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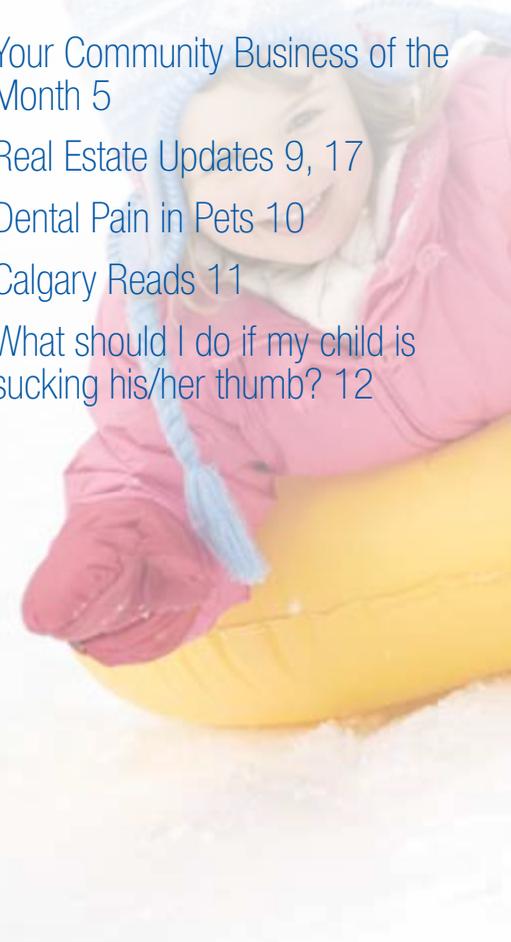
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GREAT NEWS PUBLISHING HAS BEEN PROUDLY SERVING CHRISTIE PARK, SIGNAL HILL & STRATHCONA FOR 2 YEARS!

EVENTS



English Conversation Café ESL - Free

Tuesday mornings, 9:30 - 11 am
January 12 - March 15, 2016

At the SCA Community Centre, 277 Strathcona Dr. SW Practice speaking English, learn about Canadian culture and meet other people at St. Martin's Anglican Church free English conversation classes. Tuesday morning at the SCA Community Centre. Drop-in for a few classes or join us every week. For more information, please contact Laura at community.stmartins@yahoo.ca or call 403-612-9949. All welcome!

"Cooking with Friends" - a weekly cooking class to share recipes, cook together and enjoy lunch with new friends. Thursdays 10:30 - 1 pm, January 14 - March 17, 2016. Please contact Laura at community.stmartins@yahoo.ca or call 403-612-9949. All welcome!

IN & AROUND CALGARY

Citizens' View: Calgary's online panel – 2,000 members and growing

The City is looking for more Calgarians to join citizensview.ca

You're invited to join more than 2,000 people that have already signed up for Citizens' View, Calgary's online panel. Citizensview.ca makes it easier for Calgarians to share their input anytime, anywhere through online surveys and discussions.

As Citizens' View continues to grow, The City is working to make sure that they hear from people of all ages and areas of Calgary. Right now, The City needs more people of all demographics and communities. Can you help?

"Creating an even better Calgary takes all of us—not just government," said Mayor Nenshi. "Citizens are the key to improving our communities and creating the best programs and services for our city. Calgarians are the experts in their lives and I encourage them to share their thoughts about life in Calgary by signing-up at citizensview.ca."

The City hopes to attract more than 4,000 people that reflect Calgary's diverse population. Members can expect to receive surveys once or twice a month, join online discussions, and receive information on City events and service improvements.

Calgarians 18 years and older can sign-up for the Citizens' View at www.citizensview.ca.

YOUR COMMUNITY business of the month

Appliance Force Westhills Community

Appliance Force has been in business since 2012 but its roots go back much farther as it was a merger and re-branding of several small one man shops some of which started in the early '70s. Appliance Force is based in the Westhills community area and currently serves Calgary and the surrounding communities from Airdrie, to Bragg Creek, De Winton and Chestemere.

