

JANUARY 2016

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your **OAKRIDGE** ECHO

THE OFFICIAL OAKRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



EXPERTS IN EDUCATION 2016

STRATHCONA-TWEEDSMUIR SCHOOL
welcomes you to join us for the 2nd annual
Experts in Education Speakers Series.

7:00 pm, Wednesday,
February 10, 2016
C.A. Smith Arts Centre,
Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School

FREE ADMISSION
Please RSVP at:
sts.ab.ca/SpeakerSeries

MICHAEL HORN
Bestselling author of *Blended*
and *Disrupting Class*

Michael Horn is a leading authority on the future of education and blended learning; author of *Blended* and *Disrupting Class*; 14th on *Newsweek's* list of "Fifty Books for Our Times"; and a regular contributor to numerous publications including *Forbes*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist*, *The Huffington Post*, and *Education Week*.

Envision education 15 years from now and enhance student success in a new world of teaching and learning.



STRATHCONA-TWEEDSMUIR SCHOOL



Oakridge Community Association
9504 Oakridge Dr. SW
Calgary, AB – T2V 0L1
Phone: 403.238.0007
oakcomm@telus.net | www.oakridgecommunity.ca

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OAKRIDGE

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9504 Oakfield Drive S.W.
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Fax: 403 238-1115
Email: oakcomm@telus.net
www.oakridgecommunity.ca

Office Hours

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Weekdays

Complex Manager

Sandy Fitzgibbon

Maintenance

Leyla McTaggart
Ron Lukie, Jay Stewart,
Jesse Leinan

Community Contacts

C.O.P.S. Liaison

Cst. Mike Glessing

Hall Rentals

- Contact Sandy weekdays at the Center, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.
- Space available for Socials, Meetings, Wedding Receptions
- Our large hall holds approximately 200 people with kitchen facilities



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE

President	Gerry Stoddart	403-238-9715
Past President	Cam Sylven	403 472-1780
Treasurer	Rob Kramer	403 251-2093
Secretary	Shauna Kelly	403 242-2628
V.P. Complex	Brian Pedlar	403 238-2634
V.P. Membership	Barb Yau	403 808-3797
V.P. Social	Marilyn Sharpe	403 281-5615
V.P. Sports	John Killam	403 238-0510
V.P. Fundraiser	VACANT	
V.P. Civic Affairs	Matthew O'Connor	403 837-1695

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Best, Marty Scholten, Toby LaBrie, Scott Meyerhoff and Suzanne Burgman

DIRECTORY

Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Gord Lane	403-281-1700
Before/After School Care	Kelly Krebs	403 238-9322
Bingo Volunteers	Sandy Fitzgibbon	403 238-0007
Brownies/Guides	Diane Guido	403 238-8549
Community Recreation Coordinator	Pam McHugh	403 476-7275
Curling	Ted Bailey	403 281-4557
Echo	Emily Pratt	403 801-3786
Elm Obedience School	Eda Milne	403 281-7937
Holiday Adventures	Kelly Krebs	403 238-9322
Jump Start	Kelly Krebs	403 238-9322
Line Dancing	Mary Rochfort	403 238-4692
Netball	Paula MacWilliam	403 281-8348
Quick Fit	Sandy Fitzgibbon	403 238-0007
Ringette	Steve Hutchison	403 238-3538
Soccer	Gene Pawlak	403 238-2199
Southland Athletic Association	Jill Cameron	403 968-7316
Southwest Communities Resource Centre		403 238-9222
Weaselhead Society	Lisa Flaman	403 200-7111
Yoga	Jane Sponiar	403 281-7553
Tools for Kids Preschool	Angy Moore	403 460-0389

