemian Waxwing has no true song as he doesn't require it to defend a territory.

He spends much of his time in the forest, foraging for fruit and insects. The Bohemian Waxwing is elegant in flight, catching insects in mid-air or hovering to snatch fruit. He must be careful when choosing his fruit, as the Bohemian is susceptible to alcohol intoxication, and even death, from eating fermented fruit. He chooses to

build his nest with his monogamous partner, on branches, closest to the trunk of the tree; constructed with twigs, grasses and camouflaged with mosses and lichens. From time to time, he will visit city parks and gardens in hopes of finding fruit.

Both parents are responsible for feeding their young, who will leave the nest anywhere from 14 to 18 days old. Like most songbirds, they feed insects to their young at first, but switch to feeding them berries within a few days. Most Bohemian family units stay together through the fall until they prepare for migration. Flocks are the most common form of migration and will, at times, be mixed in with Cedar Waxwing flocks, creating quite a sight to be seen.

If you come across an injured Bohemian Waxwing, or any other wild animal in distress please contact Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society wildlife hotline at 403-239-2488 for tips, instructions and advice.

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 18



DO YOU READ WHAT I READ?

Barbara Shorrock

All the information you could ever want to access is on the internet now, but I still believe there is nothing so satisfying as a beautiful book with glossy photos, whether it be a cookbook, a travel book or a book about gardens. The research for today's article has been done in my own house where the serious bookshelves are laden with the collection of many years of gifts and purchases. Winter is upon us (as I write this we are experiencing a major snow and wind event with wind-chills at a dangerous level; in Saskatchewan we used to call these blizzards) and it is the best season to browse and dream of what might be possible in a few months when spring arrives. So pour yourself a cup of tea, add a plate of cookies, and browse with me through some of my favourites:

Front Yard Gardens – Liz Primeau. Large or small, bold or subtle, formal or cluttered – it is all good. Liz covers the whole spectrum of that space between your front door and the street.

Favourite Plants – Liz Primeau, editor. From Canadian Gardening Magazine, this features the best plants to choose for your Canadian Garden. Not meant to replace your "Encyclopedia of All Things Plants" it helps the gardener to make wise choices when adding to old beds and creating new ones.

The Flower Gardener's Bible – Lewis and Nancy Hill. Much more than a series of beautiful pictures and descriptions, this book tells you how to and why to and where to, assuming the reader doesn't have a lot of knowledge to begin with.

A Year In the Garden – Steven Bradley. Season by season, he takes us through projects that are manageable by most handy gardeners. This isn't a Canadian book, so you get a glimpse of what works in the

US and Britain, but the illustrations and photos are excellent.

The Calgary Gardener Vol 1 and 2 – The Calgary Horticultural Society. I can't tell you how many of these I have given to gardeners new to Calgary. Our climate and soil can be a bit of a mystery to immigrants, particularly those who have migrated from British Columbia and Ontario, never mind other countries. No glossy pictures in these guys, just page after page of down-to-earth useful information on how to deal with winter Chinooks, alkaline soil, lovely summers that are interrupted by blasts of winter now and then, and what to plant and where.

The Northern Gardener: Perennials that Survive and Thrive – Barbara Rayment. Zone 3 choices for our part of the country, all organized and alphabetized. Well written and easy to navigate.

No Work Garden – Bob Flowerdew. I must confess I bought this solely for the title, and also the author's name, but it really does have lots of advice to lighten the work load. I would have named it "The Less Work Garden", but his title sells more books, I am sure.

No Guff Vegetable Gardening – Donna Balzer and Steven Biggs. They call themselves Garden Coaches, and this unusually arranged soft-cover volume is full of cheerful graphics by a couple of artists from Gabriola Island's Feedlot Studios (love that name). Of course, there is much useful info among the charming photos and amusing drawings. A fun read.

One of the benefits of attending the Queensland Garden Club monthly meetings is access to the freebie's donated by members who are culling their collections of books, magazines, house plants, succulents, pots, baskets, etc. etc. 1st Wed. each month at the Queensland Community Centre.

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Chicken & Gnocchi Dumplings

January is all about comfort food and ease of preparation. After the holidays, you can take break but you don't have to sacrifice the taste.

Get all the flavors of chicken and dumplings without having to make the dumplings when you use gnocchi in their place.

Makes: 4 servings **Serving Size:** 2 cups
Active Time: 40 minutes **Total Time:** 40 minutes

INGREDIENTS

- 1 16-ounce package shelf-stable gnocchi
- 1 cup thawed frozen peas
- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken thighs, trimmed, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground pepper, divided
- 2 cups diced carrots
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme or 1 teaspoon dried
- 1 3/4 cups low-sodium chicken broth

DIRECTIONS

Bring a large saucepan of water to a boil. Add gnocchi and cook, stirring frequently, for 2 minutes. Stir in peas and cook until the gnocchi are tender, 1 to 2 minutes more. Drain.