Jon De Jong was working in the Calgary corporate sector which was experiencing the ups and downs of the Calgary business world and decided to go out on his own and do something different. He decided to get into the home appliance repair business when he tried to get someone in to fix one of his appliances and was told it would take well over a week for service so he ended up fixing it himself. It was then that he realized that there was an opportunity right here in Calgary in the appliance repair business as everyone has major appliances in their homes and they all breakdown from time to time. Coming from a service work background with degrees in electronics and lots of management experience this seemed like a perfect fit.

Not content to just copy everyone else in the industry Appliance Force was one of the first companies in Calgary to use cloud based technology throughout the business from dispatching techs with tablet computers to customer payments and invoices he instituted a near paperless environment to make both the office staff and the techs more efficient in serving the customer. As well all technicians attend training sessions several times a year to keep up to date on the latest technology in the appliance business as well as have access to online technical documents through their tablet computers.

Jon has always treated his customers the way he would want to be treated and has instilled this in his staff. Our best advertising are referrals and repeat business which keeps Appliance Force growing. Our mission statement is - To be known as the best Home Appliance Repair Company in Calgary and the one that customers go to for honest, reliable and timely appliance repair. Our motto is to provide service tailored to your situation from a refrig-

erator repair, to a dishwasher installation, our technicians will treat you and your home with respect.

Each member of the Appliance Force repair team is a provincially registered professional technician, which means you can count on us to do the job right the first time. The Appliance Force repair team is committed to exceptional customer service, so you can be guaranteed clean, friendly and professional service with every visit.

We charge by the job, and we provide a diagnostic quote so you can know what to expect before any repairs are done.

We service all major brands, including Amana, Bosch, Thermador, Electrolux, Frigidaire, General Electric, GE Monogram, Inglis, Jenn-Air, Kenmore, Kitchen Aid, Maytag, Samsung, Westinghouse, Whirlpool, Viking/Ultraline, AGA/Marvel and more.

We are proud members of the United Servicers Association, Better Business Bureau, WCB licensed and insured. As part of our commitment to give back to the community we support the Calgary Ronald McDonald House.

Book online 24/7 at www.applianceforce.ca or call 403-770-9793. Open Monday to Friday 8 AM to 5 PM.

The Best Neighbourhoods Survey is now open.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Tell us what makes great neighbourhoods great and what's most important to you in choosing where to live.

Closes February 28, 2016
AvenueCalgary.com/survey

avenue magazine

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IN & AROUND SCHOOLS

Montessori School of Calgary

We, at Montessori School of Calgary, cannot believe that it is February already. This short month is always a busy one!



Our POW, Physical Outdoor Wellness, program has kept our elementary children very busy. They enjoyed a visit to Fountain of Mission Seniors Home as well as a full day of skiing and snowboarding at **Nakiska**. The seniors enjoyed the presentations of learning from the children, as well as the games they played and their singing. The skiing and snowboarding day was AWESOME! After the lessons, children were free to ski in small groups and enjoy a beautiful day in the mountains. This month elementary children will spend two afternoons at the Talsman Centre enjoying a variety of activities including **gymnastics, volleyball and badminton**.

Thanks to Rick Williams and Carter Siebens, our outdoor skating rink is in process. The first few layers are on, and it is looking great. The children will enjoy spending their POW time ice skating at school.

Our staff will be enjoying a variety of professional learning activities during the Teachers' Convention break. Our families will enjoy a five day break to enjoy family time and travel. On February 25 and 26, we will hold our parent guide conferences, before taking that extra day, February 29, to LEAP into March. **Happy Valentine's Day!**

Lindy Arndt, Head of School, Montessori School of Calgary

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Interesting ARCHITECTURE

The Colosseum is the largest Roman amphitheatre ever built. This elliptical amphitheatre in the centre of Rome is considered as one of the greatest architectural feats achieved by the Ancient Romans. The stadium was capable of seating 50,000 spectators and used mainly for gladiatorial games.