Editorial Content **14** of each month for the next month's issue

DEADLINE

oakridge.echo@gmail.com

JANUARY 2016

OAKRIDGE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					New Year's Day Community centre closed	Quick Fit 8 am - noon
3 Public Skating 2:30-3:30 pm	4 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm	5 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm 60+ Fitness 10-11 am Public Skating 3:30-4:30 pm Line Dancing 5:30-8:30 pm	6 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Adult Skate 9:30-10:30 am Parent/Tot Skate 1:30-2:30 pm Yoga with Jane 7:30-8:30 pm	7 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm 60+ Fitness 10-11 am Line Dancing 1-3 pm Public Skating 2:30-4:30 pm	8 Quick Fit 8 am - 4 pm Line Dancing 9:30-11:30 am	9 Quick Fit 8 am - noon
10 Public Skating 2:30-3:30 pm	11 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Yoga with Rosemarie 7-8:30 pm	12 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm 60+ Fitness 10-11 am Public Skating 3:30-4:30 pm Line Dancing 5:30-8:30 pm	13 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Adult Skate 9:30-10:30 am Parent/Tot Skate 1:30-2:30 pm Yoga with Jane 7:30-8:30 pm	14 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Line Dancing 1-3 pm Public Skating 2:30-4:30 pm	15 Quick Fit 8 am - 4 pm Line Dancing 9:30-11:30 am	16 Quick Fit 8 am - noon
17 Public Skating 2:30-3:30 pm	18 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Yoga with Rosemarie 7-8:30 pm	19 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Public Skating 3:30-4:30 pm Line Dancing 5:30-8:30 pm	20 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Adult Skate 9:30-10:30 am Parent/Tot Skate 1:30-2:30 pm Yoga with Jane 7:30-8:30 pm	21 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Line Dancing 1-3 pm Public Skating 2:30-4:30 pm	22 Quick Fit 8 am - 4 pm Line Dancing 9:30-11:30 am	23 Quick Fit 8 am - noon
24 Public Skating 2:30-3:30 pm	25 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Yoga with Rosemarie 7-8:30 pm	26 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Public Skating 3:30-4:30 pm Line Dancing 5:30-8:30 pm	27 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Adult Skate 9:30-10:30 am Parent/Tot Skate 1:30-2:30 pm Yoga with Jane 7:30-8:30 pm	28 Quick Fit 8 am - 8 pm Line Dancing 1-3 pm Public Skating 2:30-4:30 pm	29 Quick Fit 8 am - 4 pm Line Dancing 9:30-11:30 am	30 Quick Fit 8 am - noon
31 Public Skating 2:30-3:30 pm						

Squash court: Available every day Tools for Kids Preschool: Every weekday September to June, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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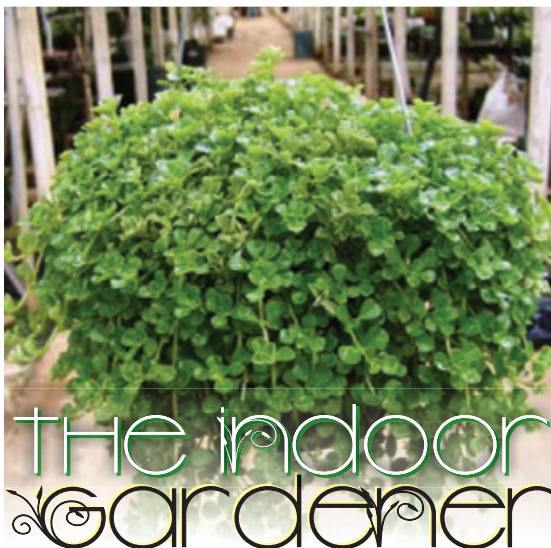


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A Safety Management System (SMS) is all about managing the safety interaction you have with your workers. It's an overall strategy to help you communicate information on hazards and best practices in your workplace so you can develop a stronger, lasting culture of safety within all stakeholders in your organization.



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.



Keep the Oakridge Community Centre smoke-free

Please be aware that smoking is not permitted within five metres of the Oakridge Community Centre entrance, per City of Calgary Bylaw 57M92 and the provincial Tobacco Reduction Act.

The Tobacco Reduction Act prohibits smoking in public places and workplaces, and within five metres of any doorway, window or air intake. If you do smoke, please be sure to do so at least five metres from the entrance. We appreciate your cooperation.

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Focusing on the future

The 2015 calendar year has come to an end, but the Calgary Board of Education school year is in full swing and it's a great time to reflect on the year so far.

More students

This fall the CBE welcomed a record number of students in our schools, bringing our total enrolment to 116,987 students. We are proud to be the dynamic learning community of choice for students from kindergarten to adult education.

Great results

We are also proud of the academic results our students are achieving. In the 2014-15 Grade 6 and 9 provincial achievement tests and diploma exams, CBE students continued to outperform the province in most subjects, particularly at the excellence standard.

Building for student success

The CBE continues work on an unprecedented 31 capital projects including: 21 new schools, three re-

placement schools, six major school modernizations and one modular extension. We are currently on schedule to open 15 new schools during the 2016-17 school year. For information on these projects, visit cbe.ab.ca/schools

Working together

The CBE is committed to involving people in decisions that affect them. To do this more effectively, we are developing a new system-wide approach to public engagement.