Meanwhile, toss chicken with flour in a bowl until coated. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Transfer the chicken to the pan (reserving the flour remaining in the bowl) and sprinkle with 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until lightly browned, about 5 minutes. Transfer the chicken to a plate.

Add the remaining 1 tablespoon oil to the pan. Add carrots, celery, onion, thyme and the remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper; cook, stirring occasionally, until the vegetables are crisp-tender, 5 to 7 minutes. Sprinkle the reserved flour over the vegetables; stir to coat. Stir in broth and the chicken. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the stew is thickened, about 3 minutes. Add the gnocchi and peas and cook, gently stirring, until the gnocchi are hot, about 2 minutes.



COUNCILLOR, WARD 12

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Happy New Year Ward 12! 2015 was certainly a memorable year for southeast Calgary, and 2016 will be just as exciting!

City of Calgary Secures Funding for Green Line LRT

On December 14, 2015 Council made the decision to fund one-third of the project costs for the Green Line LRT. Council had previously dedicated \$52M over 10 years to the Green Line. On December 14 I was very proud to take the lead on a Notice of Motion that extended that commitment from 10 years to 30 years. Through this mechanism The City of Calgary is able to dedicate \$1.53B to the Green Line LRT without any tax increases on Calgarians.

Ward 12 Open House

Want to find out what will be happening in Ward 12 in 2016? Join me and representatives from the City of Calgary for the annual Ward 12 Open House on Thursday, January 28, 2015. This year we will be at the Mahogany Beach House, 29 Masters Park SE. Every year I ask departments from the City of Calgary and community stakeholders to join me and answer questions that residents may have about the future of their communities. Drop in and say hello!

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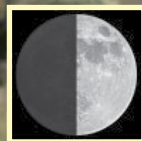
JANUARY MOON CALENDAR



Last Quarter
Jan 1



New Moon
Jan 9



First Quarter
Jan 16



Full Moon
Jan 23



Interesting ARCHITECTURE

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, architect José R. Marchand and interior designer Jorge Rosselló restored and updated historic **La Concha hotel**. Colorful bridges connect the shell-shaped restaurant, originally designed by Osvaldo Toro, to the hotel.



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Happy New Year everyone!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and had a chance to spend time with friends, family and loved ones.

Recently, our government announced Alberta's Climate Leadership Plan. The Plan, based on the advice of the energy industry, experts and real Albertans, puts a price on carbon, phases out coal pollution, and limits pollution from the oil sands.

This climate leadership plan is important for many reasons:

- We are doing the right thing, showing leadership to protect our health, environment, and economy for future generations.
- We are creating a more stable, diversified economy that will create good jobs in the renewable sector.
- Our plan is bringing people together to strengthen our economy, with the support of the oil and gas industry, environmental groups and First Nations.
- Our approach will improve Alberta's reputation and access to new markets, and protect jobs in our largest industry.
- A made-in-Alberta plan means we won't have climate change programs imposed on us from outside our borders.
- This plan works for our province and our industries, and keeps our capital here in Alberta.

The price on carbon will be revenue-neutral, with investments in new technology and infrastructure, as well as adjustment funds for low and middle income families, small businesses and families who work in the coal industry.

Some of our communities rely heavily on the coal industry, and we have been faced with increasing pressure on our way of life as the health effects of this industry become more widely known. More and more, we see coal mines and coal-fired plants closing in Alberta and beyond our borders as well.

Our Government is committed to work with communities and businesses that rely on coal to develop community-specific adjustment plans to make the inevitable transition work in a way that supports families.

The road ahead is a challenging one, but one we have known is coming. This Plan will make Alberta one of the most environmentally-responsible energy producers in the world and enable us to create a more diversified economy.

I bet you are wondering what you can do at home to save on your energy bill, reduce household waste and lower your water usage. Green Calgary is a wonderful not-for-profit with a mission to engage and empower Calgarians to create healthy homes, communities, and businesses by providing environmental education, products, services and hands-on support. Get together 4 or 5 of your friends and host a Green Tea - enjoy an evening facilitated for you and your guests and learn about simple, practical and affordable ways to maintain a greener household. Green Calgary offers a variety of other programs. Contact Green Calgary at 403-230-1443 and check out their website at www.greencalgary.org.

Mark your calendars: my office is hosting another Open House! On Thursday January 28, 2016 between 5-8 pm, stop by the office to have a coffee, ask questions and join in the conversation.

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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



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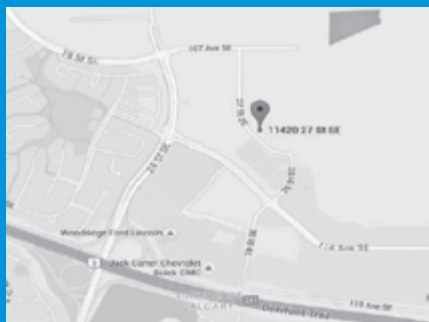


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