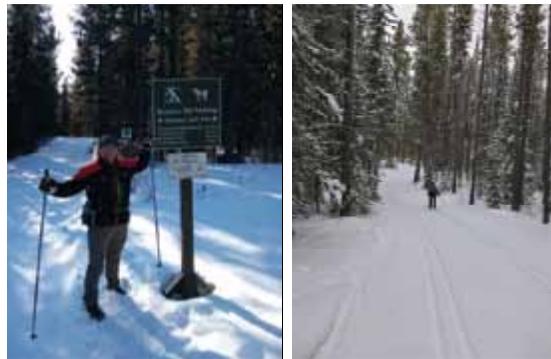
BRAIN GAMES SUDOKU

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FIND SOLUTION ON PAGE 22

Not a snowbird? Try fair weather skiing on Waxless cross country skis!

A great way to enjoy Alberta's sunshine and long winters is to be outdoors! If you don't like the cold and don't want to fuss with waxes, waxless skis are a great alternative. They work the best in temperatures of -6 to +3 degrees C. On warm Chinook days, or for spring skiing, they are perfect! You don't have to learn to apply the day to day sticky wax on the base of your ski, but waxless skis do require glide wax on the tips and tails as well as the scales. This protects your ski base and ensures you glide across the snow!



Haven't been out skiing for a while? There are many places to take a cross country ski lesson. It is a great way to get back to skiing or, to start out on the right foot for the first time! No line ups, no crowds, no lift fees, cross country skiing is a great way to enjoy the sun, fresh air and gentle exercise. What could be better than a day outside with friends skiing in West Bragg Creek, Ribbon Creek or other parts of Kananaskis country! There are two websites for checking trail conditions; Skierbob and on the Alberta Parks website. There are groomed and track-set ski trails as far west as Banff National Park and as far east as Shaganappi golf course, when we have enough snow in Calgary. I think of cross country skiing as a cross between trail biking and walking, it is smooth and heavenly, with a little good technique. So get out of the city and get signed up for safe, gentle outdoor fun!

Julie Walker is a Cross Country Ski instructor and Outdoor Educator.



SCA Real Estate Update

277 Strathcona Drive SW | Calgary, Alberta, T3H 2A4
Phone: (403) 249-1138 | info@sca Calgary.ca

Last 12 Months Strathcona Park MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
January 2016	\$679,450	\$662,500
December 2015	\$681,533	\$674,000
November 2015	\$657,925	\$644,250
October 2015	\$687,800	\$659,583
September 2015	\$714,814	\$711,474
August 2015	\$863,165	\$830,380
July 2015	\$704,114	\$683,000
June 2015	\$793,425	\$784,437
May 2015	\$666,730	\$655,846
April 2015	\$663,430	\$645,550
March 2015	\$545,433	\$536,066
February 2015	\$638,025	\$617,500

Last 12 Months Christie Park MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
January 2016	\$600,000	\$592,800
December 2015	\$509,900	\$504,500
November 2015	\$0	\$0
October 2015	\$699,900	\$675,000
September 2015	\$964,900	\$960,000
August 2015	\$943,944	\$894,700
July 2015	\$995,933	\$961,666
June 2015	\$724,933	\$710,000
May 2015	\$1,022,000	\$967,500
April 2015	\$725,000	\$710,000
March 2015	\$749,900	\$722,000
February 2015	\$1,016,200	\$961,500

To view the specific SOLD Listings that comprise the above MLS averages please visit strathcona.great-news.ca or christie_park.great-news.ca

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Dental Pain in Pets

If you have ever had a cavity, dental abscess, or fractured crown you may remember the pain you experienced probably made it difficult for you to concentrate on any task. Eventually you would seek dental treatment or rely on pain control to function. I see dental disease in almost every pet I examine in my veterinary clinic. Unfortunately preventative dental care is not something that most pet owners start early and continue daily. If there is a line of hot red swollen inflammation along your pet's teeth, put your nail against the edge of the gum where it meets the tooth. Does your pet wince and pull away?

Taking care of your pet's teeth can be time-consuming and expensive. Owners tend to ignore the teeth because they don't see them, but healthy teeth are directly linked to your pet's short and long-term well-being. I can't count the number of clients who have told me a month after a dental treatment that their elderly pets start playing with toys again and they didn't appreciate the discomfort their pet must have been experiencing.