This approach will help people understand how their contributions influence decisions within the CBE, clarify roles and responsibilities and allow us to have a consistent approach across our system.

If you are interested in participating in this process, please sign up online at cbe.ab.ca, under Get Involved.

The Board of Trustees would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday season and wish you all the best in the new year. We always welcome your comments, feedback and questions. You can contact the Board of Trustees at boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca.

Follow the Calgary Board of Education on Twitter @yycbedu

COMMUNITY NOTICES IMPORTANT NOTE PARKING LOT SPEED LIMIT



Please be advised that the speed limit in the parking lot of the community centre is 5 km/hour.

Our parking lot is very busy at pick-up times for a variety of sports and community programs, many catering to younger children. Often children are excited when leaving the building and may not look before they run into the path of traffic.

Please note that the end of the cement pad is a drop-off/pick-up zone only – unattended vehicles are not allowed. Also, the handicap parking stall is for vehicles that have a handicap parking sticker.

Help us ensure the safety of all users of the Oakridge Community Centre by entering and exiting the parking lot carefully.

The Oakridge Community Association

Oakridge Community Centre Abuse Policy

The Oakridge Community Centre values its staff, volunteers and patrons of the facility. In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, we are a zero-tolerance facility. Abuse or harassment towards volunteers, staff and patrons will not be tolerated.



Cst. Mike Glessing

Serving the Communities of: Bayview • Braeside
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• Saturdays – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

• Closed - Sundays and Holidays

**The Calgary Police Service can be reached
at any time by calling 403-266-1234**

Calgary



On Jan. 5, 2016, The City of Calgary will mail 2016 property assessment notices.

Watch for your assessment notice in the mail – it contains important information including:

- Your assessed value
- Your access code to log into *Assessment Search*
- Dates to contact Assessment if you have questions.

Go to *Assessment Search* to:

- View information about your assessment and other details
- Search for comparable properties
- Search for sales of similar properties in your area
- View other detailed assessment information.

Assessment Search – getting started

First-time users will need to complete a two-step registration process:

1. Create a City of Calgary personal myID account. Visit calgary.ca/myID to register.
2. Link your property assessment to your myID account.

When you receive your 2016 assessment notice go to *Assessment Search* at calgary.ca/assessment:

- Login with your myID account and password.
- Enter the roll number and access code displayed on your notice.

2015-1053

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For details, visit our website at: **www.oakridgecommunity.ca** or call us at: **403-238-0007**

Oakridge Racquet Club (ORC) memberships are also available on line.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

☐ Household Membership \$40 ☐ Senior Membership \$20 *per household*

☐ Oakridge Racquet Membership (ORC) *Note you must have a community membership to purchase a Racquet Membership*

Indicate: ☐ Individual \$100 ☐ Family \$200 ☐ Adult Couple \$175 ☐ Senior \$75 ☐ Junior \$25

Payment Method: ☐ Cheques ☐ Money Order ☐ Credit Card # _____

Name on Credit Card: _____ Expiry Date: _____

*Make cheques payable to: Oakridge Community Association. Fees may also be paid in person by debit during business hours.
Mail or drop off to: Oakridge Community Association, 9504 Oakfield Drive SW, T2V 0L1. Receipts and membership cards will
be mailed. Please note that skate and tennis tags cannot be mailed, but can be picked up from staff at the Community Centre.*

IN & AROUND CALGARY

Southland Leisure Centre

MEND Mind, Exercise, Nutrition...Do it!

MEND is provided at no cost to participants and provide a comfortable environment for families to interact and learn how to make healthy lifestyle choices. MEND will provide you with the tools and support you need to help you and your family transition to a healthier lifestyle. Ages 2Y – 4Y: A 10 week healthy eating and activity program for families.

Friday Night Dance Party – January 29 and February 26 from 7:15-10:00pm.

Admission to the party includes a dance lesson (primary movements, rhythmic structure, posture, leading and following), social dance, as well as refreshments. No partner required!

Wednesday Soccer Drop

Age: All ages

Soccer in the gymnasium. Develop foot skills, practice drills or play a game. Nets and standards are available. Please supply your own soccer ball.

Calgary AfterSchool

A FREE supervised drop-in program for youth ages 11-15 during the school year. Come use the pool on Tuesdays and Fridays, and the Sport Hall and Youth Room are open each day! New activities are always introduced and daily snacks are available.