Put to rest the belief that pets fed hard foods don't get dental disease. The value of specialized diets and dental products is limited, but really, if there was some magic component added to food that eliminated dental disease, wouldn't people be eating it to avoid our own dental disease and the ensuing costs.

Pets, ideally, should have their teeth brushed daily. Use a soft small tooth brush. Finger brushes don't work. Use pet toothpastes that do not foam or contain sodium bicarbonate so they can be swallowed. They come in flavours ranging from tuna to chicken to beef. Yum, yum! Many of my clients have even taught their pets to tolerate electric tooth brushes.

A few pets will not allow brushing under any circumstance. These pets will have to rely on the limited benefits from chewing products as well as a specialized

dental diet. None of these products out-perform the physical action of daily tooth brushing. Never give your pet hard bones, ice, and very hard toys.

Ideally pets should have regular preventative cleanings. Veterinarians offer every tool available to minimize the risks associated with general anaesthetic. Veterinarians doing pet dentals use ultrasonic scalers, drills, polishers, and advanced dental radiology to do as thorough a job as your own dentist and their staff. No self-respecting pet will tolerate a complete scaling and polishing below the gum line conscious.

I recently did a dental cleaning of a young dog's mouth expecting no or little disease. Visual examination prior to the cleaning everything looked good, but I discovered four deep pockets between the gums and four teeth. Dental radiographs confirmed the bone around the roots of the teeth was being eaten away by infection. The removal of diseased teeth allows a better chance to keep the surrounding teeth healthy. This disease would never have been discovered without a proper examination of an anaesthetized pet.

Superficial scraping of visual tartar only hides disease and lulls a person into thinking their pet's mouth is healthy.

Rotten teeth and gums can be a portal to bacteria entering the blood stream and traveling throughout the pet's body. Dental disease advances more quickly when pets have other illnesses such as kidney disease or diabetes, and dental disease can make other diseases more difficult to control. When the teeth hurt it can also cause an otherwise sweet pet to become cantankerous. Our pets are living longer than ever with advances in veterinary medicine and so your pets are going to need those healthy teeth longer...start brushing early.

Jennifer L. Scott, D.V.M.

calgary reads

Writings about Reading

Any place can be a reading place

Do you look for ways to encourage your child's enjoyment of reading? Creating a 'reading place' in your home can help!

A reading place might be in your child's bedroom, a cozy corner in the family room, a little nook under the stairs . . . or? Just remember the 3B's and you'll create a wonderfully welcoming spot:

Books

Make lots of books available. All kinds; picture books, stories, and nonfiction books about things your child is interested in (dogs, planes, machines, cake making perhaps). Encourage your child to write their name inside their books. Ownership is directly connected to higher reading scores.

Bookshelves

Have bookshelves or baskets, boxes or bags of books all over your home. Easy access means reading can happen anywhere, at anytime. In your special reading place books all around help create a colourful and welcoming environment.

Book lights

If you set your reading place up in a family room or bedroom, you can use a nearby lamp. Or, small, inexpensive lights (clip-on or flashlights) in cozy nooks make reading more of an adventure. Lights aid visibility and define a space that focuses a child on their reading.

Encourage other families and children to celebrate books and reading in their own reading place!

You can help others get excited about creating their own unique and comfy reading place too! If you take a photo of your child reading in their special reading place and would like to share it with us via:

- email to: info@calgaryreads.com
- Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter using hashtag #MyReadingPlace and tagging @CalgaryReads

Those who submit one by March 15, 2016 will be entered into a random draw for various '3B' prizes.

For resources to help your child develop critical literacy skills and a joy of reading, visit calgaryreads.com.

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West Hills United and Signal Hill Soccer Clubs provide programs at all levels from U4 recreational through to Women's and Men's teams. Registration opens on February 1, 2016 at www.whusoccer.com.

To find out more about our programs or upcoming open houses, go to www.whusoccer.com or call us at 403.700.5271. Hope to see you on the pitch soon!