Day: Monday to Thursday, 3 – 6 p.m. and Fridays, 1 – 5 p.m.

South Calgary Youth Council (SCYC)

An exciting opportunity for youth ages 12 – 17 years to become active participants in their community. Learn how to be an influential leader, have a voice in community projects while having a great time and meeting lots of new friends. Meetings are held once a month, October – June, along with additional volunteer opportunities.

Fridays, 7:30 to 10 p.m. Youth Night – Come with your friends and join us in the Sport Hall for a variety of youth exclusive sports including basketball, badminton, dodgeball, soccer and much more. Weekly planned active activities are also available. If swimming is your thing, admission also includes access to public swim in our waterpark.

Volunteer Opportunities

Southland welcomes volunteers, 13 years old to seniors,

to assist in a variety of programs and activities throughout the year. Opportunities include Babysitting, Day Camps, Fitness (Disability and Weight Room), Special Events, Skating, Sport Programs and Youth Programs.

Drop-in Playschool

Want to sample some of our Playschool activities? We have Drop-in Kinderschool for 3-5 year olds on Mondays and Wednesdays, 1-3 pm.

Drop-in Preschool Programs

Check out some of our drop-in preschool programs including Kinder Room, Friday Funtime, Kinderschool, Snug and Tot's Gym Time.

Drop-in Climbing and Gymnastics

Come have some fun and unique experiences in our rock wall climbing and gymnastics gym drop-in times. All equipment is provided and instructors are present to guide you.

Drop-in Badminton and Basketball

Please see calgary.ca/recreation or contact 311 for the latest schedules as cancellations may be in effect for special events or holiday hours.

Every Sunday, 8 am to noon. Family Swim. Come enjoy our waterpark, including a trip or two to the AquaPlay structure. Adults must be accompanied by a child and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Babysitting Room

Treat yourself to some 'me time' to workout or take a class. Book your children into our Babysitting Room Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 8:15 pm, Friday 8:30am-6pm, Saturday and Sunday 8:30 am – 12:30pm.

Day Camps

Register your children for some fun in Southland Leisure Centre's day camps. www.calgary.ca/recreation.

PD School Days

Did you know that Southland Leisure Centre offers programs to elementary school aged children on some Professional and Parent-Teacher Interview days? Hours of School's Out Day Camps are 7 am – 6 pm, www.calgary.ca/recreation.

Southland Leisure Centre Playschool

Southland Leisure Centre's Playschool is recreation-based and provides children with skills and awareness that emphasize the value of recreational play. We include educational aspects through activities, songs, arts/crafts and more. Playschool programs are for two to four year olds from September to June.

Winter 2016 in Fish Creek

Fish Creek Speaker Series

Presentations will take place at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre at Shannon Terrace in Fish Creek Provincial Park (13931 Woodpath Rd. SW, access via 130 Ave. SW and 37 St. SW). Friends members will receive free admission and the fee is \$5 each for non-members. Please register online at www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/speaker-series

Fish Creek - From Gentle Stream to Wild River and Everything in Between: A Look at Land Uses and Water Quality Assessment Through the Years

Thursday, January 21, 2016
7:00pm - 8:00pm

Presented by Katie Pearson, Program Coordinator, Friends of Fish Creek
Join us for an evening all about the small creek after which our park was named! In this talk, we will explore how various land uses have affected the creek's water quality over the years. From 2007 to 2013, the

Friends worked with volunteers and community organizations to test the quality of the water in the creek. We will share the results of the Friends of Fish Creek Water Quality Monitoring Program and highlight the people and organizations that helped turn this dream into a reality.

Sticks and Stones: Using Bioengineering to Improve Fish Habitat

Thursday, February 25, 2016
7:00pm - 8:00pm

Presented by Lesley Peterson (P.Biol) Provincial Biologist Trout Unlimited Canada

The process of bioengineering was used to improve fish habitat along a side channel of the Bow River here in Fish Creek. Trout Unlimited Canada undertook this project in the spring of 2015 to improve and enhance the side channel located at Mallard Point. The entire area was heavily impacted by the flood of 2013 and Trout Unlimited saw the opportunity to explore bioengineering as an ef-

fective way to repair and enhance the area to improve fish habitat. The presentation will also explore the needs of fish during their life cycle and offer people background on Trout Unlimited and the work they do provincially and nationally.