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What should I do if my child is sucking his/her thumb?

The habit of thumb sucking can be a nightmare for most parents but it is comforting and calming for the child. Your child probably practiced this habit while in the womb and perfected it as an infant.

Should you be worried? Should you get medical help? According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, most children will stop sucking their thumb between the ages of 2 and 4. If the habit is discontinued by age 4, most children will not develop damaging concerns for their teeth or jaws until their permanent teeth begin to appear. Having said that, it is always easier to eliminate this habit when kids are younger and the habit has not become a norm for them.

The **type of thumb** sucking is also critical. If your child only places the thumb in his/her mouth passively, there is less damage to teeth and jaws versus if they were aggressively sucking the thumb causing a negative pressure leading to narrowing of the upper jaw. The consequences of this habit continuing into age 5 and 6 will be

flared upper front teeth and/or these teeth not coming into proper position due to the constant presence of the thumb. If your child is still sucking after age 4, it is time to consider taking action

How do I help as a parent? If you identify the time your child is most likely to suck his/her thumb (sleeping, watching television, etc.) consider distracting them with a substitute activity, such as rubber ball to squeeze or a water bottle to hold on to when watching television, holding a stuff animal while going to sleep, etc. The key is to notice when and where sucking occurs and to try to divert her/his attention by offering an alternative. Praising and positive reinforcement works better than scolding. Children often suck their thumb when feeling insecure or anxious. Focus on correcting the cause of the anxiety and provide comfort to your child. If the child is older than age 5, although it becomes harder to eliminate the habit but at this age you can involve the child in actively coming up with a plan to stop the habit as a family.



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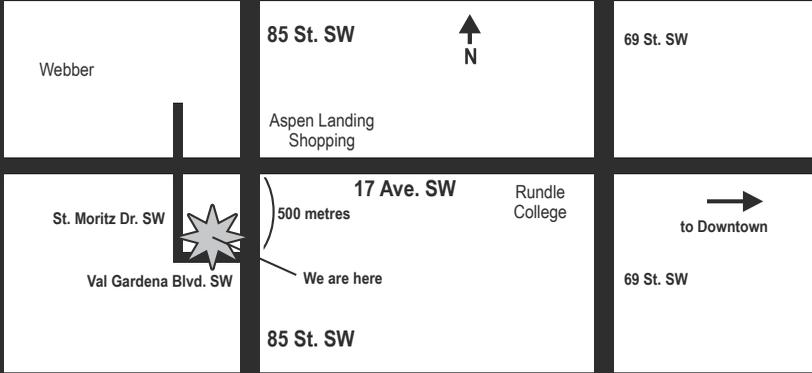
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**MARCH 18 TO 28
SPRING RALLY
IN THE ALLEY**

This annual, family-friendly event offers a range of activities centered around different modes of transportation. www.heritagepark.ca



**YOUR COMMUNITY/CITY EVENTS
AT A GLANCE...**

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- **January 16 to May 31 - Body Worlds Vital:** The exhibition celebrates the living human body and allows visitors to learn about human anatomy in a far more real way than any textbook. www.sparkscience.ca
- **March 3 - The Harlem Globetrotters:** The Harlem Globetrotters, a world-famous exhibition basketball team, combines athletic feats and teamwork with theatre and comedy. www.harlemglobetrotters.com
- **March 3 - Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band:** The Art of Time Ensemble is a chamber group that merges chamber music and pop music in this concert. The ensemble reinvents The Beatles' soundtrack to The Summer of Love. www.calgaryphil.com
- **March 4 to 13 - The Big Taste:** Each year for The Big Taste, a number of Calgary restaurants offer prix fixe menus, giving Calgarians the chance to try the best of what each restaurant offers. www.calgarydowntown.com
- **March 5 - The Black and White Ball:** Decidedly Jazz Danceworks' annual fundraising party is a black and white evening. Dress up in your finest (make sure it's black or white) and dance the evening away. www.decidedlyjazz.com
- **March 13 to 15 - Earth Science for Society Exhibit:** Earth Science for Society (ESfS) is a free, family-friendly event that is open to the public. It showcases the importance of Earth Science in our everyday lives. www.esfscanada.com
- **March 17 to 19 - ACAD Student's Association Spring Show + Sale:** See what Calgary's up-and-coming young artists have produced during their school year. www.acad.ca
- **March 24 to 29 - Disney On Ice presents Dare to Dream:** Disney princess stories are coming to the ice. The whole family will have fun seeing these favourite stories come to life on the ice rink. www.disneyonice.com
- **March 29 to April 9 - Taking Flight:** Festival of Student Work: Each year, the Taking Flight festival showcases the range of work conceived, directed and performed by University of Calgary graduate and undergraduate students. www.scpa.ucalgary.ca
- **March 30 to April 16 - Macbeth:** Darkness, dishonesty and murder fill Shakespeare's supernatural tragedy Macbeth. Macbeth timelessly highlights how ambition can cause one's downfall. www.shakespearecompany.com