Friends of Fish Creek Annual General Meeting

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Registration at 6:30 pm, Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre, Shannon Terrace, Fish Creek Provincial Park

It is because of our members, volunteers and donors that the Friends have accomplished so much. Come and have your voice heard and meet our board and staff at the Annual General Meeting. Refreshments will be served. Please contact the Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society if you would like to attend, or visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/agm

Fish Creek Community Fair

Would You Like to Volunteer in Fish Creek? The Friends of Fish Creek Need You!

Saturday, February 27, 2016
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre, Shannon Terrace, Fish Creek Provincial Park

(13931 Woodpath Rd. SW - Access via 130 Ave. SW and 37 St. SW)

Come to the third annual Fish Creek Community Fair to learn about amazing programs, courses, events and opportunities taking place in 2016. The ground may still be covered in snow, but Spring starts now in Fish Creek! For more info, please visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/fccuf.

CULINARY FILE: Breakfast / Supper

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

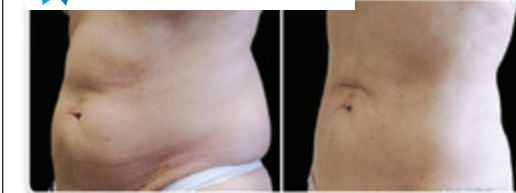
- 1 16-ounce package shelf-stable gnocchi
- 1 cup thawed frozen peas
- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken thighs, trimmed, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground pepper, divided
- 2 cups diced carrots
- 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.

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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.

Fire Safety

A message from the Federation of Calgary Communities Building Safe Communities Program

Each year the Calgary Fire Department responds to over 1000 fires in Calgary. Here are some tips on staying safe from the Calgary Fire Department:

- Ensure your bedroom doors are closed while you are sleeping
- Ensure there are smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home
- Ensure there are at least two exits out any room where people are sleeping (ex. a window and a door)
- Prepare a home fire escape plan including a meeting place

ARE YOU IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES TO MINIMIZE TAX?

Ask an Expert



Sheri MacMillan,
Senior Trust & Estate Practitioner,
CEO of MacMillan Estate Planning Corp.
and Host of The Strongroom on QR77

Q I am quite concerned that these large tax hikes in Alberta are coinciding with a federal increase, resulting in almost a 10% increase! How is this going to affect the residents of Alberta?

A These changes will likely have an impact on every taxpayer in one way or another, however, the largest impact is likely to be felt by earning income in the top tax bracket. These taxpayers will should seek the advice of a tax professional to explore opportunities to minimize tax and maximize the potential for their estates to support them in retirement.

In addition, individuals already in or approaching retirement will need to ensure their retirement plans accommodate the change in tax legislation to maximize the funds they have available for living expenses and to fund other retirement goals and bequests.

While business owners will also face similar concerns with a properly formulated tax strategy there may be opportunities to save taxes both personally and corporately.

While many Albertans are off to a great start by utilizing the basic tax strategies offered by the Federal government, including RRSPs and TFSA's, there are more advanced opportunities for saving additional taxes that can be explored.

A tax professional should be consulted to either review your current strategy or advise on formulating a new one.

MacMillan Estate Planning Corp. will be hosting a complimentary
Wine & Cheese Seminar
on Thursday, February 4th at 7:00 PM

TO REGISTER, PLEASE VISIT MACMILLANESTATE.COM
OR CALL 403 266 6464





COUNCILLOR, WARD 11 BRIAN PINCOTT

www.ward11calgary.ca

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great holiday. I'm taking this opportunity to share a bit of a 'Year in Review' of 2015, and to share what is on the horizon for 2016.

This past year we've had some exciting project developments in the Ward:

- The SW Transitway BRT received GreenTRIP funding, and is now going ahead with engaging our communities in the preliminary designs. Stay posted for more information sessions to come early in the New Year.
 - Phase I of the 37th Street Stormtrunk project is near completion. We can expect to see landscaping work in Spring 2016.
 - ENMAX is in the process of moving a substation and transmission lines in the Oakridge area to accommodate the construction of the SW portion of the Calgary Ring Road. Access for you and your canine friends is expected to remain, but that access will rotate throughout the construction.
 - Engagement on the 20th Street Bikeway project is wrapped up. Stay posted for more details on the installation of the bicycle lanes in the New Year.
 - Phase I of the River Park, Sandy Beach, Britannia Slopes Improvement Project finished in Summer 2015. Phase II began in Fall 2015, you'll see work on restoration, access changes, and amenity upgrades.
 - The Crowchild Trail / Flanders Avenue Interchange is well into the construction phase, with an anticipated completion in Fall 2016.
 - The Currie Barracks development plan was approved and is moving ahead.
 - The communities of Garrison Woods, Garrison Green and Currie Barracks are now officially named as such.
- Thank you for your patience as the City works hard to create better connectivity for all citizens and modes of transportation.

I've also supported some awesome projects in our communities:

- The children in Lincoln Park created a beautiful painted mural to help create community awareness and connection.
- A rain garden has been built in Oakridge, replacing a

gravel pad. The rain garden is a great means to naturally filter stormwater before it goes back to the rivers, and create a valuable community space.

- The CKE Skate Spot opened Fall 2015 and is seeing lots of use!
- The Southwood Skate Park is under construction. We look forward to a grand opening in Spring 2016.
- The City's largest solar photovoltaic project to date was installed at the Southland Leisure Centre. This is an exciting green initiative and addition to our ward!
- Kingsland installed four Little Free Libraries. If you haven't checked them out, these hand-painted little boxes are a must-see!
- The new and improved Variety Spray Park at South Glenmore Park was unveiled in Summer 2015!
- Haysboro is building a natural playground. With natural features, this playground is one that enhances our children's relationship with the environment and fosters imagination.

These are only some highlights. My office is here to help. If your community is interested in a neat initiative, let us know!

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 21

Klassified Kids

These ads are free to children 16 years of age and under who would like to advertise in the Echo. Ads are placed for a 3-month period. The cut-off date is 5:00pm the 15th day of the month prior to the publication month. Please contact Emily at 403-801-3786 or email at oakridge.echo@gmail.com.

Need a Babysitter? ABC Babysitting can help! Go to that meeting and let me take care of your children for you. 12-year-old Red Cross-certified babysitter. 2 or more kids? No problem! My 10-year-old brother will help out. Contact Skyler at babysitter1357@gmail.com.

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Family: \$300.00/year (unlimited visits)

\$40.00 Community Membership also required

(Minimum age is 12. Anyone 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult.)

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MLA CALGARY-GLENMORE ANAM KAZIM

#A208, 1600 - 90th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB Canada T2V 5A8
Ph: (403) 216-5421, Fax: (403) 216-5423
Email: calgary.glenmore@assembly.ab.ca

Hello everyone,

I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and a sweet 2016!

I hope all of you had joyful holidays with family, friends and loved ones. I had a great time as I attended the events such as SWCRC Holiday Tea and "Get Together" with Community Members of the House of Jacob in our constituency. At all of the events throughout the holiday season, I had an excellent opportunity to spend meaningful time with you.

As we enter into the New Year, it is common for us to set a New Year's Resolution. My New Year's Resolution is to seek even better opportunities to work with you and be

the best representative for our constituency. In order to foster this resolution, it will be my pleasure, whenever possible, to meet with you. Janice and Jonathan, our office staff is available and maintain an open door policy. We so look forward to getting to know each one of you.

I want to continue collaborating with you regarding further improvements and advancements of our communities. For this reason, our office is hosting our first 2016 Open House Gathering on Thursday, January 14, 2016 from 4:00pm to 6:00 pm. Please feel free to drop into our constituency office, and enjoy conversation and refreshments on your way home. My staff and I will be more than happy to see you, discuss ideas/ issues concerning you, and learn about New Year's resolutions you may have for yourselves, your families and Calgary-Glenmore.

As we enter the New Year, I am pleased to look back on 2015 and share with you the engagements I had with you all, the progress that occurred on our issues/ concerns, and my vision for our constituency in 2016. I would also highlight the government's initiatives in the past year, along with a sneak peek into the government's plans for this year.

- The budget for 2015-2016 was introduced
- The Royalty Review was performed
- The Flood Protection Plan-Springbank was approved
- Integration of constituents' feedback on reducing environmental impact in the construction of Southwest Ring Road
- Alberta's Leadership in Climate Change was introduced
- Further initiatives will be taken towards Climate Change in 2016
- Ministry of Economic Development and Trade was created to facilitate start-up of new businesses and diversify the economy
- Haysboro Playground was inaugurated
- To foster public engagement in the upcoming months there will be events such as "Run with your MLA", "Glenmore's Talent Night", and many others based on the suggestions received.