Signal Hill Real Estate Update
1150, 246 Stewart Green SW | Calgary, AB – T3H 3C8
Phone: 403.217.3625 | www.shca.ca

Last 12 Months Signal Hill
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
January 2016	\$768,580	\$712,200
December 2015	\$746,233	\$702,000
November 2015	\$660,925	\$633,250
October 2015	\$843,950	\$820,750
September 2015	\$673,300	\$659,750
August 2015	\$607,400	\$592,500
July 2015	\$703,920	\$692,400
June 2015	\$709,450	\$696,475
May 2015	\$837,400	\$819,750
April 2015	\$869,800	\$850,250
March 2015	\$790,675	\$765,000
February 2015	\$768,950	\$762,000

Last 12 Months Signal Hill
MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
January 2016	\$768,580	\$712,200
December 2015	\$746,233	\$702,000
November 2015	\$660,925	\$633,250
October 2015	\$843,950	\$820,750
September 2015	\$673,300	\$659,750
August 2015	\$607,400	\$592,500
July 2015	\$703,920	\$692,400
June 2015	\$709,450	\$696,475
May 2015	\$837,400	\$819,750
April 2015	\$869,800	\$850,250
March 2015	\$790,675	\$765,000
February 2015	\$768,950	\$762,000
Total	92	73

To view the specific SOLD Listings that comprise the above MLS averages please visit signal_hill.great-news.ca

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**IN & AROUND
CALGARY**

**Nestle into nature this
Family Day weekend**

Family Day is a great time to reconnect with loved ones - a time to slow down, focus on family and create lasting memories together. Finding activities for the holiday weekend that everyone will enjoy can be challenging, but rest assured, this year it will be a walk in the park.

The City of Calgary will be hosting free We Are Family events throughout the Family Day weekend at three of Calgary's beautiful parks. Grab your skates and join us on Saturday, February 13 at Carburn Park or Sunday, February 14 at Prince's Island Park for ice skating, fireside nature activities and family-friendly fun.

If you prefer an indoor celebration, drop by Devonian Gardens, Calgary's downtown tropical oasis, on holiday Monday, February 15. We will have entertainment for all ages, including nature games, crafts and a variety of animal furs and bones to see and touch.

All events run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information about our We Are Family events, visit calgary.ca/parks.



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Disclaimer: We recommend for your own peace of mind that references be checked when choosing your babysitter. This babysitter list is provided as a service to the community and is governed by the terms & conditions outlined at mybabysitter.ca.

Article by Cheryl Bowman
Photo by Niket Sura

Tiger in the Sky



The Great Horned Owl is the most common owl in North and South America. These magnificent birds are most recognized by their 'plumicorns' which resemble horns or cat like ears. These raptors are very adaptable using several different types of hunting skills to capture their prey as well as having a wide variety of prey.

It is this adaptability for hunting that they received their nickname 'Tiger in the Sky'. The Great Horned Owl will dive, wings bent, talons outstretched to silently capture unsuspecting prey, including prey that outweighs the bird itself. They also swoop low along the ground to grab any variety of smaller prey and interestingly they are known to walk along the ground to capture yet other types of prey.