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Lynn Grant
General Manager

JANUARY MOON CALENDAR

	Last Quarter Jan 1		New Moon Jan 9		First Quarter Jan 16		Full Moon Jan 23
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your COMMUNITY business of the month

Ha Tien Vietnamese Restaurant

Cedarbrae Community

Our current location (11225 - 30th St SW) has been operating since January 2010. However, our family owned and operated business has been open for more than 10 years!

We specialize in Vietnamese cuisine and our menu includes traditional dishes such as pho, (beef noodle soup), bun (rice vermicelli) and com (rice). To make our popular beef noodle soup, we slow cook our broth for eight hours. For our dry dishes, we prepare and grill our meats everyday. The spring rolls are made in-house with our family recipe and our salad rolls are wrapped fresh daily!

Our top two best sellers would be #26, the rice vermicelli with grilled beef, grilled chicken, grilled shrimp and a spring roll, and our #23, our famous satay beef noodle soup. Traditionally, satay sauce contains peanuts, but to allow everyone to enjoy the spicy satay sauce, we have opted out of using peanuts in our recipe. Most of our foods come with the option of being peanut and/or gluten free!

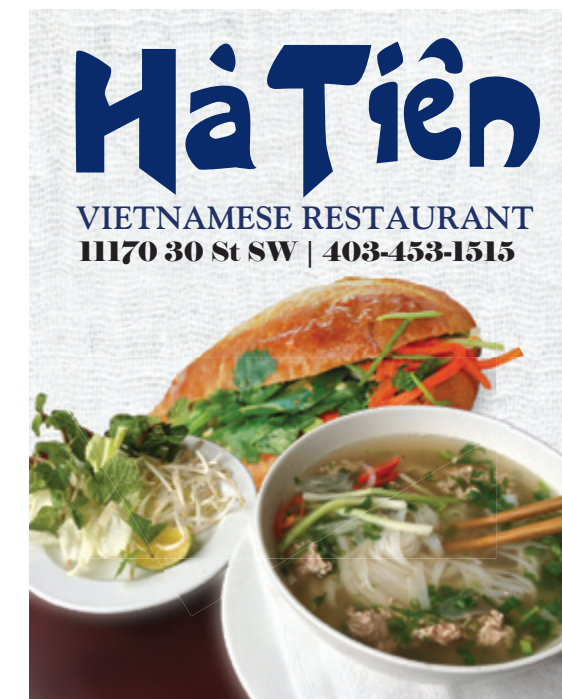
The restaurant itself can seat up to 44 guest comfortably and we also enjoy private bookings and catering for birthdays, engagements, small or large parties! Our restaurant offers dine-in, take-out, pick up and deliveries.

We understand that waiting for food can be a tedious task so our kitchen staff try to prepare your food in a very timely manner to minimize your wait-time. If you have any dietary concerns, our wait staff is always more than happy to accommodate your dietary needs.

In recent news, Ha Tien held our third "How To Make Your Own Salad Rolls" and first "How To Make Wonton Wraps" classes at the Cedarbrae Community Centre and both were a huge success!

We hope to see you in the New Year! Have a wonderful holiday!

Review from Yelp by user Cazizarty: "Lots of Vietnamese in this city but I like Ha Tien. This Vietnamese restaurant is always fresh and tasty, service is friendly and quick and I really like their bubble tea. The restaurant is in a pretty small strip mall in the SW 'burb of Cedarbrae next to Sammy's Pizza and a pub called Swigs. The interior isn't opulent by any stretch of the imagination but looks like 95% of the Vietnamese restaurants in the city. There are few restaurants in this area of Calgary, a good one is always welcome."



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NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

CURVES: New Year Special - three classes for free. Get strong and stay strong in 2016. All it takes is 30 minutes on the Curves Circuit. There is always a Curves Coach to help you with your form and push you to your personal best. Try three classes for free. Call 403-238-8400 for an appointment.

JUNK TO THE DUMP / ODD JOBS: Disposal of any household unwhants. Reno clean-ups. Move in/out garbage removal. Disposal/recycling of appliances/electronics. Reno moves. Very prompt service, best prices and satisfaction always guaranteed! We load. Senior Discount. Please call Sanil for your free estimate at 403-616-2758.

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PETER AT THE PIANO: With over fifteen years of experience teaching, directing, and performing Peter employs all of the skills necessary to support your new years resolution to explore music this year. Morning / early afternoon piano lessons for adults returning or new. All musical styles. Relaxing and fun! 403-796-5236

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in & around your schools community

École St. Gerard

Hello 2016! We hope all of our families had a wonderful holiday season!