The Great Horned Owl is a solitary bird except for mating. It is at this time that the smaller male owl will roost close to the nest of the larger female until all the young

fledge, and at this time will again leave. The owls do not build their own nests but rather prefer other bird nests.

The most common injury the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society sees in these raptors are injuries from window strikes or of being hit by a vehicle. Owls that are received with injuries from window strikes have a better chance of rehabilitation. Owls brought in with injuries from a vehicle strike are more difficult to rehabilitate due to broken bones and open fractures.

Should you find an injured Great Horned Owl, please call the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre at 403-266-2282 as soon as possible for further instruction. These are powerful birds and must be handled with care, however every moment counts.

If you catch a glimpse of the Great Horned Owl in their natural environment, remain quiet and still and enjoy the wonder of this beautiful Tiger in the Sky.

IN & AROUND CALGARY

Clearing Snow and Ice from Sidewalks

Clear and safe sidewalks are essential for many Calgarians, especially those with disabilities, older adults, and children who walk to and from school. Under the Street Bylaw 20M88, the owner(s) and/or occupant(s) of a private property are required to clear snow and ice from sidewalks in the front or to the side of their property within 24 hours of a snowfall. If the sidewalk is not cleared within that time, The City may have the snow and ice removed from the sidewalk at the property owner's expense. If you own a rental property, you are responsible for ensuring that adjacent sidewalks and pathways are cleared.

Snow Angels

Keeping sidewalks shoveled, ice-free and safe can be very challenging for older adults and other Calgarians who have limited mobility. The Snow Angels campaign

encourages citizens to clear snow and ice from the sidewalks of their neighbours who may be less able to do it themselves. Watch for people in your neighbourhood who could use help removing snow and ice and lend them a hand. For more information please visit www.calgary.ca/snowangels.

Tips for Shoveling Snow and Ice

- Stretch before you begin to shovel;
- Keep warm and wear layered clothing;
- Use an ergonomic shaped snow shovel to help reduce back pain and make shoveling easier;
- Space your hands on the shovel to increase leverage;
- Lift with your knees, not your back;
- Clearing snow soon after it falls can prevent snow and ice from building up on your sidewalk;
- After removing the snow, you can apply road salt/de-icer wherever necessary. This makes it easier for pedestrians to walk past your house;



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2016 Property Tax Assessment

It is that time of year again. As the Ward 6 Office often receives your inquiries around property taxes this time of year, I wanted to share with you some helpful information regarding your property tax assessment. The 2016 assessment notices were mailed on January 5, 2016 and your 2016 assessment information is available on www.calgary.ca/assessmentsearch. The customer review period runs until March 7, 2016. Until this date, property and business owners are able to inquire about their assessment value if they have any questions or concerns. If you have any questions or would like to make changes to your assessed value, please do so by March 7, 2016. You can also visit www.calgary.ca/propertytax for important dates, bill and account information, as well as payment information.

Other reminders to note:

- Property taxes are due June 30, 2016. A 7% late payment penalty will be applied to any unpaid portion of property taxes on July 1 and October 1. Further penalties of 1% will be added the first day of each month to any portion remaining unpaid after December 31, 2016.
- The deadline does not apply to property owners who pay monthly through The City's Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP). More than 240,000 property owners pay their taxes monthly through TIPP. Property owners can join TIPP at any time by visiting the Web site at www.calgary.ca/TIPP to request an application or calling 311.
- Help is available to assist eligible low-income homeowners who meet income guidelines and eligibility criteria, regardless of age. The 2016 Property Tax Assistance program will accept applications to the program starting on June 1. For more information or to download an application form, go to www.calgary.ca/fairentry.
- The Alberta Seniors Property Tax Deferral program allows eligible senior homeowners to defer all or part of their property taxes through a low-interest home

equity loan with the Alberta government. Please visit www.seniors.alberta.ca/seniors/property-tax-deferral.html for details and application form.