Important Dates for January:

- January 4: Regular Classes Resume
- January 22: No School (Professional Day)
- January 25-27: Alien In-Line Skating for kindergarten, grade 1 and 2.

Bienvenue!

BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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CHANGES TO 14TH STREET & GLENMORE TRAIL WILL IMPACT YOU

Dear Neighbours,

The City of Calgary is trying to move forward quickly with the SW Transitway and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. This includes the addition of two dedicated bus lanes on the west side of 14th Street from Rockyview Hospital to Southland Drive, the narrowing of lanes on 14th Street and Glenmore Trail, the development of transit terminals in our parks and the creation of bus loops on our neighbourhood streets without consulting us.

What does this mean to the residents and stakeholders of Oakridge?

- No underpass planned at 90th Avenue & 14th Street causing heavy traffic volumes and congestion;
- Traffic cutting through community as commuters park cars to take BRT;
- Redevelopment of Glenmore Landing with Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and construction of high-density non-market housing on site;
- Increase of harmful air emissions, noise pollution and vibration impacts;
- Gridlock along 14th Street during and after the **FOUR** years of construction;
- Project cost in excess of 40 million of our tax dollars before the effects of the SW Ringroad and the four-car Light Rail Transit (LRT) are evaluated.

Who we are:

ready to engage! is a group of concerned citizens representing more than 12 SW Calgary communities who have joined together to give residents and other stakeholders a voice on The City's *SW Transitway and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)* project

We are asking that:

1. this project be put on hold;
2. all project reports and source documents be disclosed;
3. meaningful public consultation be completed with all stakeholders affected;
4. a viable and workable proposal be created to address our concerns and benefit SW Calgary as a whole.

JOIN US AT THE JANUARY 21st INFORMATION FORUM

Thursday, January 21, 2015
7:00-8:30pm

Calgary Jewish Community Centre Auditorium - 1607 90 Avenue SW

Please visit our website at www.readytoengage.ca to sign the petition, get informed and stay updated.

..... www.readytoengage.ca info@readytoengage.ca

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Wishing you the best in 2016!



2931 Oakwood Drive

2931 Oakwood Drive - \$569,900 - Oakridge - Open Concept Living at its finest just steps to Louis Riel School. The stunning main floor features an upgraded kitchen with professional stainless steel appliances, granite counters and a huge eat up island, hardwood floors throughout and stunning vaulted ceilings open to the loft/office above. Complete with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, family room, rec room and a huge private backyard. MLS# C4040528



224 Oakland Place

224 Oakland Place - Oakridge - \$569,900- Tucked away on a quiet cul-de-sac in the heart of Oakridge, and just a short walk to Louis Riel School is this 1206 sq ft, 5 bedroom bi-level home on a large treed lot. Complete with an opened up main floor, this home features an updated maple kitchen with stainless steel appliances and a huge eat up island that flows into the large dining room with views into the living room. With 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on the main floor, including a recently updated 3pc ensuite. On the lower level there's an additional 2 bedrooms, large rec room, laundry & rough in for a bathroom. The double attached garage features a brand new door. Call for details MLS# C4034432



4203 Dalhart Rd NW

4203 Dalhart Rd NW - Dalhousie - \$659,900 - Completely renovated gem in a great community close to schools transportation & amenities. The open concept main floor features site finished hardwood floors throughout, a brand new kitchen with s/s appliances, Quartz counters & an eat up island overlooking the dining room with access to new back deck & living room with feature wood fireplace. With 2 bedrooms on the main, including master suite, an additional 3rd bedroom & huge rec room in the basement & a new double detached garage, this home has all you need & more. Call for details. MLS# C4039403

Market update as of December, 2015:

15 Single Family homes on the market with median list price of \$599,900

7 Condo units on the market with median list price of \$209,900

Since November 10, 2015 there have been:

4 Single Family home sales with a median sale price of \$532,000

2 Condo unit sale with a median sale price of \$188,500

We are still seeing market conditions in favour of buyers, with higher inventory levels and slower sales activity in the month of November. While there is uncertainty in the market due to economic conditions, we are still seeing sales, particularly for houses priced under \$500,000 or unique properties.

Stephanie Evans, B.Sc.

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cell: 403-862-3618

shirleyevans@shaw.ca

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