City Hall 101

You are invited to learn about the inner workers of Council and its Committees! This workshop presentation is designed to throw open the doors of your municipal government. Sign up for the next City Hall 101 on March 7, 2015 from 4 – 6:30 p.m. To learn more about this opportunity and register, please visit www.calgary.ca/CityHall101.

Upcoming Councillor Chats

Councillor Chats are an opportunity for you to meet with your Councillor to discuss any issues that are important to you. Please join me for an informal conversation on **March 5, 2016 from 9:30–11 a.m. at Glamorgan Community Association (Seminar Room)** or **April 14, 2016 from 5–7 p.m. at West Side Recreation (Party Room)**. You can also stay up-to-date by signing up for the Ward 6 Report, my bi-monthly email update for residents about community news and projects impacting Ward 6 communities at www.calgary.ca/ward6connect.

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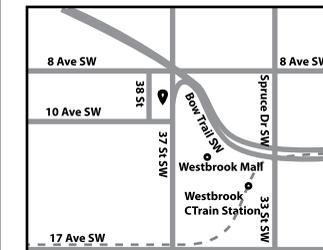
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MP CALGARY SIGNAL HILL RON LIEPERT

I am pleased to provide my first accounting to constituents as the new Member of Parliament for Calgary Signal Hill. On October 19th, the political landscape changed in Canada but in Calgary Signal Hill the residents elected to endorse the Conservative Party of Canada and myself.

First, I want to express my thanks and gratitude for the support of confidence that I received. I would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who worked on our campaign and those who donated personally in so many ways. I also want to express my thanks and good wishes to the other candidates from the riding who sought election especially, Kerry Cundal of the Liberal party, Khalis Ahmed of the New Democrats and Taryn Knorren for the Green party. Being a candidate in a general election requires a lot of hard work, time and money, especially in a campaign as long as this one. Each of the other candidates should be thanked for ensuring voters had a choice in our democratic process.

Currently our new constituency office is in the process of being renovated and we expect we will be open for business very soon but in the interim if you have an issue that requires attention please contact our office in Ottawa at 1-613-992-3066 or ron.liepert@parl.gc.ca.

In the aftermath of a long election campaign, combined with the Christmas holiday period, the House of Commons only met for seven days in early December, resuming the spring session in late January. Our interim leader Rona Ambrose has appointed me as a member of the House of Commons Standing Finance Committee which has oversight over Government spending and holds consultations with Canadians regarding the federal budget. As the only Member of Parliament from the three western most provinces on the committee I consider it a huge honour to be one of 10 persons charged with overseeing government spending. I will have more to report on the work of the committee in future accounting to constituents. I also had an opportunity on the first day of Opposition replies to the throne speech to make my maiden speech in the House. It was a special privilege to speak about the Battalion Park initiative and express my concerns that energy, agriculture or forestry, the wealth generators in this country, weren't

mentioned in the throne speech. My speech can be viewed on my website at ron.liepert.ca.

2016 is going to be a very difficult year in Alberta. Commodity prices will remain weak, unemployment rates are expected to rise along with federal and provincial taxes. My responsibility as your representative will be to listen to constituents who have real issues and assist where possible. Once our office is completed I intend to hold several open houses to listen to your concerns. I look forward to these opportunities so please watch for details which will be provided in future updates.

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ATCO Gas – 24 Hour Emergency	403.245.7222
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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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
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Deadline – 1st of each month for the next month's publication

Contact news@great-news.ca

- ◆ Free announcements: lost/found, household items for sale, wanted, garage sale, student/senior services, etc.
- ◆ Forty word limit

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Calgary Performing Arts Festival seeks volunteers for the 2016 Festival, April 18 to May 7 at Mount Royal University. Positions are available mornings, afternoons, evenings and Saturdays. For more information contact Holly at 403-283-6009 or volunteer@cpafestival.ca.

Animal Trivia



An iguana can stay under water for 28 minutes.

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And we'd also like to thank the City for reaffirming their commitment to keeping this service public — and saying *No Thank You* to a for-profit service that would have cost taxpayers *5-20% more!*

Here's to another great year, in Canada's greatest city.

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